

EMA - MORETON

2025 - 2026



Find your future...

Head of Education's Welcome...

Welcome to EMA - Moreton!

Our new campus prospectus provides an overview of the unique and diverse opportunities at EMA, where we support, guide, and celebrate everyone who attends.

I have been part of the EMA team for six years and have served as Head of Education for the past three. It is my pleasure to welcome you to our Moreton site. At EMA, we prioritise creating a safe and nurturing environment where every student is empowered to thrive. Nestled in the heart of the Dorset countryside, this vibrant location offers an enriching experience that beautifully complements the courses we provide.

Over the past 10 years, the Moreton campus has undergone an incredible transformation. What was once an overgrown patch of land is now a dynamic learning and work experience hub. Our facilities include six classrooms, a state-of-the-art training kitchen, five acres of stunning gardens, and an on-site café open to the public. We also host a variety of animals, including pigs, goats, ferrets, and reptiles, creating a truly immersive environment for learning and growth.

Our facilities are designed to meet a wide range of needs, and our dedicated team of experienced professionals is passionate about helping you succeed. Together, we foster a supportive community where everyone can reach their full potential. At EMA, we recognise that every individual's journey is unique. From the moment you arrive on campus to the day you transition into the local or wider community, our goal is to support and celebrate your progress, helping you become more confident and independent. Your journey with us can begin with a tour, a taster session, or even an informal chat. We'd love to hear from you and look forward to helping you find your future.



James Dunham - Head of Education

Thank you!



The Walled Garden, Moreton Campus

Learning at our Moreton Campus

Our Moreton campus is set within The Walled Garden Moreton, a five-acre formal garden, and is designed to support students to achieve their potential through a combination of education and hands-on learning experiences in real working environments. Students benefit from real life work experience settings in:

- The Dovecote Café
- Formal gardens
- Kitchen garden
- Animal and family area

The site is open to the public and students learn both independence and employability skills in their chosen areas.

We offer a range of study programmes designed to empower students and support their transition onto their next steps:

- Support for Employment Study Programme, aimed at equipping learners with the skills needed for meaningful employment opportunities.
- Supported Internships, providing real-world work experiences in a guided and supportive environment.
- Preparation for Adulthood Study Programme, focusing on developing essential life skills and independence.
- Transition Study Programme, helping students smoothly transition from EMA to their chosen future pathway.

All programmes include English, Maths, Digital Skills and vocational learning tailored to each student's skill level and needs. This approach ensures that students receive a balanced education, combining functional, practical, and career-oriented skills.

By combining functional, vocational, and life-skills education, we ensure our students are equipped to reach their full potential and transition successfully into adulthood.



CAREERS

EMA is committed to enabling and encouraging all students to explore and experience different vocational and academic areas ensuring they have the tools to make meaningful decisions about their future career pathways. EMA recognises that Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance is crucial for our students' success and is committed to embedding the eight GATSBY standards using the Compass Tool that benchmarks good Careers Guidance across the curriculum.

These are:

1. A stable careers programme
2. Learning from career and labour market information
3. Addressing the needs of each pupil
4. Linking curriculum learning to careers
5. Encounters with employers and employees
6. Experiences of workplaces
7. Encounters with further and higher education
8. Personal guidance

Our Careers Lead at Senior Management Level works in collaboration with the Senior Management Team, Work Placement and Next Steps Coordinator and wider colleagues to oversee and monitor the Policy and Careers Strategy, identify priorities and improvement plans, and works with external Careers IAG professionals to ensure all students have access to a career programme that is differentiated to meet their needs. These individualised plans are key in everything we do for the learners at EMA.



COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Our connection to the local and wider communities of Moreton, Dorchester, and beyond is a key part of the experience at EMA, and is something we continue to maintain and develop through a range of projects with students at their heart. Students are encouraged to utilise skills they have been developing in all areas, to plan and deliver various events on and off-site, along with visits to local groups, and even charity fundraising.

We host afternoon tea and lunch events for parents, carers, and feeder schools, visit local care homes and social care provisions, take part in litter picks, bake sales, and craft markets. We are also deeply involved with the GAP Project in Dorchester, and Dorset Community Action GreenCare and Seed2Plate, which involves a range of horticulture and sustainability projects focused on growing your own vegetables, and the maintenance of grounds and gardens both at EMA and at external locations.

