Salford City Council

Post 16 Education and Training Offer

Gemma Fitzpatrick – Find Your Future
Esme Williams - Preparation for Adult Life

10th November 2026

Salford City Council

What is Preparation for Adult Life?

Preparation for Adult Life is normally shortened to PfA.

PfA happens in all phases of education. PfA is not just about leaving school and getting a job. We all need to thrive in the areas of independent living, being healthy and participating in society, employment is the "cherry on the top".

Every child or young person needs to learn key skills in readiness for their adult life. If a child has SEND they may require additional support and would benefit from earlier planning.



4 Preparation for Adult Life Pillars

Education, Employment and Training



Skills and guidance

Independent Living



Choice and control

Good Health



Wellbeing and health management

Friends, Relationships and Community



Healthy relationships

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Promoting Aspiration Futures for Post-16

Ambition means believing in potential and taking the next steps towards independence.

Celebrate every achievement



Encouraging ambition supports:

- higher independence
- better life skills
- more opportunities within the community

Encouraging your child to be both realistic and ambitious can support them in achieving the qualifications that they need so they have lots of choices available to them post-16. There are lots of Post-16 options we will consider today.

Education

BURY COLLEGE

The Manchester College be amazing

TRAFFORD COLLEGE

BOLTON COLLEGE

SALFORD CITY COLLEGE

WORSLEY COLLEGE

FutureSkills at MediaCityUK

ECCLES SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

PENDLETON SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

CITYSKILLS

Training & Apprenticeships

Salford City Council

ymca training

The Growth Company

King's Trust Working For Young People

APPRENTICESHIPS AT SALFORD CITY COLLEGE

Supported Internships

Salford City Council

University of Salford MANCHESTER

Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust

PURE INNOVATIONS The key to a fulfilled life

Gulliver's Theme Park Resorts

HM Revenue & Customs

Premier Inn

Salford Employment Hub

Salford City Council

Salford Employment Hub Jobs • Careers • Training

Salford Futures

Department for Work & Pensions

disability confident

Post-16 Options – Specialist Provision

JEP
YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

Seashell Trust
Communication for Life

DISC
DIGITAL INDEPENDENT SPECIALIST COLLEGE
MANCHESTER

david·lewis

BELTANE COLLEGE

Pinc College.

Navigators

Edintervention
ENGAGE·EDUCATE·ENJOY

Bridge College
TOGETHER TRUST

Education

The EHCP Consultation Process

The annual review of your child's EHC Plan should be held in the Autumn Term of Year 11; it is essential that you have been discussing their plans for post 16 provision and have been considering options such as college, traineeships, apprenticeships, study programmes. At the Year 11 annual review you and your child will need to give a clear indication of their preference for post 16 provision. The Local Authority will consider the Year 11 annual review reports and consider if amendments are needed to the EHC Plan or if there is a proposal to cease the EHC Plan.

If the Local Authority's decision is to amend your child's EHC Plan to reflect the provision they will require in post 16 education, an amended Final EHC Plan naming the post 16 placement must be issued by 31st March in Year 11.

The Local Authority will send out consultations to your child's chosen settings; the settings then decide if they can meet the child's needs.

A consultation does not replace the need for an application. An application to the post-16 provider must still be submitted and, wherever possible, should be made early to support effective transition planning. Salford City College have a dedicated Transitions Facilitator who supports young people with an EHCP throughout Year 11.

What's on offer at College?

Foundation Skills for Life - Entry Level 1

Foundation Skills for Life - Entry Level 2

Foundation Skills for Life – Entry Level 3

Vocational Level 1 Course – 1 year course requires grades 2-3 GCSE

Vocational Level 2 Course – 1 year course requires grades 3-4 GCSE

Vocational Level 3 Course – 2-year course requires grade 4+ GCSE

A Level - 2 Year course requires 5 or more grade 4/5 GCSE

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SALFORD CITY COLLEGE GROUP

CITY SKILLS • ECCLES • FUTURESKILLS • PENDLETON • WORSLEY

– 5 College Centres

Pendleton Sixth Form College - mainly A levels and some vocational courses such as performing arts, fine art

Eccles Sixth Form College - all vocational courses plus large foundation skills department for those with special educational needs (SEN).

Worsley College specific vocational courses, many at level 1 and 2. Including hospitality, hair, beauty, childcare and health and social care. They also run the Princes Trust TEAM programme, aimed at gaining new skills, a qualification and meet new people.

Futureskills specific vocational courses in creative music, digital production, IT, games design, media and media makeup. courses run from level 1 – level 3 (and some university level)

City Skills specific trade courses in brickwork, joinery, multi trades, plastering, painting & decorating, plumbing, electrical and motor vehicle.

Check out some upcoming events here

T-Levels – what are they?

