



South West College Special Educational Needs Prospectus



Welcome

It is my pleasure, on behalf of the governors and staff of South West College, to introduce this prospectus for Special Educational Needs (SEN) support.

Choosing your future is a big decision, and we are delighted that you are considering joining us.

South West College (SWC) is committed to fostering an inclusive and accessible learning environment for all students.

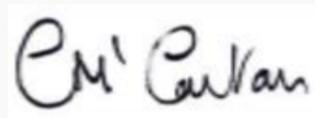
We believe every learner has the potential to succeed. Our aim is to ensure that every student – regardless of learning need, ability, or background – has access to the support, encouragement, and opportunities they need to achieve their goals. We are proud of our inclusive community, where every individual is valued and supported to reach their full potential. Whether you are joining us from school, returning to education, or exploring a new pathway, our dedicated Learning Support Team is here to make your transition to college as smooth and positive as possible.

This prospectus outlines the full range of support available to students, including one-to-one learning assistance, assistive technology, accessible facilities, and wellbeing services. At the same time, it

showcases our broader curriculum, designed to equip you with the skills, knowledge, and experience that employers are seeking – helping you stand out and succeed in further studies or your chosen career.

We are extremely proud of our learners and their achievements. Our most recent Student Survey demonstrated a high satisfaction rate, and many learners progress to employment or further studies, reflecting our commitment to educating and training the workforce of the future.

We look forward to welcoming you to South West College and supporting you on your learning journey.



Celine McCartan
Principal and Chief Executive



Support Tailored to You

Our staff are trained to provide flexible and responsive support, ensuring every student can thrive and we offer personalised support to help each learner achieve their potential.

We are committed to providing a supportive and friendly learning environment for all students. Our confidential learning support service can help students with a disability and/or learning difficulty with a range of different support mechanisms, these include:

- Learning support and reasonable adjustments for students with disabilities.
- Assistive technology and classroom accommodations.
- Mental health and wellbeing services.



Every Learner deserves the support they need to thrive

Early Discussion and Needs Assessment

If you have complex medical or personal care needs, we strongly encourage you to contact our Student Engagement and Support Manager as early as possible. A discussion will help us:

- Understand your individual requirements.
- Assess the level of support the College can reasonably provide.
- Explore any necessary adjustments that could facilitate your participation in learning.

The Learning Support Team will also meet with your parent/s/guardian/carer to ensure that a support plan is put in place that takes account of all evidence provided.



Guidance for Potential Students with Complex Medical Conditions and/or Personal Care Needs - SWC Application and Enrolment Guidelines for a SEN Student



Transition to College Life

At SWC, we warmly welcome all learners and are committed to creating an inclusive and supportive learning environment where every student has the opportunity to thrive and is valued. We understand that some students may have complex medical conditions or personal care needs, and we aim to provide appropriate support wherever possible. While we strive to make reasonable adjustments, there may be limitations in the types of personal care or medical assistance we can offer.

As a college of further education, SWC cannot provide the same level and type of facility, resource or support service, which a special educational setting can offer.

However, the College does not have the resources to provide:

- Personal care assistance (e.g., help with toileting, feeding, or mobility beyond basic reasonable adjustments).
- Medical care or supervision (e.g., administration of medication, specialist medical interventions, or emergency medical support beyond standard first aid provisions).
- One-to-one carers or support workers (students requiring this level of assistance would need to arrange external support).



