BLACKPOOL AND THE FYLDE COLLEGE SEPTEMBER 2021 SCHOOL LEAVER MINI-GUIDE









STAY REAL.

GO FAR.

Join the B+FC Community and start to turn your future career dreams into reality.

TECHNICAL AND PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS DESIGNED WITH INDUSTRY TO GET YOU READY FOR DEGREE-LEVEL STUDY AND EMPLOYMENT.

+ A planned industry placement for every full-time student + Real-life learning designed for the real world



At B&FC, we're passionate about supporting you to achieve your university and career ambitions. We offer outstanding teaching and learning as part of a safe, friendly community, providing you with all the knowledge, skills and experience you need to progress towards a bright, rewarding future.

Working with over 1,800 employers enables us to tailor our courses to meet the needs of industry. Taught by our industry specialists with access to state-of-the-art facilities and a guaranteed industry placement, you will develop technical and professional skills to give you a head start on your chosen future career.

As a 'learning and growth' organisation, joining the B&FC Community is as much about the journey as the destination and we'll encourage you all the way.

Throughout your learning adventure, you can look forward to meeting new friends and taking on new challenges through exciting opportunities to develop not just as a student but as a person.

If you'd like to join our community, please apply as soon as you can to reserve a place on your chosen course.

We look forward to heaving from you!





SCHOOL LEAVER OPTIONS EXPLAINED

With so many options available once you finish school, it can be confusing knowing what to do.

We've explained these different options... IN WORK

IN COLLEGE

APPRENTICESHIPS (18 MONTHS APPROX. — **80% WORK-BASED**; **20**% COLLEGE-BASED)

TLEVELS (2 YEARS — 20% WORK-BASED; 80% COLLEGE-BASED)

DIPLOMAS (2 YEARS — 20-HOUR NDUSTRY PLACEMENT)

A LEVELS (2 YEARS — 100% COLLEGE-BASED) (NOT AVAILABLE AT B&FC)

WHAT ARE THEY?

SUITABLE IF YOU...

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The and	
for you!	

...WANT TO START YOUR CAREER STRAIGHT AWAY AND START EARNING **A WAGE**

..ARE ACADEMICALLY STRONG WITH HIGH LEVEL TECHNICAL SKILLS AND HAVE A SPECIFIC CAREER GOAL

...HAVE A STRONG INTEREST IN A SPECIFIC SUBJECT

..ARE ACADEMICALLY STRONG, KEEN TO DO A DEGREE BUT HAVEN'T **DECIDED ON A CAREER ROUTE**

What you'll need

IDEALLY HOLD A RELEVANT POSITION WITH A LOCAL EMPLOYER AND BE WILLING TO LEARN*

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS 5 GCSES GRADE 5 AND ABOVE. INCLUDING ENGLISH AND MATHS

4 GCSES GRADE 4 AND ABOVE

5 GCSES GRADE 5 AND ABOVE. INCLUDING ENGLISH AND MATHS

STUDY MODE

20% COLLEGE-BASED **AND 80% WORK-BASED**

(RE-TAKE ENGLISH AND

MATHS IF NECESSARY)

CORE SKILLS, SUBJECT KNOWLEDGE, ENGLISH AND MATHS AND A **MINIMUM 315-HOUR (EQUIVALENT** TO 45 DAYS APPROX) INDUSTRY **PLACEMENT**

CORE SKILLS. SUBJECT KNOWLEDGE, ENGLISH AND MATHS AND A MINIMUM 20-HOUR INDUSTRY **PLACEMENT**

CORE SUBJECT ONLY

HOW YOU'LL BE ASSESSED

OBSERVATION, TESTS AND PORTFOLIO

EXAMS AND PRACTICAL SKILLS TESTS

EXAMS AND PRACTICAL SKILLS TESTS

EXAMS ONLY

WHERE DO THEY LEAD?

- + SKILLED EMPLOYMENT
- + UNIVERSITY + HIGHER/DEGREE APPRENTICESHIPS
 - + SKILLED EMPLOYMENT
 - Work-based degree-level qualifications
- + UNIVERSITY
- + SKILLED EMPLOYMENT
- + HIGHER/DEGREE APPRENTICESHIPS + HIGHER/DEGREE APPRENTICESHIPS

+ UNIVERSITY

NEED SOME ADVICE?

