



Pathfinder Level 1 programme

(Level 1 Diploma in Employability and Personal Development- 4 days a week)

Overview



The two-year Pathfinder Level 1 programme is designed for young people aged 16 and over who have mild - moderate learning difficulty and / or physical disability and who require additional support in order to access further education. The course is designed to promote personal confidence, develop social & independent living skills whilst challenging students to become more responsible by taking ownership of their education & future.



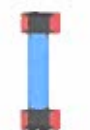
Students will cover a broad, diverse curriculum covering units aimed at developing life skills and preparing students for further study/a working future. Students are encouraged to gain volunteering/part time work on their days off.



Units include



Developing confidence, goal setting, effective communication, managing personal finance, developing cooking skills in college kitchens, rights and responsibilities, effective communication, dealing with problems, ICT, leisure activities, community and team building projects. Students will gain suitable qualifications in Essential Skills Literacy and Numeracy up to GCSE if appropriate.



Students take part in creative projects in the community, accessing the city centre facilities. In the past, students have developed their ICT skills to have live lessons through MS Teams during periods of lockdowns. Students use state of the art IT equipment to develop podcasts and websites as part of the curriculum



What will the course lead to?

The Pathfinder programme acts as a gateway into mainstream education, employment or continued supportive education. If students are at a crossroads, unsure of next steps, this course is ideal! It allows some breathing space, to develop confidence and prepare students for making decisions about future education and employment- taking responsibility, learning to be assertive, promoting rights and responsibilities within the community.



Opportunities and Progression



Many students have progressed to Level 2 mainstream courses at Belfast Met -Fashion, Art, ICT, Motor Mechanics, Construction, Welding. Many students also move on to the BTEC Level 1 Skills for Employment (within supported learning) where they will prepare for work in the retail/catering area.



Requirements

Students should be capable of achieving a vocational Level 1 qualification.