

Further Links:

UCAS Progress

This is the website which all Year 11 students use to search and apply for Post 16 opportunities. Information for parents / guardians is available on the site to help you guide your child.

<https://www.ucas.com/ucas/16-18-choices/help-and-support/ucas-progress-parents-and-carers>

Further Education

Information for all local Sixth Forms / Colleges and courses offered can be found on www.ucas.com. Search '16 – 18 Choices'.

Students leaving Year 11 and continuing with full time education will typically follow an A Level pathway or a Vocational route.

Due to reforms, those choosing A Levels now pick three subjects rather than four. Most GCSE subjects are also offered at A Level, however lots of new subjects are also available e.g. Accountancy, Sociology, Media Studies.

Entry requirements are typically 5 GCSE's A-C, though some A Level subjects require specific grades from particular GCSE subjects.

NOTE: A new grading system for GCSE's is being introduced which replaces grades A-G with numbers 9 – 1. In 2016/17 this change applies only to Maths and English GCSE; C Grade is now represented by a grade of 4 or 5 depending on overall marks. Some colleges and sixth forms are taking grade 4 as a minimum grade, others ask for grade 5. Always check course information with individual institutions.

Vocational Courses are typically single subjects and studied on their own. (*The exception to this is Level 3 BTEC Diploma, equivalent to two A Levels and BTEC Extended Certificate equivalent to one A Level with can be combined). Subjects on offer range from broad subjects e.g. Business Studies, Performing Arts to occupation specific courses e.g. Hairdressing, Joinery.

Courses are offered from Entry Level to Level 3 (A level equivalent) with course specific GCSE grade requirements.

See links below for local Colleges and 6th Forms:

Wakefield College	http://www.wakefield.ac.uk/
Pontefract NEW College	https://www.ncpontefract.ac.uk/
Leeds City College	http://www.leedscitycollege.ac.uk/
Leeds College of Building	https://www.lcb.ac.uk/
Elliott Hudson College	http://www.elliottHUDSONcollege.ac.uk/
Kirklees College	https://www.kirkleescollege.ac.uk/
Ossett Academy	http://www.ossettacademy.co.uk/
Outwood Grange	http://www.grange.outwood.com/

Apprenticeships

There are an increasing number of opportunities for young people leaving school to learn in the workplace, through apprenticeships. Traditionally apprenticeships have been offered in practical trades such as hairdressing, motor mechanics and bricklaying. These opportunities still exist, though there are now also apprenticeships in areas such as digital marketing, accountancy, quantity surveying and engineering.

National Apprenticeships Site www.getingofar.gov.uk

Amazing Apprenticeships www.amazingapprenticeships.com

Wakefield Apprenticeship Hub [http://www.wakefieldfirst.com/apprenticeship-vacancies\[1\]/](http://www.wakefieldfirst.com/apprenticeship-vacancies[1]/)

Traineeships

Traineeships are also now offered by a number of apprenticeship training providers. A Traineeship programme is designed to help young people progress onto an apprenticeship. Duration varies from 8 weeks to 6 months and whilst learners do not usually receive a salary they may have some expenses covered. Programmes typically include Functional Skills (Maths & English), work experience and employability Skills.

For further info: <http://getingofar.gov.uk/traineeships>

University & Higher Education

Your child may be considering university as a pathway into careers such as teaching, social work, medicine & law. Further information for parents & guardians on student fees & loans and the application process can be found below:

<https://www.ucas.com/ucas/undergraduate/getting-started/ucas-undergraduate-parents-and-guardians>

It is never too early to start planning for university choices and one of the best ways is to attend a university open day. See the link below for further information and dates:

<http://www.opendays.com/>

Useful advice for students making A Level choices can also be found here:

<http://russellgroup.ac.uk/for-students/school-and-college-in-the-uk/subject-choices-at-school-and-college/>

Job Opportunities and Growth Industries

The local job market is changing and new growth sectors have been identified where there is a growing demand for skills. All of the sectors listed below offer well paid jobs!

Creative and Digital Industries - Roles in IT and technology especially software development, data analysis and programming.

<https://www.thetechpartnership.com/tech-future-careers/>

Engineering and Advanced Manufacturing - Growth in low carbon technologies is predicted to impact on advanced manufacturing opportunities. There are a wide variety of roles in engineering & ideal for those who enjoy maths & science!

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

Construction – There is a great demand for new talent in the Construction sector, both for skilled trades and in professional & technical jobs. Not all roles are out 'on site' and there are many roles for both boys and girls!

<https://www.goconstruct.org/>

For more information about jobs in the local area take a look at:

Leeds Enterprise Partnership

<http://www.the-lep.com/what-we-do/skills/jobs-intelligence/>