These connections help to embed our young people in their local communities, use their skills and give back. Putting them environments where they can thrive, encouraging teamwork, communication, planning and execution, while also boosting confidence. They give students the opportunity to take pride in something they've built, or funds they have raised, and also help to show everyone in the community our students' abilities, enthusiasm, drive, and creativity.



Somerleigh Court Coffee Mornings



Christmas Food Bank Campaign

INTERNAL WORK EXPERIENCE

At EMA we offer internal work experience placements to all students in our hospitality, horticulture, and animal care sectors to provide our students with valuable experience in the world of work. Over the period of time our students spend with us they will have timetabled and structured vocational sessions where they will learn the skills they need to prepare them for work when they leave EMA. The students have short term individual structured outcomes to achieve in each vocational department designed to help them develop their skills and continually progress and further their practical knowledge.



EXTERNAL WORK EXPERIENCE

Students on our Support for Employment study programme and Supported Internships will be supported to develop a range of basic skills in their vocational range. They will be supported to find an off-site work experience placement of their choosing in their local area so as to encourage independent travel to their workplace. The off-site placements are fully supported by a member of EMA staff to ensure the student feels secure and supported for as long as is necessary. We like to try and give our students a placement for one full day a week to encourage a routine and to maximise the development of their skills within this setting. Once the employer and student are comfortable, we reduce the support if appropriate so they can gain independence in the workplace.

Short term outcomes are agreed between the student and the employer. These outcomes are reviewed at six week intervals to encourage continual growth and challenge. We have a wide range of local employer partners in the hospitality, horticultural, and animal care sectors across Dorset and surrounding areas who facilitate these placements. They provide the real world experience our students need to progress and we are always grateful for their assistance.



“ Internal and external work experience placements are a vital area for our vision at EMA. It provides the stage for our classroom learning to be expressed in the real-life working environment. This is where we really see our students progress and it is a pleasure to watch them grow both with their confidence and their social skills. ”

- James Dunham, Head of Education

EMPLOYER PARTNERS



CAREYS
secret garden

Wolfeton Manor



National
Trust



Springhead

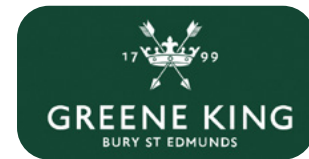


SUPPORTED INTERNSHIPS

Supported Internship are a practical way to develop skills at our college and with our external employment partners, tailored for those who need extra support to start a job.

We're collaborating with established employers who will be providing a workplace opportunity for young people to utilise existing skills and develop new ones as they explore their career path and equip themselves for work once they graduate.

These Supported Internships are completed over one year, and come with a dedicated job coach to help the young person with training, get them ready for work, and aim to find the right work for them, and their career aspirations.



Dorset County Hospital
NHS Foundation Trust



STUDENT SUCCESS



Eleanor

Eleanor graduated EMA in 2024. During her last year with us, she began work experience at a local café, where she quickly settled in as part of their team. Eleanor showed her great work ethic, and was proactive with tasks given to her, also showing that she was able to work independently. As a result of her hard work and progress, she was offered one day a week paid work at the café, working for the front of house team. The good news didn't stop there. Work Fit also secured Eleanor paid work at a local Pets at Home (Pets UK). Eleanor has overcome many barriers to get to where she is now, taking the skills she's developed with us at EMA out into the real world. We've seen her confidence grow during her time with us, and it's her own hard work which has primarily allowed her to achieve these amazing outcomes for her future.

Felix

Felix graduated from EMA in July 2025, and during his time with us he made a real impact with his impressive cooking skills. He was often involved in college events such as Christmas lunches and Graduation BBQs, consistently wowing us all with his dishes and professionalism. After completing his exams, Felix continued to pursue his goal of working in a hospitality role, and in October 2025 was offered a position as an apprentice Chef at The Five-Star Limewood Hotel.

