

## YMCA

### **What age range do you help train and support?**

YMCA accept students aged 16-18 or up to 24 with an Education Health Care Plan.

### **Do you offer any work with sports? Do you offer boxing opportunities?**

Unfortunately, the YMCA are not able to offer this at present.

### **As well as gaining qualifications, what else do you think would help an applicant stand out?**

We like to know about any interests or hobbies that an applicant has as well as any achievements in addition to qualifications. For example; you may play a musical instrument, been successful in martial arts or belong to a swimming club. Or perhaps you volunteer somewhere or have a part time job. It helps if applicants are on time, polite and have thought about their appearance. Also have some questions of your own ready to ask.

### **Does your institution provide any work experience/taster sessions/virtual open days which students can access before they apply?**

YMCA offer visits to our centres on a 1;1 basis by appointment where you can have a look round and meet tutors. We have done virtual open days and are planning to do more in the future. We would be happy to arrange a taster session for anyone interested.

### **What courses do you offer and when do your courses start? How long are the courses?**

Our courses for 16-18 year olds are called Study Programmes where you study a subject, functional skills in maths and English and Employability/Personal Development.

You can join our courses at any time of the year not just September as we are roll on – roll off. Most of our courses are between 34-39 weeks long.

Our Chesterfield centre currently offers level 1 and 2 in Digital Skills and level 1 and 2 in Caring for Children.

We have small class sizes which helps students who may struggle in a large college environment, providing a safe, secure and more individual learning experience.

### **Are there apprenticeships for everything? E.g. architecture and photography.**

YMCA do not currently offer apprenticeships but are planning to in the future so watch this space!

### **Are all of your courses Level 2/3 courses or do you also do Higher Level or Degree Apprenticeships?**

All of our courses are level 1 or level 2. We do not offer any apprenticeships at the moment.

### **What are the benefits of apprenticeships?**

The benefits of apprenticeships are that you learn in a real work environment, get paid while you learn and usually have a better chance of gaining permanent employment when you complete your apprenticeship, often with the same company.