- Study alternative to A-Levels and Apprenticeships
- ***80% College 20% Work***
- Two-year course when taken full time, this includes a 45 day (315 hours – *although some courses require more*) industry placement
- One T-Level is equivalent to 3 A-Levels
- There are currently 12 T-Levels available but this is expected to grow over the next few years

- *Accounting*
- *Building Services Engineering for Construction*
- *Design, surveying and planning for construction*
- *Digital business services*
- *Digital production, design and development*
- *Education and childcare*
- *Health*
- *Healthcare science*
- *Management and administration*
- *Onsite construction*
- *Science*

Other Greater Manchester Colleges

Manchester College
Trafford College
Bolton College
Wigan and Leigh

Bury College
Loreto College
Warrington College

These colleges all offer vocational courses as well as a specific offer for SEN pupils too including foundation courses. Many of them offer supported internships too.

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Study Programme



A study programme is a tailored learning package consisting of:

- classroom-based work
- work experience
- employability workshops
- pastoral support
- enrichment opportunities.

There are designed to be learner specific to suit your needs and help you get to where you want to be in your career so that you can feel confident going into your next phase of life.

The Growth Company

Study programmes are usually flexible, on average you could do 3-4 days per week depending if you need to resit English or Maths.
They can last for up-to 12 months and once completed, you could then go into a traineeship, an apprenticeship or further education.

YMCA training

There is usually a training bursary for attending to cover travel/lunch. Usually around £20-30 per week (based on attendance and family circumstances)

Supported Internships

Supported Internships are structured study programmes designed for young people aged 16-24 with Education Health Care Plans (or statements of SEN).

Internships are based with an employer and enable young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities, to develop workplace skills and experience to achieve paid sustainable employment.

Internships typically last for one academic year, and include unpaid work placements of at least six months and support the young person to move into paid employment at the end of the programme, wherever possible.



Supported Internship – Expression of interest

CHOICES COLLEGE
STEPS TO SUCCESS

Bridge College
TOGETHER TRUST

Pinc College.

PURE INNOVATIONS
The key to a fulfilled life

ECCLES
SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

University of Salford MANCHESTER

Salford City Council

Salford Royal NHS
NHS Foundation Trust

Premier Inn

DISC
DIGITAL INDEPENDENT SPECIALIST COLLEGE
MANCHESTER

Chatsworth Futures
Specialist College

New Internships for September 2025





Premier Inn

Apprenticeships

An Apprenticeship is a paid job which offers hands on work experience alongside training.

Apprenticeships are great for those who enjoy practical learning and want to upskill, or learn a completely skill. They can take from 1 to 5 years to complete depending on the level.
There are 4 different qualification levels that you can achieve depending on your apprenticeship level:

If your child has an EHCP this should be shared with the provider so the correct support can be offered, contact your SENCo at your school for more information

Intermediate	Level 2	GCSE
Advanced	**Level 3**	**A-Level**
Higher	**Level 4-7**	**Foundation degree and above**
Degree	**Level 6-7**	**Bachelors or masters degree**





APPRENTICESHIPS AT SALFORD CITY COLLEGE

University of Salford MANCHESTER APPRENTICESHIPS

The Growth Company

Key Dates for Post-16 Options

- All year-round colleges have open events, check out their website and visit as many as possible.
- Applications to sixth forms and colleges – your child's school will likely set their own deadline; applications should be submitted as early as possible typically between September – January.
- Applications open for apprenticeships around February/March each year.
- EHCP Consultation – if the plan needs amending the Local Authority will issue a draft EHCP and consult with the relevant post-16 settings this should happen by the **31st of March**.
- Our Pass – applications open from May, when applying you will be asked for your child's national insurance number.
- GCSE Results day – **Thursday 19th August 2027**, your child's school will provide further details.
- Enrolment – this will differ for every college, once you have received your GCSE results you are often given an appointment of when to enrol at your child's chosen post-16 destination, this typically on GCSE results day or the next day/week.

Work Well Programmes

- Open to aged 16+
- Access to support services for health issues including mental health
- Tailored support
- 6-8 sessions of key worker support
- Opportunity to refer into other programmes for longer or more intense support such as IPSPC



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Working Well



- Individual Placement Support employability programme in Primary Care (IPS) support offer for age 16+
- Employment Specialists work with a small caseload enabling them to give intensive support to each person they work with.
- accompany individuals to interviews, approach employers on their behalf, help with benefits advice and CV creation as well as work with the employer, service user and healthcare professional to reduce the barriers associated with employment.
- Main focus is to work with -
  - **Unemployed people** with a health condition who are looking to get into work ASAP, this can be PT work if they are in education
  - **Employed People** who are struggling to stay in work or who are off sick but must have been in employment for 6 months doing at least 7 hrs a week. Here we can work with the participant and if they wish us to the employer as well to tailor a plan which will support the participant to return or stay in work, we can negotiate reasonable adjustments with the employers and help to educate them in how to better support an employee with a health condition and have a more inclusive working environment.
  - Customers can self-refer, or they can be referred via a professional they are working with
- Referrals can be sent to- IPSPCreferrals@gcemployment.uk or via www.gcemployment.uk/wwipspc

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Salford Employment Hub

Are you a young person in Salford looking for work or training?
If you are a young person who lives in Salford and is unemployed, you can access the Salford Employment Hub and receive direct support offered by Career Connect.

