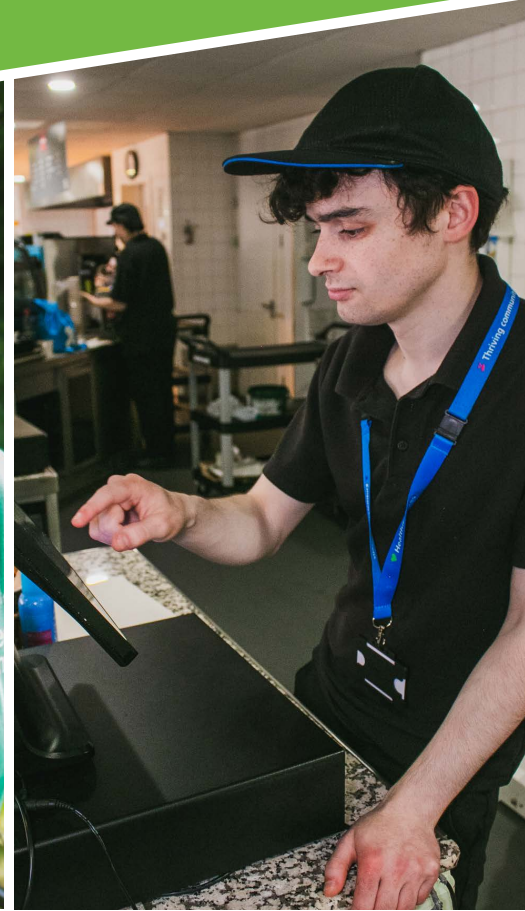


EMA - MORETON

2026 - 2027



Find your future...

Head of Education's Welcome...

Welcome to EMA - Moreton!

A very warm welcome to EMA. We're delighted to share what we do with you. We are proud to be much more than a college; we are a supportive and inclusive community where every young person is known, valued and encouraged to grow.

Our focus is firmly on helping students with SEND build confidence, develop independence and gain a strong sense of what they can achieve. Learning here is practical, purposeful and closely connected to real life, preparing our students for what comes next and giving them the confidence to take those next steps.

We recognise that every learner is unique, and we take real pride in celebrating individual strengths, supporting progress and creating opportunities for everyone to shine. Our staff care deeply about the young people they work with and are committed to creating a safe, positive environment where students feel supported to try, to succeed and to keep going when things feel challenging.

Over the past 10+ years, the Moreton campus has undergone an incredible transformation. What was once an overgrown piece of land is now a dynamic learning and work experience hub. Our facilities include thirteen learning spaces, a state-of-the-art training kitchen, five acres of beautiful gardens, and an on-site café open to the public. We also have a variety of animals, including pigs, goats, ferrets and reptiles, creating a truly immersive environment for learning and personal growth.

Our facilities are designed to meet a wide range of needs, and our dedicated team of experienced professionals are passionate about helping every student succeed. Whether you are a prospective student, a family member or simply finding out more about us, we hope this prospectus gives you a genuine sense of who we are and the difference EMA can make.



Heather Helm - Head of Education

Thank you!



The Walled Garden, Moreton Campus

Learning at our Moreton Campus

Our Moreton campus is set within The Walled Garden Moreton, a five-acre formal garden, and is designed to support students in achieving their potential through a combination of education and hands-on learning experiences in real working environments. Students benefit from real-life work experience settings in:

- The Dovecote Café
- Formal gardens
- Kitchen garden
- Animal and family area

The site is open to the public, and students develop both independence and employability skills in their chosen areas.

We offer a range of study programmes designed to empower students and support their transition onto their next steps:

- Support for Employment Study Programme, aimed at equipping learners with the skills needed for meaningful employment opportunities.
- Supported Internships, providing real-world work experiences in a guided and supportive environment.
- Preparation for Adulthood Study Programme, focusing on developing essential life skills and independence.
- Transition Study Programme, helping students smoothly transition from EMA to their chosen future pathway.

Programmes include English, Maths, Digital Skills and vocational learning tailored to each student's skill level and needs. This approach ensures that students receive a balanced education, combining functional, practical and career-oriented skills.

By combining functional, vocational and life-skills education, we ensure our students are equipped to reach their full potential and transition successfully into adulthood.



