

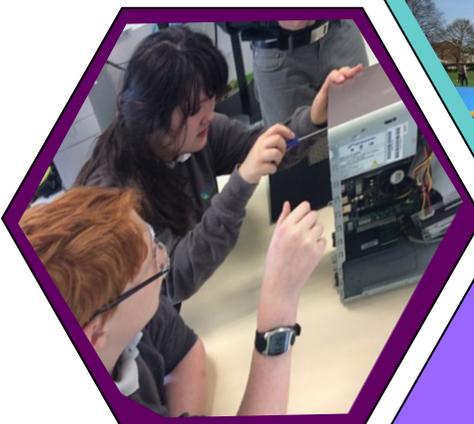


SEN Somerset Expertise

Somerset Special Schools Post 16 Directory

Student
Focused

High
Aspiration



Increasing
Independence



Skills for Life

Special Educational Needs. Somerset Expertise (sen.se)

Sen.se is a collaborative partnership between all of the special schools and specialist provision within Somerset. Sen.se stands for Special Educational Needs Somerset Expertise. We have a wealth of experience within our schools and many outstanding practitioners support us in our work to make a difference to the lives of children and young people who need an alternative environment, curriculum and level of support to a mainstream school.

There are ten schools, and a specialist provision within a primary school, **all of which are graded as Good or Outstanding** by OFSTED and a number of supportive providers making up the membership of sen.se. We recognise that working together, we are stronger. Our collective expertise is vital to meet the unique needs of each child and young person we work with. Sky College works closely with FE partners and providers in our students' local community. We place a high value on our students becoming successful post-16 learners in their local areas.

Members of sen.se

Avalon School: www.avalonschool.net

Fiveways School: www.fivewaysschool.co.uk

Brookside Community Primary
School: www.brooksideprimaryschool.com

The Mendip School: www.themendipschool.co.uk

Critchill School: www.critchill.somerset.sch.uk

Penrose School: www.penrose-school.org.uk

Elmwood School: www.elmwood-school.org.uk

Selworthy School: www.selworthy.somerset.sch.uk

Fairmead School: www.fairmeadschool.co.uk

Sky College: www.skycollege.co.uk

Avalon Sixth Form



Learning and Work

Curriculum in our Sixth Form is aimed at supporting our students continue to develop into the adult they will become further preparing them for adulthood. All aspects of the curriculum are embedded in real life contexts. Our focus on volunteering, enterprise and work related learning all support this.

Work experience placements are tailored to suit students' needs and interests. Students may participate in a short block or weekly work experience, either within the school environment or out in the local community. Our aim is for our young people to gain employment in the future where appropriate.

Age range: 16-19

Location: Street



Students in the sixth form receive a good range of learning experiences to prepare for their futures well. As a result of good teaching, students make good progress. Students have the opportunity to use their knowledge and understanding of reading, writing and mathematics effectively in developing their entrepreneurial skills. Ofsted January 2018

Independent Living

All pupils have personal independence targets that are developed with parents and carers. These targets focus on the primary areas that are a barrier to learners' being as independent as possible now and as an adult. We aim to improve our students' independence and personal safety, both at home and in the community. We actively work with parents and carers running workshops in partnership with adult social to explore views of "What does a good life look like" for their young person and then explored:

- Housing and independent living options
- Community Inclusion
- Employment
- Health

Feedback has been very positive not just about how informative the sessions were but also *"the fact there are people like you who are trying to change things for the better."*

Community Inclusion

We want our students to be part of their local community and work hard to get our students out of the sixth form into the community, whether that be in using local shops, using public transport, leisure centres or working or volunteering.

