

PREPARING FOR ADULthood

My Next Steps with an EHCP

A Guide for Parents & Carers



Myerscough
College & University Centre
INSPIRING EXCELLENCE

Dear Parent/Carer,

Discussing and making plans with your son/daughter/ward about what comes after their life at college can be a daunting prospect when you are unsure of the opportunities that are available to them.

This booklet aims to support you with the challenge of preparing your son/daughter/ward for adulthood by signposting you to the progression opportunities and the support that is available to a learner with an EHCP. We aim to help you to plan their next steps into Higher Education or employment, whilst raising awareness of the activities that can help them participate in society and be healthy.

This booklet is divided into the following sections:

Progression pathways – discover the difference between a supported internship, a traineeship and an apprenticeship.

Finding employment opportunities – discover who can offer personalised support to your son/daughter/ward to find a job, and who offers support to stay in work once they have secured that job.

Frequently Asked Questions – answers to the questions we get asked most.

Index of useful contacts – providing information about a range of opportunities.

The Careers Team at Myerscough College are available to provide careers advice and guidance to inform your son/daughter/ward's next steps when planning their future. For more information contact **01995 642177** or email **careers@myerscough.ac.uk**

If you have any questions or concerns regarding EHCPs and moving on after college please contact the college's Transition Team on **01995 642107** or email **transitions@myerscough.ac.uk**

Kind regards,

Careers Team

The Careers Team,

We work closely with the Learning Support & Transitions Team and the Foundation Learning Department at Myerscough College

PROGRESSION PATHWAYS

The table below illustrates mainstream progression opportunities by qualification levels.

Level	Full Time College	Supported Internship	Traineeship	Apprenticeship	Higher Education
Level 4+				x	x
Level 3	x			x	
Level 2	x	x		x	
Level 1	x	x	x		
Entry level 3	x				
Entry level 2	x				
Entry level 1	x				

Full Time College

An EHCP remains in place until a learner's 25th birthday, providing they continue in education or training and their Local Authority agrees that the plan can remain in place. With an EHCP your son/daughter/ward can continue to study at college providing they are making academic progress.

Sometimes this can involve progressing onto a bigger qualification at the same level rather than progressing onto the next level up due to the cognitive demands this requires. Your tutor can inform you of the academic achievement required to move up to the next level.

Supported Internships

These help young people with an EHCP to prepare for employment by equipping them with the skills they need for work, through learning and work experience placements at the host business. Wherever possible, the young people are supported to move into paid employment at the end of the programme. You don't get paid whilst on a supported internship. Most supported internships are at level 1, but Myerscough offer this at level 2.

Myerscough offer:

www.myerscough.ac.uk/courses/foundation-learning/supported-internship-programme/

Other opportunities: See index

Traineeships

Traineeships are an ideal opportunity for young people who are motivated to get a job but who lack the skills and experience that employers look for. You don't get paid in a traineeship. To apply for a traineeship, you should have a qualification at L3 or below.

Myerscough offer:

www.myerscough.ac.uk/courses/traineeships/

Other opportunities:

www.gov.uk/find-traineeship

Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships are for those who are ready to start work and are available at Level 2 intermediate, Level 3 Advanced and Level 4-7 Higher/Degree level. Apprentices are paid a salary and spend at least 20% of their time on 'off the job training' to gain a nationally recognised qualification.

Myerscough offer:

www.myerscough.ac.uk/courses/apprenticeships/

Training providers in Lancashire:

www.lancsforum.co.uk/sorted/

Other opportunities:

www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship

L4+ Degree apprenticeships:

careerfinder.ucas.com/jobs/apprenticeship/

Higher Education

Every year, over 60,000 students with physical and/or mental health conditions and learning differences apply through UCAS to study at a university or college in the UK and access a range of support to help them succeed with their studies, day-to-day activities, travel, and lifestyle. You can only progress onto Higher Education once you have gained enough UCAS points through a Level 3 course.

