



YEAR 11

WHAT NEXT?

IN WEST SUSSEX,
BRIGHTON & HOVE

**Training &
Qualifications Guide
for young people,
careers professionals,
teachers, and
parents/carers.**

West Sussex,
Brighton and Hove
CAREERS HUB

CAREERS &
ENTERPRISE
COMPANY

Welcome

Welcome to our West Sussex, Brighton and Hove Careers Hub 'What Next Guide'.

This guide will provide young people, parents/carers/families and teachers across West Sussex, Brighton and Hove with key information to support with post-16 transition into education, employment and training.

This can be a daunting time for young people identifying their 'next best step' with so much information to navigate. This guide provides you with impartial and accurate information to help you to understand the range of pathways and options available to you, as well as signposting you to the local opportunities across West Sussex, Brighton and Hove.

The guide can also help you prepare for transition and can be used to expand your knowledge and understanding of the different levels in education, progression routes and what's available near you.

As parents/carers/families or teachers, you can refer to the guide when supporting young people to identify what the right pathway for them might look like. There are lots of useful website links for further guidance and support.

I hope you find it helpful.



Lisa Mobbs
Strategic Hub Lead

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CAREERS HUB

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COMPANY


PREPARATION TIMELINE

It might seem like ages away but if you take the time to research and plan now you can make more confident choices - and complete your applications earlier. So, you've got more time to focus on your GCSEs.


SUMMER TERM YEAR 10

- 
- Think about your future strengths and favourite subjects.
 - Find out more about careers that interest you.
 - Think about how your strengths might fit with your career ideas.
 - Discuss your ideas with people whose opinions you value.
 - Do some online research into the local college and training options.


AUTUMN TERM YEAR 11

- 
- Build confidence in strengths and favourite subjects.
 - Go to information events and learn about all the different options.
 - Book some taster sessions.
 - Check college application deadlines. Some colleges might require an application this term.
 - Make contact with employers if seeking an Apprenticeship.

