



Oldham College

Upskill Retrain

Realise your potential

Adult Mini Guide

2026/27

FULL AND PART-TIME

SHORT COURSES

ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION

APPRENTICESHIPS



DAVID BELLS BUILDING

Welcome to Oldham College



I'm delighted that you're considering joining Oldham College as you take the next step in your career journey.

Whether you're upskilling in your current role or retraining for something new, you can be sure that we will help you to achieve your goals. Oldham College is a place where learners of all ages can nurture passions, expand their horizons and achieve their best in all that they do. We are here to support your development, allowing you to gain new skills and experiences.

This mini guide is full of valuable information about how we can support your next move, whether that's on a full-time, part-time or short course, apprenticeship or through Access to Higher Education.

Our course offer covers a broad range of industries, supported by strong partnerships with employers, cutting-edge facilities, and expert tutors. Whatever your ambition, we're here to help you find the right path.

Simon Jordan, Principal & Chief Executive

Your digital prospectus is tailored to you, including your chosen courses and information relevant to your learning journey.



Scan to create your personalised digital prospectus

prospectus.oldham.ac.uk

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Why Oldham College?

Oldham College offers a range of qualifications for adults in the heart of Oldham.



Convenient town centre location



Be taught by **supportive, industry-expert** tutors



Elevate your career through employer links



Learn in our **state-of-the-art** facilities



Receive tailored support from our dedicated teams



Access flexible learning options with full, part-time and short courses

Qualifications explained

We run a range of programmes for adults, with levels and study modes to help you succeed - whatever your ambitions are.

Vocational Courses

Ideal for those looking to take the next step upwards in their existing job, or step into a new career. These courses are offered from Levels 1-4 and will help you to fulfil your career ambitions.

Access to Higher Education

Do you aspire to study at university level, but don't yet have the qualifications required? Access to Higher Education courses build on your existing skills and experiences to prepare you for future study.

Apprenticeships

Suitable for all ages, apprenticeships offer a fantastic opportunity to earn while you learn. You will typically spend four days a week developing your practical skills on the job and one day a week at Oldham College.

English and Maths

Including GCSEs, Foundation Maths and English, and Essential Digital Skills for Everyday Life. These courses are for those who need to improve basic skills or gain a recognised qualification to advance further.

Higher Education

University Campus Oldham is Oldham College's higher education institution, offering degrees and higher qualifications accredited by world-class institutions. See page 14 for more information.





Fees and funding

There are a range of funding options available to adults, depending on certain criteria.

This includes the Advanced Learner Loan and the Oldham College Bursary.

Advanced Learner Loan

Adult learners can apply to Student Finance England for the Advanced Learner Loan to help with the costs of a college course.

For more information, visit www.gov.uk/advanced-learner-loan

Oldham College Bursary

If you need help with the costs of coming to college, the Oldham College Bursary can help with travel, childcare and more. You can receive the Bursary if you're:

- age 19+ with a household income under £25,000
- studying an eligible course
- the recipient of an approved Advanced Learner Loan application (if needed)
- allowed to study in the UK.

For more information, get in touch by emailing BursaryTeam@oldham.ac.uk

Student Support

We understand that life is busy, and returning to education is a big step. That's why we offer support that enables you to pursue your ambitions and stay on track.

Here are some examples of support you can access during your time at college.



Additional Learning Support

Our ALS team can help with adjustments to improve your learning experience, including help with assistive technology.



Careers support

Thinking about where your course could lead? You'll be able to book an appointment with our Careers team, who offer expert support and guidance - whatever your plans may be.



Childcare

Our on-site childcare facility, Butterflies Nursery, is open in term time (daytime only). You can also receive help with the costs of childcare through the Oldham College Bursary. You do not have to use Butterflies Nursery to access this.



Safeguarding and Wellbeing

If you need somebody to talk to, our Safeguarding and Wellbeing team are here to support you during your time as a learner with us.



Our courses



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Scan to view our adult courses

oldham.ac.uk/adults

Business and Administration

A career in business is ideal for those who enjoy working with and leading others, making strategic decisions and taking on big challenges.

Our tutors are highly skilled professionals with vast industry experience, which helps develop learners' practical and theoretical knowledge of business practices.



Care Services

In today's fast-changing care sector, professionals need to be proactive and flexible to succeed.

