



# EXPANSE

## LEARNING



Progression through **education** and **care**

# ABOUT US

**Expansive Learning believe that everyone, regardless of their current circumstances and starting point can achieve and make progress towards their goals and aspirations with the right package of education, work related learning and care provision.**

Our team of specialist educators, health and care professionals provide quality education, personal care and medical support enabling students to undertake a personalised Study Programme.

## **Expansive Learning Group consists of;**

- 11-16 Independent Specialist School
- Alternative Education Programmes
- Post 16 Independent Specialist College offering the following pathways:
  - Sensory and Communication
  - Preparation for Life and Work - Foundation Level
  - Preparation for Life and Work - Work Skills
  - Preparation for Life and Work - Work Placement
  - Employability
  - Supported Internship
  - Creative Industry Production

## **Additionalities:**

Throughout Expansive Learning we also offer support in the following:

Travel Training, Social Inclusion, Medication, Personal Care, Speech and Language Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Assistive Technology, Accessibility, Sensory Diet, Specialist Support Integration and Information Advice and Guidance.

## **We offer expertise in meeting the needs of students with:**

- acquired brain injury
- autism spectrum disorder with associated challenging behaviour
- profound and complex learning disabilities
- speech and language difficulties
- behavioural difficulties
- emotional difficulties
- mental health needs
- moderate learning difficulties
- epilepsy and/or associated neurological conditions
- or specific learning difficulties

The team at Expansive Learning are passionate about supporting young adults with Special Education Needs & Disabilities (SEND/SEMH) to achieve and progress.

Our programmes are funded by the Education & Skills Funding Agency and the Department for Education. We also work closely with and are funded by a number of Local Authorities.

For more information about us including the range of programmes & services we offer please read this brochure and the inserts provided.





# Pre16 Independent Specialist School

**Expanse Learning operate an Independent Specialist Secondary School. Our school offers a small, personal and nurturing environment for young people aged 11-16 with Special Educational Needs & Disabilities or Social, Emotional Mental Health issues or those young people who have found a mainstream school environment a little overwhelming.**

## Our mission

Our students are central to all that we do. To enable our students to develop we have created a happy, safe and effective learning environment where everyone is valued. We offer students a broad, balanced, relevant and differentiated curriculum. By this we mean they will be introduced to a wide range of concepts, experiences, knowledge and skills at a level which is appropriate to each individual.

## It is our aim to:

Provide a safe and happy environment within which all students have the opportunity to develop academically, personally, socially, physically, and spiritually and will undertake a wide range of learning experiences embedded within a challenging curriculum.

**94%** of parents/carers stated that they would **recommend Expanse Learning**

## Our Curriculum

Our School curriculum is built around the themes of linguistics; mathematics; scientific; technological; human & social, physical and aesthetic & creative dimensions. In addition, our Personal, Social, Health & Citizenship Education helps to develop students from a spiritual, moral, social and cultural context, alongside developing positive behaviours, attitudes, attendance and engagement in learning.

We offer:

- GCSE'S in English and Maths
- Personalised learning and development
- Work related learning
- Residentials
- Vocational Qualifications
- PSHE

## Our collective Values

In our School we all...

- Look after each other
- Enjoy our school
- Aim high
- Respect one another, ourselves and our environment
- Never stop learning

**92%** of students felt that their **confidence has improved** as a result of being with **Expanse Learning**



# Post 16 SEND College

**Expansive Learning are specialists in Preparing for Adulthood. The term “Preparing for Adulthood” is used to describe the process of moving from childhood into adulthood. Young people with Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND) should have equal life chances as they move into adulthood.**

Students who choose to study at Expansive Learning will have access to a personalised Study programme. The chosen programme will help increase their skills for employment and independent living, and are enhanced by incorporating the student's chosen vocational area of learning.

Study Programmes consist of three key parts:

- Development of their communication and interaction personal, and social skills and increased levels of independence
- Development of their vocational and employability skills in preparation for work
- Development of English and maths, functional skills and the opportunity to gain accredited qualifications.

Whilst building on existing skills, Study Programmes will stretch and challenge students to allow them to progress towards their intended outcomes.

Study Programme provide work experience opportunities as well as working on the basics such as English, maths and working with others to increase their confidence and employability.

The College is made up of **seven** separate pathways, the suitability of which to each student will depend on their individual needs, their identified EHCP outcomes and intended destination.

## **Post 16 Preparation for Adulthood**

This programme creates effective, meaningful learning opportunities for young people to become more independent as they progress into adulthood.

Students develop their:

- Independence and health
- control over their environment
- social skills and communication skills
- community inclusiveness

They also learn effective and appropriate ways to express their aspirations. **Expansive** staff employ a practical, hands-on approach to support students to learn essential daily living skills and develop work related learning skills that will facilitate their transition from college into the adult world.



