



# ALTERNATIVE PROVISION

EDUCATING YOUNG  
PEOPLE. NOT JUST  
FOR WHO THEY ARE  
TODAY, BUT FOR  
WHO THEY CAN  
BECOME  
TOMORROW...



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🌐 [www.evjaspire.co.uk](http://www.evjaspire.co.uk)

📍 Manchester/Tameside

# WELCOME...

***“Inclusion isn’t bringing people into a space that already exists; it’s making a new space, a better space for everyone...”***

**EVJ ASPIRE CIC** is an innovative initiative by EVJ Training Academy, designed to provide tailored vocational training for young people in Tameside and Manchester, focusing on Hairdressing and Beauty Therapy. By moving away from the traditional classroom setting, we create an environment that breaks down barriers and engages young people effectively.

Our approach recognises that every young person has unique needs, talents, and aspirations. As a result, our programs are flexible, user-friendly, and inspiring, harnessing their energy, creativity, and raw potential. By nurturing these qualities, we pave the way for success in both education and employment.

While achieving qualifications and gaining practical experience are key elements of our mission, we go further by fostering confidence, a sense of social value, and inclusion. Through hands-on training, teamwork, and collaboration with the local community, we bridge the gap between youth and the wider Tameside community. Creativity plays a pivotal role, promoting well-being and encouraging young people to prioritize their mental, emotional, and physical self-care.

The EVJ ASPIRE team brings over 30 years of combined experience in vocational education and over 50 years in the salon industry. Our smaller, dedicated team provides regular career guidance sessions to help learners stay focused on their goals. With strong links to employers and business leaders in the salon and education sectors, we offer learners valuable insights into career opportunities in Hair and Beauty.

By fostering a supportive and comfortable learning environment, our learners are well-prepared to progress seamlessly into post-16 education with us, continuing their journey in hairdressing or beauty therapy. This continuity ensures that barriers in both pre-16 and post-16 education are effectively dismantled, creating confident, skilled, and employable young professionals who are highly sought after by industry employers.



# OUR AIMS....

- To enhance academic achievement and success
- To boost readiness for exams and employment
- To reduce the risk of NEET (Not in Education, Employment, or Training) or permanent exclusion
- To promote social and emotional well-being
- To offer qualifications that lead to positive outcomes
- To strengthen community engagement
- To improve knowledge, vocational skills, and life skills

**A**CCOUNTABILITY

**S**ELF RELIANCE

**P**ERSONAL GROWTH

**I**NTEGRITY

**R**ESPECT

**E**QUALITY

# ALTERNATIVE PROVISION

*“Excellent teaching is remembered by learners, providing them with inspiration for the rest of their lives...”*

Our outreach and alternative provision program, led by the **EVJ Aspire CIC** Team, is designed to support young people who are disengaged from their current educational settings, at risk of permanent exclusion, or who are NEET (Not in Education, Employment, or Training) post-16. We create personalised timetables tailored to each young person’s strengths and needs, aiming to achieve positive outcomes in both education and life skills. Our team utilises creative teaching methods to address gaps in learning while also focusing on the social and emotional well-being of each individual. All team members have experience working with young people with special educational, behavioural, and emotional needs. We take a holistic approach, with dedicated mental health first aid support available on-site to ensure the well-being of every student.



# KS4 CURRICULUM

## LEVEL 1 INTRODUCTION TO HAIR AND BEAUTY



The Focus Awards Level 1 Certificate in Introduction to the Hair and Beauty Sector is a qualification designed to help learners develop practical skills while introducing them to the hair and beauty industries. It focuses on teaching how to present a professional image in a salon setting.

To further enhance your practical skills you will have the opportunity to choose from the following hair and beauty units:

- **Plaiting, twisting and styling hair**
- **Shampoo and conditioning hair**
- **Hand and skin care**
- **Make-up application**
- **Nail art**
- **Colour hair using temporary colour**
- **Salon reception duties**
- **Health and safety and working with others in the Hair and Beauty sector**
- **Create and maintain retail displays**

\*We have 3 versions of this qualification made from optional units. Hairdressing Level 1 (DIPLOMA), Beauty Therapy Level 1 (DIPLOMA) and Level 1 blended hair and beauty (CERTIFICATE).