Myerscough University Centre offer

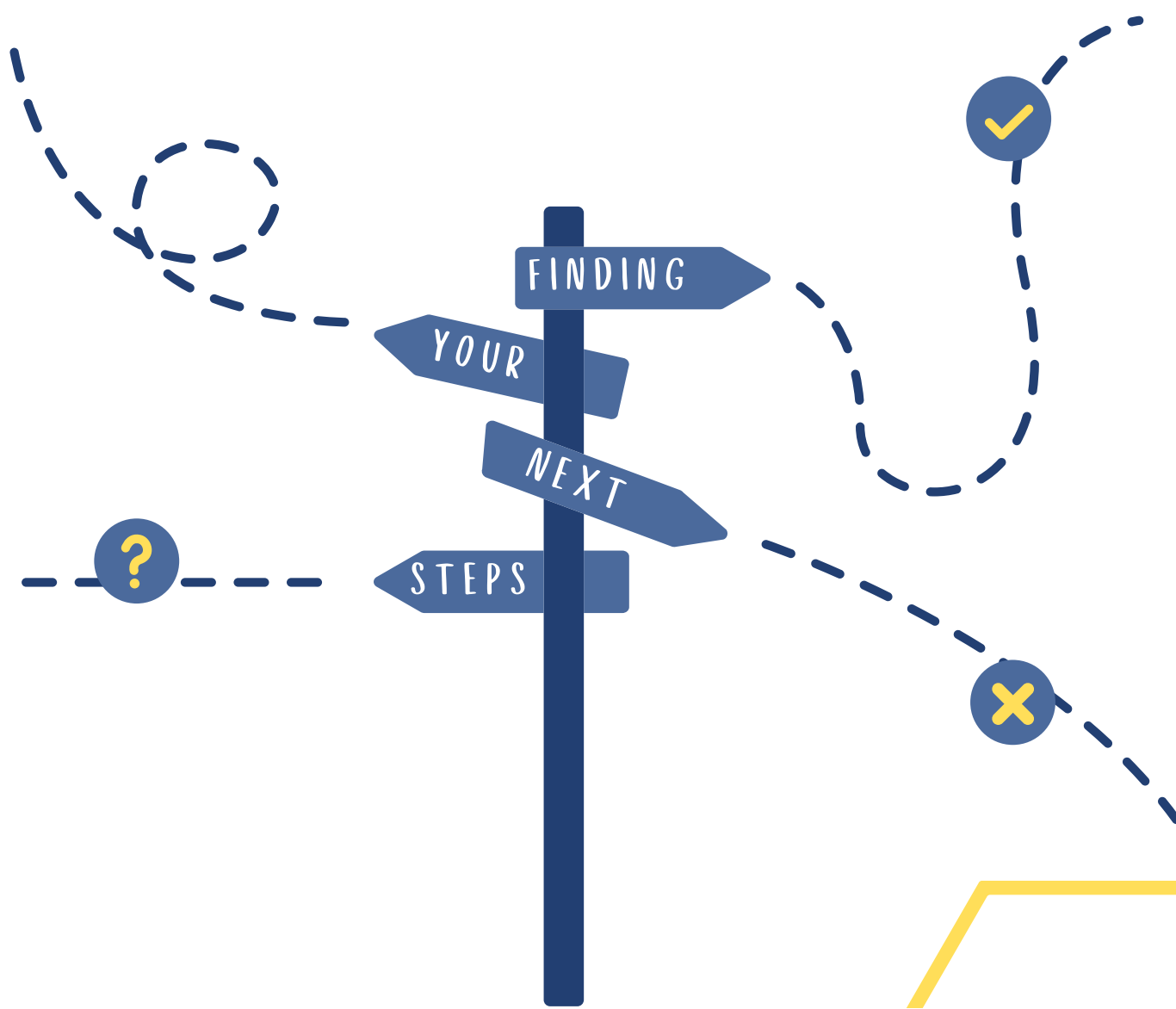
www.ucmyerscough.ac.uk

Search all HE providers

digitalucas.com/search

Discover the support available:

wwwucas.com/undergraduate/applying-university/individual-needs/disabled-students



FINDING EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

SUPPORT TO FIND A JOB

Lancashire County Council Employment Support

Supporting Lancashire residents who have a disability and who need extra support to move towards and into paid employment. Once in work they will continue to monitor their training and development needs and support your son/daughter/ward to become independent at work. This organisation supports people with physical disabilities, sensory impairments, learning disabilities and with autism/ASD. They can also support people with mental health issues.

Web: www.lancashire.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/employment-support/

Tel: 01772 537 468

Email: employment.services@lancashire.gov.uk

To be eligible for this service your son/daughter/ward must have agreed to be referred for support by Social Services. If they are under 18 this needs to come from the LCC Transitions Team.

Contact Details for LCC Transitions Team - www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/special-educational-needs-and-disabilities/young-people-and-adulthood/adult-social-care

If they are over 18 this needs to come from the LCC Adult Services: Learning Disability & Autism Team.

