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# **MET** **Post 18 Decisions** *Information Evening for* *Parents and Guardians*

With  
Anna Finlason  
Trust Careers Adviser





- Increase knowledge of post 18 options.
- Understand Labour market information & planning & managing your career
- Discover resources to search for options and opportunities
- Explore tools to support next steps – e.g. UNIFROG
- Consider how decisions are made / practical steps to take



**When** do Year 13 students need to start **applying** for University, college, gap years & apprenticeships to start after Year 13?



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**Starting Autumn Term  
of  
Year 13!  
(Sept/Oct 2024!)**



**When** do Year 13 students need to start **preparing** for what they are going to do after Year 13?



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**Now! 😊**  
**It's never too early  
to start...**



# The benefits of preparation...



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- ✓ **Time** to do **important research & explore options**
- ✓ Increased **confidence** (for students, parents and guardians!)
- ✓ Ability to make an ***informed decision***
- ✓ Fewer surprises + avoids disappointment (e.g. missed deadlines)
- ✓ **Ready** for exciting unplanned opportunities! (e.g. apprenticeship opportunities, etc.)
- ✓ **Less panic!**



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**Vs.**



PRACTICALLY  
FUNCTIONAL

**“Where on earth do I start?”**

# Planning



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# Career planning and management: A cycle



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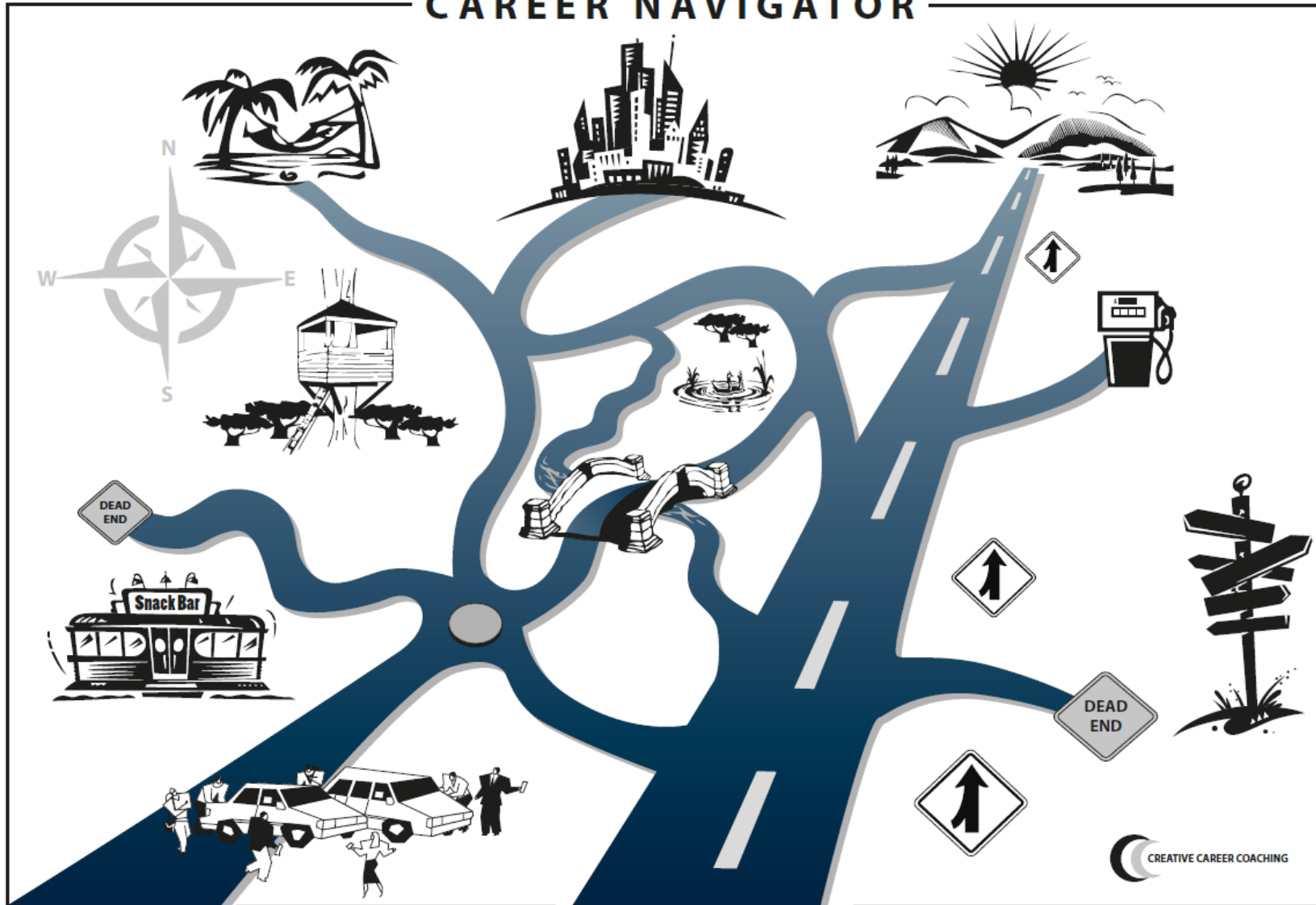
Self-awareness, self-determination, self-improvement

# My career as a journey



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## CAREER NAVIGATOR



Traditionally, a person's career was seen more as a ladder to climb. In recent years – this has been changing. Instead our careers are increasingly viewed as a journey with exciting twists and turns, decisions to be made, qualifications, training and experience to gain and variety! So, a journey – rather than a destination

What is the best way to prepare for a journey?

**Be prepared for planned and unplanned opportunities!**



## Computer games tester

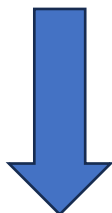
### UK Current Jobs

#### Information technology and telecommunications professionals (SOC3)

UK jobs: 576,148

Hackney jobs: 3,331 (65th of 214 UK LEAs)

Top 5 LEAs: Hampshire (22,820), Surrey (22,776), Hertfordshire (18,730), Essex (13,256), Kent (11,695)



### UK Prospects

#### Science, research, engineering and technology professionals (SOC2)

UK growth: +9.1% from 2017 to 2027, creating 159,466 jobs

London growth: +11.2% from 2017 to 2027, creating 36,165 jobs

### UK Salary

#### Programmers and software development professionals (SOC4)

UK annual median: £44,055

#### Information technology and telecommunications professionals (SOC3)

London annual median: £54,184

Top 3 regions: London (£54,184), South East (£46,988), East of England (£45,805)

### What is SOC?

Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) codes are the UK government's official method of sorting jobs into categories.

SOC4 sorts all jobs into 370 different categories, SOC3 has 90 categories, and SOC2 has 25.

Here's an example of how it works. The Unifrog careers profile 'Classical musician' goes into the SOC4 category 'Musicians', which goes into the SOC3 category 'Artistic, literary and media occupations', which in turn goes into the SOC2 category 'Culture, Media and Sports occupations'.

Each career profile will give you access to Labour Market Information.

See the screenshot for 'Computer games tester' from Unifrog.

This information can support students in making decisions around jobs

# Education Levels



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# The UK National Qualifications Framework:

In the UK – when we achieve qualifications we pass various levels. Passing one level enables you to work towards the next. Sometimes we can finish one level and jump higher – e.g. Level 3 (A-Levels/T-Level/BTEC) followed by Level 6 or 7 (Bachelors Degree / Masters Degree).

Section 3: The UK National Qualification Framework				
	ACADEMIC	VOCATIONAL		APPRENTICESHIP
Level 8	Doctorate (PhD, DPhil)	Award, Certificate, Diploma		
Level 7	<u>Masters Degree</u> (MSc, MA, Meng)	Award, Certificate, Diploma, NVQ PGCE (Postgraduate Certificate in Education – Teaching)		<u>Masters Degree Apprenticeship</u>
Level 6	<u>Bachelors Degree</u> (BSc, BA, BEng)	Graduate Certificate and Diploma, NVQ		Degree Apprenticeship
Level 5		Foundation Degree (EdA, EdSc)	Higher National Diploma (BTEC HND), NVQ	Higher Apprenticeship
Level 4			Higher National Certificate (BTEC HNC), NVQ	
Level 3	A-Levels	BTEC Extended Diploma (= 3 A-Levels) OR T-Level	BTEC Diploma (= 2 A-Levels)	Advanced Apprenticeship
			BTEC Extended Certificate (= 1 A-Level)	
Level 2	GCSE Grades 4-9	BTEC <u>Level 2, NVQ (National Vocational Qualification)</u>		Intermediate Apprenticeship or Traineeship
Level 1	GCSE Grades 1-3	Level 1 Award, Certificate, Diploma + Level 1 in ESOL, Essential Skills, Functional Skills, NVQ, and Music (grades 1-3)		Traineeship
Entry Level		Entry Level Award, Certificate (ELC), Diploma + Entry Level in ESOL, (English for Speakers of Other Languages), Essential Skills Functional Skills, and Skills for Life		Traineeship



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**Year 12 students:**  
Are currently working toward Level 3 qualifications .



