

## Post 16 Options

### Amersham & Buckinghamshire Area

#### Information on Post-16 Options

General information on post-16 options is available via the [National Careers Service](#).

Buckinghamshire Council's SEND Local Offer sets out the support available for children and young people aged 0 to 25 with SEND: [Buckinghamshire SEND Local Offer](#)

For specific information on post-16 options for young people with SEND in Buckinghamshire: [Post-16 Options for Young People with SEND](#)

Buckinghamshire's Post-16 Progression Pathways Planning Toolkit guides families and education providers in planning pathways for young people with SEND. It outlines options for meaningful activity, supported employment and further education to prepare for adulthood: [Preparing for Adulthood – Buckinghamshire Council](#)

#### Further Education, Progression into Independence, Work and Life Courses

Many colleges offer courses with dedicated support for students with SEND, both in the classroom and during breaks and lunchtimes.

#### Buckinghamshire College Group

Buckinghamshire College Group (BCG) is the main further education provider in the area, rated 'Good' by Ofsted. It has three campuses, including one in **Amersham** (Stanley Hill, HP7 9HN), as well as **Aylesbury** and **High Wycombe**. The Amersham campus is a 15-minute walk from Amersham station and specialises in creative courses including Art, Media and Performance, with links to Pinewood Studios.

BCG is committed to the inclusion of students with SEND. Students with SEND are welcome to apply for any course. Study programmes include vocational training, English and Maths (where required), digital skills, work experience, career mentoring and regular tutorials. If a student has an EHCP, the application goes through a consultation process with the local authority.

- [BCG SEND Local Offer](#)
- [BCG SEND Support](#)
- [BCG Student & Learning Support](#)
- [BCG Amersham Campus](#)

**Life Skills Centre (Aylesbury) and Future Life Centre (Wycombe):** BCG runs specialist Life Skills programmes at the Aylesbury and Wycombe campuses in partnership with Buckinghamshire Council. These support young people with SEND to learn and work in the local community. The Wycombe campus also has the Future Life Centre – a purpose-built facility for young adults with high needs, offering vocational and employment-focused education as well as independent living and academic studies.



**ACHIEVE Life Skills Programme:** An entry-level life skills course teaching independent living skills alongside qualifications needed to progress onto further education, apprenticeships or employment. Includes work experience and close links with local colleges.

### Chiltern Way Academy Trust

An award-winning, Ofsted-rated Outstanding specialist academy trust for boys and girls aged 4 to 19 with Autism Spectrum Conditions (ASC) and Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs (SEMH). The trust has sites at Prestwood (near Amersham), Wendover, Bierton Hill (Aylesbury) and Wokingham. They are also developing a post-16 service called 'Workways' to support students into employment: [Chiltern Way Academy Trust](#)

### Chiltern Hills Academy Sixth Form (Chesham)

A mainstream sixth form in nearby Chesham offering over 25 courses (academic and vocational), with a comprehensive careers programme including one-to-one independent careers interviews: [Chiltern Hills Academy Sixth Form](#)

## Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships are real jobs where you learn, gain experience and get paid. Entry requirements vary depending on the industry, role and apprenticeship level. You can search for live vacancies and set up alerts via:

- [Find an Apprenticeship \(GOV.UK\)](#)
- [Get My First Job](#)
- [Amazing Apprenticeships](#) – includes a range of [SEND-specific resources](#)
- [Student Apprenticeships](#)

Please also check for local vacancies on:

- [Buckinghamshire College Group Apprenticeships](#)
- [Buckinghamshire New University Apprenticeships](#) – higher and degree apprenticeships
- [Buckinghamshire Skills Hub](#) – resources, job vacancies and work experience opportunities across Buckinghamshire

**Note on SEND and apprenticeships:** Since August 2024, apprentices with learning differences (even without an EHCP) can work towards a lower level of functional skills in English and Maths. This is designed to widen access and improve completion rates for learners with SEND.

## Supported Internships

A supported internship is a kind of work experience that lasts a minimum of 6 months. Interns are unpaid but receive support from a qualified job coach, with the aim of securing skills and experience for paid employment. You would also have a personalised study programme, including the chance to study a relevant qualification and English and Maths to an appropriate level. You need to have an EHCP and may also be eligible for [Access to Work funding](#).