"My time at EMA helped me build my confidence and discover a passion for culinary arts. The skills and experiences I gained there have prepared me to take on my new role at The Limewood Hotel and continue developing as a young chef." - Felix



SUPPORTING STUDENTS' DEVELOPMENT

Careers Strategy

We understand that making decisions about future career paths can be daunting for young people. We are committed to providing a supportive environment to help our students explore their career options. We provide guidance and advice, as well as activities and resources to help young people make informed and confident decisions about their future.

We provide a range of learning opportunities that help students explore and develop their career interests including work experience, community projects, visits to next steps providers, CV writing and interviews. Our curriculum provides students with the skills and knowledge they need to progress, developing the right attitude and behaviour and supporting them to make successful careers choices.

Our Work Placements and Next Steps Coordinator works with students to develop a pathway plan that is suitable and ambitious with a focus on the Preparation for Adulthood themes of:

- Good Health
- Employment and Careers
- Independent Lives
- Friends, Relationships and Community

Once the plan has been agreed, it is reviewed with the student to make adjustments as they gain more understanding of their choices. This ensures that the student remains on track to achieve their career goals and that any changes in the student's needs or interests are added to the plan.

All About Me

These are daily sessions where students get the chance to meet with their tutor and go through the work they are doing towards their EHCP Outcomes. Tutors will meet with students 1:1 and go through the evidence that has been captured on their vocational and functional studies each week and recorded on Evidence for Learning and how it links to their outcomes. They will also go through their well-being and what they have been doing with their work experience. Classes will also follow the tutorial scheme of work which covers tasks and topics that link to EHCP categories cognition and learning, communication and interaction, social, emotional and mental health, independence and physical & sensory.

Listening to our Students

Students can access our Talk About group where they can explore how to express their feelings and build friendships and have an understanding and respect of other people and their feelings. We are committed to our student voice being at the very heart of everything we do at EMA. We have an active student council that meets every half term and has a representative from each tutor group, the chair of the student council is a member of the EMA Trustee Board. 'You said, we did' lets students know how their suggestions have developed and changed the college.

Alongside our student council we are committed to extending activities to ensure all students have the ability and opportunity to contribute to curriculum planning and the assessment of their college experiences. We are committed to increasing the reach and influence of student voice activities.



Enrichment at EMA

Enrichment is all about boosting students' overall well-being to help them to perform at their best while at college.

Students will be invited by tutors to join any curricular enrichments; meanwhile, students will choose at least one extra-curricular enrichment to engage with for fun. Our extra-curricular enrichment provision gives students varied opportunities to try something new or develop an interest alongside their main studies. Some are based online while others are conducted in person. So whether students want to meet new people, improve skills or just have fun, we have an activity to suit.

At the end of the each year students, families and staff enjoy the EMA Graduation Celebration, giving everyone a chance to celebrate the fantastic achievements of our students, enabling them to celebrate with their friends and families as we wish them an incredibly proud goodbye.

Speech & Language Therapy

The speech and language therapy (SALT) team at EMA aims to provide and promote a high quality, responsive and inclusive communication environment for all our students. We support students to work towards their EHCP outcomes, acquiring speech, language and communication skills and strategies which equip them for their futures. We do this using a combination of small group therapy, classroom support and specific short term interventions, taking a flexible approach according to what works best for each individual.

We adopt a multi-sensory approach to learning and communication throughout EMA, utilising a wide range of communication tools (e.g. signing, visual schedules, voice notes, Mind Maps™) to support understanding, recall and use of language. The whole education team at EMA receive ongoing support and training from the SALT team to enable them to create an environment where all methods of communication are valued and responded to.



Some of the aspects of communication we support our students with include:

- Understanding and using the specialist vocabulary used in their courses.
- Developing the social communication skills needed to make and maintain friendships and working relationships.
- Identifying, expressing and managing emotions.
- Employing appropriate support strategies (such as visual schedules) to enable students to successfully carry out home and work tasks as independently as possible as they progress into the adulthood.

STUDENT FINANCIAL SUPPORT

EMA receive a small budget from the government for financial bursaries each academic year. These bursaries can help with the cost towards traveling to and from EMA, course equipment, and college activities. This financial support helps students in completing their courses.

EMA also receives money from the government to support eligible students with free meals whilst at college.

The funding we receive from the government is not set and changes from year to year depending on what they have available to spend.

