

CHOICES

LIFE BEYOND SCHOOL



**MAKE INFORMED CHOICES
ABOUT YOUR FUTURE**

EXPLORE SEND POST 16 PATHWAYS

DISCOVER YOUR OPPORTUNITIES

**INSIDE:
USEFUL SIGNPOSTING AND TIPS**

FUN INCLUSIVE ACTIVITIES

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WELCOME TO CHOICES

HELPING TO SUPPORT OUR AMAZING SEND STUDENTS ACROSS WORCESTERSHIRE TO UNDERSTAND THEIR CAREERS CHOICES

WELCOME TO THE CHOICES BOOKLET - LIFE BEYOND SCHOOL. THIS BOOKLET WILL HELP YOU, THE STUDENT AND YOUR PARENTS/CARERS VIEW AND UNDERSTAND THE OPTIONS OF LIFE BEYOND SCHOOL.

DECIDING ON THE NEXT STEPS CAN BE VERY DAUNTING, WHAT OPTIONS ARE THERE? ARE THE OPTIONS APPROPRIATE FOR YOUR NEEDS? IS THERE ANY ADDITIONAL SUPPORT?

THE QUESTIONS ARE ENDLESS; THEREFORE, WE HAVE CREATED THIS BOOKLET TO SUPPORT AND SIGNPOST YOU IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.

**BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE
INSPIRING WORCESTERSHIRE CAREERS HUB**
WWW.SKILLS4WORCESTERSHIRE.CO.UK



@INSPIRING_WORCS



INSPIRING_WORCS



INSPIRING WORCESTERSHIRE

ABOUT US...

WHO ARE WE?

The Inspiring Worcestershire Careers Hub is part of a national initiative led by the Careers and Enterprise Company to support the delivery of high-quality careers education within educational establishments across Worcestershire.

WHAT DO WE DO?

Our aim is to ensure that through our work with educational establishments across Worcestershire that every young person receives the information, advice and guidance they need to ensure they are fully prepared to enter the world of work.

WHY DO WE DO IT?

If young people across Worcestershire fail to receive high-quality careers guidance it is highly likely they will not undertake a career pathway that is right for them.

Failure to provide young people with high-quality careers guidance will also have a negative impact on the future workforce available to Worcestershire employers.

If Worcestershire's economy is to continue to grow then it is vital that they have a pipeline of young people who hold the right skills, qualifications and experience that employers are looking for. Providing this pipeline of young people to employers will ensure that they are able to replace employees quickly and efficiently but also ensures that young people do not feel the need to travel outside of Worcestershire to secure employment.

HOW TO NAVIGATE THIS BOOKLET

THE BOOKLET HAS BEEN SPLIT INTO THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS:

FURTHER EDUCATION

- > SIXTH FORMS
- > LOCAL COLLEGES
- > INDEPENDENT SPECIALIST COLLEGES
- > INDEPENDENT TRAINING PROVIDERS
- > **EMPLOYMENT AND VOLUNTEERING**
 - > SUPPORTED INTERNSHIPS
 - > GETTING EMPLOYED
 - > VOLUNTEERING
- > **INDEPENDENT LIVING AND LIFE SKILLS**
- > **HEALTH AND WELLBEING**
- > **DAY AND COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES**

Appropriate pathways will be highlighted to the courses that are applicable, these will fall into the following categories:

PMLD Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties

SLD Severe Learning Difficulties

MLD Moderate Learning Difficulties

SEMH Social and Emotional Mental Health

Some of the sections have activities to complete in your own time along with links and websites that will be useful to follow. You will also find some good news stories, sharing comments and pictures from past students.

Finally, you will find useful contacts in each section that should also support the search for the next step that suits you best.

HOW TO NAVIGATE THIS BOOKLET

You will also find symbols as you move through this booklet - these will help you to navigate to the sections you may require faster.

The symbols are as follows:



**FURTHER
EDUCATION**



**EMPLOYMENT &
VOLUNTEERING**



**INDEPENDENT
LIVING & LIFE
SKILLS**



**PAID
PROVISION**



**HEALTH AND
WELLBEING**



**DAY AND
COMMUNITY
OPPORTUNITIES**



**CASE STUDIES
AND FEEDBACK**



RECREATIONAL



TOP TIPS



SIGNPOSTING



ACTIVITY

YOUR SEND LOCAL OFFER

A Local Offer gives young people with special educational needs or disabilities and their families information about what support services the local authority think will be available in their local area.

Your local offer will directly link to the council that your EHCP was created by. Ensure that you are looking at the correct area for your local offer; support will vary.

LOCAL OFFER WEBSITE LINKS:

[Worcestershire SEND local offer](#)

[Birmingham SEND Local Offer](#)

[Wolverhampton SEND Local Offer](#)

[Warwickshire SEND Local Offer](#)

[Gloucestershire SEND Local Offer](#)

[Solihull SEND Local Offer](#)

[Dudley SEND Local Offer](#)

[Hereford SEND Local Offer](#)

[Staffordshire SEND Local Offer](#)

[Shropshire SEND Local Offer](#)

DISCOVERING LIFE BEYOND SCHOOL

THINKING ABOUT YOUR NEXT STEPS AFTER SCHOOL CAN BE WORRYING AND CONFUSING WHEN YOU HAVE ADDITIONAL NEEDS.

We want to give you enough information to solve that confusion and take away some worries.

As you move through this booklet it will highlight some options to choose from.

However, it is important to work out what your likes, dislikes and goals are first before deciding on a plan or next step.

Why not try these activities to help you work this out?

More info and activities found here @My World of Work.

Or even try this Buzz quiz - <https://icould.com/buzz-quiz/>





FINDING YOUR INTERESTS

Your perfect hobby would be?

- A) Being outside
- B) Spending time with friends and family
- C) Arts and Crafts
- D) Watching TV/films
- E) Read a book

My idea of fun is?

- A) Going to the park
- B) Socialising with friends and family
- C) Making something
- D) Going to the cinema
- E) Visiting the local library or book shop

My friends and family would say I'm?

- A) Active
- B) Kind
- C) Creative
- D) Funny
- E) Calm

What fun activity would you like to attend?

- A) Going for a walk
- B) Day out with friends
- C) Pottery painting
- D) Theatre show
- E) Book club



FINDING YOUR INTERESTS

How do you work?

- A) I like to work practically
- B) I like to help others
- C) I like to be creative
- D) I like to work in a team
- E) I like to work by myself

I'm most likely to help my family with?

- A) Gardening
- B) Looking after my siblings
- C) Decorating
- D) Choosing the tv/film to watch
- E) Recommending books to read

If you worked at your school, what job would it be?

- A) Caretaker
- B) School nurse
- C) Art teacher
- D) Teacher/Teaching Assistant
- E) Librarian

My favourite activity at school was/is?

- A) PE or Forest School
- B) PSHE
- C) Art
- D) Drama
- E) Reading

Once you have finished selecting one letter for each question, count how many of each letter that you got. What letter do you have the most of?

Look on the chart to see your likes: Mostly

- A) You enjoy working outside and being active, being practical and spending time with nature. Have you thought about a career where you could spend time in the countryside and with nature? An example of this could be a Gardener.
- B) You are a kind person who likes to help others. There are many different careers where you can help look after people. You may like to work with the elderly or with young children. There are lots of options for you to choose from. An example of this could be a Care Assistant.
- C) You are a creative person who likes to make and create things to express your personality. There are many different opportunities that you can pursue that allows you to showcase your creativity. An example of this could be an Artist.
- D) You like to make others laugh and to put on a show! It may be a hobby, but did you know there are lots of ways you can turn this hobby into a career? An example of this could be an Entertainer.
- E) You love reading and everything to do with books! You might even enjoy writing your own books. There are multiple ways you can use your love of literature in your future career. An example of this could be a Librarian.

If you have the same score for two letters look at how you can combine the two areas.



FURTHER EDUCATION

Young people are now required to remain in learning until they are 18 years old. Students with Education Health Support Plans (EHCP) are entitled to support in education until they are 25 years old, if they remain in education. The following information will show some options on how and where to stay engaged in education.

We have broken education down into smaller sections allowing you to dig a little deeper into the courses available.

These sections are:

- > Sixth Forms
- > Colleges
- > Independent Specialist Colleges
- > Independent Training Providers

Not all settings are applicable to all SEND needs, so ensure you follow the code highlighted at the start of the magazine to determine if it is an option for yourself.

APPLYING FOR YOUR NEXT STEPS



In the vast majority of cases students will be able to find a suitable course at an educational provider within their local area. Very occasionally, if a student has very complex needs, they may need to consider an Independent Specialist Placement (ISP) which may be further away. The student must have an EHCP to access one of these placements and the Local Authority will only consider funding an ISP once all local options have been exhausted. Please note that the Local Authority cannot agree to place a pupil at an ISP if there is an equivalent course/provision available locally.

For those young people requesting residential specialist college placements the Local Authority will require evidence demonstrating that the proposal for a placement has been made as a result of appropriate assessment and guidance involving collaboration between relevant agencies, including adult social care and health. (caption taken directly from Worcestershire County Council's website)



FURTHER EDUCATION

APPLYING FOR YOUR NEXT STEPS CONTINUED

Further education, training providers and sixth form colleges offer a wide range of courses for young people, at all levels of achievement. Colleges offer supported courses for students with special needs at a range of levels. These can be accessed from age 16 (after Year 11) and remain available for students if they leave school sixth form after Years 12, 13 or 14.

Courses include vocational work-related learning and general courses which can include preparation for adulthood, such as life skills, work skills and independence skills. There are progression routes from one course level to another, provided the student has achieved the entry requirements for the next level course including the appropriate level of English and Maths.

The usual progression steps are:

Pre-Entry Level

Entry Level 1,2,3

Level 1 (GCSE 1-3)

Level 2 (GCSE 4 and above)

Level 3 ('A' levels, Btec, NVQ and T levels)



Courses at colleges and training providers help students gain qualifications and develop work skills, to help give them the best chance of gaining employment. There are courses with work experience options and other courses which are mainly work based learning such as supported internships, traineeships and apprenticeships.

Local colleges advertise their open days in local press and on their websites.

You can also visit the following link to see local events and open days on the [Worcestershire Events calendar](#).

The Education Health and Care plan can remain in place for full-time courses or training at college or with training providers. Colleges and training providers are required to make reasonable adjustments for learning and personal support, to enable students with support needs to access learning.



FURTHER EDUCATION

SIXTH FORMS

Many of the schools in Worcestershire have Sixth Forms so you can remain in school after year 11, in some schools this is up to year 14 (up to 19 years old).

The following is a list of local schools that welcome Post-16 (after year 11) students with EHCP plans. Simply search for the school in your chosen internet browsers for more information. It is always advisable to call the school/setting to find out if there are places available along with liaising with your local authority SEND Caseworker.

Here is a list of Worcestershire SEND Specialist Sixth Forms:

WORCESTERSHIRE LOCAL AUTHORITY SEN SCHOOLS WITH SIXTH FORMS

Chadsgrove School

Vale of Evesham School (Academy)

Regency High School (Academy)

Pitcheroak School

Wyre Forest School

Rigby Hall School

Kingfisher School

SPECIALIST SCHOOLS WITH SIXTH FORMS / POST-16 PROVISION

Cambian New Elizabethan School

Norton College

Our Place

The Bridge School (Malvern)

POST - 19 SCHOOL-BASED PROVISION

Chadsgrove Post-19

Victoria School - Post-19 (called Victoria College)

Northfield Birmingham



FURTHER EDUCATION

LOCAL COLLEGES

Colleges offer a broad range of course choices and access to learning opportunities and facilities that are not available through school. Changing to a college may bring challenges but can also have some great benefits such as a wider range of courses, further supported education, tailored learning to your chosen topic area and many more benefits. A benefit from learning locally can be progressive outcomes and links to local employment or volunteering.

Click the logo to visit the college website



HEART OF
WORCESTERSHIRE
COLLEGE

SEN CRQ Leader

Sandra Brewer
sbrewer@howcollege.ac.uk
01527572553

Heart of Worcestershire college is the largest further education college in Worcestershire; with campuses in Bromsgrove, Redditch, Worcester and Malvern.

