



Hope Valley Pathways

A post-16 provision, preparing students with SEND for life and work



**Hope Valley
Pathways**

Chorus Education Trust

MAKING | GROWING | SOLVING | TALKING

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Welcome to Hope Valley Pathways

The Hope Valley Pathways learning hub has been located in a stunning countryside location within the grounds of Hope Valley College (a small, friendly 11-16 school), since 2012.

We offer a pathway into the next stage of life for up to 20 young people with an Education, Health Care Plan (EHCP), aged 16 to 18. We provide education, life skills preparation, vocational knowledge, and work experience. We take advantage of the benefits of being within the educational setting of Hope Valley College, whilst being housed in our own dedicated building enables us to retain the privacy and seclusion our students sometimes need.

Our ethos

Our ethos at Hope Valley Pathways is that the students will always be at the heart of the teaching and skills-based opportunities provided. We endeavour to provide experiences that will develop confidence,

knowledge and skills so that the young people can become successful adults and play a full and active role in society.

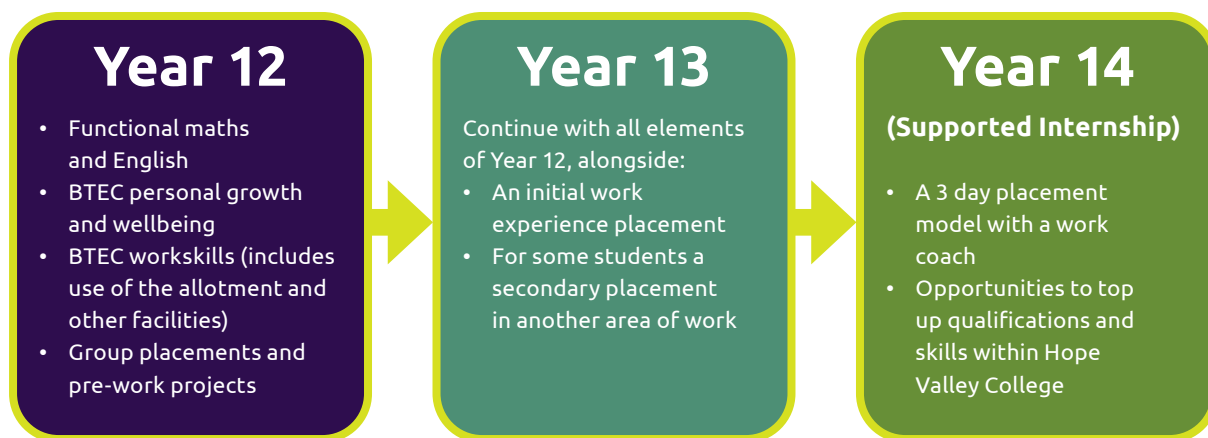


“My son loved his three years in Pathways with its friendly, kind staff and relaxed, safe and supportive environment. He felt it was home from home and loves how he’s welcomed when he gets chance to call in.”
Parent of former student

Preparing for life

While there will be elements of traditional teaching, especially within the basics of literacy and numeracy. The main focus of teaching will be through real-life

experiences. Students will work with teachers as well as mentors to build pre-work and life skills.



Curriculum areas

Core skills/specialist skills

All students will undertake qualifications that focus on:

- Numeracy and literacy: providing a good grasp of the skills that are vital to further education post-18 or a move into independent living and/or employment. These include gaining a better understanding of time and exploring how to budget.
- ICT: embedded within the teaching, is a focus on how to use ICT within everyday life, along with important elements of e-safety.
- Skills in which students have a specific interest, which may ultimately form part of their post-18 education, or directly link to the area of employment that they wish to pursue.

Personal growth and wellbeing BTEC

This qualification embeds statutory personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) development alongside physical health and wellbeing, mental health and wellbeing, cooking skills, and life skills. Students will learn about their body, discuss issues with their peers and learn about looking after their mental health.

WorkSkills BTEC

This formal qualification embeds skills for the workplace. The focus is on pre-work skills such as teamwork and using equipment safely. Students will also learn about different careers, interview skills, and application forms.

Project based qualification

We offer a tailored qualification which can suit a student's interest; some students study the level 3 Extended Project Qualification (EPQ).



Allotment

Our on-site allotment forms a key, practical, part of the curriculum at Hope Valley Pathways. The challenge – and inevitable successes and failures – that comes with growing your own produce allows our young people to value the joy that can be found in the process and not just the outcome.

