

Choices for after Year 11

Your choices at the end of Year 11 are education, training or going into work.

Choices in education may include:

- School sixth form
- Sixth form college
- Further education college
- Specialist college

Choices in training and work may include:

- Study Programme
- An apprenticeship
- A job with training
- Traineeships

Before you choose one of these options, you should think about which career you would like to have, how you learn and work best, what you enjoy doing and what you want from life. Being clear about these things will help you to choose an option that will suit, interest and motivate you.

If you are unsure of a future career you could use the KUDOS career questionnaire programme through the Connexions website and you could contact an Adviser if you have any questions through our Live Chat facility.

The right option for you depends on

- Where you are now
- What you want to do in the future
- You need to match up the kind of person you are with the options available.

Don't forget there is always help available from your Personal Adviser. Even if it seems like a small worry, get in touch. You may have learned a bit about yourself through school. You will have more ideas about how you like to learn and what your favourite subjects are. You will continue to have opportunities to build on your strengths and skills.

Ask yourself:

- Why do I want to take this course or job?
- Why would I be suited to it?
- What are my strengths and skills?
- What can I offer?
- What does this option offer me?
- What does this option want from me?



Everyone learns in different ways, what suits you may not suit your mates. Do you prefer watching, listening or doing things? If you know your learning style you can pick courses or jobs to suit, for example a practical course may be good if you like trying things for yourself.

There are different options depending on what you have achieved so far. You can keep increasing your skills and qualifications.

If you have passed 4/5 GCSEs at grade 9-4 (equivalent to the old grades A*-C) or other level 2 qualifications you could think about doing a level 3 qualification such as A Levels or an Extended Diploma.

You might want to do an apprenticeship or get a job with training.

If you don't have the qualifications for these options you can start now! There are things available at level 1 and 2 including BTEC Diplomas, GCSEs, NVQs and foundation learning.

If you decide to continue studying you will have more choice over where to study - it could be at school sixth form, Sixth Form College or a Further Education college.

If you do choose to continue studying you might want to think about also getting some work experience, volunteering or studying abroad as they give you a chance to get new skills and increase your chance of getting a job or course in the future.

The more qualifications you have the better your chances of getting the job you want. Everyone is different and some people take longer to achieve their aims than others. Be realistic when choosing your options. Keep your skills and knowledge up to date. Most people change jobs several times and in the future there will be jobs that haven't even been thought of yet. Find out more about the World of Work.

Focus on what is important to you, how you achieve it and go for it!