CAREERS

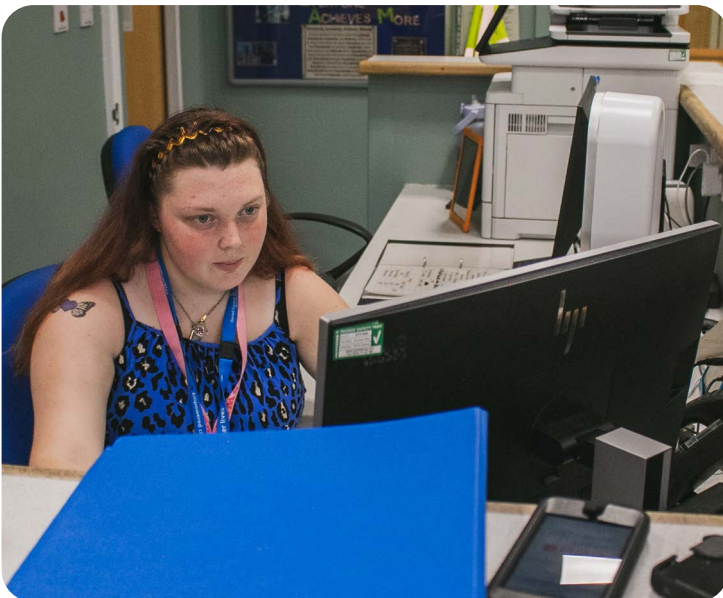
EMA is committed to enabling and encouraging all students to explore and experience different vocational and academic areas, ensuring they have the tools to make meaningful decisions about their future career pathways.

EMA recognises that Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance is crucial for our students' success and is committed to embedding the eight Gatsby Benchmarks using the Compass Tool, which benchmarks good careers guidance across the curriculum. These are:

1. A stable careers programme
2. Learning from career and labour market information
3. Addressing the needs of each pupil
4. Linking curriculum learning to careers
5. Encounters with employers and employees
6. Experiences of workplaces
7. Encounters with further and higher education
8. Personal guidance

Our Careers Lead at Senior Management Level works in collaboration with the Senior Management Team, Work Placement and Next Steps Coordinator, and wider colleagues to oversee and monitor the policy and Careers Strategy, identify priorities and improvement plans, and work with external Careers IAG professionals to ensure all students have access to a careers programme that is differentiated to meet their needs.

These individualised plans are key to everything we do for the learners at EMA.



COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Our connection to the local and wider communities of Moreton, Dorchester and beyond is a key part of the experience at EMA and something we continue to develop through a range of projects with students at their heart. Students are encouraged to apply the skills they have been developing across all areas of learning to plan and deliver a variety of events, both on and off-site, as well as taking part in community visits and charity fundraising.

We host afternoon teas and lunch events for parents, carers and feeder schools, visit local care homes and social care providers, and take part in litter picks, bake sales and craft markets. We are also closely involved with Dorset Community Action GreenCare and Seed2Plate, which offer a range of horticultural and sustainability projects focused on growing vegetables and maintaining gardens and outdoor spaces both at EMA and at external locations.

These experiences help embed our young people within their local communities, enabling them to use their skills to give something back. They provide opportunities to thrive while developing teamwork, communication, planning and organisation, all of which help to build confidence. They also give students the chance to take pride in what they have created, achieved or raised, while showcasing their abilities, enthusiasm, determination and creativity to the wider community.



