

Croydon's Pathway to Independence Learning for Life Programme



What is the Croydon Pathway's Programme?

Croydon Pathway's is a specialist provision based at The Pathway Centre at Croydon College's Coulsdon Campus and Waddon Youth Centre with a social community element included as part of the programme.

It is designed to be the bridge from education into adult life. Each young person has an individualised curriculum which focuses on their interests and needs.

At the Pathway Centre the focus is on developing vocational skills, including numeracy and literacy, arts and music. Where suitable, the course offers opportunities for mainstream integration with a focus on social interaction and development of life skills.

Students follow an 'Into Work' or 'Lifeskills' programme. The core aim of both programmes is to prepare students for adulthood. The Life skills programme is tailored to give students opportunities to develop their independent living skills, social skills and community skills. The Into Work programme gives students opportunities to develop their independence, community and social skills, and skills for the world of work.

At Waddon Youth Centre the focus is on social and life skills development. There is also provision for taking part in supported activities in the local community, such as swimming and supported work placements.

“ Good things are happening, the energy and enthusiasm have given us a glimpse of possibilities that previously we would not have considered. ”

**Parent
2019**

“ I love, love, love Waddon and the staff. My daughter absolutely loves it and if she's happy then of course I'm happy. She has come on in leaps and bounds, very confident and learning new skills every day. The staff are excellent, they show a huge respect and care for all the students and go above and beyond their responsibilities. ”

**Parent
2020**



Who can attend?

Croydon Pathway's is for young adults with complex and severe difficulties. This may include young people who have significant learning difficulties, autism, health and medical needs, physical difficulties including visual and hearing impairments, and associated behaviours resulting from these needs. There is no specific entry criteria; each candidate is considered on their individual needs identified in their Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

How long is the course?

Students will usually access the programme for 1 or 2 academic years. They will retain their EHCP and the annual review will be used to discuss when the young person has met their outcomes and is ready to transition on to adult life beyond education.

What happens when a young person completes their course?

The main focus of Pathway's is to plan for adult life. When a young person is ready to move on to adult living there is a joined up approach between the young people, their carers, the team at the Pathway Centre, Waddon and social care, plus other professionals who may be involved. Young People will undergo a social care transitions assessment to start planning early for their transition to adult life. This will mean considering long term hopes and aspirations which may include living arrangement and work options. When a young person leaves the programme at the end of the academic year (July) there will be a transition plan in place for them to ensure they have the best chance of a fulfilled and happy adult life.

Staffing of the programme

The team at the Pathway Centre is headed up by an experienced and skilled leader who has worked with young people with special educational needs for many years. The teachers have all undertaken specialist training to work with students who have complex needs. In addition, each of the class groups have learning support staff. All young people will be part of a small and nurturing group, some young people will require 1:1 support. The Coulsdon campus also benefits from support provided by a speech and language therapist and occupational therapist, implemented as part of the daily curriculum.

The Team at Waddon Youth Centre is led by an experienced youth worker who has managed the provision for many years. His skillset is working with young people with complex needs and the excellent provision focuses on the development of life skills and social interaction. The centre is supported by a number of youth workers who have received specialist training.

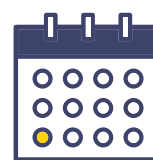
Staff are skilled in communicating using augmentative and alternative communication techniques. Croydon Sensory Support Service also offers specialist teaching support for the young people who have hearing or vision needs. Specialist teachers will provide advice and support to the wider Pathway's team to ensure the best resources are in place for these students.



“ All those doubts have completely dissolved, within the space of a short time. Her progress is evident, not only to us but also to others, her vocabulary has improved enormously. ”

Parent
2020

WHAT IS IT LIKE?



The course starts in September



College is from 9am – 3pm



Enjoy your lunch at College



There will be about 6 people in the group

WHAT SHOULD YOU BRING TO COLLEGE?



Freedom pass for travel



Appropriate clothes (and spare clothes if needed)



Our communication book/planner



Money for cookery and if going out



Any emergency medication or support items for eating, drinking or personal care

WHAT MIGHT A WEEKLY TIMETABLE LOOK LIKE?

MONDAY AT THE PATHWAY CENTRE

Literacy, numeracy, ICT

TUESDAY AT WADDON YOUTH CENTRE

Sports and cooking

WEDNESDAY AT WADDON YOUTH CENTRE

Gardening

THURSDAY IN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

Social care package - swimming and shopping

FRIDAY AT THE PATHWAY CENTRE

Independent living skills

THE PATHWAY CENTRE

Coulsdon Sixth Form College
Placehouse Lane
Old Coulsdon
CR5 1YA

For more information
please contact us on
01737 551176 x 109

WADDON YOUTH CENTRE

85 Waddon Way
Croydon
CR0 4HY

For more information
please contact Paul Funnell
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A programme delivered in partnership with