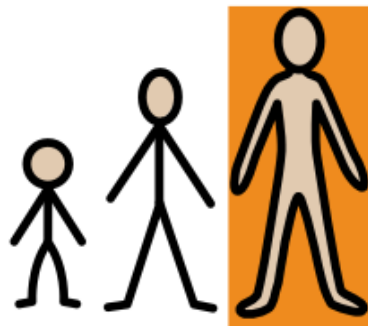


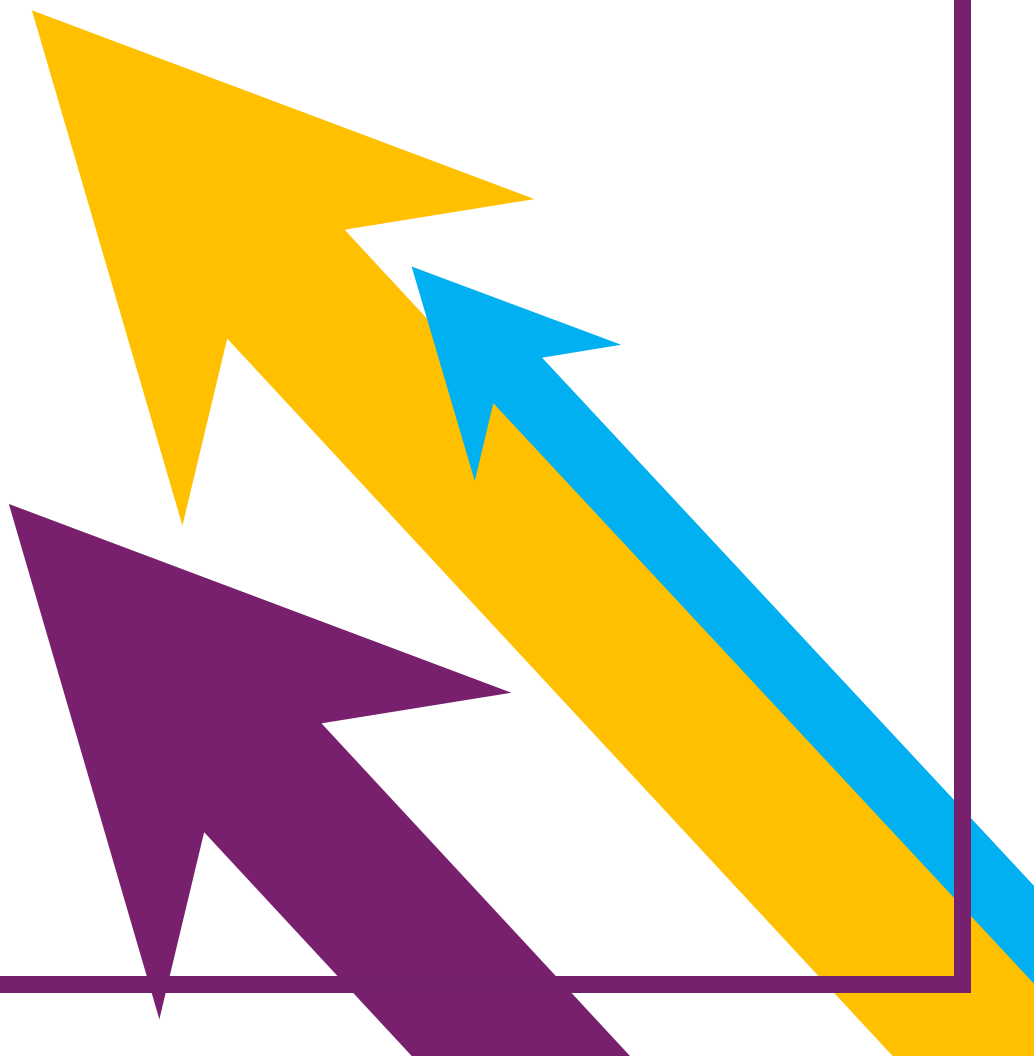


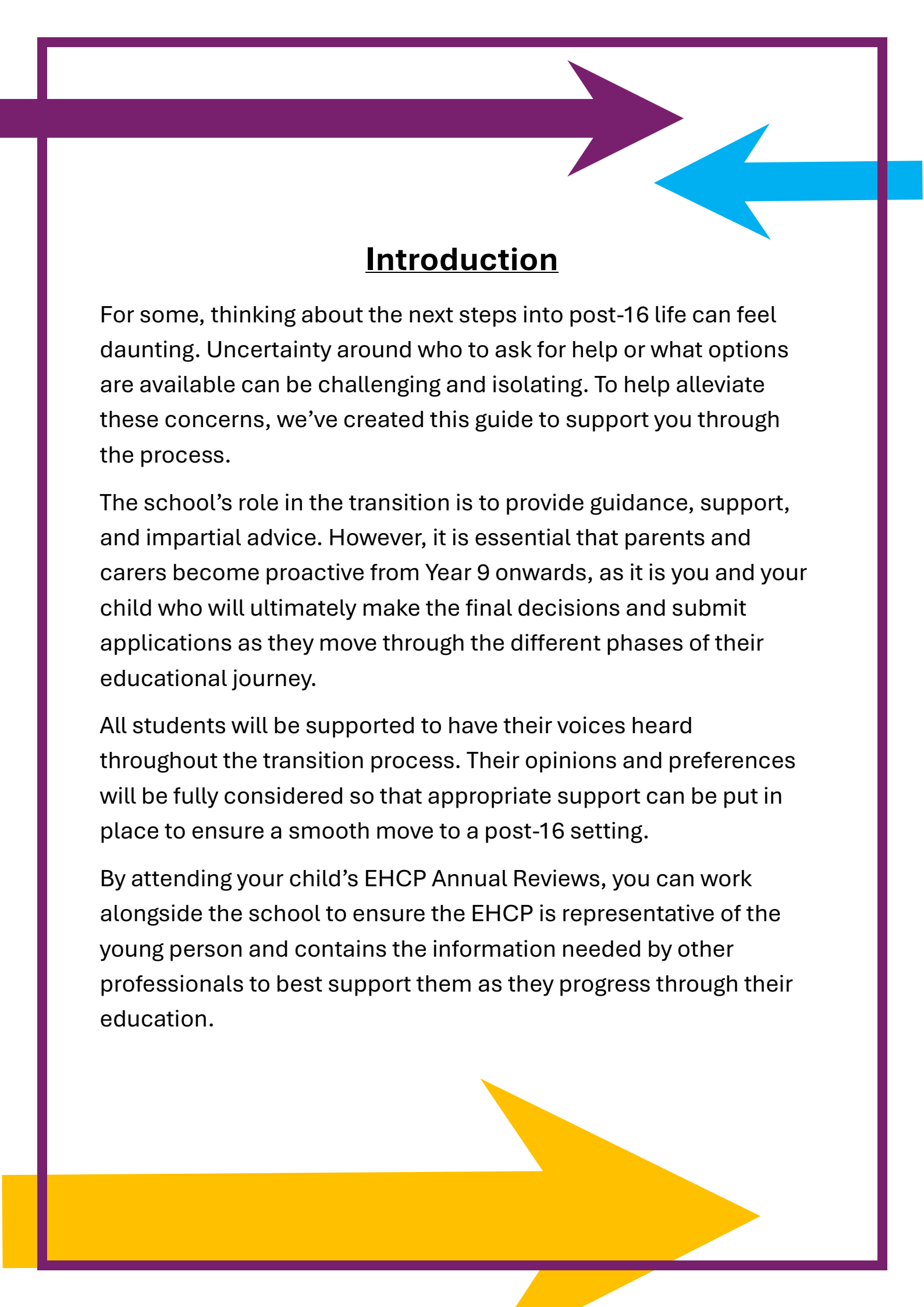
Preparing for Adulthood

A guide to transition

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Introduction

For some, thinking about the next steps into post-16 life can feel daunting. Uncertainty around who to ask for help or what options are available can be challenging and isolating. To help alleviate these concerns, we've created this guide to support you through the process.

The school's role in the transition is to provide guidance, support, and impartial advice. However, it is essential that parents and carers become proactive from Year 9 onwards, as it is you and your child who will ultimately make the final decisions and submit applications as they move through the different phases of their educational journey.

All students will be supported to have their voices heard throughout the transition process. Their opinions and preferences will be fully considered so that appropriate support can be put in place to ensure a smooth move to a post-16 setting.

By attending your child's EHCP Annual Reviews, you can work alongside the school to ensure the EHCP is representative of the young person and contains the information needed by other professionals to best support them as they progress through their education.