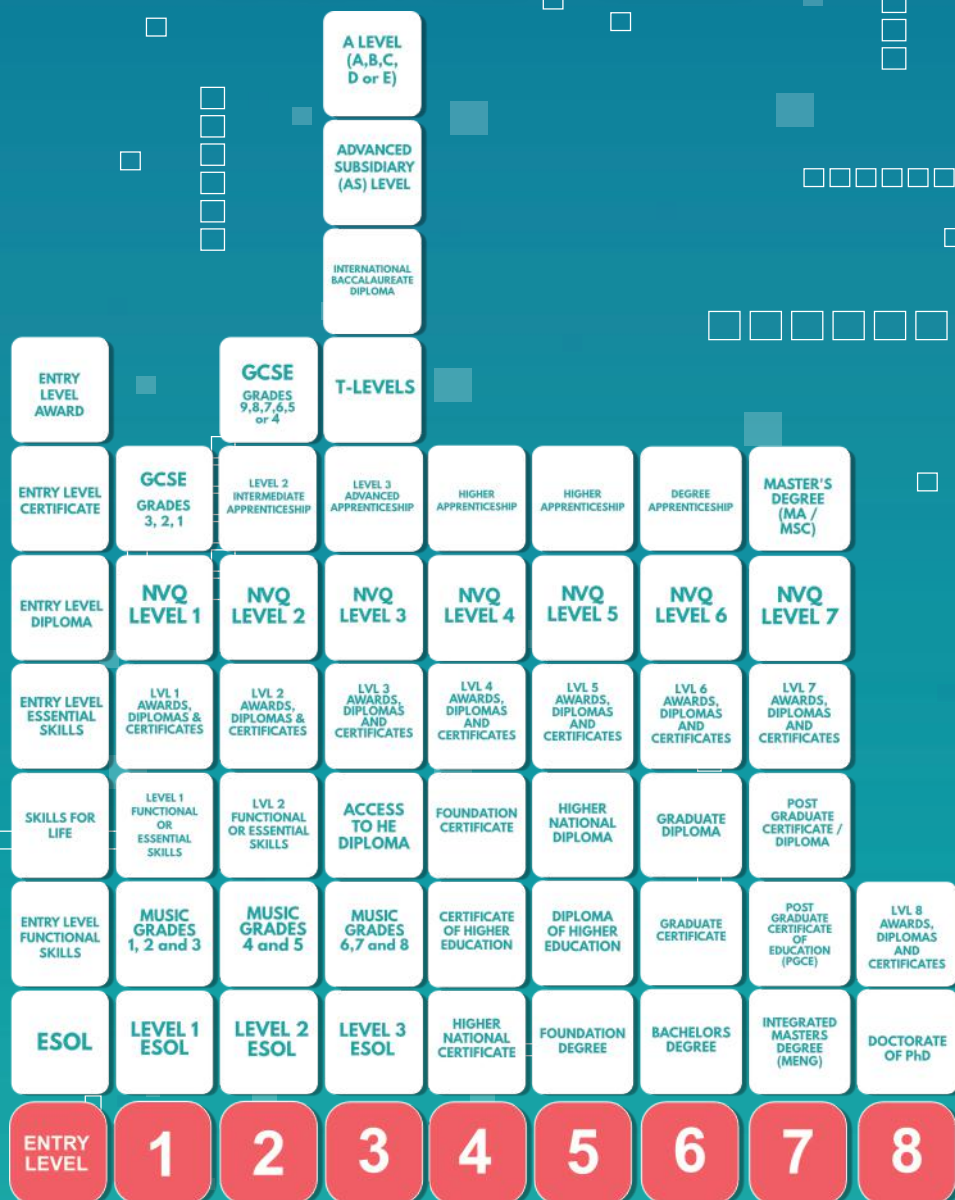
SPRING TERM YEAR 11

- 
- Complete applications (key dates will be given out in Y11) but most applications are completed by the end of January.
 - Attend interviews.
 - Attend additional taster events.
 - Work hard to secure an apprenticeship placement.
 - Make sure you have a back-up plan.

SUMMER TERM YEAR 11

- 
- Concentrate on exam prep.
 - Finalise your placement if intending on an Apprenticeship.
 - Attend any summer transitions days after exams. Many colleges run welcome events.

DO YOU KNOW YOUR LEVELS?



YOUR BEST NEXT STEP

There are numerous career progression routes available, each tailored to suit different individuals. The key is selecting the most suitable path to reach your goals.

For instance, you may opt for BTEC's, T Levels or A Levels to pursue a university degree, or alternatively, consider apprenticeships, which offer the opportunity to combine work and study.



Choosing the right options for YOU

For all school leavers, it is important not to close your options down by the choices you make.

ASK YOURSELF:

WHERE AM I NOW?

What qualifications, skills and interests do I have?

WHERE DO I WANT TO GET TO?

What would I like to be doing in 5 years time?

HOW WILL I GET THERE?

What course, training or future job is likely to get me where I want to go?

The main options for schools leavers

ACADEMIC PATHWAYS CLASSROOM BASED

A-LEVELS

VOCATIONAL PATHWAYS PRACTICAL & CLASSROOM BASED

T-LEVELS

VOCATIONAL COURSES

FOUNDATION COURSES

WORKPLACE PATHWAYS EMPLOYER BASED

APPRENTICESHIPS

INCLUSIVE APPRENTICESHIPS

SUPPORTED INTERNSHIPS

POST 16 OPTIONS...

A LEVELS



Scan the QR
code to find
out more.

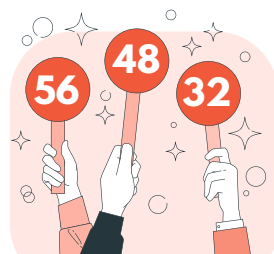
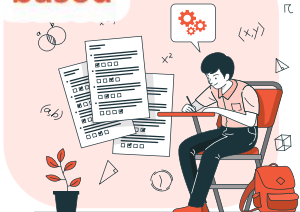
A levels are short for 'Advanced' Level and come after GCSEs. They are academic subject-based qualifications which are usually assessed by exams.



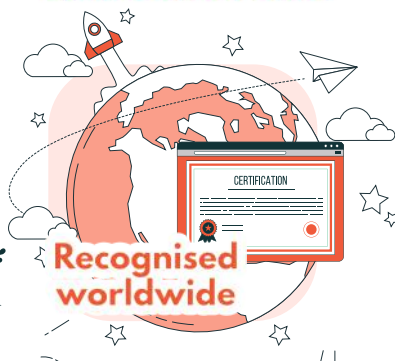
Study
3-4
Subjects



Mainly exam
based



Earn UCAS Points



POST 16 OPTIONS...

T LEVELS



Scan the QR
code to find
out more.

A T Level gives you a mix of learning in the classroom and on the job. Businesses and employers helped design T Levels to teach you the skills you'll need.



