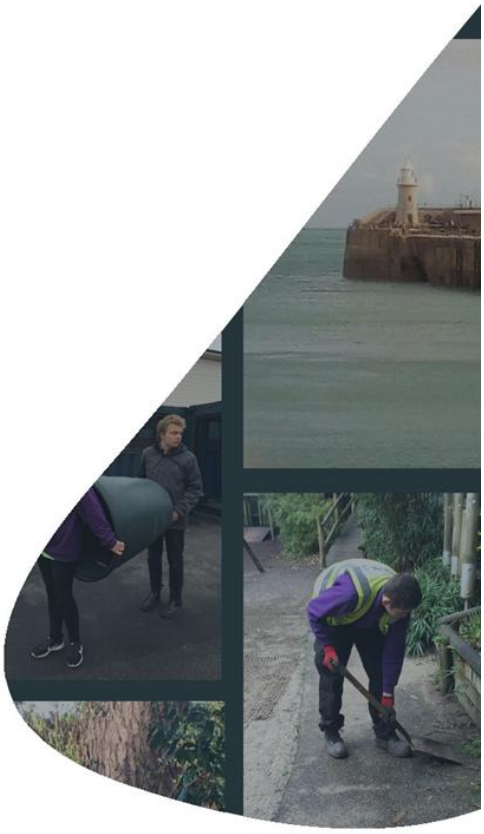
The Beacon Plus
Specialist College



# PROSPECTUS

# 2026/27

**WELCOME TO BEACON PLUS SPECIALIST COLLEGE**

To us every individual is unique. Beacon Plus aims to value, support and challenge its learners so that they can achieve success. We support learners to develop in all aspects of life in line with the Preparing for Adulthood framework. Beacon Plus provides flexible pathways, offering a range of accreditations that are adapted to meet each learner's needs, while increasing their independence at a personalised pace.

The intended outcomes from Beacon Plus learners are to increase opportunities to access employment and develop skills for independent adulthood including developing English and Maths skills to enable them to live as independently as they can within their local community.

Beacon Plus has a culture of high expectations and personalised learning, leading to good rates of progress.

We offer access to high quality opportunities for all learners to support them to develop the key skills needed to live independently and successfully in our modern world.

## OUR LEARNERS' VIEWS

*"I am feeling more confident in being who I want to be and achieve the ambitions I strive for. Now I can run workshops with unfamiliar people and a new-found confidence. I now feel calm and confident when travelling by myself".* Joshua

*"I have dreamed of becoming an art technician and have now gained a work placement in a business that suits me. I have more confidence in trying new placements and am good a looking for jobs online. I hope to be living independently soon."* – Paddy

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*"Learners enthusiastically take on responsibility throughout their studies to lead activities and take part in teamwork to achieve their goals."*– Ofsted

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## OUR AIM

We aim to provide an outstanding and supportive learning environment which allows everyone to achieve their best, with high self-esteem and respect for others in the community, so they can take their place in society with confidence and pride.

We aim to do this by:

- offering learners a safe and stimulating environment, which positively encourages the development of self-esteem and confidence
- helping our learners to develop into well-rounded, independent adults
- providing a curriculum which enables learners to enjoy their learning and reach their potential, qualifications range from Entry Level 2 to Level 2
- supporting learners to understand the importance as an adult accepting responsibility for their behaviour, show initiative and understand how they can contribute positively to their own lives and local community
- responding to individual needs, recognising individual achievement and offering equal opportunities working in partnership with our parents/carers and employers, to provide an environment where learners and stakeholders feel that staff are approachable and that they will always make time to listen

**Our Expectations**

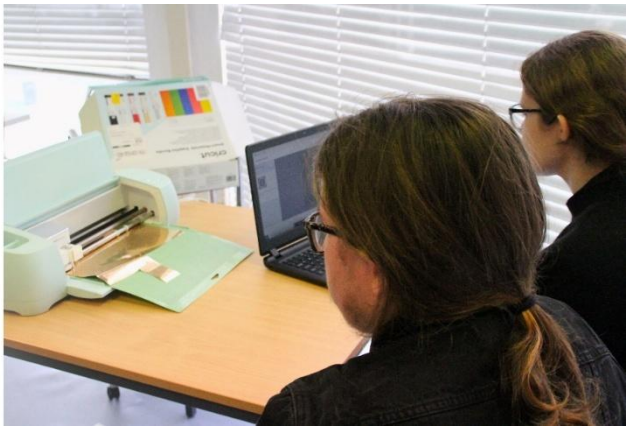
- All learners who enrol on our programme do so with the confidence that they are independent travellers and are able to travel to their agreed placements and to the learning establishment
- Learners need to demonstrate good attendance and time keeping in all areas of their programme
- Attending work placements, completing job applications and attending interviews are also essential aspects of this programme
- Places at Beacon Plus are allocated annually, with re-enrollment on each learning programme a requirement in September.