Local Authority Responsibilities

The Peterborough SEND team work to the SEND code of practice, and the aim is for transition plans to have a person-centered approach.

A member of the SEND team will be invited by the school to attend Annual Review meetings for all students who are changing key stage; for any reviews where their presence is requested by a parent or where an emergency review is called.

All Year 11 EHCP Annual reviews are scheduled to be completed by end of October in the student's final year at school, as this allows time for the documents be amended by the Local Authorities SEND team and for the allocated case worker to make those amendments and liaise with the family of the student to ensure their agreement with all updates and changes made.

An EHCP consultation will then be sent by the case worker to post-16 educational providers for the formal consultations process. The aim of the SEND team is to meet the needs of the young person locally, without the need to use independent or out of county educational providers. The four 'Preparing for Adulthood' outcomes (Employment, Independent Living, Community Inclusion and Health) are usually more successful if delivered locally. Parents and students can name a desired placement if they wish, outside of the locality, and the local authority will consult with such settings acknowledging they are either students or parent/carers preference.

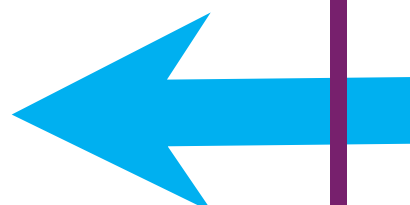
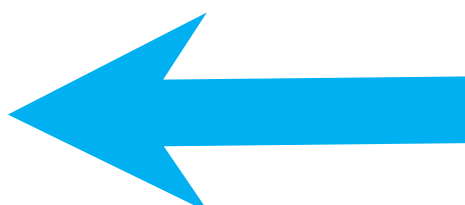
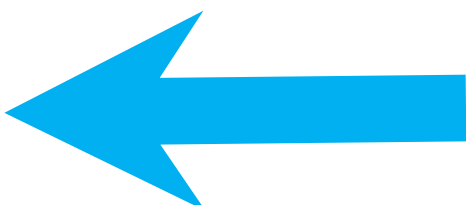
For many post-16 placements parent/carers will also need to submit an application to the identified setting. Parents are advised to apply for college places in the Autumn term of the student's final year at Medeshamstede Academy.

The Peterborough Local Offer can give up to date advise on this process by clicking this link [SEND Information Hub \(Local Offer\) | Peterborough City Council](#)

Transport is also not always provided by the local authority for post 16 placements and is typically available when a child is attending their Nearest Appropriate Centre. Please use the link below to see your eligibility

[School transport | Peterborough City Council](#)

If a young person does not go onto a post-16 educational provision, they are known to be NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training). The locality authority has a dedicated team to help young students who are not in education, employment or training - [Supporting young people into employment, education or training | Peterborough City Council](#)



Medeshamstede Academy Responsibilities

From Year 9 onwards, students, parents and carers will be supported through the transition process. At the Year 9 EHCP Annual Review, parents and carers will be asked to share their initial thoughts on what they would like for their child beyond Medeshamstede Academy.

The 'Preparing for Adulthood' section of the EHCP review form will note any options to explore. The support needed to explore these options will also be identified. This section will be updated at each subsequent EHCP Annual Review.

Preparation for adulthood is embedded into the curriculum for pupils from Years 9 to 11. In these classes, students are taught life skills including cooking and preparing meals, road safety, map orientation, basic DIY skills, home organisation skills, and careers lessons to identify possible post-16 pathways.