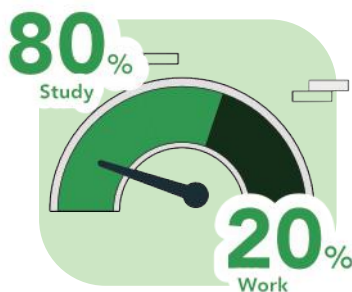
Alternative
to A-Levels



Get work
ready



Level 3
Qualifications



80%

Study

20%

Work



1

T-LEVEL

3

A-LEVELS



2

YRS

to
complete



45

day work
placement



Progress
into a Higher
or Degree
Apprenticeship



Progress to
University

POST 16 OPTIONS...

VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL QUALIFICATIONS (VTQs)



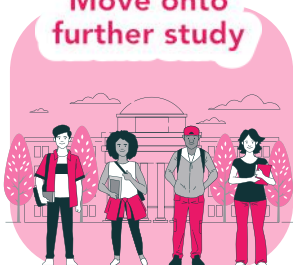
Scan the QR
code to find
out more

VTQs are practical qualifications designed to give you the skills and experience you need for a certain job. They might be for you if you have a strong interest in a particular industry.

Focus on
industry
specific
skills



Move onto
further study



Get work
ready



Develop
transferrable
skills



Gain Level 1,
Level 2, or Level 3
Qualifications



Mainly practical
with some
classroom activity



Progress
into a Higher
or Degree
Apprenticeship



Some L3 courses
attract UCAS Points



Go to University



POST 16 OPTIONS...

FOUNDATION COURSES



Scan the QR
code to find
out more

Engaging in a foundation course is a way to boost your confidence, enhance your knowledge, and develop essential skills. You can pursue these studies at a college or with an independent training provider.



Wide range
of courses

Boost your
confidence



CV Writing

Supported
Learning



Interview
Techniques



Entry
Level 3
to
Level 1



Move onto
further study



English



&

Maths



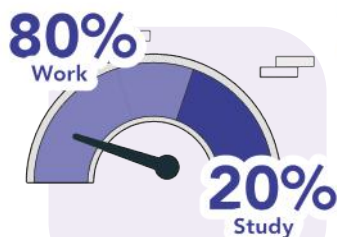
Develop Life
Skills

POST 16 OPTIONS...

APPRENTICESHIPS

An apprenticeship is a paid job with training where you work alongside experienced staff, gaining job-specific skills and earning a wage. You follow an apprenticeship standard outlining the knowledge, skills, and behaviours needed for success.

Scan the QR
code to find
out more



A real
contract



1500+
Apprenticeship
job roles
available



2.2m
people have started
an apprenticeship



**Gain a nationally
recognised
qualification**



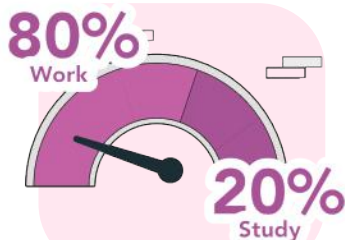
POST 16 OPTIONS...

INCLUSIVE APPRENTICESHIPS



Scan the QR
code to find
out more

Designed for individuals with acknowledged learning difficulties or disabilities. If you have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), Learning Disability Assessment (LDA), or Statement of Educational Need (SEN), adjustments in inclusive apprenticeships ensure accessibility.



Supportive
Job
Coach



Gain a nationally
recognised
qualification



A real
contract



1500+
Apprenticeship
job roles
available

1-4

YRS

to
complete



Earn a
salary



2.2m

people have started
an apprenticeship



600+

Apprenticeship
routes



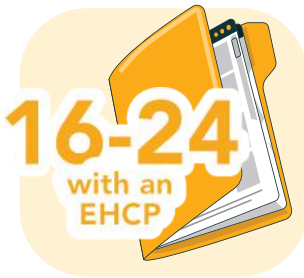
POST 16 OPTIONS...

SUPPORTED INTERNSHIPS



Scan the QR code to find out more

For young individuals aged 16 to 24 with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) who possess an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). This structured, work-based study program aims to provide a valuable work experience facilitated by a dedicated job coach.



Supportive
Job
Coach



Move into paid
employment



Study during your
working week



Develop
key skills



Work with
experienced staff



WHAT'S AVAILABLE NEAR YOU?

Want to know more about the courses and qualifications on offer at ALL the colleges and independent training providers across West Sussex, Brighton and Hove? Simply use the QR codes below.

