

2025-26

The
Autism
Project



The Autism Project

Pathways towards independence and employment
for 18-24 year olds, our pathways include:

- ✔ Functional Skills
- ✔ Employability
- ✔ Speech & Language Therapy
- ✔ Travel training
- ✔ Work experience
- ✔ Socials



What is The Autism Project (TAP)?



- The Autism Project is a special post-16 institution which runs independence and employment focused pathways for young adults
- The Autism Project is part of CareTrade, a charity which supports autistic adults
- All TAP pathways support young adults to progress towards their EHCP outcomes and increase their independence
- TAP also runs employment focused pathways to prepare young adults for work
- The Autism Project is rated as a 'Good' provider by Ofsted



Our Pathways



- TAP have 1, 2 or 3 year pathway options
- Learners will be assessed before joining the project as part of our admissions process
- An appropriate pathway will be chosen based on their needs, aspirations and EHCP outcomes
- All of our pathways support and prepare learners to identify their aspirations and develop transferrable skills for their futures
- After each year, learners will be reassessed to ensure the next year on their pathway is right for them
- Progress and next steps will be discussed at the learner's EHCP annual review

Who is TAP suitable for?

- The Autism Project (TAP) is suitable for young autistic adults, those who identify as autistic and those who would benefit from a programme designed to support autistic individuals
- Those wishing to apply for TAP must have an active Education, Health and Care Plan



Building Independence (1 year)



Intent:

- To build, embed and expand on skills for life
- To identify aspirational outcomes for next steps
- To offer a person centred curriculum based on the Preparing for Adulthood framework

Implementation:

- Independence/adulthood sessions e.g., daily living tasks, strategies for good health and wellbeing, community involvement projects
- Travel training sessions
- Personal and social development sessions
- Functional Skills classes (Maths & English)
- Insight days with employers

Impact:

- Learners are better prepared for their next steps into adulthood
- Learners have built independence skills and developed confidence, better wellbeing and increased resilience



Introduction to Employment (1 year)



Intent:

- To equip our learners with the knowledge, skills and experience that will empower them to understand how to pursue a career in their chosen vocational area
- To build upon competencies and abilities developed prior

Implementation:

- 'Skill Up' sessions (Skills for Work)
- Careers information, advice & guidance
- Work experience placements supported by a Job Coach
- Personal and social development sessions
- Functional Skills classes (Maths & English)
- Insight days with employers

Impact:

- Learners have greater confidence and independence, and will have developed their knowledge, transferrable skills, and aptitudes for the world of work



**Supported
Internship
(1 year)**



Intent:

- To immerse learners into a workplace and support them with the recruitment process enabling them to move from education into employment
- Learners will be able to demonstrate skills they have developed and successfully transition to employment

Implementation:

- Careers sessions; CV building, creating a skills portfolio, job searching and application support
- Mock interviews with external organisations
- Work experience placements supported by a Job Coach
- Functional Skills classes (if needed)
- Personal and social development sessions

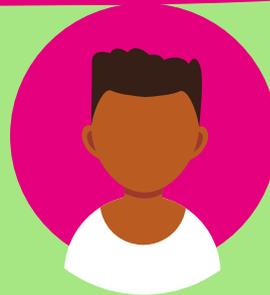
Impact:

- Learners further develop work skills and are better able to sustain employment
- They leave education ready for employment equipped with skills for life and adulthood

Which pathway is suitable for me?



"I am leaving school soon and I don't know what to do. I don't travel by myself but I want to. I'd like to go out by myself, go to the shop on my own and learn how to cook. I have never had any work experience and I'm not sure what job I would like to do in the future."



"You should complete our 3 year pathway. You will work to build on your independence and life skills first with a view to then progressing onto your employment goals in future."

TAP 3 year pathway

Building Independence
(1 year)



Introduction to Employment
(1 year)



Supported Internship
(1 year)

Which pathway is suitable for me?



"I have started doing some short journeys by myself. I'm not sure what job I would like in the future but I've had a week's work experience in a café when I was at school."



The
Autism
Project

"You should complete our 2 year pathway which will give you the chance to increase your travel independence and complete lots of work experience placements. It will also help you to find and apply for jobs in your second year."

TAP 2 year pathway

**Introduction
to
Employment**
(1 year)



**Supported
Internship**
(1 year)

Which pathway is suitable for me?



"I can travel by myself and do most things around the house. I have a fair bit of work experience and volunteer at a charity shop but I can't seem to get paid work."



"You should complete our 1 year pathway. This will give you the chance to get lots of work experience and build your CV. You can take part in practice interviews, and staff will support you to create a career plan and apply for jobs."

TAP 1 year pathway

**Supported
Internship**
(1 year)

Francis' Journey



Francis joined TAP after finishing at college

Francis completed a 2 year pathway. He had placements in patient transport at Guy's Hospital, Gentleman Baristas Café in Southwark & the front desk in H10 Hotel Waterloo

Francis was supported to apply for jobs during careers classes at TAP and his hard work paid off

Francis now has a full-time paid role working as a Porter at St Thomas' Hospital



**"All the training and work placements have been brilliant.
I am so pleased to have a full-time porter job at St Thomas's Hospital!"**

-Francis

Curtis' Journey



Curtis joined TAP after leaving school

Curtis completed a 2 year pathway. Through completing placements in kitchens and cafés he developed a keen interest in catering and hospitality.