HOW College is an inclusive college which sees learners as individuals with their own particular needs and strengths.

Across all our courses we aim to develop personal, social and independence skills alongside important vocational skills to support greater independence and entry to employment or voluntary activity in adulthood. Examples of vocational content include horticulture, enterprise, cooking, hospitality and charity work.

Below is a list of some of the available courses:

- > Life and Independent Living skills 1 **SLD**
- > Life and Independent Living Skills 2 **MLD**
- > Life and Independent Living Skills 3 **MLD**
- > Skills for Work Transition **MLD SEMH**
- > Skills for Work 1 **MLD SEMH**
- > Skills for work 2 **MLD SEMH**
- > Support into employment **MLD SEMH**

[HOW prospectuses](#) | [HOW Courses](#)



FURTHER EDUCATION

LOCAL COLLEGES CONTINUED



Click the logo to visit the colleges websites

Additional Learning Support Email:

Learner Support Team
support@kidderminster.ac.uk

General Email:

enquiries@kidderminster.ac.uk

Reception: 01562 820811

Learner Services: 01562 512003

Kidderminster College will support you to achieve the course you wish to take. A tailored support system will be put into place, with a high staff level and excellent resources allowing you to achieve and progress.

[Kidderminster College Student Support Link](#)

Kidderminster College has a few entry level courses to choose from. [Find out more about Kidderminster College courses here.](#)

However, here are two that might be of interest to get you started:

- > [Life Skills](#)
- > [Access to Further Education Diploma](#)

MLD SEMH

Apply Online www.kidderminster.ac.uk/apply

Supported Internships

Supported internships are for young people aged 16-24 with an EHCP plan. The internship will last 6-12 months for learners who wish to gain some part-time or full-time employment.

Learners will start by attending college getting ready for their work placement. They will then start attending work placement with support of a job coach. This support will reduce throughout the apprenticeship until the learner is comfortable on their own. An interview for a real job will take place at the end. In addition learners will still attend college 1 day per week for employability skills.





FURTHER EDUCATION

LOCAL COLLEGES CONTINUED



**SOUTH & CITY COLLEGE
BIRMINGHAM**

Click the
logo to visit
the colleges
websites

Head of Foundation learning

Christine Daly

Email: Christine.daly@sccb.ac.uk

Phone: 021 694 500

hello@sccb.ac.uk

Wend Taylor – Hall Green campus

Email: Wend.taylor@sccb.ac.uk

Jaspal.Bilkhu – Handsworth campus

Email: jaspal.bilkhu@sccb

Ghulam Nabi – Bordesley Green campus

Email: Ghulam.Nabi@sccb.ac.uk

Telephone : 0121 694 5000

Study vocational subjects. Develop your employability skills. Get involved in fun enrichment activities. Our programmes for students with learning difficulties and disabilities offer you variety and support.

Support is always on hand if you need a little help to achieve your best. We have a range of qualified staff including communication support officers, dyslexia tutors, learner support assistants, and in-class teaching assistants.

[School leaver guide](#)

[Apprenticeship guide](#)

Pathway to Independence

- > Life skills
- > Preparation for adulthood
- > Community life skills

SLD **MLD** **SEMH**

Pathway to Progression

- > Multi skills carousel
- > Vocational pathways in Hospitality & Catering / Construction / Art & Design / Hair & Beauty / Care / Motor Vehicle / ICT & Media / Sport / Business

SLD **MLD** **SEMH**

Pathway to Volunteering

- > Preparing to volunteer
- > Volunteering in the community
 - Gardening
 - Environment
 - Community
- > Supported Internship

SLD **MLD** **SEMH**

[Special Educational Needs Support](#)



FURTHER EDUCATION

LOCAL COLLEGES CONTINUED



Click the logos to visit the colleges websites



Phone:
0121 678 7113

Email:
Additional.support@solihull.ac.uk

Louise Badham
Email: info@wcg.ac.uk
Phone: 0300 456 0047

Stratford-upon-Avon College welcomes applications from those with additional needs, and our support team are fully trained to give you all the encouragement that you need to get the most out of your learning experience. If you are disabled or have any special needs, then our team of support staff are here to help you.

At Stratford upon Avon college, we are running foundation learning programmes for Entry 2, Entry 3 and Level 1 full-time and a range of PT ALD courses.

All courses can be found on the website.
[Foundation Learning Courses](#)
[Have a look at the Foundation course video](#)

The Adult ALD part-time provision is suitable for 19 plus learners with **MLD** **SLD** **SEMH**

Entry 3 and Level 1 provision suitable for 16-18 and 19 plus for learners with EHCP.
MLD **SEMH**

All learners are assessed on an individual basis and we work alongside the additional support team to assess their needs.

Pershore College (part of WCG) offers Supported Learning programmes which are suitable for learners with learning difficulties or disabilities. Each programme is tailored to individual students' needs and helps to develop a mixture of interests and skills in a supportive environment.

Learners on the Foundation Skills Programme are offered personalised learning opportunities. These help them gain credit at Entry Level and Level 1 on a learning journey leading to a range of appropriate destinations such as Level 2 qualifications, supported employment or independent living.

These programmes include our supported internships, where young people are able to work with supportive employers to gain valuable employment skills before heading out into the world of work. More information can be found by following the link below.

[Course Guide](#)
[Supported Learning Virtual Tour](#)
[Pershore College virtual Tour](#)

ENTRY LEVEL 1- supported learning:

SLD **MLD** **SEMH**

- > Skillbuilder
- > Foundation Skills Programme (Land-based):
Gardening, Countryside Skills and Animal Welfare
- > Ready for Adulthood
- > Supported Internship (for students with EHCP only)



FURTHER EDUCATION

LOCAL COLLEGES CONTINUED



Click the
logo to visit
the college
website

Learning Support Manager:

Sara Payne

Email:

sara.payne@wsfc.ac.uk

Phone:

01905 362625

Worcester Sixth Form College unfortunately does not have any specific entry level courses. However, at Worcester Sixth Form College we welcome students with additional support needs. Over the years we have developed specialised support areas for Asperger's Syndrome, dyslexia, sensory impairment and medical conditions.

[Worcester Sixth Form College Local Offer](#)

[Worcester Sixth Form College Learning Support website](#)

[Worcester Sixth Form College Prospectus](#)





FURTHER EDUCATION

INDEPENDENT SPECIALIST COLLEGE PROVISIONS

An Independent Specialist College could be a consideration if a local college or training provider is not able to meet your needs. Independent Specialist Colleges can offer individualised learning and support for some learners with high and complex support needs.

It is important to look at all of the options available and discuss specialist college options with school teachers, careers advisers, social worker and SEN caseworkers. Usually applications to these colleges should be considered 18 months to 2 years in advance of leaving school. This can be discussed through the EHCP annual reviews.

West Midlands Independent Specialist College Provisions:

1. Bankside College
2. Chadsgrove Educational Trust Specialist College
3. Condoover College
4. Derwen College
5. Glasshouse and Argent College
6. Heart of Birmingham Vocational College
7. Hereward College
8. The Hive College
9. Homefield College (satellite location)
10. National Star College (satellite location)
11. New College Worcester
12. Newfriars College
13. Queen Alexandra College
14. Regent College
15. Royal National College for the Blind
16. Strathmore College
17. Sense College (satellite location)
18. Trinity Specialist College

Click the logo to visit the website



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON RESIDENTIAL COLLEGES PLEASE SEE NATSPEC DIRECTORY



FURTHER EDUCATION

INDEPENDENT SPECIALIST COLLEGE PROVISIONS



Click the logo to visit the college websites

Jon Bell

Email:

jonathan.bell@banksidecollege.co.uk

Phone: 01684 649722

Location: Hanley Castle, Worcester

Bankside College is a specialist service providing education for young adults aged 16-25 with a diagnosis of autism with mild or complex learning difficulties. Many of our young people have experienced significant childhood trauma, which often has resulted in long periods of absence from school, breaks in formal education, multiple placement breakdowns and gaps in attainment. In addition, this means that, some young people have significant difficulties in developing positive relationships and also experience barriers to learning as a result of their additional learning needs. All students have Education Health Care Plans (EHCP), and all pupils experience difficulties which has an impact upon their learning. For the majority, this is the first formal education they have attended in a considerable time. The majority, therefore, arrive below age related academic expectations. We work closely with our placing authorities and parents to agree and facilitate appropriate transitional learning plans.

We are aspirational for all pupils. Many pupils have not experienced success and it is important that we create a safe learning environment where students are able to flourish and achieve more than they believed to be possible. Learning opportunities are personalised, recognising the vastly differing needs and starting points of our students.

> Preparation for Adulthood

PMLD SLD MLD SEMH

As part of our core curriculum offer, all students will be supported to study an ASDAN qualification in either Personal Progress or Personal Social Development at an appropriate level.

> Functional Skills (English and Maths)

PMLD SLD MLD SEMH

Where appropriate, some students will also be able to study Functional Skills in English and/or Maths from Entry Levels through to Level 2. Not all students will be expected to study this qualification.

> BTEC Art & Design

PMLD SLD MLD SEMH

Students will have the opportunity to study a BTEC First qualification in Art & Design. Not all students will be expected to study this qualification.

> BTEC Land Based Studies

PMLD SLD MLD SEMH

Students will have the opportunity to study a BTEC First qualification in Land Based Studies. Not all students will be expected to study this qualification.

> Duke of Edinburgh

PMLD SLD MLD SEMH

All students will be offered the opportunity to participate in the Duke of Edinburgh award with appropriate support and challenge.

> Work Experience and Supported Internships

PMLD SLD MLD SEMH

Students will have the opportunity to develop their independence, confidence and self-esteem by participating in a number of different work experience and supported internships. One of Learning Support Mentors will always support one of our students in location.



FURTHER EDUCATION

INDEPENDENT SPECIALIST COLLEGE PROVISIONS



**Chadsgrove
Educational
Trust Specialist
College**

Click the
logo to visit
the college
websites

Bec Gayden

Email:

info@chadsgrovespecialistcollege.org.uk

Phone: 01684 649722

Location: Catshill, Bromsgrove

At Chadsgrove Educational Trust we provide bespoke personalised educational packages that are tailored to suit each student's individual needs. We are a small college providing extended learning opportunities for students aged 19-25 with physical disabilities and/or complex medical needs. We employ highly trained staff with experience of working with students that have a range of learning needs. At Chadsgrove Educational Trust we believe that every young person should have the opportunity to develop educationally and enjoy a fulfilled life. We are passionate about maximising personal achievement and challenging students to reach their full potential.

[Hear about Chadsgrove Specialist College from the students](#)

[Therapies](#)

[Curriculum](#)

➤ Preparing for Adulthood: Explorers Pathway

PMLD

This Pathway is designed for students with Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties working at Pre-Entry level 1 to Entry Level 1. The Curriculum focuses on the development of communication skills and learning through sensory exploration.

➤ Preparing for Adulthood: Seekers Pathway

SLD SEMH

The Seekers Pathway is for students with complex needs working at Entry Level 1-2. The Curriculum focuses on developing skills for independence and communication both within College and out in the wider community.





FURTHER EDUCATION

INDEPENDENT SPECIALIST COLLEGE PROVISIONS



**Derwen
College**



Click the
logo to visit
the college
websites

Admissions

Email: admissions@derwen.ac.uk

Phone: 01691 661234

Derwen College is a vibrant, exciting and ambitious College. We deliver exceptional programmes and a rich learning environment for young people, aged from 16 to 25 years, with special educational needs and disabilities. We empower our students by focussing on work-related skills and independent living skills to enable them to contribute to the wider community in the future.

The main college campus is located in Gobowen, near Oswestry, where we welcome both residential and day students. Further day provision is offered in the established satellite sites located at Ludlow, Telford and Walford.