Every week, students are supported to go shopping to a local supermarket and buy items they will need to make a simple meal twice a week. They are supported to manage their own money when out in the community and develop their social skills when communicating with unfamiliar adults.



 www.avalonschool.net

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Critchill School Post 16



Learning and Work

We believe in the aspiration for all our young people to be employable. We run our own catering van at Frome Market every week. We also work very closely with local employers to find real life work placements that reflect a young person's skills and interests. We aim to give a young person a range of experiences to help them choose the right role for them and in their final year, develop a placement into a possible employment opportunity. We are very pleased with the excellent feedback from our growing number of supportive local employers on the contribution our young people make to their business'.

Age range: 16-19

Location: Frome



Independent Living

Independent skills are built into all aspects of the curriculum, including as part of our Working Futures programme. All our young people work towards gaining their Level 1 Food Safety certificate and we work with Bus Buddies to gain independence getting out and about safely in the community. Students are supported with managing money and continue to develop functional English and Maths skills. Students are also encouraged to explore their own interests and identify activities they can attend in the community. Students also learn to prepare simple nutritious meals, that they can cook at home.

Critchill School understand that every child born into this world should be given the same chance to grasp every opportunity they see. Every child has abilities different to each other, it's a case of seeing them, finding them, believing in them and acting on them.

Steven Daniels Enterprise Advisor

Community Inclusion

The below photo shows the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh group who had successfully finishing their two day expedition. The Duke of Edinburgh scheme provides lots of opportunities to be involved with the local community. For example all our students volunteer alongside Frome Town Rangers helping to look after the green spaces in Frome. We also maintain one of the community allotments, using our produce to make jams and chutneys that we sell as part of the enterprise curriculum. As part of the accredited Arts Award students also attend concerts, art venues and events in their community.



We believe our Working Futures programme is a key aspect of placing our students into the heart of their community and building sustainable links for the future.

They...gain the skills that enable them to gain meaningful aid employment.

This sort of activity also helps students to be understood and known in the local community, developing their social skills and reducing potential isolation when they leave school.

Ofsted May 2018



www.critchill.somerset.sch.uk



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Elmwood & Penrose Federation



Welcome to the Jean Rees Centre

Our Post 16 Curriculum 'Steps to Employment' enables all students to continue to learn in English, Maths and ICT whilst they also follow learning programmes within the four areas of the Preparing for Adulthood Framework.

You can find the Jean Rees Centre on the Chilton Trinity Campus within Bridgwater, our centre is purpose built and has specialist teaching facilities to enable our young people to develop independent living skills alongside skills for work. The centre also has a Specialist Sensory Room and Movement Room where students can relax and enjoy therapeutic support.

Age range: 16-19

Location: Bridgwater



Employability

We plan a students' employability programme from their aspirations for adult life, if a student has a specific interest, this is where the journey to employment starts. We have three levels of work experience for our students:

Work related learning

Access and experience a range of business and industries, short term opportunities to experience different job roles.

Work Experience

Short work placements which could be in one or more businesses, weekly work experience both internal and external to the centre.

Work Placements

Longer term placements where students build skills over time with reduced support, possible supported internship opportunities.

'... significant community engagement is evident in students' timetables, alongside good provision for Employability and Independent Living Skills. A clear view of each student's realistic hopes for their future is evident in all individual curriculum planning. The Student Learning Portfolios are evidence of strong practice.' **Educational Consultant**

Community Inclusion

Students are offered lots of opportunities to access the community. They follow programmes of study about keeping themselves safe in the community, they meet people who can help them and they explore friendships and relationships, including working with sixth form students from other settings.



Independent Living

Students are taught how to be as independent as possible. There is an emphasis on learning how to look after your own house which includes a menu of activities including, cleaning, basic DIY, laundry, cooking, travel training and money management.