# KS4 CURRICULUM

## LEVEL 1 IN WORKSKILLS



The focus awards level 1 award in Work-skills is designed for young learners who may face challenges in entering the workforce. This qualification aims to help learners enhance their knowledge, understanding, and practical application of work-related skills that are valuable to both themselves and potential employers. It covers a variety of units, including:

- **Managing your own money**
- **positive attitudes and behaviours at work**
- **Working in a team**
- **Self Assessment**
- **Practicing leadership skills**
- **Applying for a job, CV writing**
- **Interview techniques**

# KS4 CURRICULUM

## LEVEL 1 IN CUSTOMER SERVICE



The Focus Awards Level 1 Certificate in Customer Service (RQF) is designed for individuals who are preparing to begin their career in the customer service industry. This qualification helps learners build a strong foundation by equipping them with the essential knowledge and skills needed for success in the field. Its purpose is to provide learners with a solid understanding of the customer service sector, preparing them for future job opportunities. Through this qualification, learners will enhance both their theoretical knowledge and practical skills in:

- **The delivery of excellent customer service**
- **Communication skills in order to strengthen relationships and interactions with customers and colleagues**
- **Principles that underpin outstanding customer care; and**
- **Develop and maintain key transferable skills applicable in a range of industries and sectors.**

# BESPOKE CURRICULUM

KS3 & BEYOND

**HANDS ON THEORY  
& PRACTICAL HAIR,  
BEAUTY & NAILS**



We recognise that the criteria for some of our qualifications may not be suitable for all learners. That's why we offer tailored programs for students who may benefit from shorter learning days or smaller, focused learning sessions (over a period of 8 weeks or more). These programs can be delivered one-to-one or in a group setting, and can be customized to meet the specific needs of both the students and the school. For example, a school may pilot an alternative provision in hairdressing where a group of students attends one session per week during the first term. Since the hours are insufficient to meet the guided learning requirements of the qualification, a bespoke programme can be developed. This program will cover some of the qualification units, making the transition to full qualification more seamless and effective.

Additionally, we offer short, focused educational sessions through the AQA Unit Award Scheme, allowing all our learners to receive official certification for their work in subjects such as Hair, Beauty, Nails, Make-up, and Life Skills.



# MATHS, ENGLISH & SCIENCE

**"IF THEY CAN'T LEARN THE WAY WE TEACH,  
WE TEACH THE WAY THEY LEARN..."**

The salon industry is often overlooked when it comes to the core subjects it requires, such as Maths, English, Science, and more recently, Digital Skills. In our curriculum, we integrate these subjects to ensure students are equipped with the knowledge necessary to apply their practical skills effectively. This includes understanding human anatomy and physiology, handling chemicals and recognising reactions when applying colours, managing costs and timing for treatments, completing client consultation forms, and utilising digital tools for marketing.

While practical skills are essential, a strong foundation in core subjects is crucial for success. That's why each session includes at least 50 minutes dedicated to core subjects. We make reasonable adjustments to support each learner's needs in these areas and reward their progress accordingly. This approach not only enhances their practical abilities but also supports their academic development, whether they are working towards GCSEs, SATs, or require additional learning time.





# WELL-BEING

The well-being of our students is our highest priority. We are dedicated to creating a safe, supportive, and nurturing environment that encourages positive progress. All of our staff are trained to at least Level 2 in Mental Health First Aid and receive annual training in safeguarding, British Values, and PREVENT. CPD logs are available upon request.

— “ —

*The power of trauma-responsive teaching lies in its ability to transform a young persons sense of belonging and connection*

— ” —

## A DAY AT EVJ

We offer a drop-off and collection service for our learners. Our fees cover drinks, lunch, as well as both group and individual trips and experiences. We also provide uniforms, though they are optional. In addition, we have dedicated breakout spaces to support regulation and reset when needed.