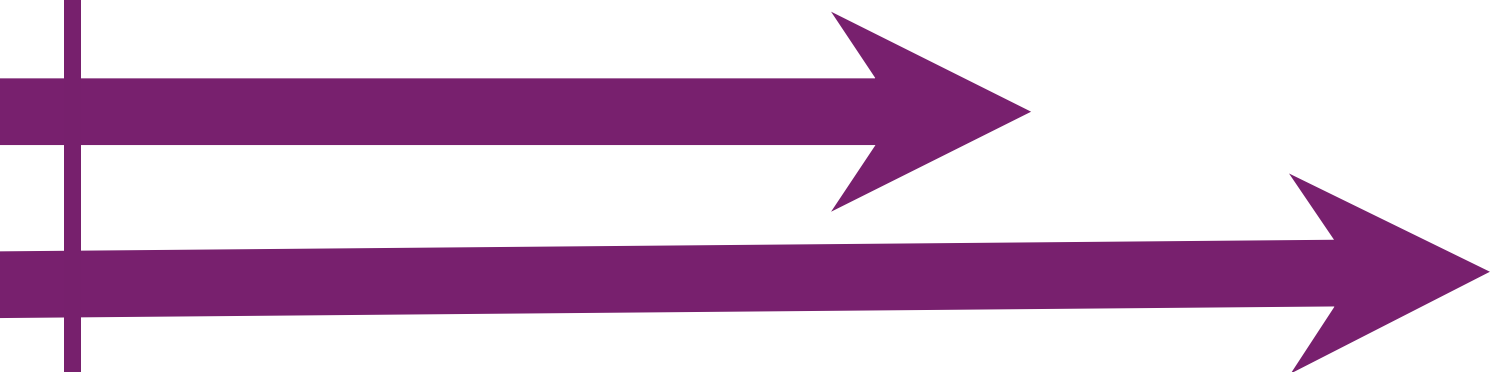
Students will have the opportunity to access taster sessions with local post-16 providers, supported by the academy, to get a sense of what college life will be like for them. They will also be able to reflect on these experiences back in school and ask any questions they may have following these visits.

A careers advisor will visit the school to speak to students about their interests and hobbies, and how they could use transferable skills in employment. They will signpost websites to assist students in gathering information regarding their future pathways, helping them to become self-reliant and resourceful.

The school will hold an information evening where local post-16 providers, alternative provisions, Family Voice, the Local Authority transition team, and transport representatives will be in attendance to give information and advice on transitioning your children to a post-16 setting.

We are committed to supporting our students in the next step of their educational journey and to helping ensure a smooth transition.

This information document will be updated annually, and any new information about providers will be added or amended as we learn about them. If you have any suggestions or hear of new providers to add to this booklet, please support us by emailing lmart@medeshamstedeacademy.org so that all families can make good use of this information.



Parent / Carer Responsibilities

Have conversations with your child at home, asking what they would like to do when they leave school and move to a post-16 setting. Do they have any particular interests or a desire to learn a specific skill?

Attend all EHCP Annual Reviews with ideas about what you would like for your child beyond Medeshamsted Academy.

Attend transition events and meetings that are arranged and held annually at the school.

Seek advice about benefits that will become available when your child turns 16 years old.

Contact Peterborough SEN Transport to check eligibility and apply for transport from Year 11 onwards.

Start visiting post-16 educational provisions and providers.

Be proactive in speaking to the SEN departments of post-16 providers to understand the support they can offer your child based on their individual needs.

Look at the provider's website to gain key information about their aims, what their programme offers, and who it is suitable for.

Make a list of questions to ask.

Where possible, plan to take your child with you when you visit.

Look at where the college or post-16 provider is located. Is transport provided? How long will the journey take on a typical day?

Ask if you will be able to meet key staff and observe what other service users are doing during your visit.

Please note: a full-time college placement is three days per week, so you will need to consider what this will look like when choosing a provision or course.



Post-16 Providers

Provider	Contact Details	Summary of Provider
 Peterborough College The LA will automatically consult with this college for a post 16 placement	Website: Peterborough College Email: info@peterborough.ac.uk Phone: 0345 872 8722	“Peterborough College offers a comprehensive range of courses designed to meet diverse educational needs We are more than just a college; we’re a community focused on helping you succeed in your studies and grow as an individual. With a variety of courses and fantastic support, we play a vital role in local education.”
 Stamford College The LA will automatically consult with this college for a post 16 placement	Website: Stamford College Email: enquiries@stamford.ac.uk Phone: 01780 484300	“At Stamford College, we take pride in our wide range of courses tailored to cater to a variety of educational requirements But we’re not just an educational institution; we’re a thriving community dedicated to nurturing your academic growth and personal development. With an extensive course selection and exceptional support, we play a crucial role in enriching local education.”
 City College Peterborough The LA will automatically consult with this college for a post 16 placement	Website: City College Peterborough - City College Peterborough Phone: 01733 555197 This college works out of two sites Brook Street and the John Mansfield Campus	“City college prides itself on the important role it plays in the Peterborough community – we work with people and organisations of all shapes and sizes, and from all sorts of backgrounds, to achieve their goals. With a huge variety of college courses, Saturday classes, training schemes and more we are able to offer the Peterborough community the opportunity to advance in the workplace, get their foot on the career ladder or perhaps just embrace a new hobby. At City College Peterborough you will receive exceptional support from our management team, your tutors, the governors and the college community. Your education is important to us and we work extremely hard to help you get the most from your time with the college. In fact, the hard work at City College Peterborough has been recognised with national awards and Ofsted reports.”
The College of West Anglia  You must ask the local authority to consult with this college for a post 16 placement as it is not within Peterborough	Website: College of West Anglia - King's Lynn, Wisbech & Cambridge Phone: 01553 761144 This college has campus’ in Wisbech, Kings Lynn, Downham Market and Milton	“The College of West Anglia is focused on developing your skills and talents to prepare you for work or university. Our ethos is "changing lives through learning" and as one of the largest providers of education and training in Norfolk and Cambridgeshire, we provide the widest range of vocational courses, apprenticeships, A-levels, degrees and part-time recreational courses for everyone.”