Further information on supported internships: [Buckinghamshire Supported Internships](#)



### Mission EmployAble (based in Amersham)

Mission EmployAble works in partnership with Buckinghamshire College Group to offer an annual supported internship programme (September to July) for young adults aged 18–25 with learning disabilities. The programme is based at their training centres in Amersham (60 Woodside Road, HP6 6AN) and Chorleywood, and focuses on skills for catering, hospitality and other transferable work areas. Interns receive on-the-job training, functional Maths and English, independence and employability classes. Applications for September 2026 are expected to open by 31st October.

- [Mission EmployAble Supported Internship via BCG](#)
- Contact: [internships@missionemployable.co.uk](mailto:internships@missionemployable.co.uk)

### Other Supported Employment and Training

A range of further supported employment, volunteering and training options are listed on the Buckinghamshire Council website: [Supported Employment, Internships, Volunteering and Training](#)

These include:

- **Talkback** – offers employment programmes including the Equip programme for 16–25 year olds who are autistic or have a learning disability, as well as personal development and skills sessions
- **Thrift Farm** – supported employment in animal care, horticulture, crafts and catering for eligible adult social care clients
- **Buckinghamshire Adult Learning** – courses especially for adults with learning disabilities, mental health issues or social care needs
- **The King's Trust (formerly Prince's Trust)** – personal development programmes for young people aged 16 to 30 not in education, employment or training
- **Buckinghamshire Council Supported Employment** – provides permanent employment opportunities and dedicated employment support for adults with care and support needs

### Other Useful Resources and Information

#### Buckinghamshire SENDIAS

The Special Educational Needs and Disability Information, Advice and Support Service (SENDIAS) provides free, confidential, impartial information, advice and support on all SEND matters for children and young people aged 0–25 and their families: [Bucks SENDIAS Service](#)

#### Buckinghamshire Skills Hub – SEND Resources

The Skills Hub has a dedicated SEND section with resources for career seekers, tips for transitioning from school to work, and information about local events such as the Confident Futures Skills Show: [Buckinghamshire Skills Hub – SEND](#)

#### Financial Support and Transport

- **16–19 Bursary Fund:** [www.gov.uk/1619-bursary-fund](http://www.gov.uk/1619-bursary-fund)
- **Access to Work Scheme:** [www.gov.uk/access-to-work](http://www.gov.uk/access-to-work)
- **Healthcare Travel Costs Scheme:** [NHS Healthcare Travel Costs Scheme](#)

- **Transport for Post-16 Students with SEND:** Buckinghamshire Council can provide transport assistance or a Personal Transport Budget for post-16 students with an EHCP. Details and eligibility: [Post-16 SEND Transport](#)
- **BCG Financial Support:** The College Support Scheme provides financial assistance with costs such as uniform, kit, books, DBS checks, trips and transport: [BCG Funding & Financial Support](#)

### Other Support Organisations

- **National Autistic Society:** [www.autism.org.uk](http://www.autism.org.uk)
- **Mencap – Education, Skills and Work:** [www.mencap.org.uk/advice-and-support/employment](http://www.mencap.org.uk/advice-and-support/employment)
- **Career Pathways:** Independent careers advice for people aged 15–25 – available via the [Buckinghamshire Skills Hub](#)
- **National Careers Service:** [nationalcareers.service.gov.uk](http://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk)

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16-19 Bursary Fund:

[www.gov.uk/1619-bursary-fund](http://www.gov.uk/1619-bursary-fund)

Access to work Scheme:

[www.gov.uk/access-to-work](http://www.gov.uk/access-to-work)

Health Care Travel support scheme through the NHS:

[www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/help-with-health-costs/healthcare-travel-costs-scheme-htcs](http://www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/help-with-health-costs/healthcare-travel-costs-scheme-htcs)

National Autistic Society:

[www.autism.org.uk](http://www.autism.org.uk)

Supported employment and job coaching for people with disabilities:

[www.maximusuk.co.uk/all-insights](http://www.maximusuk.co.uk/all-insights)

Support with education, skills and work through Mencap:

[www.mencap.org.uk/advice-and-support/employment](http://www.mencap.org.uk/advice-and-support/employment)