

# NWSLC

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE & SOUTH LEICESTERSHIRE COLLEGE

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FOUNDATION  
LEARNING  
COURSES

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YOUR  
SUCCESS

# What is Foundation Learning?

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We offer a range of full-time college courses designed to help young people build essential skills for work and everyday living. They give each student the chance to explore different subjects, discover their interests and which career path they would like to pursue.

Our aim is to ensure each student grows in confidence, discovers what they love to do and who they want to be.

## Who are our courses for?

Our courses are available to students aged 16–18 as well as those aged between 19 and 25 who have an Education Health and Care Plan.

They are ideal for students with Special Education Needs and Disabilities or those who are simply uncertain of their next steps. We have something for everyone.

## Levels

What makes our courses different is that there is no defined level.

Our courses take into consideration a student's starting point, their interests and their goals.

Subject areas, focus points and portfolios are then designed around each individual student so they can build their own qualification.

See page 6 to find out more about how we do this with RARPA: Recognising and Recording Progress and Achievement.



ISCOVER

# Why choose us?

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Young people thrive when they are in an environment that feels friendly and safe, where learning is tailored to their needs and stretches them to achieve their dreams. This is at the heart of everything we do.

## **Community focus**

We have long-standing links with local schools, social services and careers guidance services. All of our students get involved in community activities and projects and many have used this as a springboard to further volunteer work and employment.

## **Our staff**

The passion and dedication of our Foundation Learning Team flows through every single part of our courses. Lecturers ensure each student develops as an individual and reaches their full potential. Targets are set collaboratively between students and staff, and our 'Learner Journey' system allows students, teachers and parents to see progress at every step.

## **One-to-one support**

We firmly believe in tailoring the college experience for each and every student. Every student benefits from:

- A dedicated Employability Coach who provides one-on-one support.
- Small group sizes.
- Improving literacy and numeracy skills and Dyscalculia support is also available.
- A safe, welcoming environment.
- Help, support and guidance, from finding the right classroom, to information on free meals and transport to and from college, we are always here to help.
- Our Safeguarding Team are onsite at all times to ensure the safety of all students and staff members.

## **Next steps**

At the end of their course, each student has access to a huge range of vocational courses at the College.

At our Nuneaton Campus students can also progress to our LifeWorks programme – the ideal way to transition into the world of work. See page 8 for details.

“ My belief is that there is no end to how much a person can develop when they are in the right environment, so being able to create that environment for the students in my sessions is a privilege.

Work experience and opportunities to run projects within the community is a real strength of the programme. We have brilliant links with a variety of external, local businesses offering learners the chance to develop their skills in customer services, retail, hospitality and environmental work. ”

**LAURA BYRNE**  
FOUNDATION LEARNING LECTURER



# RARPA Course

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## Recognising and recording progress and achievement

Every student is different and structured qualifications aren't always right for everyone.

RARPA allows us to really tailor courses to each individual. Every student builds their own portfolio that reflects their hard work and achievements.

