



Aurora

FOXES

Hospitality
& Catering
College

work ready, life ready



“ You will learn lots of new skills that will help you to be independent and learn catering and hospitality at Foxes Hotel. ”



A specialist college and training hotel for young people with learning disabilities, situated in the friendly seaside town of Minehead.

At The **Aurora** Group

We believe in giving people the opportunities they need to create and lead fulfilling, independent lives.

Established in 2015, we are now the UK's sixth largest provider of education, care and support services for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities. Each of our schools, colleges and residential homes retains its own unique identity while embracing and embodying our group's core values:

- We are caring. We understand that your experience in mainstream care and education may have been a difficult one. We take seriously our responsibility for the children and young people in our care, and are committed to making your time with us as positive and fulfilling as possible.
- We are ambitious. We have high expectations of all our children and young people, regardless of what barriers they may have faced in the past. We encourage them to expect more for themselves, while challenging employers and communities to understand and value their diverse needs and attributes.
- We are collaborative. Everything we do, we do in partnership with you. We actively seek and listen to feedback from students, parents and staff, to find out what's working well, what we can do better, and how we can further develop all our services to benefit the people we work with.
- We are trusted. Our business is funded by ethical investors. They understand that sustainable growth is possible only when we hold ourselves to the highest standards, by delivering consistently top-quality services to every single person we work with.
- We are innovative. We begin planning for each young person's future the minute they walk through our doors. We tailor our approach to their unique needs, and are constantly looking for new opportunities to help them explore, enhance and employ their own skills, talents and abilities.

Welcome

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to **Aurora Foxes...**

I am proud to lead this College and training hotel. Located in the heart of town, Aurora Foxes forms such an integral part of Minehead; our students are genuinely included by the community.

My first responsibility is to keep students safe, both physically and mentally; I know this is the priority for all staff. The next is to organise learning to ensure an engaging and exciting educational experience that delivers our curriculum aims and embeds Aurora values.

Our curriculum has been built on the five founding values of Aurora: Caring; Ambitious; Collaborative; Trusted; Innovative. Its aims are clear: to support all our students to go on to be confident, successful and healthy adults who have the skills, attitudes and aptitude to gain meaningful employment and to live as independently as possible. In short, rounded individuals, ready to take their place in society.

Through the three pillars of learning: Vocational; Functional and Independence, our students gain a range of experience across hospitality, build the fundamental soft skills that employers seek and become more familiar with their understanding of the wider world through enrichment activities and Foxes focus days. The curriculum is not just delivered in classrooms but the totality of student experiences that occur during their time with us. We are all responsible for delivering the curriculum, which is why its impact lasts a long time beyond the three year typical study period.

These are merely fine words if student outcomes do not reflect our high ambitions. Throughout this prospectus you will find quotations and examples of our alumni who are already making their way in the world full of confidence and we are very proud of this legacy.

We have built partnerships with a range of local employers and community groups to ensure work experiences beyond our hotel and we are particularly proud of our two national partners, Hilton Hotels and Sodexo, both of which are able to offer graduates support with employability and for some, real employment opportunities when they leave.

We strive daily to be the very best and we will continue to do so, to ensure that graduates from Aurora Foxes are: work ready, life ready.



Mark Costello

Principal, Aurora Foxes Hospitality & Catering College

About Our College

“ Become ‘work ready, life ready’ ”

Residential Provision

At Aurora Foxes we develop a personalised programme for each student with a clear roadmap of progression. Our residential programme can take up to three years to complete.

NVQ Hospitality and Pathway to Life Vocational

Industry professional tutors teach you in the real environment of Foxes Hotel, which is open to the public and subject to the scrutiny of TripAdvisor. From day one, you will gain skills in food service, food preparation and front of house. You will also work in depth on health and safety, teamwork and customer care skills, with the opportunity to complete a recognised food hygiene award.

Functional Skills

This course includes the opportunity to gain City and Guilds qualifications in English, maths and ICT, before transferring your knowledge to the workplace and community. We will help you build your confidence in using the latest technology and social media safely for communication, life, fun and work. Your ability to communicate effectively will be enhanced by taking part in English Speaking Board exams, helping you to flourish in both work and life.

Pathway to Life – Independent Living Skills

Aurora Foxes’ Independent Living Skills is a specialist course which enables you to develop independence within the home and the local community. It will help you to develop the wider skills you need to access and maintain employment, lead a fulfilled life and be a valued member of society.

Day Provision

Our day provision provides access to a variety of nationally recognised, accredited vocational and functional qualifications.