CAREERS WEST SUSSEX

Careers West Sussex offers tailored support for people of all ages across the county, whether you're starting out, switching careers, or looking for local training and job opportunities. The website features tools to explore your options, discover local job vacancies, and connect with careers advisers who can help you take your next step with confidence.



CAREERS BRIGHTON & HOVE

Careers Brighton & Hove is a one-stop platform for careers advice, education routes, and job opportunities across the region. It's designed to help young people, parents, and adults find guidance on apprenticeships, college courses, and local employment. The site also showcases support services and events to help you plan for a bright future.



Local Sixth Forms and Colleges

There are a number of colleges and sixth form centres that school leavers in our area regularly consider.

Some of the colleges and sixth forms that our students move on to most frequently include:

Institution name	Website
Bishop Luffa School, Chichester	Bishop Luffa School - A Church of England School
Brighton Aldridge Community Academy	Brighton Aldridge Community Academy - Post 16 Curriculum
Brighton Hove and Sussex Sixth Form College	Welcome to BHASVIC
Cardinal Newman Catholic School	Newman College Hove
Chichester High School	Welcome - Chichester High School
Felpham Community College	Felpham 6th Form
Hazelwick School	Hazelwick School - Sixth Form
Holy Trinity CofE Secondary School, Crawley	The Holy Trinity Church of England Secondary School - Welcome
Ifield Community College	Sixth Form – Ifield Community College
Imberhorne School	Welcome to Imberhorne School Sixth Form Imberhorne School
King's School	King's School - Sixth Form
Midhurst Rother College	Our Sixth Form
Oriel High School	Welcome to Sixth Form – Oriel High School
Sackville School	Sackville School Sixth Form
Shoreham Academy	Sixth Form Shoreham Academy
St Oscar Romero Catholic School	Sixth Form St Oscar Romero
St Paul's Catholic College	St Paul's Catholic College Sixth Form
St Philip Howard Catholic School	https://www.sphsixthform.co.uk/
St Wilfrid's Catholic Comprehensive School, Crawley	St Wilfrid's Catholic School - VI Form
Steining Grammar School	Welcome - Steining Grammar School Steining Grammar School
The Angmering School	The Angmering School - Ambition Courage Respect
The College of Richard Collyer In Horsham	https://www.collyers.ac.uk/
The Littlehampton Academy	Welcome - The Littlehampton Academy
The Regis School	https://www.theregisschool.co.uk/sixth-form
The Sir Robert Woodard Academy	Welcome and About W6 - The Sir Robert Woodard Academy
Thomas Bennett Community College	About Sixth Form - Thomas Bennett Community College
Varndean College	Varndean College
Weald School, The	The Weald Community School and Sixth Form - Sixth Form
Chichester College	Chichester College Chichester College Group
Crawley College	Crawley College Chichester College Group
Brinsbury College	Brinsbury College Chichester College Group
Worthing College	Worthing College Chichester College Group
Haywards Heath College	Haywards Heath College Chichester College Group
Brighton Met College	Brighton Metropolitan College Chichester College Group
Northbrook College	Northbrook College Chichester College Group

Local Apprenticeship Providers

There are lots of training providers who deliver apprenticeship training. Some will be part of local colleges. Some will be independent organisations, or employers. They might cover lots of different types of work or can specialise in a particular industry. Here are some local examples.

Visit the national apprenticeship service webpages for more information: www.apprenticeships.gov.uk for general information

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship> to search and apply for vacancies.



