

College Prospectus 2026

Specialist SEND 16-19 Sixth

Form in Warrington



More Information

www.woolston6thformcollege.org.uk

woolstonsixthformcollege@sch.warrington.gov.uk

01925 811447

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Academic Year 2026-2027

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Why choose Woolston 6th Form?

At Woolston 6th Form College in Warrington, we provide a supportive and inclusive environment for young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). Our college is specifically designed to support learners with severe, complex, and profound learning difficulties, including those with Autistic Spectrum Disorders (ASD) and Profound and Multiple Learning Disabilities (PMLD). We believe every student deserves a personalised education that celebrates their strengths and prepares them for a fulfilling adult life.

Our curriculum focuses on independence, life skills, and preparation for adulthood, offering real-world experiences such as vocational training, supported travel, and community engagement. With dedicated staff and a strong ethos of inclusion, we ensure every learner is valued and supported to reach their full potential.

As part of the Woolston Learning Village, we offer a smooth transition from school to college. With plans to move to a purpose-built SEND hub at the Peace Centre, we're excited to expand opportunities in a modern, integrated setting.



**Lucinda Duffy , Headteacher
Foxwood School & Woolston
6th Form College**



**Louise Messham, College Lead
Woolston 6th Form College &
Assistant Headteacher of
Foxwood School**



How to apply

To apply to Woolston 6th Form College in Warrington, families and professionals are encouraged to follow these steps:

Initial Contact: Reach out to our college directly to express interest and discuss the suitability of the provision for the young person.

You can contact the college by phone at 01925 811447 or by email at: woolstonsixthformcollege@warrington.gov.uk.

Arrange a Visit: The college welcomes visits from prospective students and their families. This is a great opportunity to explore the environment, meet staff, and understand the curriculum and support available.

Referral Process: As Woolston 6th Form is part of the post-16 provision operated by Fox Wood School, students are typically referred through their current school or via Warrington Borough Council's SEND team. The placement is usually discussed as part of the Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) annual review process.

Transition Planning: Once a place is agreed, the college works closely with families and schools to support a smooth transition, including visits, phased starts, and tailored induction programmes.



Facilities

Academic Year 2026-2027

Woolston 6th Form College provides a safe and engaging environment tailored to young people with SEND, supporting both learning and personal development.

Current Facilities include:

- Specialist classrooms for complex learning needs
- Vocational areas for catering, horticulture, admin, and retail
- Supported living skills spaces for PMLD students
- Creative and leisure areas (art, music, sport)
- Community access programmes (e.g. shopping, cafés, libraries)
- Individualised work experience placements
- Supported and independent travel training

Future Facilities : Peace Centre SEND Hub (Opening Autumn 2026):

- Refurbished classrooms and multi-purpose spaces
- All-weather walking track and horticulture zone
- Playground and leisure areas for wellbeing
- Improved parking and safer drop-off access
- Cafeteria



Pathways at Woolston 6th Form

At Woolston 6th Form College, we understand that every young person is unique, with their own strengths, needs, and aspirations. That's why we offer four carefully designed learning pathways to ensure that each student receives the right support and opportunities to thrive.

Our pathways provide a clear and supportive structure for students with a range of learning needs. Whether your young person is developing early communication and independence skills or preparing for the world of work, we are committed to helping them grow in confidence, achieve their goals, and prepare for adulthood.

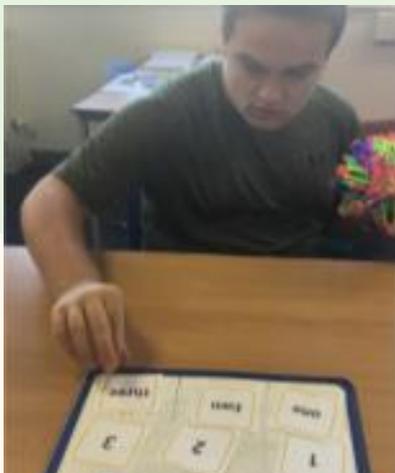
Communication & Choice

For students with profound and multiple learning difficulties (PMLD), focusing on sensory experiences, communication, and interaction.



