



# Careers Information, Advice, and Educational Guidance



# What are my options when I leave school?



Summer programme

Vocational Courses  
(college based)

Training Providers

Apprenticeship

A levels  
(college based)

Work based learning or  
Full time employment





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# What is a Vocational Course?



- College based
- Level 1 or 2 Course
- Usually work related, e.g. Hair and Beauty, Construction, Animal Care
- Up to 3 years study (if starting at Level 1)
- Vocational A levels study up to 3 subjects

**BE AWARE : you may need to resit GCSE English AND/OR Maths or functional skills to L2 depending on entry requirements**

# What is an Apprenticeship?

- Workplace based learning
- It is usually between 12-24 months course
- Usually a pay allowance
- *There may be some college based learning too*
- Apprenticeships can start at Level 1 or 2, NVQ
- Occasionally there is a job offer at the end of the course
- You have to apply for each Apprenticeship
- THERE ARE MANY TYPES OF APPRENTICESHIP ACROSS A RANGE OF DIFFERENT EMPLOYMENT AREAS
- Pay and length of course varies



# What are A Levels?

- The most common pathway to University
- You can choose three or four subjects to study
- Usually a 2 Year course
- Classroom based learning
- The minimum entry is usually at least three Level 4/5 GCSEs





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# What is work based learning?

- You would be trained “on the job” in a specific role, such as a Bakery, construction site, Hairdressers, or in Retail, or for example a family business
- These jobs might be full time but not lead to a specific qualification, although the company may choose to put you on an official Apprenticeship
- You might be sent on training courses, e.g. First Aid, or Health and Safety
- These jobs would pay basic wages but you may be able to progress through the company (e.g. Sales Assistant to Store Manager)



# What is a Training Provider?

- These organisations will offer training while trying to match you to an employer –they **bridge the gap** if you are not quite ready for an apprenticeship for example.
- These pre-apprenticeship courses vary but can be up to 6 months
- They will be able to help find an Apprenticeship for you, or work experience, as well as support with interviews, applications etc.
- You may be able to do some learning with them to support any applications, and they offer help with writing application forms and interviews etc.
- You might stay with them from 12 weeks to a year. They may be referred to as a “Traineeship”
- This option may be useful if you do not wish to go to college but have no idea of what to do!

**Training providers are good at improving confidence, skills, and 1-1 support if you don't think college is for you but want more support before work or apprenticeships**



# What is a Summer Programme?

- These are short programmes, usually 6-8 weeks over the summer (July /August)
- They can be from 1-5 days per week
- They offer work or skills- based activities and can help you bridge the gap between your exams and college or training
- You would often be in a small group environment
- Activities range from construction, to office work or community projects or first aid training
- You may gain a qualification such as a L1 Multiskills, CSCS card, first- aid, sports coaching, hair styling etc.
  - **They look good on CVs!**

**We can help you apply for a place on a summer programme – places may be limited so the earlier you apply the better**



# How do I get there?



1



2



3

Our Career Connect Advisor will arrange a meeting with you to discuss what you want to do next

**IDEALLY EARLY IN  
YEAR 11**

Jon, Hayley and Kayley will also support you and be able to offer advice

You will be supported in applying and possibly visiting your post-16 destination, or meeting staff

You may have follow up meetings with us to check if anything has changed or if you need advice

We will support you to make sure your application was successful, and offer advice on other options if you didn't get your first choice destination

**If you need to chat to us or ask anything, come and see us!**

# What happens after my exams finish?



**Career Connect will continue to support you over the rest of the summer, and up until you are 19.**

You might apply for part time work if over 16

- You can enrol on a summer programme – we will support you with this
- You should make sure any college applications are complete, and you attend any interviews
- You might meet with your Connexions advisor to support you or get advice if you've changed your mind
- **Salford Career Connect: 0161 393 4500**



# The Services



Many of the services offer Apprenticeships.  
Some require a selection process, or training period.  
You can often choose a range of roles after basic training  
e.g. Vet, Technician, medic, photography, chef, mechanic,



- Including:
- Army
- Royal Air Force
- Navy
- Royal Marines
- Fire and Rescue
- Police
- Healthcare
- Customs and Border Control



# Are any benefits affected?



Child Benefits may continue if:

- You go to **full-time education**
- You attend a Government approved **apprenticeship or training course**



**It is up to your parent /carer to check how any benefits might be affected when you leave school**

**Due to changes in how benefits are paid, each case will be different**

**The Citizens Advice Bureau may be able to offer advice regarding Benefits**



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# What might I need to help me apply for College Courses, apprenticeships and jobs?

- ✓ A Mobile Phone Number
- ✓ An email address that you are able to access easily
- ✓ A C.V. – this is a summary of you and any work experience you may have had – we can support with this!
- ✓ An Our Pass Bus travel card
- ✓ Proof of ID – e.g. Birth Certificate,
- ✓ Provisional Driving Licence, Passport
- ✓ Proof of address – this might be on your ID or possibly a letter /email from e.g. a phone company
- ✓ A Bank account
- ✓ Your National Insurance Number

