



## **Introduction**

Langdon College is the only national independent residential specialist Further Education College for Jewish students aged 16 to 25 years with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. Situated in North Manchester, the College is placed in the heart of an active and supportive Jewish community.

Excellent links with local Jewish organisations ensure an appropriate response to each student's educational, vocational, social, recreational, cultural and religious needs.

Individual College programmes of residential or day are available for 38 weeks for up to a three year period, and are regularly reviewed to ensure student needs are met.

The College's residential programme incorporates courses in independent living, community and vocational skills, skills in literacy, numeracy, information communication technology and communication, and personal health, social and recreational activities.

All programmes are inclusive, focussed on enabling the student to access the community, live a more independent life, and where appropriate, engage in further education, training or employment.

Students are actively encouraged to strive towards nationally recognised qualifications both within Langdon and the local general Further Education Colleges.

Emphasis is also placed on creating an environment within which students pursue work placement opportunities as part of their individual learning programme designed to prepare them for an appropriate post-college life.

## **Student Numbers & Support**

The College currently provides for 16 residential and 4 day students, with provision for 25 to 30 students in total. The students are supported by a high ratio of staff (1:3 and where required 1:1) who offer guidance, support and encouragement in their personal, social, emotional and academic development.

## **Education and Training**

Langdon College is committed to offering students an inclusive multifaceted extended curriculum which provides access to a range of nationally recognised qualifications, independent living skills, vocational training, and work experience and, social and leisure development opportunities designed to meet individual requirements.

Skills for Life in literacy, numeracy, communication and ICT are an integral part of all the programmes offered. The Essential Skills Award functions across the curriculum and student targets are intrinsically linked to this methodology. The Team Enterprise programme offers students the opportunity to develop a range of business and employment related skills.

Students have the opportunity to develop skills in national vocational qualifications, such as Travel & Tourism, Child Care, Business Administration, Catering and Horticulture accredited through Eccles, Salford, or Bury Colleges.

Personal health and social education includes behaviour management and improvement, advocacy, interpersonal relationships, citizenship, and community skills. In addition curricular areas such as Drama, Dance, Music, Photography, Gardening, Art and Craft, Health and Beauty Therapy are offered.

Sport recreation and leisure, essential to the practical and cognitive development of the student is also incorporated. The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme at Bronze and Silver level is also available to further develop these skills.



“Langdon College focuses on the development of confident and competent young people able to play a full and active role in the economic and cultural life of their community on leaving the College.”

*As quoted by Ofsted, November 2006 Grade 2, Good in all areas.*

Independent Living Skills focuses on Personal Hygiene/Care, Household Domestic Skills, such as food preparation, cooking, food hygiene and safety in the house, the general use of public transport, community amenities, and personal finance.

All students attending the College are required to participate in the Jewish Lifestyle programme and all aspects of the Jewish curriculum.



Students on work placement attend employment skills sessions and have access to careers advice and guidance. Support from College staff and local career advisors enables realistic decisions and informed choices to be made about a student's future placement or employment prospect. Work experience is offered in many local establishments off-site.



“Langdon College helped me to get a vocational qualification”

“Ever since my work experience placement I have been working for an estate agent and living in my own flat”

## **Leisure & Social Development**

The leisure and social development programmes encourage each student to develop self-confidence and build and maintain relationships and friendships. Students are able to access a range of sporting activities including football, basketball, swimming, tennis and golf. These programmes may be held at the Manchester Maccabi centre with which the College has a special relationship or the Broughton or Bury Leisure centre complexes.



Other regular activities include visits to the cinema, local restaurants, public attractions and exhibitions, theatre, ten-pin bowling, discos plus active involvement in a variety of festivals throughout the year. Students regularly attend the local synagogue and take an active part in communal activities.

## **Ethnic and Cultural Diversity**

Residential students come from Jewish communities in London, the North West and North East. Day students generally come from the local Jewish communities but some may be members of the wider culturally diverse community of Greater Manchester. Students attend religious services and cultural events throughout the year. While only Kosher food is allowed on the premises all students' individual dietary needs are met within those criteria.

