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Which Way Now?

A guide to education, employment and training options after GCSE by Karen Goard,
Careers Adviser, Gloucestershire Youth Support Team

Aims of the session



- Introduction
- Raise student awareness of education, employment and training options available after GCSE
- Link to employability and career choice

What are my choices?

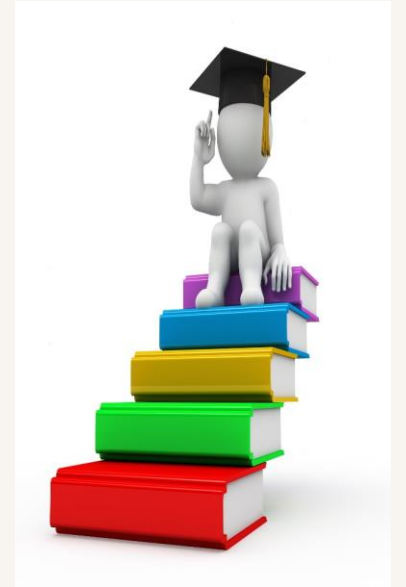
- Education – 6th form;
- Education – College;
- Apprenticeship;
- Work related training;
- Employment - with/without training;

Qualification levels	Vocational Courses	Academic Equivalent
Entry level No minimum entry requirements needed	Foundation Studies Entry to FE or Employment (E2FEE)	Some GCSE level study
Level 1 Some GCSE study, E2FEE or Foundation Studies needed (Specific subjects may be required)	Foundation Learning Foundation Diploma BTEC level 1	GCSEs – Grades 1-3
Level 2 Usually minimum of 2 GCSEs grade 3+ or Level 1 qualification needed (Specific subjects may be required)	Usually 1 year BTEC First Diploma Extended Certificate level 2	GCSEs – 4 or more grade 4-9
Level 3 4-6 GCSEs grade 4+ or a Level 2 qualification (Specific subjects may be required)	BTEC National/Extended level 3 T-Levels (80% theory, 20% industry experience)	AS/A Levels



Choosing your Subjects/Course....

- Consider your **preferred ways of learning**
- Consider your **level of interest**
- Consider your **level of ability**
- Consider your **future plans**



Choices....



Consider the following....

- Are you more **Academic?** A levels?
Continuation of GCSE's but much harder
Formal exams
Possibly some coursework
- Are you more **Practical/Visual/Vocational?**
BTEC/Apprenticeship/T-Level?
Job/Career related
Assessed by coursework
Assessed by observation

Choices....



Education – 6th form

(What do you know?)

Choices....



Education – 6th form:

- A-Z selection of A'Levels in subjects ranging from Art and Design to Spanish! Some other Level 3 courses available e.g. Health and Social Care
- Choose 3-4 subjects – opportunity to study subjects **in more depth + enrichment activities available**
- 2 year programme
- Level 3 qualification - need high at 5+ GCSE grades (4-9 grades)
- A good route to **university**, but **not the only** route
- Choose carefully if you have a career and/or university course in mind!
- Check individual 6th forms for courses available!

Choices....



During year 10 and 11, consider...

What are my **strongest subjects**?

Which do I **enjoy the most**?

Which subjects do I **need for a chosen career**.

Choices....



Education – College

(What do you know?)

Choices....

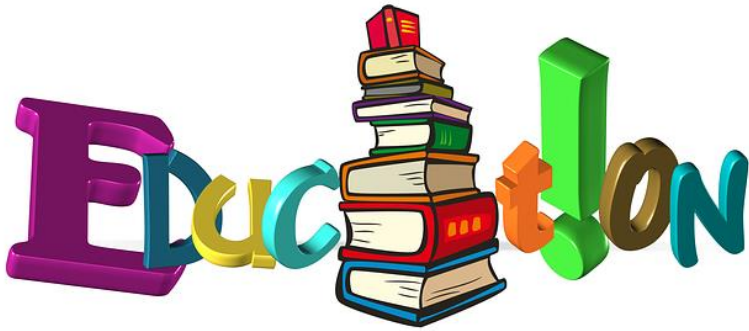


Education – College:

