

work ready, life ready



A specialist hospitality college for
young people with SEND

CARING

AMBITIOUS

COLLABORATIVE

TRUSTED

INNOVATIVE

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.



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

At Aurora Foxes, we believe every young person deserves the opportunity to thrive, contribute and achieve their aspirations. As a specialist college for young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), we are dedicated to preparing you for adulthood — equipping you with the skills, confidence and independence to build a meaningful future.

Whether your goal is to secure employment in hospitality, live more independently, volunteer in your community, or simply continue discovering your talents, Aurora Foxes will support you every step of the way. Through a blend of practical learning including at the award-winning Foxes Hotel, external work experience, and tailored personal development, we make sure that by the time you graduate, you are work ready, life ready.

Our vibrant, inclusive community celebrates the strengths and individuality of every student. We take the time to get to know you — your interests, ambitions and support needs — so that together, we can create a personalised learning journey that unlocks your full potential.

We know that reading about us is just the beginning. To truly experience Foxes, we invite you to visit Foxes Hotel for an open day, meet our students and team, and see for yourself how we are preparing young people for a bright, independent future.

Mark Costello

Principal, Aurora Foxes Hospitality & Catering College.





About our college

Our provision

At Aurora Foxes, we create a tailored learning programme just for you, with a clear pathway of progression. Our courses can take up to three years to complete. Course level and duration will be recommended following attendance at an assessment day.

Vocational Training

From your very first day, you'll gain hands-on experience at Foxes Hotel, a fully operational hotel open to the public and held to professional industry standards. You'll be taught by experienced industry professionals and begin developing skills in food preparation and front-of-house operations. You'll also explore areas such as health and safety, teamwork, and customer service, with the opportunity to earn a recognised food hygiene qualification. On completion of your vocational training, you'll achieve an Entry Level 3, Level 1 or Level 2 qualification in Hospitality.

Functional Skills

You'll have the chance to gain accredited City & Guilds qualifications in English and maths, and will be supported in applying these skills in both work and everyday life. You'll also develop confidence in using modern technology and social media safely, supporting your communication and independence. Through English Speaking Board (ESB) exams, you'll further enhance your ability to express yourself clearly, helping you thrive in all areas of life.

Preparing for Adulthood

Our Preparing for Adulthood course supports you to develop the confidence and skills needed to live as independently as possible and contribute meaningfully to your community. You'll learn how to manage your daily life, access and maintain employment, and build a future where you feel fulfilled, connected and valued.

EXAMPLE: First year student timetable

Time	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat & Sun
7:00-9:00	PDHW <i>(Res only)</i>	PDHW <i>(Res only)</i>	PDHW <i>(Res only)</i>	PDHW <i>(Res only)</i>	PDHW <i>(Res only)</i>	PDHW <i>(Res only)</i>
9:00-11:00	FuS <i>(All)</i>	VT <i>(All)</i>	PfA <i>(All)</i>	PfA <i>(All)</i>	VT <i>(All)</i>	
11:00-13:00						
13:00-15:00						
15:00-22:00	PDHW <i>(Res only)</i>	PDHW <i>(Res only)</i>	PDHW <i>(Res only)</i>	PDHW <i>(Res only)</i>	PDHW <i>(Res only)</i>	

KEY:

PDHW - Personal Development, Health & Welfare

FuS - Functional Skills (English and maths)

VT - Vocational Training (Front of House and Food Preparation)

PfA - Preparing for Adulthood

(All) - Attended by both residential and day students

(Res only) - For residential students only

100%

of students
are happy at
Aurora Foxes
- Summer 2025





Integrated therapies



All students at Aurora Foxes are supported by our in-house Therapy Team, with access to Speech and Language Therapy and Occupational Therapy as needed. Therapy targets are embedded into daily routines and delivered holistically across all aspects of the residential programme.

Our therapists work collaboratively to reduce barriers to learning and promote independence. Through personalised support, Occupational Therapy and Speech and Language Therapy help students develop key life skills, including communication, self-confidence, self-advocacy, and self-management. This approach is central to our ethos of work ready, life ready.

The Therapy Team works closely with each student, as well as the staff supporting them, to assess individual needs and create a tailored therapy plan. This ensures every student is empowered to grow, thrive, and build the skills they need for life beyond Aurora Foxes.

Our therapy team can help you with a variety of different skills including:

- **Work tasks** – Learning how to carry out tasks safely and independently in real work settings, like the hotel or kitchen.
- **Sensory needs** – Understanding how your body reacts to the environment and helping you feel calm, focused and comfortable throughout the day.
- **Problem solving** – Developing thinking and communication skills to help you make decisions and find solutions in everyday situations.



100%

of students feel supported
by Aurora Foxes staff
- Summer 2025



Foxes Hotel



Tripadvisor

Foxes Hotel has an 'excellent' rating on TripAdvisor



100%

100% of 2025 graduates received nationally recognised hospitality qualifications

When you join Aurora Foxes, you'll get real work experience by helping to run Foxes Hotel. The hotel is open during term time and serves real customers, so you'll be learning valuable skills in a busy, working environment.

