

**The
Sheffield
College**

**International Guide
2017/2018**



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Welcome from the Principal

International students from around 40 countries choose to study with us every year to improve their English and enhance their academic qualifications and job prospects.

We are proud of our college and our diverse, vibrant and friendly city, which is one of the UK's most in-demand student destinations.

Sheffield is a great base for international students as the city is centrally located, so major tourist spots are within easy reach. London is just two and a half hours away by train, as are many other cultural highlights.

Not only is Sheffield a fantastic city in which to live, it is also very affordable with prices lower than the national average and significantly lower than London.

Sheffield is one of the greenest cities in Europe and based on the edge of the stunning Peak District National Park, a major attraction for climbers, walkers and other sports enthusiasts.

The Sheffield College works hard to create a home from home for international students, to ensure their stay is as enjoyable and rewarding as possible.

All students are supported by our International Office staff, who provide the latest advice on visas, finance, accommodation and how to make the best of our great city.

We look forward to welcoming you!



Heather Smith

Heather Smith
Principal, The Sheffield College



5 reasons to choose Sheffield

During your time in Sheffield you certainly won't be short of a thing or two to do. In fact, there's absolutely loads you can do whilst you are here.

1.

Sport activities

We love all sports in Sheffield! There are loads of opportunities to see football matches at Bramall Lane or Hillsborough Stadium, practise your swimming at our International Sport Centre or go ice skating. The Sheffield College has excellent on-site sport facilities available as well as a mini-gym. Students can play table tennis, badminton, football, handball, volleyball and basketball every week.



2.

Go shopping

Take the tram from The Sheffield College to access Meadowhall shopping centre in just 20 minutes! You will find 230 of the biggest high street and designer shops, a huge cinema and plenty of places to get something to eat. If you prefer small local shops, visit Sheffield city centre to find vintage clothes stores and antiques!

3.

Music, Cinema, Theatres and Festivals

There are two big theatres in Sheffield with ballets and modern performances every week. We have two big cinemas in Sheffield city centre and one independent cinema showing international movies in different languages. Sheffield has 70 live music venues – big and small. There's live music every night in Sheffield, most of which is free! We have music festivals, food festivals and film festivals all throughout the year.

4.

Enjoy nature

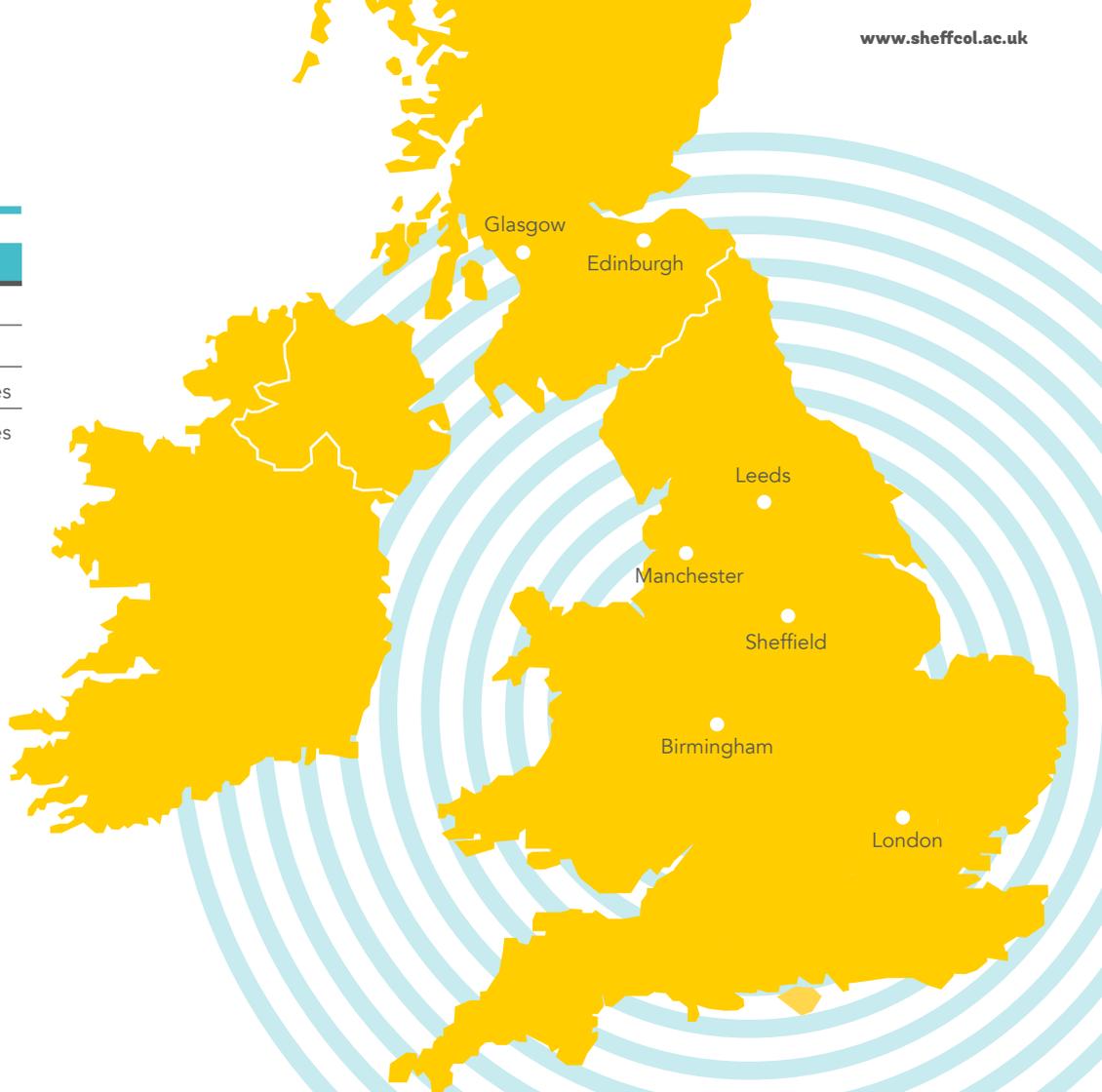
Sheffield is a green city. If you love nature, long walks in the park or outdoor activities, we have plenty for you to do in South Yorkshire! We have over 200 parks in Sheffield with The Peak District, the UK's first National Park, easily accessible by train taking just 20 minutes! It gives you opportunities to climb, cycle, walk and run through the hills and artificial lakes.



