



HIGHER EDUCATION

CONFIDENTIAL

You can go to college for two years after secondary school.

Colleges offer a variety of A-level and BTEC subjects and qualifications.

There are no students under the age of 16.

Once students have completed their two years at sixth form or college, they can apply to university to study for a bachelor's degree.

You have a lot more choice when choosing your degree than you do at college or sixth-form.

The majority of university degrees last three years, but some courses such as medicine or dentistry last five years or more.

There are over 100 different universities to choose from, each with their own academic specialisms.



APPRENTICESHIPS

CONFIDENTIAL

You are paid a wage during your apprenticeship.

Apprentices spend at least 20% of their work hours completing classroom-based assignments.

Benefits include paid employment with holiday leave and hands-on-experience in a career that might interest you.

For National Apprenticeships Week 2023, BBC Bitesize live streamed from the Science Museum in London. Get online and watch it back!

There are no student loan or tuition fees for an apprenticeship.

If the apprentice is 16 to 24 and a care leaver, they will receive a £1,000 bursary payment to support them in their first year of the apprenticeship.

- Some apprenticeships may require:
 - Previous qualifications such as English or maths GCSEs
 - Additional training in English or maths to ensure the apprentice is at the right level.



CONNECTIONS / NETWORKING

Building connections is when you form a bond with another person. Both personal and professional relationships can benefit your career.

It's good to keep contacts and follow up meetings with a polite email or message.

Building connections is when you form a bond with another person. Both personal and professional relationships can benefit your career.

CONFIDENTIAL

Be confident and honest about your skills, find things in common and ask for advice or feedback.

You can meet new people and potential employers at school events and careers fairs.

Think about your social media profiles and ensure they are free from any controversial or offensive material. This may be an employer's first impression of you.



BUSINESS / FREELANCE

To start a business, essentially you need an idea and a reason why you are offering that service.

You would require financial backing, need to have customers lined up and be prepared to do a lot of paperwork when creating a company.

Freelancing is a type of self-employment, where you move around offering your services for a period of time.

A disadvantage could be that it is a less secure option and there is pressure to find work when you need it.

CONFIDENTIAL



VOLUNTEERING

Volunteering is when you spend unpaid time doing something to benefit others. Helping your close friends or relatives isn't volunteering.

It's always your choice to volunteer, and can not be done for financial gain.

It's a chance to meet new people, interact with current employees and begin developing sound relationships.

When volunteering, failing to show up, poor communication and being late will not impress them.

Volunteering does not guarantee you a job, but it can greatly improve your chances.

- o 94% of employers believe that volunteering can add to skills
- o 73% of employers would employ a candidate with volunteering experience over one without
- o 58% believe voluntary work experience can be more valuable than experience gained in paid employment