Skills for Supported Living

Supporting students to build essential life skills, independence, and confidence through practical, real-life learning.



Learning for Life

Learning for Life Pathway equips students with the essential knowledge and practical skills they need to live as independently and confidently as possible—whether at home, in the workplace, or as active members of their community.

Skills for Employability

Designed for students ready to take the next steps toward work or independent living, including work placements, travel training, and community access.



Functional Math & English Curriculum

At Woolston 6th Form College, we believe that strong foundations in English and maths are essential for every young person's future.

That's why Functional Skills in these subjects are a core part of our curriculum across all pathways.

What are Functional Skills?

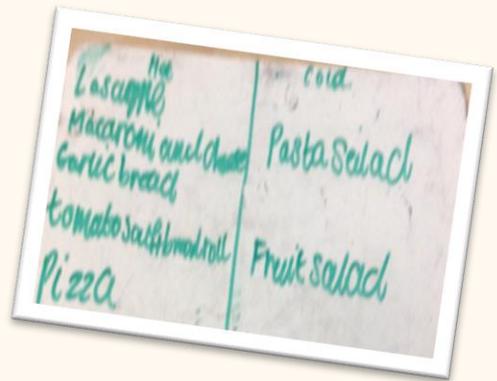
Functional Skills are practical, real-life English and maths skills that help students gain confidence and independence in everyday situations. These skills are taught in a way that is accessible, engaging, and relevant to each student's individual needs and learning level.



Functional English

Our Functional English curriculum helps students to:

- Communicate clearly and confidently in different settings
- Read and understand everyday texts such as signs, menus, and instructions
- Write for real-life purposes, including forms, emails, and lists
- Develop speaking and listening skills for social and workplace situations



Functional Maths

Our Functional Maths curriculum supports students to:

- Use numbers in practical contexts such as shopping, cooking, and travel
- Understand and manage money, time, and measurements
- Solve everyday problems using basic maths skills
- Apply maths in vocational and independent living tasks



Accreditation Offer at Woolston 6th Form College

Our accreditation offer is tailored to meet the diverse needs of our learners and is embedded across all four pathways. We focus on recognising progress in key areas such as communication, independence, employability, and functional skills.

Types of Accreditation Offered

- **Functional Skills Qualifications In English and Math (Entry Level 1 to Level 1), supporting everyday literacy and numeracy.**
- **Open Awards, Skills for Further Learning & Employment and Employability Skills.**
- **Vocational Tasters and Work-Related Learning, where appropriate, students may complete accredited units in areas such as hospitality, leisure, travel and tourism or horticulture.**

Our Approach :

- **Accreditation is person-centred and based on individual learning goals. We ensure that qualifications are achievable, relevant, and motivating.**
- **Students are supported to build a portfolio of evidence through practical activities, classroom learning, and community-based experiences.**
- **Where appropriate, students are entered for externally moderated qualifications to support progression to further education or supported employment.**

Duke of Edinburgh's Award



At Woolston 6th Form College, students have the opportunity to take part in the Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze and Silver Award, a nationally recognised programme that builds confidence, independence, and resilience.

The award includes four key areas:

- Volunteering – Giving back through community and college-based projects**
- Physical – Taking part in activities that promote health and wellbeing**
- Skills – Developing personal interests such as cooking, gardening, or creative arts**
- Expedition – Participating in a supported outdoor journey, adapted to meet individual needs**

Our inclusive approach ensures that every student can participate meaningfully, with personalised support and adjustments in place. The DofE Award is a valuable part of our enrichment offer, helping students grow in confidence and prepare for life beyond college.

Preparation for Adulthood

Our curriculum is designed to support every young person on their journey towards greater independence, confidence, and a fulfilling adult life. Our Preparation for Adulthood programme is embedded across all pathways and focuses on four key areas:

Employment – Gaining work-related skills through vocational tasters, enterprise projects, and supported work experience.

Independent Living – Developing practical life skills such as cooking, cleaning, personal care, and managing money.

Community Inclusion – Building confidence to access local services, use public transport, and participate in social and leisure activities.

