

Oathall Community College  
Work Related Learning



Post 16 Information Booklet

2020 – 21

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September 2020

Dear Parents

Making decisions as to what to do at post 16 level is never easy. This booklet serves as a guide to help students with this process.

Students must continue in education or training until the end of the school year in which they turn 18. They can continue their education or training at a college, with a specialist provider or in a workplace.

Enclosed within this booklet is information about open days/virtual events for local further education colleges and schools. It is strongly recommended that you attend as many of these as you can, to help make an informed choice about post 16 destinations.

Most colleges operate an online applications facility via their individual websites. Applications to colleges using paper forms are dealt with by the school. Please note deadlines for submission of applications, which are included within this booklet, as it is important that all deadlines are met.

Please contact Mrs Ferros in reception if you need any assistance with completing application forms, discussing course choices or anything college/career related. She will be carrying out careers interviews with all Y11 students during October and November.

**If you are planning a summer holiday, please be aware that students are required to be available soon after the GCSE exam results are issued on 19th August 2021, as colleges hold taster days, interviews and enrolment sessions before the beginning of the autumn term.**

Yours sincerely

Mrs F Hatchard  
**Assistant Headteacher**

Mrs Isley  
**Vocational Manager**

Mrs K Ferros  
**Careers Adviser**

# College Information

## BRIGHTON ALDRIDGE COMMUNITY ACADEMY

Lewes Road, Brighton BN1 9PW

Tel: 01273 691191

[www.baca-uk.org.uk](http://www.baca-uk.org.uk)

[BACA Prospectus](#)

**Open Evening:** Tuesday 3rd November 2020: 6.00 - 8.00pm

## BRIGHTON, HOVE & SUSSEX SIXTH FORM COLLEGE (BHASVIC)

205 Dyke Road, Hove BN3 6EG

Tel: 01273 552200

[www.bhasvic.ac.uk](http://www.bhasvic.ac.uk)

[BHASVIC Prospectus](#)

[BHASVIC Presentation](#)

**Open Evening:** TBC - please check website

## BRIGHTON INSTITUTE OF MODERN MUSIC

(BIMM)

7 Rock Place, Brighton BN2 1PF

38-42 Brunswick Street West, Brighton BN3 1EL

Tel: 08442 646 666

[www.bimm.co.uk/brighton](http://www.bimm.co.uk/brighton)

[BIMM Prospectus](#)

**Virtual Open Days on Zoom:**

10th October 2020: 10.30am - 2.30pm

17th October 2020: 10.30am

31st October 2020: 10.30am

28th November 2020: 10.30am

## BRINSBURY COLLEGE

North Heath, Brinsbury

RH20 1DL

Tel: 01243 786321

<https://www.brinsbury.ac.uk/>

[Brinsbury Prospectus](#)

## CHICHESTER COLLEGE

Westgate Fields, Chichester

PO19 1SB

Tel: 01243 786321

[www.chichester.ac.uk](http://www.chichester.ac.uk)

[Chichester Prospectus](#)

## COLLYER'S SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

Hurst Road, Horsham RH12 2EJ

Tel: 01403 210822

[www.collyers.ac.uk](http://www.collyers.ac.uk)

[Collyer's Prospectus](#)

**Open Evening:** Wednesday 11th & Thursday 12th November 2020

[Collyer's Virtual Tours](#)

## CRAWLEY COLLEGE

College Road, Crawley RH10 1NR

Tel: 01293 442200

[www.crawley.ac.uk](http://www.crawley.ac.uk)

<p><a href="#">Crawley Prospectus</a></p> <p><b>Open Days:</b>  Thursday 15th October 2020: 4.30 - 7.00pm  Saturday 7th November 2020: 10.00am - 1.00pm  Thursday 18th March 2021: 4.30 - 7.00pm</p> <p><a href="#">Crawley College Virtual Tours</a></p>
<p>ESCG (East Sussex College Group) Lewes - Eastbourne - Hastings  Lewes Campus  East Sussex College  1 Mountfield Road, Lewes BN7 2XH  Tel: 030 300 39200  <a href="http://www.escg.ac.uk/explore/lewes/">www.escg.ac.uk/explore/lewes/</a></p> <p><a href="#">ESCG Prospectuses</a></p> <p><b>Open Events:</b> Hasting Campus: 14th October Lewes Campus: 21st October Eastbourne Campus: 11th November - please see website for full details</p>
<p>GREATER BRIGHTON METROPOLITAN COLLEGE  Pelham Street, Brighton BN1 4FA  Tel: 01273 667788  <a href="http://www.gbmc.ac.uk">www.gbmc.ac.uk</a></p> <p><a href="#">Brighton MET Prospectus</a></p> <p><a href="#">GBMC Presentation</a></p> <p><b>Open Events:</b> Tuesday 3rd, Wednesday 4th &amp; Thursday 5th November (please check website for full details)</p>
<p>HAYWARDS HEATH COLLEGE  Harland Road, Haywards Heath RH16 1LT  Email: info@haywardsheath.ac.uk  <a href="http://www.haywardsheath.ac.uk">www.haywardsheath.ac.uk</a></p> <p><a href="#">Haywards Heath College Prospectus</a></p> <p><b>Open Evening:</b> Monday 9th &amp; Tuesday 10th November 2020: 5.00 - 7.30pm</p>
<p>HAZELWICK COLLEGE  Hazelwick School Close, Three Bridges, Crawley RH10 1SX  Tel: 01293 403344  <a href="https://www.hazelwick.org/sixth-form">https://www.hazelwick.org/sixth-form</a></p> <p><a href="#">Hazelwick College Prospectus</a></p>
<p>HOLY TRINITY CE SECONDARY SCHOOL SIXTH FORM  Buckwood Drive, Gossops Green, Crawley RH11 8JE  Tel: 01293 423690  <a href="http://www.holytrinitycrawley.org.uk">www.holytrinitycrawley.org.uk</a></p> <p><a href="#">Holy Trinity Crawley Prospectus</a></p>
<p>INSTITUTE FOR CONTEMPORARY THEATRE  New England St, Brighton BN1 4GW  Tel: 01273 603333  <a href="http://www.ictheatre.ac.uk">www.ictheatre.ac.uk</a></p> <p><a href="#">ICTheatre Prospectus</a></p>
<p>IFIELD COMMUNITY COLLEGE SIXTH FORM  Crawley Avenue, Crawley RH11 0DB  Tel: 01293 420500  <a href="http://www.ifieldcc.w-sussex.sch.uk">www.ifieldcc.w-sussex.sch.uk</a></p> <p><a href="#">Ifield College Prospectus</a></p>
<p>NORTHBROOK METROPOLITAN COLLEGE  (West Durrington Campus)  Littlehampton Road, Goring-by-Sea, Worthing BN12 6NU</p>

