

English and maths

Functional Skills English

When does this start and end?

We have 2 different start dates for this course:

- 3 November 2025 - 9 December 2025
- 19 January 2026 - 3 March 2026

What are the entry requirements?

If you have previously studied Functional Skills and completed Entry Level 3 you will automatically move onto Level 1

Or if you have completed Functional Skills level 1 you will automatically move onto Level 2

Need more information?

You can find out more about Northern College and the courses on offer by calling us on 01226 776000 or emailing us courses@northern.ac.uk

Course description

The Functional Skills qualifications are based around skills needed for everyday life.

On this course, you will develop your practical English skills, whilst also gaining a nationally recognised qualification.

What can this course lead to?

Functional Skills are a nationally recognised qualification.

Level 2 Functional Skills are now regularly accepted by employers and universities as equivalent to GCSE English grade 4 (previously known as grade C).

If you are looking to gain a Functional Skills Level 2 qualification so that you can attend a specific university course, please do check the entry requirements for the university course as

while most universities will accept a functional skills level 2 some course pathways require a GCSE.

If you are not sure if you need a functional skills or GCSE qualification, please do contact us for an Advice and Guidance appointment where we can discuss the various options with you.

Want to learn more?

You can find out more about Northern College and the courses on offer at one of our Open Events [<https://www.northern.ac.uk/open-events/>]

Location

On-site

Course fees and funding support

Working towards and gaining a Functional Skills level 2 is part of your legal entitlement and you will be able to study your course for free.

Course session dates

Session dates for 3 November 2025 - 9 December 2025

- Monday 03 Nov 2025 to Tuesday 04 Nov 2025
- Monday 10 Nov 2025 to Tuesday 11 Nov 2025
- Monday 24 Nov 2025 to Tuesday 25 Nov 2025
- Monday 01 Dec 2025 to Tuesday 02 Dec 2025
- Monday 08 Dec 2025 to Tuesday 09 Dec 2025

Session dates for 19 January 2026 - 3 March 2026

- Monday 19 Jan 2026 to Tuesday 20 Jan 2026
- Monday 26 Jan 2026 to Tuesday 27 Jan 2026
- Monday 02 Feb 2026 to Tuesday 03 Feb 2026
- Monday 09 Feb 2026 to Tuesday 10 Feb 2026
- Monday 23 Feb 2026 to Tuesday 24 Feb 2026
- Monday 02 Mar 2026 to Tuesday 03 Mar 2026

Course fees and funding support

FREE*

If you are not eligible, the cost of the course is £. There is no option to pay to stay residentially if you do not meet the criteria for residential funding. The vast majority of students are eligible to study and stay residentially for free and we will confirm as part of the application process.

Last updated: 16th September 2025