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[Home](#) > [Education and learning](#) > [Apprenticeships, 14 to 19 education and training for work](#)

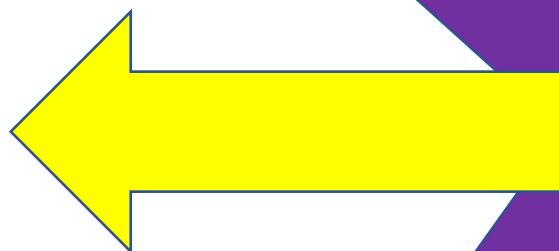
## What qualification levels mean

Contents

- [Overview](#)
- [England, Wales and Northern Ireland](#)
- [Other countries](#)

### England, Wales and Northern Ireland

There are 9 qualification levels.



### Related content

- [Further education courses and funding](#)
- [Higher education courses: find and apply](#)

<https://www.gov.uk/what-different-qualification-levels-mean/list-of-qualification-levels>





**University  
(UK or  
overseas)**

**Apprenticeship  
Levels 2-7**

**Gap Year**

**Local F.E.  
College**

**Employment**

**Travel / Work /  
volunteer  
overseas**

**Self -  
employment**

**Work /  
volunteer (UK)**

**Combination  
(including MOOCs +  
Work Experience)**



# Exploring the Main post 18 options:

1) Higher Education -  
University / F.E. college



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There is a very wide range of universities offering a very wide range of courses!

There are over **50,000 undergraduate courses** at more than **395 providers** in the **UK (UCAS)**+ **166 universities**

How can students choose the **right university** and the **right course** for them??



# University: Things to consider...

- ❖ Type, size, age and personality
- ❖ Distance and Surroundings - campus, city, sprawling, etc.
- ❖ Courses - specialist, traditional subjects/vocational
- ❖ Entry requirements
- ❖ If I studied this subject what could I do next?

[www.unifrog.org](http://www.unifrog.org) - Subjects tool.

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree>

<https://www.ucas.com/explore/subjects>

- ❖ What degree subjects require at A-level / Level 3?

[https://sacu-student.com/?page\\_id=5203](https://sacu-student.com/?page_id=5203) (A-level matching tool)

<https://www.informedchoices.ac.uk/>

- ❖ Fine tune your search via [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com) - ucas points, course location, favourite courses
- ❖ Drill down into favourite courses - modules, employer partners, year abroad, student career destinations

<https://discoveruni.gov.uk/>

- ❖ Use websites which show statistics / rankings

<https://www.theguardian.com/education/ng-interactive/2021/sep/11/the-best-uk-universities-2022-rankings>

- ❖ Visit - virtually and physically (favourites) - [www.unifrog.org](http://www.unifrog.org) and [www.opendays.com](http://www.opendays.com)
- ❖ Find one that's right for you





## 1. What careers are degrees useful for?

Ask yourself “If I studied this subject at university what could I do next?” Prospects website has a list of 100+ popular degree subjects with information about what careers graduates go into, the skills gained through this study and the employers you could work for. <https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree>

## 2. What is available at university?

There are helpful subject overviews on the UCAS and Unifrog websites which include typical graduate destinations, possible courses at university and tips for your personal statement <https://www.ucas.com/ucas/subject-guide-list> and [www.Unifrog.org](http://www.Unifrog.org) (see ‘Subjects’ tool) + <https://www.theguardian.com/education/ng-interactive/2022/sep/24/the-guardian-university-guide-2023-the-rankings>

## 3. Which degree subjects ask for your A-Levels/BTEC subjects?

Match your A-Levels to degree subjects by creating a degree cloud <https://sacu-student.com/>



**Try not to put 100% emphasis on reputation for your university choices. Some newer universities or those with lower grade entries may be the best place to study specific subjects/have great outcomes...**



Find out about teaching standards at universities through student feedback (league tables and via the university website + TEF (Teaching Excellence Framework *\*although not all universities participate / update:*

[Teaching Excellence Framework \(TEF\) – what you need to know \(ucas.com\).](https://ucas.com/teaching-excellence-framework-what-you-need-to-know)



# What does UCAS stand for?



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**U**

**niversity**

**&**

**C**

**olleges**

**A**

**dmissions**

**S**

**ervice**



# Applying for university through UCAS



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UCAS

Discover Undergraduate Postgraduate Money & student life Apprenticeships Careers Sign in

## CHOOSE YOUR FUTURE

All results Courses Uni & colleges Apprenticeships Advice Events Subject tasters

Search for courses, uni & colleges and information

**Discovery exhibitions 2024**  
Meet over 100 unis, colleges and apprenticeship employers face-to-face.

Advertisement. Why the ads?

Advertisement. Why the ads?

**MET CAREERS**

www.ucas.com



**When to apply**  
Which deadline applies to you, and what you need to do by then.

**Writing your personal statement**  
Here's find everything you need to know about writing your personal statement.

**Filling in your application**  
A step-by-step guide to completing UCAS Undergraduate application.

**How to get a reference**  
How to choose and request a reference for your UCAS Undergraduate application.

**Create your UCAS Hub**  
Explore your options, favourite your interests and get tailored advice in the UCAS Hub. Sign up to get started.

**How to apply through UCAS Conservatoires**  
A step-by-step guide to completing your application.

**Criminal convictions**  
Depending on the course you want to study, you may have to disclose your criminal record on your UCAS application. Here's everything you need to know.

**Unsure about a course, provider, or student life?**  
Talk to students who are already studying... they know the provider, the courses, the accommodation, and what the the city or town has to offer.

# Using Unifrog to learn more about UCAS



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## What happens after submitting your UCAS application?

The logistics explained

[Read the guide >](#)



## UCAS timeline: Key dates

What you need to do and when

[Read the guide >](#)



## How to fill in the UK UCAS form: a step-by-step guide

Advice on filling in the UCAS form

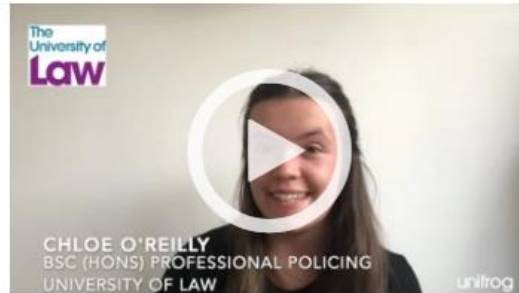
[Read the guide >](#)



## How to write your Personal Statement like a boss

Ace the UK Personal Statement

[Read the guide >](#)



## Results day and Clearing: what is Clearing and how does it work?

The University of Law give us a short rundown of Clearing and Extra to get you started

[Read the guide >](#)



## What to do when your UK university offers arrive

Find out what the different offer terms mean and what to do in each case

[Read the guide >](#)

**Know-how library**

✓ Guides favoured

[Go to tool >](#)

Keywords: ucas

Watch, favourite or read more...

Filter  [>](#)





Searching for opportunities

**UK universities** (12 shortlists)

Start >

**US universities** (0 shortlists)

Start >

**European universities** (1 shortlist)

Start >

**Oxbridge** (0 shortlists)

Start >

**Apprenticeships** (23 shortlists)

Start >

**College / Sixth Form** (5 shortlists)

Start >

**Canadian universities** (0 shortlists)

Start >

**Asian universities** (0 shortlists)

Start >

**Australasian unis** (0 shortlists)

Start >

**ME and African unis** (0 shortlists)

Start >

**Irish universities** (0 shortlists)

Start >

**Special opportunities** (0 shortlists)

Start >

**Events** (0 upcoming events)

Go to tool >





[Student finance for undergraduates: Overview - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

A screenshot of the GOV.UK website. At the top left is the GOV.UK logo. To its right are navigation links for 'Topics' and 'Government activity', and a search icon. Below the navigation is a grey box containing the text 'Part of' followed by a link to 'Get undergraduate student finance: step by step'. The main heading of the page is 'Student finance for undergraduates'. On the right side of the page, there is a circular logo for 'MET CAREERS' with a stylized arrow graphic.