Curtis completed his level 1 and level 2 Food Hygiene certificates and in his final placement at a local restaurant, he was offered a paid job.

Curtis now works at the restaurant and pops by every Tuesday evening to play in our band 'UnTapped'.



**"My first day at work was amazing they taught me how to make a kebab with prawn. They were impressed with my work, they thought I was fast!
I love playing in the TAP band because we get together and write songs."**

-Curtis

**We offer lots of enrichment and social activities for learners on all pathways.
This could include:**



Wellbeing support and sessions

- art and mindfulness
- health challenges
- celebration of events together such as Autism Acceptance Week
- speakers and talks for confidence building

We have a **band** called **UnTapped**.
Learners can join weekly practice and have the chance to perform at gigs.
All levels and experience welcome!

Personal & Social Development sessions

- relationships, friendships & dating
- healthy living
- mental health, emotional regulation and self-care
- community and social action
- diversity & inclusion- understanding own identity and respecting others

Speech & Language Therapy

- identifying strategies for class and the workplace
- 1 to 1s
- small group sessions

Travel training

- confidence building
- travel planning
- personal safety
- TAP has been awarded TfL Gold Star accreditation



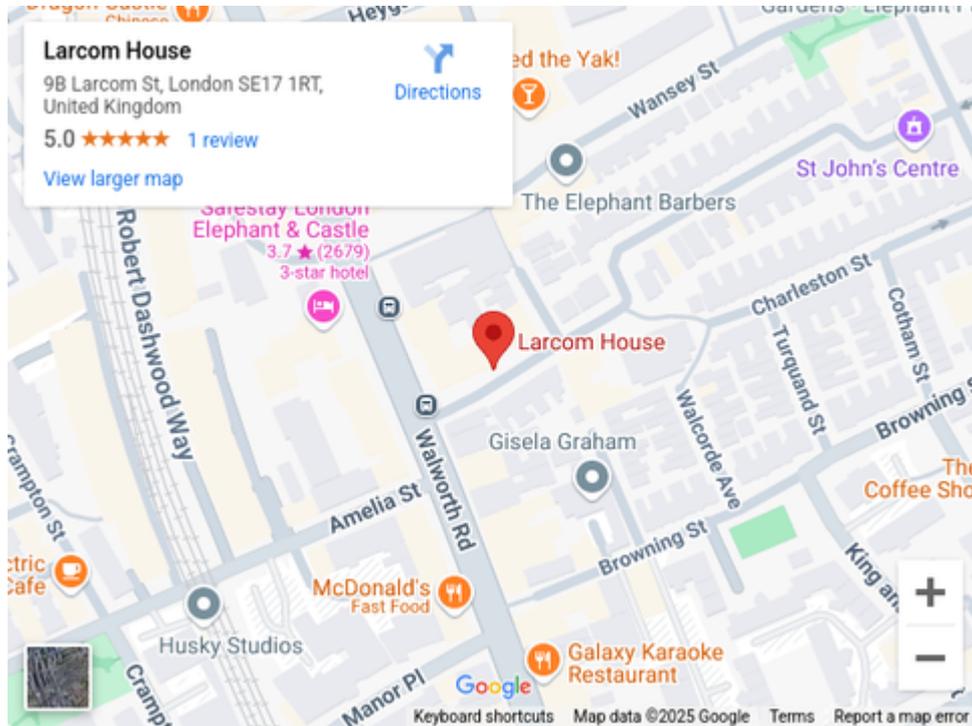
Social events and support to access the community

- half termly social events
- summer socials
- signposting to local clubs and events

Where are we based?



**The Autism Project main base is located at:
Larcom House, 9 Larcom Street SE17 1RT**



**The nearest bus stops are A, B, C, D, and Z.
The buses that stop there are 12, 35, 40, 45, 68,
148, 171, 176, 468, P5. The nearest station is
Elephant and Castle.**

**The outside
of the
building looks
like this**



If you use What3Words our reference is [///easy.chin.shins](https://www.what3words.com/?w3w=///easy.chin.shins)

Criteria



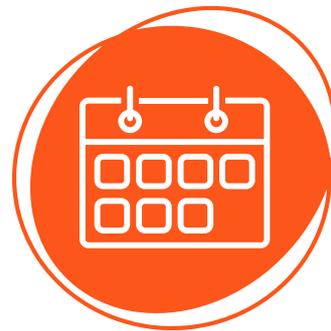
In order to apply for The Autism Project you must:



**be aged
between 18 & 24
years old**



**have an Education
Health & Care
Plan (EHCP)**



**be available
Monday- Friday**



**be an independent
traveller or have
travel support to get
to our main base**



**want to improve
your skills and work
towards your EHCP
outcomes**

How do I apply?



The best way is to name
The Autism Project
as your preferred next provision in your annual
review or contact your EHCP coordinator

or

email admissions@caretradeuk.org
for support in applying

CONTACT US



020 3375 6288



TAP@caretradeuk.org



www.care-trade.org



EA
Employment Autism
opportunity in work | fulfilment in life



CareTrade Charitable Trust is a registered charity in England and Wales 1127890