



Thurrock Preparing for Adulthood Education and Skills Plan

Our vision is to provide outstanding career and learning opportunities to enable all young people with SEND to become the best possible versions of themselves.

Our mission is to make a **positive difference** to Thurrock young people and their communities...

- providing high quality, inclusive, lifelong learning and skills
- inspiring, challenging & empowering people to achieve
- creating a safe and welcoming environment
- supporting learners to lead healthy, fulfilling personal and professional lives.

We will achieve this through four main objectives:

Employment

Develop skills and inspiration to progress into apprenticeships, internships, volunteering and paid employment (with or without job coaches)

Independent Living

Develop skills to be as independent as possible (housing, travel, budgeting), to have choice and control

Community Inclusion

Develop skills to successfully live and participate in the local community and contribute to it

Health

Develop skills to live healthy lives, physical, mental and emotional

We will work together to achieve the following Priorities:

Focus on the Voice of the young people

To enhance our service based on feedback from young people

Develop world-class Post 16 provision

To aspire for our Post 16 provision to be exciting and world class

Ensure all EHC plans are high quality

To provide our young people with an aspirational tool for success

Deliver excellent support during transition points

To inspire our young people to aspire for success

Develop a robust supported internship and apprenticeship offer

To upskill and take advantage of the fantastic regeneration opportunities in the borough.

Thurrock Council Vision and Priorities



What does Thurrock look like:

SEND Landscape in Thurrock.

- Approximately 400 young people with SEND.
- 24% autism, 23% moderate learning difficulty, 18% speech and language difficulty.
- 6.2% NEET.
- 11 Apprenticeships, 16 supported internships in 2019/20
- 2 Special schools, 14 secondary schools, 3 6th Forms, 3 colleges, 3 resource bases.
- An outstanding Specialist Autism Programme (TACT) transforms lives of young people.
- Independent Parent Carer Forum (CaPa), Information, Advice and Support Service (PATT)

What is working well in Thurrock?

- Additional capacity was put in place enabling delivery of Career interviews in Year 11 upwards, extending to Year 9s in September 2020.
- A focus on apprenticeships/supported internships has been implemented with advisers having extensive conversations with students.
- Innovation has been introduced into the MINT provision with Thurrock Adult Community College (TACC) in response to Ofsted findings to introduce an innovative programme at Grangewaters .
- Quality assurance of Post-16 training providers and EHCPs has been initialised.
- Case studies for Post-16 young people have been collated to understand our strengths.

Our Principles are underpinned by:

- **The Human Rights Act 1998** gives effect to the human right to education.
- **Children and Families Act 2014** reformed the way support is given to children and young people with special educational needs in England.
- **Care Act 2014** entitles a young person to a Needs Assessment to help them plan for their future, if they are likely to have needs once they turn 18.
- **Mental Capacity Act 2005** explores the ability to make decisions, unless it is proven otherwise.
- **SEND Code of Practice 2015** provides guidance on statutory duties.

• What are our challenges?

- Increasing demand is placing pressures on Post-16 budgets.
- Take up of SEND apprenticeships is extremely low, even within the Council.
- Not all Post-16 SEND provision is of high quality nor outstanding, leading to young people saying they are bored.
- SEND young people face significant barriers to employment that are often not related to their medical needs, e.g. low aspirations, intergenerational worklessness, mental health.
- Pathways after Year 11 are not smooth enough and patchy in different educational settings impacting on career choices by the time child is in Year 11.

Priority:	What will success look like?	How will we measure success?
1. Focus on the voice of the young person	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The voice will be heard in forums, questionnaires, at interviews Young people will shape the provision through feedback, questionnaires, forums The Young person will have choice and control demonstrated in their EHC plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 90% and more of young people will be happy with the service received Provision commissioned meets the needs of young people happy with their course Plans are high quality and reflect young people's ambitions
2. Develop a good quality outstanding Post –16 provision working in partnership with our Post 16 providers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Innovative solutions for provision to be world-class, OFSTED rated Good or above Opportunities to have more activities, meet with employers Expand provision at Grangewaters based on feedback from young people All study programmes include developing independent skills, finance, communications, relationships Strong partnership with education providers; LA to challenge if poor practice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Young people’s feedback is positive about their provision Provision is aspirational, focusing on the Gatsby benchmarks Innovative programs at Grangewaters are inspirational as judged by young people Young people are prepared for the world of work and independent living All providers have a strong SEND Post 16 offer
3. Ensure all EHCPs are of high quality reflecting the voice of the young person	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Young people have a say in their EHC plans and will be present at reviews Shorter and timely EHC plans that give clear progression routes Young people are aware of their career choices which are aspirational 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Young people decide on their objectives and successfully manage transitions Young people are clear about their plans and have time to complete them successfully Young people have filled in vocational profiles, Distance travelled tool enhancing their plan
4. Ensure excellent support during transition.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning is young person led with excellent support at transition times Career advice is embedded into work streams as early as possible and no later than Year 9. Career interviews delivered from Year 9 Career Group work sessions to raise employer awareness, skills development Independent Travel training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Young people have a say in their plan and take responsibility for it Young people are supported at transition moments in their education and therefore make sound choices about their future Career advisers are able to raise aspirations Young people are aware of the fantastic employment opportunities in Thurrock Young people have access to travel training
5. Further develop a supported internship and apprenticeship offer that is reflective of our young people ambitions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All young people have high career aspirations Increased opportunities in Thurrock for internships, traineeships, apprenticeships, volunteering and work shadowing Employers are understanding of the benefits and support available when hiring a SEND young person 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEET SEND percentage to decrease by 50% to 3% by 2023 Double the number of young people in apprenticeships and internships by 2023 (22 apprenticeships and 32 supported internships) There are sufficient employment opportunities in Thurrock to fulfill ambitions of young people