[Find out more about Derwen College.](#)

[View prospectus](#) | [Virtual tour](#)

> [Hospitality & Food](#) **SLD** **MLD** **SEMH**

As a Hospitality and Food Pathway student we will teach you industry standard vocational skills. You will learn core skills in housekeeping, bakery, customer service and basic catering before progressing to work placements

> [Horticulture](#) **SLD** **MLD** **SEMH**

As a Horticulture Pathway student we will teach you industry standard vocational skills. You will learn core skills in plant production, garden maintenance and garden centre customer service.

> [Nurture](#) **PMLD**

Nurture is a non-vocational programme for students with profound and multiple learning disabilities. Highly personalised for each student, with a curriculum based around independence, cognition and learning, social interaction and wellbeing, and communication.

> [Retail & Enterprise](#) **SLD** **MLD** **SEMH**

As a Retail and Enterprise Pathway student we will teach you industry standard vocational skills. You will learn core skills in money handling, customer service, print and administrative skills, stock and distribution skills and online sales.

> [Performing Arts](#) **SLD** **MLD** **SEMH**

As a Performing Arts Pathway student we will teach you industry standard vocational skills. You will learn core skills in script work, dance and movement, musical theatre, prop and scenery making, amongst others.

> [Learning for Life](#) **SLD** **MLD** **SEMH**

The Learning for Life Pathway is an exciting, fun and bespoke programme. It is tailored to meet the needs of individual learners who require that little bit of extra support.

> [Day Offers](#) **SLD** **MLD** **SEMH**

At Derwen College Ludlow, Telford and Walford you can learn a variety of skills as part of various pathways.

[Telford](#)

[Ludlow](#)

[Walford](#)



FURTHER EDUCATION

INDEPENDENT SPECIALIST COLLEGE PROVISIONS



NSC
National Star College



Click the
logo to visit
the college
website



QAC
Queen Alexandra College



Claire Smith

Email: enquiries@nationalstar.org

Email: admissions@nationalstar.org

Phone: 01242 527631

National Star is a specialist day and residential college for young people, aged 16 to 25 years old, with complex disabilities.

The college accommodates 104 residential students and up to 60-day students. Students from Worcestershire schools currently attend National Star and have done for a number of years, both as day and residential students. National Star is a good Ofsted provider. The college has a multi-disciplinary teamwork approach, with therapies and life-skills embedded into not only the curriculum, but weekend and evening activities within residence and in the community.

PMLD **SLD** **MLD** **SEMH**

[National Star Virtual tour](#)

[National Star Prospectus](#)

Matt Wright

Email: mwright@qac.ac.uk

Phone: 0121 803 5484

QAC is a national residential college and charity based in Birmingham that supports a diverse range of student abilities and needs.

The college offers an innovative, holistic approach to learning and support. We welcome students who come to our college from all over the country – as well as many who are local to us.

Our curriculum is designed to maximise life chances, develop independence and work skills. English, maths, employment skills and PSHE are embedded across all areas of study.

[QAC Your Guide](#)

[QAC Video](#)

> Preparation for Life (PFL)

SLD **MLD** **SEMH**

> Learning, Employment and Progression (LEAP)

MLD **SEMH**

> Vocational programmes

MLD **SEMH**



FURTHER EDUCATION

INDEPENDENT TRAINING PROVIDERS

Independent training providers offer further education in a range of different training centre locations across the county. They offer courses in a range of vocational subjects and work preparation such as traineeships, apprenticeships and supported internships. Individual training providers often focus on a particular type of course or vocational/work option and offer an alternative to college for further education to help young people progress in learning and progress to employment.

Each training provider offers something slightly different, so ensure you research your options finding the most suitable match for you.



FURTHER EDUCATION

INDEPENDENT TRAINING PROVIDERS



Young Adult Learning is part of Worcestershire County Council, they offer Traineeships and Study programmes for 16-19-year olds, 19-24 with an Educational Health Care Plan.

Study programmes are classroom based and can take around 12 months to complete, Traineeships can take 12 months with an extended work placement within an employer, getting you ready for your next steps into the world of work. All study programmes will continue to improve maths and English and will need learners to continue to study maths and English until they reach GCSE grade 4 or Functional skills level 2 unless they are exempt.

Level 1 and 2 Study Programme in Caring for Children

Fairfield Centre, Warndon, Worcester and Church Hill, Redditch

MLD SEMH

Suitable for young people wanting to gain knowledge and skills in caring for children. Learners will learn, develop and practise the skills required for employment or further study in the childcare sector.

Contact each provider for more information:

Kelly Champion

Phone: 01905 845519

Email:
KChampion@worcestershire.gov.uk

Location:
The Fairfield Centre, Carnforth Drive, Worcester, WR4 9HG

Level 1 study Programme in Employability

Fairfield Centre Warndon, Worcester

MLD SEMH

Suitable for young people who need a bridging course after school before entering into the work place as a apprentice or employed or targeting a higher level FE course but do not have the entry requirements.



FURTHER EDUCATION

INDEPENDENT TRAINING PROVIDERS

Traineeships in a sector young people are interested in.

Fairfield Centre, Warndon Worcester.

MLD

Examples of Traineeship placements young people have undertaken in the past: Worcestershire libraries, local care farms specialising in floristry and mechanics, teaching assistants.

Level 1 Diploma in Hair and Beauty

Fairfield Centre, Warndon, Worcester

MLD SEMH

The units in this qualification include: introducing you to the hair and beauty industries, how to present a professional image and working with others in the salon, salon reception, developing your creative skills in the art of dressing hair, applying temporary colour, creating a hair and beauty image, provide effective shampooing and conditioning hair, how to display retail stock and the creative art of styling women's hair.

Level 2 Diploma in Women's Hairdressing

MLD SEMH

Entry onto this qualification can be via previous attainment of a Level 1 qualification in hairdressing and/or a successful skills test and interview.

This qualification will develop the knowledge, understanding and skills to prepare you for employment as a junior hairdresser/stylist. You will have your hairdressing skills assessed in our purpose-built hair salon at the Fairfield Learning Centre in Warndon. Our salon is a realistic working environment and you will practice your skills on a mixture of training mannequins, other learners, friends and family by your own invitation and customers from the local area.

This qualification includes all the required elements to work effectively as a junior hairdresser/stylist including: health and safety; client consultation; shampoo and conditioning hair; the research unit - working in the hair industry; cut women's hair; colour and lighten hair and the art of dressing hair. You will also develop understanding and skills by completing additional specialist units which include: reception duties; and promoting products and services to clients. This qualification's structure provides you with the flexibility to develop knowledge, understanding and skills depending upon your desired career pathway as a junior hairdresser/stylist.





FURTHER EDUCATION

INDEPENDENT TRAINING PROVIDERS



BRIDGE BUSINESS CENTRE

Vicky Gundersen

Phone: 01684 311632

Email:

vickygundersen@bridgeschoolmalvern.org

Bridge Business Centre is the sixth form provision for Bridge School Malvern. We are a specialist, independent 16+ education provider that offers a nurturing and flexible curriculum to adapt to the needs of our students. Our main focus is to prepare our young people for adulthood and life after education; we do this through vocational training, careers guidance, work experience placements, personal development and mentoring support alongside gaining qualifications in Functional Skills and Employability.

- > Manufacturing **SLD** **MLD** **SEMH**
- > Retail/Business **SLD** **MLD** **SEMH**
- > Catering **SLD** **MLD** **SEMH**
- > Functional Skills **SLD** **MLD** **SEMH**
- > Life Skills and Careers Guidance
SLD **MLD** **SEMH**

Additional sessions offered in Art, Mindfulness, PE, Counselling, Mentoring, RSE and PSHE.

SLD **MLD** **SEMH**

Click the logos to visit the colleges websites



Sue Hobson

Email:

sue.hobson@novatraining.co.uk

Phone: 07415213071

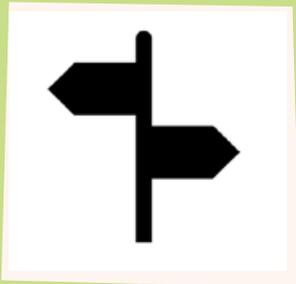
Nova Training is a private training provider with over 25 years' experience supporting young people to reach their full potential with bespoke study programmes to help them grow and develop into their next steps in further education, training and employment.

- > Employability Skills **MLD** **SEMH**
- > Traineeships **MLD** **SEMH**
- > Headstart Study programme
MLD **SEMH**
- > Apprenticeships **MLD** **SEMH**
- > GCSE English **MLD** **SEMH**
- > GCSE Maths **MLD** **SEMH**
- > Functional Skills- Higher Needs
MLD **SEMH**

You can find more information in our Parents & Carers Guide.



FURTHER EDUCATION



SIGNPOSTING FOR FURTHER EDUCATION

FOLLOW THE LINKS FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

- > [Careers Worcs Information Advice and Guidance service](#)
- > [Worcestershire Training Providers Association](#)
- > [Worcestershire Alternative Education providers](#)
- > [Worcestershire SENDIASS Team](#)
- > [Aspiration Training](#)

DID YOU KNOW...

Even though apprenticeships start at level 2 a student with a EHCP can request to waiver this learning level. They will, by the end of the programme need to learn to entry level 3 for Maths and English.

You can also request a time extension on the duration of the apprenticeship. Make sure you speak these options through with the training provider prior to signing up as not everyone can accommodate these changes.

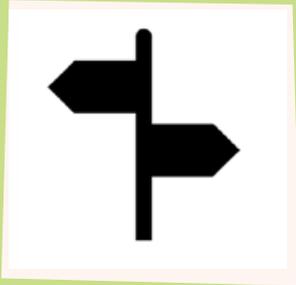


TOP TIPS...

- > Do your research
- > Make sure you can get to the location
- > Ensure that they know what your needs are so they can fully support you
- > Ask for help when you need it
- > A pre-visit to the site is always helpful
- > Look into Supported Living opportunities



FURTHER EDUCATION



SIGNPOSTING FOR FURTHER EDUCATION



TRAVEL ASSISTANCE

Finding your way to college can also present itself as a challenge. Don't let this be a barrier, follow [this link](#) to find out how your local Council can support you with travel.

Post-16 travel assistance is not automatically offered to all students who have an EHCP. There is an eligibility criteria, including closest college that meets need, and for further information on this you can either speak to Linda Hemming at Worcestershire County Council, your SEN caseworker or look at the SEN Transport Policy. It is important that you take the information into consideration when looking for a college placement.

Linda Hemming

Email: LHemming@worcestershire.gov.uk

Phone: 01905 844038

All students, regardless of need, have to pay a post -16 parental contribution towards travel assistance. The amount currently stands at £547.00 per year, although this could change, and is payable for 2 years. You will get options on how to pay this.

The travel assistance that you are offered will not automatically be a taxi. There are other options that may be offered to you and these could be a Direct Travel Payment, bus pass or train pass.



HIGHER EDUCATION

HIGHER EDUCATION

Every year, over 60,000 students with physical and/or mental health conditions and learning differences apply through UCAS to study at university or college. (UCAS, 2023)

Higher Education (HE) refers to any provision that is undertaken in order to gain a qualification that is a level 3 or higher. Degree courses are usually studied at university but HE courses are also available at some Further Education Colleges and are open to all students who meet the entry requirements of the individual course.

Although EHCPs can continue to 25, if a young person goes to university, their EHCP ends. It is important to ask questions, when looking at universities, for example, what mentoring, what 1:1 support and what study skills are there and raise questions based on the EHC Plan, even though it is ceasing.

Follow the links for more information:

[Disabled Students | Advice And Financial Support | UCAS](#)

[Disabled Students Helpline | Disability Rights UK](#)

[Funding for disabled students | Disability charity Scope UK](#)

[Options when leaving school or college | Disability charity Scope UK](#)

[UCAS | How accessible is university for learners with SEND?](#)

To support all students, most universities have a dedicated Student Support Service that will provide information, advice and support to anyone who may require it. As part of this team, they will have disability advisers, sometimes called disability co-ordinators who will be able to provide additional guidance. University disability advisers are available to offer support to students with a range of services, such as supporting with transition, liaison with academic staff and support with applying for DSA and other funding.

