

Upper School Specific Opportunities

External Accreditations:

Our aim is that all students on leaving Breakspeare will achieve a minimum of one AQA and / or Asdan accreditation which results in the students receiving a certificate for meeting the required targets in the module.

These are chosen to meet the needs of our students and to develop focussed skills in the topic being covered.

Garden House:

In 2008 we acquired the use of a four bedroom house - a much more realistic setting for learning Independent Living Skills and for generalising and consolidating life skills. Groups of students go to the "Garden House" each week working on ASDAN and AQA Unit Award Schemes, related to Independent living Skills.

West Herts College:

Supporting individuals with learning disabilities, level 3 CACHE

On a weekly basis, some students attend the local college via public transport. This experience not only enhances their presence in the local community but also helps with the transition from school to college and integration with their mainstream peers.

Work Experience:

During their final years at school students participate in a variety of work related learning situations including work shadowing and work placements in school and where appropriate work placements in the local community. Students also take part in taster and assessment days at colleges of future education, prior to transition sessions in their final term. They are accompanied by staff from the department, to ensure smooth transition. Previous placements have included: local supermarket , Wenta business Centre, & Sunnyside Rural trust

Links with the local community:

Our students are regular visitors in our local community. By doing this we aim to build confidence in our students and support understanding within the community itself. During the year links with the community have included:

- Offsite visits such as local places of worship, leisure facilities such as fishing, farm and bowling alley, and shopping.
- Liaising with mainstream secondary schools for projects such as *CREATE*, Eco Forum and drama workshops.
- Joint Christmas Carol production with Parmiters choir and orchestra.
- Work experience days
- Weekly College visits and college transition days