Contact Details for LCC Adult Services Team - www.lancashire.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/adult-social-care/getting-our-support/

If they already have a named Adult Social Worker, that person can refer your son /daughter/ward for support.

Intensive Personalised Employment Support (IPES)

The Job Centre can help your son/daughter/ward to find work. The Intensive Personalised Employment Support programme can help them to focus on their own strengths, skills and abilities to overcome any complex barriers preventing them from gaining sustainable employment.

This programme of support lasts 15 months and provides 1-2-1 support from a specialist Key Worker. To access this support your son/daughter/ward must be unemployed.

The Growth Company delivers this programme on behalf of Job Centre Plus across Cheshire and Warrington, Greater Manchester, Lancashire, Liverpool City Region, and Cumbria.

For more information:

Visit: www.gcemployment.uk/for-individuals/intensive-personalised-employment-support

Watch this video - www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZ5cDI2UgRM

Contact your Disability Employment Adviser at your local Job Centre Plus. To find your nearest Job Centre use this link: <https://find-your-nearest-jobcentre.dwp.gov.uk/search.php>

Disability Confident Employers

'Disability Confident' is the government's scheme aimed at helping talented people with disabilities and health conditions to get noticed by employers. Did you know that you are guaranteed an interview with a Disability Confident Employer, if the vacancy they are advertising is a realistic match for your skills and qualifications?

Search for vacancies - www.findajob.dwp.gov.uk/search?dc=1&loc=86396

Scope – Support to Work: Employment Support Programme

Support to Work is a free online and telephone support programme for disabled people in England and Wales, who are looking for paid work. This is not a face-to-face service, so may not be right for everyone.

Web: www.scope.org.uk/employment-services/support-to-work-register/

Scope – Career pathways IAG

Career Pathways is an independent careers advice service for young disabled people. Scope career advisers will work with you to set you on the path to succeed.

Web: www.scope.org.uk/employment-services/career-pathways/

FINDING EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

SUPPORT IN THE WORKPLACE

Access to Work

Access to Work is a government programme aimed at supporting disabled people to take up or remain in work. Access to Work is a discretionary grant scheme that provides personalised support. It can provide support with special equipment and adaptations, fares to work for those who cannot use public transport, a support worker in the workplace, plus support and training for your employer. To access this support the employee must apply, not the employer. Your son/daughter/ward can apply for this support up to 12 weeks before they start the job.

Web: www.gov.uk/access-to-work

Contact your Disability Employment Adviser at your local Job Centre Plus.

Web: <https://find-your-nearest-jobcentre.dwp.gov.uk/search.php>



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Will a supported internship/traineeship impact upon my son/daughter/ward's benefits?

The Job Centre encourages people with “limited capability for work and work-related activity” (LCWRA) to undertake activities that would benefit them, including supported internships and Traineeships courses. They should inform DWP via their “Universal Credit Journal” that they are undertaking the Supported Internship/ Traineeships course. A customer in LCWRA has no work requirements, therefore, the course should not have an impact on their current payments.

Benefits Calculator: www.gov.uk/benefits-calculators

Will volunteering impact upon my son/daughter/ward's benefits?

Universal Credit (UC) customers with “limited capability for work and work-related activity” (LCWRA) are allowed to undertake volunteering. “A volunteer is engaged to support the services of a charity, voluntary organisation or someone who is not a relative and any payment due or received is for reasonable expenses incurred.” They should inform the Department for Work & Pensions (DWP) via their “Universal Credit Journal”.

It should be noted that notional earnings can be considered by DWP, eg If the claimant works as a cleaner voluntarily, but someone else is doing the same job for the same employer and receiving the national minimum wage, or national living wage, notional earnings may be applicable.

Other Universal Credit (UC) customers who are required to look for work are limited on the hours they can volunteer and how it interacts with their claim to universal credit.

My son/daughter/ward will require 1:2:1 support in the workplace. What help is available?

Access to Work is a government programme aimed at supporting disabled people to take up, or remain in, work and can provide a support worker in the workplace. To access this support the employee must apply, not the employer. Your son/daughter/ward can apply for this support up to 12 weeks before they start the job. Contact your disability employment advisors at your local job centre for more information .

My son/daughter/ward is not an independent traveller. What help is available to travel to work?

