



Foundation Courses

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Welcome

Foundation Studies is for learners who may have a learning difficulty or require extra support to access education working from Entry Level 1 to Level 1 including Supported Internship.

We provide a supported learning environment, independent living skills and employability skills as well as a full range of extra-curricular activities that vary from year to year.

There are opportunities to progress within the department and on to a Vocational Programme of study at BCA or Slough & Langley College.

At BCA career opportunities can include progression on to employment or supported employment in areas such as retail, animal care, sport and conservation/horticulture.

At Slough & Langley College career opportunities can include progression into ICT, Business, Hospitality, Travel & Tourism, Child Care, Health & Social Care, Hair & Beauty, Construction, Motor Vehicle or Engineering.





Our Courses at BCA

Entry 1: Introduction to Life, Independence and Social skills

Course Overview	This course is designed to meet the needs of learners with severe to moderate learning difficulties who will benefit from 1:1/1:2 support. See E1 prospectus
What I'll Learn	<p>Personal and Social Development, Building Independence, Life Skills and Cookery, Animal Care, Community Participation, Employability Skills and Work Experience.</p> <p>English and Maths are imbedded into the curriculum</p>
How I'll Learn	You will participate in practical and written activities as you build a personal portfolio of evidence to demonstrate the tasks you have undertaken.
What I'll Achieve	Gateway Entry level Award in Personal and Social Skills
Course Duration	1 Year with potential second dependant on progression
Industry Experience	All students have the opportunity to gain on-site work experience in our departmental run shop. There may also be the possibility of off-site work experience.
Progression	If successful, students will be encouraged to progress onto the Level E2 Pathway course Learning for Life and Work or Preparation towards Employment.
Entry Requirements	<p>Students must be working at Milestone 8 upwards or towards Entry Level 1 in English and maths. Students must be able to work towards accessing all areas of the campus as independently as possible. Suitability for the programme will be assessed on an individual basis, at interview, taster sessions and during the first six weeks of the programme.</p> <p>Students should be able to take part in activities around college, work experience in the community, and also be able to cope with using public transport safely.</p>

Entry 2: Pathway towards Independence, Learning and Employability

Course Overview	This course gives students the opportunity to develop the student's personal, social and employability skills in a supportive environment. Take a look at our Entry 2 specific guide.
What will I learn	English and Maths, Personal and Social Development, Building Independence, Life Skills and Cookery, Community Participation, Employability Skills, Foundation Studies Options – such as Horticulture, Music, Cookery, Sport, Art and Animal Care.
How I'll Learn	By continuous assessment which will include both practical and written tasks and activities. Students will be supported in building a personal portfolio of evidence to demonstrate the tasks they may have undertaken.
What I'll Achieve	Certificate of completion. Maths and English up to GCSE, Gateway qualification
Course Duration	1 Year.
Industry Experience	Foundation Studies run the BCA Shop where all students have the opportunity to gain on-site work experience. There may also be the possibility of off-site work experience.
Progression	If successful, students will be encouraged to progress on to the Level E3 Towards Independence, Work and Learning course. or Preparation towards Employment.
Entry Requirements	Students must be working at Entry 1 or above in English and maths and should be able to access the campus independently (depending on individual needs). Suitability for the programme will be assessed on an individual basis, at interview, taster sessions and during the first six weeks of the programme

Entry 3: Towards Independence Work and Learning

Course Overview	The course will provide learners the opportunity to study employability and life skills in a supportive environment. The course combines classroom-based lessons and practical activities both indoor and outdoor, and in the community. Learners will study employability skills and some will have the opportunity to do work experience as part of their course.
What will I learn	Some example units include: English and Maths, Personal and Social Development, Building Independence, Life Skills and Cookery, Community Participation, Employability Skills and Work Experience (supported employment) Enrichment Options – such as Horticulture, Music, Cookery, Sport, Art and Animal Care.
How I'll Learn	By continuous assessment which will include both practical and written tasks and activities. You will be supported in building a personal portfolio of evidence to demonstrate the tasks you have undertaken.
What I'll Achieve	Gateway Qualification. Maths and English up to GCSE
Course Duration	1 Year.
Industry Experience	Foundation Studies run the BCA Shop where all students have the opportunity to gain on-site work experience. There may also be the possibility of off-site work experience.
Progression	If successful, students will be encouraged to progress on to the following: Level 1 Progression for Work, Level 1 Progression for Learning, Preparation towards Employment or into Employment.
Entry Requirements	Students will have a desire to progress towards learning and employment opportunities and be working at Entry 2 or above in English and maths. Students should be able to access the campus independently. Suitability for the programme will be assessed on an individual basis, at interview and during the first six weeks of the programme.

