

Building New Pathways to an Inclusive Future

# Further Education

An individualised educational programme  
designed to meet the needs of  
young people with learning disabilities

Lifeskills  
Workskills  
Independence

## The College

The Lifeworks Specialist College of Further Education is a bridge between school and adult life.

The College offers an innovative programme of education and training for young people who have learning disabilities. The courses support equality of opportunity by building on the foundations of learning acquired in school. They will guide students to fulfil their expectations to be contributing members of society, to live as independently as possible and to be happy. The College uses teaching facilities and training resources in and around Dartington and the administration office is based at the Lifeworks Centre at Dartington Hall in South Devon. The College is governed and supported by the charity Lifeworks and is staffed by qualified and experienced teachers, support assistants and care staff. Medical and speech and language support will be available as well as physio, complementary and occupational therapies. The college functions on a three term academic year with students attending for five days a week, similar to schools. It works within nationally accredited frameworks for education and care and is awaiting registration and inspection.

## Entry Requirements

There is no academic entry requirement. We welcome applications from all students with a learning disability up to the age of 24 years old, either from a special school or mainstream school. You can apply for 2011 entry and subsequent years. Students who wish to apply will however need to demonstrate potential to progress. They will live within commutable distance of Dartington in order to access the college on a daily basis. Accommodation is not available for the 2011/12 academic year but is planned for the future.

## The Curriculum

The college uses a nationally accredited curriculum which is flexible and tailored to each student's needs and is designed to support the student in gaining the skills that will enable them to make the most of every opportunity that adult life has to offer. The curriculum areas include Transition Skills, Personal Development, Sport and Recreation, Creative and Performing Arts, Independent Living Skills and Work Skills. The final module is Towards Independence which caters for the very different levels and expectations of each student whether they are progressing towards a level of independent living and working or to more supported living within a residential setting. The outcome for each individual will be governed by their ability and progress but the overarching aim is to ensure that every student realises their full potential.

**If you have a child or know of a young person who would benefit from joining this exciting new college, please fill in the form opposite or telephone 01803 840744**



## Aims and Outcomes

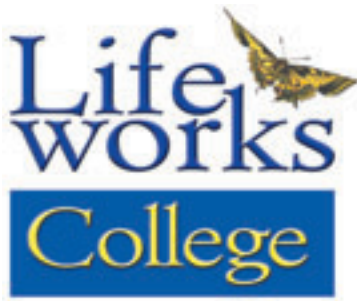
From school, to college,  
to independent living.

It is the aim of the college to equip the student with the skills and knowledge to be able to realise their own potential. Student's learning achievements will be recognised and rewarded in small steps not only in academic areas such as literacy and numeracy, but also in the more diverse application of skills in daily living, art, leisure, recreation, the workplace and community. Each student's course is learner centred and evidence based achievement certificated. The outcomes are primarily a clear and planned route into adult life. The student will have the evidence of skills to help them make more informed choices about where and how to live, the sort of work they are able to do, what they are particularly good at and what they enjoy engaging in. They will have a growing confidence in sport, the arts and recreation and in themselves and their relationships with others. They will be better equipped to lead safe, happy and fulfilling lives and be able to take their place in society.

## Costs

In the academic year starting September 2011, there will be no course fees as Lifeworks has gained grant funding. There will, however, be costs for meals and transport if required. In subsequent years the student will need to apply for funding from the 'Young Peoples Learning Agency' (YPLA) but the college (or your school) and your connexions officer or care manager will guide you through this process.





## Application for a place at the Lifeworks College

If you would like your child to be considered for a place on the Lifeworks Further Education Programme for September 2011/12/13, please complete the form below and overleaf and return it to Richard Hanlon, The Lifeworks Centre, Blacklers, Park Road, Dartington Hall, Totnes TQ9 6EQ.

For more information or an informal chat, telephone Richard on 01803 840744 or email [rhanlon@lifeworks-uk.org](mailto:rhanlon@lifeworks-uk.org)

Name of Student (BLOCK CAPITALS) \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_

Name of parent/carer (BLOCK CAPITALS) \_\_\_\_\_

Your contact number \_\_\_\_\_

and/or email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

(if different from above)

\_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please remember to fill in the details overleaf before returning it to Lifeworks at the above address.



A charity committed to positive actions that help vulnerable young people with disabilities



## Application for a place at the Lifeworks College Part 2

Brief description of student's disability and any medical conditions

---

---

---

---

Brief description of student's ability and aspirations  
(Please include ability in communication)

---

---

---

---

### What Happens Next...

We will contact you to arrange an initial meeting with you and your parents. We will then carry out an assessment of your needs together with you, your parents, school and connexions officer. If we offer you a place we will start a period of transition so by the time you start with us we will know each other very well. This is to ensure that we know exactly what you need at college, to remove any anxieties that you might have and to help you look forward to the next stage of your life.



A charity committed to positive actions that help  
vulnerable young people with disabilities

Lifeworks is committed to providing opportunities for those with learning disabilities to lead full and active lives.



### Our current activities include

#### Robins Respite & Life Skills Centre

'Robins is a wonderful place in Dartington where I sometimes stay. It was built to provide a home like my own home, to give my mum and dad a rest, and me a holiday with my friends.'



#### Robins Residential

Robins also offers a permanent home for children, when living at the family home isn't possible anymore. Most importantly the child can remain at their own school ensuring stability and continuity.

#### Sesame

Sesame is a small home for young adults with learning disabilities to live. It offers a safe environment to enable them to make the transition into adult life as independently as possible.



#### Life Skills Academy

The Life Skills Academy offers young people the opportunity to participate in enjoyable activities set up to develop independence, social skills and confidence. The programme runs on Monday evenings after school. Each young person works towards specific targets, planned and agreed by them, their teachers, parents and LSA staff.



#### Kool Club

Kool Club is a Saturday youth club for teenagers and young adults with learning disabilities to make friends, improve social and life skills, and most of all have fun. *Kool Club* aims to help members become more confident with the skills they need to be able to integrate happily with the larger community.



#### Breaking the Barrier

Breaking the Barrier delivers one-day events across the UK introducing youngsters with autism and learning disabilities to the experience of surfing and the thrill of actually riding a wave. These are 'taster' sessions aimed at introducing an exciting sport and promoting inclusivity. We also encourage participants to have on-going surf lessons with their local surf schools.