

Relight your future in 2023 with Adult Education Wolverhampton



ADULT EDUCATION WOLVERHAMPTON

Information Guide

2023-2024

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CONNECT WITH US

For all of our latest news, events and updates, follow Adult Education Wolverhampton on **Facebook**, **Instagram**, **LinkedIn**, **Twitter** & **YouTube**.



VISIT OUR WEBSITE

Scan the **QR Code** below with your mobile device to visit our website. Find a course, view our latest news and events, and find out about the support we can offer you:



DEPUTY HEAD OF SERVICE WELCOME

Welcome to Adult Education Wolverhampton. Located in the heart of the city centre, we provide learning to adults across the city.

We aim to inspire the people of Wolverhampton with our high-quality courses. We want you to get the lifelong learning habit and reap the benefits that learning new skills brings.

Some courses are designed to help you get a job, become self-employed or get on at work. While others offer opportunities to improve your mental health and general wellbeing or improve your confidence online, become a volunteer, help your children with their school work or be more active in your community. With hundreds of courses on offer, we hope you'll find one that fits in with your personal goals and interests. We pride ourselves on our very personal and supportive approach, on excellent teaching and on being very focused to help you to progress and achieve success.

Anna Pace

WHY LEARN WITH ADULT EDUCATION WOLVERHAMPTON?

We are a high performing adult education service.

At our last full Ofsted inspection, the overall quality of our provision was rated as "Good" and "Outstanding" for personal development.

We receive very high ratings from our students for the quality of teaching, course satisfaction and being prepared for their next steps. 96% of our students would recommend us to their friends and family.



RELIGHT YOUR FUTURE

STUDENT SATISFACTION

1000s of students study with
Adult Education Wolverhampton each year

This is why you should join them

- you will be starting on the path towards the career of your dreams
- you will gain a valuable addition to your CV to help you get a job or help you to get a better job
- you will study in an adult environment with support from a dedicated student services team
- many students will be able to access financial support e.g., course fees, resources, travel, childcare, laptop loan
- all the teachers are experts in their subject, fully qualified and experienced
- we get excellent feedback from students
- all students will be given a FREE Microsoft Office 365 account



SUBJECTS ON OFFER

Access to Higher Education
& Pre-Access

Art, Crafts & Creative Media

British Sign Language (BSL) &
Deaf Awareness

Cake Decorating

Certificate in English
Language
Teaching (CELTA)

Childcare

Digital Skills

English

English for Speakers of Other
Languages (ESOL)

Family Learning

First Aid & Food Safety

Floristry

Get Learning in Your
Community

Health & Social Care

Like Minds
(activities for improving
mental health)

Life Skills
(for learning disabilities)

Maths

Office Management & Retail

Supported Employment
(including Supported
Internships)

Teaching Assistants

Volunteering



SCAN THE
QR CODE TO
VISIT OUR
WEBSITE

LEARN SKILLS FOR EVERYDAY LIFE

One of the best ways to open doors in life is to improve your core skills. Whether you want to learn for personal or professional reasons, we will have a course to suit you.

We are recognised for our expertise in English, Maths, ESOL & Digital Skills.

When you join us, you will be taking the first step to changing your life.

Our inspirational teachers are highly experienced and qualified to support you on an exciting learning journey.

BRITISH SIGN LANGUAGE (BSL)

DIGITAL SKILLS

ENGLISH

ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES (ESOL)

LIFE SKILLS

MATHS



BRITISH SIGN LANGUAGE (BSL)

You can study British Sign Language (BSL) as a complete beginner and have the opportunity to progress to national qualifications with us. The introductory course for beginners includes elements of deaf awareness and basic signing skills. If you already have some knowledge of British Sign Language or are a regular signer, you may be ready to join one of our higher-level classes leading to national qualifications at levels 1 and 2.

We now offer Signing for Wellbeing which is an informal course for those wishing to improve any aspect of their health and wellbeing by having a go at signing in a group.

If you are an employer or part of a community organisation, and would like us to run a bespoke deaf awareness session for you, please get in touch.

“Over the last 3 years the skills and confidence I have gained has enabled me to move away from factory work and start a new career working for Action Deafness. I have learnt a great deal, I am able to interact with my clients and I have learnt an invaluable amount about deaf awareness.”



CHARLOTTE COX
British Sign Language



LEARN SKILLS FOR EVERYDAY LIFE



DIGITAL SKILLS

Improving your Digital Skills will help you in everyday life and at work. If you want to get a job, get a promotion, go on to higher-level study or just connect with friends, local communities and the world around you then improving your Digital Skills is a great start.