You will receive professional careers information, advice, guidance and coaching support if you are:

- aged 16 to 18 and not in education, employment or training, or have concerns about becoming unemployed
- a care leaver aged 16 to 25
- a young offender
- aged 16 to 25 and have an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP)

You will receive support with:

- job searching
- interview preparation
- confidence building
- referrals and placements into employment, education or training
- support to overcome barriers to finding education, employment or training
- support with making decisions about your future

Salford
Employment Hub
Jobs • Careers • Training

Email: Salford@CareerConnect.org.uk | **Telephone**: 0161 393 4500

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Advice and Guidance

All NEET young people aged 16-18 in Salford are entitled to support to help them get into education, employment or training. Young people with an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) are also entitled to these services up-to age 24.

First point of contact will be your careers advisor at school/college, who will be able to help you explore all your different career options, provide you with specific industry information and give you advice on your next steps.

The YP Transition team can help to answer any queries relating to transition or Signpost to groups and other organisations that may be able to help young people move from children's to adult services. This can be practical support as well as Working with young people and those who know them best to develop an assessment of their needs and personal goals (outcomes). If they are eligible for adult services YP Transition will support young people to develop 'a plan/your plan' this is known as a support plan. YPTransition@nca.nhs.uk

National Careers Service
Helping you take the next step

The National Careers Service provide information, advice and guidance to young people over 18 and can help you make those tough decisions on learning, training and work at all stages in your career, they also offer web-chat services for ages 15+ for anyone who is in need of guidance.

JEWEL
A Community at Work

Jewel provides valuable information for the Jewish Community who can guide you on what careers you should be considering and your next steps, offering training, placements and pre-employment workshops.

Ambitious about Autism

Ambitious About Autism provides help to Autistic young people across England through the award-winning Employ Autism programme for autistic people aged 6-25 as well as their Supported Internship Programme.

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Advice and Guidance

UKSPF (previously ESF) Programme can help and support you develop the skills and confidence you need to find work. UKSPF projects are delivered within the community and taking part is voluntary. You can take part in an UKSPF project if you are ages 16+ and not in education, employment or training. This funding is time specific though. Contact Nicholl Hardwick nicholl.hardwick@careerconnect.org.uk

Travel: Getting the bus alone for the first time can be daunting, here is some important information on how you can make your trip as easy and straight forward as possible.

Struggling with your mental health? Support is available for you, 42nd Street are available to support you with your emotional well-being by offering effective personal approaches, as well as the NHS CAHMS service plus many others, click here for a list of services

Salford Information Advice and Support Services (**SIASS**) offer information, advice and support to children, young people and parents about special educational needs and disability. This includes matters relating to health and social care. We have a role in ensuring your views are heard, understood and respected.

Local Offer provides information on what support services are available in Salford for children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities and their parents/carers.

If you require any more information about the support through local Job Centre Plus, you can contact Salford's Disability Employment lead **raegan.robinson@dwp.gov.uk**

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Financial Support

Greater Manchester Our Pass is a free bus pass for young people aged 16-18 who live in Greater Manchester, making it easier for them to travel around the city. Our Pass provides access to a range of exclusive offers, discounts and experiences for 16–18-year-olds in Greater Manchester. There is a one-off £10 administration fee, and an additional £10 charge if you ever need a replacement card. The pass will expire on the 31st of August after your 18th birthday.

King's Trust Development Awards are for those aged 16-30 who live in the UK and are unemployed or working less than 16 hours per week. The Development Awards can cover the cost of course fees, tools or equipment to help you achieve your goal. It can support accredited course fees up-to Level 3, tools, uniform or equipment, job license fees and transport to your new job until your first pay slip.

Access to Work can help you get or stay in work if you have a physical or mental health condition or disability, the level of support you can receive will depend on your needs. it can fund specific equipment that you need for a job, or even support with travel and other costs.
Better Off Calculator can help you know the impact of your young person moving into work or training, on your family income. It is free to use and simple and quick to use. Your Job Centre work coach can help you to complete it but you can use it on your own.
Care to Learn is a scheme for young parents which can help with childcare cost while you study, the scheme is available for publicly funded courses in England, you could be entitled to up-to £175 per child per week.

Your college can also provide you with a bursary fund to support you with clothing, books and other equipment you may need during your course (e.g. a camera for a photography student) as well as transport and lunch. Bursary's are also available if you are continuing a course you started aged 16-18 and those who have an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) training providers have a similar offer.

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Financial Support

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Cost of Living Crisis

We know the cost of living crisis is effecting everyone right now, Salford Council have some ways they can make troublesome times easier for you and your family.

