



Deciding what
to do after
GCSE's.

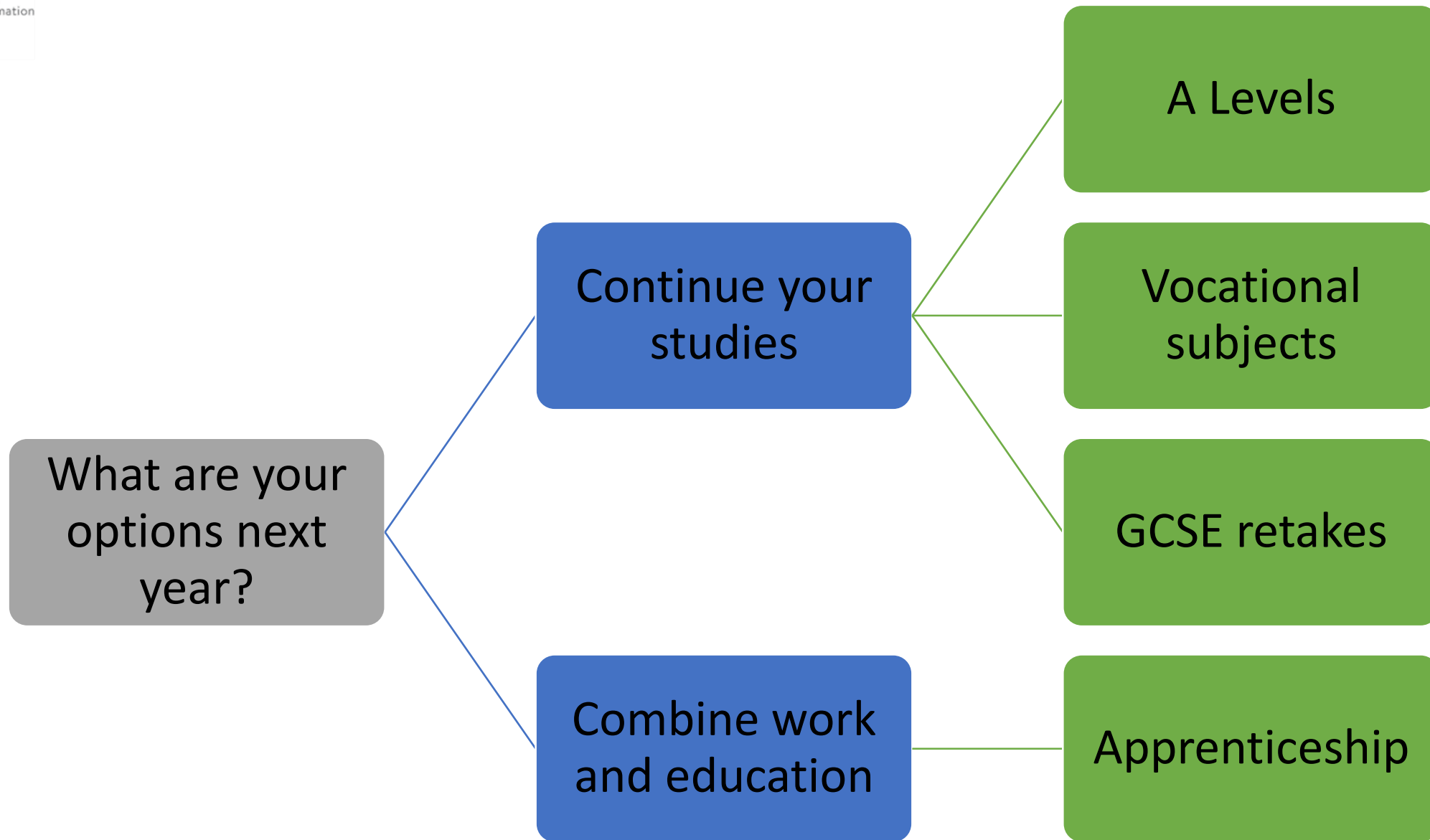
What are your options after GCSE's?



You must stay in some type of education or training until you are 18. There are many options available when you turn 16, look at what option best suits you and your situation, strengths and interests.

You may be eligible for the 16 to 19 Bursary Fund, which can help with things like books, travel or equipment if you will struggle with education or training costs.

#theTNHAWay



Determined to be the best we can be...

