

Learning Changes Lives



Information and
enrolment events in
Nuneaton, Rugby and
Leamington –
see inside for details

Courses for Adults in Warwickshire September 2022 – July 2023

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/acf

Learning changes lives

Warwickshire Adult and Community Learning offers courses for adults and families across the county. Whether you want to develop skills for employment or everyday life, support your children's education, pursue an interest, gain confidence or just meet new people in a friendly and welcoming atmosphere, we have a range of opportunities on offer.

You can get a flavour of what we offer from these pages, including stories from some of our learners. To find out more details, including what courses are available near you, visit our web pages at www.warwickshire.gov.uk/acl

You can enrol or apply for courses online. Alternatively, you can talk to our team in person at our information and enrolment events in September. See the back page for more information.

Not online?

To find out more about our courses, including FREE computer courses for beginners, call us on **01926 736392.**



Maths

Everyone who wants to develop their Maths skills, from a basic level to achieving qualifications up to and including our new, online GCSE.

- Parents who need to help their children with homework
- Anyone wishing to develop Maths confidence
- Those whose first language is not English and want an understanding of the Maths vocabulary
- Anyone who wants to develop budgeting and money management skills
- Those who wish to further their careers

Courses include:

- **Fast Track Maths** - an opportunity to gain a Functional Skills maths qualification in a term.
- **Stepping Stones into Maths** - a course for the 'maths phobics' to try.
- **Maths with Language Support** - for ESOL learners, teaching lots about maths methods and language.
- **Managing Money Wisely** - budgeting courses to help those struggling to manage their income. Option to achieve a qualification too.
- **Maths Functional Skills** - develop your everyday maths skills and gain a qualification.
- **Maths GCSE** - if you missed out at school or need to improve your grade.

“ Give it a go!
I thoroughly
recommend it. ”



Karen's Story

My ACL journey started with a leaflet through the letterbox. It was about to be recycled, but luckily I forgot ... A few days later, flicking through it over a cuppa, 'Maths is for Everyone' caught my eye - in particular, 'parents who need to help their children with homework...' The saying 'use it or lose it' is true. I bit the bullet and completed an application. It's been thirty years since I left school, but I passed my Level 2 (84%!) and I'm on my way to a GCSE. I'm helping my daughter prepare for hers, too. The tutors were encouraging and helpful. The fact that this resource was free is brilliant. Give it a go! I thoroughly recommend it.



English

We offer a range of English courses to help you:

- Improve and update your English skills
- Support your children with homework
- Gain a recognised English qualification (Functional Skills)
- Grow in confidence, while meeting others with the same goal
- Learn flexibly, at your own pace, knowing support is always at hand
- Further develop your career prospects
- Short courses to improve spelling and grammar
- Fast-track courses: gain a Functional Skills qualification in a term

“ The tutor’s incredible kindness and empathy helped me feel welcome. ”



Vera’s Story

Vera wants to pass an English Level 2 qualification to continue developing her other passion – baking! Vera loves English culture and was keen to become part of her local community, and to do things for herself instead of relying on an interpreter, or friends. When she saw our leaflet, she and her husband began attending classes in Rugby. Although she worries a bit about exams – especially grammar! – Vera enjoys studying and is an outgoing person. She says it was her tutor’s incredible kindness and empathy that helped her feel welcome, from the beginning. Now she can complete complicated documentation without help, has many friends around her, and is well on the way to achieving her dream of learning more about English cakes (more icing, less cream!).

English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)

Our courses can help with:

- Speaking and listening in everyday situations
- Reading in English (letters, brochures, emails, websites, other information)
- Writing in English (emails, messages, notes, letters etc)

Our friendly, qualified and experienced tutors will work with you to identify and achieve your goals. You will work in small groups to make sure you have plenty of opportunities to practise. You can take a recognised qualification (Trinity Skills for Life) in reading, writing and speaking/listening exams. These will be available to you once you are ready.

All our ESOL classes are free. There is a charge for exams only.

- You can enrol throughout the year
- Courses for beginners and more advanced learners
- Daytime and evening classes at a range of venues across the county

“ Please come and try! Don’t give up! ”



Mirdzhan’s Story

When Mirdzhan came to England four years ago she could speak Bulgarian, Russian, Turkish and some French, but she couldn’t speak a word of English. The family she was working for suggested she sign up for ESOL classes at Pound Lane, Leamington. For the first few lessons she felt that she didn’t understand a thing, and she was about to stop, but her tutor encouraged her to keep going. Now she has a job where she speaks English all the time. If you know someone who would like to improve their English, Mirdzhan would say to them ‘Please come and try! Don’t give up! I am happy to have attended the course. It helped me learn so much.’



Arts, Languages and Personal Development

“ *Developing their individual vision as artists.* ”

It's easy to hesitate before joining a course, but it is never too late to learn a new skill, meet new friends or try something different.