We have courses available from beginners to Level 3.



ENGLISH

We have English classes for anyone who needs to start with the very first steps in reading and writing and for those who want to read, write and communicate better. You can work towards qualifications including Functional Skills English from Entry Level up to Level 2 and for English GCSE. If English is not your first language, you may need to join one of our ESOL classes (see English for Speakers of Other Languages).



“I had consciously avoided tackling the subject because of my fear of using a computer. I no longer shy away from using a computer. I can surf the internet for information, book a holiday, purchase car insurance and a whole lot of other time saving tasks.”

MARK HICKMAN

Digital Skills



STUDENT SERVICES

Find out more about how our Student Services team can help support your future on **page 19** or scan the QR code to find out more on our website.

LEARN SKILLS FOR EVERYDAY LIFE



ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES (ESOL)

If English isn't your first language and you want to improve your skills to help study, find work or manage everyday life more confidently, then ESOL is the course for you.

Our ESOL classes will give you the written and spoken skills you need to use English in your life in the UK and help you to achieve your aims and ambitions for the future.



LIFE SKILLS

Life Skills classes are ideal if you are an adult aged 19+ with a learning disability. The focus is on the preparation for adulthood, independent living and moving you closer to employment.

Practical activities could include cooking, arts & crafts, citizenship, English, maths and digital skills. Activities will focus on keeping yourself safe, healthy eating, travel planning, time management, being part of your community and improving your work ready skills.



"I work in a factory as a team leader and would like to develop my communication skills to enable a better working environment with a stronger more focused team. My future long-term goal is to run my own business."

NATALIA RUPERT – ESOL for Work



FIND A COURSE

Scan the QR Code, visit our website on www.aes.wolverhampton.gov.uk or call us on **01902 558180** to find out more about our courses.

LEARN SKILLS FOR EVERYDAY LIFE



MATHS

All our teachers are experts in their subject, they have many years' experience of teaching and will make maths fun and easy to understand. We offer courses from complete beginners to Level 2 and GCSE.

We are now also providing online Fast Track courses for students who have a secure maths background.

If you do not have a GCSE grade 9-4 (A*-C) in Maths your course will be free so you have nothing to lose.



"Having gained my GCSE has given me a massive confidence boost not only with maths but in everyday life."

RACHAEL HOLMES

GCSE Maths

"I am learning to cook, to use computers and I am improving my English and maths skills. Life skills classes are helping me gain the independence that will help me to look after myself in later life. I really like my classes at Adult Education."

ROBERT BLEWIT

Life Skills



STUDENT SERVICES

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LEARN SKILLS FOR WORK

Get a job, get a better job or start working for yourself. Whatever your reasons we have learning opportunities to suit you from getting the first step on the ladder to improving your prospects in your current role.

CERTIFICATE IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING TO ADULTS (CELTA)

SECTOR GATEWAYS

ESOL FOR WORK

ENGLISH, MATHS AND DIGITAL SKILLS FOR WORK

FIRST AID & FOOD SAFETY

MULTIPLY

SKILLS FOR SELF-EMPLOYMENT

SUPPORTED INTERNSHIPS AND SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMMES



COURSES FOR CAREERS

If you would like to work in a certain industry and want to develop the right skills, look no further. Delivered at Entry Level to Level 3 our courses will give you the practical skills and knowledge to work in the following areas:

- Art and Design
- Business
- Cake Decorating
- Childcare
- Floristry
- Health & Social Care
- Retail
- Sewing & Textiles
- Teaching Assistant

"I left my first year of study with so many new skills and invaluable work experience gained from a placement in a school. All of this enabled me to get a full time position as a one-to-one SEND teaching assistant in a primary school."



CHLOE EVANS

Supporting Teaching and Learning
Level 3



LEARN SKILLS FOR WORK



CERTIFICATE IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING TO ADULTS (CELTA)

CELTA is ideal if you would like a qualification to be able to teach English as a foreign language but have little or no teaching experience. It is the most widely recognised English language qualification in the world and the most often requested by employers.

SECTOR GATEWAYS

Short courses delivered over 5 days to help you learn the skills needed to work in specific industry's such as health & social care and retail. At the end of the week, you will be ready to take part in a guaranteed job interview.



ESOL FOR WORK

Do you want to work and English is your second language?

These courses will help you to learn the skills needed to prepare you for work while you continue to develop your language and communication skills.

Options for work areas include:

- Business
- Retail
- Health & Social Care
- Childcare
- Sewing & Textiles

“My confidence has grown. I used to be shy and was frightened to communicate. I feel very different now. Classes have helped me develop my skills for employment and for a better personal life.”

