

A programme of exciting opportunities for students with learning difficulties and/or disabilities has been creatively put together to enable students to be challenged to reach their full potential.

Students enrol on an individually tailored programme and are supported to work towards a wide range of qualifications and to develop vocational and life skills.

Pathways has a great team of staff committed to supporting students all through their College career. We have a

dedicated work placement team which actively seeks opportunities for students to enter the workforce. Additionally, we have a coffee shop, which incorporates a floristry and retail shop. Refreshments, flowers, stationery and gifts are sold within the College, providing valuable work experience in retail, floristry and catering for students.

Positive links have been developed through the Social Services, Health Services and the voluntary sector in order to provide the best care for those who

attend the College. Pathways can also support students who are not yet ready to undertake a complete foundation award.

The Pathways team is enthusiastic about the great opportunities it has to offer students.

Looking forward to seeing you soon!

## 15001 08 Pathways

### Course Duration

Individually tailored for student.

### Course Content

Each student will follow a programme tailored to meet individual needs. A wide range of options enables students to work towards their full potential. A mandatory element of Skills for Life (ie: communication, literacy and numeracy) underpins all Pathways programmes and students can develop additional vocational and life skills.

The vocational opportunities offered to students include:

- Animal Care
- Voluntary Work in the Environment
- Catering
- Floristry
- Health and Beauty
- Childcare

- Information Technology
- Motor Vehicle
- Performing Arts
- Retail
- Sport and Recreation.

Qualification opportunities include:

- Skills for Working Life
- Life Skills Certificate
- Basic Food Hygiene Certificate
- CACHE Entry Level Certificate in Childcare
- ESB Certificate in Basic Oral Skills.

Students are assessed on their progress throughout the year. Some qualifications may include tests, but most are based on continuous assessment, so students work on portfolios to provide evidence of skills gained.

### Study Centre

Main Site, Kingsway, Dunstable.

### After the course is finished

Students will be given support in planning their next steps. Many continue to a second or third year, undertaking further courses from the selection described. Some progress to Foundation or Level 1 studies that feature elsewhere in this guide. Others enter sheltered employment or training programmes. Some progress straight into work.



## 23401 08 BTEC Diploma in Public Services

Level 1

This course gives a good introduction to Public Services. It is suited to learners interested in a career in the public services such as the Police Service, Fire Service and Armed Forces.

### Course Duration

One year

### Course Content

There are six Core Units:

- The Uniformed and Non-Uniformed Public Services Sector
- Introduction to Fitness and Lifestyle for working in the Public Services
- Personal Effectiveness for the Public Services
- Social responsibility and the Value of the Citizen

- Introduction to Health and Safety
  - Diversity and the Public Services
- Four Specialist Units are studied including:
- Practical Teamwork
  - Dealing with the Public
  - Application and Use of ICT.

Learners can expect a full, practical programme including study visits and visits to service establishments as well as visiting speakers and outdoor activities.

### Key Skills

All students aged 16-18 are required to complete the three Key Skills Units in Communication, Application of Number and Information Technology.

### Qualifications/experience needed to join the course

Learners need no formal qualifications but a good reference is expected as is a strong interest in Public Service work. Learners will be interviewed before acceptance on the course.

### Study Centre

Main Site, Kingsway, Dunstable

### After the course is finished

Learners, particularly those gaining a Merit or Distinction, can progress onto the BTEC First Diploma in Public Services Level 2. Employment in HM Forces, the Police, Fire and Ambulance Services, the Prison Service and HM Coastguard is also possible.

## 23402 08 BTEC First Diploma in Public Services

Level 2

This course gives learners an insight into the work of the uniformed public services, as well as preparing them both mentally and physically for their chosen career. The staff team has unparalleled experience of working across a wide spectrum of public services.

### Course Duration

One year

### Course Content

Core Units:

- Uniformed Public Service Employment
- Public Service Skills
- Uniformed Public Service Fitness.

Three Specialist Units are studied from the following:

- Citizenship, the Individual and Society
- Law and its Impact on the Individual
- Adventurous Activities and Teamwork
- Sport and Recreation.

Learners can expect a full, practical programme including study visits and visits to service establishments as well as visiting speakers and outdoor activities.

### Key Skills

All students aged 16-18 are required to complete the three Key Skills Units in Communication, Application of Number and Information Technology.

### Qualifications/experience needed to join the course

Learners need four GCSE passes at Grades A-G. A Grade C in English is desirable. Learners will be interviewed before acceptance on the course.

### Study Centre

Main Site, Kingsway, Dunstable.

### After the course is finished

Learners, particularly those gaining a Merit or Distinction, can progress on to the National Diploma in Public Services. Direct entry into public service employment is possible as is further study on other courses at Level 3.

**88% pass rate in 2006/07**

## 23403 08 BTEC National Diploma in Public Services

Level 3

This course is suitable for anyone hoping for a career in the Public Services including Police, Fire, Ambulance, Prison and Security Services, Armed Forces, HM Customs and Community Service organisations or any other emergency service related organisation. The qualification is the equivalent to three A Levels which can lead into employment or higher education.

### Course Duration

Two years

### Course Content

There are six Core Units:

- Government, Policies and the Public Services
- Team Leadership in the Public Services
- Citizenship, Contemporary Society and the Public Services

- Team Development in the Public Services
  - Understanding Discipline within the Uniformed Public Services
  - Diversity and the Public Services.
- Twelve Specialist Units are studied including:
- Physical Preparation and Fitness
  - International Perspectives
  - Outdoor and Adventurous Activities
  - Understanding the Criminal Justice System and Police Powers.

Learners can expect a full, practical programme including study visits and visits to service establishments as well as visiting speakers and outdoor activities.

### Key Skills

All students aged 16-18 are required to complete the three Key Skills Units in

Communication, Application of Number and Information Technology.

### Qualifications/experience needed to join the course

Learners need four GCSE passes at Grades A-C or an equivalent qualification. A Grade C in English is desirable. Learners will be interviewed before acceptance on the course.

### After the course is finished

Learners, particularly those gaining a Merit or Distinction, can progress onto Higher Education. Employment in HM Forces, the Police, Fire and Ambulance Services, the Prison Service and HM Coastguard is also possible.

**85% pass rate in 2006/07**