



COMMUNITY **catch**
LINKS Proud to be part of **22**

LINKS Media College

PROSPECTUS



community-links.org

Links Media College is a free part-time college in Newham providing fully accredited and recognised qualifications in Music Technology, English and maths for 16 to 19 year olds. We combine students' learning with a focus on employability and personal development to support young people to thrive.

Community Links is a hub tackling health and social inequality in East London and beyond. We work alongside the community helping people of all ages reach their full potential. We take our local knowledge of what works to influence national decision making. We have been privileged to serve our community for over 40 years and we are proud to be part of national charity and social business Catch22. We work across youth, employment, advice, health, community services and policy, positively impacting the lives of 90,000 people a year.

We are more than Media and Music. As an additional service, we offer pastoral support, which involves helping our students to clarify their personal development goals, and explore options to achieve them. Supporting confidence building, improving resilience, generating and building on aspirations, promoting the importance of self-care and well-being. This offer is designed to not only assist our students in navigating and managing their concerns and challenges, but to also gain life skills needed for individual growth and success. This is a tailored offer, through 1-2-1 support from our Youth Development Coordinator.

**COMMUNITY
LINKS**

About LINKS Media College

Find your future

If you are reading this then it's probably because you are starting to think about what you are going to do when you leave school. Or perhaps because you have already left and are thinking about what to do next. If, like thousands of others, you're not sure that a large, traditional college is for you, then we might be just what you are looking for.

We specialise in offering learning and training opportunities for students who, for whatever reason, don't want to stay in a traditional academic environment. We provide our students with a different option – the opportunity to carry on their learning in a smaller, highly supportive environment where the focus is on providing learning and training options to help you gain the skills, qualifications and experiences you need to achieve your goals in life.

We work with you to design a programme that fits with your interests and ambitions. As well as helping you to build your skills in English and maths, you can gain a Level 2 qualification in Music Technology.

Unlike lots of other colleges, you can join us at any point during the year once you've left secondary education. So take a look through our prospectus and see what we offer.



Who we are

Catch22 is a national charity. We exist because we believe that everybody in life needs three basic things to be able to get on in life and to achieve their potential:



People: We believe that everybody needs good people around them who are there to provide support and encouragement to achieve their aims in life. Our College sites are run by teachers and tutors who are passionate about providing this support and encouragement to our students. Not only are achieving good grades important to us, but also how you develop as a person.



Place: We believe that everybody needs a safe place where they can properly focus on making changes to their lives. Our college sites are welcoming, warm and smaller than most other colleges, which means that you get more support and can feel more at ease in your learning environment.



Purpose: We believe that everybody needs a clear sense of where they want to go, and help to get there. We help our students to find this sense of purpose. We develop clear, realistic plans for how our students can achieve their immediate goals. We also go a step further by helping students think about their next steps after college.

Life at LINKS Media College

What you need to know

What could I study?

If you join us, we will work with you to design a tailored learning programme which is matched to your interests and goals for the future.

Our students can pick from a range of learning options from four key areas:



1. FUNCTIONAL SKILLS (Maths and English)



2. VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS (Work focused)



3. EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS



4. PROGRESSION

We work with you to tailor your learning from the four core areas to make up your learning programme and to create a timetable that suits you.



How long will my course be and how often will I attend?

We tailor our learning programmes to meet the individual needs and goals of our students. This means the amount of time you spend with us will depend on you and the programme we develop with you. Typically this can range anywhere from 2 to 6 months of part-time study

How big is the college?

Our average class size is around 15 students. We want our students to feel comfortable and fully supported in their studies, and so we keep our numbers lower than most other colleges.

What is the life skills part about?

We want to help our students find their future – we want to help you work out what you want in life, and then to set you on a path to achieving it. This means more than just getting you some qualifications, it's also about helping you to build your confidence and to realise that you have the power to achieve your goals.

We do this by providing you with access to a range of additional activities and support that will help you in your future. For instance, you could take part in community projects with fellow students to help you practice your skills in team-working and managing projects, or in extra learning sessions to help you get better at managing your money, or how to apply and get that perfect job.

Our dedicated Recruitment and Progression Officer will support you during your programme to ensure you stay on track with your learning and help you to access work experience and progression opportunities.

Will it cost me anything?

Our programme is completely free, so it won't cost you or your family a penny. In fact, some students are eligible for bursary payments that can help support your studies.

