

About nextstep Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin

nextstep's purpose is to provide locally accessible, high quality Information and Advice services to adults (aged 20+) on opportunities in learning and work. This is in support of the government skills agenda "to increase the number of economically active adults who are qualified to at least Level 2 by 3.6 million between 2001 and 2010".

nextstep offers **free information** to all adults aged 20 and over – this is information given without any discussion about relative merits of options.

Advice (more in-depth than information, usually one to one with more interaction and discussion of possible choices) is only free to adults in the National Priority Group as detailed below. We are also encouraging people from within our local priority groups to access the service.

National Priority Group

People who's qualification level is below level 2
(see below)

Local Priority Group

- ~ People from a minority ethnic background
- ~ Members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender community
- ~ Other minority background (ex-offenders, substance misusers)
- ~ People from local priority skills sectors: care, construction, hospitality & leisure, retail, professional & financial services.
- ~ People on benefits, under threat of redundancy, returning to work
- ~ Employees participating in Train to Gain or aged 50+
- ~ Traditional non-users of IAG service & learning: people living in isolation (rural, social, mental health)
- ~ People interested in accessing Higher Education from non-traditional backgrounds
- ~ People with a disability
- ~ People with Essential Skills or ESOL needs



Qualification Levels