Welfare Rights Advice

Welfare Rights Service offer free, confidential, specialist advice, case work and representation on welfare rights for people who live in Salford.

Your Child Benefit Allowance

Child Benefit stops on 31 August on or after your child's 16th birthday if they leave education or training. It continues if they stay in approved education or training, but you must tell the Child Benefit Office. You'll be sent a letter in your child's last year at school asking you to confirm their plans. Education must be more than average 12 hours a week supervised study or work experience.

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Other Advice For Parents

- **What information on my child will be shared once they leave?**

Please contact your school/college to find out what information is shared and why once they leave school, in most cases

- **Understanding the New Grading system**

Students now use a numerical system from 9-1 rather than the traditional A-E system.

- **Understanding different qualification levels**

There are 9 different qualification levels, after school your child will most likely be going onto a Level 2 or 3 course.

- **Functional Skills v GCSE**

Functional skills teach you the basics of what you'll need to know (Maths & English) in day-to-day life. Many employers consider functional skills to be equivalent to GCSE.

- **Find my Future**

For more information, visit the Find My Future page.

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Other Advice For Parents – Key PfA Skills

Preparing for Adult Life starts right at the beginning of a child's life. We often forget that learning how to tie your shoelaces, managing a personal hygiene routine and knowing how to tell the time are all essential skills needs for adult life.

As your child gets ready to leave high school it would be useful to consider if they are making progress towards becoming more independent. Below are some example questions to consider if your child is making progress in these areas. This is not a full list but gives you an idea of what independence might look like for some children as the mature.

Independent Living

- Can they use household appliances such as the cooker, washing machine etc?
- Do they feel confident in using public transport?
- Do they have a bank account, can they manage their money?

Good Health

- Do you maintain a good personal hygiene routine?
- If they have a health need, are they able to manage this with or without support?
- Are they able to make healthy life-style choices such as diet, exercise etc?