- Mostly Vocational (job-related) courses available at all levels (Level 1+) - e.g. BTEC Diplomas. Best option if you know the general career area you wish to follow.
- Variety of subject areas available including:

Art and Design	Catering
Beauty	Travel and Tourism
Business Admin	ICT
Health and Social Care	Media
Engineering	Hospitality
Music	Sport
Electrical	Fashion
Photography	Public Services
Construction	
- Some colleges offer a variety of A'Levels
- New T-Level qualification available (Level 3, 80% theory, 20% placement – minimum)

Choices....



Education – College (continued)

T-Level subjects available:

- Building Services Engineering for Construction.
- Design, Surveying and Planning for Construction.
- Digital Business Services.
- Digital Production, Design and Development.
- Digital Support Services.
- Education and Childcare.
- Health.
- Healthcare Science.

Check with individual colleges/providers which subject areas are available!

Nearby choices:

E.g. Cirencester College, Gloucestershire College, SGS College, City of Bristol College, New College (Swindon).

Choices....



Apprenticeships

(What do you know?)

Choices....



Apprenticeships (Work based training):

- Combination of Employment and Study ('Earn while you Learn') available to 16+ after completing GCSEs
- Two ways to apply:
 1. Apply directly to a company for an advertised vacancy
 2. Apply to college for training, but you will need to find an employer. Support/vacancy database often available
- Apprenticeship Minimum Wage (April 2022+) –
16-17 year olds: £4.81 p/h; 18-20 year olds: £6.83 p/h
- Intermediate (Level 2) – 12-18 months to complete. Entry criteria varies – often 2+ GCSEs including maths and English
- Advanced (Level 3) – 24 months to complete.
Entry criteria varies – 5 GCSEs grade 4-9 including maths
- Degree level apprenticeships available - gain a full undergraduate or master's degree while you work. 3-6 years to complete, depending on the course level.

Choices....



Other training options:

- Foundation Learning (Level 1)
- This is for students who achieve very few GCSEs at low grades. Programmes include literacy and numeracy, work related training, and key skills, all to a Level 1 (D-G GCSE equivalent)
- Progression on to an Intermediate (NVQ2) apprenticeship or Level 2 College programme available.

Local providers include:

- Prospects Training Services (Gloucester)
- Bridge Training (Gloucester)
- Furniture Recycling Project (Gloucester)
- Gloucestershire College
- New College, Swindon

Financial matters....



16-19 Financial Support

The Student Bursary Fund is available (up to £1,200 per year). This is means tested and not available to everyone.

Students who fall in to the following groups will be eligible:

- **Children in Care**
- **Care leavers**
- **Those receiving Income Support**

Always check with individual providers if you think you may be eligible

Choices....

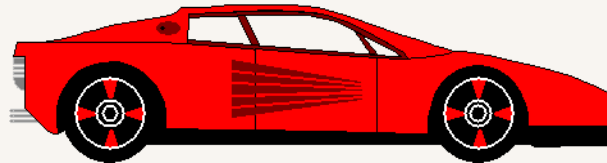


Checklist...

- Autumn term year 11 onwards....
- Find out mock results/predicted GCSE grades to help you plan ahead
- Think about your post 16 options - what would suit you best? Do you have a career in mind?
- Research courses and your ideas thoroughly!
- Research and attend open events for 6th forms/colleges of your choice and check deadline dates for applications
- Check GCSE entry requirements for specific courses
- Apply asap in year 11!

How school and qualifications will help you...

- Choice of **jobs or careers** / **job satisfaction**
- How much you can **earn** in the future
- Your **lifestyle**



.....and there are **fewer jobs** for people **without** many qualifications or skills

Any Questions?