Preparation towards Employment (higher E3- internal only)

Course Overview	The course will provide students with the opportunity to study employability and life skills in a supportive environment. Students will access work experience onsite and offsite throughout the academic year. This will allow students to gain the skills required to move onto supported employment.
What will I learn	Some example units include: Personal and Social Development, Building Independence, Life Skills and Cookery, Employability Skills, and Work Experience (supported employment)
How I'll Learn	By continuous assessment which will include both practical and written tasks and activities. You will be supported in building a personal portfolio of evidence to demonstrate the tasks you have undertaken.
What I'll Achieve	Work experience at various sites. This course can potentially lead to Supported internship, paid or voluntary employment.
Course Duration	1 Year.
Industry Experience	Varying levels, dependent on industry.
Progression	If successful, students will be encouraged to progress on to the following: Employment or Supported internship.
Entry Requirements	Students will have a desire to progress towards learning and employment opportunities and be working at Entry 2 or above in English and maths. Students should be able to access the campus independently. Suitability for the programme will be assessed on an individual basis, at interview and during the first six weeks of the programme.

Level 1 : Progression for Learning

Course Overview	This course is for students with moderate learning difficulties who need a year at college to improve their confidence and independent learning skills before potentially accessing mainstream vocational courses or other further education opportunities.
What will I learn	Vocational Studies – Animal Care, Horticulture, Hospitality, Sport or Media, English and Maths, Personal and Social Development, Building Independence, Life skills and Cookery, Community Participation, Employability Skills and Work Experience (supported employment) Enrichment Options – such as Horticulture, Music, Cookery, Sport, Art and Animal Care.
How I'll Learn	By continuous assessment which will include both practical and written tasks and activities. You will be supported in building a personal portfolio of evidence to demonstrate the tasks you have undertaken. For maths and English, you will have short bite-sized assessments which are supported.
What I'll Achieve	If successful, a Gateway Award in Employability and a Maths and English award or certificate at the appropriate level.
Course Duration	1 year
Industry Experience	Foundation Studies run the BCA Shop where all students have the opportunity to gain on-site work experience. There may also be the possibility of off-site work experience.
Progression	If successful, students will be encouraged to progress onto a Supported Internship, Preparation towards Employment, Level 1 vocational course, or another further educational opportunity. This is based on an individual assessment.
Entry Requirements	Students must be working at Entry 3 or above for English and Maths and have the ability to be independent on campus. Suitability for the programme will be assessed on an individual basis, at interview and during the first six weeks of the programme.

Level 1 : Progression for Work

Course Overview	The course will provide students with the opportunity to study employability and life skills in a supportive environment. The course combines classroom-based lessons and practical activities both indoor and outdoor and in the community. Students will study employability skills and will have the opportunity to do work experience.
What will I learn	Some example units include: English and Maths, Personal and Social Development, Building Independence, Life Skills and Cookery, Community Participation, Employability Skills, Work Placements, Enrichment Options – such as Horticulture, Music, Cookery, Sport, Art and Animal Care
How I'll Learn	By continuous assessment which will include both practical and written tasks and activities. You will be supported in building a personal portfolio of evidence to demonstrate the tasks you have undertaken.
What I'll Achieve	Gateway Award or Certificate. Maths and English up to GCSE
Course Duration	1 year
Industry Experience	Students on the Level 1 Progression For Work will have the opportunity to access onsite and offsite work placements
Progression	If successful, students will be encouraged to progress onto a Supported Internship, Apprenticeship or employment. This is based on individual assessment.
Entry Requirements	Students must have a desire to work and the ability to access work placements with minimal support. To access this course the student will need to be working at Entry 3 or above in English and maths. It is desirable to have an EHCP to access appropriate progression routes. Suitability for the programme will be assessed on an individual basis, at interview and during the first six weeks of the programme.

Supported Internship

Course Overview	Supported Internships are an effective route to progress towards paid employment for young people with Education Health Care Plans (EHCPs). The Supported Internships will consist of: 2/3 days per week in a workplace (students will need to travel to their workplace each day); and 1 day per week at College focusing on preparing them for the working life and embedding Maths and English, employability and customer service skills.
What will I learn	It will enable young people to achieve sustainable, paid employment by equipping them with the skills and support they need for work, through learning in the workplace.
How I'll Learn	Regular visits by job coaches and feedback from employers. Students will be supported in building a personal portfolio of evidence to demonstrate the tasks they have undertaken.
What I'll Achieve	Enabling the supported young person to move into paid employment at the end of the programme.
Course Duration	Internships last for an academic year, students will be considered to finish the course early if employment is secured.
Industry Experience	Varying levels, dependent on industry.
Progression	This course can potentially lead to paid or voluntary employment.
Entry Requirements	Students need to have an EHCP, want to go into employment, be willing to learn new skills within a working environment and be committed to accessing a workplace, with support if required. Suitability for the programme will be assessed on an individual basis, at interview and during the first six weeks of the programme.



