

Year 11 Next Steps

Nine months of hard work but an extremely important year. A lot of effort now can give you more choice of what you can do in the future (both next year and over the next 50/60 years) and make your life that bit easier.

For example, if you do not get grades 4 – 9 in GCSE Maths and English you will have to continue with them (or their equivalents) until you pass them or turn 19.

Do not forget this is all about what YOU will be doing in the future. You are unique and will have different interests, talents and qualities from your friends and family. Find a course or career which suits your personality – not theirs. Do not let others stop you from working towards your dream. Help and support each other.

Career Ideas

There are thousands of different jobs out there, most of which you probably have not heard of before (Phlebotomist? Actuary?). Some of the more interesting and better paid jobs come with experience or promotion, so be aware what your first job could lead on to.

Research your career ideas, most information is online, but also in books in libraries or ask someone doing that job. They will happily tell you all the worst bits of the job as well. No job is perfect, there will always be something you will not like as much, you need to work out if you could cope with this or if it is a 'deal breaker'.

You need to know yourself well – your likes, dislikes, personality, attitude etc. All careers information usually includes a list of qualities needed for the job. See if this matches you. If it does not, you may need to think whether you would be suitable for it or enjoy it.

Be honest with yourself. Do not pretend you are something you are not, or you could find yourself in the wrong job or on the wrong course.

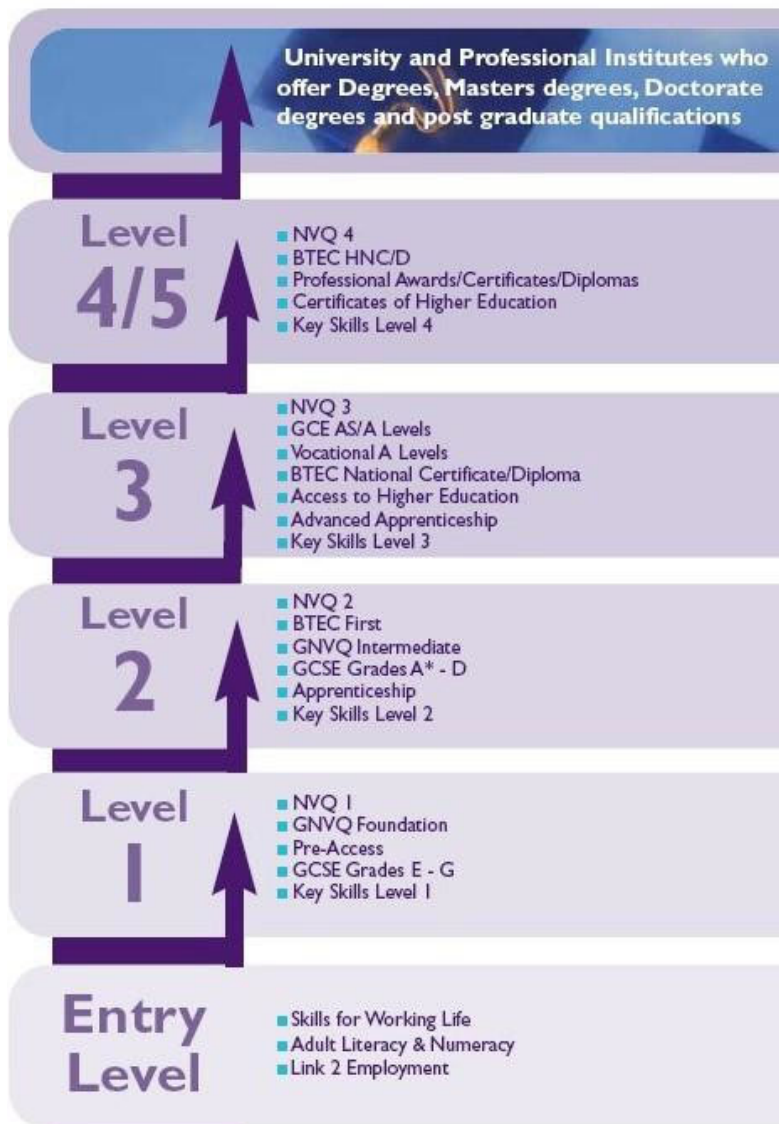
Options after Year 11

You will have to stay in education or training until you are 18. After Year 11 you have 3 main options:

- **Marches Sixth Form**
- **Colleges of Further Education** e.g., NSC, Shrewsbury Colleges Group, Coleg Cambria, Telford College and Reaseheath College
- **Apprenticeships** paid work with training

IMPORTANT: You can apply for several different options at the same time and then decide which one you prefer. For example, you can apply for a place at The Marches Sixth Form, NSC and explore the apprenticeship route all at the same time. Final decisions can be made when you get your GCSE results in August. Confirm a place at one then withdraw from the others.

