

Pennine gives students a unique experience through hands on learning. Both day and live-in students take part in a wide range of creative and practical learning.

Pennine is Specialist College for young people with moderate to severe learning disabilities but also runs courses for other groups. Our courses give the opportunity to develop skills for work and living.



Our College Campus

in Wakefield, covers over 56 acres with five 'live-in' houses together with classrooms, workshops, farm, vegetable gardens and orchard. We also have a registered horse riding school run by Wakefield Riding for the Disabled.

Pennine provides a safe place where students develop communication skills to increase confidence and motivation to manage their own lives.





**pennine
college
wakefield**



Learning

Hands on learning of practical activities stimulate and encourage students to thrive and reach their full potential.

Every activity is used as an opportunity to develop practical skills for everyday life, increase confidence, creativity and a sense of achievement.



Three routes of learning

Students gain qualifications through:

Learning through Working *land based study courses, catering and hospitality.*

Learning through Creative Activities *a wide range of well resourced, craft based learning.*

Learning through Being with Others *personal and social development, performance and life skills.*

**hands on
learning**



Basketwork

Students learn a variety of different designs and techniques. Basket production is quicker than some of the other craft activities. This enables student to take commissions and create stocks for craft fairs, including planning, costing and sales. Students also learn the whole cycle of willow growing and harvesting from Pennine's withy beds.



Craft Skills

Making and achieving are a central strand of the college curriculum, helping co-ordination, developing perseverance and enhancing self-esteem. Students take responsibility for their own work but also working as part of a team.



Weaving and Textiles

Weaving was one of Wakefield's traditional industries. Pennine students can work on modern loom designs to produce unique and beautiful woven fabrics. Craft fairs are opportunities for students to display their work which is made into garments and bags.

Students also create silk paintings which are made into cards and learn felt making from wool from Pennine's own sheep.



Woodwork

Students learn a range of woodworking skills. Green woodworking is a particular focus allowing students to follow the complete cycle from coppicing and woodland management to learning traditional woodwork techniques.

Both individual and project work are undertaken to create items for craft fairs.



Information & Communication Technology

Students develop ICT skills in all our workshops. Computers and photography are essential elements for students to record their work and progress.



Pottery

Through the medium of the most earthy of elements students create ceramic forms and designs. The four elements; earth, air, fire and water are used to discover clay and its unique properties.

Students both work on individual and group projects. From mosaics to brick making, using moulds and freeform building, students use clay as a learning tool for their own individual learning goals.

Students learn from the potters wheels, slip casting and plate making jigs to produce sets of crockery for craft fairs.





**pennine
college
wakefield**



Land Based Studies

The Estate team cares for and maintains the college grounds. Students gain practical experience of estate management which includes using hand and powered tools in a real work environment.



Estate management also includes horticultural tasks such as grass management, hedge cutting and hard and soft landscaping and construction projects. There are various work placement sites and environmental projects within the community.



Students can work towards NVQ and Land Based qualifications alongside a range of skills tests. This includes basic Health & Safety awareness, employability skills and developing working relationships within a team. All of which are all valuable skills needed for their future.





Horse Care and Riding

Wakefield Riding for the Disabled Association is based at Pennine providing over 100 riders lessons each week in either our indoor and outdoor riding arenas, or local bridle paths including Newmillerdam Country Park.

Students help with horse care and stable duties working alongside RDA staff and volunteers.

Some riders who enjoy competing can work towards attending the RDA Regional and National Championships, and our in-house competitions.

Farm Based Learning

Students can opt for farm based learning on Pennine's organic small holding. Our farm provides eggs, meat and vegetables for the community.



Horticulture

Pennine's garden's and orchards provide many of the vegetables. Students are able to gain nationally recognised qualifications through both land based studies and horticulture.



**pennine
college
wakefield**



Skills for Living and Independence

Live-in students join one of Pennine's five student houses.

During term time, each household will be their home. Students develop social learning through sharing day-to-day living with other students and the community's co-workers and their families.

Students take part in household duties, developing self reliance and independence skills.

Washing up, care of laundry, cleaning, and looking after personal possessions are all learning activities.

Running the household becomes everyone's responsibility each playing a part in day to day tasks.



Day students join one of Pennine's five houses where they have lunch with the live-in students and share in household activities.



**pennine
college
wakefield**



Social Life and Leisure

Students are encouraged to try new things; taking part in social and leisure activities.

Activities include dancing, singing, music, walks, swimming sports and games. There are outings to cinemas, theatres, concerts, sporting events, museums, galleries and exhibitions.

Students are encouraged to follow their own interests and hobbies. They learn to express these and are helped plan and achieve them.



Pennine has many facilities to host events. These can range from both student performances in addition to concerts and plays of visiting performers.

Birthdays and festivals are events that draw the community together.

Pennine College Student Application Process

We welcome applications on behalf of students regardless of their disability and impairment, subject to our Admissions Criteria.

Students are funded by the YPLA (Education Funding Agency from April 2012) in association with local education authorities. However, recently health and social care bodies are now also funding placements either directly or in partnership with educational authorities.



How to Apply to Pennine

Enquiries can be made via phone, letter or email by Connexions Advisers, parents, social workers or local authorities. We offer monthly open enquiry days for you to visit and to see what Pennine has to offer.

We offer a progressive admissions process of enquiry and assessment. This involves the student, families and carers, commissioners and student funding bodies.



If we believe that we can meet your needs you will be invited to an Open Morning and then complete a Student Application and provide a range of supporting reports.

We will look at all the relevant reports before offering an interview (with parents). If this is successful we will invite you to a pre-course assessment. Residential students will also be invited for an overnight stay. The assessment helps us to identify the appropriate match between individual need and provision.

New students normally start their course at the start of the autumn term (September). The course is usually for two years, however reviews take place whilst a student is at Pennine with options being considered and plans made for further opportunities.

For more information contact the Admissions Team on 01924 255281.



Progression through College: Student Transition

Many student places at Pennine are funded by the YPLA. Student reviews of progress are regularly held.

Daily progress is recorded of achievements. Both formal and informal learning is captured to provide reports to the Local Authority.

Student Reviews

Reports of progress are key to Student Reviews.

Reviews take place at the end of six weeks of the first term in Year 1 and also at the end of the first year and in the autumn term for Year 2 Students.



Students are invited to review meetings along with parents/carers, social worker, personal advisor, and Pennine tutors. Student progress against agreed goals is discussed as well as any changes to the personal support. The review meetings are structured yet informal and everyone's contribution is welcomed.

Transition planning is embedded throughout the duration of the student's programme, paying particularly attention to the final period of the placement. At this point it is important that support is in place to make a transition beyond college. This can include plans for further education and training, supported employment, voluntary work, placements in adult communities or supported living and so on.