



PROSPECTUS 2022



EXPLORE • LEARN • SHINE

PORTLAND COLLEGE
PROSPECTUS
2022

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PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME



Welcome to Portland College, a wonderful place where we believe all people with disabilities should have a lifetime of opportunity.

Our key focus is that everyone who comes to Portland will feel safe and have the right support to enhance their mental and physical health.

Everyone at Portland has different goals. Yours may be around learning new things, making friends and developing social skills, gaining work experience and employability skills or improving your independence so you can get a home of your own.

We tailor our education and care programmes to help you achieve your goals, your way.

The Portland experience provides a new dimension for so many of our young people. You can try out abseiling in our wheelchair accessible Woodland Adventure Zone, you might dream of performing on stage in our brand-new theatre, or you could go all the way, playing a sport to represent your country.

It's all here at Portland and did I mention we have donkeys (and much more besides)?

Portland is a very special, happy place where truly wonderful things happen every day, and I and the rest of the team love working here. But, don't just take my word for it, come and see for yourself.

Dr Mark Dale
Principal and CEO

YOUR PROVIDER OF CHOICE

Portland has a long history of supporting people with disabilities to develop their communication, independence and employability skills.

We are continually developing our offer and services to ensure we are your provider of choice.



CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR AUTISM



As a Centre of Excellence for Autism, we are proud to hold Advanced Accreditation from the National Autistic Society, their highest accolade possible.

We get to know each one of our learners individually, we understand and support their specific needs and help them work towards their goals.

In partnership with learners and their families, we create a fully tailored programme and wraparound support, giving everyone the chance to really shine.

“THROUGH A MULTI-DISCIPLINARY APPROACH, PORTLAND’S COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENTS ENSURE THAT LEARNERS HAVE BOTH THEIR ASPIRATIONS AND NEEDS MET.”

National Autistic Society

LEARNING AT PORTLAND

Portland is a happy and safe place where you will make lots of friends and really fit in.

All our learners have different needs and interests. Your education and support programme will be designed especially for you, and will normally last for at least one year.

“I CAN'T THANK YOU AND THE TEAM ENOUGH FOR PULLING OUT ALL THE STOPS TO LOOK AFTER RYAN. I KNOW MY PRECIOUS BOY IS IN SAFE HANDS.”

Parent of learner



**“YOU HAVE SET THE BAR HIGH,
WE CAN’T WAIT TO SEE WHAT
ELSE SHELBY WILL ACHIEVE
AT PORTLAND.”**

Parent of learner



YOUR PORTLAND JOURNEY STARTS HERE

GO

GETTING STARTED

THINKING OF JOINING?

- Campus Tour
- Virtual Open Day

LIKE WHAT YOU SEE?

- Apply

EMPLOYABILITY OPTIONS INCLUDE:

**EMPLOYABILITY
SKILLS**

**WORK
EXPERIENCE**

**SUPPORTED
INTERNSHIP**

Leading to voluntary or paid employment

YOUR S

YOU MIGHT A THESE TEAMS:

- Information,
- Speech & La
- Assistive & C
- Occupation
- Positive Beha
- Physiotherap

LEARN INDEPENDENTLY

**COMPLETE YOUR
PROGRAMME**
(1 or 2 years)

NEXT STEPS

HEALTH & WELL-BEING

- ENRICHMENT
- DUKE OF EDINBURGH
- NATIONAL CITIZEN SERVICE
- WOODLAND ADVENTURE ZONE



CHOOSE

- Residential Learning or
- Day Learning (depending on where you are from in the country)

GETTING YOUR PLACE

We'll complete an assessment and send an offer

YOUR TAILORED PROGRAMME

CHOOSE YOUR STUDY PROGRAMME

- Land-based & Trades or
- Design, Technology & Retail or
- Service & Leisure
- + Maths & English

SPECIALIST SUPPORT

YOU ALSO NEED SUPPORT FROM

Advice, Guidance & Transition
Language Therapy
Communication Technology
Mental Health Therapy
Behaviour Support
by

YOUR PROGRESSION
TUTOR WILL HELP YOU
ACHIEVE YOUR GOALS

YOU'LL WORK
TOWARDS
QUALIFICATIONS
OR AIMS AWARDS

INDEPENDENCE SKILLS

CHOOSE

- Day Service
- Progress with Portland
- Further Education
- Portland Pathways
- Independent Living
- Employment

**YOUR
EXCITING
FUTURE!**



STUDY PROGRAMMES & QUALIFICATIONS

Our Study Programmes can give you the skills, confidence and experience to find a job in your chosen industry.

You can work towards an accredited qualification and will have the chance to do work experience to help you decide what you want to do in the future. Your Study Programme will also include Functional Skills Maths, English and ICT.