Sussex Police



DMH Stallard



**PLUMPTON
COLLEGE**



Brighton
Metropolitan
College



NHS
South East Coast
Ambulance Service
NHS Foundation Trust





WEST SUSSEX BRIGHTON & HOVE

POPULATION OF                   

1,160,641

**TOTAL NUMBER
OF BUSINESSES**

**NUMBER OF
PEOPLE EMPLOYED**

71,815

812,800

KEY SECTORS IN OUR REGION



**ENGINEERING &
MANUFACTURING**



**VISITOR CULTURAL
HOSPITALITY & ARTS**



CONSTRUCTION



**LAND BASED
AGRICULTURAL &
VITICULTURE**



**HEALTH & CARE
BIO-LIFE SCIENCES &
PHARMACEUTICAL**



**TRANSPORT &
LOGISTICS**



EDUCATION



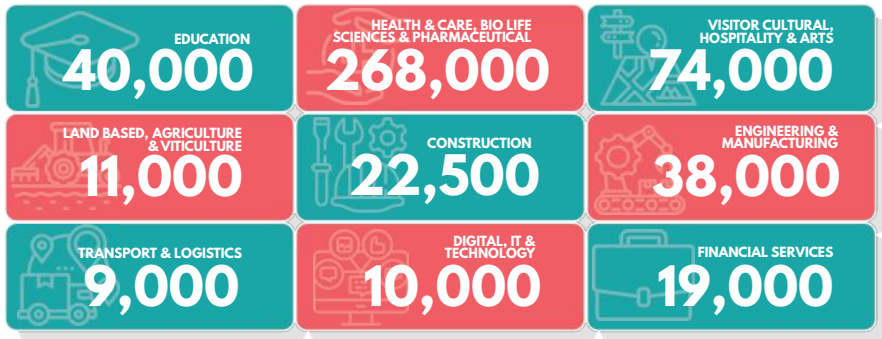
**DIGITAL, IT &
TECHNOLOGY**



**FINANCIAL
SERVICES**



TOTAL PEOPLE EMPLOYED IN OUR KEY SECTORS...



EMPLOYERS ACROSS OUR REGION

The following websites can help you to explore more Labour Market Information.

Future Skills Sussex

Discover future skills and career pathways.

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

Learning4lifeSussex

Explore local labour market insights across the region.

<https://learning4lifesussex.org.uk/employing/labour-market-information>

Sussex Learning Network

Empowering young learners for higher education and local success.

<https://www.sussexlearningnetwork.org.uk/resources/labour-market-information>



STILL UNSURE?

POST-16 TOP TIPS

1

Attend careers and skills fairs

These are ideal for meeting colleges, training providers, apprenticeship providers, employers, and careers advisers.

2

Discuss your ideas

Talk to parents or carers, family and friends to get other viewpoints on your choices.

3

Get advice

Talk to teachers and career advisers – they have lots of knowledge and wisdom to share!

4

Open events and taster sessions

They're a great opportunity to visit schools and colleges, find out about the courses on offer, and speak to staff and students.

5

It's your life and your choice

Don't be influenced by where your friends are going. Ask yourself: what do I enjoy? What would I like to do and what do I want to get out of my life?

USEFUL WEBSITES

Use the following websites for information and support to help inform your decision.

General Careers Information

Careers Pilot - Careers information and tools for 11-19 year olds. <https://www.careerpilot.org.uk>

Youth Employment UK – a website from an independent organisation that provides wide-ranging information about careers and employment. Try the 'Career Guides'.
<https://www.youthemployment.org.uk/careers-advice-help/>

Prospects – a great source of information mainly aimed at young people who might consider university graduate level careers in the future or for those who are already at university.
www.prospects.ac.uk

ICould - Find inspiration and explore your ideas using real-life career videos. <https://icould.com/>

BBC bitesize careers - a really good range of articles and information from the BBC with career stories, videos, quizzes to help young people with their careers ideas.
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/careers>

National Careers Service - Providing information, advice and guidance to help you make decisions on learning, training and work. www.nationalcareers.service.gov.uk

Skills for Careers - use this site for a clear overview of the different options that are available to young people.
[Young People | Skills for Careers \(education.gov.uk\)](http://www.skillsforcareers.org.uk)

T Levels - use this site to learn more about what T Levels are and how they work. <https://www.tlevels.gov.uk/>

UCAS - Universities and colleges admissions service, offering support and advice so you can make an informed decisions about your future. www.ucas.com/further-education

Informed Choices - iThe tool created by the Russell Group of universities to help you link University ideas to your A level choices. <https://www.informedchoices.ac.uk/>

Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships - Use this site for general information about the Apprenticeship pathway.

<https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk>

Find an Apprenticeship - Use this site to find vacancies in your area. <https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>

Apprenticeship Guide - Use this site as a tool to discover your perfect Apprenticeship role.

<https://apprenticeshipguide.co.uk>

Amazing Apprenticeships - Use this site to explore a wide range of resources and activities linked to Apprenticeships.

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/student-zone/>

Careers Information & Support for Parents

Talking Futures - A set of prompt cards to help parents and careers talk to their teens about career ideas.

<https://www.talkingfutures.org.uk/conversation-cards/>

The Parents Perspective - an exciting podcast series for parents and carers, helping them to support their children with careers advice and guidance

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/the-parent-perspective-podcast/>

Careermap - If you're a school leaver, graduate or job seeker, we have lots of options! Search & apply for apprenticeships, graduate schemes & jobs.

<https://careermap.co.uk/career-advice/careermag/for-parents-guardians>