Why not talk through your options with one of our expert careers advisers? T 01253 504 474 E CAREERS@BLACKPOOL.AC.UK

LEVEL 3 TRIPLE DIPLOMAS AT B&FC

If you like the sound of fewer exams, a chance to gain industry experience and earning a qualification that employers and universities love, read on...

Just like A Levels, a Level 3 Triple Diploma is a 2-year qualification that provides the maximum 168 UCAS points you need for university. But unlike A Levels, Level 3 Triple Diplomas are more assignment based with the focus on developing industry skills and experience. That's why employers and universities like them so much!





WHAT'S COVERED

At B&FC, your study programme is designed to give you a head start on your future career. It covers theory and practical sessions in your chosen subject, regular progress meetings, career planning, employability skills, English and maths at the appropriate level and a relevant 20-hour industry placement.

WANT TO KEEP YOUR OPTIONS OPEN?

With our Combined Diploma programme, you can develop your skills in two subjects (one as a Double Diploma 2 days a week and 1 as a Single Diploma 1 day a week – a further day is spent on placement in your chosen industry).

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

We usually ask for 4 GCSEs at grade 4 or above, including English and Maths (depending on your results, you might need to start off on a level 1 or 2 course). If you get a grade 3 or below in your English and/or Maths you may still gain a place, but you'll need to re-sit these subjects as part of your study programme (but the good news is it won't take you any longer to do it).

What are you waiting for?

Check out our Level 3
Triple Diplomas and start
your application today:



T-LEVELS

→ 80% CLASS-BASED

→ 20% INDUSTRY

If you're academically strong but you have a skilled career route in mind, a T Level will give you a head start into your chosen industry.

T Levels are a new 2-year qualification that lead to university, skilled employment and higher/degree apprenticeships. They've been designed with employers and businesses to provide the skills that industry needs, which means you get to play a key part in shaping the future of the UK economy!



→ T LEVELS THE NEW TECHNICAL QUALIFICATION → T LEVELS THE NEW TECHNICAL QUALIFICATION

WHY DO A T LEVEL?

A T Level is equivalent to doing three A Levels, but along with the 168 UCAS points needed for university you'll develop high level technical skills via a relevant 315-hour industry placement. That means around 20% of your time is spent in industry, getting real on-the-job experience for your future career.

WHAT'S COVERED

Along with your industry placement, relevant theory and practical sessions will ensure you develop the exact knowledge and skills needed to succeed in your chosen industry. Your T Level is also made up of regular progress meetings, career planning, employability skills, and English and maths at the appropriate level.

WHAT ABOUT ASSESSMENT?

You'll be pleased to know it's not all exams either – you'll also have skills tests. These will combine to give you an overall grade of pass, merit or distinction.

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

The entry requirements are the same as for A Levels - 5 GCSEs at grade 5 or above, including English and Maths.

What are you waiting for?

Check out our Tlevel
qualifications and start
your application toolay.

MOLLY, WHO WENT TO ST MARYS, IS ONE OF THE FIRST TO DO THE NEW DIGITAL T LEVEL AND SHE'S LOVING LEARNING 'HOW **EVERYTHING WORKS'.** "I chose this course because I want to be a game developer and I definitely think it will give me the skills I need. With A Levels, you're learning completely different subjects whereas with a T Level all the subjects relate to each other. We do quite a bit of practical stuff like programming and building machines and at the end of the course we'll be doing our industry placement. The facilities are amazing - they've offered us lots of free resources and if you need any equipment out of College they can support you with that too. It's really good." **MOLLY GRENNELL WALKER** T Level - Digital Production, Design and Development "The facilities." are amazing

APPRENTICESHIPS AT B&FC

An apprenticeship is the best of both worlds: you can start paid employment and work towards a nationally-recognised qualification at the same time...

If you're keen to start your career straight away, an apprenticeship is for you. You'll be earning a wage for doing a real full-time job, learning skills in a real work environment. Most of your training is 'on-the-job', however 20% of your apprenticeship (equivalent to one full day a week) will be 'off-the-job'.