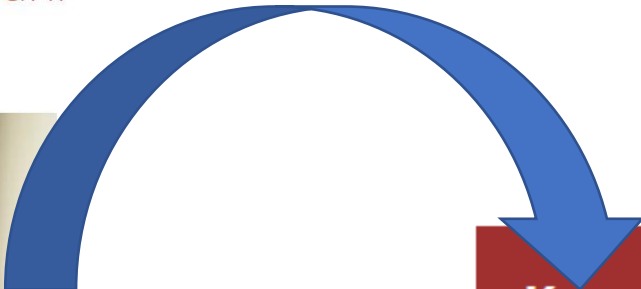
- **Maximum amount** a university can charge for **tuition fees per year = £9,250**
- **From 2023** – amount you pay back to the government = **9% of your income over £25,000.00**
- **Some finance** = non-repayable
- Any **outstanding payments written off after 40 years**
- Explore **bursaries and scholarships** – see [www.Unifrog.org](http://www.Unifrog.org)



## UK Finance: Scholarships and bursaries for uni

The different types and how to get them

[Share](#) [♥](#) [Back](#)



## UK Finance: Accessing support for financial hardship



### Know-how library

✓ Guides favoured

[Go to tool >](#)

Type 'scholarships' and 'finance' in the search bar



# Some pros and cons of university



Pros	Cons
You gain a degree which may help you progress your career	May not gain work experience *could do industry year/internship instead
Taught by academics / industry experts	Fewer opportunities to gain employability skills?
Meet new people and friends	Finance – significant loan repayment
There is a lot of reading to do!	There is a lot of reading to do!
Independence / learn how to look after yourself	Finance – living off small amount
Can join clubs and societies	Joining workforce 3 or more years later
Potential for employment afterwards	Exams and coursework





**UCAS**

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# Parents Information Evening APPLYING FOR ENTRY IN 2025

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June  
7.00pm - Dining Room 2



## 1. Study a Level 4/5 course at university, or at a local college:

- Local examples include: Animal Behaviour/Science, Business, Construction, Counselling, Computing, Education, Engineering, Sport, Wildlife and countryside, zoo management, etc.
- Sometimes apply direct to college and sometimes through UCAS – check with college.
- Can often 'top up' to degree by spending a year or two at university/college later.

## 2. \*Study a foundation year – useful if you do not yet have the subjects or grades for your dream course

*\*universities have varying guidelines regarding what/who qualifies\**

## 3. You can study part time or distance learning – search on UCAS, look at Open University. Spread the cost – but a much longer commitment (often 6 years). MOOCs (free online university study) such as Future Learn + via [www.unifrog.org](http://www.unifrog.org)





**BETA** This is a new service – your [feedback](#) will help us to improve it.

[Home](#) > [Find training and employment schemes](#) > [Higher Technical Qualifications \(HTQs\)](#)

# Higher Technical Qualifications (HTQs)

Higher Technical Qualifications (HTQs) are level 4 and level 5 qualifications, such as Foundation Degrees, Higher National Certificates and Higher National Diplomas. They are an option for young people starting their career and for adults looking to upskill or retrain.

HTQs have been approved against employer developed standards, also known as occupational standards. This ensures that learners gain the skills that employers want, and employers can be confident that learners have the knowledge, skills and behaviours for a particular specialist role.

The qualifications last between 1 and 2 years full-time, with part-time and distance learning options available.

HTQs are available across the digital sector, health and science, and construction.

To become an HTQ and display the HTQ quality mark, qualifications must be approved against occupational standards. The Quality Mark was introduced because of the growing demand for skills at these levels.

## Not a business?

[Get career ideas and browse your training options](#)



# Local college

- ✓ Part-time vocational course - Hairdressing to HR, Electrical Installation to Accounting or Law
  - \*some courses have age / experience requirements (e.g. counselling)
- ✓ HNC / HND / Foundation Degree / Degree
- ✓ Check entry requirements + fees
- ✓ Consider finance - bursaries, working part-time/
  - \*full-time
  - \*dependent on course/qualification



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# A list of local F.E. colleges



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F.E. college	Website
BCA, Maidenhead	<a href="#">Vocational, Technical, &amp; Higher Education   BCA</a>
BCoT (Basingstoke College of Technology)	<a href="#">Basingstoke College of Technology (bcot.ac.uk)</a>
Bracknell & Wokingham (Activate Learning)	<a href="#">Bracknell and Wokingham College (activatelearning.ac.uk)</a>
City of Oxford (Activate Learning)	<a href="#">City of Oxford College (activatelearning.ac.uk)</a>
Farnborough College of Technology	<a href="#">Farnborough College of Technology   Ofsted Outstanding - Farnborough College of Technology (farn-ct.ac.uk)</a>
Farnborough Sixth Form College	<a href="#">The Sixth Form College Farnborough</a>
Henley College	<a href="#">Home   The Henley College Oxfordshire</a>
Langley College (near Slough)	<a href="#">Vocational, Technical, &amp; Higher Education   Langley College</a>



Click on the college website links at home to find out more

# A list of local F.E. colleges



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F.E. college	Website
Queen Mary's College, Basingstoke	<a href="http://qmc.ac.uk">Build your future at Queen Mary's Sixth Form College. - Queen Mary's College (qmc.ac.uk)</a>
Reading College (Activate Learning)	<a href="http://activatelearning.ac.uk">Reading College (activatelearning.ac.uk)</a>
Sparsholt College (near Winchester)	<a href="http://www.sparsholt.ac.uk">Welcome to Sparsholt College and University Centre - Sparsholt College Hampshire</a>
Strodes College	<a href="http://strodes-windsor.ac.uk">Sixth Form College &amp; Courses   Strode's College and Windsor College (strodes-windsor.ac.uk)</a>
Uxbridge College (towards London)	<a href="http://www.uxbridge.ac.uk">Uxbridge College   Further Education, Higher Education &amp; Apprenticeships - Uxbridge College   Top London College</a>
UTC, Reading	<a href="http://www.utc.ac.uk">UTC Reading  </a>
Windsor College	<a href="http://windsor-forest.ac.uk">Homepage - Windsor Forest College (windsor-forest.ac.uk)</a>



Click on the college website links at home to find out more

# Exploring the Main post 18 options:

## 2) Apprenticeship



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**Accounting and finance**



**Creative**



**Nursing**



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**Hairdressing**



**Journalism**



**Horticulture**



**....and  
many  
more!**

There are currently over 500 apprenticeship standards covering a wide range of industry sectors...

Fact: The Armed Forces are currently the provider offering the highest number of apprenticeship options and opportunities!

**Construction**



**IT / Cyber Security**



**Legal services**



**Architecture**



**Dental Nursing**



**Business / HR**



Choices and opportunities – ambitions and back-up plans:



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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tDnb9wWhPqE>

**\*\*\*N.B. There are apprenticeships in engineering\*\*\***



## Apprenticeships...

- ✓ A real job
- ✓ Last minimum of 12 months and up to 6 years
- ✓ (Traineeships can last up to 12 months, but usually up to 6 months)
- ✓ Range from level 2 to level 7
- ✓ Are at Intermediate (2/GCSE), Advanced (3/A-level), Higher (4-5) and Degree (6&7) Level

## Apprentices...

- ✓ Do not pay for their training
- ✓ Receive 20% off-the-job learning (college, university, in-house, external training provider)
- ✓ Spend 80% of their time on-the-job
- ✓ Earn a salary – current minimum pay = £4.81 per hour
- ✓ Gain invaluable experience and skills



# Consider...

- ✓ Area/s of interest + Check levels(2-7)
- ✓ Check entry requirements
- ✓ Search, search, search! (start looking now)
- ✓ Research, research, research!
- ✓ Apply (esp. Degree/ Higher) - from Autumn 2023
- ✓ Consider skills
- ✓ References - who?
- ✓ Prepare for assessments / interviews - various hoops?  
(application, assessment, interview (phone),  
virtual/face to face interview, references, checks)



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# Apprenticeship Standards

<https://www.instituteforapprenticeships.org/apprenticeship-standards/>



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Qualifications search

Apprenticeship search

About

Occupational maps

Ensuring quality

Qualifications

Apprenticeships

Have your say

Home > Apprenticeship search

Subscribe to our RSS feed

## Search the Apprenticeships

### Filter the results

### Keywords

### Route(s)

- Agriculture, environmental and animal care
- Business and administration
- Care services
- Catering and hospitality
- Construction and the built environment
- Creative and design
- Digital
- Education and early years
- Engineering and manufacturing



### Sort:

Alphabetically

By Date



Showing 868 standards

Download

The off-the-job training requirements for full time apprentices who start on or after 1 August 2022 have changed and are detailed as part of the [apprenticeship funding rules](#). The wording in the updated rules supersedes the wording in the EPA plans of individual apprenticeships published prior to this change. The English and maths requirements have also changed for all level 2 apprentices, regardless of their start date. Please see the current apprenticeship funding rules for details.

### Aircraft maintenance technician

ST1315  
Version: 1.0

Approved for delivery from 31 May 2024

Level 3

36 months

Max funding: £27,000

To maintain and certify aircraft.

### Scenic automation technician

ST0915  
Version: 1.0

Approved for delivery from 14 May 2024

Level 3

24 months

Max funding: £17,000

Assemble and repair automated equipment.