Slough & Langley College Courses

Entry 2 Award in Life Skills for Independence

<p>Course Overview</p>	<p>The Entry 2 Gateway Award is a one year full-time course designed to develop learners' life skills through differentiated learning activities and focuses on personalised learning approaches which enables learners, regardless of ability, to make sustained progress over time. The focus of the curriculum is to develop and enhance knowledge, skills and behaviours so that learners become active and model citizens who can prosper in society.</p> <p>Additionally, Maths, English and a comprehensive tutorial programme are incorporated within the timetable as well as an options afternoon each week where learners can choose from a range of activities including Sport, The Arts, Earth Wise & Yoga.</p>
<p>What Will I Study?</p>	<p>The course units include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Digital Skills for WorkIndependent TravelWorking in a TeamFollowing InstructionsWorking SafelyCommunication Skills for Work
<p>How Will this Course be Delivered?</p>	<p>You will participate in practical and written activities as you build a personal portfolio of evidence to demonstrate the tasks you have undertaken. This includes workshops, discussion, the completion of workbooks, worksheets, experimentation, role-play and practicals.</p>
<p>How will I be Assessed</p>	<p>Assessment is ongoing and based on assignments, and a portfolio of work.</p> <p>Suitability for the programme will be assessed on an individual basis at interview and during the first six weeks for the programme.</p>
<p>Duration of the Course</p>	<p>One academic year</p>

<p>What are the Entry Requirements to get onto the Course?</p>	<p>Students must be working at Functional Skills Entry 1 or above for English and Maths.</p> <p>Students must have the ability to be independent on campus.</p> <p>Suitability for the programme will be assessed on an individual basis at interview and during the first six weeks of the programme.</p>
<p>What Qualification will I get?</p>	<p>Gateway Entry 2 Award</p>
<p>What Industry Experience will I gain?</p>	<p>In-house work experience is embedded in the programme</p>
<p>What can I study next?</p>	<p>Entry 2 Certificate</p>

Entry 3 Award in Personal & Social Skills

<p>Course Overview</p>	<p>This course aims to focus on those skills which will support a learner's personal growth and increase their independence in adult life, including areas such as independent travel, self-advocacy and personal safety. In addition, learners will be able to develop the ability to make informed choices and be confident in their decision making and the transition that would follow it.</p> <p>The above aims will be delivered through a variety of methods, some of which are listed below. Curriculum delivery will take place through conventional lectures, hands-on experience, theory and practical experience, taking part in enterprise projects, work experience and life skills delivered through internal and external activities.</p>
<p>What Will I Study?</p>	<p>The course itself is made up of specific units covering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Contributing to the Community - Personal Safety - Direct Own Support <p>This course will also include English and Maths at Functional Skills and GCSE Level, Tutorial, Sport, Options and Work Placement.</p>
<p>What are the Entry Requirements to get onto the Course?</p>	<p>Students must be working at Functional Skills Entry 2 or above for English and Maths and who can be independent on campus.</p>
<p>How will I be assessed?</p>	<p>Assessment is ongoing and based on assignments, and a portfolio of work.</p> <p>Suitability for the programme will be assessed on an individual basis at interview and during the first six weeks for the programme.</p>
<p>What Industry Experience will I gain?</p>	<p>Learners will have an opportunity to gain internal or external work placements in an area of interest to gain valuable hands on learning and industry insight.</p>
<p>How long is the course?</p>	<p>1 academic year</p>
<p>What can I study next?</p>	<p>Entry 3 Gateway Certificate</p>

Level 1 Award In Progression

Course Overview

This course is aimed for learners with moderate learning difficulties who need a year in college to improve their confidence and independent learning skills before potentially accessing mainstream vocational courses or a supported internship programme.

You will be supported to develop the skills, attributes and behaviours needed to progress to further study or a supported internship programme. You will learn through classroom theory as well as putting this into practice through work placement, taking part in discussions, group work, role-play, practical application and project work.

What Will I Study?

The course itself is made up of specific units such as:

- Assertive Living
- Independent Travel
- Group and Teamwork Communication Skills

This course will also include Maths and English Functional Skills to GCSE Level, Vocational Tasters, Options sessions including The Arts, Yoga, Earth Wise or Sport, a comprehensive Tutorial programme and Work Placement.

What will I need?

Students must be working at Functional Skills Entry 3 or above for English and Maths and have the ability to be independent on campus. Suitability for the programme will be assessed on an individual basis at interview and during the first six weeks for the programme

How will I be assessed?

Assessment is ongoing and based on assignments, and a portfolio of work. Tasks to include written, photographic, or video evidence, observation checklists and presentation records. Suitability for the programme will be assessed on an individual basis at interview and during the first six weeks for the programme.

What Industry Experience will I gain?

Learners will have an opportunity to gain internal or external work placements in an area of interest to gain valuable hands on learning and industry insight.

How long is the course?

1 academic year

What will this course lead onto?

Progression to Level 1 Gateway Certificate

How to Apply



To meet and have a chat with members of the Foundation Studies Department, register and come along to one of our Open Days.



Once you have chosen your course you can apply online at www.bca.ac.uk/apply or www.slough.ac.uk We advise that you apply for your course early as courses soon fill up.



Once we have received your application from our Admissions Team and reviewed it, we will invite you in for an interview and taster session. This will give you the opportunity to ask any questions you may have and for us to have a chat with you about your course choice and your plans for the future.



If your interview is successful we will offer you a conditional place via email. All offers for a place on a Foundation Studies course are conditional upon an EHCP review and successful taster days.



We will be in touch with you during the summer (June) with details on how to enrol onto your course.

