



oakwood

SPECIALIST COLLEGE > YATE



Welcome

Oakwood Specialist College is a provider of post-16 education and training for young adults with learning difficulties.

As a college of Further Education, we are funded by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) with Local Authorities commissioning places from us.

We deliver study programmes that combine a range of subjects and opportunities. These help students to develop new skills, knowledge and experiences that will prepare students for their transition into adulthood.

Health & Wellbeing

Health & Wellbeing is a fundamental part of the Oakwood Study Programme. We support all our students to access physical activities such as swimming, walking, football and yoga, as well as other wellbeing activities like mindfulness and social groups.

Enrichment & Expressive Arts

As an Oakwood student's have access to enrichment activities every week with the rest of the students in the college - not just those in their class. On one afternoon a week the whole College enjoys access to activities such as music, art, drama, community projects and much more...

Work Experience

All our students have the opportunity to take part in work experience as part of their programme. Some may spend their time preparing for this, others may spend a half day a week, and some students may undertake a work placement of one to two days per week.

The work experience offer is personalised around each student, and we work with them to understand the jobs that interest them and match them to our trusted local employers.

Into... Independence

What is Into... Independence?

This programme is designed to give students access to all the elements of our Oakwood study programme, but with a particular focus on developing independence skills and preparing for life after College.

Many students will choose to live independently or with support after College, and this programme helps to prepare for this.

Each student will undertake assessments at the beginning of the programme to identify the things they can do confidently and where additional support and practising may help. These areas then become the focus of the programme so that when the student leaves College they are prepared with the skills to live as independently as possible.



Into... Employment

What is Into... Employment?

Into Employment is designed to support Oakwood students to get in to work when they leave College. This is usually paid work, or they could progress to a supported internship.

Students complete all the elements of our Oakwood study programme, but have a strong focus on developing their employability skills, practising their skills in a work environment and learning about a subject or job that interests them.

Most students will complete at least a day a week of work experience when they are ready, and some may even do two or three as they near the end of their programme.

Students have the chance to gain qualifications that prepare them for work like first aid and food hygiene, as well as improve their maths and English skills - with many students achieving functional skills qualifications in these subjects.

All students are encouraged to take part in volunteering and community projects, widening their networks and making contacts with people in our communities.

This really helps students to build their confidence and develop communication skills in preparation for work.

Other Routes

Into... College or further Training

At Oakwood we work with other Further Education providers to support our students to access a programme in mainstream colleges and training providers to enable them to progress to higher levels of academic qualifications or training than we can offer at Oakwood.

Students will often progress in to these settings with support from Oakwood, or may attend a blended approach where we offer the additional time, support and resources on campus at Oakwood.

Supported Internship

On a Supported Internship students spend most of their time in a range of work place settings that interest them and meet their longer term work ambitions. Job coaches will help students to settle in to their work placements and may attend with them to help them to develop their skills at work.

We work with employers to ensure students can work in an environment that interests them and prepare them for a job after College. They may want to try a couple of different places and in different roles to help them to be sure that its is the job for them.

Students would continue to attend college for at least 1 day per week to complete their maths, English and PGP. They would also be able to continue to access therapy sessions as part of their programme.

Oakwood Study Programme

The Oakwood Study Programme is personalised around each individual person that comes to study here, and whatever the pathway they choose will include the following; elements in the diagram below;





Curriculum Offer

Literacy & Numeracy

This may be a formal qualification such as functional skills, or may be taught in a practical way to help students build the literacy and numeracy skills they need for life at and after College.

Duke of Edinburgh

All students have access to the Duke of Edinburgh programme and to complete the Bronze, Silver and Gold awards.

Personal Growth Programme (PGP)

PGP encompasses a range of topics that enable young people to develop the skills and attributes (such as resilience, self-esteem, problem-solving, and risk management) to support community integration, meaningful social participation, and emotional wellbeing within their community environments. Topics within the PGP are taken from the Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education framework.

Vocational Learning

Students will follow an individualised vocational programme from a variety of pathways, completing employment focused or vocational qualifications for many learners.

Delivering Our Values

At Oakwood, the individual needs of our students are at the heart of all that we do.

NURTURE > FLOURISH > GROW >

nurture /ˈnɜːtʃə/ 1 provide and care for and protect someone while they are growing.

flourish /ˈflaʊrɪʃ/ 1 to grow or develop in a healthy or vigorous way, especially as the result of support, gesture or action.

grow /grəʊ/ 1 to undergo development by increasing physically, developmentally and through personality and experiences.



Contact us

We warmly encourage any students considering applying to Oakwood Specialist College to visit the College so you can experience its friendly, welcoming atmosphere.



Oakwood Specialist College

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