Access to Work can provide fares to work for those who cannot use public transport. Your son/daughter/ward will need to provide medical evidence to show why they cannot use public transport. To access this support the employee must apply, not the employer. Your son/daughter/ward can apply for this support up to 12 weeks before they start the job. Contact your disability employment advisors at your local job centre for more information

Does my son/daughter/ward need to be in receipt of benefits to access help and support from the Job Centre?

No, your son/daughter/ward does not need to be claiming benefits to access employment support programmes provided by the Job Centre.

If you wish to find out what financial support is available visit www.gov.uk/check-benefits-financial-support

Will it impact upon my carers allowance if my son/daughter/ward finds a job or volunteers?

If you are currently claiming carers allowance for looking after someone at least 35 hours a week, and you are still meeting this requirement despite them starting a job, then a change in circumstances for the person you are looking after should not impact upon your allowance.

Everybody's situation is different so to double check visit <https://www.gov.uk/carers-allowance/further-information>

How do I contact my local Disability Employment Adviser at the Job Centre?

To find the contact details for your Disability Employment Adviser at your local Job Centre Plus search <https://find-your-nearest-jobcentre.dwp.gov.uk/search.php>

If you live in the Lancashire or Cumbria area you can **email: dea.preston@dwp.gov.uk** . Please include your postcode in your email, so your query can be forwarded to your local Disability Employment Adviser and they can then contact you back.

What financial support is available for disabled students going to university?

Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA) supports the study-related costs of students because of a mental health problem, long-term illness or any other disability. This can be on its own or in addition to any student finance they get. The type of support and how much they get depends on their individual needs - not household income. Applicants do not need to pay back DSA.

For more information visit: www.gov.uk/disabled-students-allowance-dsa

Does my son/daughter/ward have to declare a disability at their job interview?

The Equality Act 2010 means that they should not be asked any questions about their health or disability unless they are going to be offered the job. It is recommended that people are honest with employers so that they are covered by the Equality Act.

Remember it is helpful to let the company know before their interview if they have any particular requirements because of a disability.

For more information visit: www.disabilityrightsuk.org



INDEX OF USEFUL CONTACTS

This is not a list of recommendations. Everyone's situation and support needs are different.

Please use this section to begin your research into opportunities for your son/daughter/ward.

Please be aware that some opportunities are free whilst others are charged for depending on the purpose of the activity. Costings are not included in this document.

4Ever Unique

4Ever Unique is a Daytime Support Service for young people with a disability aged 19-30 years providing a safe place for them to meet, make friends, experience new things and be themselves.

Website: www.uniquekidzandco.org.uk/4ever-unique/

Telephone: 01524 831132

Email: 4ever@uniquekidzandco.org.uk

Area : Lancashire

Apple Cast North West

Apple Cast is based near Wigan. They provide a range of Outdoor Education and Training Courses for people who are or could be disengaged from Education and Society.

Website: www.castnw.net

Email: castnorthwest@gmail.com

Telephone: 01257 463012

Area : North West

Be More (Liverpool City Region)

The Be More online platform provides information about careers options within the Liverpool City Region

Website: www.lcrbemore.co.uk

Area : Liverpool

Brothers of Charity

Brothers of Charity is based in the Chorley & South Ribble area. They provide a range of services including Social Enterprises, Supported Employment Opportunities, Supported Living & Day Services.

Website: www.brothersofcharity.org.uk

Email: info@brothersofcharity.org.uk

Telephone: 01257 266311

Area : Lancashire

Caritas Care

Caritas Care is based in Preston, and provide Day Services, Advocacy and Supported Living services. In addition to this there are Employment Experience Opportunities in a wide range of settings.

Website: www.caritascare.org.uk

Email: info@caritascare.org.uk

Telephone: 01772 732313

Area : Lancashire



Cobble Hey Farm

Cobble Hey Farm in Garstang offers a 10 week programme for adults with complex needs and disabilities called the 'All Together Group'. They meet twice a week on Tuesday and Wednesdays to take part in activities such as cooking and working with animals.

Website: www.cobblehey.co.uk

Email: cobblehey@aol.com

Telephone: 01995 602 643

Area : Lancashire

Creating Adventures

Located in Warrington, Creating Adventures provides a variety of activities to support the communication, expression, confidence, life-skills, physical and mental health and wellbeing of adults with autism and learning disabilities.