STUDY PROGRAMMES

1

Land Based and Trade

- Horticulture
- Small Animal Care
- Construction Trades

2

Design Technology and Retail

- Business Studies, Retail and Administration
- Art, Media and Marketing
- Performing Arts and Dance
- Customer Service

3

Service and Leisure

- Sport and Leisure
- Hospitality and Catering
- Care Services
- Salon Services

LEARNERS CAN CHOOSE FROM THE FOLLOWING QUALIFICATIONS:

PERSONAL

Level	Qualification Title	Type
Entry 1 - Entry 2	AIM Qualifications in Personal Progress	Award, Certificate or Diploma
Entry 1 - Entry 2	AIM Qualifications in Personal and Social Development Skills	Award, Extended Award, Certificate or Diploma
Entry 2	AIM Qualifications in Personal Potential	Award
Entry 3 - Level 2	AIM Qualifications in Employability Skills	Award, Extended Award, Certificate or Diploma

VOCATIONAL

Level	Qualification Title	Type
Entry 3 - Level 2	AIM Qualifications in Skills for Working in Animal Care Industries	Award, Extended Award, Certificate or Diploma
Entry 3 - Level 2	AIM Qualifications in Skills for Working in Business, Administration and Customer Service Industries	Award, Extended Award, Certificate or Diploma
Entry 3 - Level 2	AIM Qualifications in Skills for Working in Catering and Hospitality Industries	Award, Extended Award, Certificate or Diploma
Entry 3 - Level 2	AIM Qualifications in Skills for Working in Construction and Building Industries	Award, Extended Award, Certificate or Diploma
Entry 3 - Level 2	AIM Qualifications in Skills for Working in Creative and Design Industries	Award, Extended Award, Certificate or Diploma
Entry 3 - Level 2	AIM Qualifications in Skills for Working in Child Care Industries	Award, Extended Award, Certificate or Diploma
Entry 3 - Level 2	AIM Qualifications in Skills for Working in Hair and Beauty Industries	Award, Extended Award, Certificate or Diploma
Entry 3 - Level 2	AIM Qualifications in Skills for Working in Horticulture Industries	Award, Extended Award, Certificate or Diploma
Entry 1 - Level 2	City and Guilds Functional Skills in English	Award
Entry 1 - Level 2	City and Guilds Functional Skills in Maths	Award
Entry 1 - Level 2	City and Guilds Functional Skills in ICT	Award
GCSE	Maths	Award
GCSE	English	Award
Level 1 - Level 3	Sports Leadership	Award
Bronze - Silver	Duke of Edinburgh	Award

* Subject to change

OTHER
QUALIFICATIONS
MAY BE AVAILABLE
DEPENDENT ON
YOUR NEEDS

RESIDENTIAL LEARNING

If you would like to live at Portland while you're a learner, our Residential Learning Service is a great option. You'll make lots of friends and can develop your independence and social skills.

Our full-time residential option provides high quality support up to 7 days a week, 38 weeks or 52 weeks of the year.

You will have your own modern, fully-furnished en-suite bedroom and can access shared social spaces in our accommodation hub.

We have an enrichment programme so you can take part in activities on and off campus too.



SAFEGUARDING AGAINST COVID

Throughout the pandemic our top priority continues to be the safety and well-being of our learners and staff.

We continue with regular testing and daily screening for staff and learners, and in partnership with the Abbey Medical Group, have provided vaccination and booster clinics on campus for learners and staff.

At the start of the lockdown in 2020, we successfully delivered remote education for those shielding or self-isolating. We transformed our campus into one-way systems with bubbles and staggered timetables to manage numbers on site.

While campus operations have largely returned to normal, we continue to follow Government guidelines and we are very well equipped to respond quickly and safely to the ever-changing environment.



**“THANK YOU TO ALL STAFF AT
PORTLAND FOR THEIR HANDLING
OF THE CORONAVIRUS IN KEEPING
THE COLLEGE OPEN AND SAFE.”**

Parent of a learner

EMPLOYABILITY

If you want to find a job after Portland, we will help you develop lots of skills and experiences to help you prepare for the world of work.

Our Information, Advice, Guidance and Transition (IAGT) team deliver events throughout the year, including 'Meet the Employer', 'Application Day' and 'Interview Day'.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Work experience is a great way to learn what it's like to work in different industries.

We will talk to you about your work interests and goals and help you to find suitable work experience placements close to your home. You can do up to three work experience placements over the year, each lasting up to six weeks.

We also offer work experience opportunities at Portland College, including reception and administration, the Coffee Shop and other areas across the campus.



SUPPORTED INTERNSHIPS

You might choose a Supported Internship instead of Work Experience. This option allows you to develop your employability skills in a work-based setting over the course of the College year.

During your Supported Internship, you will complete two or three days a week working within a company, and a day at college learning new skills and developing your English and maths.

