

# connexions

WOLVERHAMPTON



## A Guide for Professionals



# *Connexions*

**Wolverhampton Connexions is a targeted service for young people aged 13–19 years (up to 25 years old for those with SEND) with the aim of supporting them to make positive learning transitions. It specifically targets young people with SEND and those vulnerable to making poor post 16 transitions.**

Connexions advisers work with pupils in all Wolverhampton's secondary schools, special schools and PRUs. They liaise with key members of staff in institutions to identify those students who need their help.

Connexions advisers employ a range of client centred interventions and activities to support young people. This support is highly careers information, advice and guidance focused and regularly monitored against service quality standards.



Advisers are impartial in their guidance and support young people in ways that are appropriate to their individual needs and circumstances.



Connexions is a service provided by City of Wolverhampton Council for targeted young people who live, or attend secondary education provision, within the city. It delivers the statutory responsibility placed on local authorities to provide for young people support that will 'encourage, enable and assist' them to remain in education and training (Section 68 of the Education and Skills Act, 2008).

Connexions is part of the Place Directorate and sits within the management of City Economy.



## Services for students

### Provided free to schools

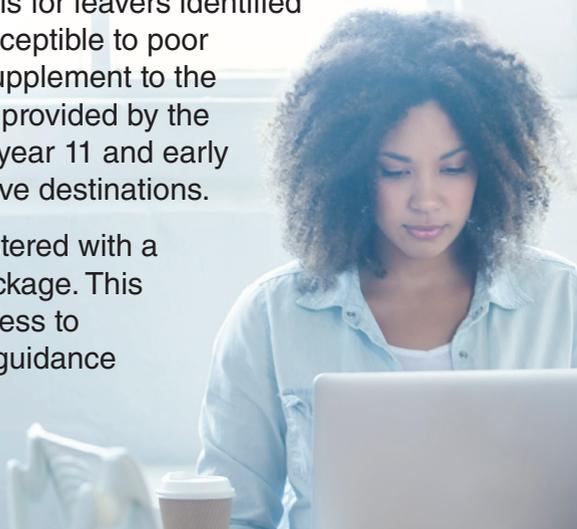
Connexions advisers provide a free baseline service to all secondary schools, special schools and PRUs. This service falls into two broad categories: a baseline SEND transition service for years 9, 11, 12 and 13 pupils and a targeted NEET vulnerability service for year 11 pupils and early 6th Form leavers.

The baseline SEND service covers work with all students who have a statement or EHCP in years 9 and 11, and all those leaving their post 16 provision. The adviser works closely with a school's SENCO to ensure that these pupils are supported in the learning decisions they need to make and in their transition to post 16 and post 18 opportunities. The service also includes attendance at relevant transfer review meetings and the provision of any appropriate progression advice notes for the City's SEND Team.

For special schools and PRUs in the city the baseline SEND service is available to all students in years 9, 11, 12 and 13.

The NEET vulnerability service is for leavers identified by the school as likely to be susceptible to poor transitions. It is intended as a supplement to the statutory support and guidance provided by the school and aims to ensure that year 11 and early post 16 leavers engage in positive destinations.

Services to schools can be bolstered with a Connexions traded services package. This enables a school to provide access to impartial, independent careers guidance and support for all its students.





## The **NEET** service

Connexions tracks, and offers support to, all Wolverhampton 16 -18 year olds not engaged in education, employment or training. All young people in the city known to be NEET are allocated a Connexions adviser.

Advisers work with caseloads of young people in postcode areas of the city. They support them in identifying and overcoming barriers to learning, and help them to apply for the full range of personal development and learning opportunities on offer. These opportunities include full-time study options in schools and colleges, apprenticeships, supported internships, traineeships and other learning packages offered by local providers.



# The **Connexions Centre**

Young people needing guidance and support with their future plans can visit the Connexions Centre at:  
**118-119, Salop Street, Wolverhampton, WV3 0RX**

## Opening hours

<b>Monday</b>	1.30 – 4.30pm
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<b>Tuesday</b>	Closed
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<b>Wednesday</b>	1.30 – 4.30pm
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<b>Thursday</b>	Closed
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<b>Friday</b>	1.30 – 4.30pm
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<b>Saturday</b>	Closed
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No appointment necessary

At the Connexions Centre young people can talk confidentially to an adviser.

Services available in the centre include the following:

- Careers guidance
- Help with CVs and application forms
- Support with registering and applying for apprenticeships
- Interview preparation
- Benefits and housing advice
- Supported referral to other services
- Access to appropriate customised support programmes.

## Working with Other Agencies

Connexions advisers work collaboratively with a range of professionals from local authority teams and other agencies to support young people with complex and multiple barriers to progression. These professionals include those from Social Services, the Police, the Department for Work and Pensions, the Young Person's Housing Team, the LAC Transitions Team, the SEND Team and the Youth Offending Team.

## Can we help?

If you are a professional who may be able to benefit from the input of Connexions please get in touch with one of the staff members listed below.

### **Jane Cox**

#### **Lead Practitioner, SEND**

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### **Helyna Hrebinec**

#### **Team Manager**

helyna.hrebinec@wolverhampton.gov.uk

### **Niginder Kaur**

#### **Lead Practitioner, NEET**

niginder.kaur@wolverhampton.gov.uk

### **Nick Pearson**

#### **Lead Practitioner, Schools, Quality & Traded Services**

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