Website: www.creatingadventures.org.uk

Email: jenny.allcock@creatingadventures.org.uk

Telephone: 01925 594460

Area : Cheshire East

DFN Project SEARCH

DFN Project Search is a supported internship programme for 16 to 24 year olds who have an EHCP, who take part in three work experience placements to build their skills and develop a career path, alongside a person-centred study programme in employability and independent-living skills to help them make a successful transition from education to employment and adult life. So far, there are four DFN Project SEARCH sites across Lancashire.

For more information visit website:

www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/special-educational-needs-and-disabilities/young-people-and-adulthood/project-search/

Area : Lancashire



Disability Equality North West (DENW)

Disability Equality North West is based in Preston City Centre, DENW is an organisation run by and for disabled people. DENW provide advice and advocacy for everyday aspects of life, such as managing own funding, training and support.

Website: www.disability-equality.org.uk

Telephone: 01772 558863

Area : North West

Divine Days

Divine Days based in Skelmersdale, delivers a Supported Internship program for young SEN and SEND adults ages 16-24 with an EHCP (The Legacy Project) and Wellbeing provision (Active Communities) for both SEN/SEND children/adults.

Website: www.divinedays.co.uk

Email: info@divinedays.co.uk

Telephone: 07782551004

Area : West Lancashire

Freshfields

Freshfields based in Burnley, provides training to adults with disabilities and other support needs. FreshFields provides employment skills & training in Horticulture, plant production, plant care and gardening. Recycling and reuse techniques are also taught as well as customer service and retail skills. They also run several clubs on various days of the week.

Website: www.freshfieldsltd.org.uk

Telephone: 01282 832820

Area : East Lancashire

Integrate

Integrate based in Preston, supports those with learning disabilities and complex needs in Lancashire and Greater Manchester to lead the lives they choose and be a valued member of the community. They offer supported living services, day opportunities and a specialist D/Deaf service.

Website: www.integratepreston.org.uk

Email: enquiries@integratepreston.org.uk

Telephone: 01772 333800

Area : Lancashire & Greater Manchester

Liverpool City Council Supported Internship

Liverpool City Council Supported Internship enables young people aged 16-24 with an Education, Health and Care plan to achieve sustainable paid employment by equipping them with the skills they need for work, through learning in the workplace.

Website: www.liverpool.gov.uk/children-and-families/special-educational-needs-and-disabilities/supported-internships/

Telephone: 07834 844612

Email: interntowork@liverpool.gov.uk

Area : Liverpool

Linkability (Spire) Preston

Linkability (Spire) Preston helps people with learning disabilities to get homes, care and support. In May 2022, Spire Preston became part of Linkability. In response to a strong desire to retain the location's unique identity in the Preston community the location will be known as Link-Ability (Spire) Preston.

Website: www.linkability.org.uk **and** www.spirepreston.org.uk/

Email: admin@spirepreston.co.uk

Telephone: 01772 524567

Area : Lancashire

MacIntyre

The MacIntyre Learning Centre in Warrington offers day opportunities for people to have a wide variety of experiences and challenges to enable them to develop skills, try new things and make choices about the future. Activities range from catering, IT, photography and creative design, horticulture, animal care and rambling, to developing employment skills, supported work and volunteering.

Website: www.macintyrecharity.org/

Email: hello@macintyrecharity.org

Telephone: 01908 230100

Area : Cheshire East & Nationwide



More Positive Together (Active Lancashire)

The More Positive Together Project provides a range of opportunities for personal development such as participation in environmental and arts activities, training programmes to establish new skills or access to valuable work experience opportunities offered by a range of organisations. For more information and to express an interest in getting involved on behalf of your son/daughter/ward visit their website.

Website: www.activelancashire.org.uk/projects/more-positive-together

Area : Lancashire

My Life

My Life is based at two centres, north of Wigan (Standish) and south of Wigan (Leigh). My Life offers a range of vocational qualifications tailored to an individual's needs.

Website: www.my-life.org.uk

Email: info@my-life.org.uk

Telephone: 01257 472900

Area : Lancashire

My Step Up

My Step up is based at a Farm on the outskirts of Blackburn. My Step Up offers practical Day Services in an agricultural setting.

Website: www.mystepup.co.uk

Telephone: 08432 896179

Area : Lancashire

OneFylde

OneFylde based in the Fylde area, provide support and information about Supported Living, Independent Living, as well as range of activities and employment opportunities.

Website: www.onefylde.org

Telephone: 01253 795648

Email: info@onefylde.org

Area : Lancashire



Piccadilly Garden Support Services

Piccadilly Support Services, based in Lancaster, are a social care provider delivering day support services to adults with disabilities.

