



Why come to Derwen College as a residential student?

**Derwen
College**

So, are you ready for your next
adventure as a residential student
at Derwen College?

**Derwen
College**

Visit www.derwen.ac.uk to see our virtual tour
and begin your Derwen College journey!

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www.derwen.ac.uk

This is your opportunity to
have your very own
university-type
experience, with all
the fun and the
challenges that
this brings. After
all, you are (or
very soon will
be) an adult!

It's so much
more than
just a bed!



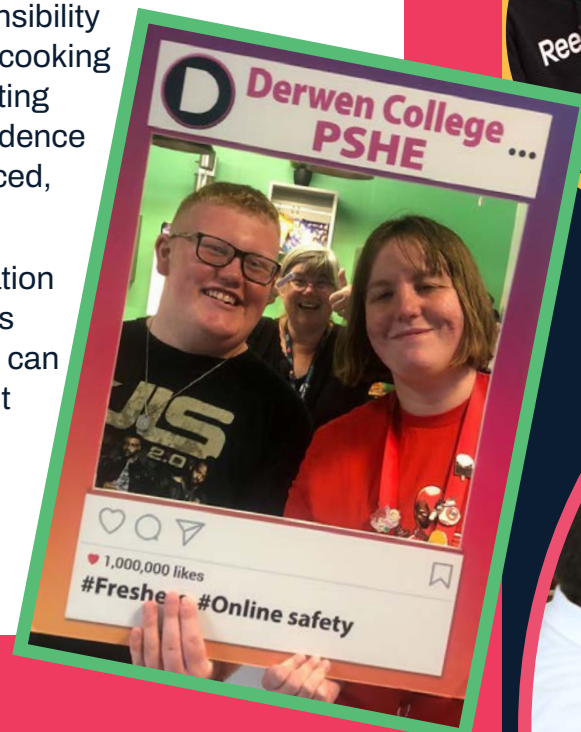
*Our students regularly exceed what they
and others thought possible.*



At Derwen College, we pride ourselves in offering young people with SEND the same types of opportunities that their siblings or other young adults have available to them when they go to university. We have a spacious, well-appointed campus, which is a community within a village community, in the heart of rural Shropshire.

You will be learning to take responsibility for your own cleaning, shopping, cooking and general living skills, accelerating the development of your independence skills, supported by our experienced, professional staff.

We have a variety of accommodation and types of residence, so there is somewhere for everyone, and we can meet your individual development needs, which may change during your time here. As a residential student, you will have your own private room. All the bathroom facilities are fully accessible.



Developing your independence skills at Derwen College.

Derwen College has a person-centred approach that puts each student at the heart of their own learning and development. As a residential student, you will be able to transfer and practise the skills you learn in your curriculum programme into your everyday life. Our experienced staff will support you with this, monitoring your progress and then stepping back as your independence skills grow and develop.

The skills you learn whilst a residential student at college will help you be as independent as you can be, and will help you prepare for the next stage in your life.





Our Gobowen campus and community

All our residential accommodation is at our main campus on the edge of the village of Gobowen, near the small market town of Oswestry. This rural location is a real benefit to our students so they have the freedom to move around the campus independently, as is suitable and appropriate for them individually. This supports your growth, and development of skills, knowledge and positive behaviours.

As a residential student, you will benefit from extended access to travel training in the community. This includes walking to the local shops, in the village centre, and using the local bus routes including from the bus stops outside the college gates, to visit the local towns. You can also use the train station in Gobowen village, to develop your independence skills further.



Care Quality Commission inspection report, 2022

People were supported to gain their independence with the use of positive risk taking and the provider ensured, where appropriate, relatives were aware of the strategies put in place to keep people safe. One relative told us, "My [relative] is now leaving the site to go to the supermarket and they are fully aware they must remember to tell the staff when they go. I am not concerned my [relative] may wander off as staff always know where [relative] is."



"Learners become more independent in their personal lives. Through regular tutorials, learners participate in discussions and take more control of their decision making. They improve their ability to travel, shop, cook and manage their personal laundry. As they acquire these skills, they move successfully into more independent living arrangements."

~ Ofsted 2021

Don't forget, you can also use the commercial outlets on campus: have lunch with your friends in the Walled Garden Café, and do a bit of shopping in Garden Centre Shop or the Vintage Advantage (Charity) shop, or have a walk around the Garden Centre. You'll be familiar with these if you choose the Hospitality & Food, Horticulture or the Retail & Enterprise curriculum pathway to study.

Our vibrant community works together to create a relaxed and positive environment that helps our students prepare for real life.

Our fabulous facilities include: Student Union; a heated indoor swimming pool; sports hall; a gym; sports field; fenced outdoor activity centre, used for outdoor learning, and by students on the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme.



There are too many available activities to list!

You can join the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme at all levels. You could spend the evening in the Student Union with your friends. That's unless you are out on a trip, for example to the theatre, cinema or bowling. The choices are wide and varied. And if your interests are not covered, talk to us and we'll see what we can do.

Keeping you safe is embedded in all that we do, both onsite and when you go offsite, and online. You will learn how to keep yourself safe in all of these environments to prepare you for life in the community.



In the future you will be able to live more independently because you will have developed the skills and knowledge whilst being a residential student.

We work with you to support you to achieve what you want to do, and we challenge you to do more than you think is possible.

