



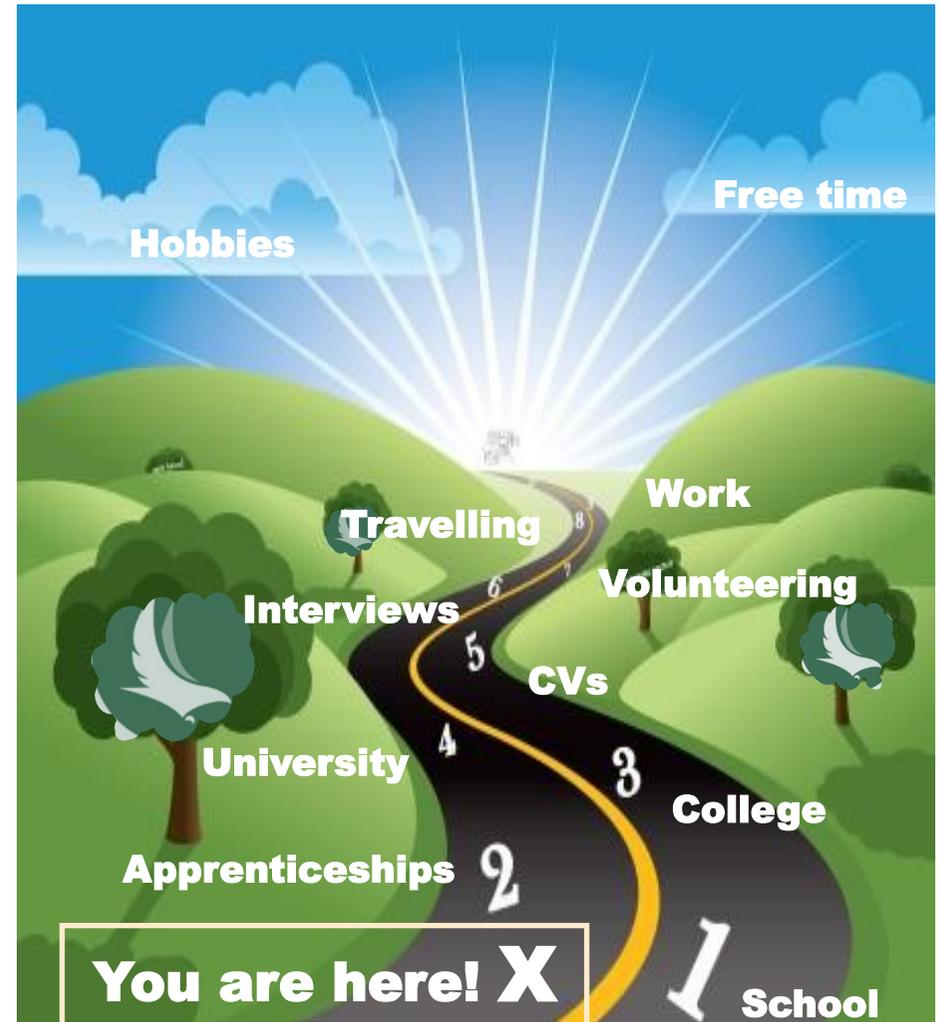
# Post-16 Option Booklet







**Post-16 Options:**  
**How does it all work?**



## Post-16 Education – What are my options?

Since 2013, the Raising of the Participation Age law has stated that young people must be in some form of 'education or training' until they are 18. This can include:

**Full-Time Study** – this could be a qualification taken at a sixth form, college or training provider, totaling 540 hours of learning time per year, or around 18 hours per week.

**Apprenticeships** – this involves working for an employer while studying for a qualification as part of your training. Usually, work makes up 80% of an apprenticeship and at least 20% (or one day a week) should be dedicated to studying.

**Traineeships** – this is an option for students who would like to do an apprenticeship but may not have the experience, skills or qualifications to do so yet. Traineeships can last up to six months and involve a work placement, Maths and English qualifications and support with finding an apprenticeship.

**Part-Time Study with Employment or Volunteering** – this could be working in a full-time job (classed as any work that takes place over more than two months and is over 20 hours per week) or volunteering (again, over 20 hours per week) while studying part-time at a college or training provider (totaling 280 hours of learning per year).