5.

Visit other cities

Destination by train	Time
Sheffield to London	2 hours
Sheffield to Edinburgh	4 hours
Sheffield to Leeds	40 minutes
Sheffield to Manchester	50 minutes



Why choose The Sheffield College

The Sheffield College City Campus has outstanding and inspirational facilities. We also have up to date learning centres with free access to wi-fi and classrooms equipped with interactive whiteboards.

In class there's a chance that you'll be working and learning alongside students of all ages, from different continents and with different backgrounds, specialities and objectives. You might, for example, find yourself in a class with doctors, footballers, lawyers, high school or university students, chefs, teachers, lecturers, pharmacists, engineers, mechanics, housewives or househusbands, as well as those who are still considering their next steps.

If you enjoy meeting people from all walks of life and from all over the world, our International English Department is definitely for you. We have new students starting almost every week throughout the year, which means plenty of opportunities to make new friends.



A safe environment for 16 & 17 year old students

The Sheffield College has secure facilities — each student accesses the college through security gates via the use of their student card and has to sign in and out of the building.

Classes are open to all ages. During break times, students go to our city diner or in the college hall where there are always college staff present.

If the student has a problem, teachers and the International Office Team are always available to provide advice and support regarding any welfare or safeguarding issue, including bullying, family or financial problems.

Parents receive reports regarding their child's progress and any concerns they may have during their time at The Sheffield College.

Students receive an emergency mobile number to contact us during evenings, weekends and holidays.



Studying English in Sheffield

Our general English programme allows you to improve your skill areas, such as reading, writing, listening and speaking, using the latest course books and materials. All our classrooms are equipped with interactive white boards and mini white boards.

In addition, you will be encouraged to develop your vocabulary, grammar and pronunciation as well as study skills, strategies and autonomous learning.

You will:

- study 18 hours per week
- receive Tutor Mentor support 1.5 hours per week
- prepare and give class presentations
- carry out surveys
- compile results in written and spoken form
- improve your writing skills by producing formal and informal texts

Minimum age to apply	16 years old
Maximum class size	21 students

Typical timetable:

Morning session:

09:00 – 11:30: Exam preparation and skills

- IELTS for those students who need to gain this qualification or improve their score in order to go to university
- Trinity examination practice
- Cambridge examination practice
- Skills development

Afternoon session:

12:30 – 14:30: General English

Skills development working on speaking, listening, reading and writing.