# Apprenticeship Standards



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## Route(s)



- Agriculture, environmental and animal care
- Business and administration
- Care services
- Catering and hospitality
- Construction
- Creative and design
- Digital
- Education and childcare
- Engineering and manufacturing
- Hair and beauty
- Health and science
- Legal, finance and accounting
- Protective services
- Sales, marketing and procurement
- Transport and logistics

## Status

- Standards approved for delivery
- Standards in development
- Proposals in development
- Potential standards
- Withdrawn standards
- Retired standards

## Apprenticeship Level

- Level 2
- Level 3
- Level 4
- Level 5
- Level 6
- Level 7



# Apprenticeship Standards



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## JOURNALIST

### Overview of the role

Creating news items using a combination of words, pictures and moving images.

### Details of standard

#### Occupation summary

This occupation is found in media businesses such as TV, radio, online, social media and print (newspapers, digital publishing and magazines), public relations and communications.

The broad purpose of the occupation is to inform the public- either through news and current events, or through the creation of authoritative features, opinion or analysis.

In their daily work, an employee in this occupation interacts with colleagues within the same organisation, representatives of other businesses/organisations and members of the general public.

An employee in this occupation will be responsible for finding, researching and creating journalistic content tailored to brand needs and target audience in a deadline driven environment. The content can include: news, features, reviews, documentaries, covering live events, researching data, shooting, recording and editing video, recording and editing audio interviews and creating podcasts.

The content could be used to inform or entertain on TV, radio, online, social media or in print. This could be across multiple genres; from crime to politics, to technology to sport to fashion. A journalist will source material, speak to contacts, conduct interviews and produce content as required in a timely way.

They will talk directly and engage with the audience in what can be unpredictable and testing circumstances.

**Status:** Approved for delivery

**Level:** 5

**Reference:** ST1324

**Version:** 1.0

**Date updated:** 13/12/2021

**Approved for delivery:** 13 December 2021

**Route:** Creative and design

**Typical duration to gateway:** 14 months (this does not include EPA period)

**Maximum funding:** £13000

**Trailblazer contact (for apprenticeship standard content and trailblazer membership queries only):**

[lyn.jones@nctj.com](mailto:lyn.jones@nctj.com)

**Employers involved in creating the standard:**

Newsquest, Sky Sports News, Archant, BBC, City of Wolverhampton College, dmg media, Future Plc, Guardian News & Media, Iliffe, JPIMedia, London Evening Standard & Independent, Mark Allen Publishing, MNA Media, Reach Plc, Sky News, talkSPORT, The Telegraph, NCTJ

**LARS Code:** 670

**EQA Provider:** [Ofqual](#)



# Apprenticeship Levels



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Traineeship



Level 1

- \*Help with getting work – e.g. writing a CV and finding a job
- \*Work placement of 70 hours or more
- \*Help with the skills required for an apprenticeship or job in area you want to work in
- \* Job interview or feedback from an employer
- \*Help with English, maths and basic digital skills (if required) \*Age 16-24
- \*6 weeks – 1 year (usually up to 6 months)

Intermediate  
Level 2



GCSE

Advanced  
Level 3



A-Level

Higher  
Level 4 and 5



Level 4 – HNC  
Level 5 – HND, Foundation Degree

Degree  
Level 6 and 7



Level 6 – Bachelors Degree  
Level 7 – Masters Degree



**Potential opportunity to progress onto next level of apprenticeship, possibly including university**  
dependent on apprenticeship standard, qualifications, subject area/job type, and grades





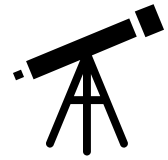
## UK National Qualifications Framework



	Academic	Vocational		Apprenticeship
<b>Level 6</b>	<b>Bachelors Degree (BA, BSc, Beng)</b> Year 3/4	<b>Graduate Certificate and Diploma, NVQ</b>		<b>Degree apprenticeship</b>
<b>Level 5</b>	Year 1 	Foundation Degree (FdA, FdSc, etc.) Year 2	Higher National Diploma (BTEC), NVQ	<b>Higher apprenticeship</b>
<b>Level 4</b>	Year 2 	Year 1	Higher National Certificate (BTEC), NVQ	<b>Higher apprenticeship</b>



# Where to find apprenticeships...







**Not just one place!** But Unifrog is a good place to start



Company websites – careers section / google

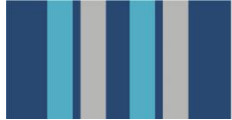


Regular posts of opportunities on Google Classroom

- ✓ [www.unifrog.org](http://www.unifrog.org)
- ✓ <https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/>
- ✓ <https://www.ratemyapprenticeship.co.uk/search>
- ✓ <https://amazingapprenticeships.com/vacancies/>
- ✓ <https://www.berkshireopportunities.co.uk/find-my-job/> (type apprenticeship in search box)
- ✓ [www.indeed.co.uk](http://www.indeed.co.uk) ; [www.reed.co.uk](http://www.reed.co.uk) ; [www.monster.co.uk](http://www.monster.co.uk)
- ✓ Local providers – e.g. <http://www.chilterntraining.co.uk/>
- ✓ <https://careerfinder.ucas.com/jobs/apprenticeship/>
- ✓ <https://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk/>
- ✓ Social media – e.g. Twitter  Facebook  Instagram  LinkedIn 



# Searching for apprenticeships



Searching for opportunities

The 'Apprenticeships tool'



**UK universities** (25 shortlists)  
[Start >](#)

**US universities** (0 shortlists)  
[Start >](#)

**European universities** (1 shortlist)  
[Start >](#)

**Apprenticeships** (47 shortlists)  
[Start >](#)

**College / Sixth Form** (5 shortlists)  
[Start >](#)

**Canadian universities** (0 shortlists)  
[Start >](#)

**Asian universities** (0 shortlists)  
[Start >](#)

**Australasian unis** (0 shortlists)  
[Start >](#)

**ME and African unis** (0 shortlists)  
[Start >](#)

**Irish universities** (0 shortlists)  
[Start >](#)

**Special opportunities** (1 shortlist)  
[Start >](#)

**Events** (0 upcoming events)  
[Go to tool >](#)





# Find an apprenticeship

Find an apprenticeship in England.

You can apply for apprenticeships in [Scotland](#), [Northern Ireland](#) and [Wales](#).

**Search** >

You can also:

- [sign in](#) to your account
- [create an account](#) to manage your applications and get alerts about new apprenticeships

## Contact

Apprenticeship service  
[nationalhelpdesk@findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk](mailto:nationalhelpdesk@findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk)  
Telephone: 0800 015 0400  
[Find out about call charges](#)

## Related content

[Become an apprentice](#)

[Find a traineeship](#)





# AMAZING EMPLOYERS

Click on the logos below to explore some of the apprenticeship opportunities available

## SORT EMPLOYERS

Employer Name



### Alphabetical

- A-Z
- Z-A

### Areas Of Interest

- Agriculture, environmental and animal care
- Business and administration





## Search Apprenticeships

Keywords

Within

All of Berkshire



Search

There are hundreds of different apprenticeships to choose from. Whether you're at the start of your career, want to change career direction, or you're returning to work after a break. Use the search above to find the apprenticeships you're interested in.

### Tips for using the apprenticeship search:

- Try several different keywords to get the best variety of results
- Search without entering a keyword if you wish to browse them all
- To search for an apprenticeship near you, select a distance in the 'within' box and then enter your postcode in the new box that will appear

You will be able to view your search results in a tile list or on the map. You will also be able to filter them by the earliest date you could start an apprenticeship, by employer and training provider.



## Apprenticeship jobs

Browse Search

Keywords

Keyword

Search

### Refine your search

▼ Specialism

- Administration 73
- Business / Management 127
- Catering 455
- Education & Training 138
- Engineering 341
- Finance 195
- Health & Social Care 86
- IT 185
- Other 302
- Sales / Customer Service 70
- More...

Get new jobs for this search by email

Create alert

### Found 2,095 jobs

#### Degree Apprentice - Technology (Level 6)

- Nationwide
- Competitive
- BAE Systems

As a degree apprentice you'll enjoy the best of both worlds. Over 4-5 years, you'll earn a full honours degree.