Somerleigh Court Coffee Mornings

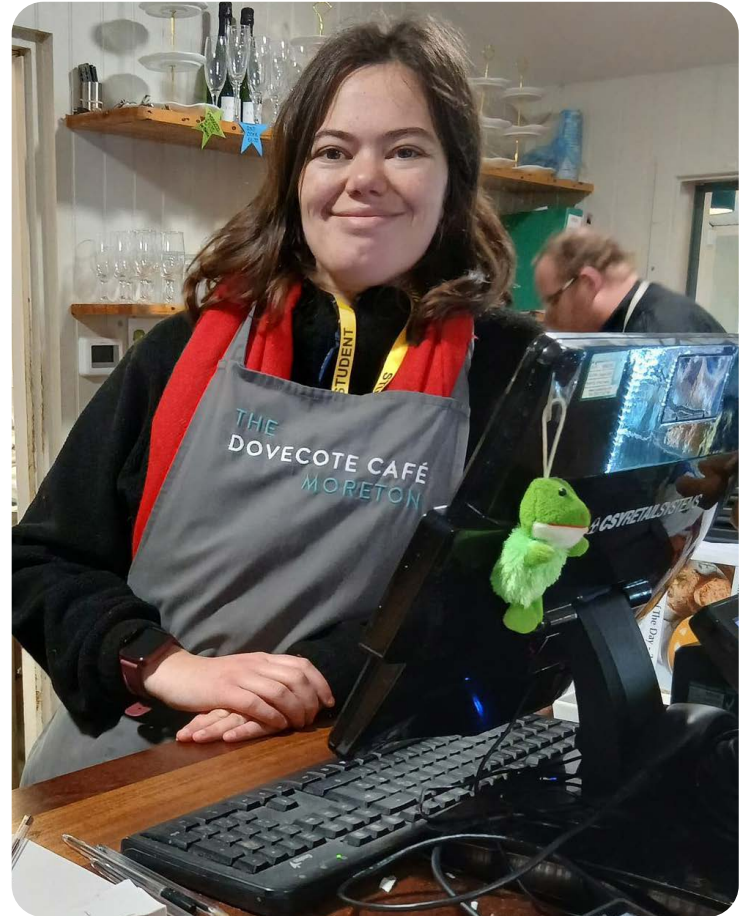


Seed2Plate Community Pop-Up

INTERNAL WORK EXPERIENCE

At EMA, we offer internal work experience placements to all students in our hospitality, horticulture and animal care sectors to provide our students with valuable experience in the world of work. Over the period of time our students spend with us, they will have timetabled and structured vocational sessions where they will learn the skills they need to prepare them for work when they leave EMA.

The students have short-term, individual, structured outcomes to achieve in each vocational department, designed to help them develop their skills, continually progress, and further their practical knowledge.



EXTERNAL WORK EXPERIENCE

Students on our Support for Employment study programme and Supported Internships will be supported to develop a range of basic skills within their vocational area. They will be supported to find an off-site work experience placement of their choosing in their local area, encouraging independent travel to their workplace. The off-site placements are fully supported by a member of EMA staff to ensure the student feels secure and supported for as long as necessary.

We aim to provide our students with a placement for one full day a week, where possible, to encourage routine and maximise the development of their skills within this setting. Once the employer and student are comfortable, we reduce the level of support, where appropriate, to help students gain independence in the workplace.

Short-term outcomes are agreed between the student and the employer. These outcomes are reviewed at six-week intervals to encourage continual growth and challenge. We have a wide range of local employer partners across Dorset and the surrounding areas, working in the hospitality, horticulture and animal care sectors, who facilitate these placements. They provide the real-world experience our students need to progress, and we are always grateful for their support.



“ Internal and external work experience placements are a vital area for our vision at EMA. It provides the stage for our classroom learning to be expressed in the real-life working environment. This is where we really see our students progress and it is a pleasure to watch them grow both with their confidence and their social skills. ”

- James Dunham, Director of Education

EMPLOYER PARTNERS



SUPPORTED INTERNSHIPS

Supported Internships are a practical way to develop skills at our college and with our external employment partners, tailored for those who need extra support to start a job.

We're collaborating with established employers who provide workplace opportunities for young people to utilise existing skills and develop new ones as they explore their career paths and equip themselves for work once they graduate. These Supported Internships are completed over one year and come with a dedicated job coach to help the young person with training, prepare them for work, and support them in finding the right role for their career aspirations.