For more information and latest updates about all our courses, fees and booking conditions, please visit:
www.sheffcol.ac.uk/courses/international

Activities

- International parties, for example The Welcome Event, Christmas, end-of-term and year celebrations
- Trips to UK cities, such as York, Liverpool, London and Oxford or the UK coast
- Historic places of interest, for example, Chatsworth House, Sheffield Town Hall and Sheffield City Hall
- Art galleries and museums
- Places of natural beauty, for example, Bakewell, Castleton, Matlock, Sheffield Parks and Botanical Gardens
- Theatre and cinema
- Music events and festivals
- Social outings, for example bowling, restaurants and countryside walks
- Sports and leisure, for example ice skating, indoor climbing and gym
- Funfairs and theme parks



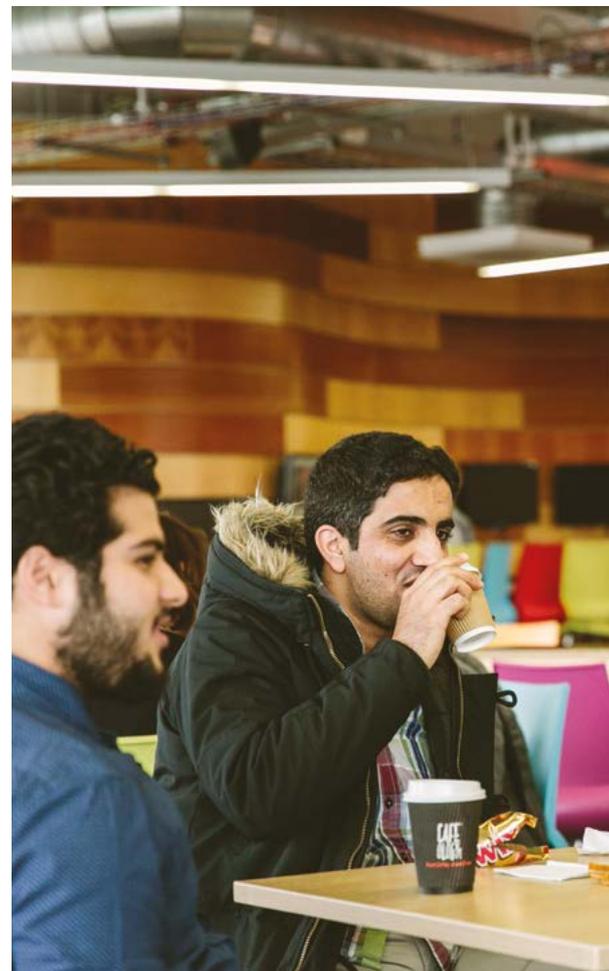
Cost of living

Not only is Sheffield a fantastic city in which to live, it is also very affordable with prices 10% lower than the national average and 25% lower than in London. Even though prices are affordable, how much you spend during your time here will ultimately be down to you.

Here are some example costs of essentials you may need to buy on a regular basis:

Item	Cost	Item	Cost
1 Litre of Milk	£0.71	Toothpaste	£1.37
Loaf of Bread	£1	Toilet Roll	£1.82
6 Medium Eggs	£1.25	Meal for 2	£40
Cheese (500g)	£3.79	Cinema Ticket	£8.30
Sandwich	£2.30	Shampoo	£2.43
Pasta (1kg)	£1	Student Single*	£1
Rice (1kg)	£1	Weekly Student*	£7
Chicken (500g)	£3.69	Deodorant	£1.30
Bottle of Coke (2L)	£1.76	Medicine	£7

* Bus Ticket



Travel

Travel to The Sheffield College is extremely easy, wherever and however you are getting to us. Our City Campus, where you will be spending most of your time, is just a 10 minute walk from the train station and has a tram and bus stop right outside. If you are living with a host family, they will never be further than half an hour away from us on public transport.

By Bus

Being so close to the city centre, you're spoilt for choice when it comes to bus travel to college. The central bus station is only a 10 minute walk away and the 120 bus travelling to/from Crystal Peaks stops just two minutes outside.

Please visit www.travelsouthyorkshire.com/journeyplanning for more details.

By Train

Sheffield Train Station is only a 10 minute walk from our City Campus and provides excellent connections to nearby towns and cities that are further afield.

Please visit www.nationalrail.co.uk for more information on train travel to Sheffield.



By Tram

The Sheffield College has its very own tram stop right outside our City Campus called Granville Road/The Sheffield College. Trams stop here approximately every 10 minutes and provide access to the whole city.

Trams heading towards Halfway (Blue Line) stop right outside the college, whilst those coming from the opposite direction (heading towards Malin Bridge) stop just across the road.

Please visit www.supertram.com for more detailed information about times and fares.

Travel to the rest of the country

We know that during your time in the UK you won't just want to stay in Sheffield. Just as easy as it is to get to The Sheffield College by public transport, it's also as easy to visit any of the major cities in the UK for a day or the weekend. You can access any of the major cities by train or coach, although it is quicker to travel by train. Here are some examples of single ticket prices and how long it will take you to get there:

City	Price		Duration
	16-25 Railcard	Standard Fare	
Meadowhall	£1.65	£2.50	6 minutes
London	£48.50	£73.50	2hrs – 2hrs 24mins
Manchester	£12.15	£18.40	50mins – 1hr 20mins
Leeds	£7.15	£10.80	40mins – 1hr 24mins
Liverpool	£17.15	£26	1hr 51mins
Birmingham	£28.50	£43.20	1hr 3mins – 1hr 26mins



As train prices are quite expensive, it is worth **booking tickets in advance** as discounts are often applied.



