

Y10 - Post 16 Options

Careers Information, Advice & Guidance 2026-27



**Guidance for Post 16 options for
Students & parents / carers**

Careers Information, Advice and Guidance

Post 16 Options

Overview:

- By law in the UK, all students **must remain in Education or Training between 16-18.**
- It is also mandatory to **re-take English & Maths GCSE** alongside your Post-16 courses if **you do not achieve a grade 4 or above** in both GCSEs.

The first step for students is to think about their **Post 16 options**, which fall into three potential choices:

Overview: The choices



When thinking about Post 16 options throughout Year 10 & 11, students should consider the following:

- What do they enjoy and what are they passionate about?
- What are their best subjects and skills?
- What are their Plan A, Plan B and Plan C options. How might these choices facilitate their long-term plans? (*Post 18 and beyond*)

This booklet is only a snapshot of what is on offer; there is a vast number of options available at different Sixth Forms, Colleges and companies and students are encouraged to research all the available options to **ensure they are on a pathway that is suitable and right for them.**

Timeline of Post 16 Options in Year 10 & 11:

YEAR 10

As part of the pastoral programme year 10 have already been working on the following this year:

- To be able to write a CV which demonstrates my employability skills
- To secure a meaningful & valuable Work Experience placement
- To begin thinking about Post 16 options, including Plan A, B & C

Q4

The final Quarter this year:

- Post 16 options evening
- CIAG 1:1 interviews with Senior leadership team. (W.B. 20th April). Student attends with parent/carer
- Plan A, B, C recorded, advice and support given based on pathway choices ensuring they are suitable.

YEAR 11

Throughout Year 11:

- Students will be exploring Post 16 options within the pastoral programme and assemblies
- Following Target setting in September, students should be researching their options and finalising their Plan A, B and C.

Q1/Q2

- Students will be attending Open evenings to all of their Post 16 options
- Students will be completing applications for their post 16 choices
- Year 11 Tutors & SLT members will be writing references for all students
- Students will be working very hard to secure excellent Q2 results to determine if they are on-track for their Plan A, B or C.

Q3/ Summer

- Interviews for Sixth Form, College and Apprenticeship places
- Students may receive offers for Post 16 places based on provisional grades
- Results day – hopefully students will have achieved the grades they want and will be able to enrol at their plan A option but have a good plan B & C in place if they should not.

How can parents and carers support?

- ✓ Have conversations with your child about their Post 16 options
- ✓ Checking websites for Colleges and Sixth Forms to identify the type of courses they offer and the entry requirements for each course
- ✓ Attend open evenings with your child to support them with their choices
- ✓ Use Go 4 Schools to regularly check your child's progress to see if their grades are on track for their Plan A and Plan B options

T- Levels:

Key information:

T-Levels are an excellent career-focused academic qualification

Students study one T-Level (equivalent to three A-Levels)

- UCAS points are equivalent to A-Levels and the T-Level qualification can lead onto University places, degree apprenticeship or directly into the workplace
- A T-Level qualification includes 9 weeks of work experience
- T -Levels can be completed at a Sixth Form or College

The career-focused programme at Ada Lovelace for students who:

- Have career aspirations in **Computing, Accounting or Science** and want to study **real-world applications** of the subject
- Will join our unique skills and leadership programme specifically designed for Ada Lovelace students
- Want **nine weeks' worth of industry placement. 80% academic qualifications** (at 6th form) with **20% of employer work experience** (in the workplace)

Entrance Criteria

6 x GCSEs Grade 5 and above and including Maths and English

Laboratory science - Grade 6 or above in science

Digital - Preferably GCSE Computer Science (Grade 6), but if not then demonstrating passion for programming through Skills Build or Code Avengers - 20 hours of self-guided learning allocated as part of the Post-16 application process

Accounting- Grade 6 or above in Maths

T-LEVELS

THE NEXT LEVEL QUALIFICATION

A- Levels:

Key information:

- A-Levels are an excellent general academic qualification
- Most students would study three A-Levels in a range of subjects,
- A-Levels can be completed at a Sixth Form or College

Twyford trust sixth forms – Strong outcomes

Progress made by A level students at Twyford and William Perkin is equally good.