STUDENT SUCCESS



Maisie

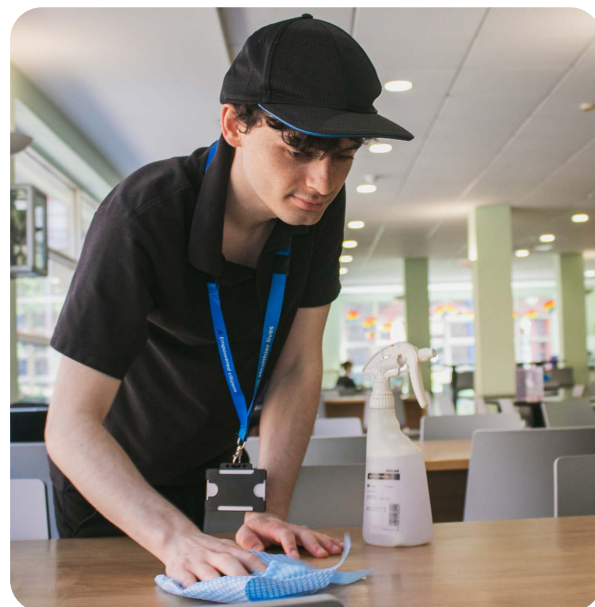
While completing her Supported Internship with Dorset Community Action's GreenCare team, Maisie developed valuable horticultural and employability skills through real workplace experience, contributing to garden maintenance projects across Dorset. Her dedication, growing confidence and positive attitude led to her winning the Supported Internship Award at the Dorset Apprenticeship Awards in June 2026. She is now preparing to transition into paid employment with GreenCare in September 2026.

During her time at EMA, Maisie developed greater independence, confidence and a clear sense of career direction, supported by staff, employers and her family every step of the way. She has continued to build on her experience through volunteering opportunities and is excited to pursue a career in the sector she loves. Maisie's journey is a wonderful example of how the right support, combined with determination and opportunity, can help young people achieve their ambitions.

Ryan

Beginning his Supported Internship, Ryan took some time to find a role that truly matched his interests and aspirations. During his placement at Dorset County Hospital with the NHS, he embraced the opportunity to try a variety of roles, including working alongside patients on the ward, before discovering that hospitality was the perfect fit for him in Damers Restaurant.

After completing his internship, Ryan applied for a job at Damers, and following a successful interview, he secured paid employment! Ryan's journey is a fantastic example of how exploring different opportunities can help young people discover where they thrive. It's clear that working with people comes naturally to him, and the hospitality environment has enabled him to flourish. With the right support and encouragement, Ryan has achieved a positive and inspiring outcome that demonstrates the potential every young person has to succeed.



SUPPORTING STUDENTS' DEVELOPMENT

Careers Strategy

We understand that making decisions about future career paths can be daunting for young people. We are committed to providing a supportive environment to help our students explore their career options. We provide guidance and advice, as well as activities and resources, to help young people make informed and confident decisions about their future.

We provide a range of learning opportunities that help students explore and develop their career interests, including work experience, community projects, visits to next steps providers, CV writing and interviews. Our curriculum provides students with the skills and knowledge they need to progress, developing the right attitudes and behaviours and supporting them to make successful career choices.

Our Work Placements and Next Steps Coordinator works with students to develop a pathway plan that is suitable and ambitious, with a focus on the Preparation for Adulthood themes of:

- Good Health
- Employment and Careers
- Independent Lives
- Friends, Relationships and Community

Once the plan has been agreed, it is reviewed with the student to make adjustments as they gain a better understanding of their choices. This ensures that the student remains on track to achieve their career goals and that any changes in the student's needs or interests are added to the plan.

All About Me

These weekly timetabled sessions give students the chance to meet with their tutor and go through the work they are doing towards their EHCP outcomes. Tutors will meet with students 1:1 and go through the evidence that has been captured from their vocational and functional studies each week, recorded on Evidence for Learning, and how it links to their outcomes.

They will also discuss their wellbeing and what they have been doing as part of their work experience. Classes will also follow the tutorial scheme of work, which covers tasks and topics linked to EHCP categories, with a particular focus on social, emotional and mental health, and enrichment.

Listening to our Students

We are committed to placing student voice at the very heart of everything we do at EMA. The speech and language therapy team works to ensure that all students are able to express their feelings and opinions in whatever way works for them. We have an active Student Council that meets every half term and has a representative from each tutor group. The Chair of the Student Council is a member of the EMA Trustee Board. 'You Said, We Did' lets students know how their suggestions have developed and changed the college.

Alongside our Student Council, we are committed to extending activities to ensure all students have the ability and opportunity to contribute to curriculum planning and the assessment of their college experiences. We are committed to increasing the reach and influence of student voice activities.



