

## Foundation Learning



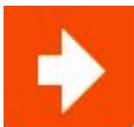
For young people 14-19 with no qualifications, adults with learning disabilities or difficulties, adults in or between low skilled jobs.



Foundation learning describes a programme that combines literacy, language numeracy and basic IT with vocational training and personal and social development skills. It is offered in units of achievement from Entry level to Level 2 (approximately equivalent to a GCSE grade C). Each learner can have a personalised programme designed to suit their needs, with small units of achievement at different levels for each subject. This makes it more flexible for those with fluctuating health conditions and enables accreditation of independent living skills which are not otherwise recognised by formal qualifications.



Courses are not usually advertised as 'foundation learning' so ask local providers what programmes are available at entry or foundation level. The Next Step home page provider search facility enables you to identify a local college: <https://nextstep.direct.gov.uk> (or call 0800-100 900, 8am-10pm, 7 days). You can also ask in local libraries for adult education courses. Information for young people, either online or on the telephone, from Connexions Direct advisors: <https://www2.cxdirect.com/home.htm> or call 080 800 13219.



- The 'You can do it' leaflet can help people with mental health conditions think about the benefits of learning and skills. 'Should I say?' supports people to decide whether to declare a mental health condition at enrolment or during their course. Download leaflets from [XXXX](#)
- Declaration of a mental health problem triggers learning support, extra funding to meet additional learning needs.
- New qualifications linked to Foundation Learning continue to be developed; programme choices may be limited in your local area. Some providers have expressed reservations about quality and time constraints on some programmes offered to young people; make sure you check the flexibilities of the programme, and the ability to achieve individual units within the qualification, before you enrol.

