The Challenge:
Designed to support young people aged 15 - 19 who are deemed NEET or at risk of becoming so, NU-Futures in partnership with APM (Advanced Personnel Management) and Learn by Design offers a flexible blend of education, employability and personal skills.

The Solution:
Key support workers build on the life skills required in the aim each young person can secure an education or work placement pathway:

- Flexible content, time, location
- Friendly and supportive staff
- Advice and guidance (eg personal finances)
- Work experience / placement
- Apprenticeship/employment
- Recognised qualifications, valued by local employers

The Results:
“I was delighted with the programme and the students engaged extremely well. The programme had a really positive impact and bridged the gap between secondary school and post 16 options. Students and parents feedback they were delighted and parents were very relieved as they were also highly anxious about their child’s transition.”

Julie Poppleton, Chase Terrace Technology College

Provision is open to 15 - 19 who are deemed NEET or who are deemed

Skills include:
- CV writing
- Interview techniques
- Job application
- Social Action projects
- Planning
- Time Management.

Find out more here.

Skills Workshops delivered in Lichfield & Burton

Nu-Futures
Designed to support those deemed NEET or at risk of becoming so, offering a flexible blend of education, employability and personal skills.

It’s part-funded by the European Social Fund.
NU Futures Team building Day: 23rd Aug 2016

Our first cohort of Nu-futures learners who are based in Lichfield went on a team building day at The Entrust Chase Water Outdoor Education centre.

The Challenge:
The day had been organised to enable the opportunity to explore transition into new working environments, engaging in team work and conquering fears that may be out of existing comfort zones.

The Group:
The group joined us from their school following completion of their GCSE’s. Identified as needing additional support to access college or apprenticeships and to ensure they do not become NEET. Initial relationship challenges were successfully dealt with through team building sessions leading on to a group social action project and enabled the group to understand the fact that within group situations we need to be mindful of each others needs.

Lichfield library was used for a central location as work sessions were developed to successfully enable the young people to gain a level 1 certificate in Employability through Aim awards.

Student confidence and resilience has been developed and they communicate more effectively and are now ready to take the next step in their lives towards college.
Testimonial: Student Referrals from a School

“The outcome was 100% of the students all successfully enrolled onto college courses after completing the NU Futures programme and the barriers they had were supported and broken down to enable this. I am delighted with the outcome Learn By Design have made and I am looking forward to our students working with them again next summer.”

“As a Secondary School, over 5 years we will have educated, nurtured and supported some very vulnerable and disadvantaged young people. A key area of concern for us is the transition of leaving school and moving onto a Post 16 option. Students leave us from June and have a huge gap in time then before they start most provision in September.

For some students, support may be limited from home and issues can arise from things like transport, bursaries, equipment needed, anxiety levels, confidence and self-esteem issues, peer relationships and just generally going somewhere new and meeting new people. This had led to some students not enrolling in September or they have struggled to retain their placement and will often drop out.

We were therefore keen to try and bridge this gap and I approached Learn by Design to support with this and run a summer programme. Initial engagement took place in school a few weeks before we broke up for the summer. This was a familiar, safe and secure environment for our students which was vital for building initial relationships and rapport and they continued to work with our students from a base in Lichfield over the summer holidays. I referred some of our most vulnerable students, most of them with an EHC plan.

They had a range of complex needs ranging from autism, asperger’s, mental health, low confidence and self-esteem, social and communication issues and difficulties at home. I was delighted with the programme and the students engaged extremely well. The programme had a really positive impact and bridged the gap. Students and parents fed-back they were delighted and parents were very relieved as they were also highly anxious about their child’s transition.”

Julie Poppleton, Chase Terrace Technology College.