#theTNHAWay

Continue your studies-

You could take a work-related course that will give you skills and work experience. Some courses keep your options open by giving you the chance to study different subjects. You may need specific qualifications for your career choice, so always do some research.

- A levels
- Technical and vocational qualifications
- Exam retakes

Determined to be the best we can be...

Level 1 qualifications	Level 2 qualifications	Level 3 qualifications
These are the equivalent of a GCSE grade 1-3. Some vocational courses- like hairdressing or plumbing- might ask you to start at Level 1 as you have no prior knowledge in this subject.	These are courses that are equivalent to GCSE grades 4-9. You may be asked to complete a Level 2 qualification if the subject you are studying is new or if you didn't get enough GCSE passes at a level 4 or more.	The next level after GCSE. These qualifications are more challenging and build upon prior learning. Usually offered to students gaining 5 or more grade 5's and above.

#theTNHAWay

What can you study?

A levels

- **Description:** Study a subject you took at GCSE in greater depth or choose a new one like economics, law or psychology. You could take 3 broad subjects you are interested in to keep your career options open or choose ones you need for a specific career.
- **Duration:** 2 years
- **Assessment:** Mostly exams at the end of the course
- **Level of study:** 3
- **Entry requirements:** Course dependent, typically 5 GCSEs Grade 9-4 (usually including English and maths)
- **Work experience:** Usually 1 week during year 12
- **Leads to:** University/college, higher and degree apprenticeships, work
- **Find out more:** UCAS Information about A levels

Technical and vocational qualifications

- **Description:** Qualifications which teach you how to do tasks specifically related to the industry and role you want to be involved in, mixed with knowledge and theory.
- **Duration:** Depends on the level you take
- **Assessment:** Can include coursework, skills tests and exams
- **Level of study:** 1+
- **Entry requirements:** Course dependent
- **Work experience:** Course dependent
- **Leads to:** Apprenticeship, work, college (If Level 1 or 2 courses) or **university**
- **Find out more:** Speak to your local provider or talk to an adviser



Determined to be the best we can be...

#theTNHAWay

It is important to note that some post-16 providers will allow you to take a mixture of Level 3 Vocational and A Level courses. Please check with your providers of choice.

Combine work and study-

- Improve your skills, get work experience and gain the qualifications that employers need.

Apprenticeships-

- **Description:** All levels of apprenticeships combine practical on-the-job skills training with off-the-job learning. You'll get training that is relevant to your job and be paid a salary. Start at a level to suit you, with support if you have special needs or a disability.
- **Location:** You'll spend 80% of your time in the workplace and 20% off-the-job with some study in a college, training centre or Institute of Technology (IoT)
- **Duration:** A minimum of 1 year
- **Entry requirements:** Will be dependent on the industry, job role and apprenticeship level
- **Leads to:** Work, next level of apprenticeship, further education, higher education – can lead onto a degree level of apprenticeship
- **Find out more:** Gov.uk information about Apprenticeships



Determined to be the best we can be...

Level	Qualification / educational routes				
8	Doctorate (PhD)		NVQ 8		
7	Masters degree (MA)		Degree apprenticeship / NVQ 5, 6, 7		
6	Bachelors degree BA or BSc				
5	Foundation degree FdA or FdSc	Higher National Diploma (HND)			
4			Higher National Certificate (HNC)	Higher apprenticeship / NVQ 4	
3	A levels Grades A-E	International Baccalaureate	T Levels	BTEC (extended) diploma BTEC certificate	Advanced apprenticeship / NVQ 3
2	GCSE Grades 4- 9 (C, B, A or A*)		BTEC first diploma		Intermediate apprenticeship / NVQ 2
1	GCSE Grades 1- 3 (D, E, F or G)		Foundation diploma / entry level qualifications		Traineeship / NVQ 1
	Academic route		Vocational route		Applied / work route

Determined to be the best we can be...

#theTNHAWay

But what should you study?!?

- If you're interested in a certain career, but to get there you need to take subjects that you don't like, think about it carefully! Why not start with the subjects you really enjoy, and take it from there?
- Whatever you decide, remember: this is your life! 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?
- Also think about how you enjoy learning new things: is it in a classroom, passing exams and writing essays? Or is it doing more practical activities?
- And don't forget to talk to teachers and career advisors – they have lots of knowledge and wisdom to share!
- Use websites to help you work out what kind of sector you would like to work in or jobs that interest you – suggestions on the handout.



At TNHA we use a website called 'Help You Choose' to complete all post 16 applications.