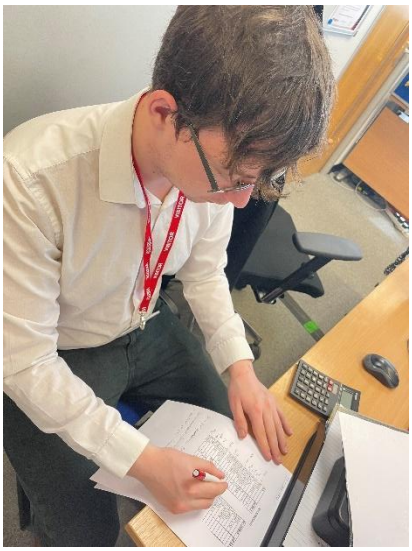
## WORK PLACEMENT

Experience of work is a very important part of the learner's time here at Beacon Plus. It offers the opportunity to build interpersonal skills, customer service and confidence; it offers them the opportunity to understand the importance of the community in which they live and help them in their development into professional adults.

Our enterprise programme allows our learners to budget, plan and create products to sell whilst learning the valuable skills of running a small business.

We are excited to be able to offer learners a real-life experience of running a café and bakery business at the Beacon Plus Café in the centre of Folkestone giving learners valuable industry experience.





## ADMISSION POLICY

Learners are eligible for a place if they are aged 18-25, have an Education, Health and Care Plan, meet the requirements in the Admission policy and Beacon Plus has confirmed with the local authority they are a suitable provider and are then named in the learner's EHCP.

All placements are given in the knowledge that the learner can travel independently to their work placement.

All allocated places are reviewed throughout each year, if a learner no longer meets the admission criteria we reserve the right to notify the learner and Local Authority that we are no longer the appropriate provision for an individual and the placement will cease with immediate effect or at the end of the academic year depending upon the circumstances.

## MEDICATION

Beacon Plus ensures that arrangements are in place to support learners with medical conditions, however learners will need to demonstrate their ability to manage their own medication whilst on work placement.

## PARENT/CARER INVOLVEMENT

We place great importance on the partnership amongst our staff, parents, carers and learners. It is important to note that as adults with capacity our main method of communication will always be with the learner, giving them the option to include others in meetings and other information sharing. We believe the best team consists of all parties working together. Parents/carers are welcome to visit Beacon Plus by appointment.

We hope parents feel able to contact us whenever the need arises, however all learners at Beacon Plus are adults with the capability to make informed choices and should they not give permission for information to be shared we are bound by this instruction unless we feel they are at risk at which point we will contact relevant professionals. We appreciate opportunities to meet with parents/carers at both formal and informal occasions, and encourage them to keep up to date with our activities by engaging with our social medial platforms.

## SAFEGUARDING

Safeguarding is of the upmost importance for us at Beacon Plus. We pride ourselves in ensuring that all our learners are protected and educated in a safe environment. All learners have access to support and guidance through regular check-ins with an assigned staff mentor. Mental health and well-being are also a key focus and embedded throughout the programme. Where learners are identified as needing additional support with any safeguarding elements we support them to make their own referrals to external professional services.

**OUR FUTURE**

With only 4.8% of adults with a learning disability and receiving Social Services support aged 18-65 being in paid employment, the need for this programme is clear.

Beacon Plus strives to support this area of need through the increase in size of its provision in its strategic plans.

Mel Winter
Principal
Beacon Plus

## RESPECT

**We will respect the rights and needs of all. We believe that regardless of faith, belief or disability, everyone should be accepted and not be the subject of prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour.**

## SUPPORT

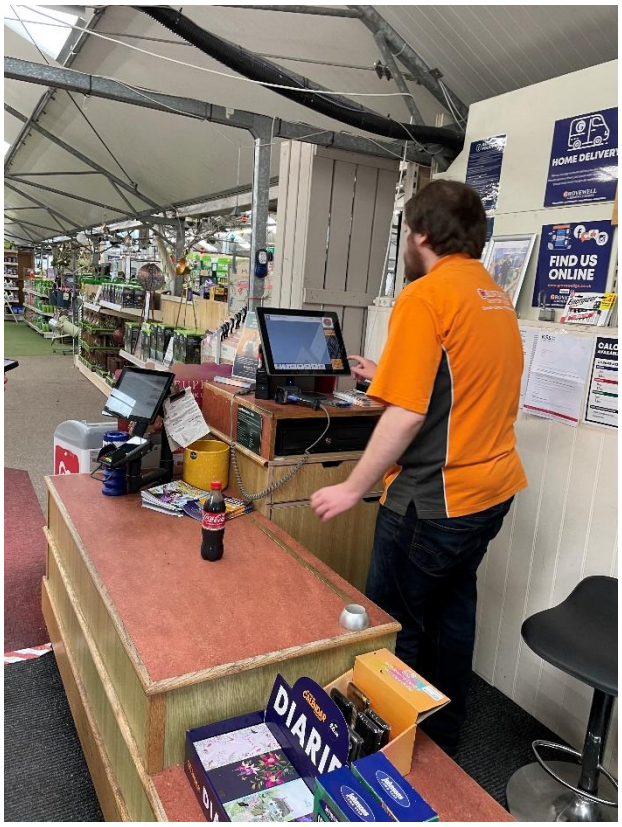
**We will foster a sense of self belief and self-worth. We believe that a good learning environment stems from committed staff who work as a team to support all learners.**

## CHALLENGE

**We want all learners to succeed, and believe that learners thrive when teachers and support staff have high expectations.**

## SUCCESS

**We believe that success is important to every individual and to have that success recognised encourages further achievement. We want our learners to be happy, confident and contribute to their community.**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NOTES

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