Disabled Students Allowance (DSA) is support to cover the study-related costs you have because of a mental health problem, long-term illness or any other disability. This can be on its own or in addition to any student finance you get. The type of support and how much you get depends on your individual needs – not your household income and does not need to be repaid.

Discover your local HE options:

- > [University of Worcester](#)
- > [Heart of Worcestershire College](#)
- > [Kidderminster College](#)
- > [Warwickshire College Group](#)



CASE STUDY



At Rigby Hall Special School, we pride ourselves on the opportunities we are able to give our students, despite the pressures of the last 12 months due to the global pandemic. In September 2020 we proudly opened our Life Skills Village giving our students the ability to develop work skills in a range of vocations including mechanics, hair and beauty and construction here on site. The students have continued to develop their employability skills whilst exploring their strengths and ambitions for the future. Below is just one example of how the careers programme has benefitted our students.

My Name is Zach and I am in Post 16 at Rigby Hall. I decided to stay on in Post 16 so that I could learn to be a bit more independent and learn more functional skills. In my time at Rigby Hall I have improved my confidence and now I feel ready for my future. After I leave Post 16 I would like to go to college to study IT and computing. I would also like to learn how to live on my own. I think I have learnt lots about 'work' in sixth form, I enjoyed working in our community café and learnt how to communicate and be professional. I really enjoyed working in the new Life Skills Village, we have been setting up our own gym business, I also had the chance to use the construction pod to complete a commission project.



NEXT STEPS CHECKLIST



Use this tick list to ensure you have all the information and are properly prepared for your next steps.

	Have you thought about how you are travelling to college?	tick	<input type="checkbox"/>		Do you know if any of your friends are going to the same place?	tick	<input type="checkbox"/>				
	Do you know the times of each day? And how many days a week you will go to college?	<input type="checkbox"/>		Is there funding available to support you?	<input type="checkbox"/>		Do you know the term dates of the course?	<input type="checkbox"/>		Does the course cater for your needs?	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Will there be food provided during your day?	<input type="checkbox"/>		Do you need to take anything with you?	<input type="checkbox"/>						

[Contact For Families with Disabled Children](#)

HOW YOUR SPECIAL QUALITIES CAN SUPPORT YOUR EMPLOYABILITY

The following 10 skills set you above the rest, you may find you have a few barriers however, these skills strengthen your employability level.



See things through different eyes

- > View the picture from a different angle
- > See the details



Creativity

- > Inventive ideas
- > An original view



Ask questions

- > Able to ask questions
- > Happy to ask for help



Accepting of differences

- > Unlikely to judge others
- > Welcome others with Additional needs



Positive

- > Positive out look
- > Always smiling



Integrity

- > Committed to the job
- > Loyal, trustworthy, and honest



Attention to detail

- > In-depth Knowledge
- > Thoroughness



Resilience

- > Determined
- > Dedicated



Novel Approaches

- > Varied solutions
- > Outside the box thinking



Willing

- > Happy to help others
- > Will follow instructions

CAREERS WORCS

**ARE YOU AGED 15-24 AND
LOOKING FOR CAREERS ADVICE?**

**LEARN MORE ABOUT YOURSELF, EXPLORE YOUR
CHOICES AND FIND THE RIGHT PATH FOR YOU.**

Whether you are still in school, looking for your first job or taking a change in direction, it is important to make informed choices.

For some people knowing what you want to do as a career is straightforward. Others may not be so sure on what to do next.

We can help you discover your options by:

- > Providing one to one advice and guidance sessions
- > Supporting you in finding, applying, and securing your next opportunity
- > Helping you find an apprenticeship or training programme
- > Providing ongoing support for up to six months

Worcestershire Careers Helpline

0300 666 3666

careersworcs@worcestershire.gov.uk

APPRENTICESHIPS

TRAINEESHIPS

EDUCATION

TRAINING

EMPLOYMENT

WORK EXPERIENCE

Start your journey to your dream career
by getting in touch with us today!

0300 666 3666

careersworcs@worcestershire.gov.uk

Part funded by
European Social Fund



THE WORCESTERSHIRE APPRENTICESHIP HUB

LOOKING FOR A GREAT WAY TO START YOUR CAREER?

WANT TO LEARN ON THE JOB, GAIN EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS WHILST ALSO EARNING MONEY?

THE ANSWER MAY BE AN APPRENTICESHIP...

HOW WE CAN HELP...

- One to one advice and guidance
- Explaining all about how apprenticeships work
- Help in producing a CV
- Support in searching for vacancies and completing the online application
- Applying for vacancies and setting up alerts
- Preparing for the interview
- Understanding the role of the training provider and employer
- Other options if you can't get an apprenticeship just yet

GET IN TOUCH...

 worsapprenticeships.org.uk

 @worsapprentice

 /worsapprenticeships

 0300 666 3 666





EMPLOYMENT AND VOLUNTEERING

If employment and volunteering is an option for you, then you could also think about the following information.

There is plenty of provision in the local community to guide, coach and support you through the journey. If you have a career/job in mind it is worth seeing if there is an educational course that will support you to the next step. These can be found in the previous section of the magazine.

SUPPORTED INTERNSHIPS & TRAINEESHIPS

A supported internship is a type of study programme specifically aimed at young people aged 16 to 24 with a EHCP who wish to move into employment. Supported internships can bridge the gap between education and the world of work or volunteering. These courses can help you get ahead as you move into adulthood.

[To find out more information click here](#)

Click the logos to visit the colleges websites



Diane Hughes

Email: diane.hughes@mencap.org.uk

Phone: 07941 377734

Mencap programme is for young people with mild learning disabilities who have an Education and Healthcare Plan (EHCP) aged between 16 – 24 years of age.

On this programme we teach clients functional skills in Maths and English and Employability skills in our classroom activity sessions. We teach Entry Level 1, 2 and 3 up to Level 2.

[Find out more about Mencap here.](#)

MLD

- > [Interns and Outcomes Booklet](#)
- > [Supported Internship Booklet](#)



EMPLOYMENT & VOLUNTEERING

SUPPORTED INTERNSHIPS & TRAINEESHIPS



HEART OF
**WORCESTERSHIRE
COLLEGE**

Click the
logos to visit
the colleges
websites

the
POINT

Annette Gardner

Email:

agardner@howcollege.ac.uk

Phone: 01527 572834

Catherine Browning

Email:

cbrowning@howcollege.ac.uk

Phone: 01905 743438

Bonnie Heath

Email:

thepoint@kidderminster.ac.uk

bheath@kidderminster.ac.uk

Phone: 01562 512098

Heart of Worcestershire college also deliver supported internships and access to employment course.

HOW College is an inclusive college which sees learners as individuals with their own particular needs and strengths.

You can find out more [here](#), below is a list of some of the available courses:

- > Skills for Work 1 (supported Internship) **MLD SEMH**
- > Skills for work 2 (supported Internship) **MLD SEMH**
- > Support into employment **MLD SEMH**

[HOW prospectuses](#)

[HOW Courses](#)

A Traineeship is a flexible education and training programme with work experience that unlocks the great potential of young people, ages 16 to 24!

This programme prepares them for their future careers by helping them to become 'work ready'.

The Point- Kidderminster College Traineeships

MLD SEMH

> [Traineeships](#)

Supported Internships Supported internships are for young people aged 16-24 with an EHCP plan. The internship will last 6-12 months for learners who wish to gain some part-time or full-time employment.

Learners will start by attending college getting ready for their work placement. They will then start attending work placement with support of a job coach. This support will reduce throughout the apprenticeship until the learner is comfortable on their own. An interview for a real job will take place at the end. In addition learners will still attend college 1 day per week for employability skills.



EMPLOYMENT & VOLUNTEERING

SUPPORTED INTERNSHIPS & TRAINEESHIPS



Click the logos to visit the colleges websites



Sue Hobson

Email:

sue.hobson@novatraining.co.uk

Phone: 07415213071

Matt Wright

Email: mwright@qac.ac.uk

Phone: 0121 803 5484

Nova Training provides a variety of learning provisions across the West Midlands. This independent training provider will tailor its learning to the needs of the student, catering for age 14-24 with a EHCP. These courses also include traineeships and supported internships.

> Traineeships **MLD SEMH**

> Apprenticeships **MLD SEMH**

You can find more information in our Parents & Carers Guide here.

QAC is a national residential college and charity based in Birmingham that supports a diverse range of student abilities and needs.

The college offers an innovative, holistic approach to learning and support. We welcome students who come to our college from all over the country – as well as many who are local to us.

Our curriculum is designed to maximise life chances, develop independence and work skills. English, maths, employment skills and PSHE are embedded across all areas of study.

[QAC Your Guide](#)

[QAC video](#)

> Supported Internships

SLD MLD SEMH



EMPLOYMENT & VOLUNTEERING

SUPPORTED INTERNSHIPS & TRAINEESHIPS



**SOUTH & CITY COLLEGE
BIRMINGHAM**

Click the
logos to visit
the colleges
websites

UNITY

Building Brighter Futures

Head of Foundation learning

Christine Daly

Email: Christine.daly@sccb.ac.uk

Phone: 021 694 5000

Wend Taylor

Hall Green campus

Email: Wend.taylor@sccb.ac.uk

Jaspal Bilkhu

Handsworth campus

Email: jaspal.bilkhu@sccb

Ghulam Nabi

Bordesley Green campus

Email: Ghulam.Nabi@sccb.ac.uk

Diana Hulp

Email:

diana.hulp@communityhousing.co.uk

Phone: 07468 691034

Employment and Wellbeing Support

Our UNITY Team specialise in Building Brighter Futures. To take your first step please [click here](#) and one of our team will contact you to discuss your requirements,

Employment – we can support people aged 16 and over who live in our homes and surrounding neighbourhoods within Wyre Forest, Worcester City and Malvern with a wide range of services to help them move into sustainable employment or improve their career opportunities. Support can include creating an outstanding CV, how to search for a job that meets your needs, applications to get you noticed and techniques to wow at interview.

Health and wellbeing – we understand the journey to employment isn't always a straightforward one. We will help you to see your own potential, find ways to increase your confidence, engage with additional support services and achieve things you have only dreamed of.

[BBO information for Worcestershire](#)

[Find your Local Job Coach](#)

South and City College Birmingham is a vocational college which offers students part-time, full-time and Apprenticeship courses from entry level to further education in a range of subjects.

We offer a wide range of course options to help students to lead more independent lives and to improve their employment and training opportunities.