WHAT TO EXPECT

An apprenticeship usually takes around 18 months to complete. Learning is mostly hands on but 'off-the-job' training might include regularly or occasionally attending College. English and maths (at the relevant level) is also included. Assessment is by a combination of work observations, tests and a portfolio of evidence.

| WHY B&FC? |

The great thing about an apprenticeship is that it's personalised to you and based on your unique abilities and career goals. You'll also get lots of support from your own personal skills coach. Afterwards, you could continue to the next level, maybe doing a degree or higher apprenticeship (a degree-level qualification that your employer pays for you to do at work).

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

You should have a passion for your subject and be willing to learn. Ideally, you'll also need a relevant position but if you don't have one, we can support you to find the right role. We might recommend doing a pre-apprenticeship or a full-time course first, as this can help you to develop the experience, skills and qualities that employers look for.

What are you waiting for?

BLACKPOOL.AC.UK/APPRENTICESHIPS

Check out our apprenticeships and start your application today.

SKILLBUILD COMPETITION WINNER AND FORMER ST GEORGES STUDENT CONNOR IS LOVING HIS APPRENTICESHIP WITH ST ANNES-BASED FIRM ATKINSONS "I wanted to be a joiner from school. I did level 2 full-time at the College and then went on to a level 3 apprenticeship, doing four days a week at work and one day at College. Joinery's a lovely trade to be in - it's difficult at times but it's so rewarding and there's plenty of support. I used to be quite shy, but I wouldn't say I am now. I would say to go for it because you won't regret it. When you take a step back with the customer and see what you've built, and they're thanking you, it's a lovely feeling." **CONNOR GELDER** Level 3 NVQ Architectural **Joinery Apprenticeship** TESSO " versouro in g

SUBJECT CHOICES

We work with over 1.800 employers. who support course design and delivery and provide industry placements.

AUTOMOTIVE AND MOTORSPORT

The North West is the UK's second biggest region for automotive manufacture. Opportunities also exist in service and repair or even working for a motorsport team.

Career routes:

- + Vehicle Technician
- + Motor Vehicle Fitter
- + Motorsport Engineer

Employer partners:







BUSINESS AND ENTERPRISE

Lancashire's thriving financial and professional services sector supports more than 5,000 businesses, from accountants through to large business process outsourcing organisations.

Career routes:

- + Business Manager
- + Accountant
- + Project Manager

Employer partners:







CATERING AND HOSPITALITY

The Fylde Coast is renowned for its expertise in the catering and hospitality industry. We deliver the skills, knowledge and experience needed for when the economy springs back to life.

Career routes:

- + Head Chef
- + Craft Baker
- + Hospitality Supervisor

Employer partners:







CHILDREN. YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES

The childcare sector supports rewarding careers in nurseries, children's centres and primary schools with additional study and training facilitating the move into management or teaching.

Career routes:

- + Early Years Practitioner
- + Support Worker
- + Early Years Teacher

Employer partners:







COMPUTING AND DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

The North West is home to an increasing number of technology companies, with opportunities also available in organisations across all industries using IT.

Career routes:

- + Games Programmer
- + Software Developer
- + Web developer

Employer partners:







CONSTRUCTION

Lancashire's thriving construction industry is driven by major commercial and residential developments, supported by leading employers as well as thousands of small companies.

Career routes:

- + Project Manager
- + Quantity Surveyor
- + Joiner

Employer partners:







CREATIVE ARTS, DESIGN AND PHOTOGRAPHY

In 2019, approximately 5.3 million jobs in the Creative Arts sectors accounted for 16% of all UK jobs. Lancashire alone has 4,500 creative and digital businesses.

Career routes:

- + Graphic Designer
- + Art Director
- + Photographer

Employer partners:







ENGINEERING

Lancashire is one of the UK's leading areas for advanced manufacturing and engineering. A current skills shortage means there are excellent career opportunities available.

Career routes:

- + Electrical Engineer
- + Manufacturing Engineer
- + Aerospace Engineer

Employer partners:







HAIR, BEAUTY AND RELATED THERAPIES

The hair and beauty industry is experiencing a growth period and exciting opportunities exist with major salons and spas, in product retail and in the film/TV industries.