- Students will be given logins during their Tutor time.
- Tutors are available to help with this process.

Chat live with our advisers Tue, Wed & Thu 1-3pm



Apply Now

Welcome to Help You Choose

The information, advice and careers guidance website for young people in Norfolk

I'm in Year 8/9

I'm in Year 10

I'm in Year 11

I'm aged 16-19

View All



Chat live with us



What are your choices after Year 11?

You can choose to:-

- Study full-time at [sixth form or college or with another provider](#) (further education)
- Start an [apprenticeship or traineeship](#)
- Work or [volunteer](#) full-time with part-time study or training

Don't forget that whatever choice you make you must stay in education or training until you are 18.



[Money](#)

[Health & Wellbeing](#)

[Summer Transition 2021](#)

[Help, Information & Advice](#)

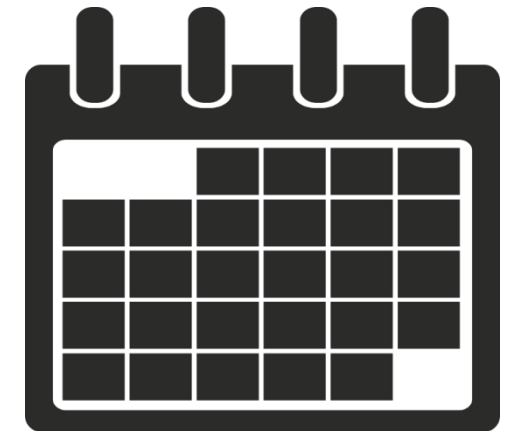
More within Choices at 16



Chat live with us

Things to do in the Autumn Term-

- Use Help You Choose to **research your options** and **search for courses**
- Find out about careers that interest you and check entry requirements
- Contact colleges, sixth forms and training providers for information including a copy of their prospectus of post-16 courses
- Talk to your teachers about your plans and for help in deciding what to do
- Go to **open days/evenings** at colleges, sixth forms and at other providers that you are interested in
- From 1st October apply online for **full-time courses** using Help You Choose.
- Make sure you have **applied by December 17th 2021.**
- If you're looking for an apprenticeship in Norfolk, go to **My Account** and sign up for Apprenticeship Matching on Help You Choose
- Register with the **find an apprenticeship service** if you're looking for an apprenticeship or traineeship (Apprenticeship applications happen from January onwards)
- Contact Armed Forces careers offices if you want to join the Army, Navy, Air Force or Marines
- Make sure that you have a two year plan for your 16-18 education and/or training.



Determined to be the best we can be...

#theTNHAWay



What do we do to support Po 16 choices at TNHA in Y11?



- Help with applications with Help You Choose or through College Websites.
- Provide sessions on Personal statement writing and CV writing. Covid allowed, also interview practice.
- All Y11 students will have an interview with our Independent Careers advisor and have personal plans drawn up with them.
- Provide drop-in lunchtime sessions with the career advisor on different work sectors
- Provide a careers fair at TNHA (4th November).
- Invite in different Colleges to speak in assemblies to talk about their College and what they have to offer.
- Each Year group has a bespoke tutor time session a week devoted to the needs of that age group for careers.
- Invite in 'experts' to talk with students about (for example) apprenticeships or a particular industry
- Covid allowed, take them on a visit to a University.
- Work with NEACO to provide bespoke workshops regarding next steps, including to university

Determined to be the best we can be...

#theTNHAWay

How can I best support my child?

This is often a frightening point of their lives. They are faced with making choices that can affect their futures. There are many things you can do to support.

- Talk to them about what interests them, their hobbies and their skill set. This will help to narrow their focus.
- Encourage them to visit websites (provided on the guide) to help them look up what careers might suit them. Investigate what those careers are and what it can lead to in terms of progression and pay.
- Ask them if they have applied to any colleges, apprenticeships etc and encourage them to do so.
- Take them to the Open Evenings of the Colleges so they can see if they like that College and so it is less frightening when they come to start in September.
- Encourage them to take short courses in subjects that interest them as this looks good on all applications (please see guide for suggestions).
- Encourage them to go on virtual work experiences in the holidays (please see guide for suggestions).
- Encourage them to look on websites such as You Tube, where short clips of talks from different sectors can be found, to help them understand what the different sectors look like and their expectations.
- Ask us if you have any questions or let us know if you have any concerns.