Foundation Learning

> Pathway to Independence

SLD **MLD** **SEMH**

> Pathway to Progression

SLD **MLD** **SEMH**

> Pathway to Employment

SLD **MLD** **SEMH**



EMPLOYMENT & VOLUNTEERING

SUPPORTED INTERNSHIPS & TRAINEESHIPS



Click the
logo to visit
websites

Jo Darrow

Email: info@reddisupport.com

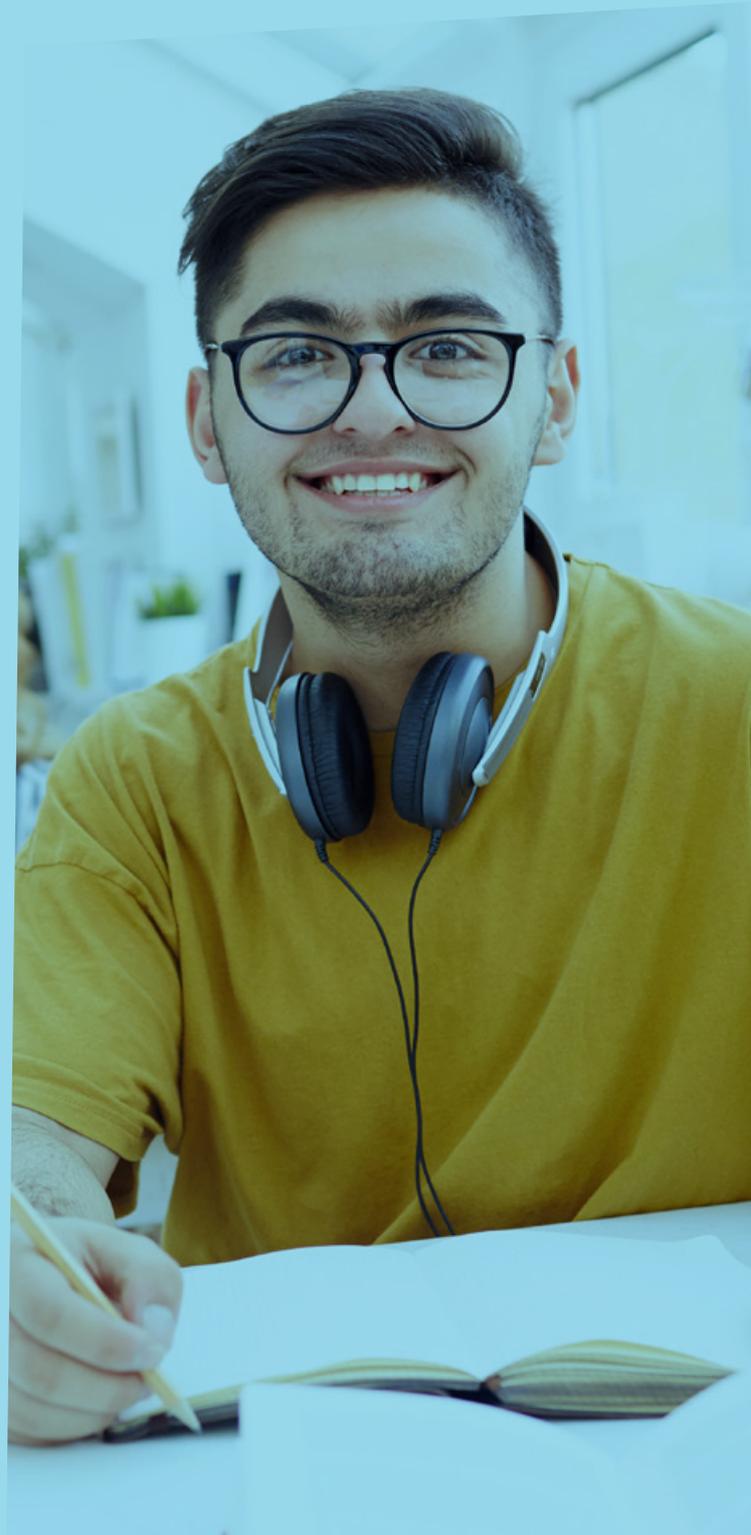
Phone: 01527 61638

Location: Redditch



In addition to our day service, we now offer supported employment/work experience opportunities at our very own café and pre-loved shop! At Cups and Saucers Café & Shop, we provide supported work experience for those who attend Reddi Support. The aim of this venture was to create an enterprise business that could be run by adults with learning disabilities with the support of staff from Reddi Support. Individuals based at the café and shop have opportunities to learn how to greet and serve customers, use the till and card machine to take payments, prepare and serve drinks and food, pricing, sorting and displaying stock, listing stock online, and more.

MLD





EMPLOYMENT & VOLUNTEERING

SUPPORTED INTERNSHIPS & TRAINEESHIPS



Department
for Work &
Pensions

Click the
logo to visit
website

School Adviser Mercia District
Clare Gilkes

Email: clare.gilkes@dwp.gov.uk

Phone: 07585882180

As you turn 16 your DLA (Disability Living Allowance) will change to PIP (Personal Independence Payment). This payment will not be affected by your employment or education status. Follow the [link](#) for more information to ensure your funding entitlements continue. Additional support and information can be found [here](#).

DWP also work directly with schools through workshops and high quality impartial information and advice.



Access to Work
Making work possible

Access to Work is a government incentive to help you get or stay in work if you have a physical or mental health condition or disability.

There are varied levels of support offered depending on your needs. There is even support for your employer ensuring reasonable adjustment are made to make your working day achievable.

[You can find out more information about Access to Work here.](#)

[This page will also give you further information on the Job Help campaign.](#)



TRAVEL ASSISTANCE

Finding your way to work can present itself as a challenge. Access to Work is a discretionary grant scheme delivered by DWP which can assist in paying for practical support to enable disabled people or those with health conditions to overcome workplace barriers.

For supported interns, this means Access to Work can fund:

- assistance to travel to and from work if the intern cannot use public transport or drive themselves

Access to Work awards are tailored to the needs of the individual, which means awards will vary depending on the supported interns' circumstances.

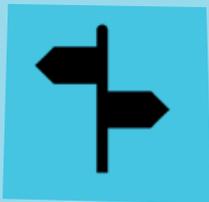
A traineeship is a training programme and isn't a job. Employers are not required to pay you for the work placement, but they can support you with expenses such as:

- expenses for transport from your employer
- financial support for travel from your training provider



EMPLOYMENT & VOLUNTEERING

EMPLOYMENT



SIGNPOSTING FOR EMPLOYMENT

- > [Routes into Work Guide](#)
- > [Looking for work if you're disabled](#)
- > [Worcestershire Help to find work \(SEND\)](#)
- > [Scope Employment Support](#)
- > [Government list of Disability Friendly Employers](#)
(file downloads when linked is opened)
- > [Disability Job Site](#)
- > [Careers with Disabilities](#)
- > [Princes Trust](#)
- > [Base- British Association for Supported Employment](#)
- > [Employment Autism](#)



TOP TIPS FOR EMPLOYMENT

- > Be on time or even better be early
- > Be polite and respectful
- > Be helpful to others without forgetting to do your own jobs
- > Don't use your mobile phone unless it is an emergency or on a break
- > Know your working times for the week ahead
- > Bring lunch or money if you have a lunch break
- > Ask questions
- > Make friends, a happy working environment is a productive working environment
- > Ensure you inform your manager of any additional support you need
- > Find a safe place to store your belongings throughout the day
- > Be proactive
- > Ensure you know what is expected of you in the job
- > Check your eligibility for benefits whilst working. You may be entitled to DLA or PIP, which are not means tested or effected by employment.
- > DLA= Disability living allowance for under 16 year olds
- > PIP= Personal independence payment for 16+ year olds



EMPLOYMENT & VOLUNTEERING

EMPLOYMENT

SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT

The Supported Employment Service supports people that have a disability to access structured work activity placements and employment.

The Supported Employment Service also supports organisations and businesses with the process of recruitment and providing work opportunities for our candidates.

www.worcestershire.gov.uk/care-and-support/learning-disabilities/supported-employment-service

USEFUL LINKS

- [Getting a Job guide by the Foundation for people with learning disabilities](#)
- [Learning Disabilities website](#)
- [Worcestershire Jobs Search](#)
- [Internship Works](#)
- [Aid for Aspergers](#)
- [Prospects](#)
- [National Career Service](#)

YOUR FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES

<https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/skills-4-worcestershire/your-future-opportunities>

Search through Labour Market Information, using this accessible platform, to explore jobs options, local positions, how to enter these jobs, the qualifications you need and more.





EMPLOYMENT & VOLUNTEERING

VOLUNTEERING

Volunteering can be a wonderful way for you to experience new environments and try new skills without the pressure of a paid position.

Volunteering can help you build up your skills developing you to be work ready. It is also a great way to work out what career you may wish to work in. You may also meet new people and make new friends within your local community.

WHY VOLUNTEERING?

- > Volunteering can connect you with other people
- > Volunteering builds self-confidence and self esteem
- > Volunteering can be important for physical and mental health
- > Volunteering gives you purpose
- > Volunteering helps others and gives back
- > Volunteering can give you a more positive outlook on your life
- > Volunteering can help you find a job and build skills

HOW TO FIND VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES?

Finding opportunities in your local area may take a little bit of investigation.

Firstly, if you are still in an education setting speak with your Key worker or Careers leader/advisor for help.

Secondly, write a list of local places you would like to volunteer at, things that you have an interest in or place you have a skill that would match. Approach these places (with parent/guardian support) to see if they have any opportunities for you.

Thirdly, you can follow the links in the signposting sections for contacts for volunteering in Worcestershire.



EMPLOYMENT & VOLUNTEERING

VOLUNTEERING



SIGNPOSTING FOR VOLUNTEERING

- > [Worcestershire Community Volunteering](#)
- > [Scope Volunteering](#)
- > [Evesham Volunteer Centre](#)
- > [Skills4Worcestershire Volunteering Support](#)



TOP TIPS FOR VOLUNTEERING

- > Look for something that you are interested in
- > Make sure you can travel to the location
- > Ensure they know what your needs are so they can fully support you
- > Ask questions
- > Be prepared for the day ahead
- > A pre-visit to the site is always helpful

A high percentage of charity shop workforce is voluntary, [this is a great place to start](#).





EMPLOYMENT & VOLUNTEERING



CASE STUDY

SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT

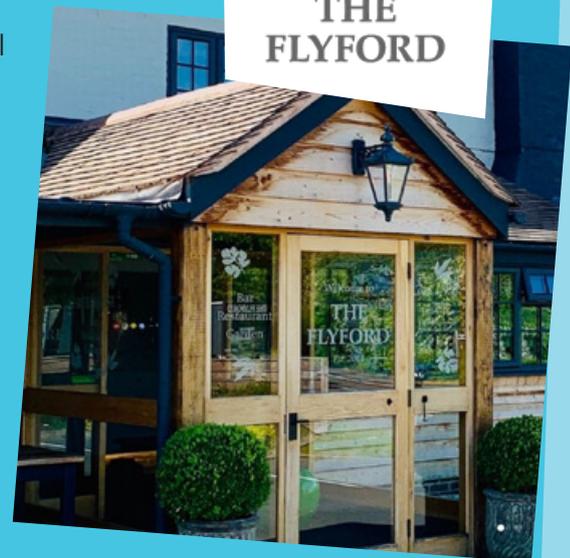
Like most local authorities, Worcestershire County Council has a Supported Employment offer. One of the key areas of support is narrowing the gap between employee and employer, connecting people to potential employers. The Supported Employment Service team works with a case load of vulnerable residents from across the county, assisting them into meaningful work activity and employment and supporting them to retain and develop within their role.

One of the amazing participants on the programme is D, who has been working at a local Worcestershire Bar/Restaurant and Kitchen Garden Business called 'The Flyford'. D is now an established member of the team, completing grounds maintenance, gardening, weeding, and general assistant duties around the site.

This is D's first paid job. 'The Flyford' owner and team are working with D to progress their skills and career even further. D started working gradually at 3 hours per week. D did not require ongoing support from the Supported Employment Service in the new role, but the service did arrange regular Supported Review Meetings. These meetings allow a time for all parties to discuss and assess progress and highlight any support or adjustments required.

D worked hard and was motivated to complete further construction training during the quieter seasonal period, achieving a CSCS qualification. This resulted in the business owner offering D extra hours, developing their skills and role within the business. The Supported Employment Service team will continue supporting D to settle in the new role.

It is great to see the contribution and progress D has been able to demonstrate, after being given this opportunity by a local business.





Famous People with SEND

Student Activity (SEND)



One billion people around the world live with some form of disability, 14.1 million of those people are living in the UK.

You yourself may identify with having an additional need, you may know someone that has an additional need, or you even may live with someone that has an additional need, but did you know that some of the celebrities you may see on the TV or hear on the radio or even read about in books also have an additional need?

Over the next few pages, we will highlight some of the most famous people that have lived with or are living with some form of disability yet have still gone on to have a great career.

We hope that some of these amazing people will inspire you to achieve your own career aspirations.

Follow the activity below, answering the questions as you go.

You may need a little extra help from your fellow students, teachers or even the computer.

Use the free text boxes below the questions to write down your answers.



LMI FACT

Did you know...
in 2020 roughly 58% of Worcestershire's disabled people aged 16 to 64 were in employment?



Activity 1

In this section we will research and explore a number of different celebrities.

All the famous people featured over the next few pages have overcome a variety of challenges to establish extremely successful careers.

Please review the information about each one of our celebrities and then answer the questions about each one.

Feel free to undertake some of your own research using the internet to find out more about them.



Rosie Jones

Comedian and screen play writer

SEND: Ataxic cerebral Palsy

Rosie was born with Ataxic cerebral palsy; she grew up feeling that a label defined her and that she wouldn't amount to much.

