

POST 16 OPTIONS

Exploring your options after year 11

THE BASICS

If you were born on or after 1 September, 1997, you must remain in some form of education or training until your 18th birthday.

WHY DO YOU NEED TO DO THIS?

The economy, the world of work and jobs are continually changing; more jobs require a higher level of skill, training and qualification. The requirement to remain in some form of education or training until your 18th birthday will help to prepare you for successful careers and equip you for the demands of the 21st Century.

YOUR OPTIONS

It **doesn't** mean that you have to stay in school until you are 18. You could:

- Stay in full-time education, at a school sixth form or college
- Learn whilst you work, in programmes such as apprenticeships and training.
- Get a job with specified training.
- Volunteer for more than 20 hours a week in combination with accredited learning.

STAY IN FULL TIME EDUCATION

If you decide to stay in full time education, this could be in a school 6th form, it could be in a 6th form college.

You then have the option of studying A-Levels, BTEC or a mix of both. Deciding between the two depends on what you would like to do afterwards and also how you like to study. A-Levels are exam based and traditionally more academic, whereas BTECs are more vocational, contain more practical elements and are largely coursework based (although some now have an exam element)

- Intro - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uuyynIBDgeU>
- From BTEC to university - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GgXwega3UeM>

WORK BASED TRAINING

Work based training is becoming a more popular option and there are more possibilities than there ever have been. More and more companies are realising that this is the best way to get employees with the specific skills and qualifications they are looking for.

Work based options include:

*Intermediate Level Apprenticeships

*Advanced Level Apprenticeships

*Traineeships

- Intro - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9nPK-8E46gl>
- Case study BBC - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C6Z65a6JckA>
- Case study IBM - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d9NsAqXfVEA>
- Case study Banking - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xozKfJGns0w>

WORK BASED TRAINING - APPRENTICESHIPS

Apprenticeships have changed in recent years. They used to be associated with industries, like construction and plumbing.

There are now apprenticeships available in a **crazy-range of sectors and job roles**. Did you know, for example, you can do an apprenticeship in **finance** or law?

These new type of apprenticeships are a combination of real work and academic study. An apprentice will receive on-the-job training, as they study towards qualifications on the side. You might think it couldn't get any more exciting. You would be wrong.

An apprentice receives a salary for the duration of the scheme. The minimum wage for apprentices is **£3.50** per hour. It might seem low, but many employers pay above the minimum rate.

Essentially, an apprenticeships is an opportunity for you to earn while you learn.

HOW DO I DECIDE WHAT TO DO NEXT?

www.youtube.com/watch?v=BHKFrXMCHII



A good place to start planning your post-16 options is to think of these three questions.

1. Where am I now? (What qualifications, skills, and interests do I have?)
2. Where do I want to get to? (What would I like to be doing in 5 years time – job, living away from home, etc?)
3. How will I get there? (What course, training or future job is likely to get me where I want to go?)

Of course, at 15/16, you don't necessarily know the answers to all these questions, but now is the time to start exploring information about careers, jobs and courses.

TASK

Brainstorm the answers to these three questions on your sheet

TOP TIP: CHOOSE WHAT YOU ARE INTERESTED IN AND ENJOY

This is the most important advice you can possibly get! Enjoying your subjects and following your interests is what it's all about. Also if you enjoy studying something, chances are you'll achieve more in it too. If you're not sure where to start with your post-16 choices, fill in the boxes on your sheet to get some ideas going.



TOP TIP: IF YOU'RE NOT SURE, KEEP YOUR OPTIONS OPEN

A combination of 'facilitating' academic subjects will set you up well for a huge range of degree courses. These include Maths, Chemistry, Biology, Physics, English, History, Geography and Languages. For example with Maths and Chemistry you could go on to do most science degrees, including Medicine, and with History and English you could go on to do a range of Arts degrees, such as English Literature and Law

HOW TO APPLY

- You should apply to more than one college/6th form
- Check individual websites for how to apply
- Some are done online
- Some you will need to collect an application pack at the open evening