Maybe the time doesn't seem quite right, or you are worried about trying something new - we can help you make that first step.

This autumn we will be introducing an exciting breadth of online and face to face learning, with a new programme of courses allowing you to join an art, language or culture course all through the academic year. Make sure you keep checking our website and Facebook pages for up-to-date posts and when new courses or workshops may be starting.

As well as acquiring new skills, continuing to learn as an adult can improve general confidence and wellbeing. Trying out new things is a great way to promote creativity, and meeting others with similar aims and interests can inspire and encourage you along the way. Our strength is individualised provision and the passion and experience our tutors have to encourage you to progress and flourish. We'll challenge you to reach your personal goals, but we won't leave you to struggle along the way. Our tutors are approachable, and skilled at motivating individuals from all walks of life.

Our courses are competitively priced: the full fee for a ten-week course is £90, with discounts/full remission available in certain circumstances (see back page for details).

Make this the year you say yes!

Developing Artists Group

Nuneaton's Developing Artists Group has been working together for three years, and their work was exhibited in a group show, *Painting Without Numbers*, in the summer of 2022 in Nuneaton Museum and Art Gallery, Riversley Park, as part of the Warwickshire Open Studios initiative. Some of the artists were returning to a life-long interest – others, like Ron, who 'hated art at school' – were taking up a new challenge. The show represented the culmination of their progression from learning skills and techniques to developing their individual vision as artists. It was also the first Warwickshire Open Studios show in Nuneaton for twenty years.



Sugarcraft



Printmaking



Watercolours

Creative stitching

Our courses include:

- **Arts and Crafts:** Introduction to Drawing, Mixed Media, Watercolours, Acrylics, Illustrate With Inks, Printmaking, Photography, Dressmaking, Patchwork and Quilting, Creative Stitching, Crochet, Felting, Upcycling Clothes and Plastics, Sugarcraft
- **Languages:** French, Spanish, German, Japanese, Latin
- **Music:** Singing
- **Personal Development:** Making Time For Me



Active Learning: Courses for Adults with Learning Disabilities

The Active Learning programme is a suite of courses for adults with learning disabilities and/or learning difficulties. Our courses promote independence, build confidence and develop new skills.

Does this sound of interest to you or someone you support?

Here are some of the key facts:

- The courses are **free**
- Classes are small, supportive and fun
- Our teaching and support staff are highly experienced
- Classes are term time only for 35 weeks
- We can support you to access English, maths and IT qualifications
- We can provide career guidance

Courses include:

- Independent Living Skills
- Basic Cooking Skills
- Music
- Visual Art
- Drama
- Gardening Skills
- Skills for Work & Volunteering
- Exercise & Fitness

“Come and learn more!”



Dan's Story

To say that Dan didn't enjoy school was an understatement. ADHD wasn't well understood, and he experienced some really bad events, which could easily have put him off learning for life. Fortunately, he's found a way back. Dan joined ACL's Active Learning programme to make new friends, but his goals have become more ambitious. He's been learning how to manage money, cooking and learning new recipes, and he's started an art course, too, making huge progress at everything he decides to pursue. Dan admits that starting again can be a struggle. Even now, he sometimes has to fight an urge to procrastinate. He says 'sometimes you need to force yourself to go on a journey. Come and learn more!'

Learner Support

We know that, for many people, making the choice to join an adult learning class can be a big step. We want to support you however we can on your learning journey.

Information, Advice and Guidance:

we can offer a range of information and support, including:

- further details about course content
- any additional learning needs you have, or adjustments you may need to help you participate and achieve
- progression opportunities, whether to further learning or employment
- information on other organisations that can provide support

We work with the National Careers Service who can provide free one-to-one advice on how to progress your career aspirations or use your learning to move into employment.

Learner Support Fund:

If you need support with the cost of travel, materials or course fees we may be able to help – please ask for details. Our courses are free to most people in receipt of means-tested benefits.



Computers

How confident are you online?

Whether you're looking for a new challenge or to develop existing knowledge, we offer a range of courses to support your digital skills in an environment that is enabling, engaging, and effective.

As the pandemic has shown, technology is rapidly changing the way we live, work and learn, connecting us and creating new possibilities and challenges as it does so. People enrol on our courses for all sorts of reasons: rediscovering a forgotten passion, exploring the capabilities of their devices, getting the most out of social media, enhancing communications with high quality images, designing a website, improving skills and job prospects or simply staying in touch with family and friends.

Would you like to develop your computer skills but are unsure how to go about it?

