

# Year 11 Next Steps



Welcome to Year 11

Nine months of hard work but an extremely important year. A lot of effort now can give you more choice of what you can do in the future (both next year and over the next 50/60 years) and make your life that bit easier.

For example, if you do not get grades 4 – 9 in GCSE Maths and English you will have to continue with them (or their equivalents) until you pass them or turn 19.

Do not forget this is all about what YOU will be doing in the future. You are unique and will have different interests, talents and qualities from your friends and family. Find a course or career which suits your personality – not theirs. Do not let others stop you from working towards your dream. Help and support each other.

## Career Ideas

There are thousands of different jobs out there, most of which you probably have not heard of before (Phlebotomist? Actuary?). Some of the more interesting and better paid jobs come with experience or promotion, so be aware what your first job could lead on to.

Research your career ideas, most information is online, but also in books in libraries or ask someone doing that job. They will happily tell you all the worst bits of the job as well. No job is perfect, there will always be something you will not like as much, you need to work out if you could cope with this or if it is a 'deal breaker'.

You need to know yourself well – your likes, dislikes, personality, attitude etc. All careers information usually includes a list of qualities needed for the job. See if this matches you. If it does not, you may need to think whether you would be suitable for it or enjoy it.

Be honest with yourself. Do not pretend you are something you are not, or you could find yourself in the wrong job or on the wrong course.

## Options after Year 11

You will have to stay in education or training until you are 18. After Year 11 you have 3 main options:

- **Grove Sixth Form**
- **Colleges of Further Education** e.g., Shrewsbury Colleges Group, Newcastle & Stafford Colleges Group, South Cheshire College, Telford College and Reaseheath College
- **Apprenticeships** paid work with training

**IMPORTANT:** You can apply for several different options at the same time and then decide which one you prefer. For example, you can apply for a place at Grove College, Newcastle College and explore the apprenticeship route all at the same time. Final decisions can be made when you get your GCSE results in August. Confirm a place at one then withdraw from the others.

## Understanding Levels



Usually the different levels lead onto each other – apart from some apprenticeships where you may start on Level 2 even if you have a Level 3 qualification, so you can cover all aspects of the work.

You must have Level 3 qualifications to go to university.

One Level 3 EXTENDED Diploma is equivalent to 3 A' levels.

Most Level 3 courses need GCSEs in Maths and/or English – you will need to check the entry requirements for the courses you wish to take.

A' levels are tough academic study, and you usually choose 3 subjects with exams at the end of the two years.

BTECs will have more coursework and be related to a career area – such as Health & Social Care, however, it is worth noting that BTECs do now involve an exam component.

Take the subjects you enjoy the most and will expect to get the best grades in. The higher the grades the more choice you have of university courses.

If you know what you want to do in the future make sure you take the right subjects – some career areas, such as architecture, medicine, law and the creative industries may want certain subjects. For other career areas it's the grades and skills you have acquired which are more important.

## Useful Websites

### **Career sites**

<https://www.unifrog.org/> One stop careers platform – use Grove email address to log in  
[www.icould.com](http://www.icould.com) – Shows career videos of people in a range of jobs, includes a career quiz to give you ideas of roles suited to your personality and general careers information.  
[www.nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk](http://www.nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk) – Government website providing information on a range of careers.  
[www.prospects.ac.uk](http://www.prospects.ac.uk) – Advice on universities, gap years, apprenticeships etc.

### **Further Education (College)**

[www.targetcareers.co.uk/careers-advice/a-level-choices](http://www.targetcareers.co.uk/careers-advice/a-level-choices) - Help on choosing A levels  
<https://groveschool.website/studying-at-grove-college> – Grove College Website  
<https://www.reaseheath.ac.uk/> - Reaseheath College  
<https://nscq.ac.uk/newcastle-campus/the-campus> - Newcastle & Stafford Colleges (Newcastle)  
<https://www.ccsw.ac.uk/> - Cheshire South & West (Crewe)  
[www.scq.ac.uk](http://www.scq.ac.uk) – Shrewsbury Colleges Group  
<https://www.telfordcollege.ac.uk/> - Telford College

### **Higher Education (University)**

[www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com) – information on accessing higher education including universities and apprenticeships  
[www.university.which.co.uk](http://www.university.which.co.uk) – Information on various universities  
[www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk](http://www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk) – Information on university league tables

