

The Rushmere Academy

The Rushmere Academy is a Northampton based organisation that delivers the 'Brighter Futures' project which aims to provide support and guidance to young people aged 14 -19 who are no longer in full-time education, employment or training.



Seize the Day

Sam McMillan, a 17 year-old student from Finedon in Northampton left school at 16 with only a few qualifications under his belt. Unsure of what he wanted to do with his future and reluctant to continue his education, Sam enrolled on an intense 19 week training plan with the 'Brighter Futures' project to help secure employment or get back into education.

Two years on, Sam has started a Public Services course at the Tresham Institute in Northampton in order to pursue his dream career.

Sam said: "When I left school I didn't think I would go back into education. Feedback from my teachers made me feel as though I wasn't academic and was more suited to a hands-on job. The Brighter Futures project has helped me realise that college is the right route for me and with a bit of effort I can reach my goals."



“The Rushmere Academy is like one big family. Everyone who attends is there for similar reasons and we all support each other. The project leaders, Ian and Annie are brilliant. They don’t judge you or the circumstances surrounding your reasons for attending. They arrange group and individual activities that teach social and practical skills as well as encouraging us to work towards formal qualifications in literacy and numeracy.”

Ian Mackay, Project Leader at the Rushmere Academy said: “Both Annie and I are passionate about helping young people achieve their full potential and the decision to change our careers as an engineer and a teacher to deliver the Brighter Futures initiative is testament to this. We aim to provide a safe and encouraging environment for young people to develop and grow as individuals.

The Rushmere Academy
A place of special learning
‘Carpe Diem’

The Rushmere Academy
T: 01604 605058
W: www.therushmereacademy.org



Ian continues: “These young people want to achieve, but generally they don’t have the tools or support to do so. Our role is to widen their choices through formal training and work experience, helping them realise that they have endless opportunities available.”

Annie Mackay, who is also a Project Leader comments: “Carpe Diem, which is Latin and translates to ‘seize the day’, is The Rushmere Academy’s ethos and is maintained through its delivery of the Brighter Futures project. We try to empower young people and instil the belief that they can achieve anything they put their minds to.”

Funded by the European Social Fund (ESF), the Brighter Futures project has seen many young people progress into full-time jobs or training opportunities that they wouldn’t have considered before enrolling on the project.

Results

- 12 young people enrolled onto Entry to Employment (E2E)
- 3 young people return to education
- 4 young people started full time employment
- 1 Apprenticeship
- 6 young people in full time further education
- Out of 54 leavers this represents a rate of 48% moving into positive progressions.