**94%** of parents/carers stated that they would **recommend Expansive Learning**



At Expanse Learning our Pathways have been designed to support young people to obtain greater independence and to develop their work-related and employability skills. The pathways available are:

- Communication and Sensory
- Preparation for Life and Work-Foundation Level
- Preparation for Life and Work-Work Skills
- Preparation for Life and Work-Work Placement
- Employability
- Supported Internship

Students will develop sensory and exploratory skills and will broaden the boundaries of their world by engaging with a wider range of activities and people. Students will have the opportunity to develop intentional communication in demonstrating preferences and making choices with a wider range of people in a variety of contexts such as organisational skills, money handling, and personal safety. Students will benefit from high levels of support, working in partnership with dedicated staff and/or specialist equipment to enable them to find what works best for them.

Collective activities will provide opportunities for students to achieve outcomes such as being able to anticipate, be willing to explore, and participating in regular routines. Students will be able to follow simple instructions, learn new vocabulary, and take the lead within an enabling relationship increasing their levels of communication. Students will develop social interaction skills, decision making, and develop understanding of social rules, enabling them to manage the many changes in their life as they move into adulthood.

Expanse staff and specialist partners, participating in practical and theory sessions and community activities covering topics such as managing own health, identifying ways to keep active and healthy, managing health appointments, understanding and maintaining relationships, maintaining safe sexual relationships and accessing GP and medical professionals.

As students grow in independence and develop their skills, they will be able to explore the world of work. Students will be given an opportunity to undertake enterprise work, internal job roles, and community and employer visits to develop industry knowledge. As they progress through the pathways they will develop increased

employability skills, have access to work experience progressing to a work placement.

**90%** of students stated that attending Expanse Learnings programmes is a **positive and enjoyable experience.**



To support students to make the right life choices they will participate in regular CIAG activities to help develop their understanding of the wider employment/voluntary opportunities available to them increasing their success of a positive and meaningful transition into the next stage of their lives.

To aid students to move into employment, students will have an opportunity to undertake a Supported Internship. The Supported Internship programme supports students to understand workplace behaviours, and to acquire the skills and qualities they will need continue in employment. They will improve their maths and English using them in a more functional way, they will gain an understanding of how to

interact with the public, and will have interview practice and supported to prepare a good C.V.

As students journey through the pathways, they will have an opportunity to achieve a range of qualifications. Qualifications are available at various levels from Entry One to Level 2, in a range of subjects including Vocational Preparation, Personal Development, Workskills and Sector Specific (inc. Creative Media, Art and Design, Business Admin, IT, Retail, Health and Social Care, Caring for Children). Students will also be accredited for functional skills in maths, English and IT.





All students have an individual timetable that reflect planned activities to support the achievement of long term goals and reflective of their individual preferences. Some students have clear ideas about what they like to do, others need to explore options through first-hand experience.

We will agree short and long terms outcomes to support the progress of the young person.

in meeting their educational and career aspirations. These steps support and enable students to achieve their EHCP outcomes:

- **Education and or Employment** - including exploring different employment options, such as support for becoming self-employed and help from supported employment agencies.

- **Independent Living** - this means young people have choice, control and freedom over their lives and the support they have, their accommodation and living arrangements, including supported living.

**100%** of employers stated that Expanse Learning adds **value to their organisation!**

- **Participating in society** - including having friends and supportive relationships, and participating in, and contributing to, the local community.
- **Being as healthy as possible in adult life** - ensuring access to the right health professionals who understand the young person's learning difficulties and disabilities.

### Enrichment activities and residential trip

Expanse Learning offers a rich and full Enrichment opportunities for all students. They broaden the experience of all the students and add variety, challenge and fun to the curriculum. Students can choose from a range of activities, workshops and events which are integrated within their curriculum. Activities vary and are planned to reflect student's needs. Sessions are led by staff with working with a range of external partners and include:

- Photography / Film Club / Video Games Club
- Arts and Crafts / Enterprise
- Sports and Leisure / Gym / Swimming / Football
- Outdoor Education / Canoeing & Kayaking / Scuba & Snorkelling
- Charity Focused events
- Trips to places of interest / Shopping and City visits
- Social Events including Cinema, bowling, disco nights
- Club Atmosphere Inclusive Night Club (18yrs and over only)

Expanse Learning offer students the opportunity to take part in residential breaks. We work in partnership with the Calvert

Trust who provide a residential break and activities that ensures individuals are fully supported in a safe environment. Calvert Trust has adapted equipment and experienced staff in a fantastic location - the Lake District National Park. By focusing on challenging disability through outdoor adventure, our residential breaks are not just about fun, it's an additional opportunity for students to develop personal skills that can be taken into everyday life, including:

- Building self-confidence
- Gaining independence
- Making new friends
- Acquiring new hobbies and skills.

Expanse also offer a range of day trip and short breaks across the UK.

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