



Living and Work Programme

This programme is designed for young people who want to develop their independence and work skills in a college. Students will work on many transferable skills, including;

- Communication
- ▲ Following instructions
- Health & Safety
- ▲ Arriving to work on time
- Being ready to work
- Problem solving
- Working on your own
- ▲ Working with others

- ▲ Travel training
- Skills in the community, such as shopping, budgeting, personal safety
- Healthy living, menu planning and preparing lunch



Pre-entry requirements

→ Education, Health & Care Plan (England)
or Learning Support Plan (Wales)

→ Derwen College able to meet need



Employability & Careers Education, Information, Advice & Guidance (CEIAG)

Employability sessions are a key part of a student's programme. Students take part in taught sessions on;

- Getting Myself Ready for Work
- Exploring the World of Work
- ▲ My next steps

External guests, including Industry Champions, local business owners and ex-students, are also invited to talk to students about their experiences outside of college.

Impartial CEIAG is also provided by an external Careers Lead.



Work programmes are adapted to individual students' needs and aspirations, building on existing skills and qualifications. Our programmes have supported students to re-engage with learning, and ensured successful outcomes for all.

Functional Skills


Functional Skills comprises of English, maths and ICT and is delivered through some small discrete groups and embedded into every aspect of the programme. It is linked to vocational activities and everyday life.

PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education)

Students take part in all of the following PSHE modules:

- Online Safety – Module 1, 2 and 3
- Managing Relationships
- Rights & Cultures
- Drugs & Alcohol Awareness
- Moving On
- Relationships & Sex Education







Typical outcomes



- Pre-entry and entry level qualifications
- Vocational qualification up to L2
- Functional Skills qualification up to L2
- Subject-specific qualifications
- Experience in internal and external workplaces
- Experience of local and national competitions
- Experience of community and national events



Possible next steps

- 
-  Supported Internship
 -  Paid work
 -  Voluntary work
 -  Local college or training programme
 -  Supported living

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Keeley

Case Study

Keeley, a Horticulture student at Derwen's Walford campus, is autistic, with moderate learning difficulties and obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD), which creates anxiety around interacting with peers and completing daily tasks.

The team and Keeley worked hard to build trust and develop strategies. As her confidence grew, her determination to support others led to a position as a Student Union rep, where she represented the College at Natspec Parliament.

Keeley now has a placement at social enterprise, Agri-Cation, which involves horticulture, craft projects and supporting of educational groups. She attends with her job coach Gemma.

Keeley is also learning independent living skills such as using a washing machine, cleaning up, and has enjoyed learning to cook. Eventually, she would like to combine her love of plants, and her creativity, to work as florist. Keeley was recently delighted to pass her driving test.

"It gives me independence to come to College, work placements, or go to the gym on my own. I love my car and my freedom!"

Walford campus Coordinator Liam says: "Keeley has grown from strength to strength. She was voted Student of the Year 2020–21, and we're all incredibly proud to see her progress continue into her Supported Internship. Keeley has a bright future ahead of her."

