



Destinations

We had an increase in College applications again this year, which has steadily increased over the previous few years. A lot of students would like to take up an apprenticeship but with the stiff competition for each vacancy and the need for grade 4 in Maths and English, there have been limited apprenticeships secured.

You're off to Great Places!
Today is your day!
Your mountain is waiting.
So... get on your way!

Over the past two years, College places have become over subscribed in all subjects and some of our students have been put on a waiting list, if they haven't managed to meet the entry requirement. This can be quite unsettling for our students and since September, staff have worked with students who have been in this situation to find an alternative destination. Even alternative provisions have seen a rise in applications, therefore leaving few alternatives for our students, who find themselves on waiting lists.

This year, we are encouraging and assisting students to apply for College courses as soon as they open up online, to try and secure a place for September 2026.



Student's College Choices included:

- Psychology
- Forensics
- Animal Care
- Construction
- Hair & Beauty
- Special Effects
- Learning Mentor

Site	Number of Students	Destinations	Total Number of Students	Planned Destination Attended
Blueprint	16	College	18	89%
	2	NEET		
CSEC	12	College	23	87%
	4	Apprenticeship		
	2	Training provider		
	3	Employment		
	1	Not met		
	1	NEET		
Orchard House	5	College	9	89%
	2	Alternative Provision		
	1	Employment		
	1	NEET		
Shortenills Forest	4	College	9	100%
	5	Alternative Provision		
Shortenills Abbey	4	College	8	100%
	4	Alternative Provision		
Home Tuition North	8	College	13	100%
	1	Apprenticeship		
	2	Sixth form		
	2	Training provider		
Home Tuition South	5	College	14	86%
	4	Sixth form		
	1	Employment		
	2	Alternative Provision		
	2	NEET		

Having spoken with parents of students from Orchard House, who have moved on this year to College, they have said the students are so happy and thriving in a mainstream setting, which is very encouraging.

There has been a rise in mental health issues with our students this year and some have been unable to cope with their chosen destination, whether it's an apprenticeship or attending a local provider. Our Destinations and Careers Advisor still continues to visit students at home to offer support and discuss options but this is becoming an area which needs more support if we are to help our students move on.

NEET's – The reason for the majority of our NEET students being unable to find or sustain a suitable destination is down to mental health issues. Feeling anxious and struggling to cope in new environments have been the primary factor.

Even though it has been a busy year, overall, it has been a positive year. It has highlighted the high level of support our students need in order to successfully navigate their lives and chosen destinations after leaving Aspire. I am so proud of our student's achievements this year. They have worked extremely hard and overcome barriers to get to where they wanted to go and many are thriving.

One of our CSEC students started a Level 4 Learning and Skills apprenticeship within an SEN provision, which she absolutely loves and said that she would not have achieved this if she hadn't attended Aspire.