SUNITA HEER
ESOL Entry 3



LEARN SKILLS FOR WORK



FIRST AID AND FOOD SAFETY

Learn essential First Aid and Food Safety skills for everyday life and improve your employment prospects by ensuring you have work ready skills.



SKILLS FOR SELF-EMPLOYMENT

Do you have creative skills and dream of working for yourself? Our Setting up a Creative Business course will give you all the skills needed to make this a reality.



“I have learnt so much already. Maths has always been one of my least favourite subjects and I have always shied away from trying to achieve the qualification. In this short time I am already starting to understand some processes and can identify with the work my children are covering at school, which is absolutely great. I am getting a taste for learning and it is already given me ideas of what I’ll be able to do when I achieve my qualifications.”

KESHA WALKER SHELTON
Digital Skills



FIND A COURSE

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LEARN SKILLS



SUPPORTED INTERNSHIPS AND SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMMES

These employment preparation programmes are ideal if you have a learning disability and want to learn the skills to move towards a paid job. Take part in a 1-year programme with time spent between the classroom and a work placement. When it ends, you will have gained skills to help you get a paid job, move to further learning or a Supported Apprenticeship.

ENGLISH, MATHS AND DIGITAL SKILLS FOR WORK

If you are an employer and want to improve the skills of your workforce then look no further. We can create bespoke programmes including fast track online learning to suit your needs.



MULTIPLY – PLAN FOR THE PINCH

Grow your confidence in dealing with everyday money matters.

Part of our maths Multiply project these short courses will help you to manage the cost-of-living crisis. Subjects include, shopping smarter, fuel poverty, debt and health. The courses will support you to look at your own finances so that you can plan for the future and start to make savings. If you enjoy the courses you will be able to progress onto other maths courses.



STUDENT SERVICES

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LEARN SKILLS AT A HIGHER LEVEL

Do you want a career, not just a job? Come to AEW to study for a higher-level qualification and realise your dreams.

ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION DIPLOMA (LEVEL 3)

DIPLOMA SUPPORTING TEACHING & LEARNING (LEVEL 3)

CERTIFICATE IN IT USERS SKILLS (LEVEL 3)

DIPLOMA IN MANAGEMENT SKILLS & KNOWLEDGE (LEVEL 3)

DIPLOMA FOR THE EARLY YEARS WORKFORCE (LEVEL 3)

FLORISTRY (CREATIVE CRAFT LEVEL 3)

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE (LEVEL 3)



ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION DIPLOMA (LEVEL 3)

Fast track your way to university and this time next year you could be studying for a degree. Our Access to Higher Education pathways will give you the qualification and the study skills needed to be successful at university.

PATHWAYS INCLUDE:

Business & Law
Health Professionals
Social Science
Policing & Public Sector

CERTIFICATE IN IT USERS SKILLS (LEVEL 3)

Would you like to develop or build on your existing digital skills and knowledge to become an expert user of Microsoft Office applications? Join our year long course to enhance your employment opportunities or current career prospects. Topics include word processing, Excel spreadsheets, presentation software and databases.

DIPLOMA FOR THE EARLY YEARS WORKFORCE (LEVEL 3)

Learn the skills to become an early years educator. You will be able to work with children from birth to 5 years and gain knowledge of children aged 5 to 7. You will already have or need to find a placement in a school to start the course.



LEARN SKILLS AT A HIGHER LEVEL



FLORISTRY (CREATIVE CRAFT LEVEL 3)

Challenge yourself to develop and extend your creative passion with this advanced course. Learn more complex and analytical design skills while you learn about working with commercial clients.

DIPLOMA IN MANAGEMENT SKILLS & KNOWLEDGE (LEVEL 3)

Are you currently working as a supervisor or team leader and would like to further develop your management skills?

This year – long course is for you. You will develop skills in leading and managing people, building relationships and communication, operational and project management, finance and personal effectiveness.



SUPPORTING TEACHING & LEARNING IN SCHOOLS (LEVEL 3)

Do you want to work in a school as a Teaching Assistant or work at a higher level? We will give you the practical skills and knowledge to work with teachers in all aspects of specialist support, planning, delivery and reviewing assessment in the classroom. This is your chance to make a real difference to children's lives.

You will already have or need to find a placement in a school to start the course.

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE (LEVEL 3)

Learn the skills needed to access Higher Education or to work in a health & social care setting. You will need a placement to take part in this course.

