

STUDENT GUIDE



The Skills Hub aims to be a safe, compassionate and inclusive learning community that recognises the uniqueness of you, our learners and celebrates your success. We are dedicated to helping you develop the knowledge and skills that reflect the best of your abilities.

The Skills Hub follows a reflective and restorative approach. This allows staff to work collaboratively with you to help you overcome your challenges and grow as a person.

Our Values set out our framework for positive behaviour and high expectations: Excellence, Resilience, Compassion, Growth and Inclusion. We see strong relationships as key to our success and work hard to build trust and understanding with you. We will work with your families and other professionals in an open and transparent way to support you on your journey. We will do all we can, to be the best we can possibly be, and help you to be your best too.

This leaflet aims to answer some of the questions you may have before joining us at The Skills Hub. We look forward to meeting you and working together. Together we can do great things!

Paul Chambers, Principal

OUR VALUES

***Excellence
through
Compassion***



Your Questions Answered....

Is The Skills Hub a school?

The Skills Hub is an Alternative Provision for students aged 11–16 who cannot attend mainstream school for a variety of reasons. We pride ourselves in working with you as an individual and many of our students say The Skills Hub feels very different from the school they have come from.

How long will I stay at The Skills Hub?

Some of our students return to their school after a short period of 6 weeks. Others, particularly those in Year 11, stay with us for the whole year and sit their exams at The Skills Hub.

What should I wear at The Skills Hub?

Students usually wear a black sweatshirt, or white polo shirt with the school logo on with plain black trousers, or a skirt and black shoes/trainers. School sweatshirts and polo shirts can be purchased from school office.

What should I bring with me?

We will supply all the equipment you need but some students like to bring their own notebook and pens. You don't need to wear designer clothes, jewellery or bring in expensive items such as mobile phones. If you do bring any of these items, we will ask you to put them in your named bag so they can be kept safe in the office until it is time to go home.

What happens when I arrive?

Every morning you will be greeted by a member of staff. They will check you don't have any items that are banned such as vapes or lighters and ask you to put personal belongings such as your mobile phone in a clear plastic bag with your name on. This will be locked away until the end of the school day.

When do I need to be at The Skills Hub?

You should aim to arrive by 9.15am every morning. We have a breakfast club from 9.15–9.45am and you must be in school by 9.45am. Our day finishes at 3pm every day except Friday when students are dismissed at 2.10pm. You can see the times of our school day below.

School Day

09.15am - 09.45am - Optional Breakfast Club

10.00am - 10.45am - Lesson 1

10.45am - 11.30am - Lesson 2

11.30am - 11.45am - Break

11.45am - 12.30pm - Lesson 3 *

12.30pm - 1.15pm - Lesson 4 *

1.15pm - 1.55pm - Lunch

1.55pm - 2.10pm - Assembly **

2.10pm - 2.55pm - Lesson 5

2.55pm - 3pm - Reflection/Dismissal

3pm - End of School Day

* On a Friday you will do enrichment activities like cooking or sport

** On a Friday you will be dismissed after our weekly awards assembly at 2.10pm

What's for lunch?

A selection of freshly prepared hot meals is available every day and we encourage everyone to sit down and eat together in the dining room at lunchtime. If you have any allergies or dietary requirements please let the office know



What will I learn at The Skills Hub?

You will study many of the subjects that you have studied before and follow the National Curriculum so you will be confident if you return to a mainstream school. We personalise the subjects and try to make sure lessons are engaging, fun and accessible as we recognise there may be things you have missed. Below is a list of subjects we offer at The Skills Hub.

Key Stage 3 (Years 7, 8 & 9)	Key Stage 4 (Years 10 & 11)
English	English Language – reading, writing, speaking and listening
Maths	Maths
PSHE	PSHE
Science	Science (Biology) and combined science
PE	PE
Extended Learning Curriculum (every Friday)	English Literature
	Child Development
	Mechanics
	Citizenship
	Duke of Edinburgh
	Extended Learning Curriculum (every Friday)

What is the Extended Learning Curriculum?

Every Friday after break you will be able to take part in activities such as cooking, outdoor activities, physical activities and trips and visits in the community. We hope you will find these activities fun and they will help to build your confidence and other skills such as team work and communication.

Will I be able to sit my exams?

Each of these subjects are pitched at GCSE, functional skills and unit award levels and we will support you to gain the qualifications you need for your next steps, whether it be college or traineeships.

Who will teach me?

We have qualified and passionate teachers who are committed to helping you achieve your best.

Our teachers are assisted by dedicated learning support assistants who can give additional support and guidance in the classroom.

What are Skills Coaches?

Each student is assigned a Skills Coach and they will be your first point of contact. Their job is to make sure everything is okay and support you. You can ask them questions and they will track your progress and attendance. They will also have regular contact with your family and can help if you are having a tough time outside of school.



Feedback from family member of a Year 11 student

You have been absolutely amazing and I'm forever grateful for everything you have done.



What facilities does The Skills Hub have?

We recently moved into a brand-new purpose-built building on Falling Lane. You will be learning in bright and airy classrooms and specialist teaching facilities for Art, Design Technology, Food Technology, Science and Sport. We also have an indoor sports hall, and two artificial sports pitches, as well as outside space to use when the weather is good.

How will I know how I am doing?

We have very small class sizes and you will get to know your teachers and the Teaching Assistants who support you very well. They will talk to you and let you know how you are doing. Good work and behaviour are rewarded with ePraise points that you can use for fun trips at the end of each half term.

We also celebrate achievements at our Awards Assembly every Friday and your parents/carers are invited in to meet the staff who work with you at the beginning of each term on Families Day.

What should I do if I'm ill?

We expect you to come to school every day and will always contact home if you do not arrive in the morning. If you are ill or unable to attend, we ask parents/carers to phone the school office by 9am to let us know you will not be in school that day.



I've got more questions, who can I ask?

Please ask us when you visit us or you can telephone the school office and we will call you back if we can't answer your question straight away.

You can also find lots more information on the school website.

Feedback from parent

My son attended the Skills Hub before transitioning back into a mainstream school. Things have now settled down considerably for him and he's starting to do well again.

Contact us

The Skills Hub, Falling Lane, Yiewsley, UB7 8AB

Tel: 01895 447 102

Email: info@theskillshub.org

Website: www.theskillshub.org



You will find more information about The Skills Hub on our website. Or do please contact us if you require further information or would like to arrange an initial conversation or visit.