This is an alternative provision and can only be requested through panel when colleges have said they “cannot meet need”.

Website: [Nacro Education Peterborough | Vocational Training | Nacro](#)

“BE WHO YOU WANT TO BE
Our mission is simple – we want you to be who you want to be. At Nacro Education, we’ll help you to realise your potential and to gain the skills, knowledge, and experience you need to progress confidently onto your next steps. This could be further education, training, or work.
With our Get Set! courses, we take a unique approach which enables you to learn in your own way and at your own pace. Focussing on certified vocational qualifications, enrichment, employability, maths and English, and work placement opportunities.”



This is an alternative provision and can only be requested through panel when colleges have said they “cannot meet need”.

Website: [The Helping Hands Group | Learning Disabilities | Peterborough](#)
Phone: [01733 561000](#)

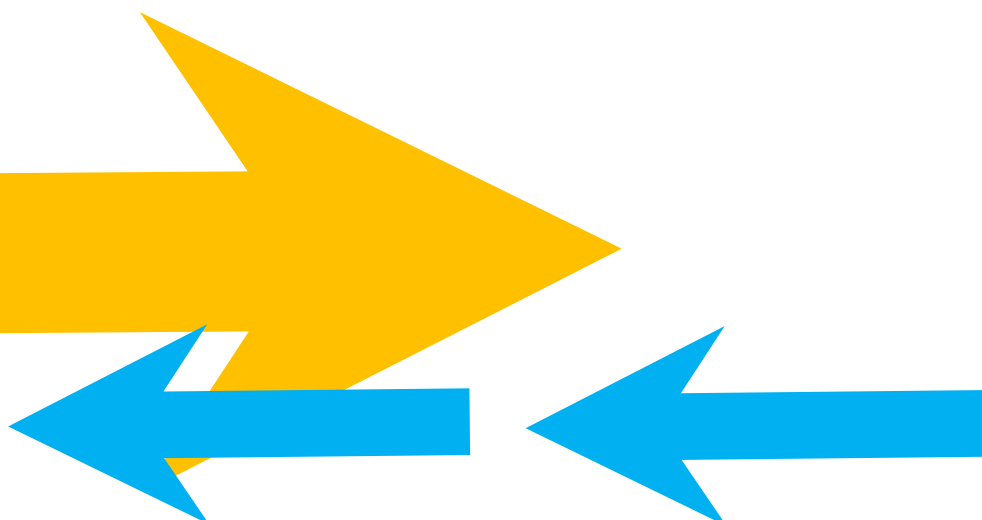
“We offer Education, Training in independence skills, Activities, Work Experience, Massage, Physiotherapy, Aromatherapy, Arts, Crafts, Cooking, Enterprise sessions, Horticulture, IT and even Hydrotherapy all from our well adapted centres.
We aim to create the perfect environment for the users to help maintain and build independence, structure, routine and build confidence through tailor making each programme, therefore no two programmes will be the same.”