### How do I pay for post-16 education and training?

Education and training in the UK are free for young people until they turn 19. In addition, there is a 16-19 Bursary Fund to help students from low income families pay for things like transport, food and stationery, which can be accessed at any sixth form, college or training provider you attend after Year 11 <https://www.gov.uk/1619-bursary-fund>. Many organisations also have their own financial support for students, so check first!

<http://www.parentalguidance.org.uk/help-information/raising-the-participation-age-rpa>

<https://www.gov.uk/know-when-you-can-leave-school>

## Quick links for more information



Search and apply for apprenticeships online

[www.getingofar.gov.uk](http://www.getingofar.gov.uk)



Learn more about the options available after finishing school, including sixth form apprenticeships and university [www.careerpilot.org.uk](http://www.careerpilot.org.uk)



Read about how your subjects link to different careers

[www.futurefinder.yourlife.org.uk](http://www.futurefinder.yourlife.org.uk)

vInspired

Start volunteering to gain valuable work related skills and experience [www.vinspired.com](http://www.vinspired.com)



Improve your employability skills and start recording your experiences in a CV [www.barclayslifeskills.com](http://www.barclayslifeskills.com)



Mr Swaine will be available for any questions in room 211 or the Careers Hub in room 115

[a.swane@hansonacademy.org.uk](mailto:a.swane@hansonacademy.org.uk)



Online resource that will help your child connect with their future career potential, develop their employability and help them to explore future career and study options at school or at home. If you are not sure about the log in details please see Mr Swaine.

## Do your research!

No matter what you read online, it is important to check all information carefully. Although the Department for Education have stated that a Grade 4 will be considered the official 'Pass Mark' for students (<https://www.tes.com/news/new-gcse-pass-lowered-grade-5-4-dfe-u-turn>), not all colleges or universities may agree with this. For example, Kings College London and UCL both now ask for a Grade 5 at GCSE in English and Maths as part of their entry requirements, but Manchester, Leeds and Liverpool (all Russell Group universities) still consider Grade 4 the equivalent to a C.

## Use ALL the information available!

As stated above, different post-16 and post-18 pathways may ask for different entry requirements depending on the course and/or college. For example, some apprenticeships require only GCSE English and Maths at Grade 3 (D) and above, while some sixth form colleges ask for a Grade 5/6 (high C/B) in the subject students are wanting to take up from GCSE to A-Level. Using the following websites can help you to find the exact entry requirements you need:

**UCAS Progress** - <https://www.ucasprogress.com/search>

**Get in Go Far** - <http://www.getingofar.gov.uk/>

## Some useful references:

### Which University – How important are my GCSEs?

<https://university.which.co.uk/advice/gcse-choices-university/how-important-are-my-gcse-grades>

**Ofqual** - <https://ofqual.blog.gov.uk/2018/03/02/gcse-9-to-1-grades-a-brief-guide-for-parents/>

**The Student Room** - <https://www.thestudentroom.co.uk/gcse/exams/new-gcse-grades-explained>



## Sixth Form Colleges

Sixth form colleges typically focus on A-Level (Advanced Level) qualifications – two-year courses that end in an overall examination and a grade from A\*-E, with a similar structure to GCSEs but looking at the subject in a lot more depth. Students can study:

**Traditional A-Levels** - Subjects like **Biology, Chemistry, Physics, English Literature, English Language, Mathematics, Geography, History, Languages, Religious Education, Music, Art.**

**Alternative A-Levels** – Subjects like **Photography, Law, Sociology, Psychology, Business Studies, Film Studies, Media Studies, Economics, Politics, Sports Science.**

**BTEC/CTEC L3 Diplomas** – Some sixth form colleges offer BTEC/CTEC qualifications that can be taken alongside A-Levels. These are usually made up of a number of separate modules and include practical assessments and coursework, as well as exams. Subjects can include **Health and Social Care, Applied Science, Travel and Tourism and Engineering.**

Students studying A-Levels usually select three or four subjects (depending on their GCSE grades) that they want to study at sixth form and if they study four, can choose to drop one subject after their first year of sixth form.

Sixth form colleges also offer something called the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ), an independent project that can provide students with UCAS points to put towards university.