Many of our learners are absolute beginners. You could start with a personal development course, and progress to a full qualification. Alternatively, you might have some specific skills you want to develop. Our tutors are passionate about helping you achieve individual goals, from getting online to becoming expert in spreadsheets or web design. Being confident in IT can greatly benefit your everyday life. It is also the gateway to a number of careers, as well as more flexible working patterns. Discovering technology can open possibilities you may never have considered.

Whatever the reason, we're here to support you.

Courses include:

- Essential Digital Skills
- Digital Gateway to Work
- Photo Editing
- Using Your iPad
- Internet and Email
- Web Design
- Cyber Security



“Set yourself a goal, and keep that goal in mind.”



Ishir's Story

It was a catastrophic health event that made Ishir re-evaluate his life. It became his mission to fulfil his potential. He enrolled, first of all, on ACL's Introduction to Microsoft Office, which he felt would be a great way to update his skills and get back into work. He ended up enjoying it so much he continued onto 'A Digital Gateway to Work.' Ishir is now in a retail post, and says that, as well as getting the IT skills he needed, meeting new people through ACL helped him prepare for his busy, customer facing role. His advice about returning to learning? 'Keep an open mind, go at your own pace, and ask for help if you need it. Set yourself a goal, and keep that goal in mind if your motivation dips. Embrace it!'



Family Learning

Family Learning encourages family members to learn together in a relaxed and informal way.

Parents and carers are a child's first educators. We run a range of short courses to help you support your child's learning and development, including 'low-cost, no-cost' ideas and activities with a focus on natural, everyday opportunities.

Good for children:

- Develop essential skills
- Improved behaviour and attainment
- Better outcomes at school and in later life

Good for parents/carers:

- Discover how your child learns
- Learn support strategies
- Step back onto the learning ladder

Courses include:

- **Literacy:** Story Sacks, Film Club, Creative Spaces, Books Without Words
- **Numeracy:** Raising Early Attainment in Maths, Family Numeracy
- **Science, Food & the Environment:** Science Explorers, Food Explorers, Family Gardening
- **Art and Play:** Play and Learn, Art Explorers, 50 Things To Do Before You're 5
- **Parenting & Life Skills:** Understanding Your Child, Soothing Sacks, Online Safety, Together Into School

“ I want a better life for myself and my kids. ”



Lucy's Story

'I found it hard to learn at school. I am doing it now because I want to better myself. I want a better life for myself and my kids. I am going to be something.'

As with many parents, having children motivated Lucy to do well. She's taken a number of courses with Family Learning to help her children do well, too. What would Lucy say to someone who was thinking about returning to learning as an adult? 'Don't worry that you might not understand something. The tutors are happy to help you if you just don't get it. Have your long term goal in sight but break it down into little steps so you feel you are getting there. And don't give up!'

How can I find out more?

Full course information: can be found on our website – visit www.warwickshire.gov.uk/acl. As well as information about each curriculum area, you can search for courses and find details of content, venues, dates, times and fees.

Enrol: for many courses you can enrol and (where applicable) pay online.

Apply: for some courses, including English, Maths, ESOL and some computer classes, you can complete an application online. We will then contact you to discuss your needs and work out which is the best class for you to join.

What if I am not online? If you can't access the information online, don't worry: you can call us on **01926 736392** or come to one of our information and enrolment days in September (see back page).



Further Information

Fees

English, Maths, Family Learning and some other classes, including Essential Digital Skills, are free. Where fees apply, we operate the following categories:

- Full fee
- Discounted fee (50% for learners aged 66 or over)
- Fully remitted (FREE for learners in receipt of qualifying benefits)

Details of the fees for each course can be found on our website. Please contact us for further advice.

For ESOL and some ICT courses, you may be eligible for a free course and exams if you are employed but earn less than £18,525 per year. Please ask for details.

Am I eligible?

We accept learners aged 19 or over on 31/08/2022. Most learners are required to have been permanently resident in the UK for the last 3 years. If you do not meet these criteria please contact us.

We are not funded to work with learners living in the West Midlands Combined Authority area. If you pay your council tax to Coventry, Birmingham, Solihull, Walsall, Sandwell, Dudley or Wolverhampton please contact us for more information – different fee rates may apply.

Where to find us

Details of our courses can be found on our website. Check the news updates on our social media channels or simply call us on **01926 736392**.



Information and Enrolment Events

You can enrol or apply for courses online, but if you would prefer to do that in person, or would like to speak to a member of our team first, we are running open days at the following venues:

Leamington Spa:

Wednesday 7th September

Pound Lane Learning Centre,
Lillington, CV32 7RT

Rugby:

Tuesday 13th September

Hill Street Community Centre,
CV21 2NB

Nuneaton:

Thursday 15th September

Hatters Space, Upper Abbey Street,
CV11 5DN

Including
'have a go'
sessions!

All events will run from 1pm to 7pm

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/acl

01926 736392



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 www.twitter.com/warksacl
 www.instagram.com/warksacl