

## Life for Skills

For Post 16 students, the reality of having to leave full-time education for adulthood is a not too distant proposition. This can be a worrying and stressful time for all. To help prepare students for this transition, a sizable portion of their week is allocated to helping them access the skills and resources deemed necessary by the Preparation for Adulthood agenda (PfA).

The PfA states that everyone should have equal life chances as they move into adulthood and in doing so identifies four main areas of development:

- Employment
- Friends Relationships & Community
- Good Health
- Independent Living

Participation in the schools So Safe program, PHSE lessons and guest speakers all contribute towards a good and healthy life style, while pastoral time, access to clubs, sporting activities and enterprise initiatives provide opportunities for student to develop relationships and become involved in the wider community. Similarly, work experience and employability qualifications contribute to the employment objectives too.



One to one interactions with support staff also ensure that students with the capacity are able to access public transport and develop the skills necessary to travel independently.

2020 is an exciting time for Post 16 at the Mendip School as we are to realise a bespoke Skills for Life training centre. Once up and running the centre will focus on developing students independent living skills and will include a careers advice area, simulated lounge, bedroom and kitchen as well as having hazard spotting and emergency actions areas.

For the first time, students will have onsite access and the opportunity to learn how to wash and iron their clothes, make beds and keep their living environments clean. In addition, the inclusion of simulated fuse boxes, gas /electric meters and water stop taps will enable them to develop the skills necessary to use and manage their utilities in a safe and responsible way.

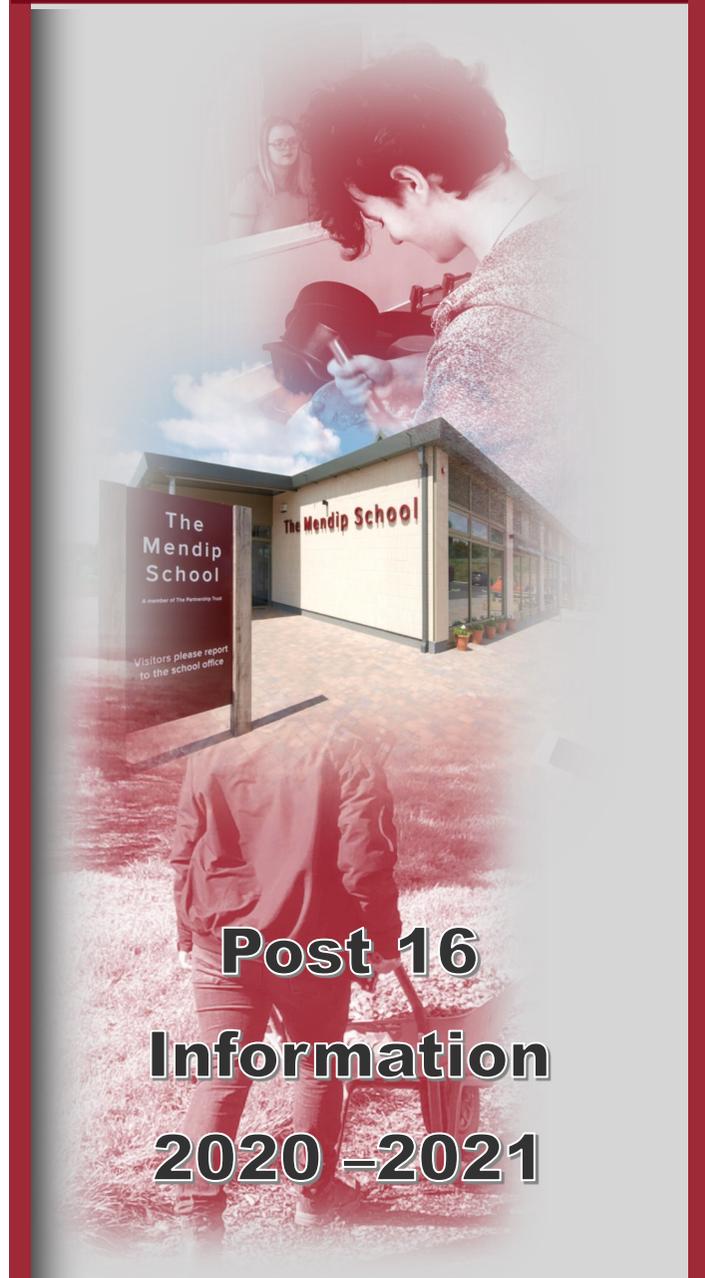


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## The Mendip School





# Post 16 at The Mendip School

## Functional Skills

All students enrolled into the Mendip Schools Post 16 will be required to work towards Functional Skills qualifications.

Functional Skills (FS) qualifications are designed to enable students to develop confidence and fluency in Maths, English and ICT. They equip students with the practical skills to get the most out of education, work and everyday life and help them to function more confidently, effectively and independently in the future.

### Accredited by the Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF)

Level 1 FS are equivalent to a GCSE Grade E-D,  
&  
Level 2 FS are equivalent to GCSE Grade C-A\*

In addition to Functional Skills, Students who do not get a good pass at GCSE in Year 11, but do manage a Grade 3 will also have the opportunity to re-sit their GCSE's



## Employability

As well as working on their core subjects, Post 16 students will also work towards achieving a Level 1 or 2 ASDAN qualification in Employability.

The ASDAN Certificates are designed to help learners develop the skills needed to become successful employees and through careful design and planning will support them in overcoming barriers to entering work.

Subjects covered will include:

- Enterprise skills
- Career exploration
- Applying for a job
- Managing personal finance
- Learning through work experience



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## Work Experience

To complement their time in the class, Post 16 students will also embark on a structured program of work experience.

Work experience is an important part of the Post 16 week for many reasons. Regular attendance helps students gain the soft skills employers are looking for, such as communication, teamwork, problem solving, motivation and time management.

It also affords student the opportunity to get first-hand experience of working in a number of vocational sectors and helps them decide if any of the roles are somewhere they see themselves working in, in the future.

With so much competition for entry-level jobs and apprenticeships, we think it is important for our students to stand out from the crowd.

Very few school or college leavers will have the same level or variety of experience as those leaving The Mendip School's Post 16, meaning our students are already one-step ahead of the game.