



Looking forward with

future

focus

SEND Pathways to Adulthood



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What is FutureFocus?

FutureFocus is a specialist Careers Service run by Telford and Wrekin Council, which provides impartial information, advice and guidance for young people in Telford, aged 13 - 19 years old (or up to 25 if they have an Education, Health & Care Plan or had a Statement of Special Educational Needs).

FutureFocus can also help when things get in the way of learning or future plans.

From September 2012, the statutory duty was placed on schools/colleges to provide access to independent and impartial careers guidance for their students, and they are free to make arrangements as they choose. Please contact FutureFocus to check if the school or college your child/young person attends buys in the FutureFocus Service to provide career guidance.

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FutureFocus Mission Statement

To engage and inspire young people to make positive transitions into education, employment and training.

We will do this by:

- Delivering professional, impartial, client-centred careers information, advice and guidance
- Delivering expert, up-to-date knowledge and information with an understanding of available opportunities
- Delivering a service that motivates and enables young people to make well-informed, realistic decisions

1 What happens and when?

From Year 9 onwards, transition from school and possible progression routes will be discussed. This will be done as part of the annual review process. Your child/young person should start to consider the options available as soon as possible.

When it is time for your child/young person to leave school, you will be supported to explore education and training options, to establish whether their needs can be met locally.

In order to do this, the Education, Health & Care Plan will be sent to local education & training providers. Based on the information within the post 16 intended destinations preference form the provider then has 15 days to respond with a decision as to whether they can meet your child/young person's needs. The Local Authority will request information from local education & training providers even if an Independent Specialist Provider is requested.

2

3 We have fantastic post 16 provision within the borough and most of our young peoples needs can be met within them but if you are considering a specialist provision it is likely further assessments and evidence will be required.

Any assessment details, programme of study or other information relating to your child/young person's needs will be sent to the Local Authority. This will include the decision made.

4

5 Based on information received from providers and the views of the child/young person and their family, the Local Authority will name a provision in Section I of the Education, Health & Care Plan by 31st March.

What is an Action Plan?

An Action Plan is a document which reflects your child/young person's views and aspirations and how they might achieve them. The Action Plan will work towards looking at Education and/or employment pathways - exploring different education, training and employment options, such as support for becoming self-employed and help from supported employment agencies.

A FutureFocus Careers Adviser will meet your child/young person in Year 9 and begin to collect and record their Education and Employment aspirations. FutureFocus will be involved in the Annual Review process, where this information will be shared with you and key professionals.

It is vital that the Action Plan reflects the child/young person's views and goals.

Before the meeting you might want to:

- Talk with your child/young person about their future goals/ambitions.
- Think about what help your child/young person might need
- Think about what you want to say at the meeting
- Write down any questions you might like to ask



What Other Services Can Help?



The SEND Telford local offer is an online service which enables young people and families to access information they need and helps them to find local services and activities. It is intended to help you find information about services and provision that are available, how to access them or signpost you to someone who can help you find them.

The SEND local offer brings together information for children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities and their families across education, health, social care and the voluntary and independent sectors. It enables you to search within your local community and across Telford as a whole for information on:

- Benefits
- Personal Budgets
- Independent Living
- Education Health and Care Plans
- Short Breaks
- Care Services
- Education and Training
- Health Services
- Leisure and Fun
- Transport including Independent Travel

Telford and Wrekin Post16 Transport Policy: www.telford.gov.uk/downloads/download/798/post_16_transport_policy_and_application_form



How can I access SEND?

- Go to www.telfordsend.org.uk
- Supported access at any of the Council's Libraries or over the telephone via the Council's Family Connect Team on **01952 385385**

- Free, confidential, impartial and accessible advice through IASS, Information, Advice Support Service, The Glebe Centre, Glebe Street, Wellington, Telford, TF1 1JP. Tel: **01952 457176**, email infor@iass.org.uk

Website www.telfordsendiass.org.uk

- Access within schools, colleges and children's centres
- SENDirect is an online service making it easier for families (with children with additional needs) to understand their rights, get the information they need and find services and activities. Visit the SENDirect website: www.sendirect.org.uk

Education/Training Provider Information

Post 16 learning support is available to all children/young people, regardless of the level of course or learning provider. There is an opportunity to discuss support needs during the application and interview process.