## **Post College Preparation**

Regular students reviews with parents, advocates and other professional colleagues in attendance provides the opportunity to work together to put in place and achieve real goals in the transition from College to community living

Langdon College has a duty to advise students and parents on the most appropriate post-college placement. Any information, advice and guidance given will be based on that premise by utilising our knowledge and expertise and that of Connexions PA's and other professionals.

Considerable emphasis is placed on the students during their last year to develop work skills, enabling them to make a significant contribution to their community.

## **Enquiry and Application Process**

Parents / Professional colleagues arrange an initial visit during term time, to view the College facilities and, meet students and staff in order to determine its suitability.

After the initial interview, if a student placement is required, parents would complete an application form and provide additional professional reports (if appropriate) for an initial desk study to be completed. Upon completion of the study a date is arranged for the applicant to attend a two/three day assessment. On completion of the initial assessment a decision is made regarding their suitability, and if applicable, a start date is offered and funding support requested from the relevant body.

The Learning and Skills Council is the primary funding body but the Social Services, Department of Health or Local Education Authority or a combination thereof may contribute to the funding.

Parents will also need to contact their Education Authority or Social Services prior to the start date to ensure transport funding has been authorised.

## **Student Handbook and Charter**

Coming to College is a big step and students need clear guidance and information on what is provided by the College and what in turn is expected from them. The Student Handbook and Charter, provides guidance on all aspects of College provision, practices and requirements, highlighting agreed protocols, student expectations and indicating the steps to take if a student is unhappy with any part of the service offered.

## **Care and Control**

Where a student may be at risk of hurting themselves or others, or if the behaviour seriously disrupts good order in the College or causes damage to property, staff may need to take steps to intervene physically. The College policy offers very clear guidelines on this sensitive area.

## **Financial Control**

All students coming to Langdon College are offered the choice of maintaining their own bank account, continuing with parental financial management or using the College appointee-ship system.

## **Inspection**

The College is subject to regular inspection by Commission for Social Care and Inspection and through the Department for Children and Family Services designated Inspection Unit i.e. Ofsted. Monitoring visits are also carried out by Ofsted and the regional Learning & Skills Council.

## **Accommodation for students**

### *Fylde House, Melton Road*

Fylde House is a large double fronted house providing up to ten students with a moderate to high level of support. Students have their own rooms and are encouraged to personalise them as they would at home.

There are two spacious lounges, one for television and music, the other for computers and games and, an extremely large kitchen with split cooking and dining facilities.

The emphasis at Fylde House is to build the foundation for independent living and provide plenty of opportunity to increase knowledge, skills and develop good citizenship. Individual programmes are designed to meet each student's needs from personal hygiene and care of belongings to cooking a meal for a large group or working together as a member of the team. Students flourish and gain the necessary skills to move on to the smaller units in the community.

### *Tewkesbury Drive*

Tewkesbury comprises two large semi-detached houses situated in a residential area within walking distance of the College.

Tewkesbury offers accommodation of a very high standard. Each student has their own bedroom. There are two lounges, two activity/music rooms, with T.V. and video facilities, two dining rooms and kitchens, laundries, shower rooms/bathrooms and large gardens.

## **The Independent Living Flats**

The flats offer a variety of settings in which our students, with appropriate levels of staff support can develop and achieve a greater level of independence and take the opportunity to increase their personal skills.

Each of our flats has 2 or 3 bedrooms, including staff accommodation, and all are furnished to a high standard. All Students are encouraged to personalise their rooms with photographs, pictures and bring such items as televisions, CD Players, videos and books with them.

All students are encouraged to take part in the day to day decision making of independent living such as taking part in planning weekly menus, negotiating the cleaning tasks and taking responsibilities for their living environment. They are able to learn in this environment and live within a budget. Through their experience of using local resources, students are able to improve their quality of life and to plan realistic options.

## **Transition**

At Langdon College, students are formally prepared to move on from the College environment through a planned transition strategy (twelve months before a student's leaving date).