Understanding Levels



Usually the different levels lead onto each other – apart from some apprenticeships where you may start on Level 2 even if you have a Level 3 qualification, so you can cover all aspects of the work.

You must have Level 3 qualifications to go to university.

One Level 3 EXTENDED Diploma is equivalent to 3 A' levels.

Most Level 3 courses need GCSEs in Maths and/or English – you will need to check the entry requirements for the courses you wish to take.

A' levels are tough academic study, and you usually choose 3 subjects with exams at the end of the two years.

BTECs will have more coursework and be related to a career area – such as Health & Social Care, however, it is worth noting that BTECs do now involve an exam component.

Take the subjects you enjoy the most and will expect to get the best grades in. The higher the grades the more choice you have of university courses.

If you know what you want to do in the future make sure you take the right subjects – some career areas, such as architecture, medicine, law and the creative industries may want certain subjects. For other career areas it's the grades and skills you have acquired which are more important.

Useful Websites

These useful websites will help you make your decision on your next step.

Post 16 providers

Shrewsbury Colleges Group. <http://www.scg.ac.uk/>

North Shropshire College. <http://www.nsc.ac.uk/>

Reaseheath College. <http://www.reaseheath.ac.uk/>

Hereford and Ludlow Colleges. <http://www.hlcollege.ac.uk>

Apprenticeships – local training providers

Shrewsbury College Apprenticeships. <http://www.scg.ac.uk/apprenticeships>

Telford College Apprenticeships. <http://www.telfordcollege.ac.uk/apprenticeship-vacancies>

North Shropshire College Apprenticeships. <http://www.nsc.ac.uk/>

County Training. <http://www.ctapprenticeships.co.uk/>

Juniper Training. <http://www.junipertraining.co.uk/>

Nova Training. <http://www.novatrainng.co.uk/>

MCMT. <http://www.mcmt.co.uk/>

SBC Training. <http://www.sbc-training.co.uk/>

ProVQ Apprentice – Shrewsbury. <http://www.apprenticeshipfinder@provq.com/>

Apprenticeships and non-university routes

Site dedicated to apprenticeships, distance learning, foundation degrees, gap years, voluntary work and sponsored degrees. <https://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk/>

Latest School leaver programmes and apprenticeship schemes. <https://www.allaboutschoollleavers.co.uk/>

A new way to find Apprenticeships, Degree Apprenticeships, Work Experience and Graduate opportunities.

<https://www.getmyfirstjob.co.uk>

Government apprenticeship website and database. <https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship/>

Essential to register if looking for apprenticeships. <https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk/>

Apprenticeship Information. <https://amazingapprenticeships.com/>

School leaver Programmes and Sponsored Degrees. <https://www.studentladder.co.uk/>

Higher education (university)

Student Finance information. <https://www.gov.uk/student-finance>

Manage applications to UK full time University Courses. Features many useful articles around Careers and Education. <https://www.ucas.com/>

Impartial information on the best universities, colleges and degree courses. <https://www.theuniguide.co.uk/>

Focuses on finding, applying and enrolling at universities abroad. <https://studee.com/>

Independent UK university rankings, course information and expert advice for every student.

<https://www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk/>

Search, review and compare courses. <https://discoveruni.gov.uk/>

Search for open days at Universities. <https://www.opendays.com/>

Provides a subject and degree courses guide for popular university areas of study.