After starting a career in research, Rosie took the leap to become a comic, even though she thought her disabilities, especially her slow speech would be a barrier.

Rosie now has written screen plays, is an accomplished stand-up comedian and appears on many well-known comedies shows such as the "Last Leg" and has appeared in the big TV drama Silent Witness.

?

Do you think Rosie is a good role model by encouraging disabled people to follow their dreams?

What do you think Rosie learnt about herself when she worked as a researcher for channel 4?



Justin Timberlake

Singer, song writer, producer, and actor

SEND: ADHD and OCD

Justin formally known for being a part of the Band NSYNC and then a very successful solo artist.

Throughout his solo career, Timberlake has sold over 32 million albums and 56 million singles globally, and a further 70 million records with NSYNC, making him one of the world's best-selling music artists.

Over his career Timberlake has won ten Grammy Awards, four Emmy Awards, seven American Music Awards, three Brit Awards, nine Billboard Music Awards and eleven MTV Video Music Awards.

Throughout his life Justin has lived with ADHD and OCD both affecting him in many ways through everything he has done.



Do do you think that having an unseen disability made it more difficult for Justin to build his career?

How do you think the people that worked with Justin could help him in the workplace?



INDEPENDENT LIVING AND LIFE SKILLS

INDEPENDENT LIVING AND LIFE SKILLS

As you grow older you will be wishing to become more independent where you can. This short section will signpost and guide you to some ways you can start doing just that.

It is important not to rush this transition and take guidance from those around you.

LIFE SKILLS

Preparing for adulthood can be daunting however, if it is broken down into chunks or sections it can become more achievable.

Break it into the following sections:

- About the home
- Money management
- Talking to others and socialising
- Education/ work / volunteering

Visit the [Scope website](#) for more information:

[Barclays life skills website](#) is also a great tool to work with

MONEY MANAGEMENT

It is important to understand and manage your money, again this can be something you and your parents/guardians worry about, if you follow the links below you will find wonderful support and guidance on how to keep your money safe, budget and afford the things you want.

[Dosh](#) has a great easy read website to help you manage your money

Watch this [Dosh video](#) for more information.

Try these activities from Practical Money Skills

[NatWest My money website](#)

[Kiddie Matter Life skills website and downloadable checklists](#)

Why not try this [life skills check list](#)



INDEPENDENT LIVING & LIFE SKILLS



SIGNPOSTING FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING AND LIFE SKILLS:



TOP TIPS

- > Be organised
- > Keep yourself and your accommodation clean and tidy
- > Ask for help when you need it
- > Know who your support staff are and where to find them
- > Follow the money management tips and advice
- > Don't put yourself in unsafe situations
- > Always have your phone on you in case of emergencies
- > Learn your address if possible
- > Get to know the local area with support!

- > [Encouraging Independence](#)
- > [Supported Living in Worcestershire video](#)
- > [Supported Living Worcestershire information](#)
- > [Worcestershire Preparation for Adulthood](#)
- Email:**
Positivelivingoptionsteam@worcestershire.gov.uk
- Phone:** 01905845659
- > [Worcestershire Care Choices Booklet](#)
- > [National Preparation for Adulthood Website](#)
- > [Disability Support Project](#)



CASE STUDY



Joanne's Story:
Follow the video link to watch Joanne's story.



TOTUM is the all-singing, all-dancing version of the NUS card for higher education (HE) and further education (FE) students. With the paid membership version you get access to over 350 online and high street student discounts.

[TOTUM explained simply here.](#)



INDEPENDENT LIVING & LIFE SKILLS

LIFE BINGO



Join in this simple game of bingo to see how independent you are, find out more ways to support yourself into independency from the previous section.



Do you know your address?

tick



Do you use a calendar?

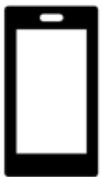
tick



Can you use public transport safely and alone?



Do you make some of your own food and drinks?



Do you use a mobile phone or telephone?



Do you communicate with others well?



Can you tell the time and time keep?



Can you operate technology?



Do you look after your own money?



Can you prepare yourself or know what to take with you day to day when going out?



Do you have any responsibilities, like looking after a pet?



Do you know what to do at the shops?



HEALTH AND WELLBEING

In preparation for adulthood and thinking about your next steps it is important that you also think about your health. If you move on to college, supported work placement, volunteering etc. You will need to keep your physical and mental health in check to ensure you enjoy, complete and achieve in the activities.

There is a lot of support around you, so always ask for help if you need it. See the links below and information for more ways you can keep yourself healthy and happy.



**worcester
snoezelen**

Olivia Miller

Email: bookings@worcestersnoezelen.org.uk

Phone: 01905 74829

Location: Worcester

Worcester Snoezelen is a multi-sensory leisure therapy centre for people of all ages who have disabilities and additional needs. There are tranquil sensory rooms, a hydro-therapy pool with waterfall, soft play, and sensory garden. There are also music, art and yoga sessions – for groups or individuals - and fun activity clubs for adults and children.

People visit from all over the West Midlands, usually accompanied by care staff or with their families. They join in with anything from our Rock School for over 16s to make some noise with our 5-piece rock band – or to just chill out watching the bubbles in a quiet calm sensory room or have a splash in the pool.

Sensory Rooms **PMLD** **SLD** **MLD**

Creative Arts & Music **PMLD** **SLD** **MLD**

Hydro Pool **PMLD** **SLD** **MLD**

Activity Days **PMLD** **SLD** **MLD**

Cafe **PMLD** **SLD** **MLD**



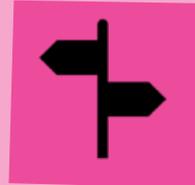


HEALTH AND WELLBEING

HOW TO KEEP YOURSELF HEALTHY

There are many ways to keep yourself healthy in body and mind. Follow the link to find out some more information.

[The school run - Keeping yourself healthy](#)



SIGNPOSTING FOR HEALTH AND WELLBEING:

Your local county council has a lot in place for you, see these following links for more:

- > [Worcestershire - Preparing for adulthood](#)
- > [Worcestershire - Health and Wellbeing](#)
- > [Worcestershire - Health Services for Children with SEND](#)
- > [Send Personal Health Budget](#)
- > [Growing up, Sex and relationships from Contact Family](#)
- > [Aspie](#)



CASE STUDY



Watch **Snoezey's Rock School** perform at **Hereford Town Hall**





HEALTH AND WELLBEING



MY HEALTH WHEEL

See how many pieces of the wheel you already do?

Add them up out of 8. Try to add a piece of the wheel each week.





DAY AND COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

Life would be a little empty without friends and family around you, so as you move forward through your journey it is important to keep a strong network of friends and family. Getting involved with your local community through groups, volunteering and activities is a great way of making and building relationships.

There are lots of local groups so please use the signposting for more information. However, here are a few options.

Some of these settings provide day activities which can be accessed through adult care funding and individual budgets. These budgets are agreed for eligible young people through adult care assessments undertaken by social services.



Click the logo to visit the website

Gary Ives

Email:

Hello@ambersupportservices.co.uk

Phone: 01905 917900

Location: Bromsgrove

Supporting people with learning and physical disabilities to live the life they want to live, achieving positive outcomes beyond their own expectations. Uniquely able to offer a single support solution linking Day Opportunities with Community Support and Respite

Day Opportunities - Monday to Friday 7.30am - 6.00pm

Award winning support which includes transport, with a focus on independence, the development of new skills and wellbeing.

SLD MLD PMLD

Community Support - Co-production of support centred

around a person's individual requirements. From a few hours a week to 24 hours a day, flexible support with a focus on choice, independence and living your best life.

SLD MLD PMLD

Amber Seasons - Monday to Friday 9.00am - 16.00pm

Where people and nature flourish. Therapeutic community project offering horticultural therapy, gardening activities and friendship. **SLD MLD SEMH PMLD**

Community Activities - Monday to Friday 9.00am - 16.00pm

Inclusive, creative activities designed to build self-esteem, confidence and so much more! Sessions include disability sports, art workshops, wellbeing classes and music and drama clubs.

SLD MLD PMLD



DAY AND COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

PROVIDERS



Click the
logo to visit
websites



Zardia Shields

Email:

zardia.shields@midlandmencap.org.uk

Phone: 07591 596 263

We provide a day opportunities community based service. Such as wellbeing walks, community café, art & music sessions, bowling, cinema, Parkride, swimming rock climbing and many more. Support is tailored to each individuals wants and goals.

We provide free taster sessions where people we support can book on to see if they are interest in our service. Assessments would take place to ensure citizens were well supported and safe during their activities in the community.

MLD

Russell Wall

Email: Russell.wall@where-next.org.uk

Phone: 01527 69955

Location: Redditch

Where Next offers its services in several units in Redditch and Studley. Each unit is staffed by a qualified team, and we offer unique experiences and opportunities for the individuals we support. We're a small charity-run garden nursery and provide a fully stocked shop full of colour. Our friendly and helpful staff are on hand to help whenever they can, helping to inspire generations of adults to achieve their potential

General Day Service

PMLD SLD MLD SEMH

Individuals can choose the hours they wish to through our hours of 9-4. In any of our 3 units. 2 garden centre settings and 1 industrial setting. For a mixture of work related and relaxed activities to suit the needs of the individual

HUB PMLD SLD MLD SEMH

Ad hoc short recreational activities typically running from 1-2 hours.

Activities include keep fit, arts, key skills, and community awareness. Sessions delivered within the HUB or out in the local community.



DAY AND COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

PROVIDERS

Click the logo to visit websites



Nicky Margetts/Pam White

Email: garageartgroup@live.co.uk

Phone: 01386 442696
Location: Evesham

Various art and craft sessions throughout the week which aim to promote health and wellbeing for all members of society through the visual arts.



Ruth Krivosic

Phone: 01562 861154

Email: Ruth.krivosic@theemilyjordanfoundation.org.uk

Location: Kidderminster

The Emily Jordan foundation offers day opportunities across two sites. Trainees join us to learn new skills and for some they improve their chances to gain paid employment. We have a team of workers with learning disabilities who are paid to maintain public areas and sites. Each project is staffed by a qualified team and the trainees are supported to their own ability level, working at their own pace.

General Day Service **MLD** **SEMH**

We operate between the hours of 9am and 4pm Monday – Friday. Trainees can mix their sessions between the different projects.

Bank Workers **MLD** **SEMH**

Once trained, we offer people with learning disabilities the opportunity to gain paid work. It's usually around 2-3 hours per week.



DAY AND COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

PROVIDERS

Click the logo to visit website

WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL LEARNING DISABILITY DAY SERVICES



Pam Render

Email:

prender@worcestershire.gov.uk

Phone: 01905844650

Location: Worcester, Kidderminster, Bromsgrove and Pershore

WCC is committed to a person-centred approach, in a safe and stimulating environment. We understand each person is an individual with their own needs and preferences. We currently support individuals with a variety of needs which include:

- Profound and multiple learning disabilities. (PMLD).
- Multiple physical disabilities, auditory and visually impairments.
- Health care and complex needs, continuing health care.
- Epilepsy / Seizures.
- Autism.

Resource Centres provide a high-quality service which is tailored to meet the individual's requirements within our Service offering specialist care and equipment. We work alongside other health professionals to support the individual to aid their health and wellbeing providing a multidisciplinary approach. With this, we incorporate health action plans, eating and drinking plans, behaviour management plans, epilepsy plans and robust risk assessments just to name a few.

We provide a range of support and assistance with personal care to general day to day support with activities of daily living, emotional, psychological, practical, and social support with the aim of meeting the individual's chosen outcomes and promoting their independence.

Some individuals are very mobile, some use wheelchairs or walking aids. Support to ensure they can participate in meaningful activities is important to us. We like to ensure our individuals engage in chosen activities and enjoy engaging with the community, encouraging social inclusion and equality.

Resource centres are based in Pershore, Worcester, Bromsgrove and Kidderminster. We can also discuss outreach services, if this was something of interest. We aim to be bespoke and flexible to peoples requirements moving forward.



