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Age **13-15**

**SCHOOL YEars 8 and 9**

Choose your GCSEs (General Certificate of Secondary Education).

Usually you study at least 6 subjects.

Talk to your teachers.

What do you like studying?

What do you want to do as a job?

Which subjects are necessary for certain jobs?

You must study Maths, English, and Science.

Maths and English Language are needed for all courses or jobs.



Age **15-16**

**SCHOOL Years 10 and 11**

Study and prepare for your GCSE exams.

Decide **where** you will study after 16 years old.

* Sixth Form at a school
* Sixth Form at a college
* Further Education College
* An apprenticeship

Decide **what** you will study after 16 years old.

* A-Levels
* BTECs/Technical courses
* Qualifications through an apprenticeship

Take your GCSE exams in May and June of Year 11.

Get your results in August after you leave school.

Universities and jobs usually ask for grades 4 or 5 as a minimum.



Age **16 – 18+**

**Further education choices**

# At a sixth form in school or at a college, you can study:

**A Levels**

* Study for two years
* Exams at the end
* Academic
* Many subjects to choose from
* Accepted by all universities and colleges
* Level three qualification

**BTECs**

* Study for one or more years
* Practical
* Exams and coursework
* Related to careers
* Level two or three qualification

# OR working in a career you can study at the same time with:

**Apprenticeships**

* Develop skills for a specific career
* Work 80% of the time
* Study 20% of the time
* Apply like a job
* All levels of qualifications



Age **18+**

**Higher education choices**

# At a university or a university centre, you can study:

**Degrees – Bachelor of Arts (BA); Bachelor of Sciences (BSc); other degrees**

* Three to five years
* Academic
* Needed for many careers

**Higher National Diplomas (HND)**

* Two years
* Vocational – leads straight to a career
* Equivalent to two years of a degree
* Can continue to a full degree

**Higher National Certificate (HNC)**

* One year
* Vocational – leads straight to a career
* Equivalent to one year of a degree
* Can continue to a full degree

**Foundation degrees (FD)**

* Two years
* Academic with work-based learning
* Can continue to a full degree

# At work you can continue studying with:

**Apprenticeships**

* Develop skills for a specific career
* Work 80% of the time
* Study 20% of the time
* Apply like a job
* Level four qualifications and above available.