

Who are we

Safe Opportunities offer a range of work related learning opportunities to young people requiring additional support. We are based in Crewe but work across Cheshire with a wide range of employers across various settings. We have been established for 6 years now and work with over 20 schools and local authority departments.

Our team of experienced Co-ordinators work with the students to help them learn and develop skills while supporting their exploration of the world of work. Our team are trained in Safeguarding, Health and Safety, Aim Award delivery and understanding SEN.

The Step16 programme

The Step16 programme is a new one year intervention programme designed to help young people with an EHC plan progress from their last year in school onto a college place, supported internship or paid work.

Many young people with an EHC plan leave school not yet ready for a college place and don't feel ready to move on to a supported internship which would mean moving into their final year of education. They may need a little more time to explore ideas, get used to the next stage in their journey and time to transition to the next stage in their development.

The Step 16 programme allows young people the chance to develop skills, explore options and build confidence, while also understanding the world around them outside of education. The programme allows young people to further develop their key skills qualifications alongside a supportive work placement and to build evidence towards accredited Aim Award qualifications.

Key Skills Tutoring

Students will typically work on English and Maths core subjects for a minimum of 2 hours each per week, the subjects taught will be as functional as possible and will reflect the skills needed for the students chosen or potential occupational work area.

Work Placement Opportunities

Students will be supported to access a work placement for up to 3 days a week, this can start on a minimum of 2 hours per week initially to allow for progression. All our employers are hand picked and our team invest a lot of time in supporting employers to be able to offer meaningful work placements for our young people. All our opportunities are risk assessed and monitored to ensure young people are safe and well supported at work.

Aim Award Accredited Qualifications

All students on the programme will have the chance to work through our suite of accredited Aim Award qualifications and build evidence of skills learned in the workplace. Students will be able to use our online portal to log in and complete work with the support of their Safe Opportunities Co-ordinator.

Timetables and Planning

The programme runs alongside the Cheshire East academic year. Student's timetables are planned individually and realistically to fit around the student's own abilities and experiences but always allowing for progression.

Some small group sessions will be held at a local venue to allow students to develop friendships and work with others on the programme; other students may choose to work at home logging in to the portal and interacting with the Tutors via email or video link.

For any further information or questions please can you contact-

Helen Pullan 07415245537 or email helenpullan@safeopportunities.co.uk.