**Entry Requirements** – Most sixth form colleges usually ask students to have 5 GCSEs at Grade 4/C or above but make sure that you do your research, as some courses, such as A-Level Maths, Physics, Biology and Chemistry, require students to achieve a Grade 6 at GCSE in order to demonstrate their deeper understanding of the subject.

### Some local options:

Hanson School Sixth Form <https://hansonschool.org.uk/>

Notre Dame Sixth Form College <https://www.notredamecoll.ac.uk/>

Leeds City College Sixth Form <https://www.leedssixthform.ac.uk/>

New College , Bradford <https://ncbradford.ac.uk/>

## Hanson Sixth Form

With over **30** academic and vocational courses on offer, we are confident that you will find courses to equip you for your future. To accompany this, we run a large variety of enrichment, work experience and trips as well as career preparation activities to support your academic qualifications.

We have high expectations of our students and insist students have a positive work ethic, excellent attitude, attendance, punctuality and behaviour records. If you have these attributes you will succeed at Hanson School Sixth Form.

Making the right choice about where to continue your studies after Year 11 is a very important decision. Hanson Sixth Form is a stepping stone to your future and it is vital you choose the place that is the right fit for you.

The pathways we offer are:

### **A Level Pathway (2 year course)**

This route gives you the opportunity to study 3 A Level subjects and requires a minimum of 5 GCSE passes mostly at grades 9 to 5 (or equivalent) including English and Mathematics at grade 4 or above. These courses are assessed with final exams at the end of the 2-year course.



## Entry Requirements → What do I need to get in?

The recent changes to the GCSE grading system have confused some people, so take a look at the information below to make sure you know what grades you might need to get at GCSE in order to move on to your chosen destination after Year 11:

New grading structure	Current grading structure
9	
8	A*
7	A
6	B
5	C
4	
3	D
2	E
1	F
	G
U	U

### Key Points

- A grade 4 is a standard pass, whilst a grade 5 is a strong pass
- Only around 2-3% of students will achieve a grade 9, making it a little higher than the old A\*
- Although the new grades don't exactly match the old grades, colleges will mostly view them as follows:

**9-7= A\*-A 6=B 4-5=C 3-1=D and below**

- Vocational qualifications like BTEC and VCERT match up with GCSEs as follows:

**L1 = GCSE grades 1-3 (Pass-Distinction)**

**L2 = GCSE grades 4-9 (Pass-Distinction)**

- Most colleges, sixth form and apprenticeships accept the BTEC type qualifications, as do 95% of universities, including the Russel Group and Oxford!

**Other Sixth Form and College Websites** – Some colleges have online application forms on their websites, for example, **Bradford College, Shipley College, New College** and **Leeds City College**.

**Paper Application Forms** – Paper application forms are available in the school's Career Hub (115), for example, **Bradford College** and **Shipley College**.

**Google Forms** – Some colleges/sixth form colleges use google forms from their website as an application form, for example, **Notre Dame Sixth Form (Deadline: 14/01/20)**

**City Training Services** – Bradford College display there apprenticeships through City Training Services. Students can fill out the application online in the City Training Services website.

### **Combination Pathway (2 year course)**

This route gives you the opportunity to pick 3 subjects but allows you to mix A Level with Vocational courses and is a very popular pathway for many students. This pathway requires a minimum of 5 GCSE passes at 9 to 5 (or equivalent). English and Mathematics at grade 4 or above is expected.

### **Vocational Pathway (2 year course)**

This is a Vocational only route where you will study 3 BTEC or CTEC qualifications and you will need a minimum of 5 GCSE passes at 9 to 4 (or equivalent). English and Mathematics at grade 4 or above is expected.

### **Level 2 Pathway (3 year pathway)**

In year 1 you will study Level 2 qualifications to boost your skill base - to lead into Vocational level 3 courses in years 2 and 3. Typically you will have achieved GCSEs at mostly grade D. This route allows you to study GCSE Mathematics and/or English Language alongside BTEC First Award courses including Public Services, ICT and Applied Science.

If you have any queries or questions please do not hesitate to contact Miss Buckley or a member of the Sixth Form Team.