Student Finance

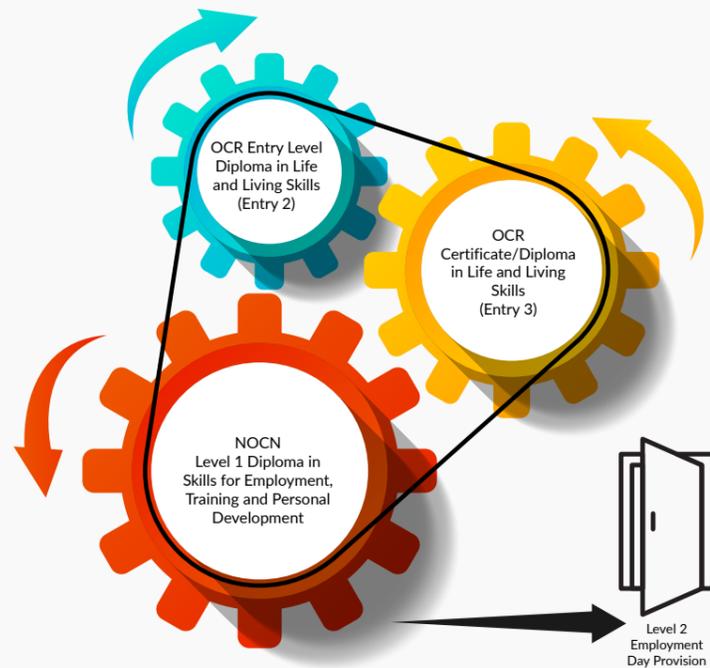
The Student Learning Support Officers are here to help ensure you have applied for all the available funding, including student support loans and bursaries, trusts and scholarships as well as accessing benefits you may be entitled to. For confidential help or advice on any issue relating to financial support, please contact the Student Learning Support Officer at your local campus.



Learning Pathways and Progression

We offer a variety of pathways to suit different goals:

Discrete SEN Programme
Entry and Progression



Following completion, learners may be able to progress to:

Foundation & Entry-Level Programmes:

- Build essential skills in literacy, numeracy, teamwork, and independence.

Vocational Pathways:

- Supported courses in Business, Health & Social Care, Engineering, Creative Arts, Hospitality, Sport, and more.
- Higher-level courses, apprenticeships, employment.

Progression Opportunities:

All new students are required to meet the Personal Tutor and Learning Support team member to complete a pre-enrolment interview prior to starting the course.

In supporting students with learning difficulties and disabilities, SWC will work in partnership with other local agencies including the Health and Social Care Trust Teams, Education Authority (EA), schools and other relevant stakeholders as appropriate.

Students who require personal or medical care services whilst studying at College will need to arrange this through their local health trust or social services department. Where the student is likely to require significant reasonable adjustment and/or one which raises health and safety issues that must be considered, the College must follow risk assessment procedures prior to confirming enrolment.

While the College will endeavour at all times to meet the needs of students with learning difficulties and disabilities, parents/carers and other stakeholders must accept that there may be occasions when College provision is unable to address the needs of that student.



Accessibility Across Our Campuses

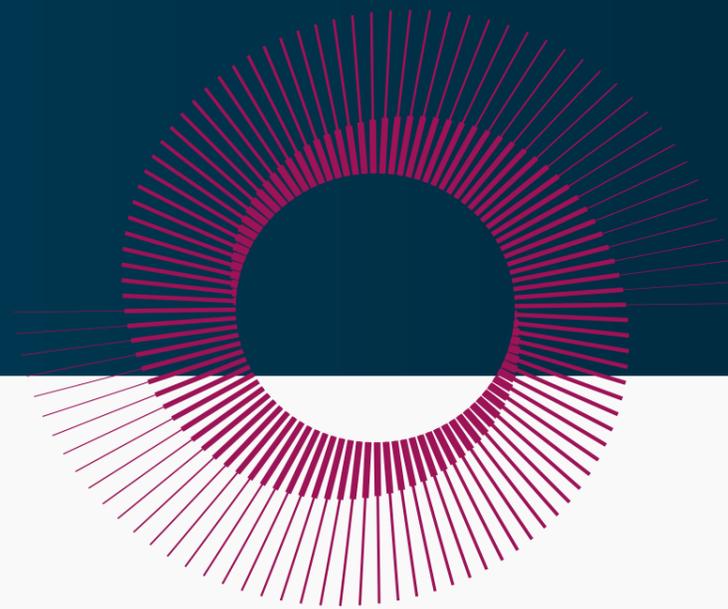
Physical Accessibility:

- Step-free access, lifts, accessible toilets, parking, quiet spaces,
- Learning & Communication Accessibility:
- Materials in various formats, assistive technology, hearing loops, and inclusive teaching methods.