You'll work in all departments around the hotel, especially in our restaurant and bar, which serve breakfast, lunch and dinner to the public. With support from our chefs, you'll help cook meals using fresh, local ingredients and learn how to serve guests with confidence. Whether you're taking orders, preparing food or helping behind the scenes, you'll gain the skills you need for a future job in hospitality.

The Flying Fox



You'll also experience working in The Flying Fox, our food truck designed with help from students and supported by Hilton Hotels. It runs during the warmer months of term time and gives you the chance to prepare and serve food to the public in a busy, outdoor setting. You'll build skills in teamwork, time management and customer service, helping you grow in confidence and get ready for the world of work.

**VISIT THE
FOXES HOTEL
WEBSITE**

Scan the QR code:





Work Experience

Employability and Transition

From day one, everything you achieve at Aurora Foxes is geared towards the aspiration of being work ready and life ready. Employability and Transition supports you as you prepare to transition out of Aurora Foxes into employment, training or further 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 take the skills you learn at Foxes Hotel out into the wider community by working with local hospitality employers, facilitated by our work experience team. You will develop soft skills including teamwork, decision-making and punctuality, all of which are highly valued by employers.

We have partnerships with national hospitality employers



Partnerships that lead to jobs

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



Esme is completing a Level 2 Production Cheffing Apprenticeship with Sodexo at Denison Army Barracks



Our outcomes

The Transition and Work Experience teams will collaborate with you, your family, and your Local Authority to help you reach your full potential in the workplace and live independently after college.

Outcomes for students	Percentage
2021 - 2025 graduates in employment	58%
2021 - 2025 graduates in further education and training	17%
2021 - 2025 graduates in supported independent living	56%



Your experience with us

Accommodation

At Aurora 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 House Manager and Deputy House Manager. 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!



100%

of students feel safe
at Aurora Foxes
- Summer 2025



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, karaoke and quizzes.

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



Student Council - a voice that makes a difference

The Student Council plays an important role at Aurora Foxes, giving students a voice in shaping their college experience. Through regular meetings, they share ideas, raise concerns, and influence decisions. From organising charity events to reviewing college life, the Council helps improve what we do and strengthens our inclusive, student-led culture.



The Aurora Curriculum Framework

Our Intention

Aurora Values

Our Impact

Provide personalised support and a nurturing approach to enable our students to become compassionate, independent learners.

Caring



Children and young people are well prepared for the demands of ever-changing life in 21st century Britain and become active participants in their communities.

Give our learners the drive and ambition to succeed and become the best version of themselves in their education, their employment, their mental health and their independence in adulthood.

Ambitious



Learners make outstanding progress and achieve the qualifications, skills and outcomes which will enable them to thrive in the next stage of their lives.

Develop every young person's social and emotional growth, and life skills.

Collaborative



Learners are able to communicate confidently and engage successfully with others and the wider world.

Create environments where children and young people are safe to develop as individuals, where they can learn from mistakes, overcome their barriers to learning and develop resilience.

Trusted



Children and young people know how to take appropriate risks, keep themselves safe (physically and virtually), and are able to secure the support they require to become independent adults.

Create centres of excellence, providing an outstanding, personalised education for all learners.

Innovative



Children and young people experience a rich variety of unique opportunities which support individual development and success.



Our commitment to you

Quality statement

At Aurora Foxes we strive to provide the highest quality service to children, young people, parents/carers and local authorities. We believe that children and young people, as well as others, have the right to comment on the service we provide and that they are supported to understand the complaints procedure.

If you do have a concern or complaint, we want to hear about it as soon as possible. A copy of our Complaints Procedure can be found below, 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! Equally, we keep a log of all the complaints registered under the formal procedure during the academic school year which for 2024-25 was 0.

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.



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

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. Scan the QR code to book to attend of our Open Days, or get in touch via the phone number/email address below.

The Admissions Team:

01643 708529

FOX-Admissions@theauroragroup.co.uk

COMPLETE AN APPLICATION FORM

Scan the QR code:



ATTEND AN OPEN DAY

Scan the QR code:



Contact Us

Principal: Mark Costello

Aurora Foxes

Selbourne Place
Minehead
Somerset
TA24 5TY

01643 708529

FOX-Admissions@theauroragroup.co.uk
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 @AuroraFoxesCollege

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Foxes Hotel

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Minehead
Somerset
TA24 5QP

01643 704450

reception@foxeshotel.co.uk
www.foxeshotel.co.uk

 @foxeshotel

 @foxes_hotel

Reynard Care & Support Agency

Our dedicated team is available around the clock to provide support, including personal care and help with medication.

www.reynardcare.co.uk



MLD, GLD, GDD,
ASD, Asp



16 - 25



Mixed



38 Week
Residential & Day



24/7 Support



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AMBITIOUS

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INNOVATIVE

Certified



Corporation

The Aurora Group
is a certified B Corp



www.theauroragroup.co.uk



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