



Parent and Carers Guide to Post 18 Pathways

You have successfully navigated post-16 pathways with your young person, but what are their options upon completion of their level 3 qualification? Your young person legally has to stay in education until the age of 18. They may choose to go straight into the world of work, take a gap year or continue their studies, depending on whether or not they have a specific career pathway in mind.



Higher Education:

-  Students work towards a degree at University, Further Education Colleges or through online distance learning.
-  Applications are submitted online (Autumn term of Year 13 or Level 3 year 2) through UCAS. Students can apply for up to 5 courses from a choice of over 50,000 course listings.
-  A full-time degree course typically lasts 3 years, but may be 4 years if your young person completes a year abroad or a year in industry.

Tuition Fee:

Each academic year your young person can be charged a fee of up to £9,250. This covers teaching course facilities, support services, etc. Your young person will only repay this year the year after they graduate and once they earn above a certain amount.

Living Cost Loan:

Your young person can apply for support with day-to-day living costs. The amount received will depend on your household income, where they live as a student and where they study.


Useful Links for Further Information:


UCAS www.ucas.com


Uni Connect www.ofsuniconnect.org

Gap Year www.gapyear.com

Higher and Degree Apprenticeships:

 A combination of academic study (tuition fees paid by the employer) and direct hands-on experience in the workplace. This pathway may take longer than a traditional degree to complete.

 There are over 100 companies, partnered with over 20 universities, offering Degree Apprenticeships. Applications are made directly to the employer and can be advertised all year round.

 Your young person will be treated as an employee, earning at least the apprentice's minimum wage from the outset.