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/universityeducation/degree-courses/>

Want to go to Uni but unsure on what course to do, this website will help. <https://www.informedchoices.ac.uk/>

Useful guidance on application process, support resources and details of open days, recommended for those considering applying for Oxbridge. <https://oxfordandcambridgeoutreach.co.uk/webinars>

Labour Market Information

Information about the local labour market. <https://www.lmiforall.org.uk/widget/>

Career specific websites

Medicine

Careers in the NHS aimed at KS3. www.stepintothens.nhs.uk
Careers in the NHS aimed at KS4. <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/>
Careers in medicine. www.generationmedics.org.uk
NHS apprenticeships in Telford and Shrewsbury. www.jobs.sath.nhs.uk/
Guide to getting into medicine. www.tasteofmedicine.com
Entry tests for medical and dentistry. www.admissionstesting.org
Entry test for medical and dentistry. www.ucat.ac.uk (Every year Shrewsbury School run UCAT master classes. E-mail tpp@shrewsbury.org.uk)
Medical work experience abroad in the holidays/gap year. www.gapmedics.com
Leeds University widening access to Medicine. www.wanttobeadoctor.co.uk
Medical School interview questions. www.medical-interviews.co.uk/interview-questions-medical-school-interviews.aspx
Practice online papers. <https://www.admissionstesting.org/for-test-takers/bmat/preparing-for-bmat/practice-papers/>
Careers in podiatry www.careersinpodiatry.com

Teaching

Marches training courses [Marches Training Courses - Leading Learning](#)
Help and advice on how and why to get into teaching. <https://getintoteaching.education.gov.uk/>

Armed forces

Advice on joining the armed forces. <http://beforeyousignup.info/>
Royal Navy careers <https://www.royalnavy.mod.uk/careers>
RAF careers <https://www.raf.mod.uk/recruitment>

Accountancy

Information on entry routes, training and opportunities in accountancy. <https://careers.icaew.com/find-your-route/school-leaver-programme>

Animal Care

Information on how to become a vet. <https://www.vetsure.com/pet-information/latest-pet-news/become-veterinary-surgeon-career-guide/>

Aerospace

Explore opportunities in aerospace. <https://www.careersinaerospace.com/>

Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM)

Careers in the engineering sector. <https://tomorrowseengineers.org.uk/>
STEM Learning. <https://www.stem.org.uk/>
Helps choose your routes to a Maths Career. <https://www.mathscareers.org.uk/>
Careers opportunities working within the Science based industries. <http://www.sciencecareerpathways.com/home/>
Engineering can help you make a difference in the world. <https://www.thisisengineering.org.uk/>

Digital/web careers

Explains different kinds of careers in Digital/Web sector. <https://www.bubble-jobs.co.uk/>
What digital role might suit you? <https://www.tpdegrees.com/careers/>

Law

A guide to degrees and careers in Law. <https://www.allaboutlaw.co.uk/>
Guide to the test you may have to take to gain entry onto a Law degree. Every year Shrewsbury School run LNAT master classes. E-mail tpp@shrewsbury.org.uk. <https://lnat.ac.uk/>
Guide to becoming a Lawyer. <https://www.lawcareers.net/>

Creative

A useful website on careers in music. <https://www.careersinmusic.com/>

Careers advice on working in the creative industries. Includes jobs/internship/work experience aboard. <https://www.ccskills.org.uk/>

Information about getting into the film industry. <https://myfirstjobinfilm.co.uk/>

Bringing together careers information and opportunities from creative organisations in one explorable directory. <https://discovercreative.careers/#/>

Media

Opportunities to begin and develop your career in the media industry. <https://careers.channel4.com/4talent>
Entry and work experience schemes in engineering, journalism and production.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/academy/en/collections/get-in> BBC

Investing in the people driving the success of UK Film, TV, animation and games. <https://www.screenskills.com/>

Hospitality and Travel & Tourism

Careers in the food and drink sector. <https://tastycareers.org.uk/>

Jobs in the transport and travel industry. <https://ciltuk.org.uk/>

Careers info on jobs in hospitality, tourism and leisure. <https://careerscope.uk.net/>

Information on jobs on cruise ships. <https://cruise.jobs/>

From ferries to container ships – careers in the Merchant Navy. <http://www.careersatsea.org/>

Motor Industry

Information about getting into the motor industry. <https://www.autocity.org.uk/>

Construction

Providing information around careers in construction. <https://www.goconstruct.org/>