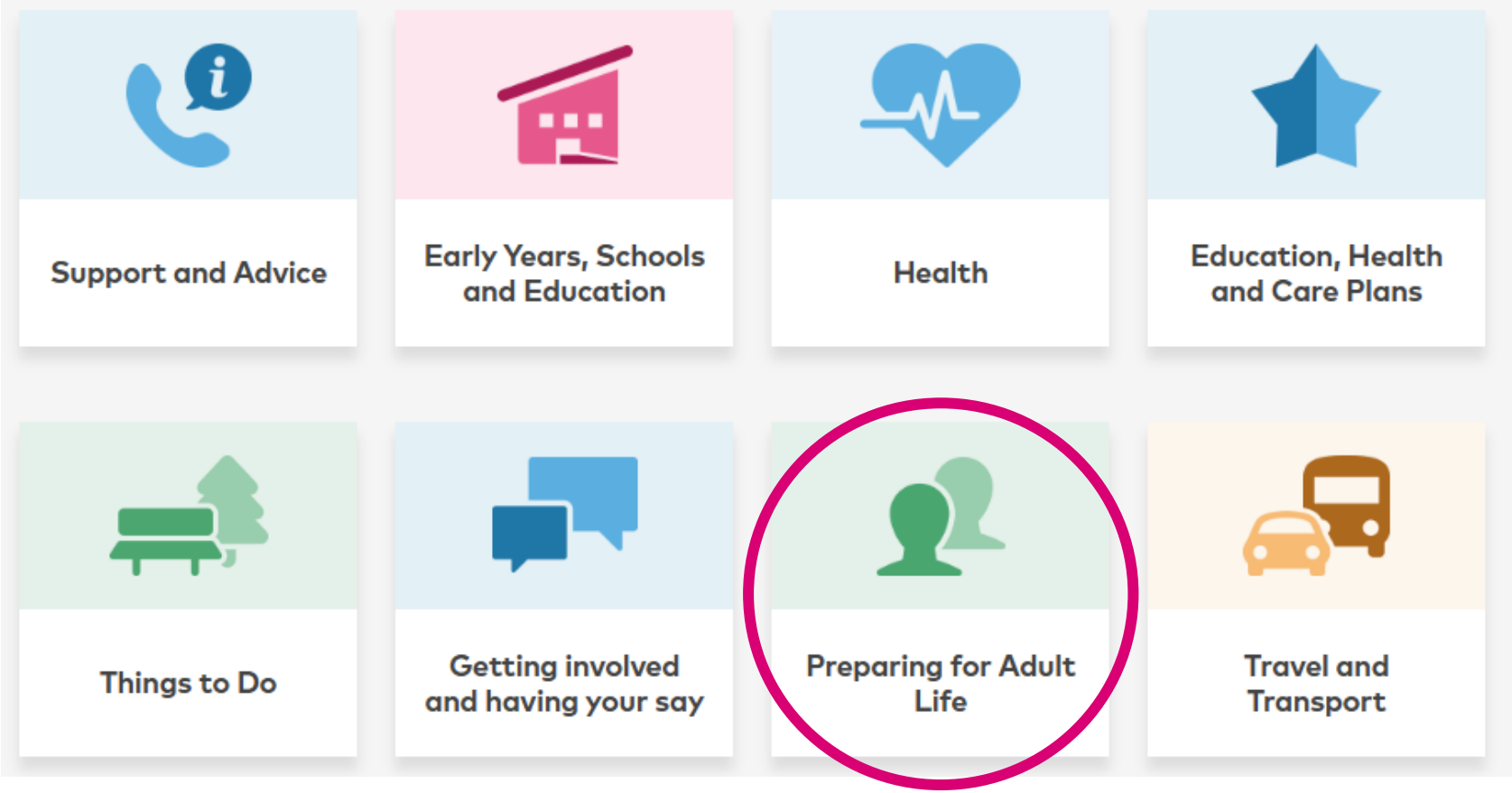
Friends, Relationships and Community

- Are they able to recognise healthy relationships?
- Are they happy with the friends they have?
- Do they feel safe if they attend any groups or activities?

Education, Employment and Training

- Do they have an idea or plan for life after high school?
- Are they able to write a CV, fill in a job application?
- Are they ready for work experience or a small part-time job?

Other Advice For Parents – PfA Support



There is a dedicated section on Salford's Local Offer all about Preparing for Adult Life.

The skills mentioned in the previous slide are all covered on the local offer. There are links to external websites, resources and much more available to help you support your child.

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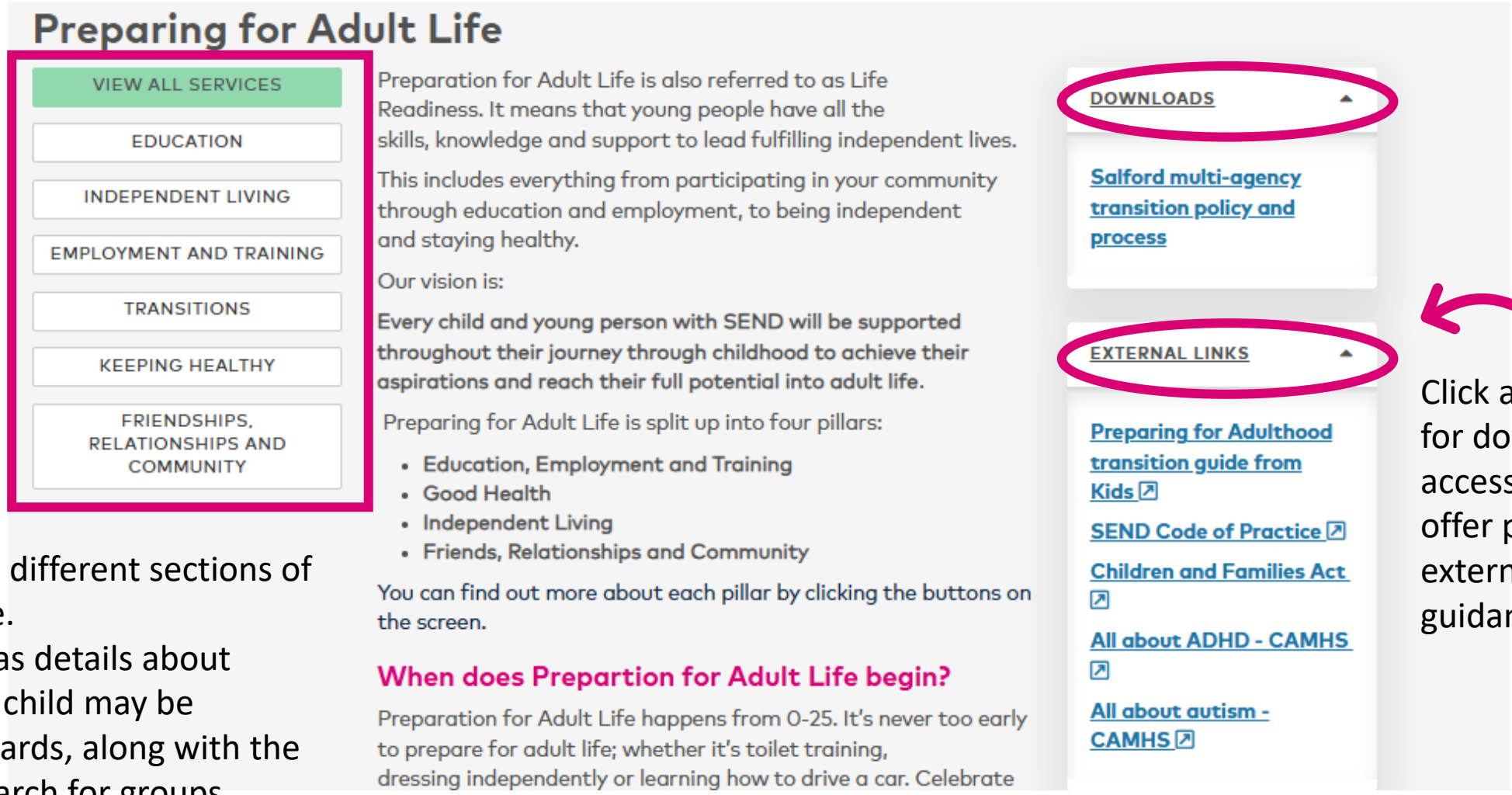
Other Advice For Parents – PfA Support



Click to view different sections of the PfA page.
Each page has details about what skills a child may be working towards, along with the option to search for groups, activities or services related to that area.