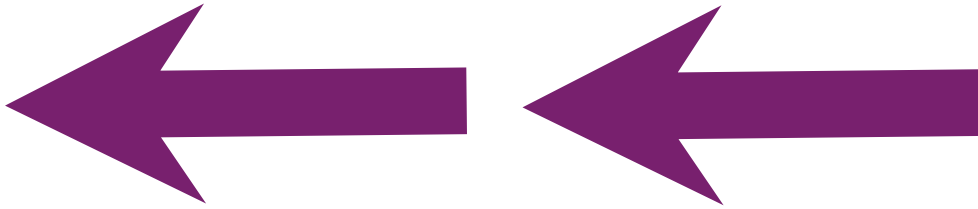


This is an alternative provision and can only be requested through panel when colleges have said they “cannot meet need”.

Website: [Our Locations | In Toto Ed](#)
Phone: [01733 963980](#)

“Our truly unique offering means that all of our provisions provide flexibility and a focus on the individual that is essential to each student’s wellbeing, and ability to thrive. we are adding courses all the time, so even if you don’t see your passion currently listed, get in touch with us anyway to find out more about In Toto Ed.”





Financial and legal considerations

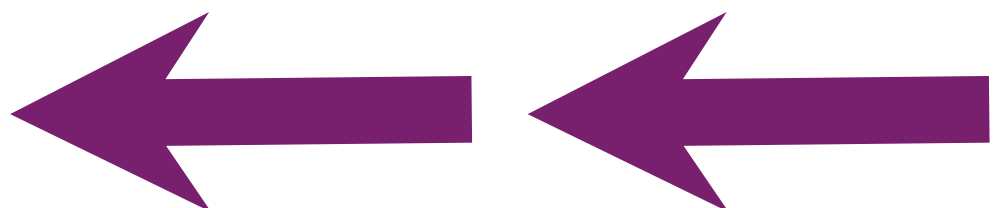
It is important that parents seek independent advice about potential benefits that are available to them from the age of 16. Most students will be able to claim some benefits in their own name, even if their family has not had access to benefits in the past. However, some benefits that are available at 16 years of age can stop eligibility or affect some other ones (e.g. child benefit/ tax credits) and therefore benefits should be worked out on an individual basis and parents need to look closely at what is best for their own family situation.

However, some of the key benefits that your child might be eligible for at 16 are:

- PIP – Personal Independence Payment for 16+ .
- Universal Credit.
- 16-19 vulnerable student's bursary – applied for via the school and is screened then by the Local Authority. Letter will be sent out annually by the school. .
- Carer's allowance – for parents and carers.

You will receive a letter about Child Benefit when your child approaches the end of Year 11, asking if they are staying in education. For you to continue claiming Child Benefit. It will ask what course and or qualifications your child is studying. Please ask Ms. Louisa Mart who will be happy to write a letter confirming this information for you to submit this letter for child benefit to continue.

Independent advice should also be sought about opening bank accounts for students, as many parents have found that leaving this until a young person is 16 is often too late and can be challenging.



Other sources of support

Provider	Contact details	Summary of service
 SENDIASS Peterborough	Website: SEND INFORMATION ADVICE AND SUPPORT SERVICE - SENDIASS (LOCAL OFFER) Phone: 0300 365 1020	• Impartial advice and information about Special Educational Needs • Help for parents, children and young people to navigate through the Special Educational Needs process • Help for parents about their rights to make sure the educational needs of their child are met • Help for parents to work with schools, education, children's services, health and other professionals • Information for parents about other support services and organisations • Help for parents to resolve disagreements
 Citizens Advice Peterborough	Website: Citizen Advice Peterborough Phone: 0808 278 7850	Citizens Advice Peterborough is a local registered charity that offers free, confidential and impartial advice and information. We are not just here in times of crisis – we also campaign for policy changes that benefit the population as a whole. We value diversity, promote equity and challenge discrimination.
My Adult still My Child	Website: MASMC – MASMC Phone: 0808 8088 100.	Advice for young adults – and parents, carers and professionals who support them to make decisions.
	Website: Search all Mencap Phone: 01733 873700	Mencap provides help and support through supported living, supported employment, respite services, organised activities, systemic and individual advocacy, and outreach support.
	Website: Careers advice - job profiles, information and resources National Careers Service Phone: 0800 100 900	The National Careers Service Provides free and impartial careers advice, information and guidance to help individuals make informed decisions about their career paths, education and training
	Website: Home - Liaise Phone: 0330 500 5052	Liaise provide specialist, bespoke support for adults with learning disabilities, autistic people, and individuals with complex needs and behaviours of concern. Services span supported living and residential care.