

Post 16 Qualifications and Pathways

Work Based Learning

You can also choose to train while you work by taking on an apprenticeship traineeship.

Apprenticeship: You work for an employer and train to do a specific job at the same time. There are over 280 types of apprenticeship for over 1,500 job roles – anything from engineering to boat-building, or veterinary nursing to accountancy.

Traineeship: Gets you ready for work or for doing an apprenticeship. They last from six weeks to six months and provide essential work preparation training, literacy and numeracy skills and work experience to get an apprenticeship or other job.

Work and job-related courses

NVQs, BTECs, TechBacs and Cambridge Technicals are good qualifications to take if you want to combine hands on, practical learning with studying subjects and technical skills. They are specialist courses which relate to particular jobs, sectors, or subject areas. Depending on what qualifications you take, you can go on to further education, training, or employment, or you can go to university.

Academic Learning

A-levels and other subject-based qualifications like International Baccalaureate (IB).

These are good if there are subjects you like and want to study further, or if you are planning to go to university. You normally need to have at least five GCSEs at grades 5 to 9 (or an equivalent qualification) and may need at least a grade 6 in any specific subjects you want to study.