Click any of the links for downloads, access to other local offer pages and external support and guidance.

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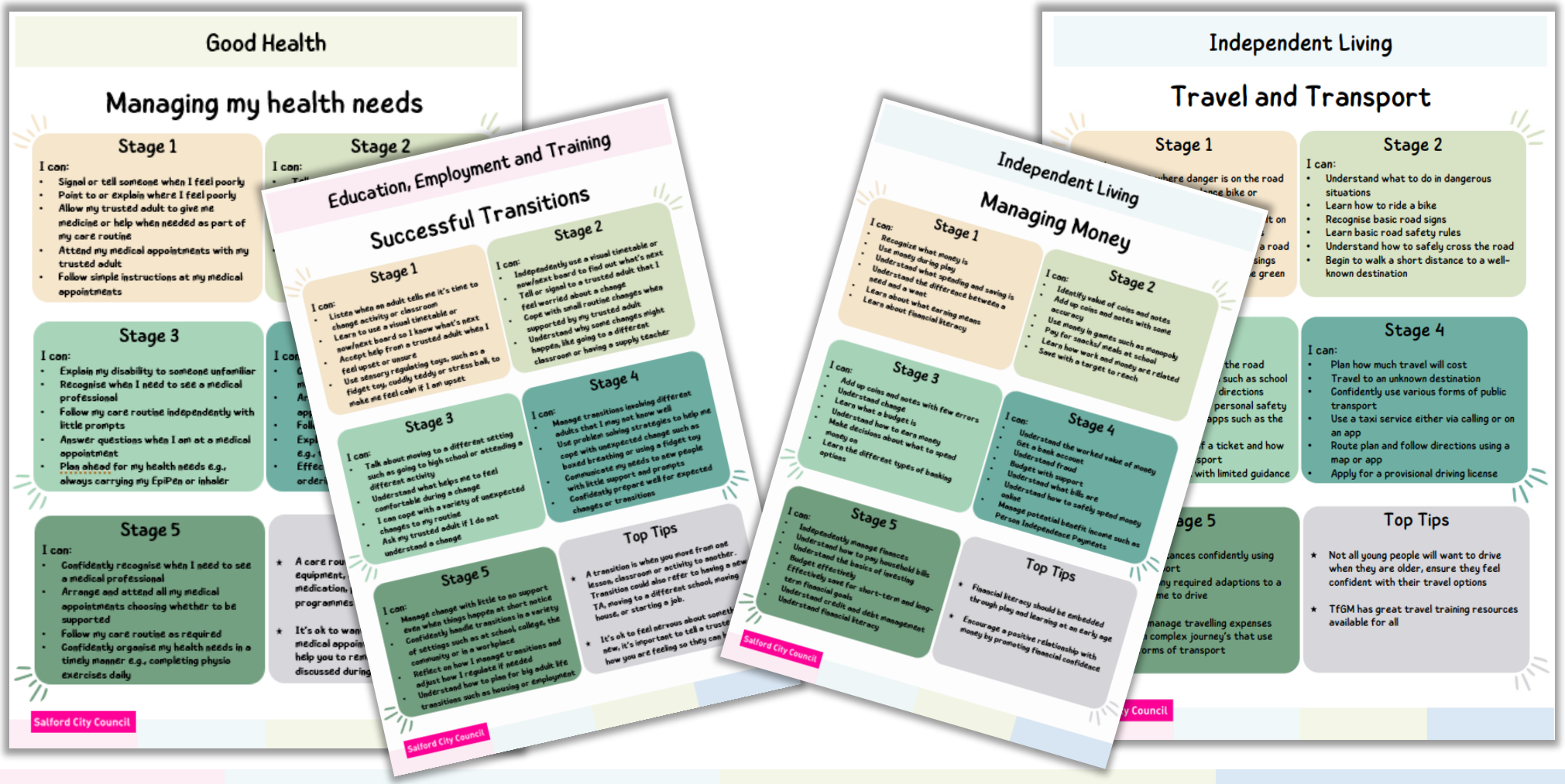
Other Advice For Parents – Key PfA Skills

There are lots of resources available on the Local Offer that support families in encouraging independence from an early age. Feel free to print these out and use them with your child.