View details

3 days ago | Save

#### Degree Apprentice - Business (Level 6)

- Nationwide
- Competitive
- BAE Systems

Students will be able to apply for apprenticeships through UCAS... More info at tomorrow's event



**NHS** Login / Register

Working in health | Take our careers quiz | Explore roles | **Career planning** | We are the NHS | Contact us

Home > Career planning > Study and training > NHS apprenticeships

**NHS apprenticeships** (Open in a new window)

Apprenticeship real-life stories  
Real-life story- Niamh Malone  
NHS apprenticeships - see what you could do

University  
Graduate training opportunities

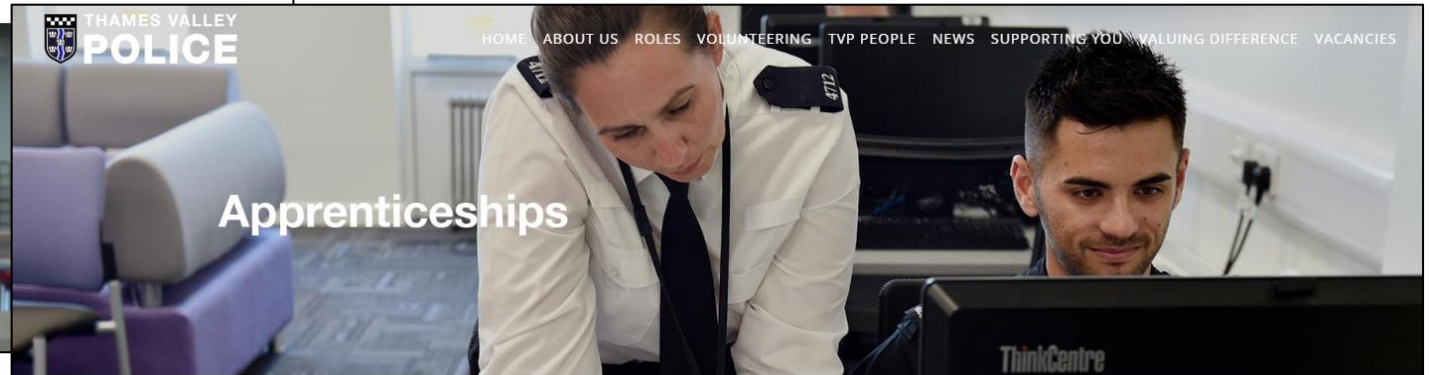
**NHS apprenticeships**

Earn, learn and make a difference with an NHS apprenticeship. Our apprenticeships offer routes into many of the more than 350 NHS careers through a mix of on-the-job training and classroom learning.

The NHS also plans to triple the number of apprenticeships available, meaning more opportunities for you to start your NHS career.



<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/career-planning/study-and-training/nhs-apprenticeships>



TVP values apprenticeships and the opportunity to earn whilst you learn; from front line officer roles and Call Handlers to a variety of police staff positions.

Forget the stereotypes; apprenticeships offer new routes into policing for all, whether you're a college leaver, career changer or returning to work after a break. Whatever your background, now is the perfect time to bring your valuable experience and skills to an organisation dedicated to building safer and stronger communities.

*"Being able to start this apprenticeship in my 40's has allowed me to change career without financial impact on my young family and allowed me to show my children that you're never too old to learn something new."*

- Laura Lovekin, Trainee Contact Management Centre Officer

In the last few years, Thames Valley Police are proud winners of:



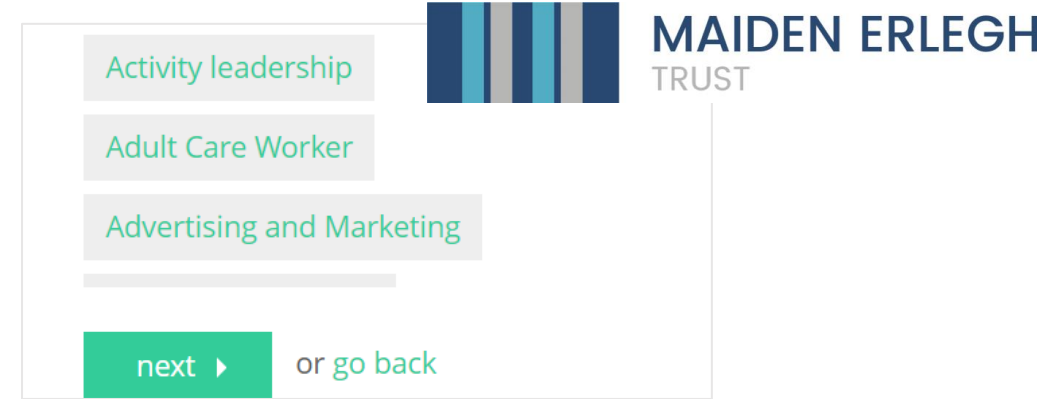
Top 100 Employer for Apprenticeships 2022



<https://tvpcareers.co.uk/roles/apprenticeships/>

# Using the Apprenticeships tool

Choose up to ten industries that interest you.



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- Activity leadership
- Adult Care Worker
- Advertising and Marketing

next ▶ or go back

The longlist will show you all the vacancies in your area that fit those interests.

Intermediate (273) Equivalent to GCSEs	Advanced (331) Equivalent to A-levels	Higher / SLP (78) Higher / SLP / Degree apps
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Finance and Data Processing Apprenticeship THE COLLEGE OF ANIMAL WELFARE LIMITED Distance: 7 miles</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Digital Engineering - School and College Leaver Programme Laing O'Rourke Distance: 2 miles</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Accounting Flying Start Programme PWC Distance: 16 miles</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Apprentice Administrator Mobile Freezer Rentals Ltd Distance: 7 miles</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Apprentice Business Administrator Biggleswade Health Centre Distance: 10 miles</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>School and College Leavers - Assurance PWC Distance: 16 miles</li></ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>School Leaver AAT Trainee</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>KPMG360</li></ul>

Narrow these down to a shortlist of your top options by clicking the ones that you like the most. Click 'Save' to keep a record of the shortlist in your Favourites.





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Which employers offer apprenticeships?



Cabinet Office



Supported by National Apprenticeship Service



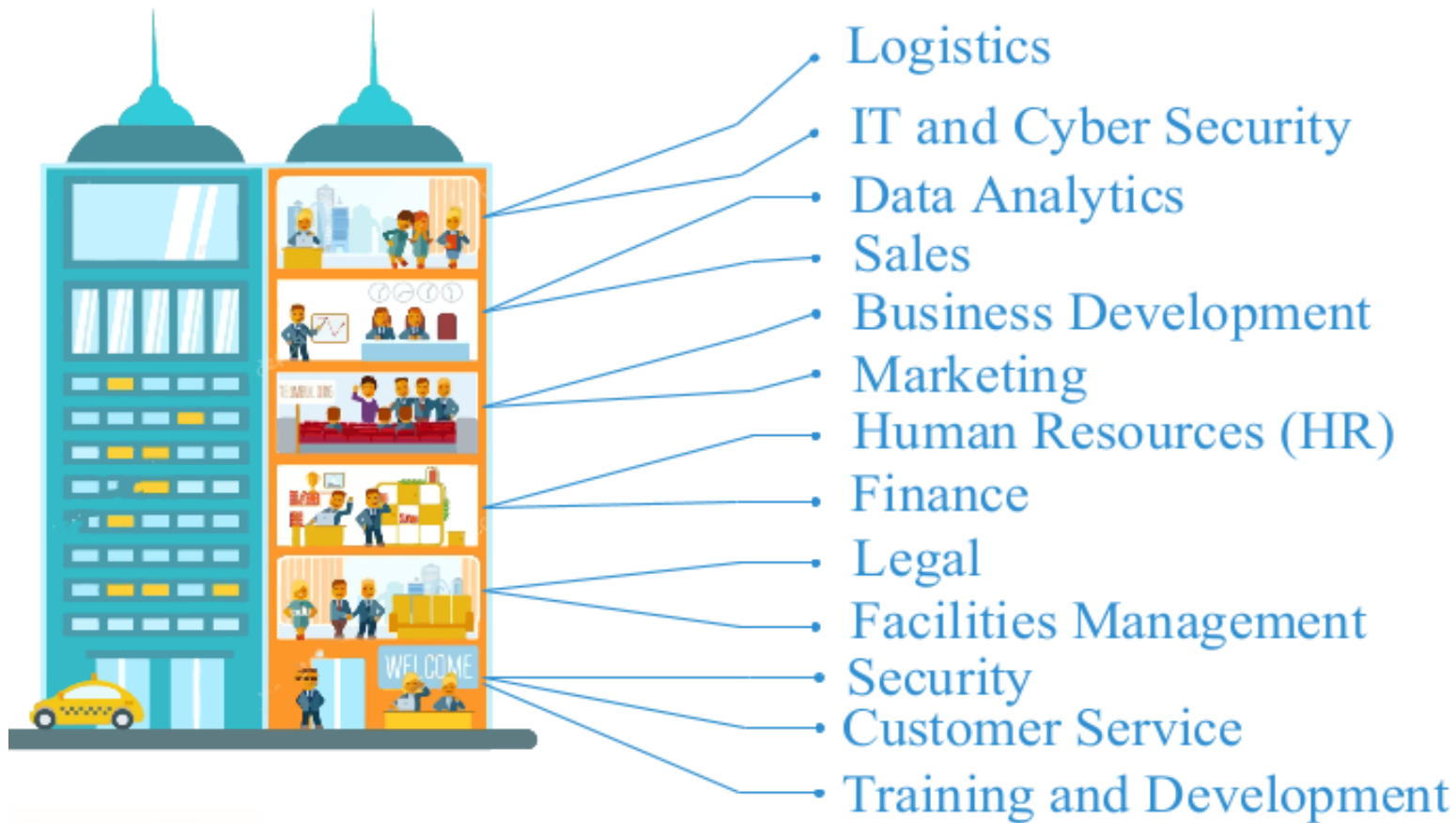
BRITISH AIRWAYS



+ many more!