'The post-16 curriculum supports students well. It is very appropriately planned, with its focus on developing students' independence skills and work in the community.'
Ofsted April 2015

 www.elmwood-school.org.uk/post16

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Fiveways School – 6th Form Provision

'A specialist School for 'Communication & Interaction'



Learning and Work

Fiveways School provides an 'Outstanding' education for students. Individual needs are carefully and sensitively addressed, within a well developed curriculum. 6th Form curriculum builds on learning and progress of work-related learning across the whole school. We employ a part-time Job Coach, linking with Fairmead School. Placements at St James' café, Yeovilton Museum and our own Candy Shack provide work-related learning and enterprise. We hire our Candy Shack to events and sell sweets at events. Teachers & TAs have high expectations of pupils and are skilled at balancing both challenge and support, particularly to develop independence, build resilience & enable our 6th Form students to become active learners. Learning is planned around individual students' targets & learning priorities, delivered through core curriculum, including modules accredited via ASDAN.

Age range: 16-19

Location: Yeovil



Community Inclusion

Full use is made of community and off-site facilities, and college link and transition courses and visits to other post-school providers are arranged to suit the needs of individual students. PMLD provision is multi-sensory and designed for the individual but we also place huge importance on being a member of a community – within 6th Form and in the wider community, which is essential in preparing these learners for adulthood. All this enables students to further develop their independence, build their resilience and enable them to move on successfully to the next stages of their lives, beyond Fiveways School. Good transition between services and from and to other provision is highly valued and supported.

Students and parents say - *"I want the people around me to know all about me and understand me. I need to feel safe and secure and know what is going to happen. I like to be busy doing lots of different things at school. I need help to get ready to move on."*

Independent Living

The Curriculum offers a flexible framework for students, which encourages further steps towards maturity and independence. We practise basic skills every day to create the building blocks for life and work and to consolidate what we do during a work experience placement. Our jobs board includes pencil sharpening, laminating, watering the garden, making cups of tea, shredding and unloading the dishwasher. For all our learners we focus on advocacy, enabling everyone to make a choice or have a preference by offering lots of options and experiences and ensuring that everyone feels able to say 'no', 'stop' or 'I don't like that' in lots of different situations.



OFSTED Nov.2017 This school continues to be outstanding.

The curriculum used throughout the school is age appropriate, including for those who have the most profound learning difficulties, and what older pupils are learning in order to prepare them for life after leaving school. You ensure that pupils are well prepared for the next stage in their lives. When leaving school, all pupils continue in education, training or employment.

www.fivewaysschool.co.uk

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Selworthy Special School - Sixth Form



Learning and Work

Selworthy has high aspirations for their sixth formers, running two differentiated pathways to prepare students for adulthood. One study programme is based on the principal of working towards being happy, healthy and safe and has a multi-sensory experiential approach where students learn how to carry out everyday life skills. The second programme aims to prepare students for independent living, further education, training or employment. Careers Education, English and Maths is embedded throughout which are accredited with nationally recognised NOCN qualifications. Selworthy actively seeks to work in partnership with external organisations to enrich their learning programmes and extend the opportunities available to students.

Age range: 16-19
Location: Taunton



Independent Living -

Developing independence is at the heart of the Sixth Form provision. The students experience focuses on the Preparation for Adulthood agenda which fosters excellent relationships with parents/carers allowing home and school to work together to develop and focus on the skills that are important for students next steps.

With an extensive vocational curriculum, students are able to extend their cooking and gardening skills within weekly Food Technology and Horticulture lessons. These lessons allow students to develop life skills which are also transferrable to the work place. Students also have access to a property in Somerton where they are able to transfer what they learnt in the classroom, into context.

*"I love learning new things which I can then do at home with my parents or by myself" **Charlotte, 18.***

Community Inclusion

At the heart of Selworthy is its links with the local community including the library, businesses, college and community groups. The curriculum encourages students to be active in their community and where possible, learn in the community, allowing students to foster and maintain strong supportive networks within their own communities that continue beyond their school years into adulthood.

With extensive link with employers, where students have demonstrated they have developed their employability skills within the Sixth Form, students are able to undertake a range of community work experience placements and/or a supported internship. Some students also undertake Independent Travel Training.



