



# Post 16 Education and Training Options

## THE LEGAL BIT

Legally, young people must be in official education or training until they are 18 to help them develop the skills they need later in life, and to make the most of their potential.

There are, however, many different options available to suit the needs, preferred learning style, and aspirations of every student. **So what are they?**

## A-LEVELS

Students who enjoy academic learning could attend a Sixth Form at a school or college to study A-levels. Click [this link](#) for more information.

It is often possible to study A-levels and technical qualifications e.g. BTECS alongside each other.



## VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL QUALIFICATIONS (VTQS)



**VTQs** are practical qualifications designed to give students the skills and experience they need for a certain job. They might be a good option for students who have a strong interest in working in a particular industry. At level 3 they are the equivalent of A-levels. You can see what the different qualification levels mean on [GOV.UK](#)

Students can study job-specific courses like bricklaying, professional cookery or hairdressing, or a single subject like business, sports science, or creative media.

## T-LEVELS

For students who would like a mix of classroom-based and on-the-job learning, a [T Level](#) could be a good option.

T Levels offer a technical alternative to A levels. One T Level is worth the same UCAS points (the points needed to go to university) as three A Levels. They are two-year programmes with 80% of that time spent in the classroom, and 20% on-the-job experience through an industry placement of at least 315 hours – approximately 45 days.

**T-LEVELS**

## APPRENTICESHIPS



Some students might like to start earning while they learn as an Apprentice. [Apprenticeships](#) are a great option for young people from the age of 16 to begin their careers across a range of industries.

There are thousands of apprenticeship vacancies on offer, with more than [640 high-quality apprenticeships](#) approved for use by employers. Apprenticeships can help to kickstart a career in anything from space engineering to advertising. Find out more [here](#)



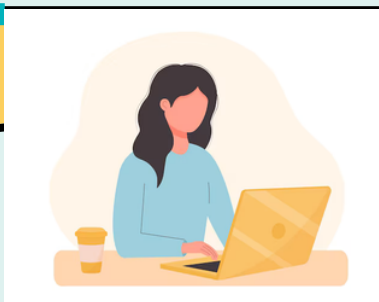
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## SUPPORTED INTERNSHIPS

**Supported Internships** are a work-based study programme for young people aged 16 to 24 who have an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP). The aim is for interns to gain the skills and confidence to achieve their long-term career goals. Supported internships usually last for one year and include work placements that last at least six months. Interns are also helped by a qualified job coach who is trained to offer personalised support.

[Click here for Leeds Local Offer](#)

[Click here for information on Supported Internships in Leeds](#)



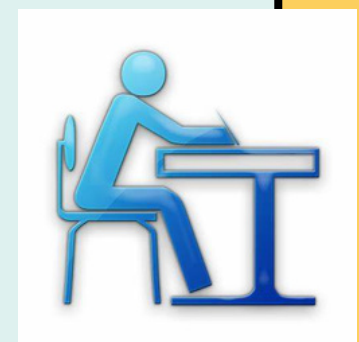
## COMBINING WORK AND STUDY

Although young people must remain in either education or training until they turn 18, this does not mean they cannot earn a wage or gain work experience at the same time.

There are several options, such as apprenticeships as outlined above, volunteering, or working part-time for 20 or more hours per week to gain real-life experience of the workplace.

**Volunteering** after leaving school may not be paid work, but it can help young people to gain valuable skills and experience which will look great on their CV or university application, and can help them decide if that industry or role is right for them

There may also be an opportunity to earn a qualification whilst volunteering.  
[Read more about volunteering](#) to see if it is right for your child.



## THINGS TO CONSIDER

- When your child is thinking about their career, they need to consider what is going to be the best option for them personally. It is natural to look to their friends and to want to make decisions based on what they are doing next, but it is important to choose for themselves.
- It is a really good idea to consider and apply for other ideas as a back-up, in case things change or your child decides to do things differently. To make the best choices, they need to be as well informed as possible. It is important for young people to talk to their teachers, parents or carers, staff at schools, colleges and training providers of interest, and an independent careers adviser.
- Your child could [learn about their strengths and interests by taking a skills assessment](#).
- If your child enjoys what they choose to do as a next step, they are likely to get more out of it. They might want to consider:
  - which subjects they have enjoyed studying so far;
  - which subjects have not been available to them but could be in further education;
  - [exploring careers](#) to find out which job sectors they might enjoy;
  - whether they would like to do some volunteering or work experience alongside study or training.



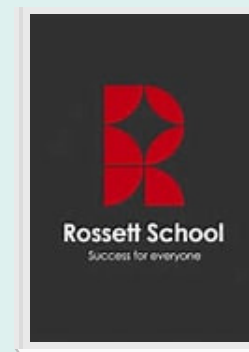


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## GETTING ADVICE ON WHAT TO DO AFTER YEAR 11

Figuring out what to do after school can feel overwhelming, which is why Rossett School has a dedicated, independent Careers Adviser. You can contact Emmi Wainwright at [wainwrighte@rs.rkt.co.uk](mailto:wainwrighte@rs.rkt.co.uk) if you have any questions or need further information.

You can also find lots of useful information in the careers [Resources](#) section of the Rossett website



## NATIONAL CAREERS SERVICE

[The National Careers Service](#) also provides free and impartial careers advice for anyone over the age of 13.

If you would like personalised advice from a National Careers Service adviser, there are lots of ways to [get in touch](#) including by phone, webchat or in person.



## THINGS TO CONSIDER

- Your child can apply for several different courses and then decide where to enrol once they get their GCSE results. This puts them in control, even if they change their mind on their preferred option, or they do not meet the entry requirements.
- If you would prefer to watch a short video on the post-16 options available, click [here](#)
- The best way to get a feel for whether a school or college is right for your child is to visit open events. Details of external open events can be found in the Careers section of the Rossett website and in the **'Events'** sections of college websites. To find out about good questions to ask at open events, watch [this short video](#)
- Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you need any further help.