



Y10 going into Y11 & Careers



Year 11 sees the start of the students applying for the courses they wish to take after their GCSEs. We ask that all applications for 6th form or Colleges are made before Christmas on a platform called Help You Choose. We also ask that every student makes such an application, even if they want an apprenticeship. This is because National trends are showing employers are more likely to take apprenticeships when students are 18 years old, so an apprenticeship is not guaranteed. For those wanting an apprenticeship, we begin work to find a placement after Christmas.

Students in Year 10 have begun to see Belinda (our independent Career advisor) already and this will continue until after Christmas of Year 11.

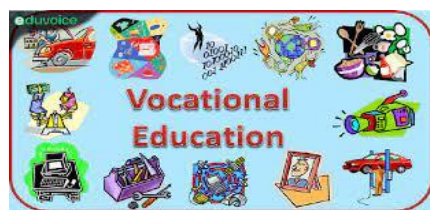
It is imperative, however, that by the time students return for the start of Year 11 they have a rough idea of the subjects they want to study post-16. If they know the career they want to follow, then they need to do research around the subjects and pathways they can take to get into that career. If they are not sure of a career as of yet, they need to consider the subjects they would like to study after GCSEs.

All students need to legally continue in education or training until they are 18, but there are many options after GCSEs.

Full-time education



A Levels: Lots of people choose to do A levels, especially if they're planning on going to university. A levels are a Level 3 qualification (GCSEs are a Level 2) that take two years to complete. You can choose to study the subjects you most enjoy, and, if you already have a career in mind, you'll want to choose ones that'll help you get a job in that industry. For example, if you want to work in medicine, then you'll need to study subjects like biology, chemistry and either maths or physics. A levels are academic in their content.



Vocational Qualifications: These include BTECs, NVQs, TechBacs and OCR Cambridge. Just like A levels, these are Level 3 qualifications and can be used to further your education or career. The difference to A levels is that they offer a combination of hands-on practical learning with studying and technical skills. Also, whereas A levels are exam-based, vocational qualifications have ongoing assessments, which lots of people prefer. You can also use these qualifications to go into further education, training, employment or university.

Cont...

Cont...

-2-

Part-time studying



T levels: These two-year courses, which are available at selected colleges and other providers, are equivalent to taking three A Levels. You'll do practical and knowledge-based learning at a school or college, alongside getting on-the-job experience from spending around 315 hours doing an industry placement.



Apprenticeship: An apprenticeship is a paid position within an organisation or company, and it usually lasts between one and three years. During an apprenticeship you'll be able to work towards a qualification while also learning on the job and gaining the knowledge and skills you need to progress into further education or build your career. From the beauty and construction

industries to web technology and engineering, there are thousands of different apprenticeships out there.

There are many important aspects to consider when deciding on next steps. Most importantly are the student's interests. It goes without saying a student will be successful if they enjoy the subject(s) they go on to study. Another is if they have an idea of career they want to follow, then they are taking the right subjects for this path. A further one is the grades they are achieving. This is vital for applying for the right Level course. The courses above are all Level 3, but if their GCSE grades are not Grade 4 or above (higher for some of the above), then they will need to apply for Level 2 courses. In some instances, students will need to apply for Level 2 courses if they are applying for a course that is in a discipline they have not had any experience in as of yet, such as hairdressing, plumbing, electrician etc.

Over the Summer holidays you can help your child prepare for making these decisions by looking at websites, such as those below:

1. The National Careers Service website will help you research careers: [Careers advice - job profiles, information and resources | National Careers Service](#) **I suggest you research careers and start a list of possibilities. Start this as soon as possible.**
2. If you would like to look at courses available to you in Norfolk when you leave Year 11 you can also go to Help You Choose. It has lots of other information too: <https://helpyouchoose.org> **You will apply between October and December of this year, so you owe it to yourself to know which courses you would like to apply for by then.**
3. <https://icould.com/> is where you can view videos of people who are in different professions. **Use this site if you want to listen rather than read.**
4. You can search via your subjects on this website: <https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/> **This will help with your list of career ideas as well as build up your profile for the future. Do this as soon as possible.**

In September the Colleges have many Open Days and Evenings, which would be good to take them to if possible. A list of these will be sent out to you during September when the Colleges and Sixth Forms have released their dates.

Cont...

-3-

Work Experience

A reminder that Work Experience takes place for Year 10s from 13th – 17th May and all forms must be returned for it by the absolute latest of 18th March.

PSHE/LOOL:

In Year 10 and Y11 students still continue to have LOOL lessons, but this is now reduced to once a fortnight and once a week in tutor times.

Please see the attached guidance as to the topics they cover across tutor times and LOOL lessons.

It is imperative that students still continue to learn and discuss about topics appropriate to their age range and stage of development, so as always, we continue to build on previous learning and teach age relevant content to help them make sensible choices as they develop.

They will also still take part in Curriculum Days. Curriculum Days have always been a blend of career and PSHE based topics. Throughout Year 10 and 11 we will continue this, but begin to introduce elements that will help them to be successful at their GCSEs, such as sessions around mental health and coping with exams and visits from professionals on the tricks behind preparing and taking an exam and Amazing Apprenticeships.

For all careers and PSHE, we welcome feedback from you as parents and carers. If you would like to make any comments, please contact Kate.Warnes@attrust.org.uk