# Look inside the company!



**Please note:**  
Smaller, less well-known  
companies can offer  
Fantastic opportunities too!



# Activate Apprenticeships

[www.activateapprenticeships.co.uk](http://www.activateapprenticeships.co.uk)

- > Through Activate Apprenticeships, young people can get in and go far with some of the UK's biggest and brightest companies
- > Activate Apprenticeships brings a talent pipeline of 16,000 people, studying across the Activate Learning group
- > Actively working with over 400 companies in the local region and 1000 across the UK



# APPRENTICESHIPS WE OFFER

---

- **Hair Professionals L2** (BWC, Reading, Oxford)
- **Advanced and Creative Hair Professionals L3** (BWC, Reading, Oxford)
- **Commis Chef L2** (Reading, Oxford)
  
- **Furniture Manufacturer L2** (Oxford)
- **Bespoke Furniture Making L3** (Oxford)
  
- **Teaching and Skills Teacher L5** (Reading)
- **Teaching Assistant L3** (Oxford, Reading, Guildford)
- **Adult Care Worker L2** (All)
- **Lead Adult Care Worker L3** (All)
- **Leader in Adult Care L4** (All)
- **Early Years Practitioner L2** (All)
- **Early Years Educator L3** (All)
- **Business Admin L3** (All)
  
- **Arborist L2** (MW)
- **Land and Horticulture L2** (MW)
- **Equine L2** (MW)
- **Senior Equine L3** (MW)
  
- **IT Technician L3** (Reading, BBL)
- **Cyber Technologist L4** (Reading, BBL)
- **Software Developer L4** (Reading, BBL)
- **Data Analyst L4** (Reading, BBL)
- **Autocare Technician L2** (Banbury)
- **Bricklayer L2** (Reading, BBL)
- **Installation & Maintenance Electrician L3** (BWC, Guildford)
- **Plumbing & Domestic Heating Technician L3** (Guildford, Reading)
- **Site Carpentry L2** (Reading, Guildford, BBL)
- **Bicycle Mechanics L2** (Reading, BBL, MW)

# FINDING THE RIGHT APPRENTICESHIP

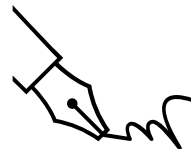
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- Our recruitment team are on hand to support you with finding the right employer for you Apprenticeship
- We advertise vacancies on our website (Activate Apprenticeships Vacancies) where you can also register your interest.
- Visit the National Apprenticeship Service – [www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship](http://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship)
- Activate Apprenticeships – 01865 551015



# Things to consider...

- **Work and study** – organising and balancing time as an apprentice
- **Entry requirements**
- **Qualification & Future prospects**
- **Travel** – feasibility of travel / costs?
- **References** – who? Usually require x2  
Teachers, Head of Year, Club Leader, Part-time Employer
- **Applications, assessments and interviews**  
(the more you do the easier it becomes / faster you become)
- **Potential benefits and challenges**





# What is involved in getting an apprenticeship? (the application process)...

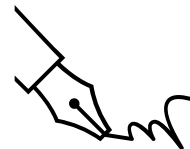
- Application – usually online
- Online assessment? e.g. English/Maths/ +/- Aptitude test
- Phone / virtual interview?
- Assessment Centre? Group tasks, In-tray exercise, assessment
- Face-to-Face interview
- Background checks – e.g. references, eligibility, DBS, etc.





## Pros

- ✓ Work experience
- ✓ Gaining a qualification
- ✓ No university debt
- ✓ Developing existing and new skills
- ✓ Hands on / practical
- ✓ Working with others (all ages)
- ✓ Support
- ✓ Apprentice Ambassador Network
- ✓ Earning money
- ✓ Future prospects
- ✓ Employment contract
- ✓ Increased independence



## Cons:

- ✓ Balancing work & study
- ✓ Ready to choose specific job?  
(it's ok to make "a mistake" –  
exploring/experience = good)
- ✓ Applying takes time (not just 1 or 2)
- ✓ More opportunities in certain sectors/less in others
- ✓ May need to widen net (e.g.  
distance, job sector, level)
- ✓ Not to rely on just one or two applications
- ✓ Back-up options important



# Where and when to search and apply – top tips...



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**Start searching now** – get in practice! Finding and securing an apprenticeship can take time!

Search and apply on a regular basis – e.g. weekly/every 2 weeks. Do not rely on a handful of applications. Keep going until you secure an apprenticeship & sign contract

**Search and apply** from the beginning of Year 13 – degree / higher apprenticeships may be listed from September of Year 13 onwards. Some companies post opportunities all year round – Don't miss out!

**Use a variety of resources / sources** – e.g. UNIFROG Apprenticeships tool, word of mouth, websites:  
[www.findapprenticeship.gov.uk](http://www.findapprenticeship.gov.uk)  
Company websites  
<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/vacancies/>

**Consider and apply** for back-up options – e.g. university, employment, gap year, etc.

**Sign-up to opportunity email alerts** where possible

**Prepare well** for applications, interviews, assessments, + possible 2<sup>nd</sup> interviews

# Finding out more about apprenticeships

You can also find out more about apprenticeships using our **Know-how library** tool.

We have several guides on apprenticeships, including specific guides for apprenticeships England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Remember to favourite guides you'd like to come back to later!



## An introduction to apprenticeships

Find out what they are, what they pay and who can apply



## A guide to degree apprenticeships

What they are, how you apply, and some case studies



# Exploring the Main post 18 options:



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3) **Gap Year** – a year between leaving school and starting university, an apprenticeship or a job





- To **develop skills** – communication, organisation, initiative
- To **gain knowledge** – about people, places, organisations, projects
- For the **experience** – maturing, perhaps life changing, new people and cultures
- **Make a contribution** - to an ethical project, volunteer, teamwork
- **Meet new people** – make new friends and contacts, networking
- **For a break** - from studying, refreshed for your degree, preparing yourself
- **Increase your employability** – all this aids personal development, of interest to employers and universities



# Gap year

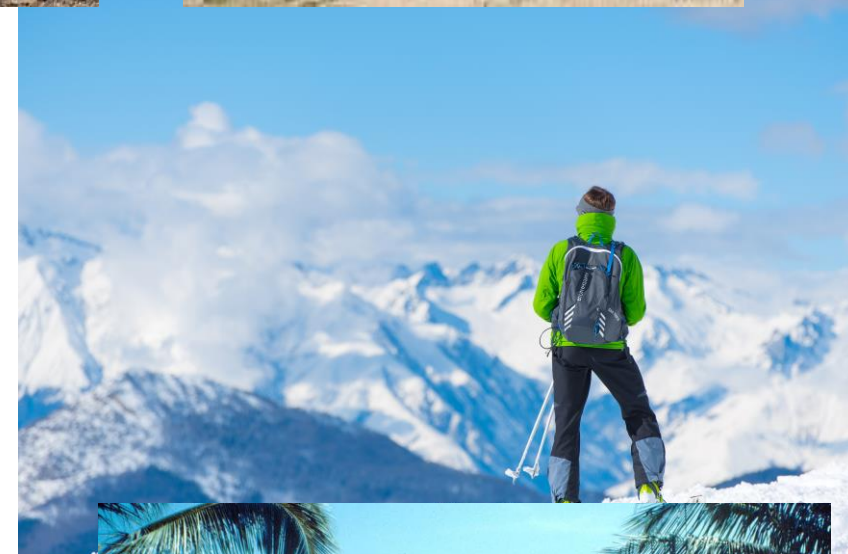
- ✓ **Opportunities:**
  - travel (?£3-4,000 for 1 year)
  - volunteering
  - formal programmes (e.g.
  - internships
- ✓ **How long?** (usually less than a year)
- ✓ **Check** financial requirements
- ✓ **Budget** – raise money, work, save, etc.
- ✓ **Accommodation**
- ✓ **Transport**
- ✓ **Apply / Plan / Prepare** –  
Visa/s? Working visa/s? Vaccination/s?



