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# Objectives

- Gain an understanding of the different kinds of learning I can choose to do after Year 11
- Gain an understanding of what type of learning I am best at
- Gain an understanding of what kind of learning provider I would like to be in after Year 11

# Today's session aims to cover ...

- What are my options after Year 11?
  - Courses or Apprenticeships?
- What kind of learning do I prefer?
  - Academic, Vocational or 'by doing'?
- Where can I go next?
  - 6<sup>th</sup> Form, College, Workplace or a mixture?

# Quiz question 1

What percentage of pupils across England went on to 6<sup>th</sup> Form, College or Further Education after Year 11? (2017/18)<sup>1</sup>

- a) 37%
- b) 38%
- c) 11%
- d) All of the above

<sup>1</sup> Department of Education: Destinations of KS4 students in England 2017/18

What are my options after Year 11?

## Quiz question 2

What percentage of pupils across England went on to an apprenticeship after Year 11? (2017/18)<sup>1</sup>

- a) 4%
- b) 11%
- c) 38%
- d) All of the above

<sup>1</sup> Department of Education: Destinations of KS4 students in England 2017/18

## Quiz question 3

What percentage of pupils across England went on to employment after Year 11? (2017/18)<sup>1</sup>

- a) 11%
- b) 3%
- c) 37%
- d) All of the above

<sup>1</sup> Department of Education: Destinations of KS4 students in England 2017/18

# Quiz answers

Question 1

- d

Question 2

- a

Question 3

- b

# How do I decide what to do next?

- Courses or Apprenticeships?

Surprised?

# Information gathering & decision making...

- What type of subject do I like?
- What subjects am I good at?
- What are my friends doing?
- What do my parents/family/carers think?
- What do my teachers suggest?
- Do I think I want to go on to university later?
- What do I think I might want to do in my future career?

# Academic Courses

## A level's

- Archaeology, Critical Thinking, D&T: Product Design, Environmental Science, Japanese, Marine Science, Music Technology, Photography, Sport & Physical Education, Textiles, Travel & Tourism...
- Generally require good levels of academic achievement at GCSE e.g. 5+ passes or more including Maths and English Language BUT essential to check specific course entry requirements
- Similar style of learning to GCSE's
- Usually 60% or more of final mark achieved through exams, some course work required e.g. photography

# Vocational Courses

## BTEC's/NVQ's/Diploma's

- Agriculture, Applied Law, Business, Horticulture, Information Technology, Uniformed Protective Service...
- Tend to be vocational and more practical
- Usually less exams and more coursework

### Myth busting:

- NOT necessarily easier than A levels!
- Entry requirements may still be as high as A levels

# Apprenticeships/ Work

## Apprenticeships

- Employers often advertise on their own websites
- There is also a national apprenticeship website and recruitment events
- Recruitment usually happens later than college applications so around New Year to Spring
- Some apprenticeships are available all year round

### Myth busting:

It is NOT always easier to get an apprenticeship than go to college, some applications are highly competitive and the process is like applying for a job

You may also be required to go to college some of the time to learn skills for your job

# Colleges & Vocational Providers

## Specialist Colleges

- Usually take students aged 16-18 and deliver a range of subjects and types of course, some academic and some vocational e.g. Richmond College, Kingston College, Esher College
- Sometimes specialise in specific subject areas e.g. Nescot – Animal Studies, Capel Manor – Horticultural Courses or UAL – Art Foundation Courses

Myth busting:

You can't mix A level and vocational subjects – **WRONG!**

Doing Vocational Courses means you can't go on to University – **WRONG!**

Choosing A levels means you have to go to University next – **WRONG!**

Always have a  
back-up Plan

## What happens if your GCSE results are not as expected?

- All providers will require basic qualifications. Some have other options if you do not achieve your expected results e.g. a level 2 course option if you do not achieve enough GCSE's to do the level 3 course – discuss this with them at the APPLICATION STAGE or OPEN DAYS
- Apply to several course providers based on more than one outcome from your GCSE's e.g. 5 passes or more, less passes at lower grades etc., vocational options
- Consult with teachers on results day – do they think you should apply for any re-marks?
- Consider re-taking subjects privately to ensure passes required

Myth busting:

You can only apply to a couple of colleges – WRONG!

You can do most courses without English and Maths GCSE – WRONG!

You can only hold on to one college place offer at a time – WRONG!

# Outcomes...?

## What have I learnt today?

Most Year 11 students go on to College courses

- True/False

Vocational subjects such as BTEC's are easy

- True/False

You can't go to university after doing vocational subjects

- True/False

You need to decide what you want to do in your future career when choosing subjects

- True/False/Sometimes

# Resources

## Do your research!

- Colleges and courses near you – you may need to travel further if you want to study something specific that is not available nearby
- Careers websites e.g. [targetcareers.co.uk](http://targetcareers.co.uk), [thestudentroom.co.uk](http://thestudentroom.co.uk), [successatschool.org](http://successatschool.org)
- Careers & education choice help for parents: [parentalguidance.org.uk](http://parentalguidance.org.uk)
- Attend Careers and Apprenticeship events e.g. Heathrow Apprenticeship & Careers Show – February 2020, and look at [findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk](http://findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk)
- Attend College OPEN DAYS – this is the best way to find out about courses and providers and to register your interest
- Ensure you pay attention to DEADLINES – course providers and apprenticeships all have them!

Any questions?

## Key points:

- Don't hesitate to ask questions
- Being well informed helps you to make better decisions about your future
- Try to think about things independently of your friends and family and then discuss this with people to ensure your decision making is sound and the best decision FOR YOU