Our qualifications in counselling, care and dental nursing provide learners with the knowledge and skills to take the next step in their careers.



Construction

We deliver specialist Construction courses in brickwork, carpentry and joinery, electrical and plumbing.

Whichever course you choose, you will build knowledge and skills from tutors who have had successful careers in the sector.





Education and Childcare

If you want to make a difference to the lives of others, you can find reward and fulfilment by embarking on a career in Education or Early Years.

Our tutors have in-depth knowledge of the challenges facing the industry which enables the College to produce work-ready candidates, capable of shaping the education sector of the future.



English, Maths and Digital Skills

Having a good level of English, maths and digital skills makes a huge difference to future employment and career prospects.

On these courses, you will be on the right path to achieving great things - and with excellent success rates, we are here to support you.



English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)

If English is not your first language, our ESOL courses will help improve your writing, reading, speaking and listening skills.

Our specialist ESOL team are experts in giving our learners confidence when conversing and engaging with others in English.

Finance and Accounting

Certified by the Association of Accounting Technicians (AAT), this industry recognition makes our accounting learners highly sought after by employers.

Our courses cover a broad range of topics and skills, ensuring you can confidently take on the next stage of your career.



Hair and Beauty

Through our Hair, Beauty and Barbering courses, we are committed to developing your creativity, technical aptitude and customer-facing skills.

Our purpose-built salon and learning spaces are the perfect place for learners to develop their skills in a hands-on environment.



Health, Science and Sport

All our tutors have the relevant industry experience to guide you through the worlds of health, sport and the GCSE sciences, leading to a wide range of rewarding roles.

Our programmes blend technical knowledge with practical skills, leading to many allied career opportunities.



Hear from our students

Don't just take it from us: here's what some of our adult learners have to say about their time at Oldham College...



"You can be an apprentice at any age, and you always have time to learn new skills. Apprenticeships give you the option to do something different when it's suitable for you."

Arianna | Level 3 Dental Nursing Apprenticeship



"Going back into education and learning something new was a big step, so I was nervous at first, but my tutor and classmates were so welcoming right from the start that I instantly felt relaxed."

Becky | Level 3 Beauty and Spa (part-time evening course)



"I worked in marketing prior to the apprenticeship and wanted to get a qualification. I'm passionate about working in marketing, and an apprenticeship seemed the most logical option."

The Content Creator Apprenticeship has absolutely prepared me for my new role as a Marketing Manager, I feel so much more confident and qualified than I did when I started."

Jack | Level 3 Content Creator Apprenticeship

What's next?

You've decided to apply for an adult course at Oldham College – great news! We can't wait for you to join us.

Once you have completed your application through our online portal, you will receive an email thanking you for your application. We will be in touch if there are any further steps you need to complete, such as assessments or an interview.

If you have any questions about the application process, our team will be happy to help. Call the College on **0161 785 4000** or email **info@oldham.ac.uk** and we'll ensure you're put in touch with the correct department to help you.

Why not visit an Open Event?

Our Open Events are your chance to meet tutors and support staff, see our facilities and learn more about being an adult learner at Oldham College.



Scan to view our Open Events

oldham.ac.uk/events

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Discover University Campus Oldham

University Campus Oldham (UCO) is Oldham College's university-level provision, offering world-class degrees and qualifications right here in Oldham.

Whatever your ambition, we're here to help you find the right path.

Smaller class sizes allow for personalised support that you won't get elsewhere.

Plus, degrees and higher qualifications at UCO are accredited by world-class institutions. Courses are delivered in partnership with University of Lancashire, Sheffield Hallam University, University of Huddersfield, Pearson, CMI and The Open University.



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Scan to view the UCO Digital Prospectus

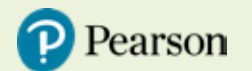
prospectus.uco.oldham.ac.uk

UCO delivers in the areas that matter most to students – the latest National Student Survey (NSS) results show that in 2025, UCO ranks higher than the England sector average for each of the categories, including academic support, student voice and learning opportunities.

Want to know more?

Visit: uco.oldham.ac.uk

Qualifications delivered in partnership with:





Oldham College

Oldham College,
Rochdale Road,
Oldham OL9 6AA

Contact

General enquiries
0161 785 4000

Apprenticeship enquiries
0161 785 4330

Email
info@oldham.ac.uk