<p>Tel: 0845 1556060  <a href="https://www.gbmc.ac.uk/">https://www.gbmc.ac.uk/</a></p> <p><a href="#">Northbrook MET Prospectus</a></p>
<p>ORIEL HIGH SCHOOL SIXTH FORM  Maidenbower Lane, Crawley RH10 7XW  Tel: 01293 880350  <a href="http://www.oriel.w-sussex.sch.uk/sixth-form">www.oriel.w-sussex.sch.uk/sixth-form</a></p> <p><a href="#">Oriol High School Sixth Form Prospectus</a></p>
<p>PLUMPTON COLLEGE  Ditchling Road, Plumpton BN7 3AE  Tel: 01273 890454  <a href="http://www.plumpton.ac.uk">www.plumpton.ac.uk</a></p> <p><a href="#">Plumpton College Prospectus</a></p>
<p>ST PAUL'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE SIXTH FORM  Jane Murray Way, Burgess Hill RH15 8GA  Tel: 01444 873898  <a href="http://www.stpaulssixthform.co.uk">www.stpaulssixthform.co.uk</a></p> <p><a href="#">St Paul's Catholic Sixth Form College Prospectus</a></p>
<p>ST WILFRID'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL SIXTH FORM  St Wilfrid's Way, Old Horsham Road, Crawley RH11 8PG  Tel: 01293 421421  <a href="http://www.stwilfrids.com">www.stwilfrids.com</a></p> <p><a href="#">St Wilfrid's Catholic Sixth Form Video</a></p>
<p>THOMAS BENNETT COMMUNITY COLLEGE  Ashdown Drive, Crawley RH10 5AD  Tel: 01293 526255  <a href="http://www.thomasbennett-tkat.org">www.thomasbennett-tkat.org</a></p> <p><a href="#">Thomas Bennett Community College Prospectus</a></p>
<p>UCKFIELD COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE SIXTH FORM  Downsview Crescent, Uckfield TN22 3DJ  Tel: 01825 764844  <a href="http://www.uckfield.college/sixthform">www.uckfield.college/sixthform</a></p> <p><a href="#">Uckfield College Prospectus</a></p>
<p>VARNDEAN COLLEGE  Surrenden Road, Brighton BN1 6WQ  Tel: 01273 508011  <a href="http://www.varndean.ac.uk">www.varndean.ac.uk</a></p> <p><a href="#">Varndean College Prospectus</a></p> <p><b>Open Day:</b> Saturday 26th September 2020: 11.00am - 3.00pm  <b>Online International Baccalaureate Information Talk:</b> Thursday 15th October: 6.30 - 7.45pm  <b>Open Evening:</b> Thursday 15th October 2020 at 6.30pm - 7.45pm  <b>Open Evening:</b> Tuesday 20th &amp; Wednesday 21st October: 6.30 - 9.00pm</p> <p><a href="#">Varndean Presentation</a></p> <p><a href="#">Varndean Video</a></p>

# Independent Sixth Form Colleges

<p>ARDINGLY COLLEGE Ardingly, Haywards Heath RH17 6SQ Tel: 01444 893320 <a href="http://www.ardingly.com">www.ardingly.com</a></p> <p><a href="#">Ardingly College Prospectus</a></p>
<p>BRIGHTON COLLEGE Eastern Road, Brighton BN2 0AL Tel: 01273 704200 <a href="http://www.brightoncollege.org.uk">www.brightoncollege.org.uk</a></p> <p><a href="#">Brighton College Prospectus</a></p>
<p>BURGESS HILL SCHOOL FOR GIRLS Keymer Road, Burgess Hill RH15 0EG Tel: 01444 241050 <a href="http://www.burgesshillgirls.com">www.burgesshillgirls.com</a></p> <p><a href="#">Burgess Hill Girls Prospectus</a></p> <p><b>Virtual Open Evening:</b> Thursday 8th October 2020: 7.00-9.00pm</p>
<p>CHRIST'S HOSPITAL Horsham RH13 0YP Tel: 01403 246555 <a href="http://www.christs-hospital.org.uk">www.christs-hospital.org.uk</a></p> <p><a href="#">Christ's Hospital Prospectus</a></p>
<p>HURSTPIERPOINT COLLEGE College Lane, Hurstpierpoint BN6 9JS Tel: 01273 833636 <a href="http://www.hppc.co.uk">www.hppc.co.uk</a></p> <p><a href="#">Hurstpierpoint College Prospectus</a></p>
<p>ROEDEAN SCHOOL Roedean Way, Brighton BN2 5RQ Tel: 01273 667500 <a href="https://www.roedean.co.uk/academic/sixth-form">https://www.roedean.co.uk/academic/sixth-form</a></p>
<p>WORTH SCHOOL Paddockhurst Road, Turners Hill RH10 4SD Tel: 01342 710200 <a href="https://www.worthschool.org.uk/curriculum-sixth-form.php">https://www.worthschool.org.uk/curriculum-sixth-form.php</a></p> <p><a href="#">Worth School Sixth Form Prospectus</a></p>

**Places for open days must be booked online via the college websites.**

# Processing of college applications

Below you will find information concerning applications to colleges. It is imperative that deadlines are strictly adhered to; otherwise it cannot be guaranteed your application will be processed on time. *(This information does not apply to independent sixth form applications.)*

It is suggested that students should apply to more than one college. A decision about which college to attend can be made after your interviews.