## Colleges and Training Providers

Colleges and training providers usually offer BTECs or other vocational qualifications that focus on a specific area of study in a practical way, which can include:

**General FE Colleges** – Offer everything from **Hair and Beauty, Childcare and Construction**, through to **Business Management, Games Design, Automotive Engineering, Food Technology, Fashion Design, Performing Arts and Photography**:

**Leeds City College** <https://www.leedscitycollege.ac.uk/>

**Bradford College** <https://www.bradfordcollege.ac.uk/>

**Craven College** <https://www.craven-college.ac.uk/>

**Shipley College** <https://www.shipley.ac.uk/>

**New College** <https://ncbradford.ac.uk/>

**Keighley College** <https://keighleycollege.ac.uk/>

**Leeds College of Building** – Specialises in Construction and Built Environment courses, including Multi-Skilled Trades and Civil Engineering

<https://www.lcb.ac.uk/>

**Askham Bryan College, York** – Courses in Animal Care, Agriculture, Equine Studies, Horticulture and Engineering <https://www.askham-bryan.ac.uk/>

### Entry Requirements:

**Entry Level/Level 1** – Can require anything from no qualifications up to 3 GCSEs (any grade)

**Level 2** – Usually requires 3 GCSEs at Grade 3/D or above

**Level 3** – Usually requires 5 GCSEs at Grade 4/C or above



## Post-16 options process – How does it work?

Year 11 students should begin applying for their post-16 options after they have had their pathway assemblies, taster days and their first two progression interviews. The application process for sixth form, college and apprenticeships takes place throughout the course of the academic year. Here is a projected timeline for 2019/2020:

- ⇒ 20/09/19: Sixth Form Pathway Assembly
- ⇒ 27/09/19: College Pathway Assembly
- ⇒ 04/10/19: Apprenticeship Pathway Assembly
- ⇒ 07/10/19 – 23/10/19: 1<sup>st</sup> Progression Interview
- ⇒ w/c 29/11/19: Sixth Form/College Taster Days
- ⇒ 02/12/19 – 18/12/19: 2<sup>nd</sup> Progression Interview
- ⇒ 02/03/20 – 20/03/20: 3<sup>rd</sup> Progression Interview
- ⇒ 20/08/20: GCSE Results Day – Place confirmed or options re-assessed

It is important for students to assess all the different pathways available to them after Year 11. It is also important for students to have more than one option. When making important post 16 decisions, students are faced with many factors that can change or completely disregard their decision.

There are different ways for students to apply for sixth form, college and apprenticeships, which can be seen below;

**Hanson Sixth Form** – Students who want to join Hanson Sixth Form will be seen by a member of the sixth form team during the progression interview process. They will then be sent an offer form which will detail what the grade, attendance and attainment requirements are by the school.

## Local Apprenticeship Information:



<http://www.theapprenticefinder.co.uk/>



<https://www.citytraining.org.uk/>



<https://www.bradford.gov.uk/>



<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/>

## Other useful links:

<http://www.apprenticeshipguide.co.uk/>

<https://www.getingofar.gov.uk/traineeships>



## Apprenticeships and Traineeships

**Apprenticeships** – Involve working for an employer in a specific role while being trained to do the job by experienced staff, in a combination of on-the-job and off-the-job training at a college or training provider (this must be at least 20% of the apprenticeship).

Apprenticeships must be at least one year long and all apprentices must be paid a minimum of £3.70 per hour (although many companies pay more!). Apprenticeships can now be undertaken in a variety of industries, including **Engineering, Graphic Design, Software Development, Hair and Beauty** and **Catering** (and can be started as soon as an individual turns 16 and has left full-time education, although you can apply beforehand).

### **Apprenticeships come in four different levels:**

**Intermediate/Level 2** (equivalent to GCSE) – usually requires Maths/English at GCSE

**Advanced/Level 3** (equivalent to A-Level) – usually requires 5 GCSEs at Grade 4+

**Higher/Level 4-5** (equivalent to Foundation Degree) – usually requires Level 3 or A-Levels

**Degree/Level 6-7** (equivalent to University Degree) – usually requires 3 A-Levels or similar

**Traineeships** – Opportunity for students aged 16-24 who do not have the relevant qualifications, experience or skills to start an apprenticeship but are interested in progressing on to one in the future. **Traineeships** involve a programme of up to six months of study, including a work placement, qualifications in Maths and English and support with finding a job or apprenticeship once the course is completed. Students are not paid for taking part but can apply for a 16-19 Bursary Fund to help with costs.