*"I like going on work experience at Toyota and I would like to get a job there when I leave school" **Louis, 18.***

www.selworthy.somerset.sch.uk 01823 284970

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The Key at Fairmead School

Opening doors to bright new futures

Learning and Work

Once in The Key, students' learning is focused on preparation for adulthood. Studies in English, Maths and ICT continue as they follow accredited Functional Skills programmes that help them build essential skills for their futures. Approaches focus on giving our young people purposeful, experiential learning opportunities and much of the learning takes place beyond the classroom.

It is essential that young people share our high aspirations for their futures. For this reason, much of the 6th form curriculum focuses on employability skills: students experience a broad range of vocational based courses (eg horticulture, farming, catering) both in school and working with offsite partners, allowing them to establish their pathways to future employment.

“Strong links with a wide range of local educational providers, employers and colleges ensure that pupils have regular opportunities to develop their employability skills and get used to working with a range of different people. As a result, pupils talk excitedly and keenly about where they are planning to move on to when they leave.” OFSTED, Feb 2018.

Age range: 16-19 years

Location: Yeovil



Independent Living:

The Key has recently introduced a range of new courses built around the ASDAN Towards Independence study programmes to the sixth form curriculum. As well as supporting the development of skills for the workplace, courses such as Meal Preparation, Personal and Social Development and Independent Travel Training have enabled us to target those essential everyday skills that will secure the highest possible level of independent living in adulthood, both in the home and the wider community.

Alongside these accredited study programmes, Sex and Relationships Education focuses on establishing understanding of what we mean by safe and caring relationships. In addition, regular “open forum” meetings and meetings of the Student Council encourage all young people to find and develop their voice and to value their right to express their opinion.

“Three years in The Key gave my son the skills, the confidence and the self belief that he needed to see a positive future for himself. Now he is going from strength to strength in an FE college and has clear career goals.”

Parent of 2017 leaver.

Community Inclusion:

Crucial to our role in preparing young people for adulthood is ensuring they see themselves as valuable members of the wider community. Regular, increasingly Independent access to local amenities and services through our Independent Travel Training programme helps our students build familiarity and confidence in interacting with the public.

Likewise, opportunities to visit local FE colleges where they work with mainstream peers, and to take part in individual work experience placements with local employers, are essential. These experiences enable our young people to picture, to believe in and to seek happy, safe, successful futures for themselves beyond The Key.



www.fairmead.co.uk



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The Mendip School



Learning and Work:

In Post-16, we challenge students to be the best that they can be. Our goal is for each individual to leave us with the skills and tools needed to move on to their next steps.

Our curriculum is highly personalised to the long-term outcomes of the individual and focuses on supporting student to become more independent in many aspects of their lives.

We support students to work towards their own goals. Work experience is tailored to your individual needs, skills and interests. Every student in Post -16 will have the opportunity to take part in a work experience placement.. Work experience can take many formats from one day, one off placements, an hour a week or up to 3 days a week for the entire year.

Age range: 16-19

Location: Shepton Mallett



Independent living

Our curriculum promotes independence in all of our students. This may include teaching students to make their own choices, developing the skills to live independently later in life, travel training, looking after the home and managing own emotions.

Health

We support students to manage their own physical and mental Students learn about healthy living, are encouraged to exercise and have access to our THRIVE practitioner.

"The Mendip School has really helped my child. Now they are happier and achieving more. The teachers really understand my child's needs."

A parent

Community Inclusion

We have a strong sense of community at The Mendip School and we teach our students to have the same. We access many local community facilities and build relationships with many local companies. We teach our students to become actively involved in their communities and **every** year each group will **sponsor** a local charity.



The quality of pupils' personal development is outstanding. Children are very confident learners with fantastic manners. They are a pleasure to talk to. This is demonstrated both in lessons and when they are away from direct adult support. (DFE Monitoring Visit 2017)

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