How do I get on to the programme?

Take a look through the rest of this prospectus to find out more about what we offer in your area. If you think we can help you find your future, then get in touch today to get started. To do this you can either scan the QR code or, you can call our team in your area by phoning the contact number on the next page.





Level 2 Technical Award in Music Technology

If you are interested in music then this is the qualification for you. This qualification enables learners to develop skills, knowledge and understanding of the music technology industry. It's suitable for learners who are motivated and challenged by learning through hands-on experiences. The qualification will allow learners to gain practical skills in creating music using technology.

The qualification provides an introduction to the music technology industry and enables learners to acquire, develop and apply the skills and knowledge required for further academic and/or vocational study.

Working in music technology is often driven by a passion for the pleasures that music can bring. Performing is not the only way to get into music; the role of technology is central to most performances and a wide variety of jobs exist as part of the technical team behind a track. Musicians and Music Technicians are often required to multi-task and need to understand different aspects of a performance, a recording or an event.



English & Maths

We want all of our students to feel completely confident in their reading, writing and in their ability to work with numbers. That is why we support our students to work towards a qualification in English or maths, or to further improve on the qualifications they already have.

This isn't just because improving your skills in English and maths will help you to get a job, it's also because it will impact every part of your life.

For example, improving your skills in maths will make it easier for you to manage your money, helping you to make sure you're always getting the best deal on that next big purchase, or that you're charging the right amount for that next big job. Improving your skills in English will make it easier for you to follow your interests in the media, and to manage your life admin.

Options Functional Skills – Entry Level up to Level 2

If you got below a Grade 3 in your GCSEs for maths or English then we'll help you to build on your existing skills and to gain functional skills qualifications. Depending on your past grades and your level of confidence in these subjects, we can help you achieve Entry Level 1 right up to Level 2, which is equivalent to achieving a grade of between 4 and 9 at GCSE (C to A*) and useful to you in your everyday life.

ENTRY LEVEL⁺

Equivalent to a
GCSE Grade 1

LEVEL 1 QUALIFICATION

Equivalent to a GCSE
Grade 1 to 3 (D to G)

LEVEL 2 QUALIFICATION

Equivalent to a GCSE
Grade 4 to 9 (A* to C)

⁺ If you are not confident in your english and/or maths skills.

Related Careers

A good level of skills and confidence in English and maths is really important for almost every career, and is the first thing any future employer will want to know about, that's why we make it a key part of every student's learning programme.



Employability Skills

This course will support you in:

- Producing a great CV
- How to apply for jobs
- Achieving success in job interviews
- Skills and qualities for the workplace
- Health and safety at work
- Preparing for work or for work experience
- Problem solving at work
- Managing your money
- English and maths in the workplace

Related Careers and future opportunities

This will provide you with the essential skills required to gain employment, apprenticeships or further education.



Why we are different?

The main difference between Links Media College and other educational provisions in the area is that our class sizes are a lot smaller. This means that you get to know your fellow learners and teachers very well and your teacher very quickly figures out how you best learn. This also means the your programme more is based around your needs. The learning environment is much different from normal schools and colleges as it is more relaxed and free flowing.



Get in touch!

The best person to get in contact with is Carmel.



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Apply online through the QR code:



What we can offer you

The courses we offer are:

- Level 2 Music Technology
- Functional Skills Maths
- Functional Skills English
- Employability
- Enrichment

What people say about us...

LM: I like being at Catch22 college because it is smaller classes unlike other colleges and schools I've been two. Catch22 is a great college to go to especially if you don't like big classes. I also like it there because I get on with all my class mates, Catch22 is a small college but is like any other college accept it has smaller classes which is good. I would recommend Catch22 to other people it is a great college and I like it there.

LC: I really enjoy meeting new friends.

CH: It has given me something to do and got me out of the house. It has prevented me from smoking cannabis everyday.

LMC: I am enjoying that the programme is calm and I get things done without the stress of getting shouted at by teachers and it's a lot more relaxed" LMC

BS: I come to Catch22 to get my grades so I can get an apprenticeship and I also enjoy socialising with people too. If I wasn't at Catch22 I would be going nowhere.

SH: What I love about Catch 22.... All the staff are lovely and so kind, I've learnt so much in just a space of half a year being there I've never felt comfortable in big schools but Catch22 is something I wake up and get excited to go to because it's not just a place of work it's the community too I recommend Catch22 very highly!



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