

Pre-Access to Higher Education

Location	Altrincham Campus
Course Type	Adult, University Level
Department	Access to Higher Education
Start Date	Tuesday 13th January 2026
Duration	Full-time, 22 Weeks
Time	09:00 - 16:00
Fee	£ 789.00 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-AH2D-1200

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 Diploma in Skills and Further Learning is a great first step in achieving this.

Our pre-Access qualification provides learners with the opportunity 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 Diploma alongside GCSE's English and/or Maths which you will need to progress to university.

Through this course we will enable you to build your confidence in academic work, manage your time, cope with stress, and deal with life beyond your studies so you can start as you mean to go on.

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.

What You Will Learn

The pre-Access diploma 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.

You will study units in:

- Critical Thinking
- Desktop Publishing Software
- 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

The pre-Access diploma is a continually assessed course. This means there are no end of course exams. Instead, you will complete a series of assignments to meet the assessment criteria for each of the course units. These assignments will include written tasks, as well as activities completed in an electronic format.

Progression

Successful Completion of the Diploma In Skills and Further Learning equips you to enrol onto one of our Access to Higher Education Level 3 Diploma.

With just a year of additional study, you could then be eligible to progress to a related higher education course here at the College or at one of several universities across the country.

Career Options

The level 2 pre-Access Diploma is designed to allow students to progress on to the level 3 Access to HE Diplomas offered at the Trafford College Group. We offer a wide range of Access to HE Diplomas, which then allow students to move on to university-level study, including:

Access (Nursing, Midwifery & Allied Professions)

Access (Science)

Access (Health Science)

Access (Engineering)

Access (Social Sciences)

Access (Computing & Digital)

Access (Film & Creative Digital Media).

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.

Mandatory Units

- Developing own interpersonal Skills
- Improving Own Learning and Performance
- Critical thinking
- Plagiarism
- Research Skills

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.