



Post 16 Options: How does it all work?

Career Exploration





Post-16 Education – What are my options?

Since 2013, the Raising of the Participation Age law has stated that young people must be in some form of 'education or training' until they are 18. This can include:

Full-Time Study – this could be a qualification taken at a sixth form, college or training provider, totalling 540 hours of learning time per year, or around 18 hours per week.

Apprenticeships – this involves working for an employer while studying for a qualification as part of your training. Usually, work makes up 80% of an apprenticeship and at least 20% (or one day a week) should be dedicated to studying.

Traineeships – this is an option for students who would like to do an apprenticeship but may not have the experience, skills or qualifications to do so yet. Traineeships can last up to six months and involve a work placement, Maths and English qualifications and support with finding an apprenticeship.

Part-Time Study with Employment or Volunteering – this could be working in a full-time job (classed as any work that takes place over more than two months and is over 20 hours per week) or volunteering (again, over 20 hours per week) while studying part time at a college or training provider (totalling 280 hours of learning per year).

Here is a video that explains these options in more detail:

https://youtu.be/f_xAQNNi4pA



How do I pay for post-16 education and training?

Education and training in the UK are free for young people until they turn 19. In addition, there is a **16-19 Bursary Fund** to help students from low income families pay for things like transport, food and stationery, which can be accessed at any sixth form, college or training provider you attend after Year 11 -

www.gov.uk/1619-bursary-fund



PARENT INFORMATION

If you receive financial benefits from the government, such as Tax Credits or Child Benefit, it is important that you are aware of how these can be affected once your child leaves school. If your child is in full-time education, such as sixth form or college, your benefits will remain the same but if your child progresses into paid employment or an apprenticeship, they will no longer be considered your dependant and your benefits for them will stop.

Many organisations also have their own financial support for students, so check first!

Useful Link: <https://www.gov.uk/know-when-you-can-leave-school>

The Qualification Levels



Dependant on results students will leave school at either level 1 or 2



What are my full time study options?

Sixth Form

A sixth form is attached to a secondary school and is the place where young people can choose to stay on at for a further 2 years, after they have finished their GCSE's at the end of year 11. Classes are usually smaller than in secondary school.

College

A college is a much larger institution offering more variety of post 16 options. They may offer A Levels, Level 2 and 3 courses, BTEC's, T levels and can be the education provider for apprenticeships. Classes vary in size.

School sixth form	vs	FE college
Students usually required to wear uniform		Students not usually required to wear a uniform
Similar surroundings and familiar faces		New places, new faces
Days structured around a timetable, similar to a day in school		Students treated as young adults and given more responsibility for themselves and their studies
Surrounded by students aged 13 - 18		Surrounded by students aged 16+

There is also ...

Smaller Training Providers such as The Keyworth Centre and LAGAT who offer a range of vocational courses for students, including Motor Vehicle, Business Admin, Customer Service, Health and Social Care, Construction, Personal Fitness, Hair and Beauty and Hospitality and Catering. They can help students wanting to progress on to apprenticeships or work, all delivered in a much smaller environment with class sizes of around 10-15 students.

Specific Vocation Colleges such as the Military Preparation College.



What are the different types of courses?

A Levels are two-year courses that end in an overall examination and a grade from A*-E, with a similar structure to GCSEs but looking at the subject in a lot more depth. Students studying A-Levels usually select three or four subjects (depending on their GCSE grades) that they want to study at sixth form.

T levels are two year technical courses taken after GCSEs and are the equivalent to 3 A levels. They offer practical and knowledge based learning at sixth form (or college) plus on-the-job experience through an industry placement of approximately 45 days (20% of the course). Courses include Business, Engineering and Construction surveying. For more information on T-Levels, check out the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/introduction-of-t-levels/introduction-of-t-levels>

BTEC L3 Diplomas are usually made up of a number of separate modules and include practical assessments and coursework, as well as exams. Courses include music, performing arts and Lab technician.

Sixth form's also offer something called the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ), an independent project that can provide students with UCAS points to put towards university.

Entry Requirements

Entry Level/Level 1 – Usually do not require any qualifications as they are very basic.

Level 2 – Usually requires 3 GCSEs at Grade 3/D or above.

Level 3 – Usually requires 5 GCSEs at Grade 4/C or above

A levels and T-Levels: most colleges and sixth forms ask students to have 5 GCSEs at Grade 4 or above but make sure that you do your research, as some courses, such as A Level Maths, Physics, Biology and Chemistry, require students to achieve a Grade 6 at GCSE in order to demonstrate their deeper understanding of the subject.

Check out this video if you are struggling to decide: [Should I go to college or sixth form?](#)



Apprenticeships and Traineeships

Apprenticeships – Involve working for an employer in a specific role while being trained to do the job by experienced staff, in a combination of on-the-job and off-the job training at a college or training provider (this must be at least 20% of the apprenticeship).

Apprenticeships must be at least one year long and all apprentices must be paid a minimum of £4.81 per hour (although many companies pay more – some pay over £1000 per month!).

