

Pre-Access to Higher Education

Location	Altrincham Campus
Course Type	Adult
Department	Access to Higher Education
Start Date	Monday 14th September 2026
Duration	Full-time, 1 Year
Time	09:15:00 - 15:00:00
Fee	£ 1444.00 You may be eligible for support with your tuition fees - please visit the college website - funding and finance page for further information
Course Code	AFP-AH2S-1100

Course Overview

If you are passionate about going to university but don't meet the entry requirement for our Access to HE programmes, then our Extended Certificate in Skills and Further Learning is a great first step in achieving this.

This is a pre-Access qualification to provide opportunities to develop knowledge and skills at Level 2 which link seamlessly to the curriculum of our most popular curricula within our Level 3 Access to HE Diploma.

You'll learn all the key study skills you need to become confident and establish yourself at level 2 before progressing to level 3.

You can study this course alongside GCSE English and/or Maths which you will need to progress to university, subject to an assessment with the GCSE team.

Through this course we will enable you to build your confidence in academic work, manage your time, and increase your resilience to cope with the pressures of studies and beyond.

Course Requirements

There are no specific entry requirements for this course. You will however need to undertake literacy and numeracy assessments and if you don't already have GCSE Maths and English you will study these qualifications alongside this course, subject to assessment with the GCSE team.

What You Will Learn

The course contains a range of units that are designed to develop the IT, academic and study skills you will need to succeed on a future Access to HE Diploma programme, and in any further studies you undertake at university level.

Examples of units are:

- Critical Thinking
- Developing Interpersonal Skills
- Improving own Learning & Performance
- IT Communication Fundamentals
- IT Software Fundamentals
- Plagiarism
- Presentation Software
- Research Skills
- Using email
- Using the Internet
- Word Processing Skills

Assessment

There are a series of coursework assessments including written tasks and activities completed on the computer. These are marked internally and externally moderated.

Progression

Successful completion of this course along with GCSE English and Maths will allow progression to our Access to HE Level 3 Diplomas.

With a further year of additional study of an Access to HE diploma, students could then be eligible to progress to a related higher education course here at the Trafford & Stockport College Group or at many universities across the country.

Career Options

Students can progress on to the level 3 Access to HE Diplomas offered at the Trafford & Stockport College Group. We offer a wide range of Access to HE Diplomas, which then allow students to move on to university-level study, including:

Health Professions
Health Science
Engineering
Social Sciences
Computing & Digital

Once we know your preferred university course, we will work with you to identify the most appropriate Access to HE Diploma to get you into your chosen degree and profession. Note that some of these courses will require additional GCSEs in science.

Mandatory Units

All units are mandatory

Contact Details

For further information please contact T: 0161 886 7070 or E: info@trafford.ac.uk

Disclaimer

Although every care has been taken to ensure that the information contained within this document is accurate, there may be changes to this programme and provision. We will endeavour to keep prospective and current students updated where appropriate and when the information becomes available.