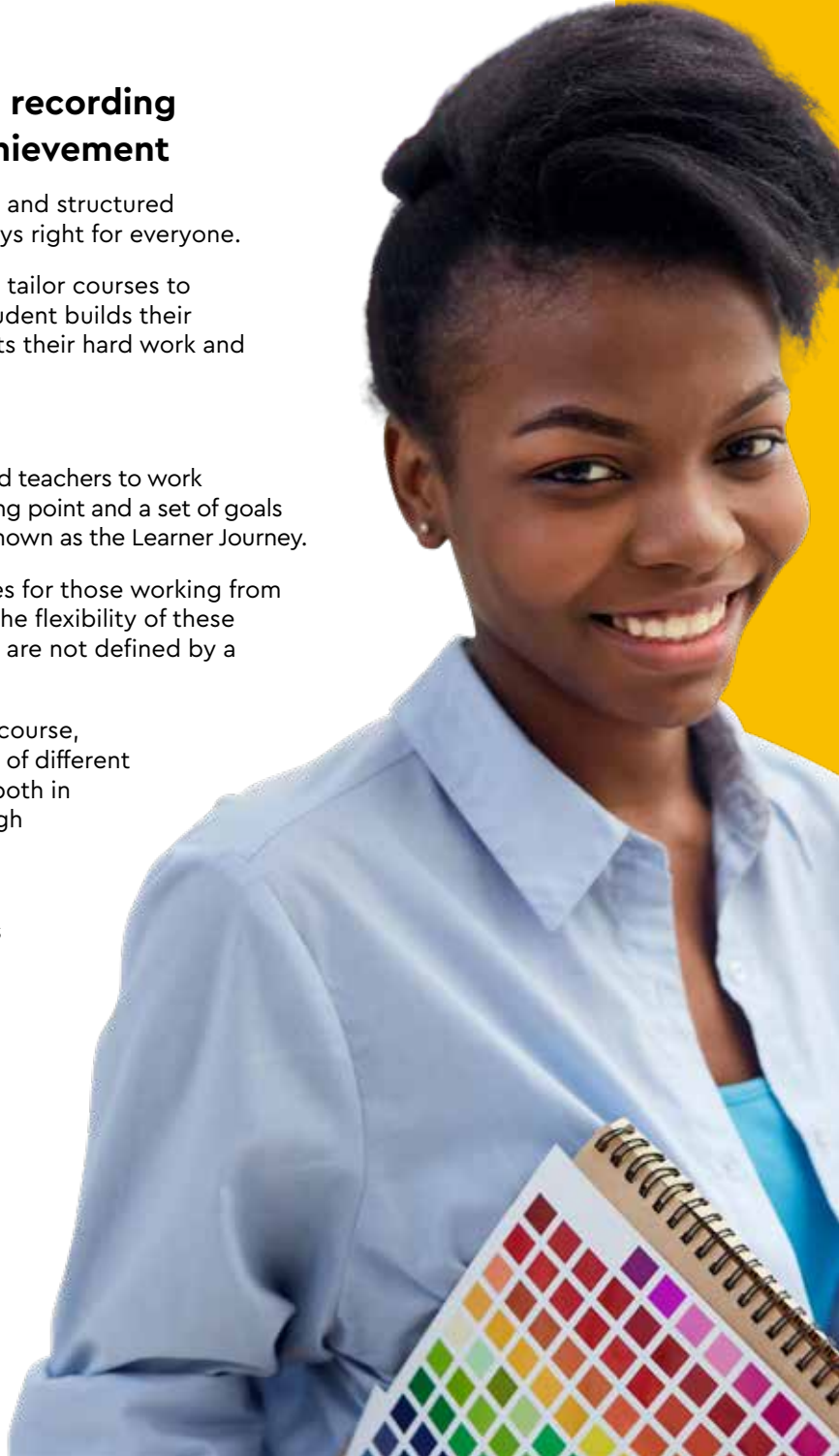
### Overview

RARPA allows students and teachers to work together to agree a starting point and a set of goals to work towards. This is known as the Learner Journey.

Although we offer courses for those working from Entry Level 1 to Level 1, the flexibility of these programmes means they are not defined by a particular level.

During their time on the course, students will get a taster of different skills and subject areas, both in the classroom and through work experience.

A range of other recognised qualifications are also available.



## Functional skills

An important part of everyday life, English and maths skills are embedded throughout all of our programmes.

### Subject areas available as part of RARPA:

- Carpentry
- Childcare
- Construction
- Cooking
- Gardening/Horticulture
- Hair and Beauty
- Health and Social Care
- Hospitality and Catering
- Performing Arts

\*Subject areas may depend on availability and students' preferences.

## Work experience and employability skills

This focuses on the core communication and practical skills that are needed in all job roles.

All students are encouraged to take part in a placement. Turn to page 10 to see all of the exciting places that previous students have worked at.

“ We have good teachers who treat us like adults. ”

### STUDENT FEEDBACK

## Independent living

An important part of foundation learning is knowing how to live independently. We focus on ensuring each student can confidently manage their finances, has good knowledge on nutrition and personal health and develops their social communication skills.

### Next steps

- Full-time Level 1 or Level 2 course
- Employment

# The LifeWorks Programme

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## Who is it for?

Students who have finished their course but are unsure on their next steps.

Those aged between 19 and 25 who have an Education Health Care Plan.

## What is it?

The primary goal for LifeWorks is to transition students into either employment or Supported Internships. Therefore, a substantial part of each individual programme will be work experience.

There is also the exciting opportunity to develop the college-run businesses within the LifeWorks Hub. We currently have a thriving tuckshop and a variety of pop up business opportunities that will provide valuable business and work experience.

LifeWorks can also be a stepping stone for those who have finished their college course and want to transition to employment.

## What will be covered?

- Virtual Work Experience
- Independent living skills
- Photography and film making
- Business planning
- Food Hygiene/Cooking
- English and maths
- Teamwork and Leadership

We will identify which subjects each student is interested in and help them to pursue career opportunities in these areas.

## Where is it?

LifeWorks is located at our Nuneaton Campus.

**Funded as part of a grant from Warwickshire County Council, it has:**

- A training flat where students can learn how to cope in the wider world,
- Chill-out zone
- Office space
- Cafe
- Tuck shop
- Carpentry workshop







“ I have enjoyed passing on my knowledge of catering and general life skills because I see the students grow in confidence and gain the skills they need to succeed in the world of work. ”

**IAN LEE**  
FOUNDATION LEARNING LECTURER





# Work Experience

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Work experience is at the core of our Foundation Learning Programmes. It helps to build confidence and develop skills that can be transferred to all aspects of life.

## **Students on our programmes have worked at:**

- Costa Coffee
- National Autistic Society
- Tesco
- Feed the Hungry
- New Look
- Red Cross
- Co-op

Plus many more!

# Outside the classroom



national union of **students**

The College has an exciting enrichment programme jam-packed with activities and trips such as days out to Alton Towers, fundraising events and an end of year ball.

The Foundation Learning Team also organise a great range of trips, from visits to Bradgate Park, Coombe Abbey plus many more.

## Health and Wellbeing

All of our programmes include Health and Wellbeing sessions. These focus on nutrition and the benefits of exercise.

“ I like working in the greenhouse, watering the plants and learning new things. ”

**STUDENT FEEDBACK**

# How to apply

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## 1 Complete an application

Students can do this online at: [www.nwslc.ac.uk/apply](http://www.nwslc.ac.uk/apply)

Or in person at one of our campuses.

Ring 0330 058 3000 for details.

## 2 Meet the tutors

Once they have applied we will invite them in for an informal interview.

They will also be invited to a taster day where they will get a feel for the College and meet our support staff.

## 3 Enrol

Students will then be offered a place and sent an enrolment letter.

Most of our courses start in September.

0330 058 3000

[nwslc.ac.uk](http://nwslc.ac.uk)

[enquiries@nwslc.ac.uk](mailto:enquiries@nwslc.ac.uk)

### Alternative format required?

If you require this publication in an alternative format, please contact us on: 0330 058 3000

Information is correct at time of going to press. Every effort is made to ensure accuracy. The College reserves the right to withdraw or amend courses, entry requirements and details included in this publication.



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