Our students grow food and flowers all year round and learn how to use tools and special equipment, whilst enjoying the fresh air and the wonderful outdoor environment on our doorstep. New skills are transferred into the classroom, as students learn how to prepare fruit and vegetables in cooking classes. Working in this way helps our students to become confident and enthusiastic learners, developing a positive growth mindset.



Art and music

Art and music classes enable students to create their own work and give the freedom to express themselves, for instance through choice of material. The subject encourages students to think about things like body image, confidence, self-expression, and how others understand us.



Social development

In addition, we recognise that it is important for our students to learn how to relax and socialise in a positive way. Students are given opportunities to suggest and participate in different activities, for example: movie

Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Students may engage with the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award. To achieve this highly regarded award, they complete two self-supported expeditions and then, for at least three months each, volunteer for a charity, take part in a sport or physical activity and practise a skill.



Health and wellbeing

Throughout the curriculum students will be given the opportunity to learn about the importance of living a healthy life that incorporates the right foods and exercise. Therapeutic activities are included to help to create a positive sense of wellbeing, so that our students are confident and capable when facing the challenges of life.

Life skills

This focus is on enabling our students to become fully integrated members of their community. It encourages them to develop a wider understanding of their role in their community, helping them to feel comfortable within it. Life skills also ties in with elements of the PSHE curriculum to support students in developing their personal and social skills: they will explore travelling by public transport and looking after their own money.

Sport

Students engage in many different sports and activities. These have included: basketball, football, indoor rowing, table tennis, cricket, French cricket, rounders, dodgeball, athletics, running, dance, badminton, cycling, Pilates, yoga, weight training, boxing fitness, plus many others. We cater for all abilities and interests.

club, playing board games, knitting, mindful colouring etc. The school library is accessible for reading and research into their own particular interests.

Preparing for work

A key part of preparation for life is preparing to work. At Hope Valley Pathways, we offer a range of opportunities, depending on the needs and abilities of the young person.

Vocational/employment skills

This supports students in building an understanding of the possibilities open to them within their community. Tied into this will be an opportunity to experience and understand the world of work by experiencing different types of work environment. Our young people begin to formulate a plan that could eventually lead to employment.

Supported internship programme

The Hope Valley Pathways' supported internship is a structured study programme based primarily with an employer. The programme aims for young adults aged 16-18 with an education, health and care plan (EHCP) to achieve sustainable paid employment. The programme provides an opportunity for the interns to continue with their core subjects and gain vocational qualifications.

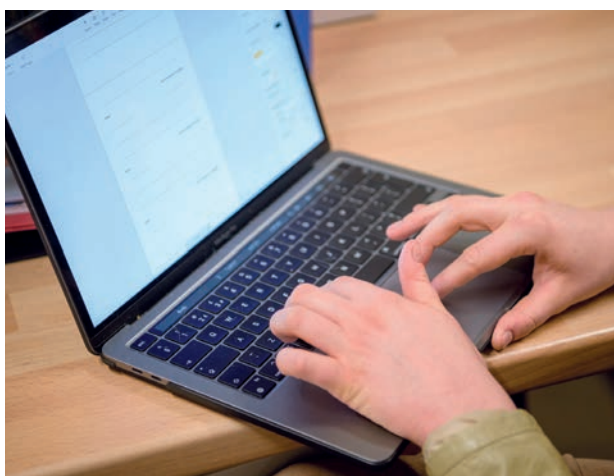
Supported internships are unpaid but, wherever possible, they support the intern to move into paid

employment at the end of the programme. The programme aims to bridge the knowledge gained in the classroom by giving practical experience within the workplace.

Work experience

We also offer workplaces to help students learn about what it is like to be in the workplace and to help them make decisions about jobs they may like to do in the future. We are very flexible on how we can tailor a placement for a student. The main focus of a placement is on the skills learned for a workplace.