Accommodation

At the college we work hard to ensure that your stay is as enjoyable and rewarding as possible. That includes being in accommodation which you find comfortable, enjoyable and safe.

Many of our International students prefer to stay with a family, known as homestay accommodation, when they first come to England as this gives them an opportunity to learn more about the British way of life, as well as a chance to practise their English.

Living with a host family in a homestay has many benefits. You will be treated like a full member of the household, eating together and sharing common living areas.

The Sheffield College meets all host families before students move in and informs them as to what is expected from them.

Please visit www.sheffcol.ac.uk/courses/international-accommodation for more detailed information about homestay rates.

There are two options available when living in homestay accommodation:

Half board

- Bed
- Breakfast
- Evening meal
- All meals at weekends

Full board

- Bed
- Breakfast
- Lunch
- Evening meal
- All meals at weekends

Students will have their own bedroom and will sometimes share a bathroom with the host family. The Sheffield College will inform you if you are expected to share the bedroom with another student in your homestay.

The International Office will arrange homestay accommodation for you prior to your arrival in Sheffield. You must fill in an accommodation form when you apply for a course and send it to the International Office.

International Office, City Campus, Granville Road, S2 2RL

Rented accommodation

Although The Sheffield College does not own any residential accommodation, there are many independent living options students may choose (not suitable for under 18s).

- Self-Catering Student Accommodation
- Students Halls

In this type of accommodation the length of agreement is normally a minimum of six months or for the whole of the academic year. Accommodation is normally in clusters of flats with your own study-bedroom, sharing communal facilities with other flatmates.



Visa applications

If you want to study in the UK and at The Sheffield College, it is possible that you will need to get a visa to allow you to do so. People who are nationals of a European Economic Area (EEA) country or Switzerland can enter the UK as a student without a visa, but everyone else must obtain one.

There are a couple of different types of visa. The visa that you will need depends on your age and how long you are planning on coming to the UK to study for. So which do you need?



Short-Term Student Visa (6 months)

If you are over 18 years old and are intending to come to the UK for a maximum of 6 months, this is the visa you will need to apply for. When you apply for this visa, The Sheffield College will issue you with a supporting letter for your application.

Up to 6 months
English Courses

Short-Term Student Visa (11 months)

If you are over 18 years old and are intending to come to the UK for a maximum of 11 months, this is the visa you will need to apply for. When you apply for this visa, The Sheffield College will issue you with a supporting letter for your application.

Up to 11 months
English Courses

If you are unsure whether you will need a Visa, please check www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa

Short-Term Student Visa (Child)

If you are aged 16 or 17 years old and are intending to come to the UK for a maximum of 6 months, this is the visa you will need to apply for. When you apply for this visa, The Sheffield College will issue you with a supporting letter for your application.

Up to 6 months
English Course

Health Surcharge

To be able to access the National Health Service (NHS) in the same way as a permanent UK resident, non-EEA nationals who apply to come to the UK to study for more than 6 months will need to pay the Immigration Health Surcharge. To check how much Immigration Health Surcharge you will need to pay, please consult: www.immigration-health-surcharge.service.gov.uk/checker/type



To see if this applies to you, please check www.gov.uk/browse/visas-immigration

Please ensure that you apply for your visa in your current country of residency and leave enough time for it to arrive before flying to the UK (approx. 3 months).

If you already hold a visa, Biometric Card, or would like more information, please contact the International Office (contact details on the back page).

To apply for a Visa please visit www.gov.uk/browse/visas-immigration/student-visas

Student support

We want you to have the best possible experience during your time in the UK and at The Sheffield College. We know that moving country is a big change so we want to make that transition as easy as possible. If you need anything during your time with us, just come and ask. Our fantastic International and English teams are always available to help you with any questions, concerns or problems that you might face whilst at college allowing you to fully focus on getting the most out of your course.

The International Team and your English teachers will help you with just about anything from supporting you with issues of a personal nature, your travel to and from college, and even running through your course fees and the financial support available to you.

We can offer support with:

- Finance
- Travel
- Where to go
- Language Barrier
- Accommodation support
- In-class support
- Disability support
- Childcare

If you have any problems whilst at the college, no matter how small, come and have a chat with us and we'll do everything we can to make that transition to a new country that little bit easier!

Get in touch

If you would like more information, please get in touch today:

Call: +44 (0)114 260 2676

Email: International.office@sheffcol.ac.uk



UK Quality Assured



The Sheffield College

The Sheffield College

0114 260 2600

info@sheffcol.ac.uk

www.sheffcol.ac.uk

All information is correct at time of print.
If you need this guide in any other format,
please get in touch.