Website: www.piccadillygarden.com

Email: info@piccadillygarden.com

Telephone: 01524 847685

Area : Lancashire

Positive Inclusion Programme

Positive Inclusion Programme is a personal development and employability programme which supports those who require intensive specialist support to progress into education, training or employment.

Website: www.knowsleyinfo.co.uk/content/knowsley-works-%E2%80%93-enable-knowsley

Telephone: 01514 435010

Area : Knowsley, Liverpool

Prince's Trust

Prince's Trust is a national organisation, with centres based locally, provides a range of programmes for young people to develop their key skills.

Website: www.princes-trust.org.uk

Telephone: 0800 842842

Area : National

Project Search

Project Search based at Blackpool Council, is a Supported Internship that enables young people aged 16-24 with an Education, Health and Care plan to achieve sustainable paid employment by equipping them with the skills they need for work, through learning in the workplace.

Website: www.blackpool.gov.uk/Your-Council/Blackpool-Council-jobs/Project-Search/Project-Search.aspx

Telephone: 01253 477878

Email: project.search@blackpool.gov.uk

Area : Blackpool

Progress Futures

Progress Futures based in Leyland offers free support to Lancashire residents aged 16-67 looking for employment, training and or new opportunities. They can help with volunteering, CVs and Job applications, interview skills, job search etc

Website: www.facebook.com/My.ProgressFutures

Email: futures@progressgroup.org.uk

Telephone: 07976 812535

Area : Lancashire

Right2Work

Right2Work have a range of community based activities including supported internships based in the Cumbria area.

Website: www.right2work.org.uk/supported-internships

Telephone: 01539 735025

Email: enquiries@oakleatrust.co.uk

Area : Cumbria

Sam's Place

Sam's Place supports young people with disabilities, special educational needs, autism and complex needs in Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre, giving them the opportunity to gain essential life skills, social skills, develop confidence and to have fun.

Website: www.facebook.com/people/Sams-Place/100080203299424/

Telephone: 07391604394

Email: stephaniewsamsplace@gmail.com

Area : Blackpool, Fylde & Wyre

Shared Approach

Shared Approach is based in Garstang and surrounding areas, Shared Approach provide support for adults with disabilities. Services include: Supported Living, Independent Living, as well as support services for adults accessing education, work and the community.

Website: www.sharedapproach.co.uk

Telephone: 01995 601701

Email: info@sharedapproach.co.uk

Area : Lancashire

Spring into Action – Mix n Match Project

The Meet N Match project provides an exclusive matching service for members, whether they are looking for friends or that someone special. Spring into Action also provide social activities and relationship training, to enable your son/daughter/ward to improve their experiences when looking for new connections.

Website: www.meet-n-match.co.uk

Telephone: 01254 457026

Email: info@spring-projects.co.uk

Area : Lancashire

StedyChefs Learning Centre

StedyChefs Learning Centre combines their Recruitment Agency with their training the ranges from Hospitality to Core Skills Training. They also offer courses for Young Adults with learning disabilities.

Website: www.stedychefslearningcentre.co.uk

Telephone: 0151 936 1968

Area : Walton Liverpool

Strawberry Fields Steps to Work

Strawberry Fields Steps to Work provides an opportunity for young people in Liverpool, with learning difficulties or other barriers to employment, to develop and achieve their goals.

Website: www.strawberryfieldliverpool.com/steps-work

Telephone: 0151 252 6130

Area : Liverpool

The A World UK

The A World UK is based in the North of England aims to help and support the Autistic Community and their families/carers.

Website: www.theaworlduk.com

Email: hq@theaworlduk.com

Area : North of England



Voluntary work

This is a great way for your son/daughter/ward to gain work experience and develop their CV. There are numerous websites listing voluntary opportunities. A good place to start is the National Citizenship Service for 18–24 year olds.

Website: www.wearencs.com

Website: www.gov.uk/government/get-involved/take-part/volunteer

Website: www.lancsvp.org.uk

Youth Zone (Lancashire County Council)

Youth Zone are part of Lancashire County Council and offer advice, information and activities for Young People in the Lancashire Area.

Website: www.lancashire.gov.uk/youthzone

Telephone: 0800 511111

Email: talkzone@lancashire.gov.uk

Area : Lancashire



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Myerscough
College & University Centre
Careers Zone

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