## **PLEASE NOTE:**

You will not be able to make an application to both BHASVIC and Varndean College. This is so that these two sixth form colleges can effectively plan curriculum provision to cater for as many students wishing to study in one of these colleges as possible.

Students considering an Apprenticeship are advised to make a college application as a back-up measure. It is easier to decline a place at college than to apply late if you are unable to secure apprenticeship training.

## **PAPER APPLICATIONS DEADLINE**

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2020**

## **ONLINE APPLICATIONS DEADLINE**

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2020**

### **Paper Applications - please do not send directly to colleges**

All application forms must be handed to Mrs Ferros in Reception by Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2020. She will arrange for references and grades to be included and will deliver applications to colleges.

Application forms should be completed neatly in BLACK pen – make a photocopy and practice first if necessary.

### **Online Applications**

These must be submitted to colleges by Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2020. You may still be able to apply after this date but priority is given to applications received by the deadline. Colleges will then request references from the school.

### **School Contact Information**

When completing your applications, you will be asked to give the name of the person at Oathall for the colleges to contact to request your school reference and predicted exam grades. This is Mrs K Ferros, Careers Adviser - email: [kferros@oathall.org](mailto:kferros@oathall.org)



## **College Interviews**

Interviews take place from December to April. You will be contacted directly, often by email or text, with details of your interview so it is very important that you provide your mobile number and an email address that you use and check regularly.

If studying an Art / Photography subject, students will be required to take a portfolio of evidence with them.

If students have chosen Dance / Performing Arts they will be expected to attend an audition.

## **What next?**

- Go to the colleges' open evenings **\*Please check individual college websites for updates as dates are subject to change and/or maybe virtual/online.**
- Refer to the colleges' websites for up-to-date course information, as prospectuses are printed some time before and details do change
- UCAS provides a database of all post-16 courses. The website can be accessed at [www.ucasprogress.com](http://www.ucasprogress.com)
- Look at the careers websites listed in this booklet and on our website
- Encourage your son or daughter to talk to:
  - teachers
  - careers advisers
  - friends
  - current students
  - you

to help them choose the college / option that is right for them!

# Factors to consider when making subject and college choices

<b>Courses</b>	<p>Not all courses are available at all colleges so make sure you check what each college has to offer.</p> <p>Some courses have specific entry requirements and these can vary between colleges, e.g. to study Psychology you may need GCSE science at grade 6 and English at grade 6.</p> <p>Look carefully at the modules within a course. These can vary considerably at different colleges.</p> <p>Look at how the course is assessed, e.g. most A levels are 100% examination, whereas Vocational Qualifications including BTECs, Cambridge Nationals etc include a practical element and coursework.</p> <p>You are more likely to succeed if your choices fit your interests and abilities.</p> <p>If you have no career in mind – try to choose a range of subjects in order to keep your options open.</p>
<b>Progression</b>	<p>Is this the right course or combination of courses to meet the entrance requirements for the subject you wish to study at university? E.g. to study medicine you must have A level Chemistry. The UCAS website is very useful for researching this <a href="http://www.ucas.com">www.ucas.com</a></p>
<b>Facilities</b>	<p>What else does the college offer to support learning?</p> <p>What extra-curricular activities do they provide?</p>
<b>Quality</b>	<p>Results - look at the individual subject pass rates for the subjects you are interested in studying, not just the overall results for the whole college.</p>
<b>Travelling</b>	<p>Can you get there? Consider the cost. Be realistic.</p>
<b>'Feel'/ethos</b>	<p>Do you like it?</p>
<b>Guidance</b>	<p>Do they offer careers support and guidance for university applications or your chosen next step?</p>

# Oathall Support and Guidance

- Preparing for the World of Work lessons
- College of the week sessions during tutor time
- One to one Careers interviews during October & November
- Advice and assistance with college applications including college references
- Careers staff are always on hand to answer queries
- Check Google Classroom “Work Related Learning Y11” for the latest information and notices

**Careers Adviser: Mrs K Ferros**

[kferros@oathall.org](mailto:kferros@oathall.org)

**Careers Lead and Vocational Manager: Mrs D Isley**

[disley@oathall.org](mailto:disley@oathall.org)

# Understanding Qualifications

## What level should you choose?

The qualification level shows how demanding the course is going to be – the higher the level, the more difficult the qualification. There are nine levels, ranging from Entry level up to level 8. Every level includes different types of qualifications. Some are subject based, e.g. A levels. Some are vocational (work and job related), e.g. BTECs, City and Guilds, Apprenticeships.

Students work at the level that suits their abilities and experience in a particular subject. Once you have gained a qualification at one level, you can move up to the next level. When deciding what level to study after Year 11, you need to consider:

- Your starting point – what level are you working at now?
- The end point – can you move on to higher level qualifications?
- Job entry requirements – most jobs require level 2 qualifications and many ask for qualifications at level 3 and above.
- Higher Education entry requirements – most courses require level 3 qualifications and a grade 4 or above in GCSE English language and mathematics.
- Apprenticeships start from level 2 and are available up to degree level (level 4 and above).