Health and Wellbeing – Promoting physical and emotional wellbeing, understanding personal health needs, and accessing health services.



Preparation for Adulthood

Specialist Support from Warrington Borough Council

We are proud to work in partnership with Warrington Borough Council to provide additional support for our learners. Tracy Addison, the borough's Into Adulthood Link Worker, is based at Woolston College two days per week. Tracy works closely with students, families, and staff to ensure that young people have the right support, information, and guidance as they prepare for life beyond college.

Her role includes:

- Supporting transition planning and EHCP outcomes
- Signposting to adult social care and community services
- Helping families navigate post-18 options and pathways



This collaborative approach ensures that our students are well-prepared for their next steps, whether that's further education, supported employment independent living.



Work-Related Learning

At Woolston 6th Form College, we believe that preparing students for the world of work is a vital part of their journey into adulthood. Our Work-Related Learning programme is designed to give every student the opportunity to explore different job roles, develop employability skills, and gain real-life experience in safe and supportive environments.

Key Features:

- **Vocational Tasters** – Hands-on sessions in areas such as hospitality, horticulture, and leisure, travel and tourism.
- **Enterprise Projects** – Students take part in small business initiatives, learning about teamwork, money management, and customer service.
- **College-Based Work Experience** – Opportunities to work in familiar settings such as the college café, reception, or library.
- **External Work Placements** – For students ready to access the wider community, we offer supported placements with local employers and charities.
- **Employability Skills Development** – Focused sessions on CV writing, interview preparation, workplace behaviour, and communication.

Our approach is flexible and person-centred, ensuring that each student's experience is tailored to their interests, abilities, and future aspirations. We work closely with families, employers, and support services to make sure every placement is meaningful and successful.

Careers Education Information & Guidance

We are committed to helping every student explore their future options and make informed, confident choices about life after college. Our Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) programme is tailored to meet the needs of learners with SEND and is embedded across all pathways.

What We Offer

- Careers Guidance: One-to-one support to explore strengths, interests, and goals.**
- Transition Planning: Help with next steps—education, internships, volunteering, or adult services.**
- Work Experience: Opportunities to try different roles and build employability skills.**
- Visits & Events: Access to colleges, employers, careers fairs, and workplace tours.**
- Family Support: Guidance for parents/carers on post-18 options and pathways.**

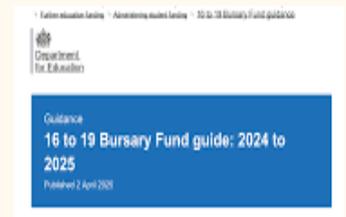
Our careers programme is delivered in partnership with local services and employers, ensuring that students receive up-to-date, relevant advice that supports their individual journey into adulthood.

Financial Support

At Woolston 6th Form College, we understand that financial circumstances can sometimes create barriers to learning. That's why we offer a range of support options to help eligible students and their families access the resources they need to succeed.

What Support May Be Available?

- **16–19 Bursary Fund** For students who need financial help to stay in education. This may include support with:
 - Travel costs
 - Meals
 - Educational resources and equipment
 - Uniform or specialist clothing for work placements
 - Free College Meals—eligible students may receive free meals while attending college, helping to support health and wellbeing throughout the day.
 - Support for Looked After Children and Care Leavers— additional bursary funding is available for students in care, care leavers, or those receiving certain benefits.



How to Apply

Our college pastoral team can support families in understanding what financial help is available and guide them through the application process. All information is treated confidentially, and we aim to make the process as simple and supportive as possible.

Contact & Applications

If you would like to find out more about Woolston 6th Form College, arrange a visit, or speak to a member of our team, please get in touch:

Woolston 6th Form College,
Woolston Learning Village,
Holes Lane,
Woolston,
Warrington, WA1 4LS

Phone: 01925 811447

Email: woolstonsixthformcollege@sch.warrington.gov.uk

Website: www.woolstoncollege.org.uk

How to Apply

Applications for September 2026 entry are now open. To apply, please complete an application form available from our website or contact the college office.

Application Deadline: Friday 12th December 2025