All applications are on a first come, first served basis and can be submitted each term.

Further information, eligibility criteria and application forms can be found on our website:

www.employability.org.uk/aboutus/studentfinancialsupport

Alternatively, call reception on 01929 405685 for further information.



SAFEGUARDING

EMA are dedicated to providing a safe and inclusive environment for all our students and staff. Our commitment to safeguarding means that we take proactive measures to identify and mitigate potential risks, provide appropriate support, and maintain a culture of respect and dignity for all. We share the belief that safeguarding is everybody's responsibility and have a dedicated safeguarding team that promotes awareness and is always available to provide support to students, their families and our staff team.

All staff, volunteers and trustees are trained in both children and adult safeguarding, and we have established safeguarding policies and procedures in place. Safeguarding themes are embedded into our curriculum and we pride ourselves in going above and beyond to make college a safe, happy and thriving environment for all.

Our current safeguarding team can be found on our website: www.employability.org.uk/safeguarding



ASSESSMENT

If you are interested in finding out more about us and would like to have a look around, we are more than happy to organise this. Just contact us on 01929 405 685 or email us at referrals@employmyability.org.uk. We believe every young person is different and we embrace this individuality, ensuring each young person's transition is tailored to meet their needs.

Visits

If you would like to come and visit us and have a look at EMA and meet staff and students, this can be easily arranged.

Referral

Once you have decided EMA is the place for you, you can make a referral. We will send / email you a referral form to complete or complete it during your visit. Students, parents, carers and professionals can make referrals.

Taster Sessions

We are more than happy to organise taster sessions for young people to give them an insight into what we do and support them in making their choice about their future.

Student Assessment

After we receive your completed referral we will arrange a time for our assessment to be completed. One of the team will come out and meet with you and your family in order to complete the assessment. This ensures we have all the information we need to support you academically and emotionally.





EMA INITIAL EDUCATION REFERRAL FORM



Name of Learner			
Address of Learner			
Contact Number			
Next of Kin			
Date of Birth		Allergies / Medication	
Current Provision		Preferred Site	Moreton

Please note all learners will be required to complete the induction skills package and will be encouraged to have taster sessions in a number of vocational areas.

Pathway you would like to do:	Yes / No
Preparation for Adulthood- All Vocational Areas and Functional Skills (Pre-Entry-Entry 2)	
Support For Employment-One Vocational Area (below) and Functional Skills (Entry 2-Level 2)	
SFE-Hospitality	
SFE-Land based and Animals	
CTH Hospitality Courses	
Supported Internship (Minimum Entry 3)	

Continue form...

	Name	Email	Contact Number
Social Worker			
SEN Worker			
Other			

Referrer			
Contact Number			
Contact Email			
Relationship to Student		Date	

Additional comments:

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Please declare whether you have any unspent convictions or current proceedings against you.

Yes / No

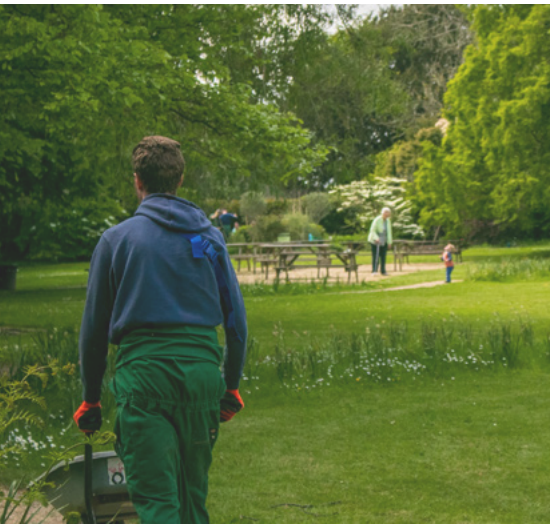
If you answer yes we will ask you for further details. Your response will not stop you from being offered a place at our college. We need to have this information to ensure your safety and the safety of our students and staff and make our decision based on your full assessment, not on your answer to this question.

Please return to:

By post: Employ My Ability, The Walled Garden, Moreton, Dorchester, Dorset, DT2 8RH

Email: referrals@employmyability.org.uk

Tel: 01929 405 685



Find your future.



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Follow our story



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