## QUALIFICATION LEVELS

Level	University			
8	Doctorate PhD			
7	Master's Degree MA, Msc, MPhil			
6	University Degree BA, BSc			
5		Foundation Degree FdA, FdSc	HND	
4			HNC	
3	A Level	L3 Extended Diploma (National Diploma)	L3 Diploma (National Certificate)	T Level
2	GCSE Grades 9-4	L2 Diploma (1 <sup>st</sup> Diploma)		
1	GCSE Grades 3-1	L1 Diploma (Foundation)		
Entry Level 3	Key Stage 3	E3 Diploma (Foundation)		
	School/ 6 <sup>th</sup> Form	FE College		

# Options at 16+

## **The Full Time Education Path at Post 16**

It is a legal requirement for all students to continue in education or training until the end of the school year in which they turn 18. You can continue your education or training at a college, with a specialist provider or in a workplace.

The post 16 qualifications framework encourages young people to choose a broader curriculum. This means that there are now more options available in full time education than ever before.

- Academic A levels
- Courses leading to other qualifications such as the International Baccalaureate, NVQs, BTECs, City & Guilds
- Additional GCSEs or re-takes

## **A Levels (Level 3 Qualification)**

- Typically a student will study three A levels and will need to gain five 9-4 grades at GCSE, including English and Maths. Students achieving mostly 9-8 grades at GCSE may be able to take four A levels.
- Most A levels (with the exception of Art & Design courses) will be assessed by 100% examination. Science courses will include a practical assessment.
- A levels can be taken in conjunction with other courses, e.g. BTECs.
- A levels are graded A\* - E and score points which count towards university entrance.

## **T Levels (Level 3 Qualification)**

T Levels are new courses coming in September 2020, which will follow GCSEs and will be equivalent to 3 A Levels. These 2-year courses have been developed in collaboration with employers and businesses so that the content meets the needs of industry and prepares students for work.

T Levels will offer students a mixture of classroom learning and 'on-the-job' experience during an industry placement of at least 315 hours (approximately 45 days). They will provide the knowledge and experience needed to open the door into skilled employment, further study or a higher apprenticeship. For further information visit: [www.gov.uk/government/publications/introductions-of-t-levels](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/introductions-of-t-levels)

## **BTEC Qualifications (Levels 2 and 3)**

BTEC qualifications are specialist vocational qualifications valued by industry and higher education alike. They encourage and stimulate student achievement through innovative learning and assessment styles, by focusing on the applied knowledge and understanding of the specific sectors, e.g. Business, Health & Social Care, IT, Sport, Public Services, Performing Arts, Media.

- Available at levels 2 and 3. If you plan to move from level 2 to level 3, you need to ensure you have sufficient units to be able to progress on to the higher level.
- Designed to industry standards.
- There are three “sizes” of BTEC: Certificate, Extended Certificate and Diploma (Subsidiary Diploma and Extended Diploma), and are equivalent to one, two or three A levels.
- All units and the overall qualification will be awarded a mark of Pass, Merit or Distinction.
- A period of work experience or day release can be part of the course.
- Level 3 BTECs in relevant subject areas meet many universities’ entry requirements, especially if studied alongside academic A levels. Check these on [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com)

Students work individually and as part of a team. They need to have a commitment to and an interest in a specific area of work. During the course a portfolio of work is prepared as evidence. Ideal for those who prefer continual assessment and enjoy coursework.

## **International Baccalaureate (IB) (Level 3 Qualification)**

The International Baccalaureate is only offered at Varndean College (but also available at independent sixth forms). It is internationally recognised and understood by universities and employers as an excellent preparation for further study and employment. This stand-alone course is a rigorous and challenging alternative to A levels, studied over two years, and is broadly equivalent to four A levels. It gives a very broad based learning and is good for students who are not sure which career path they want to travel.

To gain this qualification you must:

- Study six subjects from the subject groups of language, second language, individuals and societies, mathematics and computer science, the arts, and experimental sciences.
- Complete an extended essay, having researched and investigated a topic of special interest.
- Follow a “theory of knowledge” course.
- Participate in creativity, action and service projects.

You need to be organised, have a strong interest in broad areas of study and activities and be able to cope with ongoing assessment as well as exams.

As with all qualifications, you should check carefully with individual institutions for exact entry requirements, but generally at least six GCSEs are required at grades 9-6 including English, Maths and Science. (For some specialist degree courses such as medicine at top universities, A levels are preferred. You should check university entry requirements to ensure that the IB is accepted for the course you may wish to study.)

## **Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) (Level 3 Qualification)**

If you are aiming to study at a top university, you should seriously consider taking the Extended Project Qualification in your second year. Universities value the EPQ as a preparation for higher level study. It involves independently researching and writing a 6,000 word dissertation on a chosen topic that fits with your studies or one that is of personal interest. Equivalent to half an A level.

## **General Considerations**

Colleges require a minimum of five GCSEs at grades 9-4 for a three A level programme (these must include English and Maths). Many courses require a minimum of five GCSEs at grade 6. To take certain subjects at A level, e.g. Maths, Sciences, Languages, a student would be expected to gain at least a grade 6 at GCSE in that subject.

Not all courses are available in every college and students need to find out for themselves what each college has on offer.

**In deciding which subjects to take, students must give careful thought as to what they want to do afterwards: some higher level courses or employment opportunities require particular subjects, studied at particular levels, e.g. to become a doctor you will need to study Chemistry at A level.**

## **Level 2 Courses**

It is now a statutory requirement that all students are required to retake GCSE Maths and English Language if they do not attain a minimum of grade 4 in Year 11. These retakes can be taken alongside A levels / BTECs if other entry requirements are met, or alongside a Level 2 programme of study. Students can then progress to Level 3 courses the following year.