Self-evaluation Summary Dashboard

Twyford Church of England High School
LA Ealing DFE 3074602 Produced October 2024

KS5 Progress 2024
328 matched pupils

Average Points Score (A-level)

+1.0 pts



Self-evaluation Summary Dashboard

William Perkin Church of England High School
LA Ealing DFE 3074000 Produced October 2024

KS5 Progress 2024
169 matched pupils

Average Points Score (A-level)

+1.0 pts

Examples of A-Level courses and Higher Education routes:

Student A: A-Levels in History (A*), Spanish (A*), Maths (A*)

- *Post 18: History Degree at University of Cambridge*

Student B: A-Levels in Geography (A), Psychology (A), Sociology (A)

- *Post 18: Law Degree at University of Warwick*

Student C: A-Levels in Chemistry (A*), Maths (A*), Biology (A*)

- *Post 18: Medicine at University College London*

Student D: A-Levels in Graphics (A*), Photography (A*), Geography (A)

- *Post 18: Graphic Design Degree at Kingston University*

Entrance Criteria

8 x GCSEs Grade 5 and above and including Maths and English

In addition most A level courses will require a grade 7 in that subject- details of this are towards the end of this booklet.

A-Levels at other Sixth Forms or Colleges:

*It is important to do some research into the different A-Level courses on offer at other Sixth Forms and Colleges and ensure you are aware of the **entry requirements** for these courses.*

Key information:

- BTEC, Diploma, UAL & Vocational Courses are a great choice for students who would like to focus on one subject area or prefer to have some coursework elements.
- Vocational subjects are related to a broad employment area such as Business, engineering or lead to specific jobs such as Hairdressing, Plumbing or Construction
- The majority of Universities will accept BTEC Level 3 qualification as UCAS points, but it is worth checking with individual Universities and Courses

Level 3 BTEC and Vocational courses:

Level 3 BTEC, Diploma, UAL or Vocational courses are usually completed over a **two-year course and are equivalent to two or three A-Levels** and you can be awarded a Pass, Merit or Distinction grade at the end of your course.

*The entry requirements for **BTEC / UAL Level 3 courses** vary between Colleges and Sixth Forms and depend largely on the type of course.*

Examples:

1. **BTEC Level 3 in Science at Brentside Sixth Form** – students need five 4-9 grades including Maths and English, plus grade 6 in Additional Science or 5 in Triple Science
2. **BTEC Level 3 in Civil Engineering at City of Westminster College** - students need at least six 4-9 grades including English and a grade 6/7 in Maths

Level 2 (GCSE equivalent) BTEC and Vocational courses:

Level 2 BTEC, Diploma or Vocational courses are equivalent to GCSE grades and they are usually a one-year course. They are a great stepping-stone if students do not have the entry requirements for Level 3 courses from their GCSE grades.

Students who **did not achieve their grade 4 in English and Maths** can complete a **Level 2 BTEC alongside re-taking their English and / or Maths** for one year before moving on to a level 3 qualification.

*The entry requirements for **BTEC, Diploma or Vocational Level 2 courses** vary between Colleges and Sixth Forms and depend largely on the type of course.*

Examples:

1. **Level 2 Diploma in Bricklaying at College of North West London** – students would need to achieve a grade 1-3 in English and Maths
2. **Level 2 Diploma in Hairdressing at College of North West London** – students would need a GCSE grade 3 in English and Maths or equivalent

Apprenticeships

Key information:

- Apprenticeships are placements which combine on the job experience with education training and are **available at Level 3 and degree level**
- Apprenticeships are a **nationally recognised qualification**
- They are available to **anyone 16 and over** and the Post 16 route is usually a two year course / placement
- Students will be paid for an Apprenticeship, the current **minimum wage is £3.70 per hour** but some companies pay higher than this (*with a £12,000 - £15,000 salary*)
- There are different levels of Apprenticeships including **Intermediate, Advanced, Higher and Degree Level**
- The **entry requirements vary across each company** – you will need to check with companies individually to see their entry requirements, terms and conditions
- The best place to find out more if you are looking for an Apprenticeship is search **Apprenticeships on GOV.UK.**