You will attend 5 days per week and your time with us will include teaching, study time and work experience. All vocational training is delivered in the award-winning Foxes Hotel, a fully functioning hotel open to the public, where students can work towards:

- NVQ Certificate in Hospitality Services - Level 1 / 2
- Introduction to the Hospitality Industry - Entry Level 3
- Preparing for a Career in the Hospitality Industry - Level 1
- Level 1 or 2 Award in Food Safety.

Maths, English and ICT are core skills taught directly throughout the programme and are embedded across practical vocational aspects. English Speaking Board qualifications are designed to focus on developing vital communication skills to support transition into future employment – whilst our Employability Skills course covers the key skills needed for job seeking and gaining employment.



Integrated therapies

Our dedicated, on-site therapy team works with you to ensure you achieve your potential. They can help you with:

- Friendship and social skills necessary for a fulfilling life.
- Confident communication and practical skills training in Foxes Hotel and within your external work experience.
- Language and fine motor skills to support Functional Skills exams.
- Maximising motor skills to ensure household tasks are carried out safely.

Positive and happy

At Aurora Foxes, we promote good mental health with small group and individual therapy sessions. Behaviour plans and visual resources help you maximise independence and manage anxieties, while your ability to self-advocate is developed through awareness programmes and innovative therapy materials to help you grow your confidence and find your voice. Therapists will work closely with you from the beginning, adapting to your changing skills and needs throughout your course and beyond.

“

Therapy staff work well with teaching and support staff to help students manage their behaviour... this helps them to become more resilient, confident and ready to learn.

”



Your experience with us

Accommodation

At Foxes we provide a truly unique living experience, located in the heart of the bustling seaside town of Minehead. Our "campus" runs throughout Minehead, with many of our residential houses on the main high street, making it easily accessible and convenient for our students to enjoy all that the local area has to offer and the invaluable learning experiences that come with it. As a student at Aurora Foxes you will have a beautifully furnished room, as part of a comfortable, cosy and happy home. Each house is supervised by a highly experienced Team Leader and Deputy Team Leader. Therapy is integrated to help you manage your home and your life. The Reynard Care and Support Agency will help you with your personal care needs.