## **Foundation Learning**

These are Entry level and level 1 programmes. These courses include three distinct components:

- Vocational qualifications
- Functional skills (English, Maths, ICT)
- Personal and Social Development (PSD) qualifications

Dependent on which college you go to, vocational taster choices are offered in a variety of subjects, e.g. art, beauty, business, catering, childcare, construction, media, engineering, IT, motor vehicle, photography.

Foundation Learning programmes are designed for students who have, for various reasons, had limited achievement at school. They are designed to promote progression to level 2 study and/or employment, as well as helping students to achieve nationally recognised qualifications at Entry level and level 1.

## **Functional Skills**

These are practical skills in English, Maths and ICT which allow individuals to work confidently, effectively and independently in life. They are available as stand-alone qualifications and also feature within the qualification routes for Apprenticeships and Foundation Learning.



## **Moving on to University**

It is important to note that if a student is thinking of going to university, most require that a student takes three full A levels. There are also level 3 vocational courses, e.g. BTECs, which can lead to higher education.

Your choice of A level and BTEC subjects can have a significant impact on the course options available to you at university. You need to be aware of the likely entry requirements, in terms of both the grades you need to achieve and the actual subjects you study. Many universities are now more specific about the qualifications they expect of their applicants.

- If you have **already decided on a course** that you would like to study at university, we recommend that you take a close look at the course requirements at a number of universities before you finalise your subject choices, to check that your A levels / BTECs will be suitable for your application.
- If you have **not yet decided on a course** that you would like to study at university, we recommend that you select subjects to maximise your potential course choice. Certain A level subjects are considered either essential or useful for a number of degree courses, so choosing one or more of these will help you keep your higher education options open.
- Whether or not you have an idea of the course you want to study at university, having the right information now will give you more options when the time comes to make your mind up. We recommend that you take a look at the **'Russell Group: Informed Choices'** guidance, which includes advice on the best subject combinations for a wide range of university courses: <http://russellgroup.ac.uk/informed-choices>

Research must also be carried out if students are considering taking professional courses where certain subjects should be studied at A level to enable entry onto these degree courses. For example, to study Medicine, A level Chemistry is usually essential, plus at least one from Biology, Maths and Physics. However, admissions criteria for each Medical School vary and do need to be checked individually.

You can easily find out a good deal from the universities' own websites, which can be accessed either directly or via the central UCAS (Universities and Colleges Admissions Service) website [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com)

As universities are now becoming more transparent about what they are looking for, applicants need to make sure that they are better informed at an earlier stage. Although maximising your grades at GCSE next summer is obviously the current top priority, spending some time looking very closely at university requirements may also turn out to be time well spent.

If you require further guidance please see Mrs Ferros, our careers adviser.

## **The Employment Options at Post 16 (work based learning)**

This option suits students who know what they want to do for a living. You can leave school and find employment with work based training, e.g. NVQs, Apprenticeships, Traineeships.

### **National Vocational Qualifications (NVQs) (Levels 1 - 5)**

- Level 2 equivalent to GCSEs, level 3 equivalent to A levels
- Practical, skills based courses usually taken once in a job, in areas such as Hairdressing, Catering, Childcare, Animal Care, Construction trades and Motor Vehicle Engineering.
- Some colleges make it possible for students to work towards NVQs while based in full time education. Students should refer directly to college prospectuses for more information.
- You need to have a strong interest in a specific area of work, be self-motivated, able to work by yourself and also as part of a team.
- Assessment is through coursework.

### **Apprenticeships**

Apprenticeships take between one and five years to complete and cover 1,500 job roles in a wide range of industries, e.g. Accountancy, Business Administration, Animal Care, Catering, Construction, Customer Service, Engineering, Hairdressing, Health & Social Care, IT, Motor Industry, Retail, Telecommunications and many more. Apprenticeships are now available up to degree level and beyond.

### **Intermediate Apprenticeship (Level 2)**

- Entry requirements vary. Some require specific qualifications such as GCSEs in Maths and English at grade 4 or above. Others require you to pass an initial assessment.
- Trainees will be paid a training wage and work towards qualifications in NVQs, Functional Skills and Technical Certificates.
- Usually takes one year to gain a level 2 (equivalent to five GCSEs grades 9-4) after which it should be possible to progress to level 3.
- Training may take place solely in the workplace or on day release courses at college.

### **Advanced Apprenticeship (Level 3)**

- Equivalent to at least two A levels.
- For 16+ year olds who have gained a minimum of five GCSEs at grades 9-4.
- Trainees will be paid a training wage and work towards qualifications in NVQs, Functional Skills and Technical Certificates.
- Training may take place solely in the workplace or on day release courses at college.
- Usually takes two years to complete and it is possible to progress to a Foundation Degree at university.

## **Higher Apprenticeships (Level 4 and above)**

Higher Apprenticeships offer ambitious existing apprentices and employees, as well as A level school leavers, a different route to traditional university study. There are more than 40 Higher Apprenticeships to choose from and apprenticeships at degree level are now available. Occupational areas include Accounting, Advertising & Marketing, Banking, Business, Construction, Engineering, Fashion & Textiles, Hospitality, IT & Web Professionals, Legal Services, Life Sciences; with many more in development.

## **How to Apply for Apprenticeships**

Visit [www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship](http://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship) to register, search and apply for apprenticeship positions nationwide.

You can also look at local apprenticeship providers' websites to find apprenticeship opportunities in our area. Examples of these are:

[www.apprenticeships-in-sussex.com/](http://www.apprenticeships-in-sussex.com/)

[www.rewardstraining.co.uk](http://www.rewardstraining.co.uk)

[www.jace-training.co.uk](http://www.jace-training.co.uk)

[www.sigta.co.uk](http://www.sigta.co.uk)

[www.stevewillis.com](http://www.stevewillis.com)

You can also approach local employers in your chosen sector to enquire about possible apprenticeship opportunities.