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Other Advice For Parents – Travel Training

Travel Training is an excellent skill for life that will help your child or young person develop their confidence and independence. This could be a key developmental point in their life and its important they feel supported by their parent/carer.
There are some things to keep in mind when travel training your child/young person such as:

Travel Training

Salford City Council has two travel trainers who can provide 1-1 support for your child if they require additional support in becoming more confident in using public transport independently. To find out more you can email the team on ITT@salford.gov.uk

Route planning

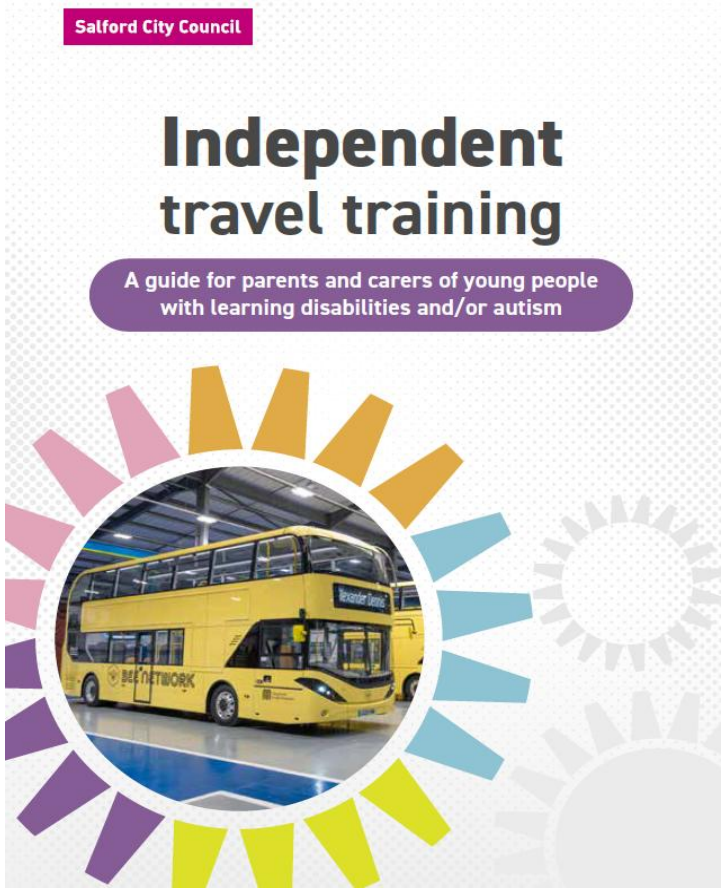
Ensuring your child knows the route to the destination they are heading to, making sure they know what bus stop to get on and off, as well as how to get back home independently, this could start by you accompanying them on their journey and once THEY feel ready, they can give it a try independently.

