STUDY PROGRAMMES
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What are they?

These are funded training programmes for:

- 16–19-year-olds
- 16-25 for someone with Education and Health Care Plan
- They are supportive, tailored programmes to meet individual need.

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If someone doesn’t have the qualifications and skills required by an employer for an apprenticeship then a study programme could help bridge the gap.
What you get from a Study Programme

A study programme is a foundation for employment or an Apprenticeship.

Following a study programme, where not only do you gain a relevant vocational qualification (mainly level 1, although some offer level 2), and gain or improve on:

- Maths and English grades
- You also gain practical experience and employability skills
- Many young people will go onto an Apprenticeship, college or employment afterwards.

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They are tailored to consider prior attainment and meet clear career and educational aspirations.

They are courses designed to provide young people with the right training and development to help them start their career. They will provide a higher level of attainment than previously achieved.

They are available in a range of vocational areas including hair and beauty, mechanics, construction and childcare.

Some possible advantages:

- Available on a roll on roll off basis generally
- Often delivered in small groups
- Flexible and built around the learner’s need
- Clear and structured programme
- Planned hours each week
- Appropriately challenging
- Support progression of the individual
What they involve:

- Meaningful work experience can be gained to develop employability skills and develop career ideas. Provides the chance to apply skills and learning from the programme in a “real” working environment.
- English and maths

- Other activities must be included that are not related to the qualification to complement and support the progression to further education, an apprenticeship, or employment.
- These activities are to develop confidence, character and broader skills and attitudes to support progression

- Core aims of the programme are agreed with the provider and the learner
- Supportive environment
- Working in teams and on own initiative
- Gaining practical experience alongside theory
For 16/17-year-old a study programme is on average 600 hours. If a programme is more than 150+ hours it must include English and maths where appropriate, work experience and other non-qualification related activities. If a programme is less than 150 hours then it should have things too, but a provider may be able to make exceptions (for example if a learner is already combining education with full time employment, then they may not need the work experience element).

They can be part time if someone is combining it with full time employment or has health issues which mean they can only do a few hours each week, or if they only need to achieve a small or specific qualification or carry out some work experience to enable them to progress to further education of employment.

Hints on Financial Support

Classed as full time – so parents/guardians may be able to claim Child benefit and other benefits whilst their son/daughter are on a study programme.

There are bursaries available for some eligible young people.
Study programmes can be tailored to meet individual needs and aspirations, taking someone’s education, health and care plan into consideration.

As work experience is an important part of a programme, the additional challenges that a SEND person may face in getting a job should be thought about and extra support should be planned.

A study programme isn’t for everyone and some may benefit more from a traineeship or supported internship or a programme that helps them prepare for employment or adult life. If needs are severe or complex a study programme to develop independent living skills may be helpful if the EHCP says this is the primary aim for that young person.
Pathways’ partners:

Leicester College
DE Montfort University
University of Leicester
Loughborough University
Connexions
Loughborough College

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