## **WOULD YOU LIKE HELP?**

Students need to be proactive in arranging their own apprenticeship place but if you would like any further information, or help with registering and applying for vacancies, Mrs Ferros will be only too happy to help.

## **Remember ...**

**Students considering an apprenticeship should also, as a back-up measure, make a college application for a full-time course in the area you are interested in. If you do not find a job before the start of the college year you should start on the full-time course. If at any time during the full-time course you manage to find a suitable job, you can be transferred on to the apprenticeship programme subject to various conditions being met by your employer.**

## **Traineeships**

A traineeship is a course with work experience that gets you ready for work or an apprenticeship. It can last up to 6 months.

You can apply if you're:

- eligible to work in England
- unemployed and have little or no work experience
- aged 16 to 24 and qualified below Level 3

You may be ready for an [apprenticeship](#) if you already have some work experience.

You'll get:

- a work experience placement
- help with English and maths (if you need it)

You won't be paid, but you may be given expenses for things like travel and meals.

Visit [www.gov.uk/find-traineeship](http://www.gov.uk/find-traineeship) to register and apply for Traineeships, or contact local colleges and training providers to find out if they are offering Traineeship opportunities.



# Careers

At Oathall we provide students with a comprehensive careers program. This provides students with information on the options available to them after they leave Oathall.

Career planning is an ongoing process. We support students by giving them the most up-to-date advice about work. We also support them in their choices and applications to Sixth form college and further education. We encourage students to conduct their own career research and provide students with careers advice. Students are also supported by tutors, subject teachers, Heads of House and pastoral staff over their career choices.

Mrs Ferros is our professional Careers Adviser based in the college. Students can email her or see her in person. She can be emailed at [kferros@oathall.org](mailto:kferros@oathall.org) or contacted by phone on 01444 414001.

Mrs Isley is our Careers Lead and Vocational Manager. Students can see her in person or email her at [disley@oathall.org](mailto:disley@oathall.org)

[Oathall Careers Programme](#)

[Career of the Fortnight](#)

[Careers Newsletter Summer 2020](#)

[Useful Careers related websites](#)

[Post 16 Information Booklet](#)

[Post 16 Presentation](#)

## LEARNING

- [Subject Information](#)
- [Super Curriculum](#)
- [Annual SEND Information Report](#)
- [GCSE Revision](#)
- [Exams](#)
- [Careers](#)
  - [College Websites](#)
  - [Career of the Fortnight](#)
  - [Careers Newsletters](#)
  - [Learning Resource Centre](#)
  - [IT Provision at Oathall](#)

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# A parent's guide to apprenticeships



As a parent, you want your child to get the best possible start in their career. There are many options available to young people after they leave school, and in this guide, we outline information and benefits about apprenticeships as a key route into a successful career.

**What's an apprenticeship?** It is a genuine job, with training, meaning you can earn while you learn and gain a nationally recognised qualification.

## What are the benefits?

Apprenticeships are now available up to degree level and beyond. Over 70 national universities are currently offering a range of degree apprenticeships with more to be confirmed throughout the year.

- Earning a salary and paid holiday;
- Excellent progression opportunities, whether looking to study further or climb the ranks within the workplace;
- Increased future earning potential – apprentices enjoy marked salary increases on finishing their training and those completing a higher apprenticeship could see increased earnings of an estimated £150,000 over their lifetime.\*

## What levels are there?

There are various levels of apprenticeship to apply for depending on current skills and qualifications. Apprenticeships have equivalent educational levels:

Name	Level	Equivalent educational level
Intermediate	2	5 GCSE passes at Grades A*– C or 9 – 4
Advanced	3	2 A level passes
Higher	4, 5, 6 and 7	Foundation degree and above
Degree	6 and 7	Bachelor's or master's degree

All apprenticeships include elements of on the job and off the job training leading to industry recognised standards or qualifications. Some apprenticeships will require an assessment at the end of the programme to assess the apprentice's ability and competence in their job role.

## How do you apply?

At any one time there are between 12,000 – 20,000 apprenticeship vacancies available online in a variety of careers and industries across England. Visit [GOV.UK/apply-apprenticeship](http://GOV.UK/apply-apprenticeship). You can search by keyword (job role, occupation type or apprenticeship level) and by location.

Once the right job comes up, your son or daughter can simply register on the website and follow the step-by-step instructions to apply for the role.

Our YouTube channel has useful hints and tips on applying plus other videos on apprenticeships, visit YouTube and search apprenticeships/NAS.

If they are not quite ready for an apprenticeship or job, they could try a traineeship with a local employer to gain valuable work experience and the opportunity to improve their English and maths, if needed. Visit [GOV.UK/find-traineeship](http://GOV.UK/find-traineeship) for more information or to apply for traineeship opportunities.

**Brought to you by**  
**National**  
**Apprenticeship**  
**Service**

NAS-P-170003 April 2018

\*University education – Is this the best route into employment?  
AAT and CEBR Feb 2013

## Salaries

The minimum wage for apprentices is £3.70 per hour, but many employers pay more than this. This is dependent on the sector, region and apprenticeship level. E.g. some higher apprenticeships pay up to £500 per week.

More details on salaries and entry criteria in specific apprenticeship occupations can be accessed by looking at the vacancies on 'Find an apprenticeship'.

## Entry requirements

Apprenticeships are available to anyone over the age of 16, living in England. There are different entry requirements depending on the sector and job.

Recent legislation has come into effect which changes the minimum English and maths requirements needed to complete an apprenticeship for people with a learning difficulty or disability. The changes will lower the English and maths requirements for these apprentices to an Entry Level 3 qualification.

