

# Foundation Learning

## Have you left school with few or no qualifications?

Then our Pathways course is for you!

Your Tutor will look at where you want to be in the future and help you fulfil your potential. The course will give you the skills to move forward. It builds skills in English, Maths and IT, and will help you to develop personally and socially.

Throughout the course you will get advice and guidance from trained staff and Connexions to help you decide on the right way forward for you. You will also get opportunities to do vocational 'tasters' (eg brickwork, carpentry, hair and beauty, animal care) and work experience, to enable you to make informed choices.

## Courses for Students with Learning Disabilities

The School of Foundation Studies also supports students with learning disabilities who are progressing to college. Our courses for students with learning disabilities provide a great deal of pastoral care for our learners on a one to one basis. A period of adjustment to the new learning environment is required as many learners are not used to travelling on their own. The college supports them to learn those skills, boosting their confidence and independence.

To prepare students for the world of work, the college has developed an initiative to provide students with the experience of a real-life working environment. Showell Court is a residential home run by Accord Housing Association in Low Hill where our students run a cafe. They work there towards a City & Guilds qualification in Personal and Social Development and Employment whilst also studying Functional Skills in Maths, English and IT at college.

## Pathways: Personal and Social Development, Employability and Functional Skills

Wellington Road/Paget Road • 1 year

Courses start throughout the year

### Entry requirements

No formal qualifications are needed but you will have an interview with an Advice and Guidance advisor and take a diagnostic test.

If you have left school with few or no qualifications then this course will give you the chance to make a fresh start. You will be able to improve your English, Maths and IT and get the skills needed to go on to the next level. You will get to try 'taster sessions' in other courses, eg brickwork, hairdressing, carpentry etc to help you decide what direction you want to take. You will also be able to do work experience which will improve your employability skills. Previous students have worked in hotels, shops, garages and hospitals, including Wickid Pets, Primark and Wilkinsons. This course aims to give you the tools to cope on a course at the next level or get a job.

### Future options

You can go on to other courses within the School of Foundation Studies or move on to a college Connect course, a vocational programme or an Apprenticeship.



## Entry to Foundation Learning - Life Skills and PSD

Wellington Road • 1 year

### Entry requirements

You will be invited for an interview and will do a diagnostic assessment. You will also need a reference.

On this course you will gain life skills, build your confidence, gain travel skills and get used to being in a new learning environment. The course covers the 'Every Learner Matters' themes: Enjoy and Achieve, Be Healthy, Stay Safe, Achieve Economic Wellbeing and Make a Positive Contribution. You will use the kitchen on site and learn about developing a healthy diet. You will also take part in charity events. You will work towards Ascentis Life Skills and ASDAN Personal Social Development qualifications.

### Future options

You may progress on to other courses within the School of Foundation Studies.

## Foundation Learning: Personal and Social Development, Employability and Functional Skills

Wellington Road / Paget Road • 1 year

### Entry requirements

You will be invited for an interview and will take a diagnostic assessment. You will also need a reference.

The Foundation Learning programmes are for learners aged 16-18 years with additional learning needs. The programme includes independent living skills, working with others, problem solving, vocational preparation skills and Functional Skills. The team runs vocational tasters in other college schools and work experience ranging from hotels to shops, garages and hospitals. These include Wickid Pets, Primark and Wilkinsons. There are additional activities including educational visits, social activities, residential opportunities and fundraising.

### Future options

You may progress onto other courses within the School of Foundation Studies, or, where appropriate, a Level 1 programme within the college.



## Skills Towards Employment: Personal and Social Development, Employability and Functional Skills

Wellington Road / Paget Road and

community locations • 1 year

### Entry requirements

This is a course for learners aged 19 or over. You will be asked to attend and interview with a Skills Towards Employment Tutor. You will also take a diagnostic assessment and you will need a reference.

This course is designed around each individual learner. A range of units will be chosen to suit your needs and you will develop a portfolio of work which will be assessed by your tutor. You will work at Showell Court, an old people's residential flats with communal social facilities, where you will help to run a cafe for the residents. You will spend one day a week at Accord, learning work skills and the rest of the time you will study for a City & Guilds qualification in Personal Social Development and Employment, while also studying Functional Skills in Maths and English.

### Future options

You may progress onto other courses within the School of Foundation Studies or into employment, supported employment or voluntary work.