Further information:

Here are some websites you may find useful:

- <https://www.connexions-tw.co.uk>
- www.beyond16.co.uk
- <https://www.tlevels.gov.uk/>
- <https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>
- <https://www.ucas.com/further-education/post-16-qualifications>

If you have any further questions, please get in touch:

Mr. Fahy: efahy@adalovelace.org.uk

CareersIAG@adalovelace.org.uk

William Perkin Subject Specific entry requirements

8 x GCSEs Grade 5 and above and including Maths and English, with the specific grades below required to study that subject



William Perkin
C of E
High School

William Perkin Sixth Form Entry Requirements for 2026/7

Subject	Entry Requirements
BIOLOGY	Grade 77 in Double Science or Grade 777 in Triple Science with a 7 in Biology Grade 6 in Maths is also required
BUSINESS STUDIES	Grade 6 in English (Literature or Language) and Grade 5 in Mathematics
CHEMISTRY	Grade 77 in Double Science or grade 777 in Triple Science with a 7 in Chemistry Grade 6 in Maths is also required
COMPUTER SCIENCE	Grade 7 in Computing and Grade 7 in maths. If you have not studied computing at GCSE, you should have a grade 7 in maths and either 76 in double science or 666 in triple. Must have programming experience.
ECONOMICS	77 in Mathematics and English (Literature or Language)
ENGLISH LANGUAGE	Grade 6 in either English Language or English Literature and 6 in another humanity (e.g. RE, History, Geography)
ENGLISH LITERATURE	Grade 76 in English Language and English Literature (the 7 can be in either language or literature)
FRENCH	Grade 7 in French
FURTHER MATHS	Grade 9 in GCSE Mathematics
GEOGRAPHY	Grade 7 in Geography and Grade 6 in English (Literature or Language)
GERMAN	Grade 7 in German
HISTORY	Grade 7 in History and Grade 6 in English (Literature or Language)
MATHEMATICS	Grade 7 in Mathematics
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	Grade 6 in PE or 66 in Science. Students should also play for an external sports team
PHYSICS	Grade 77 in Double Science or Grade 777 in Triple Science with a 7 in Physics Grade 6 in Mathematics also required
POLITICS	Grade 6 in English (Literature or Language) and a Grade 6 in Humanity (History, Geography, or RE).
PSYCHOLOGY	Grade 6 in English (Literature or Language) and 6 in Mathematics
RELIGION, PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS	Grade 7 in RE and Grade 6 in English (Literature or Language)
SOCIOLOGY	6 in English (Literature or Language) and 6 in another humanity (e.g. RE, History, Geography or Sociology)

Twyford Subject Specific entry requirements

8 x GCSEs Grade 5 and above and including Maths and English, with the specific grades below required to study that subject

Specific Minimum Entry Requirements for Sixth Form Courses (GCSE Grades), Entry 2027