Apprenticeships can now be undertaken in a variety of industries, including Engineering, Graphic Design, Software Development, Hair and Beauty and Catering. Apprenticeships can be started as soon as year 11 has finished, as long as they are 16.

Apprenticeships come in four different levels:

Intermediate/Level 2 (equivalent to GCSE) – usually requires Maths/English at GCSE Advanced/Level 3 (equivalent to A-Level) – usually requires 5 GCSEs at Grade 4+

Higher/Level 4-5 (equivalent to Foundation Degree) – usually requires L3 or A-Levels

Degree/Level 6-7 (equivalent to University Degree) – usually requires 3 A-Levels or similar

Traineeships – Opportunity for students aged 16-24 who do not have the relevant qualifications, experience or skills to start an apprenticeship but are interested in progressing on to one in the future. Traineeships involve a programme of up to six months of study, including a work placement, qualifications in Maths and English and support with finding a job or apprenticeship once the course is completed. Students are not paid for taking part but can apply for a 16-19 Bursary Fund to help with costs.

Click on these links for more information:

[Find an apprenticeship - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

[Amazing Apprenticeships](#)

[Priory Apprenticeships - Home](#)

[Find a traineeship – Lincolnshire County Council](#)

[Find a traineeship - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)



How to apply?

College

- Go to their website
 - Create a log in.
- Check out the course list
 - Click apply

Sixth form

- Go to their website
- Find the sixth form page
- Read their prospectus
- Download the application form
 - Complete it
- Email it back to them.

Apprenticeship

- Go to any of the apprenticeship websites in your planner pg.46
- There will be a workshop on how to apply for apprenticeships



You need to apply for somewhere by Christmas

You can apply for more than 1 course and institution.

Apply for Apprenticeships after Easter.

Preparing Your Safety Net



The great news is that you can apply and accept offers from as many sixth forms, colleges and training providers as you want and can then make your mind up about which one you want to progress on to in September after visiting the place, meeting the staff and finding out what GCSE grades you have received in August!



The Careers Library

Feel free to
take a
prospectus

Miss Romain
is available
every break
time. Just
pop in.

Bookcase all
about
University

Information
about most
industries.





How do I make my final decision?

Making a decision about where to go after Year 11 can be tricky, particularly while you are busy revising for your final GCSE exams, so it is important to consider the following factors that might help with decision making:

Where can this option take me in the future? If you are thinking about a destination after post-16, such as university or higher/degree apprenticeships, it is important to know whether the qualifications you are taking from 16-18 can help you to progress on to these pathways. Use websites like [FutureFocus from LiNCHigher](#) to find out whether the course you choose after Y11 will allow you to progress on to what you want to do or speak with staff at the sixth form, college or apprenticeship you are applying to in order to get further details!

- **If you want to study Dentistry at university, you usually need to take A-Levels in Chemistry and Biology/Maths/Physics.**
- **Some universities do not accept BTEC L3 Extended Diplomas (although 95% do!)**
- **Apprenticeships have varying entry requirements – some ask for 5 GCSEs at Grade 4 or above while others ask for 2-3 A-Levels**

What will doing this option be like? Whatever you choose to do after Year 11, you will probably be doing it for at least one year, so it is important that you know that the learning environment and style of learning will be right for you. Why not...

- **Speak to sixth form or college staff and students** at one of the many Open Days or Open Evenings that take place throughout the year – the websites for each sixth form or college will have these dates on but you can also use <https://www.opendays.com/> to help make your search easier.

Research more about the sixth form, college or apprenticeship provider online to find out about what you would study as part of your qualification or what support the organisation can provide you with while you are studying e.g. help finding work experience, financial support like a free bus pass or food allowance, etc. Sixth form and college websites have all the information you need.



Reliable Websites



Search and apply for apprenticeships online –

<https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk/>



Learn more about the options available after finishing school, including sixth form, college, apprenticeships and university – <https://careerpilot.org.uk/>



Free careers software to help you connect your skills, hobbies and subject interests to what you might want to do once you leave school – <https://www.startprofile.com/>



Start volunteering to gain valuable work-related skills and experience – <https://vinspired.com>



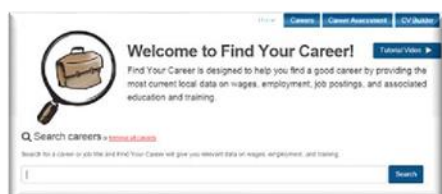
Improve your employability skills and start recording your experiences in a CV – www.barclayslifeskills.com



Use Informed Choices digital tool to help you understand which A Level and BTEC subjects open up different degrees, particularly at Russell Group universities - <https://www.informedchoices.ac.uk/> You can also use UCAS.com



CareerOmeter – This useful tool is available on the school website and allows the comparison of salaries/demand for different careers in a simple to use format. Available on the school website
<https://www.priorypembroke.co.uk/page/?title=Pembroke+Careers+Programme&pid=99>



Career Coach is a useful program. Career Quiz / Search Careers & CV Builder.