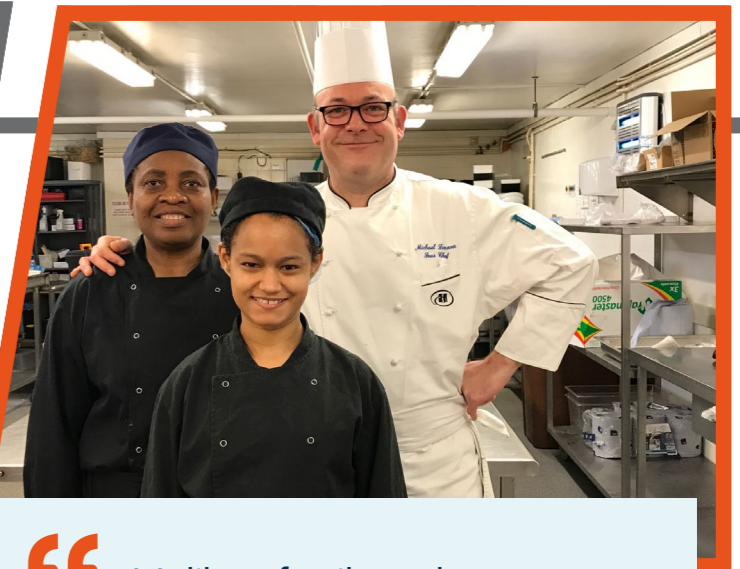
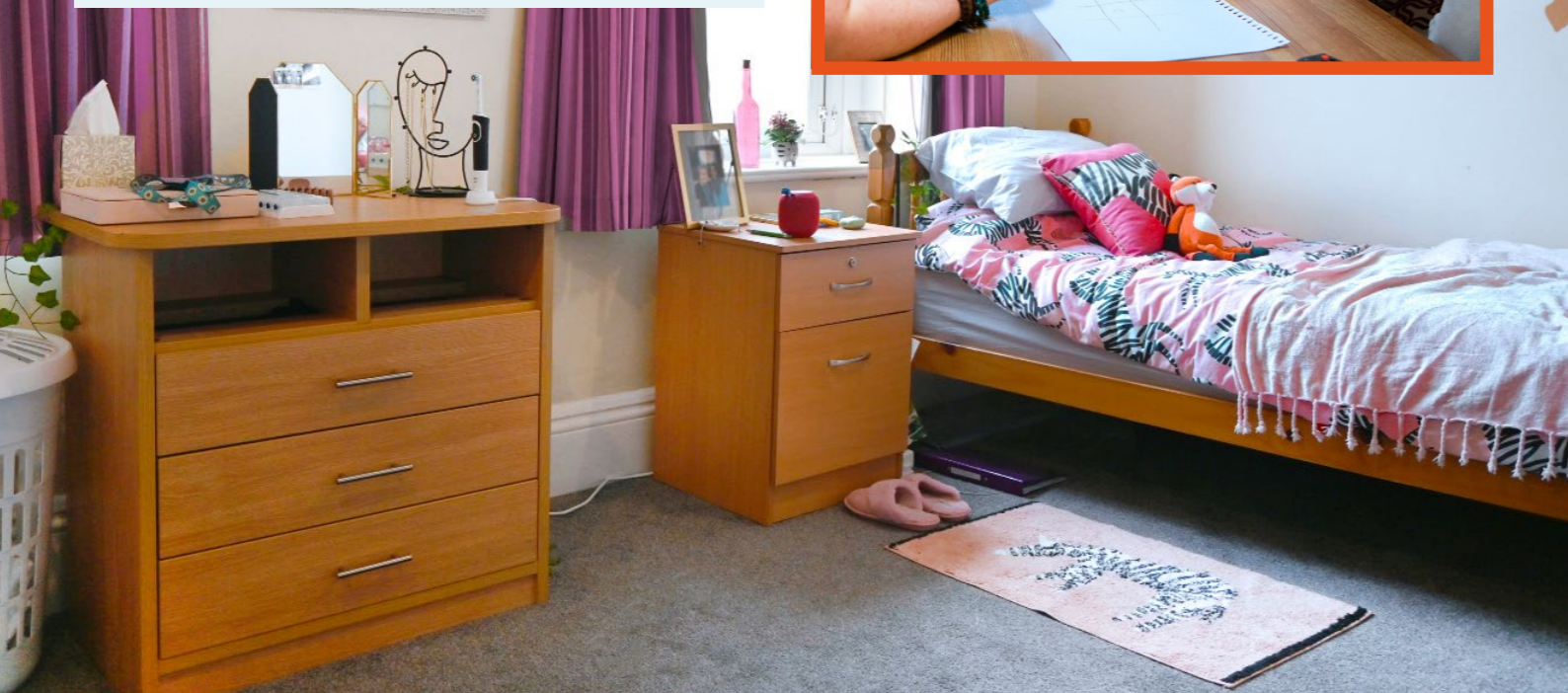
Our accommodation is designed to meet the specific needs of our students, providing a safe and nurturing environment where each student can thrive. Our aim within the houses is to create a supportive and inclusive community where students can build lasting friendships and develop the life skills they need to succeed.

Gaining independence

Each house offers different experiences. By your final year you will be able to do as much as possible for yourself: getting up for work experience, washing, dressing, shopping, cooking, cleaning and travelling independently to familiar places – just like any young person in further education!

“ Come to Foxes because it is a great place to be and you can learn lots – travel training, functional skills like maths, English and ICT. We learn independent living skills and hope to get a paid job in hospitality.

Jenny, former student



“ It’s like a family as the team look out for Geor-Dan. She is reliable and always arrives early, then just gets on with the job.”

*Chef Michael Lennon,
Hilton Metropole*



Work experience

From day one, everything you achieve at Aurora Foxes is geared towards the aspiration of being 'work ready and life ready'.

Employability and Transition

Employability and Transition supports you as you prepare to transition out of Aurora Foxes into employment, training or education, and into living as independently as possible. Our dedicated transition team will work with you as you make informed choices about what you would like to do and where you would like to live once you graduate.

You will learn in real-life environments such as Foxes Hotel, visiting the Job Centre and external work experience placements. You will develop soft skills including teamwork, decision-making and punctuality, all of which are highly valued by employers.

Partnerships that lead to jobs

Our curriculum prepares and supports our students through formal partnerships with national hospitality employers. With our students coming from all over the UK, these partnerships can offer a great route into employment after leaving Aurora Foxes.

The transition team will work with you, your family and your Local Authority to ensure you can achieve your potential in the world of work and live independently after you have left college.

Outcomes for students	Percentage
2018-2022 graduates in employment	57%
National average in England	4.8%
2018 - 2022 graduates in supported independent living	65%

“ Leaders have worked collaboratively with employers to understand the vocational skills and academic qualifications that students need to secure and sustain jobs in the hospitality sector.”





