

DECISION

TIME

## Year 11 – critical time for decisions

- You live in the 4<sup>th</sup> largest City in England
  - Opportunities are wide and varied
  - You can do anything you want!





# Post 16 Options/Pathways

- Full time study – 6<sup>th</sup> form/College
- Apprenticeships
- A job with part time study or training
- Volunteering with part time study or training





Use this website to:

- Search for full time courses, apprenticeships and work based learning in Sheffield.
- Apply to local sixth forms, colleges and some training providers.

**Your school will explain how to use it and give you login details**

**[www.sheffieldprogress.co.uk](http://www.sheffieldprogress.co.uk)**



# Full Time Study

If you follow a study programme it should include:

- Your main course/A level options.
- English and Maths if you don't have GCSE grades 9-4.
- Enrichment activities, e.g. work experience.
- Extra support if you need it.



# You can study full time at:

- The Sheffield College (City, Hillsborough, Olive Grove, Peaks)
- A Sheffield School 6<sup>th</sup> form
- A college or sixth form outside Sheffield-Rotherham, Chesterfield
- Training providers



# Apprenticeships

- Apprenticeships are real jobs.
- They pay a wage.
- They include part time training.
- The training can be at different levels.
- **You have to find your own employer!**



# Apprenticeships

**Intermediate** - Often needs GCSE grades 3 or equivalent. Some employers set their own tests. Training at Level 2, equivalent to GCSE grades 9-4.

**Advanced** - Often needs grades 9-4 or equivalent, including English and maths. Training at Level 3, equivalent to A Level.

**Higher or degree** – Normally needs qualifications such as A Levels, BTEC National or equivalent (Level 3). Training at Levels 4-6, e.g. foundation degree, HND or degree.





# Work Based Learning

Can give you skills and experience to help you get an apprenticeship. It includes:

- Learning in a workplace or work environment.
- Help with job hunting, CVs and interviews.
- Support with English and maths.
- Examples include **traineeships** and **study programmes**.





# Qualifications



# Types of Qualifications

## Academic

- Based on ideas, theories and knowledge.
- Normally needs GCSE grades 9-4 (sometimes 9-5 / 9-6) or equivalent.
- Assessed mainly by exam.

## Vocational / work related

- Prepares for a broad work area or specific job.
- Can be studied at different levels, depending on grades.
- Assessment methods vary.
- Can be full time or part of an apprenticeship.



# Qualification Levels

## **Levels 4-6 (e.g. degree, foundation degree, HND)**

Normally require Level 3 qualifications, e.g. A Level, BTEC National.

## **Level 3 (e.g. A Level, BTEC National, T Level)**

Normally requires at least GCSE grades 9-4 or equivalent.

## **Level 2 (e.g. BTEC First, NVQ 2)**

Normally requires GCSE grades 3 or equivalent

## **Level 1 (e.g. BTEC Level 1, NVQ 1)**

Normally requires GCSE grades 1-2 or equivalent.

## **Entry Level (e.g. Entry Level Functional Skills)**

No set entry requirements.



# Thinking about higher education?

## The main ways in

- A Levels.
- Vocational qualifications at Level 3.
- A mix of the two.
- Some apprenticeships (at Level 3).

## Things to consider

- Some qualifications are more suitable for certain courses.
- Some (not all) higher education courses require specific subjects.





# Higher education

## Find out more

- UCAS: [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com)
- [www.informedchoices.ac.uk](http://www.informedchoices.ac.uk) – *course ideas based on subjects*
- [www.gov.uk/student-finance](http://www.gov.uk/student-finance) - *Student Finance*
- University / college websites and social media
- University / college admissions staff



# Money



# Child Benefit

## **Paid until age 20 if you are in:**

- Full time learning e.g. college, sixth form.
- Approved work based learning that doesn't pay a wage (e.g. study programme or traineeship).

## **Not paid if you are in:**

- A job / apprenticeship.
- Higher education.



# Child Benefit Extension

- Child Benefit stops at the end of August if you're not in full time learning (or earlier if you start a job / apprenticeship before then).
- If you're not fixed up at his point, Child Benefit Extension can be claimed for a further limited period.
- [www.gov.uk/child-benefit-16-19](http://www.gov.uk/child-benefit-16-19)  
Or call: **0300 200 3100**.



# 16-19 Bursary

## Vulnerable Bursary

Worth up to **£1,200**.

Paid if you are:

- In care / leaving care.
- Receiving Income Support / Universal Credit or certain disability benefits **in your own name**.

[www.gov.uk/1619-bursary-fund](http://www.gov.uk/1619-bursary-fund)





# 16-19 Bursary

## Discretionary Bursary

- Might be paid if you're in full time learning and facing hardship but can't get a Vulnerable Bursary.
- Can be a payment or help towards costs such as travel.
- The school / college / training provider decide who receives it and how it is paid.

[www.gov.uk/1619-bursary-fund](http://www.gov.uk/1619-bursary-fund)





# Next Steps!



# Autumn Term

- Careers Guidance appointments
- Open Events/Careers events- may be online
- Use your options booklet guide and [www.sheffieldprogress.co.uk](http://www.sheffieldprogress.co.uk)
- Find out your predicted grades
- Prepare your Sheffield Progress application



# Applications

**Information to follow**



# Further Support

- Careers interviews are being conducted by Sara Roberts – our Careers Adviser – and some of you will already have had these and others will.
- Please see Ms Daughtry – Our Progression Manager – based in the Careers Hub (in the Library) should you have any questions/queries.
- Mr Simmons, Mr Adams, Mr Atkinson, Mr Skinner are happy to answer any Post 16 queries also.



# Personal Statement: Do & Don't

- **Do** use your best English and check your spelling and grammar are correct (or ask someone to check it for you).
- **Do** be positive and enthusiastic – try to highlight your good points, as this will help your application.
- **Do** ask people that you trust, like your teacher/adviser or parent/carer to read through what you have written and give you feedback.
- **Don't** exaggerate – you might be asked about what you have written if you attend an interview with the course provider.
- **Don't** leave it until the last minute – it's a good idea to give yourself time to think about what you write to make sure you don't forget anything.

Once you have written a personal statement, you can use it for different things in the future – applying to college/sixth form/apprenticeships, your CV, job applications etc

# ASK FOR HELP!

**No question is a silly question – always ask if you are unsure of anything!**



**The Careers Team are here for YOU!!**