

Performing Arts



Anna's story

“Coming to Derwen College brought out my talkative side and gave me confidence. I started to believe in myself.”

Anna joined from a mainstream college where she'd struggled to fit in. With support from the Performing Arts team, she quickly found her voice, and there was just no stopping her after that!

She became part of the College's Makaton sign, song, and dance group DOT (Derwen on Tour), performing at national and local events, and was also a member of DDC (Derwen Dance Crew), winning competitions in both group and solo categories.



Anna was awarded the Overall Outstanding Student Cup at our Graduation ceremony, and is now living more independently in supported living.

After graduation, Anna continued on a one-year supported internship at Derwen College, honing her employment skills with Performing Arts staff on weekly placements.

Anna now works and volunteers six days a week, and says that she has been able to use all the skills that she learnt whilst at College.

Anna's dedication was further recognised when she won the Inspirational Adult Learner award at the Shropshire Chamber Business Awards. On winning, she said: “It felt like the Soap Awards. I screamed my head off while my mum cried.”