Examples of support can include:

- Support for functional skills (English and Maths and ICT)
Functional Skills Facts: www.functionalskills.com/Functional-Skills/Functional-Skills-faqs.php
- Arrangements for exam concessions
- Specialist support for those with dyslexia, sensory or mobility impairment
- Specialist equipment
- One to one support may be provided as required and appropriate

There are a number of education providers offering a wide range of courses for your child/young person to consider. Some Colleges also offer Supported Internships to enable progression to employment.

There are also a range of School Sixth Forms available within Telford and the surrounding area. For support and up-to-date information, please contact your child/young person's school or a FutureFocus Careers Adviser.

Colleges

New College Telford	North Shropshire College
Tel: 01952 641892 Web: www.nct.ac.uk	Tel: 01939 262100 Web: www.nsc.ac.uk
Shrewsbury College Group	South Staffordshire College
Tel: 01743 342342 Web: www.shrewsbury.ac.uk	Tel: 01785 712209 Web: www.southstaffs.ac.uk/about-us/rodbaston-campus/
Stafford College	Telford College of Art and Technology
Tel: 01785 223800 Web: www.staffordcoll.ac.uk	Tel: 01952 642929 Web: www.tcat.ac.uk



Training Providers

Training providers offer a wide range of qualifications in a smaller, more flexible environment. A Study Programme will include employability, work experience, literacy and numeracy.

Some Training Providers also offer apprenticeships.

Training providers:

County Training Tel: 0345 678 9023 Web: www.ctapprenticeships.co.uk/	Juniper Tel: 01952 299016 Web: www.junipertraining.co.uk
Landau Tel: 01952 245015 Web: www.landau.co.uk	New Beginnings Tel: 01952 641892 Web: www.nct.ac.uk
Nova Tel: 01952 243380 Web: www.novatraining.co.uk	Total People Tel: 01952 681030 Web: www.totalpeople.co.uk

Progression routes from a study programme could include:

- Work
- College
- Traineeship
- Apprenticeship
- Supported internship

Independent Specialist Provision (ISP)

An ISP provides specialist support for young people with a range of learning difficulties or disabilities. If a residential placement is required this would typically be for 37 weeks a year. ISP's are situated all around the country. Funding for ISP placements is reviewed on an annual basis by the Local Authority.

The Process

Please be aware that all local provision will be considered for suitability before any Local Authority funding is approved.

Gathering the information required for an application can be a lengthy process. It is suggested that you start to look at this at least 2 years before your child/young person leaves school.

In order to identify which ISP's might be suitable for your child/young person, you can find lots of information on the NATSPEC website. www.natspec.org.uk

You will need to check with your FutureFocus Careers Adviser at this stage to make sure the ISP you are thinking about is approved for funding.

You may wish to arrange to visit the ISP before you make a formal application.

Once an application and a copy of the Education, Health & Care Plan has been received by the ISP, they will make a decision about whether they can meet the needs of your child/young person. If they can they will invite your child/young person to an assessment within the ISP setting.

If an offer of a place is made by the ISP, the Local Authority will be informed. They will then need to make a decision about funding. This could include consideration of local colleges, progression routes from the ISP, transition after the ISP and whether your child/young person will benefit from an ISP setting.

All children/young people are advised to have a back up plan. A FutureFocus Careers Adviser will provide support throughout this process.

Important Information

Child Benefit: When your child turns 16

Your Child Benefit stops on 31st August on or after your child's 16th birthday if they leave education or training. It continues if they stay in approved education or training, but you must tell the Child Benefit Office. A letter will be sent to you in your child's last year at school asking you to confirm their plans.

Where can you find FutureFocus?

Venue	Days open	Opening times	Address
Southwater One	Monday to Friday	9am-5pm	First Point, Southwater One, Southwater Square, Southwater Way, Telford Town Centre, TF3 4JG

Contact details

My FutureFocus Careers Adviser is called:

My FutureFocus Careers Adviser's Office telephone number is: **01952 388988**

My FutureFocus Careers Adviser's Mobile telephone number is:

My FutureFocus Careers Adviser can be emailed using the below email address (Please address the email to your adviser and ensure you leave your name and date of birth):

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