DAY AND COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

PROVIDERS



Click the logo to visit websites

Lesley Tite

Phone: 07572075555

Email: muddybootsgroundcare@yahoo.co.uk

Location: Stourport

Muddy Boots Ground Care CIC was established in 2016. We provide services for people with learning disabilities and mental health in various workshops and woodlands both on and off site.

We pride ourselves on offering a welcoming and nourishing environment where our workshop leaders wide range of skills are used to help grow our clients confidence and enjoyment in the tasks they undertake while with us.

The team is always at the heart of what we do and something everyone here is passionate about.

Arts & Crafts **MLD** **SEMH**

The Arts and Crafts project runs on a Thursday by 2 members of staff who has over 10 years' experience. Here individuals can be creative by making numerous items for themselves or for us to sell when we run our craft stalls.

Woodwork **MLD** **SEMH**

Our Woodwork project runs on a Wednesday from our workshop, it is run by 2 members of staff who teach everything to do with wood whether that be green wood from the woods or planed. Attendees learn how to use woodwork equipment safely and correctly to make items to either take home or sell.

Multiskills Day **MLD** **SEMH**

Multiskills run on a Friday and an experience of working in 55 acres of ground with a small wooded area. Individuals could be doing anything from working in the woods, clearing fields, small construction projects and have access to the rest of centres workshops in bad weather.

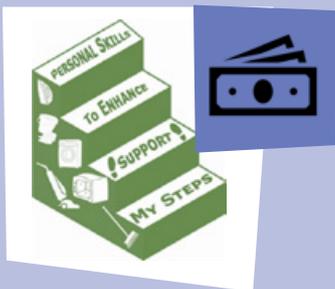
Ground Care **MLD** **SEMH**

Ground Care runs Monday - Thursday carrying out grounds maintenance work across Worcestershire, parts of the West Midlands and Shropshire. Individuals will be trained to use commercial petrol driven equipment as well as getting the opportunity to work in some lovely settings and work as part of a team.



DAY AND COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

PROVIDERS



Click the
logo to visit
websites



Sarah Duffin

Email:

sarah@mysteps.org.uk

Phone:

07934902020

Location:

Kidderminster

My STEPS is focused on developing your personal skills, this may be with independent living, cooking, using money, shopping, laundry, cleaning or communication, problem solving, teamwork, independence, confidence building, healthy living and fitness. First taster session free.

My STEPS runs from Monday - Thursday and you can attend as many days a week as you like.

MLD SLD SEMH PMLD

Alison Coley-Smith

Email: ali@reach4support.org.uk

Phone: 07841 524 316

Location: Bewdley/ Kidderminster

'Reach' provides support and opportunities for individuals with learning difficulties, disabilities and mental health needs. Through our service provision we offer a wide range of positive and meaningful activities which promote individual choice and independence, learning and skill development and inclusion within the local community. Our friendly, professional team encourage and support individuals in a person centred way, ensuring the individual is at the heart of everything they do. Individuals are able to develop their self-confidence, communication, social & life skills, make new friends and have lots of fun!

Day Opportunities

Mon to Fri, 9:30am to 3:00pm
Full and half day sessions available

SLD MLD SEMH PMLD

'Rock 'n Pop' School

@Kidderminster Youth House
Once a month - Saturdays
10.00am to 12.00pm

SLD MLD SEMH PMLD

'Reach for the Stars' DISCO 'Bewdley Cricket Club

Once a month, 6pm - 8.30pm

SLD MLD SEMH

Activities include; Arts & Crafts - Cookery - Gym & Swim - Sports - Gardening - Music - Dance - Fitness & Boxercise - Pamper - Volunteer Work Experience - Money skills & Travel Training - Outings - Small Enterprise - Community & Charity Work - Parties, Discos & Events



DAY AND COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

PROVIDERS



Click the
logo to visit
websites

**Jo Darrow**

Email: info@reddisupport.com

Phone: 01527 61638

Location: Redditch

Amy Annis

Email:

aannis@spectrumdays.co.uk

Location: Droitwich

Reddi Support is a day service (and so much more!) for adults with learning disabilities and autism. Based in Redditch, we offer activities in a supportive learning environment designed to promote independence, improve life skills, and increase social interaction and inclusion within the community. We also offer the opportunity for social gatherings and events, supported holidays throughout the year, as well as day trips.

Some of the activities on offer are cooking and independent living skills; enterprise work; arts and crafts; literacy, numeracy and IT; drama; dance; sing and sign; zumba and indoor games; swimming; trampolining; and history walks. These activities are held at our base in Redditch and also within the local community.

Day opportunities

Cooking and independent living skills, art and crafts, drama, dancing, sing and sign, games, accessing the community; zumba, swimming, trampolining, enterprise and a brand new option starting in January 2022 - Supported Employment at our very own cafe and pre-loved shop all based in Redditch.

We also have regular weekend/breaks and holidays throughout the year.

SLD **MLD** **SEMH**

We provide Day Services to people with Profound and Multiple Learning Disabilities (PMLD) in the home or at our specialist building.

We have an innovative approach to service provision, responding to the needs of the family. Through a unique combination of Day opportunities, specialist equipment, resources, skills, knowledge and experience. By pulling a range of specialist services and resources together high quality, efficient solutions are provided to this marginalised but very special group. We have long term plans to cover the whole age range meeting the relevant stresses and strains faced by family's at milestones along the journey of life.

We provide a range of activities bespoke to the individual, with therapeutic routines built into the day.

7am to 7pm

PMLD



DAY AND COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

PROVIDERS



Click the
logo to visit
websites



Salena Begum

Phone: 01905 729190

Email:

sbegum@myriadcentre.co.uk

Location: Worcester

Day service for young adults which is not just a safe place for them to go, but one that provides for their medical, physical and emotional wellbeing whilst continuing to enhance their still-developing skills and life experiences. These special people, like everyone else, need a purpose in life, something which provides meaning and a community within which they can flourish and grow.

PMLD **SLD**

Jim Hilderley

Email: enquiry@wgrt.org

Phone: 01905 620840

Location: Worcester

Wildgoose Rural Training was established in 2000, to support adults with learning and physical disabilities. Enabling them to learn practical and social skills through working with the land and animals. Treating them as individuals and giving them the opportunity to gain skills through activities such as:

- Animal Care - Looking after our animals.
- Horticulture, Agriculture and Conservation - Growing fruit and veg, gardening and managing the Nature Reserve.
- Woodwork, Cookery, Mechanics, Arts-Craft, Well-Being and Workstream

Experienced tutors who bring out the absolute best of each student.

Transitional visits can be arranged to support and reduce the anxiety of moving on.

Get to know us a little more through our Webpage and links.

[Learn more about Wildgoose through this video link.](#)

SLD **MLD** **SEMH** **PMLD**



DAY AND COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES



CASE STUDY

John's Story...

Amber Support has built its foundation on understanding the needs of clients who come to us for support; putting them at the centre of everything we do. Support is personal to each client enabling them to take control of their own lives in ways that are exactly right for them and their families. With over 19 years' experience, our principles and desires are to provide clients with the best opportunities that life can offer.

Supported Living

Co production of support is centred around a person's individual requirements, enabling independence through positive, flexible support with a focus on choice and living their best life. John recently expressed a wish to have a fresh start and to live more independently; so, after viewing a few properties he chose a house called Cloverleaf, living with two other young men with similar interests to his own.

There were a lot of areas to consider which both John and his family factored into their decision making; the right location, the right support and the right people to live John states "I love my new home. It is on a good bus route which is important to me as I like to lead an active life and feel part of my community. I can walk to the local shop if we need a pint of milk, and there is a park not far, where we will often kick a football around."





DAY AND COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES



CASE STUDY

John's Story continued...

"We have a 'man cave' which is my favourite part of the house, and my favourite part of the day is doing the washing up after dinner where we sing along to songs we choose on Alexa.

I am proud of myself and my new friends as we recently found and bought a second hand garden furniture set from Facebook Marketplace which we think is a bargain we now enjoy meals outside whenever we can which I particularly enjoy.

I am close to my family and see them at least once a week and chat to them regularly on the phone. You can find me playing pool on a Wednesday evening with my family and friends in a pub local to where I live. I have my own pool cue which I bring with me as I am a pretty good player.

Together with my support team and keyworker, I am supported to do the things that are important to me as well as those that are necessary such as maintaining my tenancy, paying my bills, attending health appointments, and completing weekly shopping for myself and for the house. I have my routines and a timetable of activities together with photos of my support team so that I know who is supporting me throughout the week."



Alison Mills, Operations Director from Amber Support states **"Since moving to Cloverleaf, we have seen John flourish and grow in confidence, and it is exciting to see him develop beyond his own and his families' expectations. On speaking with John's sister she states I'm very happy with John's move into Supported Living from Shared Lives it feels like he's taken the next step in his life and has gained more independence. He is really enjoying the change and his greater freedom, and we are pleased to see him so happy."**

The final word should go to John who states:

"I love living here as I have my own front door key and it is my own place."



DAY AND COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES



SIGNPOSTING FOR DAY AND COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES:

- > [Worcestershire- Groups and activities](#)
- > [Worcestershire Day opportunities](#)
- > [Worcestershire- Short Breaks and group activities](#)
- > [Worcestershire- Specialist Short Breaks](#)
- > [Worcestershire Day Services](#)
- > [Branches Day Opportunities](#)
- > [Choices Day Opportunities](#)
- > [Freedom Day Centre](#)
- > [Community Catalysts](#)

FUNDING YOUR SOCIAL CARE

DLA is the benefit to which children with disabilities may be entitled. For those age 16 years and over DLA stops and is replaced with PIP.

These guides explain these benefits further:

<https://www.gov.uk/disability-living-allowance-children/rates>

<https://www.gov.uk/dla-disability-living-allowance-benefit>

If someone has a child aged 16-18 and they believe they are eligible for support from the Young Adults Team, they should contact the Family Front Door on 01905 822666. If they are over 18 then they should contact the Access Centre on 01905 768053.

If they are assessed as being eligible for support from the YAT team they will receive a social work assessment which will enable them to access care and support which may include a direct payment. Direct payments are cash payments (rather than directly provided services), which are paid to a young person (age 18 and over), a parent or carer or to a nominated third party. These payments must be used to meet outcomes identified in a care plan or Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan. By receiving direct payments, you are responsible for arranging, managing and paying for the services yourself.





DAY AND COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

PICKING THE RIGHT COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR YOU



Choosing the right social care or community group for you can be a difficult decision as there are so many options to choose from.

This simple exercise should help you think things through.



WHAT ARE THE OPTIONS IN YOUR AREA?



IS IT A HOBBY OR SOMETHING YOU LIKE TO DO?



WHAT TIME DO THE GROUPS AND ACTIVITIES HAPPEN?



DOES IT MAKE YOU SMILE WHEN YOU TAKE PART?



WHAT DAY OF THE WEEK AND HOW REGULAR ARE THE GROUPS AND MEETINGS?



DO YOU HAVE ANY FRIENDS THERE?



WOULD YOU NEED SUPPORT WITH TRANSPORT?

Contact For Families with Disabled Children



DAY AND COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

THROUGH SENDIASS, IPSEA AND WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL



Herefordshire & Worcestershire SENDIASS- Support for young people with SEND and their parents/carers to make informed decisions.

SENDIASS stands for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Information, Advice and Support Service. We provide information, advice and support on matters relating to

children and young people with SEND including health and social care.

Our advice and support is:

- **Free**, it does not cost you anything
- **Confidential**, this means that we will not share your information with others without getting your permission
- **Impartial**, this means that we will not tell you what to do and we don't take sides. We will give you the information and support that you need to make your own choices.

If you are a young person, we can offer information, advice, and support directly to you. We have Young Person Advisors in Herefordshire and Worcestershire who can support you to access information and support on issues that affect you.

We are also able to provide:

FREE training workshops for parents/carers within both counties on subjects concerning SEND.