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# Volunteering - UK / overseas

- ✓ What? Where? When? Who with?
- ✓ Link to future career?
- ✓ Finance - work first (save funds),  
fundraise? work part-time?
- ✓ Search, research, apply



er CC BY-SA



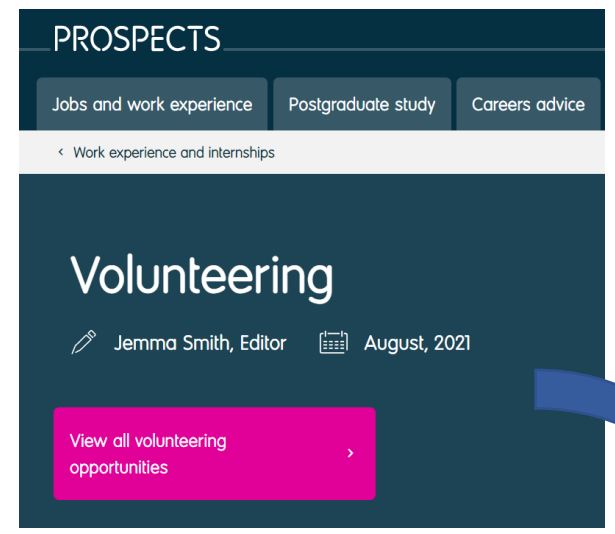
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# Volunteering - logos and link



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<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/jobs-and-work-experience/work-experience-and-internships/volunteering>



unifrog


# Study / work abroad



- What? Where? When? How?
- Search opportunities (Prospects & UCAS)
- Research
- Apply
- Plan and prepare - visa? Vaccinations?
- Consider finances - save, fundraise, defer?
- Transport, accommodation, living expenses



# Gap Year information


PROSPECTS 

Jobs and work experience | Postgraduate study | Careers advice | Applying for university | [Log in](#) | [Register](#)

< Jobs and work experience | Recently Viewed










## Gap year

Don't wait for adventure to find you. If you're hoping to take a year out and go travelling, read our gap year advice on where you could go and what you could do to make sure you have a trip to remember.



Should I take a gap year?

[www.prospects.ac.uk](http://www.prospects.ac.uk)

-  Gap year ideas >
-  Teach English abroad >
-  How to plan your gap year >
-  Summer camp jobs in the USA >
-  Volunteer in Asia >
-  Gap year opportunities >
-  Working abroad >
-  10 opportunities to volunteer with children >
-  Volunteering with animals >





[Should I take a gap year? - Bing video](#)



- It's a **big decision**
- Involving **lots of planning**
- There is a **time commitment**
- It **could be costly**
- It will **require motivation** – you need independence, initiative and drive
- **You may be distant** – from home, family and friends
- There will be a **change of focus** – can you get back on track afterwards

## Recap: Make a plan for a gap year!



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- **Have a goal!** - your planned activities should contribute to your future plans.
- **University** – will you apply and defer? Or will you apply next year (know your dates). Include your plans in your personal statement
- **Timescales** – will you travel, for when and how long?
- **Budget** – will you work and save, earn whilst travelling, apply for a grant
- **Practicalities of travelling** - compare providers, plan all the costs (flights, living costs, insurance, equipment), get insured, health – e.g. immunisations, arrange a work visa, record your trip - blogs, photographs, staying in contact - phone, skype, email.



# Exploring the Main post 18 options:



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## 4) Employment





Why choose to go straight to employment after Year 13?

- You want to **gain experience**
- You are a **hands-on/practical learner**
- You feel **ready for the workplace**
- Full time **university is costly**
- ***You feel ready***

**Many employers now offer apprenticeship and other schemes for school leavers. Allowing you to combine work and study – perhaps to university level.**



- **Offers experience** in an industry of interest
- **Opportunity to try something out** – if you are still unsure
- Provides **training opportunities** and promotion paths
- Allows **development and demonstration of skills** – to show employers/universities what you can do
- **Provides useful funds** to put towards travel/university or other plans
- **Opportunity** for self-development and CV building



- Who are the **main employers in your sector**?
- Who does this work **within your local area**?
- Which **vacancy sources** do employers use for the jobs you want?
- Who are the **professional membership bodies** for these employers?
- Which **social media platforms** are most useful? (e.g. LinkedIn, Twitter, Facebook, etc.)
- **Talk to everyone** about careers and opportunities – parents, friends, teachers, employers, sports teams, careers advisers ...

**Useful websites:** [www.google.com](http://www.google.com) , [www.Unifrog.org](http://www.Unifrog.org) , [www.prospects.ac.uk](http://www.prospects.ac.uk) and [www.careerpilot.org](http://www.careerpilot.org)



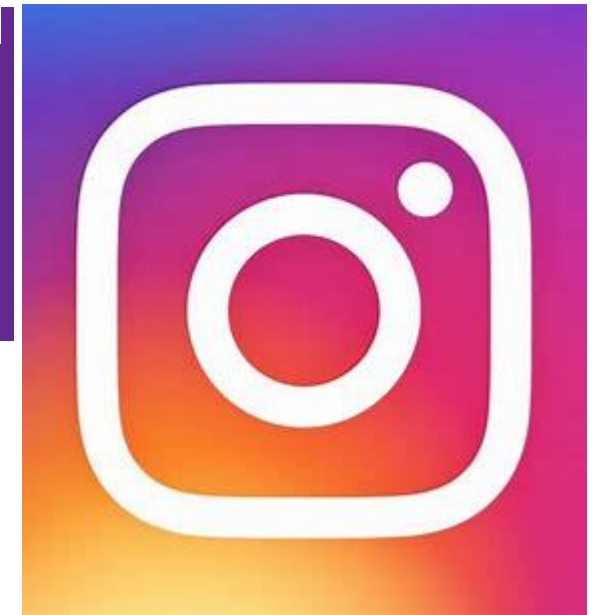
- **Research employers that work in your industry** some large employers have sought after apprenticeship or school leaver training programmes that are advertised widely with details on their careers webpages.
- **Check regularly for vacancies** – helpful to find smaller employers, who may be more local, with one-off apprenticeships. Use industry specific vacancy sources. Also - general job websites.
- **Contact employers directly** - Do your research and talk to your contacts – employers may be willing to chat to you about entry positions (perhaps with training).
- **Use social media** – LinkedIn, Instagram, Facebook Twitter, learn who is who in your industry.
- **Visit recruitment or industry events** – check professional body websites and also websites such as <https://www.thejobfairs.co.uk/>, <https://targetjobs.co.uk/events>,

There is no one place to look – you need to investigate fully!

# Where to find employment opportunities



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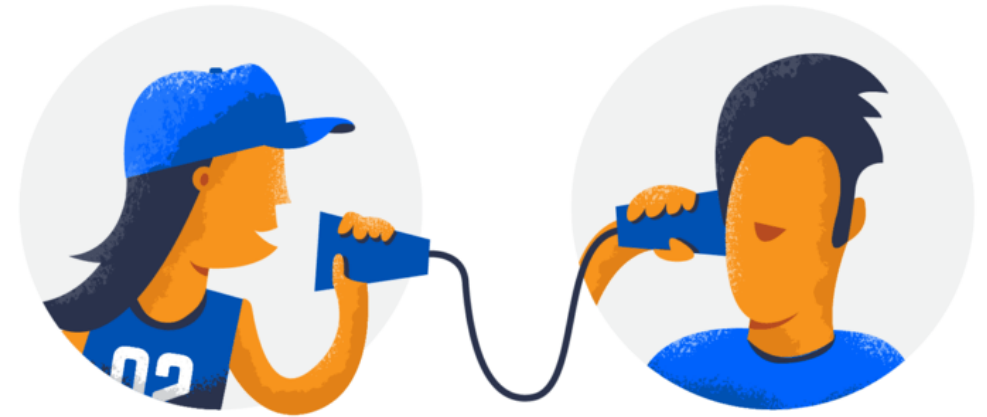
totaljobs



- **Word of Mouth:** Friends, Family, Colleagues, your wider network

- **Company Websites**

- **In Person** –  
speculative applications



- **Recruitment agencies** – Office Angels, Reed,  
Specialist agencies – e.g. – they specialize in a job sector such as I.T.,  
healthcare, etc.

- **Newspapers,** [Find a job - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk) , [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com)



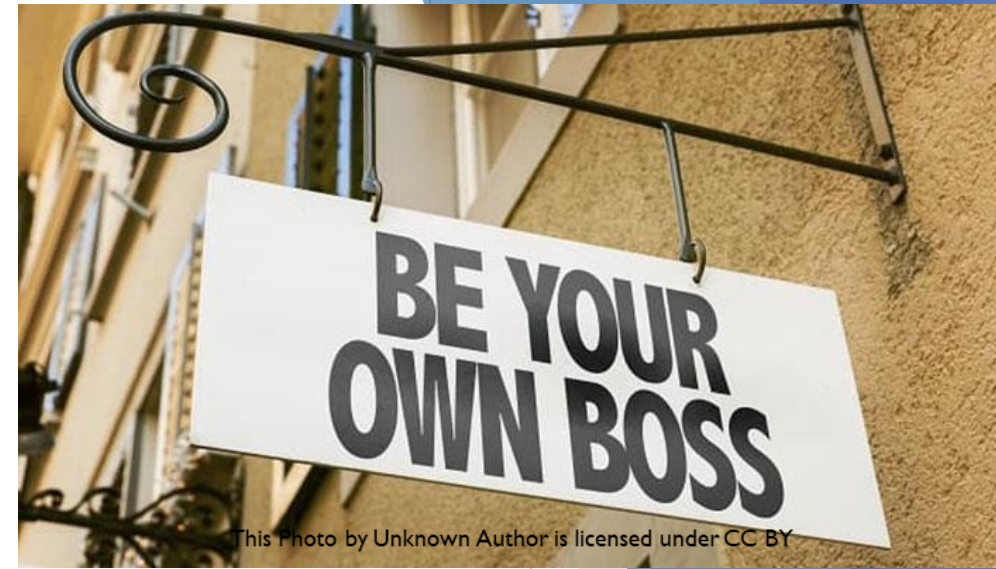
## What tasks might be involved?