ART	Grade 6 in Art.
BIOLOGY	Grade 77 in Double Science or grade 777 in Triple Science. Grade 6 in Mathematics is also required.
BUSINESS STUDIES	6 in English (Literature or Language) and a 5 in Mathematics.
CHEMISTRY	Grade 77 in Double Science or grade 777 in Triple Science. Grade 6 in Mathematics is also required.
DRAMA	6 in Drama or Grade 6 in another Performing Arts qualification and a 6 in English (Literature or Language)
ECONOMICS	77 in Mathematics and English (Literature or Language).
ENGLISH LITERATURE	76 in English Language & English Literature (the 7 can be in either language or literature).
FILM STUDIES	6 in English (Literature or Language).
FRENCH	7 in French.
FURTHER MATHS	9 in GCSE Mathematics.
GEOGRAPHY	7 in Geography and 6 in English (Literature or Language).
GERMAN	7 in German.
GRAPHICS	6 in Art or Graphic Design.
HISTORY	7 in History and 6 in English (Literature or Language).
MATHS	7 in Mathematics.
MUSIC	6 in Music, Practical grade 5 and Theory grade 5.
MUSIC TECHNOLOGY	6 in Mathematics or RSL Level 2 Music Technology Merit.
PHOTOGRAPHY	No further specific requirements.
PHYSICS	Grade 77 in Double Science or grade 777 in Triple Science. Grade 6 in Mathematics is also required.
POLITICS	6 in English (Literature or Language) and a grade 6 in History, Geography, or RE.
PSYCHOLOGY	6 in English (Literature or Language) and 6 in Mathematics.
RELIGIOUS STUDIES	7 or A in R.E. and 6 in English (Literature or Language).
SOCIOLOGY	6 in English (Literature or Language) and 6 in another humanity (including RE, where you need a 6).
SPANISH	7 in Spanish.

Twyford trust progress pathways

Twyford Trust 14-19 Progression Summary				
Post 16 routes	Open Choice Level 3 <i>Students able to access all /most A-level combinations including STEM</i>	Guided choice Level 3 <i>Students able to access a more limited range of A-level combinations depending on entry grades</i>	Specialised/Applied Choice Level 3 <i>Students able to access specialist A-level combinations or L3 vocational options</i>	Open Choice Level 2 <i>Students able to access all /most L2 (GCSE standard) vocational options</i>
GCSE Grade Profile <i>(see additional notes below) *</i>	Likely to achieve GCSE Grade 7 or above in all subjects including English and Maths	Achieving GCSE average Grade 6 or above in all subjects including English and Maths and Grade 7 to access some higher level courses.	Achieving GCSE average Grade 5 or above in all subjects including English and Maths. May have one or two standout grades in areas of specialism e.g. creative arts /sport	Achieving GCSE average grade 4 or below
Descriptor	Students in this category are confidently achieving grades which will allow access to an open range of A level options. Choices will be guided by strongest or favoured subject & career direction (which should be balanced against specialised p16 vocational courses)	Students in this category have A-level combinations taken from a slightly more limited range. Students in these categories may also consider BTEC options rather than A-levels in order to pursue a very clear vocational direction	Students in this category are achieving grades which will support progression to a specific group of A level subjects which are likely to be in specialist interest areas (creative arts, PE, applied Business and IT).	Students in this category have a wide range of course options available within the BTEC vocational suite of courses taught at local colleges and some schools (will continue to study English and maths resit if grade 4 has not been achieved)
Post 18 Options	Access to Russell group universities (approx entry grades AAB or above), top ranked universities /courses (typical grade entry ≥ A*AA) or top apprenticeships	Access to university - inc selected Russell group uni courses (approximate grades AAB or above) in area of focus. Also apprenticeship programmes	Likely applicants for Higher education courses (approx access grades BCC /specialist courses e.g. Art Foundation / apprenticeships & direct workplace training	Likely to continue to pursue vocational training – potentially moving from L2 to L3 within the same suite of courses or moving to apprenticeship / work + training

Levels of education in England, Wales and Northern Ireland

Level	Qualification / educational route				
8	Doctorate (PhD)				NVQ 8
7	Masters degree (MA)				Degree apprenticeship / NVQ 5, 6, 7
6	Bachelors degree BA or BSc				
5	Foundation degree FdA or FdSc		Higher National Diploma (HND)		
4				Higher National Certificate (HNC)	Higher apprenticeship / NVQ 4
3	A levels Grades A-E	International Baccalaureate	T Levels	BTEC diploma BTEC certificate	Advanced apprenticeship / NVQ 3
2	GCSE Grades 4- 9 (C, B, A or A*)			BTEC first diploma	Intermediate apprenticeship / NVQ 2
1	GCSE Grades 1- 3 (D,E,F or G)			Foundation diploma / entry level qualifications	Traineeship / NVQ 1
		Academic route		Vocational route	Applied / work route