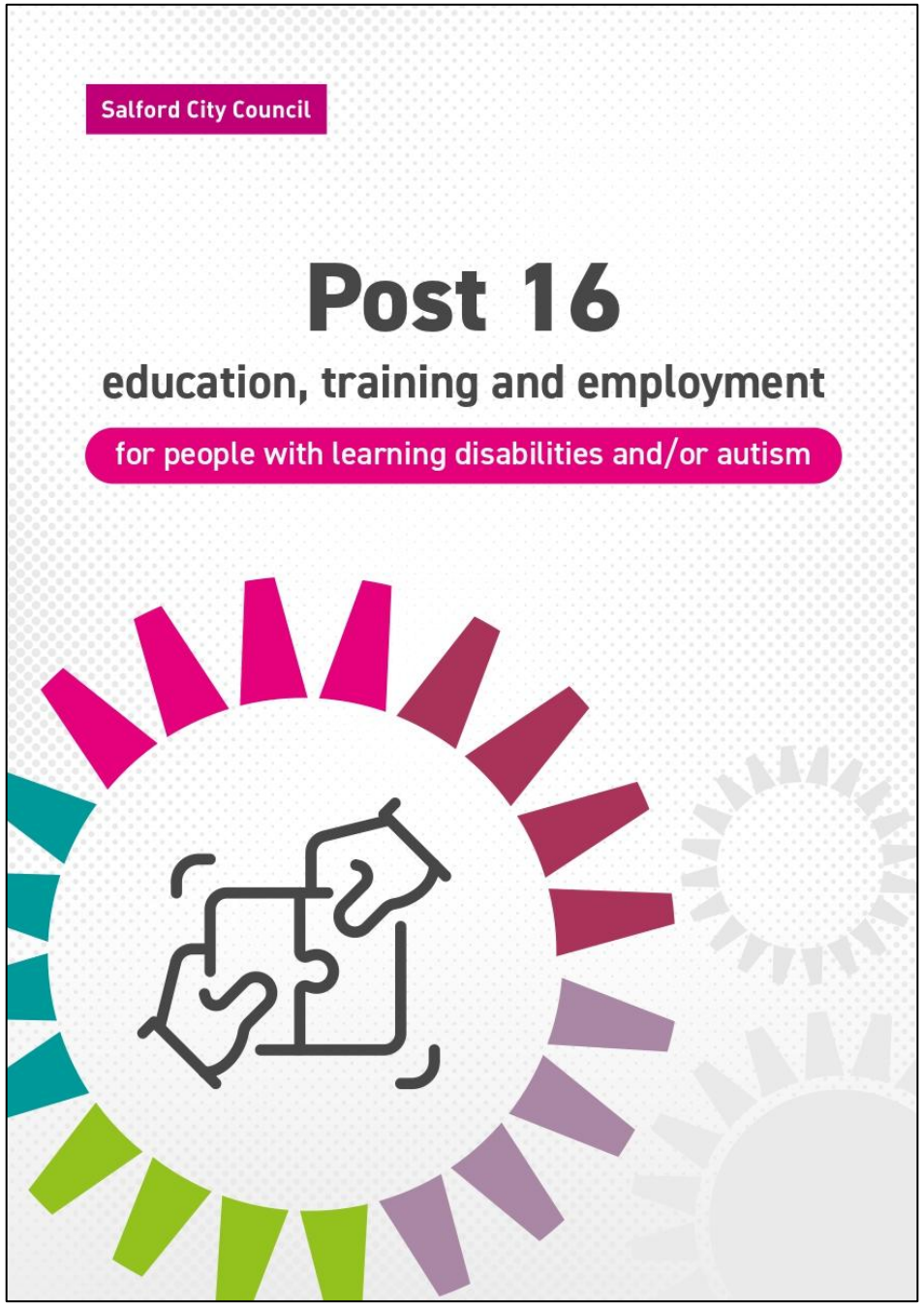
Road Safety

Does your child/young person know how to safely cross the road? This is skill that will benefit them their entire life.

Personal responsibility

Does your child remember to bring their bus pass with them? Would they know what to do if they got on the wrong bus and how would they handle this? It's important to prepare them for any circumstance they may encounter no matter how far-fetched it may seem.





Post 16

Education training & Employment

For people with learning disabilities and/or autism

Salford City Council

Next Steps

Once your child leaves school/college, there are some important decision to make for their future. Supporting them to choose the right post 16 option for them can really help to develop confidence, knowledge and experience and can get them ready for employment or further education like university.

If you or your child is unsure of what to do, you can talk to their careers advisor who will be able to provide you with even more information about the options, and point you in the right direction so that you feel comfortable and confident in the next steps

- Further Education
- Study Programme & Traineeships
- Supported Internship
- Supported Employment
- Apprenticeship

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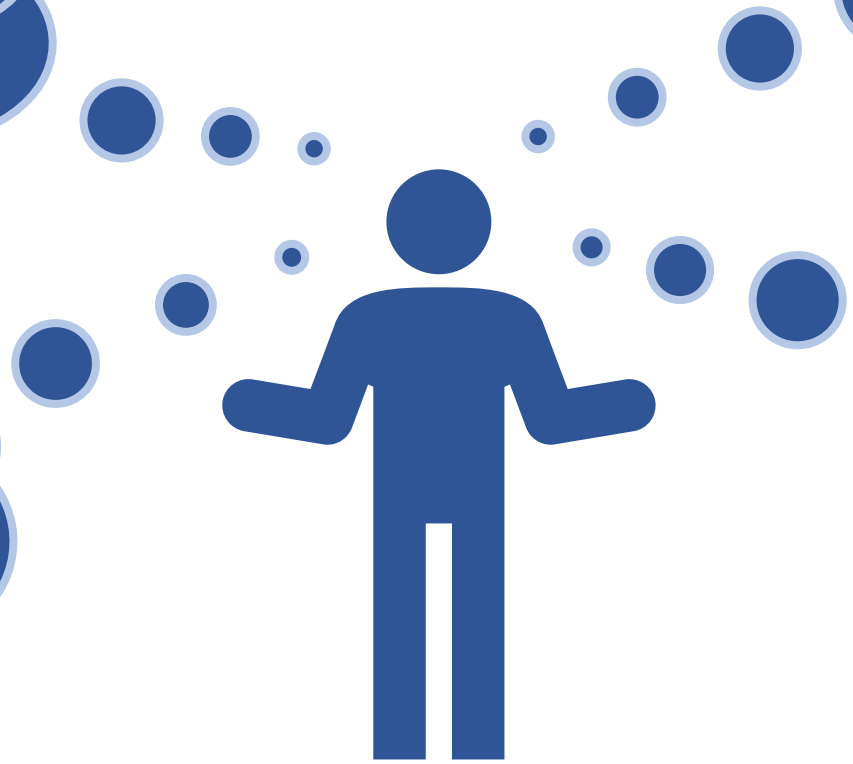
Any questions?

Did this help me understand my options?

Where do I go from here?



Do I feel more confident?

Have my questions been answered?

For further details, please contact SkillsAndWork@salford.gov.uk or PFA@salford.gov.uk