Who can I talk to?

In school

Careers and Future You Coordinator: Miss Romain

Miss Romain is a Level 6 apprentice in Careers Professional Development and has had specific training related to post 16 and careers information, advice and guidance.

Careers Advisor: Mrs Seddon

Mrs Seddon is a fully qualified Careers advisor. All students are entitled to at least 1 guidance interview before the end of year 11. To watch a video that explains what a guidance interview is, click on this link: <https://youtu.be/ONKDYTVJrcY>

Your form tutor and other school staff can be a good source of knowledge and can share their personal career journey with you.

Outside of school

Your family and family friends can share their experiences with you around what they did after year 11 and their career journey. For example if you are interested in going to university talk to someone you know who has been.

Important to remember

Although it is good to discuss your options with others there are a few things to bear in mind.

- Their experience will not necessary be your experience.
- A person's opinion is bias not fact.
- Careers professionals offer unbiased advice.
- If someone is from an older generation, bear in mind that the education and career landscape has changed a lot so what was true 20 years ago may not be true now.
- Your future is your choice.







Parents

Miss Romain is also a contact for you if you have any queries relating to your child's next step after year 11 or careers information. Please email any questions to hromain@prioryacademies.co.uk

With your child's permission the notes from their guidance interview can be shared with you.



Local sixth forms and colleges

	<p>Lincoln Christ's Hospital School Wragby Road, Lincoln, LN2 4PN Tel: 01522 881144 E-mail: education@lchs.eu</p> <p>For Open Evening date check website</p>
	<p>William Farr School Lincoln Road, Welton, Lincoln, LN2 3JB Tel: 01673 866900 E-mail: wfarr@williamfarr.lincs.sch.uk</p> <p>For Open Evening date check website</p>
	<p>North Kesteven School Moor Lane, Lincoln LN6 9AG Tel: 01522 881010 Email: enquiries@nkschool.lincs.sch.uk</p> <p>For Open Evening date check website</p>
	<p>LAGAT college Oak House, 3 Low Moor Rd, Lincoln LN6 3JY Tel: 01522 501300 Email: https://lagat.co.uk/index.php/contact-us/</p>



	<p>Branston Community Academy Station Rd, Branston, Lincoln LN4 1LH Tel: 01522 880400 E-mail: enquiries@branstonca.lincs.sch.uk</p> <p>For Open Evening date check website</p>
	<p>Sir Robert Pattinson Academy Moor Lane, North Hykeham, Lincoln, LN6 9AF Tel: 01522 882020 E-mail: enquiries@srpa.co.uk</p> <p>For Open Evening date check website</p>
	<p>De Aston School Willingham Road, Market Rasen, Lincoln LN8 3RF Tel: 01673 843415 E-mail: enquiries@de-aston.lincs.sch.uk</p> <p>For Open Evening date check website</p>
	<p>Lincoln UTC Lindum Road, Lincoln, LN2 1PF Tel: 01522 775990 Email: admissions@lincolnutc.co.uk</p> <p>For Open Evening date check website</p>
	<p>Lincoln College Monks Rd, Lincoln LN2 5HQ Tel: 01522 876000 E-mail: enquiries@lincolncollege.ac.uk</p> <p>For Open Evening date check website</p>
	<p>Riseholme College Riseholme Showground Campus, Horncastle Lane, North Carlton, LN1 2ZR Riseholme Park Campus (for equine) Lincoln, LN2 2LG Tel: 01522 304600 Email: enquiries@riseholme.ac.uk</p> <p>For Open Evening date check website</p>



	<p>Access Creative College (digital Media and Music) 32 Clasketgate, Lincoln, LN2 1JS Tel: 01522589684 Email: admissions@accesscreative.ac.uk</p> <p>For Open Evening date check website</p>
	<p>Priory Witham De Wint Ave, Lincoln LN6 7DT Tel: 01522 882900 Email: generalenquiries@priorywitham.co.uk</p> <p>For Open Evening date check website</p>
	<p>Priory City Skellingthorpe Road, Lincoln, LN6 0EP Tel: 01522 882880 Email: generalenquiries@priorycity.co.uk</p> <p>For Open Evening date check website</p>
	<p>Priory LSST Cross O'Cliff Hill, Lincoln LN5 8PW Tel: 01522 889977 Email: generalenquiries@priorylsst.co.uk</p> <p>For Open Evening date check website</p>
	<p>The Keyworth Centre (Construction and Motor Vehicle) & Priory Training (Apprenticeships) Skellingthorpe Road Lincoln, Lincoln LN6 0EP Tel: 01522 871370 Email: generalenquiries@prioryfederation.co.uk</p>
	<p>Military Preparation College Sobraon Barracks, Burton Rd, Lincoln, LN1 3PY Tel: 0330 111 3939 Email: enquiries@mpct.co.uk To book a visit: https://mpct.co.uk/location/lincoln/</p>

This is not a complete list of all post 16 education and training centres in Lincolnshire.