Inclusive Learning Environments:

- Calm spaces, small-group or one-to-one learning, and dedicated support areas.

Our goal is to ensure every learner feels **safe, included, and empowered.**



COOKSTOWN

DUNGANNON

OMAGH

ERNE CAMPUS



Meet the Learning Support Team



Our team works closely with tutors, families, and external professionals to ensure every student thrives.

If you are considering studying at SWC and have complex medical or personal care needs:

1. Applicants must apply online and SWC staff will be in contact regarding your application.
2. Work with relevant agencies (health, social care, disability services) to explore external support options.
3. Attend a transition planning meeting, if necessary, to determine the most appropriate learning pathway.

Contact Information

For further guidance, please contact: Student Engagement and Support Manager
Email: sharon.pritchard@swc.ac.uk

Enniskillen Campus

Dermott Feely
Student Engagement Officer
Student Learning Support

dermott.feely@swc.ac.uk
028 8225 0109 Ext 2225

Dungannon & Cookstown Campuses

Sharon Watters
Student Engagement Officer with Responsibility
for Student Learning Support & Safeguarding

Sharon.watters@swc.ac.uk
028 8225 0109 Ext 3614

Omagh Campus

Judith McCusker
Student Engagement Officer
Student Learning Support

judith.mccusker@swc.ac.uk
028 8225 0109 Ext 5226

Enniskillen Campus

Michelle Carleton
Examinations Access Coordinator

michelle.carleton@swc.ac.uk
028 8225 0109 Ext 3614

OCR Diploma in Life and Living Skills (Entry 2)

This course is for people 16+ that require a course to recognise personal growth and engagement in learning. The course is designed for students with Special Educational Needs. This is a full-time course with 3 days in college, and one day work placement (work placement is not compulsory at Entry 2.)



- 📍 Cookstown
- 📍 Enniskillen
- 📍 Omagh

OCR Diploma in Life and Living Skills (Entry 3)

The OCR Entry 3 Diploma in Life and Living is a two-year programme that covers a variety of subjects to enrich students' knowledge of the communities around them, give them the skills to be independent adults and to continue to build upon their prior achievements. The course will include personal presentation and appearance, creative studies, managing money, travel, using local services, leisure activities and keeping healthy and safe. The key elements of English, maths and ICT will also be delivered.

3 days in college, half day essential skills (if necessary) and one day compulsory work placement