Enrichment at EMA

Enrichment is all about boosting students' overall wellbeing to help them perform at their best while at college.

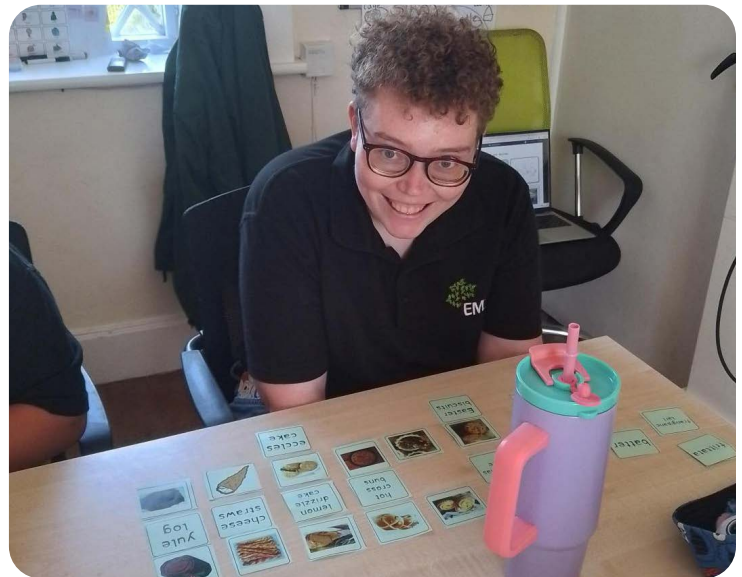
Students will be invited by tutors to join any curricular enrichments; meanwhile, students will choose at least one extra-curricular enrichment activity to engage with for fun. Our extra-curricular enrichment provision gives students varied opportunities to try something new or develop an interest alongside their main studies. Some are based online, while others are conducted in person. So, whether students want to meet new people, improve skills or just have fun, we have an activity to suit.

At the end of each year, students, families and staff enjoy the EMA Graduation Celebration, giving everyone a chance to celebrate the fantastic achievements of our students and enabling them to celebrate with their friends and families as we wish them a very proud goodbye.

Speech & Language Therapy

The Speech and Language Therapy (SALT) team at EMA aims to provide and promote a high-quality, responsive and inclusive communication environment for all our students. We support students to work towards their EHCP outcomes, acquiring speech, language and communication skills and strategies which equip them for their futures. We do this using a combination of small group therapy, classroom support and specific short-term interventions, taking a flexible approach according to what works best for each individual.

We adopt a multi-sensory approach to learning and communication throughout EMA, utilising a wide range of communication tools (e.g. signing, visual schedules, voice notes, Mind Maps™) to support understanding, recall and use of language. The whole education team at EMA receives ongoing support and training from the SALT team to enable them to create an environment where all methods of communication are valued and responded to.



Some of the aspects of communication we support our students with include:

- Understanding and using the specialist vocabulary used in their courses.
- Developing the social communication skills needed to make and maintain friendships and working relationships.
- Identifying, expressing and managing emotions.
- Employing appropriate support strategies (such as visual schedules) to enable students to successfully carry out home and work tasks as independently as possible as they progress into adulthood.

STUDENT FINANCIAL SUPPORT

EMA receives a small budget from the government for financial bursaries each academic year. These bursaries can help with the cost of travelling to and from EMA, course equipment and college activities. This financial support helps students to complete their courses.

EMA also receives funding from the government to support eligible students with free meals whilst at college.

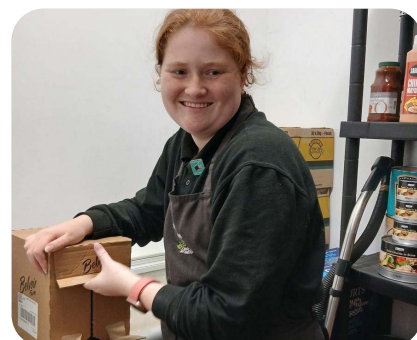
The funding we receive from the government is not fixed and changes from year to year, depending on what is available to spend.

All applications are considered on a first-come, first-served basis and can be submitted each term.