Personal development, health and welfare

PDHW takes place in the residential accommodation and the community and is paramount to learning, with students supported to transfer skills learnt in sessions into real life. PDHW time supports you to develop your social skills and face the challenges associated with learning how to live with others, in a safe and supported environment. You will learn how to develop and maintain a healthy lifestyle and how to be safe online and use technology safely. The level of support you require is assessed and adapted according to your individual risk assessment, so that you are always working towards a greater level of independence.

Student life is about having fun

PDHW time means you can choose activities that promote positive mental, emotional and physical development – which means having fun! We offer a wide range of activities in response to interests expressed by students, such as ballroom dancing, football, drama, yoga, mindfulness and swimming, as well as discos, trips out, talent competitions, virtual karaoke and quizzes.

Student Leadership Team – listening to you

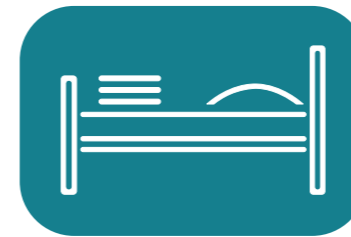
The Student Leadership Team meets regularly to plan and organise charitable events. It also reviews all aspects of Aurora Foxes to influence, change and maintain the quality of the college.

“ Students thrive in an environment where respecting each other and working together are valued... they are proud to be students at the college. ”



Why choose Aurora Foxes?

We have partnerships with national hospitality employers



Training is delivered at Foxes Hotel, a fully functioning hotel.
www.foxeshotel.co.uk

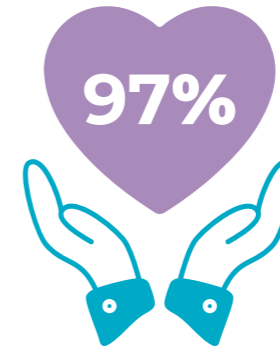
97%

of students enjoy being at Aurora Foxes - July 2022



99%

of students feel safe at Aurora Foxes - July 2022



97% of students were happy with the care they received from the Reynard Care and Support Agency



100% of 2022 graduates received nationally recognised hospitality qualifications

Our graduates are

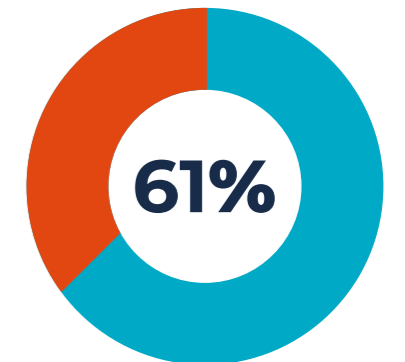


Foxes Hotel has great reviews on TripAdvisor

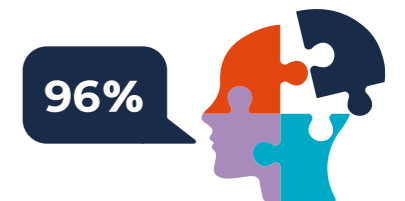


97%

of students feel Aurora Foxes staff support them to manage their wellbeing



61% of our 2022 graduates have secured supported living



96%

96% of students are happy with the therapy they receive

What you need to know

Admission - Next Steps

Aurora Foxes welcomes applications from young people who have an Education, Health and Care Plan and aspire to work in the hospitality industry.

The Application Process

If you are interested in finding out more about what Aurora Foxes has to offer, please go to the admissions section on our website www.theauroragroup.co.uk/foxes to complete an application form to express your interest to study with us. Alternatively, you can contact our admissions team who will be able to assist you.

Aurora Foxes also offer open days which are your chance to meet with staff and students, visit the hotel, a student residence, the education building and explore the local area. You are able to check current dates and availability on our website.

The Admissions Team:

01643 708529

FOX-Admissions@the-aurora-group.com

Our commitment to you

Quality Statement

At Aurora Foxes we strive to provide the highest quality service to young people, parents/carers and local authorities. We believe that all these groups have the right to comment on the service we provide and to understand the complaints procedure.

If you do have a concern or complaint, we want to hear about it as soon as possible. Please ask the main office for a copy of our complaints procedure if you would like to know more. We like to know when we are getting things right too, so please feel free to also send us any compliments – our staff are always happy to hear them!

Safeguarding Statement

Aurora Foxes is wholly committed to safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of our students, and we expect all staff and visitors to share this commitment. Safer recruitment practices are followed and all staff have an Enhanced DBS check.

Contact Us

For more information please contact us at:

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www.foxeshotel.co.uk
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 MLD, GLD, GDD,
ASD, Asp

 16+

 Mixed

 38 Week | Residential
& Day



CARING

AMBITIOUS

COLLABORATIVE

TRUSTED

INNOVATIVE



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