### **Apprenticeships**

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/> - excellent site to explore (Parent Packs in resources)  
[www.gov.uk/apprenticeships-guide](http://www.gov.uk/apprenticeships-guide) - Government website advertising all apprenticeships  
[www.apprenticeshipguide.co.uk](http://www.apprenticeshipguide.co.uk) – Information on apprenticeships  
[www.ctapprenticeships.co.uk](http://www.ctapprenticeships.co.uk) – County Training – Shropshire-wide apprenticeship provider  
[www.jtltraining.com](http://www.jtltraining.com) - Apprenticeships in the building trade.  
[www.pmttraining.org.uk](http://www.pmttraining.org.uk) - PM Training also have a wide variety of apprenticeships.  
[www.martectraining.co.uk](http://www.martectraining.co.uk) - Martec Training provide apprenticeships in the motor trade and even let you book a taster afternoon at their training centre in Newcastle-under-Lyme. Visit them at  
[www.sbc-training.co.uk](http://www.sbc-training.co.uk) – Shrewsbury based apprenticeship provider  
[www.riverside-training.co.uk](http://www.riverside-training.co.uk) – National provider covering Shropshire, specialising in Business Administration, Customer Service and Retail apprenticeships.  
[www.aldirecruitment.co.uk/apprentice/](http://www.aldirecruitment.co.uk/apprentice/) - Aldi apprenticeships  
[www.company.airbus.com/careers/apprentices-and-pupils/In-the-United-Kingdom.html](http://www.company.airbus.com/careers/apprentices-and-pupils/In-the-United-Kingdom.html) - Airbus apprenticeships  
[www.icb.com/en-gb/about/careers/students-and-graduates](http://www.icb.com/en-gb/about/careers/students-and-graduates) - JCB apprenticeships  
[www.bentleycareers.com](http://www.bentleycareers.com) – Bentley careers in Crewe  
[www.joinus.barclays/emea/apprenticeships/higher-apprenticeships](http://www.joinus.barclays/emea/apprenticeships/higher-apprenticeships) - Barclays apprenticeships  
[www.baesystems.com/apprentices](http://www.baesystems.com/apprentices) - BAE Systems (National firm with site in Telford)  
<https://mcmt.co.uk/> - Shrewsbury and Bridgnorth based engineering apprenticeships

### **Entrepreneurship**

[www.princes-trust.org.uk](http://www.princes-trust.org.uk) – Support and advice in finding a job or setting up your own business  
[www.gov.uk/business](http://www.gov.uk/business) - practical information on setting up a business

### **Specific**

[www.barclayslifeskills.com](http://www.barclayslifeskills.com) – Great site with loads of information and videos about essential life skills  
[www.careers.marksandspencer.com/early-careers](http://www.careers.marksandspencer.com/early-careers) - Career with Marks and Spencer  
[www.creativeskillset.org](http://www.creativeskillset.org) Information on screen-based creative careers  
[www.ccskills.org.uk](http://www.ccskills.org.uk) – Information on careers in the creative industry.  
[www.tomorrowengineers.org.uk](http://www.tomorrowengineers.org.uk) - Useful site providing a wide range of information on engineering roles  
[www.notgoingtouni.co.uk](http://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk) – useful site providing advice on alternatives to university  
[www.healthcareers.nhs.uk](http://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk) – Information on roles within the NHS  
[www.lawcareers.net](http://www.lawcareers.net) – Information on a career in law  
[www.bma.org.uk/howtobecomeadoctor](http://www.bma.org.uk/howtobecomeadoctor) - How to become a doctor  
[www.bva.co.uk/professional-development/careers/becoming-a-vet/](http://www.bva.co.uk/professional-development/careers/becoming-a-vet/) - How to become a vet  
[www.getintoteaching.education.gov.uk](http://www.getintoteaching.education.gov.uk) – Government site about training to become a teacher  
[www.westmercia.police.uk](http://www.westmercia.police.uk) - Local police force. Look at 'Jobs and Opportunities' page  
<http://recruit.college.police.uk> – Information on training to become a Police Officer

### **AFCO (Armed Forces Careers Office) Shrewsbury**

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Princess House, the Square, Shrewsbury, SY1 1JZ  
9.00am – 5.00pm Monday - Friday

Richard Cartman – 01743 232541  
Richard.Cartman633@mod.gov.uk  
8.30am - 4.30pm Monday - Friday  
[www.royalnavy.mod.uk](http://www.royalnavy.mod.uk)

### Royal Marines test

<https://www.royalnavy.mod.uk/careers/royal-marines-recruitment-test/reasoning>

### Army

Richard Moore  
01743 232678  
9.30am – 5.30pm Monday - Friday  
<https://apply.army.mod.uk>

### RAF

01743 232678  
8.30am – 4.30pm Monday - Friday  
[www.raf.mod.uk/RECRUITMENT](http://www.raf.mod.uk/RECRUITMENT)