

Thinking about what to do? Not sure if a mainstream course is for you?
There are options! Look below to see some of the possibilities.

The boxes with logos are links – just click for more information

Stepping-stone programmes at colleges in Suffolk:

Colleges run many vocational courses, they also offer stepping-stone programmes designed to help young people explore interests, boost their skills, and prepare for future choices.

Suffolk New College

As well as foundation programmes in vocational subjects, 'Step' courses help with settling into college life, building skills for employment, or distance learning. **NB** Step courses have a January start date: suffolknewsteps@suffolk.ac.uk



West Suffolk College

The Pathway courses focus on maths and English, gaining knowledge in a wide variety of areas, and developing life and social skills. **NB** new Pathway to Success courses in Stowmarket and Bury outside the college:



East Coast College

ECC offers starting point courses (two linked below). They develop transferable and vocational skills, get students involved in the community, and ensure support to choose next steps.



Short-term programmes



Lofty Heights Skills Academy



Across a range of 3–20 week course, Lofty Heights Skills Academy prepares you for your future with apprenticeship pathways, vocational training, practical learning, careers guidance, and wellbeing support – all in a friendly, informal atmosphere.

Regular courses include Art, Construction, Health & Social Care, Youth Work, Barista, Jumpstart –exploring options. They have a new 20 week course called Starting Point.



Ignite 'Mission Readiness' - start with a 6 week employability programme which includes mentoring, skills development and work experience.....move onto 'Mission Ready' to successfully get into employment.

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Full-time programmes with a Training Provider

Interested in learning in a smaller, person-centred environment? Independent training providers across the county offer a large number of opportunities.



WS Training

Ipswich, Lowestoft & Haverhill



WS Training offers a Vocational Studies programme focussing on skills & employability, apprenticeships and, for those with an EHCP, supported internships and supported learning programmes.



TCHC

Ipswich



TCHC offers a flexible, easy-going environment. Courses are in Business & Retail, Construction, Health & Care, and Employability, all with one-to-one mentoring to help with your next steps.



MPCT

Ipswich, Colchester, Norwich & Cambridge



Get a unique experience with MPCT (Military Preparation College for Training): gain fitness, study subjects like Preparation for Military Service and get ready for a variety of employment opportunities – including with the Armed Services. Drop-ins every Friday at 1pm in Ipswich



Jump into Work with Ixion

Countywide



Boost employability with online sessions, before being supported into a placement with a local employer. Young people can improve Maths and English, but would have to go to Norwich or Romford once a week—travel costs are covered.



SCL

Sudbury, Felixstowe & Needham Market + Bury



SCL (Sport Centred Learning) partners with football clubs across Suffolk and offers you programmes in Sports Activity and Personal Training. SCL Creative College offers performing arts near Bury St Edmunds



Action Community Enterprises—CIC

Gorleston



Vocational Training, Maths and English, employability enrichment