“It’s amazing that within the space of 12 months I have gone from student to teacher in a field that supports other people to integrate into life in the UK and in Wolverhampton in particular.”

VALERIE JOBES
CELTA



LEARN FOR HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Learning new skills is an incredible way to enhance your quality of life. It provides you with an escape when you need it, knowledge when you seek it and a great and satisfying pastime. Improve your confidence, meet new people and look after your mental health and wellbeing.

GET LEARNING IN YOUR COMMUNITY

FAMILY LEARNING

LIKE MINDS

SIGNING FOR WELLBEING

DEAF AWARENESS

VOLUNTEERING



GET LEARNING IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Learn something fun, meet new people in your local area and learn together for a positive future.

Our short 6-week courses are free. Learning will take place in a library, in a strengthening family hub or community venue across Wolverhampton. There will be a course near you.

Courses include:

- Communicate Better
- Family Learning
- Get Creative
- It's Childs Play
- Language Skills for Work
- Making the Most of your Digital Device
- Plan for the Pinch – Multiply

If you are part of an existing community group, we are always looking for new partners to work with, just get in touch and we can provide a teacher and classes to suit your needs.



LEARN FOR HEALTH AND WELLBEING



FAMILY LEARNING

Be inspired to motivate your child, be ready to have fun and be amazed at what you can do.

These courses are for you and your family or friends, sometimes with or without your child.

Develop new skills and make new friends in a safe learning environment.

“I first joined Adult Education Wolverhampton’s Family Learning classes at my son’s school. My confidence has soared and I have been interpreting for fellow Romanians, helping them complete necessary applications and helping them to access public services. This led to me enrolling on a community interpreter course, which will help me to gain the necessary skills to better help the community.”

ELANA STAN
Family Learning



LIKE MINDS

Good mental health helps us to live well. This is having the ability to think, feel and act in a way that allows you to enjoy life and deal with the challenges life presents. Join an *award winning ‘Like Minds’ course and see how taking part in group activities can help improve your mental health, wellbeing and enjoyment of life as you join others in a similar situation.

Get a referral from your GP or healthcare professional to access this FREE course.

*WMCA Mental Health Star Award 2022

“Like Minds has given me my confidence back, it has allowed me to share my experiences with other students, who all have similar issues. It has given me the opportunity to become a creative crafter, I even have the ability and opportunity of starting my own upcycling business, I would never have contemplated this before Like Minds.”

DAWN CUNNINGHAM
Like Minds



LEARN FOR HEALTH AND WELLBEING



SIGNING FOR WELLBEING

Learning basic signing in a group can be therapeutic. Meet new people, reduce isolation, improve your confidence and learn how to empathise with those experiencing disability. Activities use hands face and body to communicate and learn to express yourself in a way that you might not otherwise.



VOLUNTEERING

Are you looking for a new opportunity, do you want to give back to your community or are you out of work and need to add experience to your CV? Then volunteering could be for you. Ask about opportunities to join our Parent Ambassador course and help to address the needs of families with low level English skills to communicate effectively with schools.



“I have a passion for education and wanted to work in this field. Volunteering allows me to support people in the community who will benefit from my experience and knowledge. The highlights for me are seeing people achieve something that they thought was impossible.”

MARILYN
Volunteering



FIND A COURSE

Scan the QR Code, visit our website on www.aes.wolverhampton.gov.uk or call us on **01902 558180** to find out more about our courses.

HOW TO ENROL

We are committed to ensuring our courses are as accessible as possible. We offer enrolment on many courses at different times throughout the year and also deliver courses at community locations across the city.

Give us a call on 01902 558180 or drop into the Foyer where we can advise you further.

It is always a good idea to enrol as early as you can. Some courses are popular and fill up quickly.

The earlier you enrol, the more likely you are to get a place on the course of your choice.

OPEN DAYS AND ENROLMENT EVENTS

We hold several information and enrolments events throughout the year. For specific dates and times for all of our events, visit our website.



Scan the QR code to visit our open day page



SUPPORT

FEES & FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Many of our students are eligible for FREE or DISCOUNTED courses. If you do not qualify for a free or discounted course, you will find our course fees are competitively priced and offer excellent value for money.

Find out more on our website, call us on 01902 558180 or email us on enquiries@aes.wolverhampton.gov.uk

OTHER FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The Student Services team will advise if you qualify for financial help. Subject to the availability of funds, we may be able to help you with the cost of:

- course fees
- exam fees
- travel to and from your course
- childcare to enable you to attend class
- equipment and resources needed for your course



SUPPORT INTO EMPLOYMENT

SUPPORT INTO EMPLOYMENT

It is important you get the right support at the right time to make important decisions about your future. We will provide the support you need from starting out in your career to reskilling and upskilling.

