

Parent and Carers Guide to Post 16 Pathways





Choosing GCSE options will have been the first time your young person could start to shape the direction their educational journey took them. However, their choices were most likely restricted to blocks of subjects offered by their school. When selecting post-16 options your young person will have complete freedom to choose a pathways that suits them, and if known, their career aspirations. This quick guide is designed to give you an overview of the pathways your young person might consider and sign-post to some helpful websites and resources.




What could my young person do?




A LEVELS:

-  Academic study across two years at school or college with a final assessment at the end of year 13.
-  Typically students will choose 3 different academic subjects with a mix of practical, coursework and exam assessments.



T LEVELS: (may not be offered by all post-16 providers)

-  Alternative to A Levels, providing a mix of classroom and on-the-job learning over 2 years, including a minimum of 315 hours (-45 days) work placement.
-  Pass, Merit, Distinction and Distinction grading.
-  Since September 2020 3 courses are available: Digital, Construction and Education & Childcare.

APPRENTICESHIPS: (available across a range of sectors)

-  Your young person will be out in the world of work, working for an employer, earning a wage, and learning new skills.
-  Training towards a recognised qualification, (linked to a specific career) makes up 20% of the apprenticeship.
-  Application is submitted directly to the employer.

BTEC: (Business & Technology Education Council)

-  Theory and practical based study. Students complete assignments on real-life scenarios to develop practical knowledge and skills.
-  Ideal pathway for students who have an interest in an industry but are uncertain which job they would like to do.

A Level, T Level & BTEC applications are made directly to the provider, usually in the Autumn Term of year 11!