Download our **SENDIASS Service Leaflet**

Contact:

Herefordshire

Phone: 01432 260955

Email: sendiass@herefordshire.gov.uk

Worcestershire

Phone: 01905 768153

Email: sendiass@worcestershire.gov.uk



Independent Provider of Special Education Advice (known as IPSEA) is a registered charity (number 327691) operating in England. IPSEA offers free and independent legally based information, advice and support to help get the right education for children and young people with all kinds of special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). We also provide training on the SEND legal framework to parents and carers, professionals and other organisations.

www.ipsea.org.uk



DAY AND COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES



The Young Adults Team within adult social care work with young adults who:

- > are aged between 16 and 25 years old
- > live in a Worcestershire postcode
- > have an additional need
- > require support with transition planning

If you are eligible for support from the YAT, they can offer you a wide range of support in organising financial support, support employment services and your next steps.

[Find out more about Worcestershire County Council here.](#)

Education Health Care Plan EHCP Team

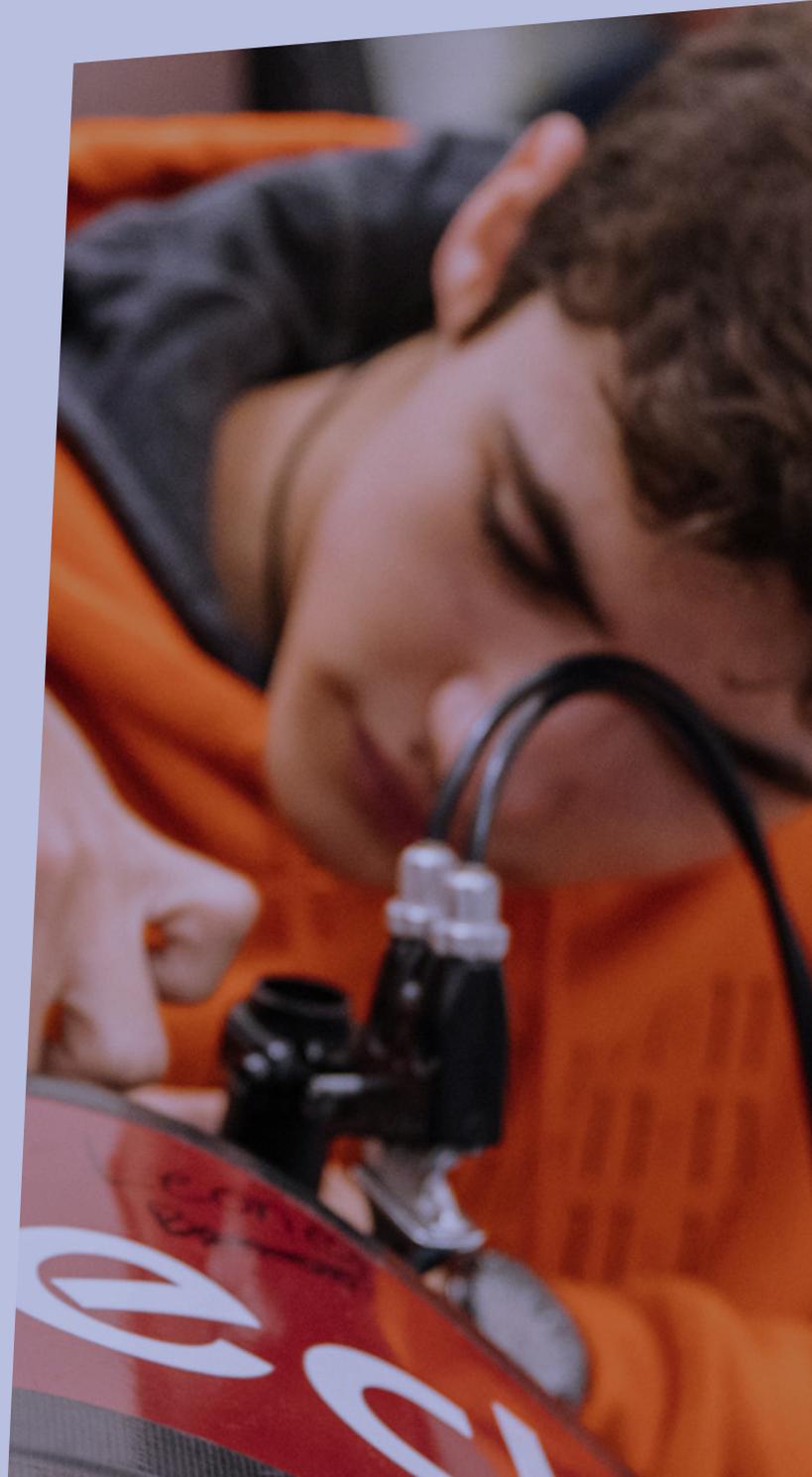
SEN Services

Email:

sen@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk

SEND Worcestershire Local Offer

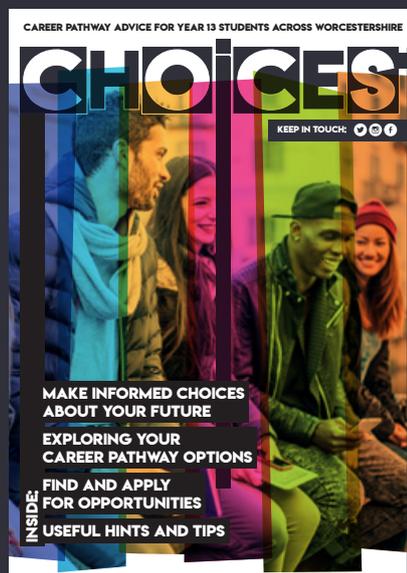
localoffer@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk



CHOICES TRANSITION BOOKLETS

The Inspiring Worcestershire Careers Hub delivery team have created a series of transition support documents which you may wish your child to work through in order to help prepare them for life beyond school.

These useful documents should provide your child with all of the key information advice and guidance they may need and will allow them the opportunity to work through a number of useful activities / tasks each term throughout the school academic year.



These documents are free to use and can be downloaded from the Skills 4 Worcestershire Website. Please follow the link below to access these documents:

www.skills4worcestershire.co.uk

DISCLAIMER

Please note that whilst every effort has been made to ensure the content within this guidance document is accurate, the information contained within the guide has been provided by a number of external organisations and may therefore subject to change without the knowledge of the Worcestershire Careers Hub.

The Worcestershire Careers Hub cannot take responsibility for any changes made to this information. Please contact the organisation or provider directly should you have any further requests for information.

Institutes have been listed in alphabetical order to remain unbiased. Information shared has been provided by the institutes and therefore we have no ownership to the rights to this information. Providers have been listed through request, therefore not all providers will be listed due to not returning information at the time of request or providers are unknown to editor.

VISIT WORCESTERSHIRE'S ONLINE CAREERS TOOL



**INFORMATION
ABOUT EMPLOYERS
IN WORCESTERSHIRE**



**SUPPORT FOR
SCHOOLS**



**WORCESTERSHIRE'S
LABOUR MARKET
INFORMATION**



**SUPPORT FOR
YOUNG PEOPLE**



CAREERS ADVICE



CAREERS EVENTS



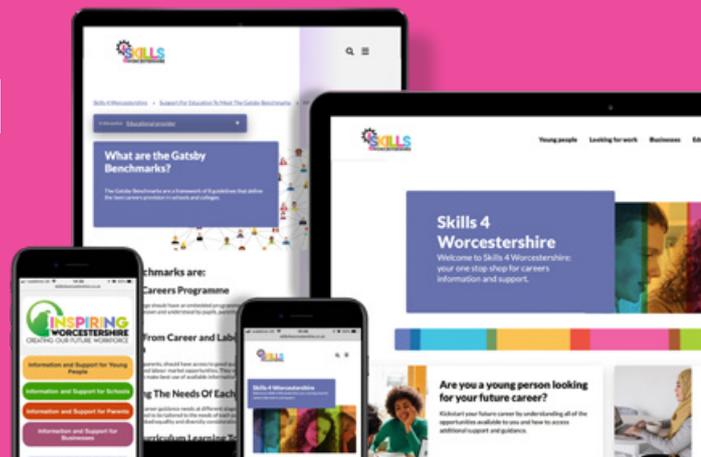
INTERVIEW TIPS



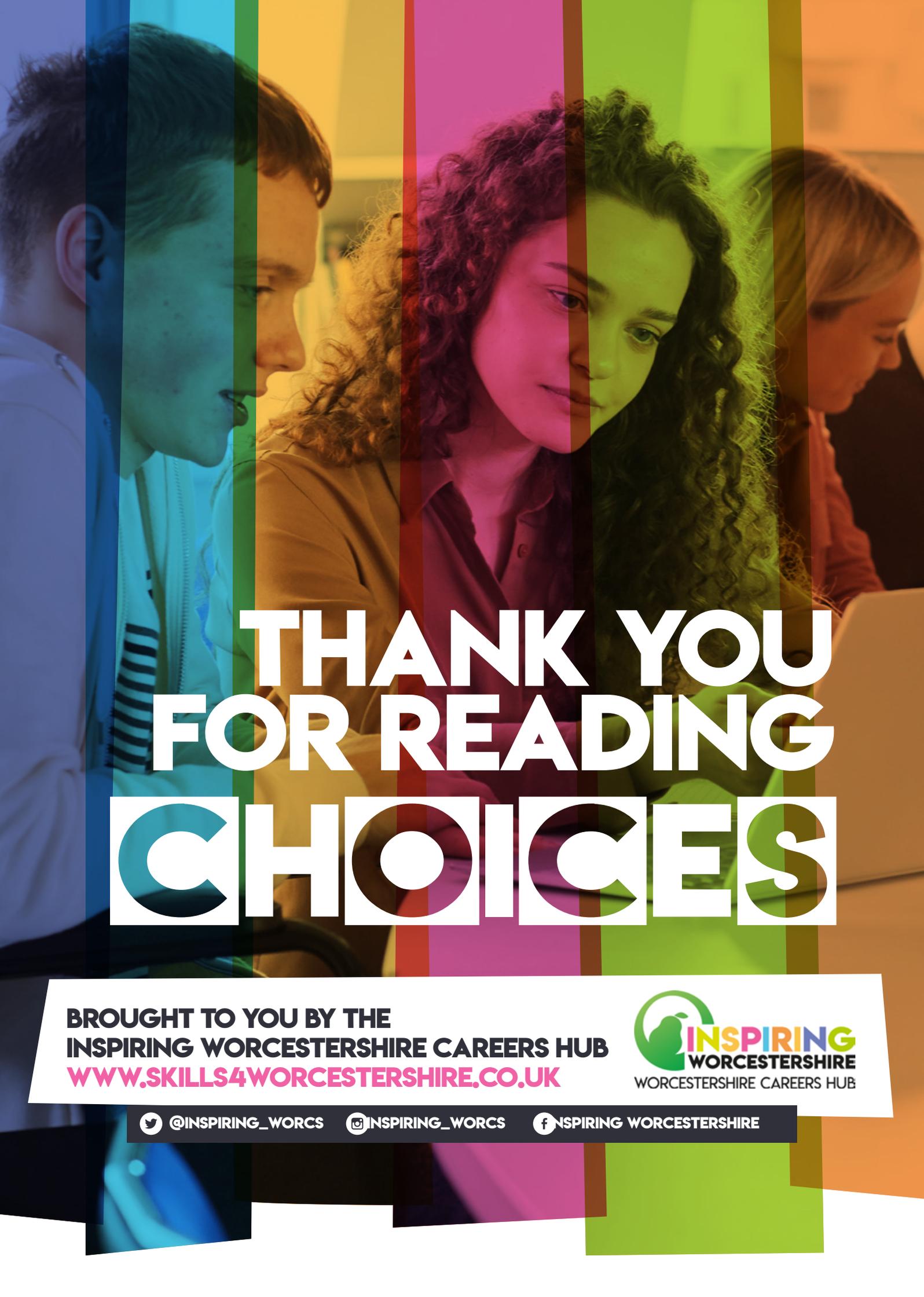
**SUPPORT FOR
PARENTS**



CAREER PATHWAYS



WWW.SKILLS4WORCESTERSHIRE.CO.UK



THANK YOU FOR READING CHOICES

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