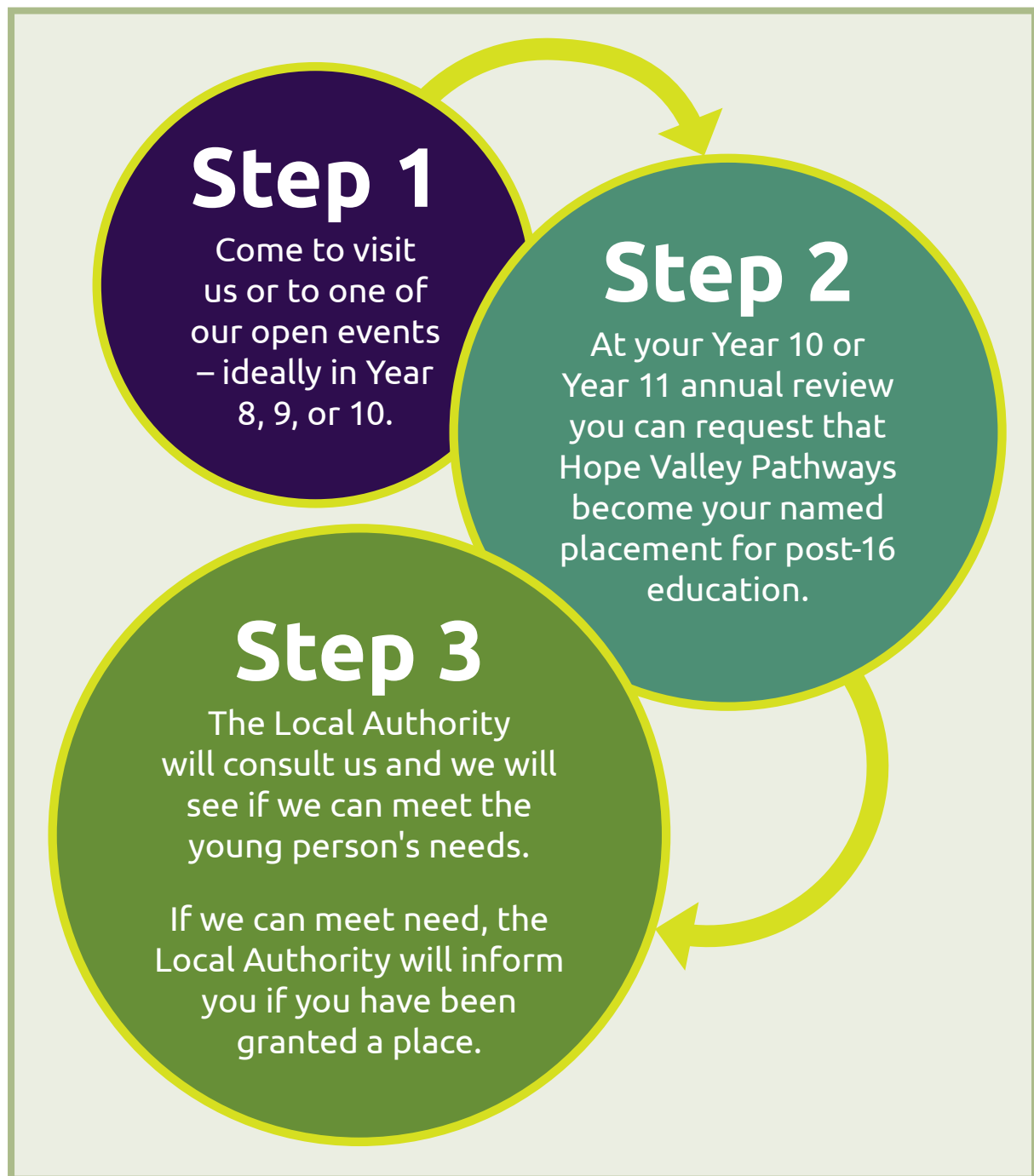
We welcome communication with local businesses that are wanting to expand their workplace talent or work towards becoming Disability Confident through a partnership with Hope Valley Pathways.



I wanted to start the internship because I wanted a paid job. I found the online qualifications a little tricky, but the Job Coach supported me. I have six qualifications with the YHA, and I am proud of what I have done. I had some interview practice at college, and this helped me with my interview at the YHA. I got the job, and I am really happy. If someone asked me about an internship, I would say be brave and just go for it!

Former Hope Valley Pathways student

How to apply



A note about the Local Offer

Each Local Authority maintains a wide range of information about the support and facilities that exist in the area for children and young people who have special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). Hope Valley Pathways is part of the Derbyshire Local Authority local offer. We also welcome students from other local authorities including Sheffield, Staffordshire, and Cheshire East.

Queries?

If you have any questions, please get in touch – we are happy to help!

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