

## Preparing for Adulthood - Skills Towards Employment

You'll learn: communication and social interaction skills, confidence, independence and transferable volunteering skills.

Expect to: receive a personalised approach to learning, starting with an initial assessment of student needs and additional support as required. English and maths is fully embedded into the course

You'll love: to get involved with volunteering projects within the local community. Previous volunteering projects include working with the Leonard Cheshire "Can Do" Project, Hop Skip and Jump Centres, Vision 21 community garden initiative and undertaking V Inspired awards.

The Skills Towards Employment course is available to people aged 16-24 requiring a moderate to lower level of additional support in order to move onto volunteering opportunities within the community, Pre-supported Internship Course or supported employment via the Supported Internship course.

The Skills Towards Employment course is specifically designed to increase student's understanding of volunteering within their community and harness buds of employability skills through community initiative projects and volunteering within their local community to benefit local groups.

"Staff maintain a wide range of strong partnerships with local organisations to ensure that students who have high needs receive suitable support, both in college and outside." (Ofsted, 2016)

Students work in smaller groups with support and guidance offered by a Pastoral Support Worker, Teaching Assistant, and where appropriate by a Learner Support Assistant (individual support).

The Skills Towards Employment course aims to promote students' communication and social interaction skills, confidence, independence, and transferable volunteering skills. With the long term view of students securing voluntary placements within their community Pre-Supported Internship course or supported employment via the Supported Internship course.

The curriculum follows a personalised approach:

Guidance and help with transition into College involving other agencies as required

Initial assessment carried out in a supportive manner with student's needs in mind

Additional support available as required to aid learning and wellbeing

English and maths is fully embedded in the learning to promote reading, writing, speaking & listening and number skills

Individual personalised goals are negotiated and set with the students

Regular pastoral support is offered

Regular review and assessment of student progress is a core part of the course

Close communication regarding progress is maintained with families/carers/other agencies throughout the year

Transition onto another course or into employment is supported and includes other agencies

Students have given some very positive feedback about their experiences to date and they have been involved in many projects including:

The Leonard Cheshire "Can Do" Project - working as a team to plan, fundraise for and deliver a community

project

Viney Hill Christian Activity Centre - tasks include taking down walls, redecorating, maintenance work and gardening

Hop Skip and Jump (Cotswold, South West and Swindon) - enriching the environment and accessibility to activities for visitors to the centre

Vision 21 Sandford community garden project – to support growing produce that will benefit the local community through access to low carbon footprint vegetable and fruit

Social activity award (formerly sports leader award)

V Inspired awards – encourages learners to volunteer within their community external to their course achieving either bronze, silver or gold awards

Volunteering opportunities change each academic year depending on the needs of our local community

## Entry Requirements

Students are required to attend the Link Experience programme where their needs and suitability will be assessed. Students are usually working at Entry 2 - Entry 3.

Please contact the Transitions Team to find out more on 01242 532065 [transitionsteam@gloscol.ac.uk](mailto:transitionsteam@gloscol.ac.uk).

## What's Next

Students have a chance to progress onto: 1. Voluntary opportunities 2. Employment (either supported employment / full / part time employment) 3. Community based activities 4. Higher level courses within Foundation Studies

## Your Options

	Start Date	End Date	Course Level
<b>Skills Towards Employment (Full Time)</b>			
Cheltenham	06/09/22	01/07/23	E
<b>Skills Towards Employment (Full Time)</b>			
Forest of Dean	06/09/22	01/07/23	E