- Writing a CV
- Application forms
- Knowing your predicted grades
- Letters, emails or phone calls to employers
- Attending interviews
- Recruitment tests or attending assessment centres
- Getting good references
- Other employment checks

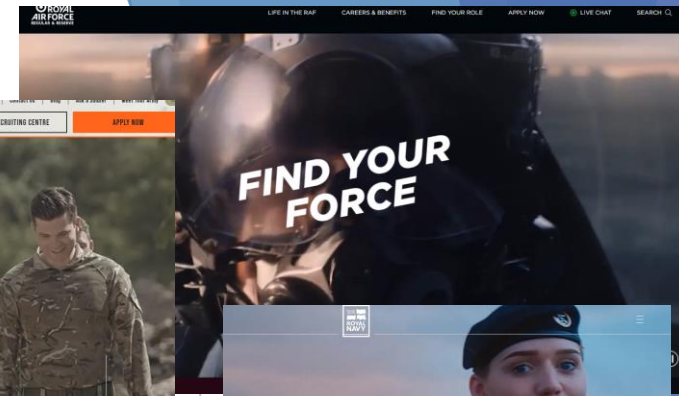
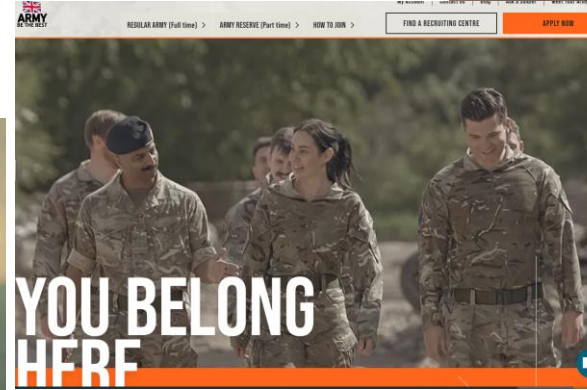
**Planning and preparation are key!**

# Self-employment

- ✓ **What? Who? Where?**
- ✓ **When? Now or future?**
- ✓ **HMRC registration + advice**
- ✓ **Finance - business loans, etc.**
- ✓ **Records**
- ✓ **Supplementing your income**



# Join the Armed Forces



- ✓ Army - Regular Soldier: <https://jobs.army.mod.uk/>
- ✓ Sandhurst - Officer training academy:  
<https://www.army.mod.uk/who-we-are/our-schools-and-colleges/rma-sandhurst/>
- ✓ Royal Air Force: <https://recruitment.raf.mod.uk/>
- ✓ Royal Navy: <https://www.royalnavy.mod.uk/>
- ✓ Royal Marines: <https://www.royalnavy.mod.uk/royalmarines>





- Wait and see what happens – reactive
- Let others make the decision – passive
- Act on impulse – impulsive
- Act on information and careful consideration – proactive
- Act on intuition – intuitive

**Research is key...**



Many other things influence our decision – e.g. parents/guardians, teachers, friends, youth leaders, inspirational people, etc.



## Reflect on your **self**

- What strengths do you have to offer employers / universities?
- What would definitely be included/not included in a job you would like?
- What achievements do you have to build on?

## Understanding your **opportunities**

- Do you understand the different paths available into your careers of interest?
- What are employers or universities looking for - qualifications/skills/experience?
- Where can you find opportunities to apply to?
- How can you progress later – what careers are available after your degree/apprenticeship?

## Making **decisions**

- Which useful sources can you use to view the whole range of opportunities?
- What factors will you use to compare opportunities/offers?
- How can you further explore your ideas – having new experiences, meeting new people?
- How will you record and review your progress?

## Planning your **transition**

- Which contacts, organisations, resources or events can help?
- How and when will you make applications?
- Are there ways you can make changes to do things better?
- What SMART goals can you make for yourself?

## Deciding the best option::



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- How will I eliminate alternatives?
- Who should have a say in my decision?
- When should I decide (not too early or too late)?
- How does the decision I'm making now relate to other future Decisions?
- What are the likely consequences of choosing a particular option?
- Have I got a plan B +/- C ? Why is a back-up plan important?



# What to do next? Your Intentions

Unifrog has lots of options for you to explore and work out what you want to do at 18.

ACCESS ALL THE TOOLS BELOW

Exploring pathways

- Interests profile**  
✗ Quiz not taken  
Start >
- Personality profile**  
✗ Quiz not taken  
Start >
- Careers library**  
✗ Careers favoured  
Go to tool >
- Subjects library**  
✗ Subjects favoured  
Go to tool >
- Know-how library**  
✓ Guides favoured  
Go to tool >
- MOOC**  
Make your first shortlist  
Start >
- Webinars**  
Hear directly from the experts  
Go to tool >
- Read, Watch, Listen**  
✗ Profiles favoured  
Start >

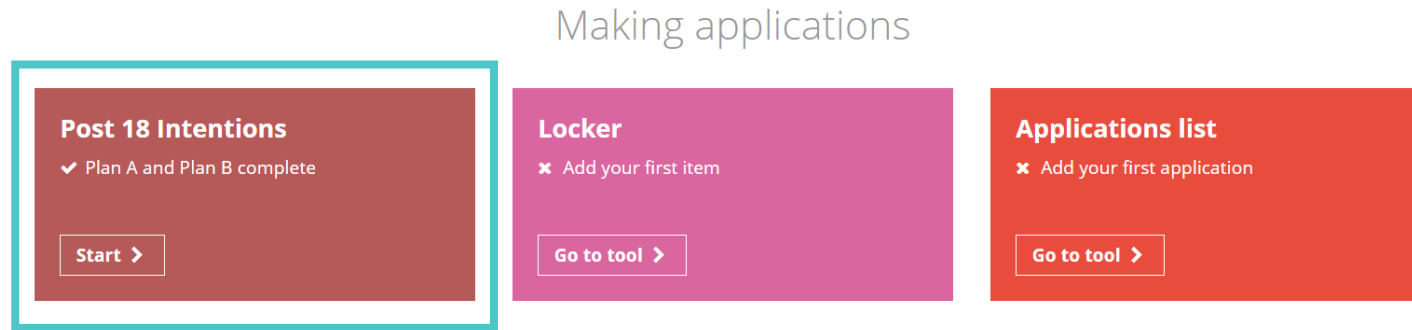
Searching for opportunities

- UK universities**  
You have 1 shortlist  
Start >
- US universities**  
Make your first shortlist  
Start >
- European universities**  
Make your first shortlist  
Start >
- Oxbridge**  
Make your first shortlist  
Start >
- Apprenticeships**  
Make your first shortlist  
Start >
- College / Sixth Form**  
You have 8 shortlists  
Start >

At home - explore the platform to see just how many options are available!

# What to do next?: Your Intentions

- Login to Unifrog, scroll down to the Post 18 Intentions tool and enter your dream career.



- Select a pathway from the drop-down menu for Plan A and Plan B and fill in the questions.
- It doesn't matter if you're not 100% sure yet – just right down your thoughts. You can write 'I don't know' if you are very unsure.



## SHAPING YOUR FUTURE:

INFORMATION, RESOURCES & TOP TIPS FOR PLANNING YOUR CAREER  
AND NEXT STEPS AFTER YEAR 13

Anna Finlason,  
MET Careers Adviser

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Buy a book or create a file - call it 'Career Ideas', 'My Career Dreams', or something similar.



Begin to brainstorm - list what makes you, you - your strengths, skills and "competences" (\*often referred to in the world of work):

A strength is...an activity that makes you feel strong, excites you, energizes you. It's more than just something you're good at

A Skill is...something you can learn (and master) through repetition.

A Competence: refers to skills and knowledge while being more than just the skill or knowledge itself. It includes ability and behaviour.

<https://www.cv-template.com/en/course/strengths-skills-competences-cv>

*Taking the time to do this will definitely pay off*



# Preparing for life after Year 13 – top tips...



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- **Look ahead** and prepare
- **Research**, research, research
- **Book and attend** open events / careers events, utilise tools – e.g. UNIFROG
- **Apply** for a first choice + back-up options
- A formal / planned Gap Year is valuable
- **Write down** application deadlines
- **Keep track of** correspondence / follow through with application process
- **Encourage** your young person to check Google Classroom + emails
- **Encourage** your young person to search and apply EARLY / by deadline – popular places can fill up quickly.
- **It is ok not to be sure** – the key is to take steps forward - we can explore ideas and change direction
- **Keep communicating**, make suggestions, bounce ideas, avoid telling what to do
- **Don't panic**



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Thank you  
for listening