# OUR CENTRE

Our centre is located in Stalybridge, Tameside, and includes our HQ reception, a breakout space, four 1-2-1 rooms, a make-up classroom, and three spacious classrooms. All of our large classrooms are designed to mimic a salon environment, while still providing space for studying theory and core subjects. We are an approved centre with VTCT, Focus Awards, Open Awards, and NCFE, as well as an AQA centre offering their Unit Award Scheme. We offer a range of vocational qualifications and bespoke programs, which can be combined with various qualifications and certificates, including functional skills, work skills and employment awards, money management, teamwork, and more.



# OFSTED REGRISTRATION

*“Young people can now see the  
skyscrapers of the Manchester skyline  
from their bedroom windows; yet they  
still do not know the route IN to those  
skyscrapers”*

**Mayor Andy Burnham.**



We are not an OFSTED registered provider, but this does not impact our unwavering commitment to safeguarding, the well-being of young people, health and safety, admissions, guidance and support, the quality of education, and student outcomes. Our staff are experienced in 16+ education, with some having been OFSTED nominees. We are held accountable by External Quality Assurers (EQAs) from our awarding bodies and apply OFSTED's expected standards based on our experience in adult education.

The decision not to register with OFSTED has been carefully considered, and we remain open to the possibility in the future. However, we are dedicated to educating young people in a way that best suits their needs. We make a significant impact on the education and support of vulnerable and disadvantaged students. While a registered provider must offer a broader range of subjects, we believe the first step to successful learning is stabilising a young person's life. Without this foundation, they are not in a position to fully benefit from a traditional curriculum. Our unregistered status gives us the flexibility to tailor our programs to meet the individual needs of each learner. Different from mainstream schools and colleges, we are proud to achieve the same positive outcomes for our students, despite our alternative approach. Overall, we are committed to making a meaningful difference in the lives of young people through education.



# OUR TEAM...

- **Emily, Centre manager  
Safeguarding Lead, Lead  
IQA, Hair & Beauty  
Assessor**
- **Kylie, Make-up & Beauty  
Therapy Assessor, SEN  
Lead**
- **Sadie, Beauty Therapy,  
Massage Assessor &  
Wellbeing Officer**
- **Tracy, Nails, Hair &  
Barbering Assessor**
- **Angela, Beauty therapy  
Assessor, IQA & curriculum  
Manger**
- **Janet, Attendance Officer  
& Accounts**
- **Angela, Beauty therapy  
Assessor, IQA & curriculum  
Manger**
- **Tom, Learner Engagement  
& CIAG Officer**
- **Jessica, Peer mentor &  
Curriculum Manager of  
Local Threats and Wider  
Learning**
- **Charlotte, Behaviour  
Officer, SEN assistant**

**\*All staff hold enhanced DBS certificates.**

# EVJ ASPIRE FOUNDER...

***“Working in a salon from the age of 14 taught me valuable life lessons and helped me grow into adulthood in many ways. It became an extended family where I could share my worries and experiences in ways I hadn’t been able to before. I will always be grateful to Carol for giving me an opportunity that many others would have denied me.”***  
**Emily Milner**



In Spring 2025, EVJ Aspire CIC will open its fourth unit and launch the EVJ Aspire CIC Community Salon. The surplus generated by EVJ Aspire CIC will be reinvested to support the educational journeys of our young people. While the salon will be open to the public, it will be operated by trainees under supervision. We believe this initiative will help bridge the gap between the adult and youth communities in Tameside, breaking down stigmas and barriers, while providing a safe and supportive learning environment.

Revenue from external services, schools, and salon treatments will be used to offer young people access to our curriculum where funding is not otherwise available. This will enable us to enroll up to five young people, aged 16–19, each academic year for a salon scholarship, which can extend up to two years. During this time, students will work towards Level 1–3 qualifications in Hairdressing, Beauty Therapy, and Barbering. In addition to their theoretical studies, they will spend at least one day per week gaining practical experience on the salon floor, providing valuable work experience for their CVs. They will also receive training in Functional Skills, Customer Service, and other educational opportunities, all while being supported by a dedicated 1–2–1 mentor for their health and well-being.

Our ultimate goal is to employ some of these young people, giving them the opportunity to pursue another scholarship for a Level 3 Award in Education and a Level 3 Award in Assessing Vocational Achievement. Drawing from their experiences at EVJ and their life journeys, they will go on to support other young people in their learning and personal development.