

Post 18 Options

Employment opportunities

Lots of people can help you find Supported Employment, such as:

[Fairfield STEPS programme](#)

[Mencap](#)

[United Response](#)

[Pluss](#)

[WECIL](#)

[One True Step](#)

[MHM](#)

[Evenbreak](#)

Also, schemes such as the [Wiltshire Supported Internship](#) can help you learn the skills needed to get a job. The Wiltshire Employment Support Team will assist young people into finding and sustaining varying levels of paid employment with local employers. Below are the websites to find out more about the Wiltshire offer including additional help, advice about benefits.

<https://localoffer.wiltshire.gov.uk/article/4532/Wiltshire-Employment-Support-Team-WEST>

<https://localoffer.wiltshire.gov.uk/article/4531/Jobcentre-Plus>

More individual **job-coaching** support is available from the Wiltshire Employment Support Team (WEST). You can find out more here:

<https://workwiltshire.co.uk/west/>

Information on Post-18 options:

<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/careers-advice/career-choices-at-16>

Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships are real jobs where you learn, gain experience and get paid. An apprenticeship should give you the skills, knowledge and experience for a chosen career. Apprenticeship vacancies specify entry requirements and any qualities the employer is looking for. You can search for live vacancies and also set up alerts for upcoming apprenticeships opportunities via:

[Find an Apprenticeship.gov.uk](https://findanapprenticeship.gov.uk)



[Get My First Job](#)
[Student Apprenticeships](#)
[Amazing Apprenticeships](#)

Please also check for local vacancies on college websites, such [Wiltshire College](#).

The Wiltshire Employment Support Team help, support and advise on a range of aspects of starting an apprenticeship, from travel training to helping assess strengths and find the right option. Find out more here:

<https://workwiltshire.co.uk/west/>

Work Wiltshire also have opportunities and information about apprenticeships and you can find out more here:

<https://workwiltshire.co.uk/home/apprenticeships/>

The following resource shares some useful information on apprenticeships for people with a learning disability:

www.mencap.org.uk/sites/default/files/2020-02/20120.009%20LDWW2019_Factsheet%207.pdf

Supported Internships

Another option is a supported internship, where you would spend most of your time in the workplace usually for at least 6 months, and you have support from a qualified job coach. You also have a personalised study programme, including the chance to study a relevant qualification, if suitable, and English and Maths to an appropriate level. You need to have an Educational, Health and Care Plan and you may also be eligible for Access to Work Funding:

www.gov.uk/access-to-work

Further information on supported internships can be found via:

<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/careers-advice/career-choices-at-16#supported-internships>

Supported internships are delivered in partnership with Wiltshire College and Wiltshire Employment Support Team. The application window is October until 31 January 2025. You can find out more and apply here:

Supported Internships are Wiltshire College and the Wiltshire Employment Support Team here:

<https://localoffer.wiltshire.gov.uk/article/4533/Supported-Internship>

There are other opportunities here:

www.wiltshire.ac.uk

[Bath College](#)

[Mencap Supported Internships](#)
[BOSS Supported Internships](#)
[Shaw Trust Supported Internships](#)
[Health Education England](#)

Traineeships

From 1 August 2023, traineeships are no longer delivered through the national traineeships programme. Traineeships can continue to be offered by providers locally (such as colleges) but they may be termed 'supported internships' or 'work-based study programmes'

Another option that might interest you is a traineeship. These are created to meet your needs and prepare you for what employers are looking for. You also get support to improve your English, Maths and digital skills.

To start a traineeship, you'll need to have an Education, Health and Care plan. You should receive support with expenses for travel and meals. You should still continue to receive any benefits you currently receive. Traineeships are designed to prepare you to do an apprenticeship. Click here for more information about Traineeships within Wiltshire:

<https://www.ucas.com/further-education/apprenticeships-and-traineeships/traineeships-and-school-leaver-programmes>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/supported-internships-for-young-people-with-learning-difficulties/supported-internships>

<https://www.gov.uk/find-traineeship>

Further Education, Progression into Independence, Work and Life Courses

Lots of young people continue in education as a Post-18 option, on supported courses. Many colleges offer courses with lots of support in the classrooms but also during breaks and lunchtimes:

<https://localoffer.wiltshire.gov.uk/article/4530/Sixth-form-colleges-and-universities-for-ages-16>

Fairfield Specialist College offer flexible residential, day and weekend courses as well as useful advice for young people who are progressing beyond the college:

www.ffc.ac.uk

www.ffc.ac.uk/life-beyond-college



The Salisbury Academy for Inspirational Learning is a new free school for SEND students ages 4-19 and will open in early 2024. See this website for more information:
<https://localoffer.wiltshire.gov.uk/article/4530/Sixth-form-colleges-and-universities-for-ages-16>

Wiltshire College offers mainstream, foundation and personalized studying programmes here:
<https://www.wiltshire.ac.uk>
<https://www.wiltshire.ac.uk/the-college/learning-support>

Other local colleges that offer mainstream and foundation courses include:
www.sparsholt.ac.uk/information-support-resources
www.bathcollege.ac.uk
www.newcollege.ac.uk
www.totton.ac.uk

Further schools/colleges can be explored via:
<https://localoffer.wiltshire.gov.uk/article/4496/Education-employment-and-training-adulthood>
[The Deaf Academy](#)

Life and Independent Living

The link below is an introduction to growing up and moving on created by Wiltshire County Council to support young people who are thinking about education, training, health and independent living:
<https://localoffer.wiltshire.gov.uk/growing-up-moving-on>

You can access local information from the Wiltshire Local Authority website on Preparing for Adulthood post 16. The link below covers information on independent living and covers where to live, and money advice:
<https://localoffer.wiltshire.gov.uk/article/4304/Preparing-for-adulthood-16>
<https://localoffer.wiltshire.gov.uk/article/4499/Somewhere-to-live>
www.family-action.org.uk/what-we-do/children-families/send/send-info/useful-links

Longer-term, there are a number of **Supported Housing** providers that can help you find somewhere to live with help if you need it:
<https://www.wiltshirecil.org.uk>

National Development Team for Inclusion (NDTi) have a range of resources helping

young people to prepare for Adulthood. You can find these here:

www.ndti.org.uk/resources/preparing-for-adulthood-all-tools-resources

NHS England have a range of resources, e.g. Ask Listen Do – making conversation count in health, social care and education.

NHS England have advice, tips and tools to help you make the best choices about health and wellbeing.

Other useful resources and information

The SENDIASS Gloucestershire and SENDIAS Somerset provide information, advice and support on matters relating to children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities ([SEND](#)). The service is offered to parents and carers of children and young people aged between 0 and 25 years old:

Wiltshire: <https://www.family-action.org.uk/what-we-do/children-families/wiltshire-sendiass/#:~:text=Wiltshire%20SENDIASS%20provides%20a%20free,and%20their%20parents%20and%20carers.>

16-19 Bursary Fund:

www.gov.uk/1619-bursary-fund

Access to work Scheme:

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

National Autistic Society:

www.autism.org.uk

Supported employment and job coaching for people with disabilities:

www.maximusuk.co.uk/all-insights

Support with education, skills and work through Mencap:

www.mencap.org.uk/advice-and-support/employment

Support for young people and their families within Wiltshire:

https://www.wiltshireparentcarercouncil.co.uk/en/Home_Page



FutureSmartCareers