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- 📍 Enniskillen
- 📍 Omagh

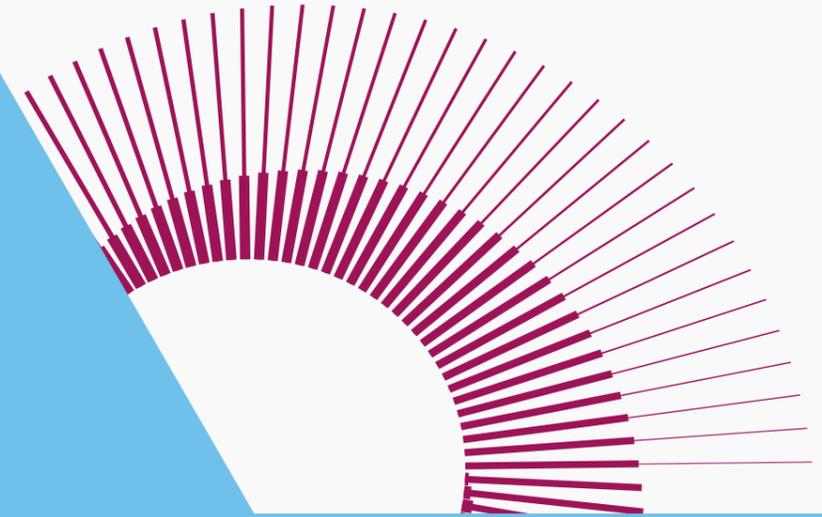


NOCN Level 1 Diploma in Skills for Employment, Training and Personal Development

The NOCN Level 1 Diploma in Skills for Employment, Training and Personal Development is a Two-year programme designed to introduce work as it introduces generic employability skills designed to build confidence for the workplace. The qualifications also contain units to address learners' needs in Personal Development, Vocational Support and Literacy and Numeracy.
3 days in college, half day essential skills (if necessary) and one day work placement - compulsory.



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- 📍 Omagh



Part-Time Courses (One Day per Week)

Omagh

Bright Sparks Social Enterprise Programme
or
City & Guilds Entry Level Diploma in Skills for Working Life (Entry 2/3)

Cookstown

City & Guilds Entry Level Diploma in Skills for Working Life (Entry 2)
or
City & Guilds Entry Level Certificate in Skills for Working Life (Entry 2)

Erne

City & Guilds Entry Level Diploma in Skills for Working Life (Entry 2)
or
City & Guilds Entry Level Certificate in Skills for Working Life (Entry 2)

OCNI Entry 3 Certificate in Vocational Skills



Local Hero: 13-Time Special Olympics Gold Medalist Embarks on Educational Journey at 50

“The support and guidance from the tutors at the College have been outstanding. As a mature student at 50, making my transition back into education seamless. I have already gained so much knowledge from the course and have acquired a wide range of employability skills”

Brian Whittendale
Erne Student



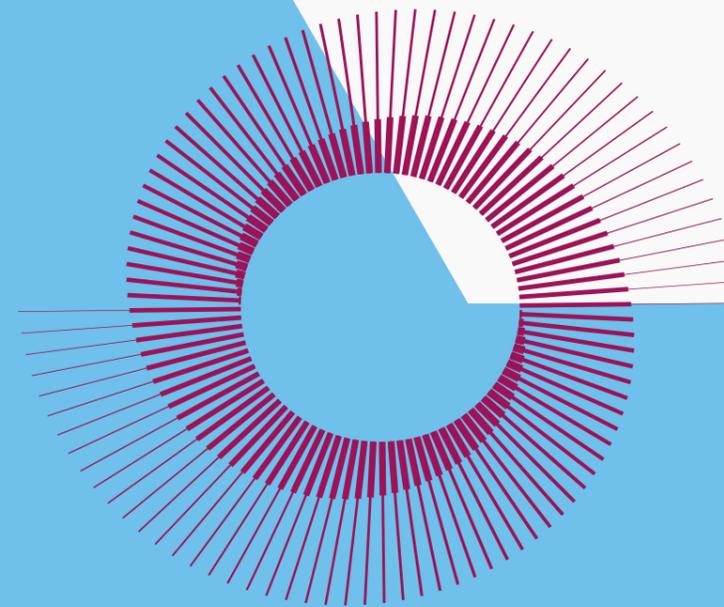
Creative Skills from Talented Cookstown Student on display at Gortalowry House

“My experience at the college has been great. I learn a lot here and all my classmates are lovely people. The staff here are all lovely as well.”

Katelynn Rushe
Cookstown Student



Student Success



Workhouse Connect Project Culminates with launch of new Walled Garden at South West College

“The Workhouse Connect project has been a fulfilling and positive journey for the students and community participants over the past year. The heritage skills they have developed as a result combined with the social and interpersonal skills will open up new opportunities for the students. We are very proud of their accomplishments, and we would encourage all visitors to the campus to spend some time at the Walled Garden over the Spring and Summer months as it blooms into life.”

David Taylor
Head of Social Inclusion



SWC SOUTH WEST COLLEGE

COOKSTOWN
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BT80 8DN

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