A Disability Confident Employer will generally offer an interview to any applicant that declares they have a disability and meets the minimum criteria as defined by the employer. For more details, search Disability Confident on GOV.UK.

## School leaving age

The government has stated that all young people must stay in some form of education or training until at least their 18th birthday. This does not necessarily mean staying in school; young people have a choice about how they continue in education or training post 16, which could be through an apprenticeship or traineeship.

**Search apprenticeships on GOV.UK**

## Careers Websites

Here are some websites and online services to help you with your post 16 and careers choices.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Alpha Careers</b></p> <p>Alphas Careers is now here, finding your perfect careers match and so much more. Sign up now to access the world of Alphas Careers and explore the world of opportunities. <a href="https://alphascareers.com/">https://alphascareers.com/</a></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Amazing Apprenticeships</b></p> <p>Provides an explanation of the various Apprenticeships available. <a href="https://amazingapprenticeships.com">https://amazingapprenticeships.com</a></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Find an Apprenticeship</b></p> <p>Government website with information regarding finding an apprenticeship. <a href="http://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk">www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk</a></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Apprenticeship Guide</b></p> <p>The definitive guide to apprenticeships in England <a href="http://www.apprenticeshipguide.co.uk">www.apprenticeshipguide.co.uk</a></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Apprenticeships in Sussex</b></p> <p>Search for local apprenticeships vacancies <a href="http://www.apprenticeships-in-sussex.com">www.apprenticeships-in-sussex.com</a></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Autocity</b></p> <p>A one-stop-shop for info and advice on careers in the retail motor industry, including apprenticeship vacancies. <a href="http://www.autocity.org.uk">www.autocity.org.uk</a></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Barclays Life Skills</b></p> <p>Giving millions of people the skills, knowledge and confidence they need for work with tools, tips and learning resources. <a href="https://barclayslifeskills.com/">https://barclayslifeskills.com/</a></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>BBC Bitesize Careers</b></p> <p>Whether you're deciding what to study, taking your exams, planning a career, or just curious, this website helps to explain the world of work, with advice from people who have found the right path for them. <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/careers">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/careers</a></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Be Ready</b></p> <p>Online learning platform and innovative programmes and courses for schools, universities and employers <a href="https://bereadygroup.org/">https://bereadygroup.org/</a></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Careermap</b></p> <p>Providing live opportunities for your dream career working for some of the UKs biggest and best organisations. <a href="https://careermap.co.uk/">https://careermap.co.uk/</a></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Careerpilot</b></p> <p>Careers information and tools for 11-19 year olds <a href="https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/">https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/</a></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Careers Box</b></p> <p>Careers Films on the Web <a href="https://www.careersbox.co.uk/">https://www.careersbox.co.uk/</a></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Careers in Construction</b></p> <p>Considering a career in construction? Find out which construction roles are most suited to your interests, skills and qualifications. <a href="http://www.goconstruct.org">www.goconstruct.org</a></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Careers in Health</b></p> <p>Information on the 350 job roles available in Haywards Heath, along with real-life stories and videos of staff. There is also a course finder which lists more than 1000 courses leading to a career in health. <a href="http://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk">www.healthcareers.nhs.uk</a></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Careers in Languages</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.harding.edu/academics/colleges-departments/arts-humanities/for-lang/careers/">www.harding.edu/academics/colleges-departments/arts-humanities/for-lang/careers/</a> <a href="http://www.prospects.ac.uk/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree/modern-languages">www.prospects.ac.uk/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree/modern-languages</a></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Careers in Law</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.lawsociety.org.uk/law-careers/">www.lawsociety.org.uk/law-careers/</a> <a href="http://www.barcouncil.org.uk/careers">www.barcouncil.org.uk/careers</a></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Careers in Sport</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.careers-in-sport.co.uk">www.careers-in-sport.co.uk</a></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Construction Industry Training Board</b></p> <p>Information about the wide variety of careers in the construction industry, including all the building trades as well as engineering and management roles. <a href="http://www.citb.co.uk">www.citb.co.uk</a></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Creative &amp; Cultural Skills</b></p> <p>Want a career in design? This website offers advice, training and support to get into a design career whether it be in music, theatre, visual arts, design, jewellery or literature. <a href="http://www.ccskills.org.uk">www.ccskills.org.uk</a></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Creative Skillset</b></p> <p>This is a sector skills council website for entertainment media, fashion &amp; textiles, publishing and advertising, marketing &amp; communications. Hundreds of job profiles and real life case studies in the creative industries. <a href="http://www.creativeskillset.org">www.creativeskillset.org</a></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>DMH Associates</b></p> <p>Useful resources designed to support practitioners <a href="http://dmhassociates.org/resources">http://dmhassociates.org/resources</a></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Eduvate</b></p> <p>The world's virtual careers fair <a href="https://eduvate.biz/">https://eduvate.biz/</a></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Elev8 Careers</b></p> <p>Inspiration, imagination, innovation. A careers guidance organisation with a difference. <a href="http://www.elev8careers.org.uk">www.elev8careers.org.uk</a></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Future Morph</b></p> <p>Future Morph is the Science Council's website designed to provide information for your people about careers from studying Science, Maths and Technology.</p>

