

Work and Independence Programme



This exciting programme is for young people with SEND, aged 16-25 looking to move on from school and begin the next stage of their lives within a college setting.

Through a varied programme of taught and practical activities students will develop skills in the following areas:

- English, maths, communication and ICT (Functional Skills)
- Team work and problem solving
- Work-ready skills including punctuality, personal presentation and work ethic
- Travel training to get to work and access the community
- Community access including shopping, budgeting and personal safety
- Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) including healthy living, online safety, relationships and wellbeing
- Health and safety in all aspects of life

Learning activities are tailored around the needs, interests and aspirations of each young person and include work experience placements.



At Derwen College Ludlow young people will:

Move on from school and experience life within a further education college setting

Gain the vital skills they need for the next stage of their lives

Become more independent in all aspects of their lives

Explore and prepare for the world of work through a range of work placements linked to their aspirations

Gain a tailored vocational qualification

Gain Functional Skills English and maths qualifications

Gain subject specific qualifications e.g. Food Hygiene, Customer Service

Participate in local and national skills competitions

Participate in Derwen College's Student Union Board events and activities



Jeff's Story

Jeff was a day student at Derwen College's Ludlow campus on a work and independence programme.

The bespoke programme supported Jeff to become a more independent and confident young adult with an impressive CV. After College he progressed to an office-based supported internship and paid employment at Shropshire's Severn Trent Water. He even gained his motorbike licence to travel independently to work.

Jeff, who is autistic, thrived in the relaxed college environment. Having previously experienced mainstream and specialist education, he flourished within a small peer group with a structured timetable. Teaching staff tailored his programme around his individual needs, interests and aspirations.

Jeff's programme enabled him to improve his skills and gain



qualifications in
English and maths, as well as build
on his talents in ICT and Business.

He developed skills for work including punctuality, team working and problem solving and grew in confidence with communication skills. Jeff demonstrated these at work placements in retail, hospitality and office work.

"The best thing about Derwen College is the experience that you wouldn't get in a mainstream school. It is friendly and welcoming. It has helped with my confidence, greatly."

~ Jeff

College also supported Jeff with his independence. His timetable included travel training to support him to get to work and access social activities. He learnt life skills including health and wellbeing, money handling, relationships and online safety.

For Jeff, his experience at Derwen College Ludlow, has been life changing. He has achieved his aspiration of paid work, and has gained so much more. What will your story be?

How can you apply to come to Derwen College Ludlow?

You need to:



Be aged 16-25



Have an Education, Health & Care Plan (EHCP) or an Individual Development Plan (IDP)



Complete an application form

We will:

Complete an assessment with you to see if we are the right setting for you.





We look forward to hearing from you.

Contact our Admissions team on 01691 661 234 (Ext 401) or email admissions@derwen.ac.uk



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