This process takes the form of internal and external formal meetings together with planning tools to support students in making decisions about their future. Students will attend employment skills sessions and have further access to careers information, advice and guidance and work experience opportunities.

Transition is the time in a young person's life when plans are made to move from full-time college to one of a variety of options such as:

- Permanent Supporting Living
- Return to Home Town with an Individual Package supported by local agencies
- Local Community Placements
- Manchester or London Langdon Community Placements
- Supported Employment
- Part or Full-time Employment
- Part-time Further Education Courses
- Full-time Vocational Courses

“Hi I live with Ben and Daniel in Manchester and joined the Community in 2004. I work at Princes Park Garden Centre and am now part of the team who work on ‘off-site’ contracts. One day I would like to learn to drive the tractor at work”.



Langdon Community placements are an extension to the residential and day provision already provided by the College. Students (now residents) will spend part of their time involved in general Further Education College activities, work placements and employment opportunities and supported community access - funding will shift from Learning and Skills Council to Social Services, Health or Supported Living.

“I joined the Community in 2003 and lived in Manchester until October 2005 when Langdon helped me to move to North London. I now live at Pears House in Edgware with two friends. I was able to greet the Chief Rabbi when he came to open the house for the Foundation. Langdon helped me to get my NVQ in Catering and to find a job.

I now have a full-time paid job working in a busy kitchen in Bushey for Eurest Catering. When I got my first payslip Langdon arranged for it to be framed for me as a souvenir.”



## Next Step

To apply for a place at Langdon, contact the College, arrange for an application form to be sent and/or a time for an initial visit to meet staff and students.

If the College can meet your needs, complete the Application Form providing as much information as possible and attach the following documentation: most recent School Report; Educational Psychologist's report; Statement of Special Educational Needs; and, if the student is receiving specialist support, for instance, dyslexia, speech therapy, dyspraxia or physiotherapy, then that latest report is also required. It is essential we have knowledge of all relevant health and behavioural issues to ensure we offer the best possible package of care and supervision.

On receipt of the application form an evaluation is carried out and if appropriate, the College and parents/guardian arrange an assessment for the student, which takes the form of a 'Two/Three Day Trial', allowing the student to experience all aspects of College life. On completion of the trial period, the College will forward an assessment report to the sponsoring agency.

The Report will state whether a provisional place will be offered, the level of support needed, the use if required, of the Community Learning Disabilities Services Team, and an outline of the Individual Learning Plan.

A letter will be issued to the student and parents' indicating a place is being offered. If a provisional place is offered, parents and student need to decide whether Langdon College is their **'first choice'** and notify the College and Learning and Skills Council accordingly, in writing.



Meetings will be held by the sponsoring agency i.e. Connexions Personal Adviser and the Learning and Skills Council's Learning Disabilities Placement Officer. Student and parents will be notified in writing from the LSC whether funding for a placement has been agreed. Parents should then contact the Local Education Authority to agree funding for transport.

Christopher Mayho  
Principal

## CURRICULUM

SKILLS FOR LIFE	VOCATIONAL (Via General Further Education Colleges)	JEWISH LIFESTYLE	PERSONAL HEALTH & SOCIAL EDUCATION	INDEPENDENT LIVING SKILLS
Communication Alternative Methods of Communication (AMC) I.C.T. Literacy Numeracy Business Challenge	I.C.T. Child Care Horticulture Catering Travel & Tourism Business Administration Hairdressing Sports & Leisure	Hospitality Hebrew Festivals Shabbat Synagogue (Shul) History Careers Access to Religious Studies Essential Skills Skills for Life	Behaviour Management Self-awareness Advocacy Leisure & Recreational Citizenship Health & Beauty Sport / Recreation Drama / Music / Movement Photography / Video / Ipods / Mobiles Art / Craft Gardening Duke of Edinburgh Award Essential Skills Skills for Life	Personal Hygiene/Care Domestic Skills Risk Awareness & Safety Shopping Practical Cookery Money/Budgeting Home Maintenance Community Access Travel First Aid Food Hygiene Behaviour Management Essential Skills Skills for Life Work Experience