Further information, eligibility criteria and application forms can be found on our website:

<https://employability.org.uk/student-financial-support/>

Alternatively, call reception on 01929 405685 for further information.



SAFEGUARDING

EMA is dedicated to providing a safe and inclusive environment for all our students and staff. Our commitment to safeguarding means that we take proactive measures to identify and mitigate potential risks, provide appropriate support, and maintain a culture of respect and dignity for all. We share the belief that safeguarding is everybody's responsibility and have a dedicated safeguarding team that promotes awareness and is always available to provide support to students, their families and our staff team.

All staff, volunteers and trustees are trained in both child and adult safeguarding, and we have established safeguarding policies and procedures in place. Safeguarding themes are embedded into our curriculum, and we pride ourselves on going above and beyond to make college a safe, happy and thriving environment for all. All staff and students are able to report concerns through various channels, including buttons and QR codes on our website, and on posters around campus.

Our current safeguarding team can be found on our website: www.employability.org.uk/safeguarding



ASSESSMENT

If you are interested in finding out more about us and would like to have a look around, we are more than happy to organise this. Just contact us on 01929 405 685 or email us at referrals@employmyability.org.uk. We believe every young person is different, and we embrace this individuality, ensuring each young person's transition is tailored to meet their needs.

Visits

If you would like to come and visit us, have a look around EMA and meet staff and students, this can be easily arranged.

Referral

Once you have decided EMA is the place for you, you can make a referral. We will send or email you a referral form to complete, or you can complete it during your visit. Students, parents, carers and professionals can make referrals.

Taster Sessions

We are more than happy to organise taster sessions for young people to give them an insight into what we do and support them in making their choice about their future.

Student Assessment

After we receive your completed referral, we will arrange a time for your assessment to be completed. One of the team will come out and meet with you and your family in order to complete the assessment. This ensures we have all the information we need to support you academically and emotionally.





EMA INITIAL EDUCATION REFERRAL FORM



Name of Learner			
Address of Learner			
Contact Number			
Next of Kin			
Date of Birth		Allergies / Medication	
Current Provision		Preferred Site	Moreton

Please note all learners will be required to complete the induction skills package and will be encouraged to have taster sessions in a number of vocational areas.

Pathway you would like to do:	Yes / No
Preparation for Adulthood- All Vocational Areas and Functional Skills (Pre-Entry-Entry 2)	
Support for Employment-One Vocational Area (below) and Functional Skills (Entry 2-Level 2)	
SFE-Hospitality	
SFE-Land based and Animals	
CTH Hospitality Courses	
Supported Internship (Minimum Entry 3)	

Continue form...

	Name	Email	Contact Number
Social Worker			
SEN Worker			
Other			

Referrer			
Contact Number			
Contact Email			
Relationship to Student		Date	

Additional comments:

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Please declare whether you have any unspent convictions or current proceedings against you.

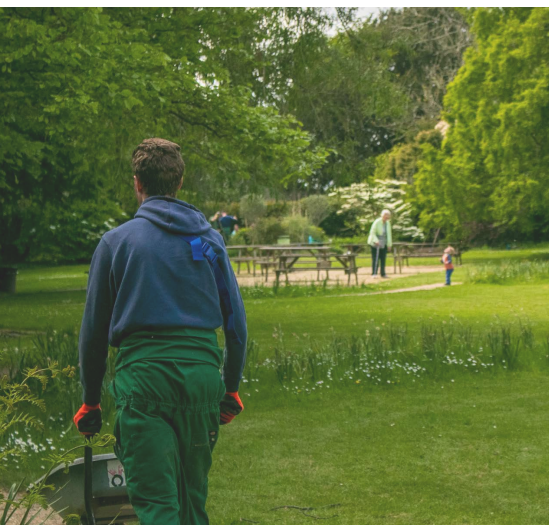
Yes / No

If you answer yes we will ask you for further details. Your response will not stop you from being offered a place at our college. We need to have this information to ensure your safety and the safety of our students and staff and make our decision based on your full assessment, not on your answer to this question.

Please return to:

By post: Employ My Ability, The Walled Garden, Moreton, Dorchester, Dorset, DT2 8RG

Email: referrals@employmyability.org.uk Tel: 01929 405 685



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Follow our story



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