	<a href="http://www.futuremorph.org">www.futuremorph.org</a>
<b>Get Career Confident</b> Advice and guidance for young people, parents, carers and teachers. <a href="https://www.getcareerconfident.co.uk/">https://www.getcareerconfident.co.uk/</a>	<b>Get my First Job</b> A whole new way to find Apprenticeships, Degree Apprenticeships, Work Experience and Graduate opportunities to get ahead. <a href="http://www.getmyfirstjob.co.uk">www.getmyfirstjob.co.uk</a>
<b>Government Publications</b> <a href="http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-code-of-practice-0-to-25">www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-code-of-practice-0-to-25</a> <a href="http://www.gov.uk/government/news/your-daughters-future">www.gov.uk/government/news/your-daughters-future</a>	<b>Hospitality Guild</b> Find out about careers in the fast growing hospitality industry. You could work in a multi-million pound business that employs thousands, find yourself in a small family run business, or travel the world – the possibilities are endless. <a href="http://www.hospitalityguild.uk">www.hospitalityguild.uk</a>
<b>How 2 Become</b> The UKs leading careers specialists <a href="https://www.how2become.com/">https://www.how2become.com/</a>	<b>I can be a</b> Use the career wizard on this website to help you explore various jobs based on your interests. <a href="https://www.icanbea.org.uk/">https://www.icanbea.org.uk/</a>
<b>icould</b> More than 1000 videos of real people talking about their career journeys. Search by subject, job type or life theme. <a href="http://www.icould.com">www.icould.com</a>	<b>Lantra</b> Sector Skills Council website for land based and environmental industries <a href="http://www.lantra.co.uk">www.lantra.co.uk</a>
<b>Learn Live UK</b> Bringing live learning to everyone. <a href="https://learnliveuk.com/">https://learnliveuk.com/</a>	<b>My Future Sussex</b> You can find out about colleges and training providers near you, browse their website and view prospectuses and courses. <a href="http://www.myfuturesussex.com">www.myfuturesussex.com</a>
<b>My World of Work</b> The online home for career information and advice <a href="https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/">https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/</a>	<b>National Apprenticeship Service</b> Details of all current apprenticeship vacancies and advice on how to apply/write a winning application. <a href="http://www.gov.uk/apprenticeship-guide">www.gov.uk/apprenticeship-guide</a>
<b>National Careers Service</b> Lots of information including Job Profiles, how to write a CV and job interview techniques. You can also speak to an adviser over the phone, by text, email or webchat. <a href="https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk">https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk</a>	<b>NHS Careers</b> <a href="https://www.stepintohenhs.nhs.uk/">https://www.stepintohenhs.nhs.uk/</a> <a href="https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/">https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/</a>
<b>Russell Group Informed Choices</b> A guide to post 16 subject choices. It includes advice on the best subject combinations for a wide range of university courses as well as advice on the best choices if you don't know what you want to study after school and need to keep your options open. <a href="http://www.russellgroup.ac.uk/policy/publications/informed-choices">www.russellgroup.ac.uk/policy/publications/informed-choices</a>	<b>School Leavers Jobs</b> Apprenticeships, School Leaver Programmes & Sponsored Degrees <a href="http://www.allaboutschooleavers.co.uk">www.allaboutschooleavers.co.uk</a>
<b>School Leavers Milkround</b> Opportunities and Advice for School Leavers <a href="http://www.milkround.com/school-leavers">www.milkround.com/school-leavers</a>	<b>Skills Active</b> This is the sector skills council website for Active Leisure, Learning and Well-being, with information on career and apprenticeship opportunities in the sports and leisure industry. <a href="http://www.skillsactive.com">www.skillsactive.com</a>
<b>Skills for Care</b> Information about the broad range of careers in social care. <a href="http://www.skillsforcare.org.uk">www.skillsforcare.org.uk</a>	<b>START</b> Discover amazing careers you never knew existed, watch inspiring videos and find out about work experience opportunities and employers on your doorstep. <a href="https://guest.startprofile.com">https://guest.startprofile.com</a>
<b>STEM careers</b> Highlights the huge range of opportunities to anyone who pursues science, technology, engineering and maths subjects. <a href="https://www.stem.org.uk/resources/elibrary/resource/30415/where-stem-can-take-you">https://www.stem.org.uk/resources/elibrary/resource/30415/where-stem-can-take-you</a> <a href="https://www.stem.org.uk/STEM-ambassadors">https://www.stem.org.uk/STEM-ambassadors</a>	<b>The Student Room</b> The UK's biggest student community. Boost your grades, learn with free study tools, find your perfect uni place & get answers to any question on the forums <a href="http://www.thestudentroom.co.uk">www.thestudentroom.co.uk</a>
<b>Success at School</b>	<b>Tomorrow's Engineers</b>



<p>Young people can explore a full range of career profiles and advice, get the lowdown on top employers and access real work experience opportunities.  <a href="https://successatschool.org">https://successatschool.org</a></p>	<p>Engineers shape the world we live in, by designing, creating, testing and improving almost every product or process you can think of! Visit this website for lots of information about the amazing careers available in engineering.  <a href="http://www.tomorrowengineers.org.uk">www.tomorrowengineers.org.uk</a></p>
<p><b>UCAS</b>  Further Education: Sixth Form, College &amp; Apprenticeships  <a href="http://www.ucas.com/progress">www.ucas.com/progress</a></p>	<p><b>University Technical Colleges (UTCs)</b>  Schools for 14-19 year-olds that deliver technical education as well as core curriculum subjects.  <a href="http://www.utcolleges.org">www.utcolleges.org</a></p>
<p><b>Wired Sussex</b>  Careers advice from local professionals in the digital, media and technology. Plus you can sign up for free to a group that meets monthly in Brighton for young digital makers.  <a href="http://www.wiredsussex.com">www.wiredsussex.com</a></p>	<p><b>World Skills UK</b>  UK careers advice toolkit  <a href="https://www.worldskillsuk.org/directions/careers-advice-resources/worldskills-uk-careers-advice-toolkit">https://www.worldskillsuk.org/directions/careers-advice-resources/worldskills-uk-careers-advice-toolkit</a></p>
<p><b>Your Space</b>  Lots of advice for your people in Mid Sussex including information on employment and training. Latest live jobs and apprenticeship vacancies.  <a href="http://www.yourpacewestsussex.co.uk">www.yourpacewestsussex.co.uk</a></p>	