We will give you:

- the right information and support to achieve your personal goals
- up-to-date information about current jobs and future study
- the right guidance and advice at the right times for you
- the best chance of moving into work by connecting our courses with job opportunities
- the chance to meet employers to learn about the skills that you will need at work
- opportunities for work experience if applicable
- the information you need if you are thinking about future learning in colleges, universities or the workplace.
- opportunities to have guidance interviews with trained advisors to help you make the right career choices

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

Let us know if you have a learning difficulty, a disability, a health or mental health issue.

We can make reasonable adjustments to provide the learning support you need.

HELP ON OFFER INCLUDES:

- dyslexia assessment and support
- one-to-one support worker
- specialist equipment
- assistive technology
- support plan
- British Sign Language (BSL) signer
- extra help with English & maths

LEVEL 3 & ABOVE

If you are thinking about joining a course at Level 3 or above, you may be worried about course fees. The good news is that we can help.

Student Services will give you all the information you need. We will make sure we give you the right information for your needs and the type of course you want to study. It is important you look at all available options to pay for your course.

One of your options may be to apply for an Advanced Learner Loan.

WHAT DO I DO NEXT?

Contact Student Services and we will give you more information and support you to make your decision. We will also help you with your application if you decide to apply for a loan. We recommend you apply for your loan as early as possible so that you can join your course on time. You may also be able to get help with your travel resources and childcare costs too.

STUDENT SERVICES

We are available every weekday to offer support and guidance whether you are a new or progressing student.

Our experienced staff will listen and help you make the most of your time with us.

You may not have studied for many years or you may not have had the best experience of education. Whatever your reason for studying, the Student Services team is here to help.

HERE'S HOW WE CAN HELP:

- give you information and advice about our courses
- give you impartial careers guidance
- talk about how we can help you with the cost of studying
- provide access to computers and laptops for personal study
- information and advice on CVs, job search and interview skills
- advice about extra support you may need to help you with your course
- safeguarding support, for example if you have concerns about emotional, financial, physical or sexual abuse, sexual exploitation or extremism
- listen to your views and opinions

COURSE INFORMATION

CAREERS GUIDANCE

FINANCIAL HELP

SUPPORT FOR LEARNING

KEEPING SAFE

YOUR VIEWS



Scan the QR code to visit our Student Services page



Call the Student Services Team on 01902 551658 or visit the team in the Student Gateway, located in the Foyer Building, Old Hall Street.

STUDENT GATEWAY

The Student Gateway is a fresh, modern and vibrant space for students to relax, socialise and study.

You can speak to the Student Services Team who provide a range of support services to make sure every students learning experience is the best that it can be.

The 'Student Space'

The 'Student Space' is an inviting area where students can:

- use computers to support their study and carry out job search
- work independently or in groups on course work associated with their learning
- connect their own device at the ICT 'breakfast bar'
- take a break
- socialise with others
- eat lunch

Student Services

The Student Services area boasts two glass fronted interview rooms, an informal space where we offer you information about courses or any other queries and a new, fit for purpose, office space for staff.



Scan the QR code to find out more about the Student Gateway



VENUES

Central city centre sites. Easy to get to and only 5 minutes walk from Wolverhampton bus, tram and railway station



Foyer Building

City Learning Quarter
St George's Parade
Wolverhampton
WV2 1AZ



The Maltings

Herbert Street,
Wolverhampton
WV1 1NQ



Old Hall Street Building

City Learning Quarter
Old Hall Street
Wolverhampton
WV1 3AU



Alan Garner Centre

City Learning Quarter
Old Hall Street
Wolverhampton
WV1 3AU



FIND US ON GOOGLE MAPS

Scan the QR Code with your mobile device to locate our Foyer Building on Google Maps.



ADULT EDUCATION WOLVERHAMPTON

Adult Education Wolverhampton

Old Hall Street,
Wolverhampton,
WV1 3AU

T. 01902 558180

E. enquiries@aes.wolverhampton.gov.uk

www.aes.wolverhampton.gov.uk



IMPORTANT

The information published in this leaflet was correct at the time of publication. However Adult Education Wolverhampton reserves the right to revise times, dates, fees, locations and qualifications of courses for business reasons. Because courses may be subject to unforeseen change, alteration or cancellation, the information in this leaflet cannot be considered as binding or final.



CITY OF
WOLVERHAMPTON
COUNCIL



Multiply