



Welcome to Linkage!

An Independent College
- An Independent You



www.linkage.org.uk

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"I have had a fantastic time at Linkage - 10/10"

- SIMON, STUDENT



Welcome to Linkage!

Welcome to Linkage College - the longest established further education college in the country for young people with learning disabilities.

We are a charitable, independent college based in Lincolnshire. We offer residential and day study and life skills to students with all kinds of learning difficulties and disabilities.

At Linkage our emphasis is on finding the right mix of life skills and study for you. Our specialists will support your aspirations and develop your

independence in a caring and nurturing environment that will deliver the most appropriate learning experience for you. Learning through doing is at the heart of our curriculum and our excellent links with companies, of all sizes and across different industries, ensures you will get the best in practical experience.

"Outcomes for students are outstanding. The excellent development of personal, social, employability and independence skills enables students to meet their destination goals."

- OFSTED 2013

"I could not have done this in a busy mainstream college... The level of support here is important to me"

- STUDENT

What's on offer

Linkage College is an inspiring place to learn.

At Linkage our study options are built around supporting you and your aims and aspirations. We work with you to develop your own individual learning plan which will help you focus on your goals and recognise your progress.

We support your aspirations - whether they are employment, moving towards independent living or progressing to further study - and you will be supported by a team of friendly staff to ensure you learn the skills you need for the life you want.

Into each study programme we add a mix of individual and shared activities and options to develop a personalised programme that lets you discover new experiences and opportunities.

We hope you enjoy what you see and read here... come and see us soon to get your future under way!

"If God created heaven on Earth, this place would be it."

- DOMINIC, MEDIA STUDENT

Our curriculum

Our study programmes are for young people aged 14 – 25 who have learning difficulties or disabilities.

Our expert staff and extensive facilities enable us to offer you wrap-around support and learning opportunities within a daytime and residential timetable.

We have built our service around learning through doing and the development of practical workplace skills. Personalised support is provided in line with your Education, Health and Care Plan.

Everyone has Maths, English and ICT on their timetable. Some students take qualifications that help them find a job. Others learn skills to use in their daily lives. Everyone has a great time!

"She has had time to work at her own pace, with bucket loads of encouragement"

- PARENT



LINCOLN

Business Administration
Customer Service
Horticulture
Hospitality/Catering
Independence
Media
Retail
Small Animal Care

TOYNTON

Business Administration
Customer Service
Hospitality/Catering
Independence
Media
Retail

WEELSBY

Business Administration
Customer Service
Hospitality/Catering
Independence
Media
Performing Arts
Retail
Sport

*Bold items are specialisms



Focus on Lincoln

At the heart of the new Lincoln Campus is a brand new education centre set in the 50 Acre Boutham Park, and developed as part of a wider initiative between Linkage and City of Lincoln Council. Based in the suburbs of Lincoln and easily accessible from across the East Midlands, the centre offers a fantastic and inspiring setting for learners.

Our main education centre is a converted former stable block with a separate café and horticulture area. The wider park restoration project has involved restoring park features such as

bridges, the bandstand and fountain, putting in CCTV and defining the footprint of the original Boutham Hall. The project has been part funded by The Heritage Lottery Fund and Big Lottery Fund 'Parks for People' initiative as well as Linkage and City of Lincoln Council.

We are excited to be opening the doors to our first students here in September 2017 and have a series of open days planned throughout the year where you will be able to speak to staff and see the progress made. For our latest Open Day dates please visit our website or call us on 01472 372311.



Focus on Toynton

Our Toynton Campus is situated in an attractive rural setting near the historic market town of Spilsby and just a few miles from the popular seaside resort of Skegness. Toynton Hall is the main building on the campus and is also the Linkage head office. It houses the student common room and several teaching and learning areas, as well as a sensory room, medical room, main reception and shop.

Other facilities include: student dining room and bistro, art, drama, recreation and performance facilities, library, Karten (ICT) Centre and specialist provision.



