



Hope High School

“Learning for Life”



**Starting early is the best way  
to start!**

**This booklet provides useful information  
about future options that you may want  
to start thinking about.**



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## Local Colleges



**Preston College**  
**Tel: 01772 22 50 00**



**Runshaw College - Leyland Campus**  
**Tel: 01772 622677**



**West Lancashire College**  
**Tel: 01695 52300**



**Wigan and Leigh College - Wigan Campus**  
**Tel: 01942 761 600**

**Virtual tour on the website**



**Myerscough College**

**Preston Site Tel: 01995 642222**  
**Croxteth Site Tel: 0151 228 7162**



**Blackpool and Fylde College**

**Tel: 01253 352352**

**Email: [info@blackpool.ac.uk](mailto:info@blackpool.ac.uk)**



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**Cardinal Newman College**  
**Tel: 01772 460181**



**St Helens College**  
**Tel: 01744 733766**



**Carmel College**  
**Tel: 01744 452 200**



**Southport College**  
**Tel: 01704 500606**



**TMP - The Music Projects**  
**Tel: 01942 212617**



**Bolton College**  
**Tel: 01204 482000**

**All colleges will begin their open events in September. Keep a look-out on their websites for updated dates and times of events. Since COVID, most colleges have a booking system for open events. Please just ask if you need any support with this and school will be happy to help.**

**Your Careers Lead is Miss Lauren Kershaw**  
**kershawl@hope.lancs.sch.uk**



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# Training Providers



**CAST Fisheries**

**Tel: 01257 463012**



**4tech Moto Training**

**Tel: 01772 759100**



**Preston Vocational Centre**

**Tel: 01772 880680**



**Skills Construction Centre - Kirkham**

**Tel: 01772 686868**



**Wigan Warriors - Wigan**

**Tel: 01942 762888**



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**Preston North End - Centre of Sporting Excellence**

**<https://www.pnafc.net/pnecet/education/education2/>**



**Wigan Athletic**

**Tel: 01942 318090**



**The College Of Animal Welfare - Wigan**

**Tel: 01942 932585**

**[admin@caw.ac.uk](mailto:admin@caw.ac.uk)**

### **Useful Careers websites:**

**[www.lancashire.startprofile.com](http://www.lancashire.startprofile.com)**

**[www.nationalcareers.service.gov.uk](http://www.nationalcareers.service.gov.uk)**

**[www.icould.com](http://www.icould.com)**

**[www.apprenticeships.gov.uk](http://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk)**

**Labour Market Information – [www.lmiforall.org.uk/cm2/index.html](http://www.lmiforall.org.uk/cm2/index.html)**

**Career magazine – [www.careermap.co.uk/live-careermags](http://www.careermap.co.uk/live-careermags)**

**Please speak to Miss Kershaw at any time regarding college/post-16 education information.**



## A - Levels

### **A-LEVELS**

#### ***What are A levels?***

Advanced level qualifications (known as A levels) are subject-based qualifications that can lead to university, further study, training, or work.

You can normally study three or more A levels over two years. They're usually assessed by a series of examinations.

#### ***What grades do I need to take A levels?***

**You normally need:**

- at least five GCSEs at grades 9 to 4/A\* to C
- at least grade B in the specific subject(s) you want to study

However, the specific requirements needed to study A levels will vary across schools and colleges. It's important to check what you will need with the school or college you are looking to study at.

#### ***Who are they for?***

**If you're thinking about going to university**, most higher education courses require specific A levels or combinations of A levels (or alternative level 3 qualifications).

**If you're not sure what career or job you want to do**, studying a selection of A levels can be a good way of keeping your options open.



## BTECs

### ***What are BTECs?***

A BTEC, or 'Business and Technology Education Council' (the name of the body which originally oversaw it) is a practical-based, vocational qualification. It can be studied at a college or school.

BTECs provide the opportunity to gain hands-on experience in a field or subject, and are a viable alternative to the more theory-focused, classroom-based ways of learning which you might be put off by.

### ***What can you study at BTEC?***

A wide range of subjects can be studied at BTEC level - 2,000 qualifications across 16 sectors, to be exact. Some of these lend themselves to the BTEC-way of learning due to their practical nature. However, you might be surprised by a few of the subjects available at BTEC level, such as computing or engineering. Other subjects you can study at BTEC include childcare, construction, media, performing arts, sports science and travel and tourism.

### ***What are the different types of BTEC?***

BTECs are very flexible. They can be studied at various levels, each of which equates to a different qualification:

**BTEC Level 1 and 2** - equivalent to a GCSE

**BTEC Level 3** - equivalent to an A-level

**BTEC Level 4-5** - equivalent to 1st and 2nd year of an Undergraduate Degree



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# T Levels

**T-LEVELS**

THE NEXT LEVEL QUALIFICATION

## *About T Levels*

**T Levels are a brand-new, 2 year qualification that you can do as an alternative to A Levels, other post-16 courses or an apprenticeship. They bring classroom learning and an extended industry placement together on a course designed with businesses and employers.**

## *A New Choice*

**T Levels are ideal if you have finished your GCSEs and want the knowledge and experience to get straight into employment, an apprenticeship or higher education.**

**You'll spend 80% of your time in the classroom and 20% on a 45-day placement with an employer to give you the skills and knowledge companies look for.**

## *From 2020 Onwards*

**One T Level takes 2 years of full-time study and is equivalent to 3 A levels.**

**The first 3 T Levels have started at selected colleges and schools in England, with more coming in the following years.**

**To find out more visit: <https://www.tlevels.gov.uk>**





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# Apprenticeships

## *What is an Apprenticeship?* Apprenticeships

**An apprenticeship is a real job where you learn, gain experience and get paid.**

**You're an employee with a contract of employment and holiday leave. By the end of an apprenticeship, you'll have the right skills and knowledge needed for your chosen career.**

**It can take between one and six years to complete an apprenticeship depending on which one you choose, what level it is and your previous experience. It's funded from contributions made by the government and your employer.**

### *To become an apprentice, you must:*

- **be 16 or over**
- **not already be in full time education**
- **spend at least 50% of your working hours in England**

### *As an apprentice you will*

- **learn and gain hands-on experience in a real job**
- **get paid**
- **get training for a specific job role**
- **be on a career path with lots of future potential**

**To find out more visit: <https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk>**



## Traineeships

### ***What is a Traineeship?***

**A traineeship is an education and training programme which incorporates work experience, preparing young people for their future careers by helping them to become ‘work ready’.**

**Designed for people aged 16 to 24 who don’t yet have the appropriate skills or experience, traineeships provide the essential work preparation training, English, maths and work experience needed to secure an apprenticeship or employment.**

### ***A traineeship has three core elements:***

- **a high-quality work experience placement with an employer**
- **work preparation training, provided by the training organisation**
- **English and Maths support, if required, provided by the training organisation.**

**Traineeships last anything up to a maximum of 6 months with the content tailored to the needs of the business and the individual.**

**To find out more visit <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/traineeships-2>**