Supported Internships can often lead to paid employment at the end of your placement.

CASE STUDY

Following a Supported Internship for learners Daniel and Isaac, and an extended work placement for learner Willow, all three were successful in obtaining part time paid employment with Matrix Properties.

Daniel, Isaac and Willow showed such commitment to their placements and to the employers, always striving to do their best and completing tasks to their full potential.

Alex from Matrix said; "We have recruited 5 Portland students over the past 3 years. Working with Portland has proven to be a successful recruitment programme for us, year on year. We look forward to continuing the relationship into the forthcoming academic years and are really excited to officially welcome Daniel, Isaac and Willow to the team."



**SOME OF OUR
EMPLOYERS:**



YOUR INDEPENDENCE

We want you to leave Portland College with as much independence as you possibly can. As part of your programme, your Progression Tutor will help you develop your skills in areas such as:

- **Personal Safety** - Teaching you what to do if you need help
- **Road Safety** - Helping you stay safe at the roadside
- **Travel Training** - Giving you the confidence to access public transport yourself
- **Money Skills** - So you can manage financial activities such as making payments, receiving change and budgeting
- **Social Skills** - Helping you feel more comfortable and involved in social situations
- **Concept of Time** - Teaching you how to understand the time and to manage your schedule
- **Independent Living Skills** - Teaching you how to carry out domestic tasks such as cooking, cleaning and managing bills so you can live more independently

Our specialist team will work with you to focus on the key areas that you need the most support with.

“THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING YOU HAVE DONE FOR LOIS AND MAKING HER TIME WITH YOU WONDERFUL.”

Parent of learner



LIFE AFTER PORTLAND

Our Study Programmes are designed to provide you with the skills, experience and confidence to build an exciting future.

Our Information, Advice, Guidance and Transition (IAGT) team will work with you to plan the next step of your journey, ensuring you're aware of every opportunity open to you.

If you're not quite ready to enter the world of work, you can apply to join our Progress with Portland learner journey.



PROGRESS WITH PORTLAND

Our Progress with Portland learner journey can support you to develop your confidence, skills and experience further to help you transition smoothly into the workplace.

The programme will last for a minimum of one academic year and will focus on core independence skills and work experience in your chosen industry.

Maths and English is also embedded into your programme.

To apply to join the programme, you will need to cease your Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) and be prepared to make your own transport arrangements to and from college as transport support cannot be provided for this option.

100%

...of Progress learners passed qualifications in employability.

...of Progress learners rated their time on programme as good or very good.

PORTLAND FREEDOM

We provide a variety of accommodation based support for individuals with a range of support needs including: physical disabilities, learning disabilities and autism.

For more information call **01623 499111**
or email **college@portland.ac.uk**

“I WANT TO BE ABLE TO LIVE IN
MY OWN HOME IN THE FUTURE”

Independent Living Resident



INDEPENDENT LIVING

This residential service is for people aged 16-65 who need to develop independence skills before they can move into community or supported living.



SHORT BREAKS

Short breaks provide a residential respite service for people aged 16-65. A typical stay ranges from three nights to two weeks.



DAY SERVICE

Based on campus and in community hubs locally, Day Service is available from Monday to Friday for people aged 16+.



SPECIALIST SUPPORT

SPEECH AND LANGUAGE THERAPY (SLT)

Our Speech and Language Therapy team support learners with communication needs, including:

- Improving understanding of spoken language.
- Providing an effective means of communication to express their needs and make choices through speech, signing, symbols or use of communication aid devices.
- Understanding and learning about social communication skills.

ASSISTIVE AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY TEAM (ACT)

The ACT team supports learners to be as independent as possible and achieve their outcomes using a range of technology, ensuring learners can take an active role in their sessions and the wider community.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY (OT)

Our Occupational Therapy team focuses on increasing learners' independence, functional skills and engagement with education.

They deliver 1:1 and group sessions, alongside the provision of specialist equipment, a sensory modulation service and input into a curriculum designed to develop self-regulation and emotional control.





POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT (PBS)

We take a positive and person-centred approach to understanding and supporting the behaviours of our learners.

Each learner has a PBS plan in place where needed, which allows us to provide supportive environments and techniques to enhance learners' experience and opportunities.

PHYSIOTHERAPY

Some learners have physiotherapy to enable them to access their education programmes. Our tailored physiotherapy programmes are based around individual needs and are designed to help learners be the best they can be physically.

NURSING ADVICE SUPPORT

We provide a non-clinical nursing advice service which supports learners with medical needs to access or receive support from community health services.

OUR FACILITIES

Set in the heart of Sherwood Forest, our 32-acre campus provides first-class facilities so you can thrive in a safe and inspiring environment.

Designed to industry standards, our facilities aim to give you the best learning experience.