Toynton's extensive grounds also feature landscaped gardens, a football pitch, recreation areas and three spacious, modern and well-equipped student houses.

You can also take a short break at our respite accommodation at Keal View, our specialist property at Toynton.



Focus on Weelsby

“The 24-hour curriculum has been helpful for me. It’s given me training for my future, for having my own flat and for my own life.”

- STUDENT

Our Weelsby Campus, near the centre of Grimsby, is set in lovely parkland. It is easily accessible from across North Lincolnshire, South Yorkshire and the East Riding. It is also very close to the east coast seaside town of Cleethorpes and offers all the facilities and connections to the local community that you could wish for.

The main teaching block is the MacKenzie building, which includes a large student common room, Mac’s Bistro, student dining room, shop, art room, performing arts centre, Karten (ICT) Centre and medical room.

Our Weelsby campus features some grand designs alongside the other ones we have for your future! Weelsby Hall is the former estate house and provides a grand centrepiece to the campus. Other facilities include: football pitches, specialist provision, horticulture unit and sensory room.

The Linkage experience

Our hands-on approach



Our real working environments, enterprises and work projects provide ideal opportunities to develop vocational, employability and functional skills – everything you need to be successful in the workplace. Taking a multi-sensory approach, you will learn whilst being supported to identify the areas you have a flair in and enjoy.



Wherever possible you will get to use your new found skills in the workplace and we have developed excellent links with a wide range of employers to help support this.



“Thank you for ensuring that the College is such an amazing place for students to thrive - within a happy, comfortable, clean and safe environment. This benefits not only the students but also their families who know they are so well cared for.”

- PARENT

"Living at Linkage has been great. It's given me training for my future, for having my own flat and for my own life."

- STUDENT

Living at Linkage

Living at Linkage is about developing the whole you, not just your academic achievements. Our students tell us that Linkage is a great place to live and learn. All our houses have their own house manager and a dedicated residential learning team who will be there to support you. A key worker and independence tutor will also be allocated to you.

When you come to us as a residential learner, a detailed care plan is put in place and our expert staff ensure that all your needs will be met, not only on an academic basis, but personally and socially too. We recognise that you are an individual with your own aspirations and work with you to achieve your goals.

Our specialist autism provision

Linkage has established a very successful autism provision for learners who benefit from a stepping stone into the wider environment of the college.

We aim to enable learners with autism, who have complex needs, including communication difficulties and anxiety disorders, to access and benefit from their College experience in a way that builds confidence and comfort.



Call our team on 01472 372311 to find out more.

Life after college

We are focused on your future from day one of you becoming a student with us. Your study programme will be developed according to your individual goals and aspirations and this forms the basis of your transition plan for life after Linkage.

Our 'transition out' process involves regular meetings with you and contact with your parents, family and other people who support you. This may include careers advisors, Social Services, housing associations, care providers and

other FE colleges etc. to ensure that you continue to progress. We will help you and your family organise your next steps in very practical ways too, such as setting up meetings with support providers and housing associations to help you progress into supported living accommodation.

After you have graduated, we like to stay in touch with you for as long as possible to ensure you are happy with your next steps and get all the advice you need to continue building a bright future.



"Transition planning is very good and contributes to students' successful destinations."

- OFSTED

What else can Linkage do for you?

Linkage offers you a full range of support services, from ongoing care provision and supported living, through to continuing your learning with our adult skills service.

You can find out much more about the wide range of services we offer on our website, www.linkage.org.uk.



Start your journey with us by calling us on 01472 372311
or emailing transition@linkage.org.uk



- 1 Lincoln Campus,
Rookery Lane,
Lincoln, LN6 7PG
- 2 Toynton Campus,
Toynton All Saints,
Spilsby, PE23 5AE
- 3 Weelsby Campus,
Weelsby Road,
Grimsby, DN32 9RU

As a charity we rely on donations to help us continue our work. Talk to our fundraising team on 01522 503190 or visit www.justgiving.com/linkage if you can help.

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Registered Charity No. 504913

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