You can develop your creative flair in our Art Zone, learn a range of land-based skills on our farm, or prepare for a future in hospitality and catering in our brand-new Coffee Shop.

You might want to build on your construction skills in our new Construction Trades Centre, or learn hair and beauty techniques in the salon. You can become an experienced sportsperson or develop your confidence on stage in our newly developed Newstart Theatre and Sports Hall.

Whichever path you choose, our facilities will help you gain the skills and experience to progress into employment in your chosen area.



NEW FOR 2022!

We are excited to be expanding our trades centre to include a state-of-the-art Construction Trades Centre. Find out more on page 25.



NEW DEVELOPMENTS!

2021 was a busy year for new developments. Here are just a few of the things we've been up to recently:

NEWSTART

Thanks to a huge fundraising campaign, we have transformed the Newstart Hall into a vibrant, modern facility that will enable more people with disabilities to access sports and art programmes.

As well as a modern, accessible theatre and state-of-the-art sports hall with LED flooring, it includes a brand-new Coffee Shop which opened to the public in February 2022.

Newstart Theatre



CONSTRUCTION TRADES CENTRE

The old leisure centre has been transformed into a new Construction Trades Centre. Learners will have the opportunity to study towards basic joinery, plumbing, bricklaying and painting & DIY qualifications.



CITY LEARNING

From September 2022, we are launching two new programmes in Nottingham City.

Our Land-based Industries programme will be based at Wollaton Park and our Employability programme will be at Antenna.

If you live in Nottingham, one of these programmes may be perfect for you. To find out more contact us on **01623 499111** or visit our website.





YOUR FULLY ACCESSIBLE FOREST ADVENTURE

TRIPLE
AWARD
WINNING



Did you know, as a Portland learner, you'll have free access to our very own Woodland Adventure Zone?

This new forest adventure is the perfect place for you to take part in a range of exciting outdoor activities.

Purpose-built within the grounds of Portland College, the Woodland Adventure Zone is accessible to wheelchair users and people with disabilities, ensuring everyone has the opportunity to experience their own woodland adventure.

**We're open for public bookings too!
Book your adventure...**

T: 01623 499159 E: contact@woodlandadventurezone.com

W: www.woodlandadventurezone.com

Follow us on  [@woodlandadventurezone](https://www.facebook.com/woodlandadventurezone)

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH...



- Climbing Wall
- Abseiling
- Gravity Drop
- Bushcraft
- Gravity Trail
- Play Areas
- Woodland Walk
- Zipline



SAFE & EQUAL

KEEPING OUR LEARNERS SAFE

Living a life that is free from harm and abuse is a fundamental right for every person. The impact of Covid-19 has meant that we reviewed our safeguarding policies and procedures to ensure everyone remains safe whether onsite or working remotely.

Here at Portland, all staff, Governors and volunteers are committed to improving the safety and well-being of our learners and citizens.

We also ensure learners and citizens are kept safe online through a range of protective measures.

Our dedicated Safeguarding Team provide support across all areas of the College and are available at any time to deal with safeguarding concerns. We promote a clear process which makes it easy for learners, citizens and staff to raise any safeguarding concerns with the team.



PREVENT DUTY

Prevent is a strand of the Government's Counter Terrorism Strategy. As a college, we help prevent young people from being exposed to radicalisation by upholding and promoting the Fundamental British Values:

- **Democracy**
- **The rule of law**
- **Individual liberty**
- **Mutual respect**
- **Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs**

Our partnership arrangement with the East Midlands Regional Prevent Network provides us with the opportunity to be informed on national and regional updates which defines and makes our safeguarding practice more effective.



EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

We support equality of opportunity, promotion and celebration of diversity and inclusion. We provide a welcoming and inclusive environment where everyone is respected and valued.



START YOUR PORTLAND JOURNEY

Once you've decided that Portland College is the perfect place for you, your next step is to fill out an application form and send it to our Admissions Team with a copy of your most recent Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)

To help you make your decision you can attend a Virtual Open Day or arrange for a personal tour of the campus.

You can contact our Admissions Team who will answer any questions you might have.

When we receive your application form we will invite you to an assessment where we will assess your requirements to make sure we can meet your needs and then we'll tailor a programme to suit you and your interests.



APPLY TODAY

Join us in four easy steps:

1 VISIT US

You can book an individual tour or attend a virtual open day.

2 APPLY

Fill in your application and send it to us with a copy of your most recent Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) and other relevant documentation in support of your application.

3 ASSESSMENT

Once you've applied, we will arrange for an assessment to take place at Portland College. We can arrange external assessments first if this is appropriate.

4 OFFER

Following initial assessment, if we are able to offer a placement, we will send a conditional offer. All placements are subject to funding being agreed from the applicant's Local Authority.

For more information contact our Admissions Team on **01623 499197**





Portland College

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