Career routes:

- + Hairdresser
- + Beauty Therapist
- + Nail Technician

Employer partners:





HEALTH AND MEDICAL PROFESSIONS

Health and social care is Lancashire's largest employment sector, employing 16% of the workforce. A rising demand for services is creating a range of employment opportunities.

Career routes:

- + Nurse
- + Paramedic
- + Midwife

Employer partners:







MARITIME AND NAUTICAL

The maritime sector offers a range of exciting careers both at sea and ashore, with generous benefits and starting salaries as high as £34,000.

Career routes:

- + Merchant Navy Deck Officer
- + Merchant Navy Engineering Officer
- + Electro-Technical Officer

Employer partners:







MEDIA PRODUCTION, FILM AND TELEVISION

The North West offers increasing opportunities in this field, with key clusters such as MediaCityUK home to 755 companies specialising in technology, media and telecoms activity.

Career routes:

- + AV Equipment Operator
- + Online Content Producer
- + Camera Operator/Editor

Employer partners:







PERFORMING ARTS AND MUSIC

We equip tomorrow's talent with the skills, knowledge and experience needed for when the music and entertainment industry springs back to life.

Career routes:

- + Actor
- + Musician
- + Director

Employer partners:







PUBLIC SERVICES (UNIFORMED)

There are more jobs available in public services than any other career path in the North West, with good salaries, progression and job security the norm.

Career routes:

- + Police Officer
- + Army/Naval Officer
- + Firefighter

Employer partners:







SCIENCE

Scientists are among the most highly paid professionals in the North West and over the next decade, R&D investment in life sciences will create 3,200 skilled jobs.

Career routes:

- + Biomedical Scientist
- + Veterinary Nurse
- + Forensic Scientist

Employer partners:







SPORT, LEISURE AND RECREATION

The North West has a vibrant sports heritage, for Premier League football in particular. Consequently, talented physiotherapists, nutritionists and fitness coaches are in high demand.

Career routes:

- + Leisure Manager
- + Exercise Scientist
- + Sports Coach

Employer partners:







TRAVEL AND TOURISM

We deliver the skills, knowledge and experience needed for when Lancashire's visitor economy and Britain's most popular seaside resort – Blackpool – spring back to life.

Career routes:

- + Resort Representative
- + Travel Influencer
- + Air Cabin Crew

Employer partners:







THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Eur high-tech facilities...

Our multi-million pound high-tech facilities which let you get 'hands on' with the latest technology and resources – are every bit as good as those in industry!





.. are ready when you are!

Whatever the future looks like, as part of the B&FC community you can look forward to good times and new challenges in a safe, friendly environment. Whether that's onsite, online or a mixture of both, we've got everything covered for you to achieve your goals and enjoy the journey.

A WINNING CV AND PERSONAL STATEMENT

Today's job market is so competitive, it's important to have all the skills and qualities that employers are looking for. If you're planning to go to university, these same skills will allow you to compete for the best institutions, industry placements and graduate openings after finishing your degree.

Look forward to good times and new challenges in a safe, friendly environment when you start your learning adventure with B+FC.

CV

AS SOON AS THE WORLD
RETURNS TO NORMAL THESE
EXCITING ACTIVITIES CAN
START TO GET UNDERWAY.

INDUSTRY Experience

A guaranteed relevant industry placement provides valuable experience and packs a real punch in applications for university and employment.

PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES

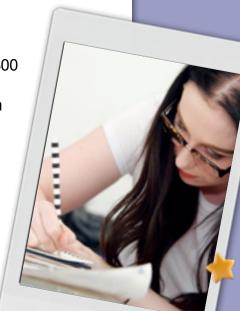
Our FE+ award captures all the 'added extras' you've undertaken while at College and demonstrates the personal qualities needed for success.

- Making a difference (charity work)
- Giving back (volunteering)
- Getting involved (Students' Union)
- Making your mark (competitions)
- Taking part (team sports, clubs and societies)

EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS

Industry expertise and more than 1,800 employer partnerships gives us the know-how to help you stand out from the crowd.

- Employer-designed content
- Industry-specialist tutors
- Real-life assignments
- Industry trips and lectures
- Specialist skills such as digital, research and information handling



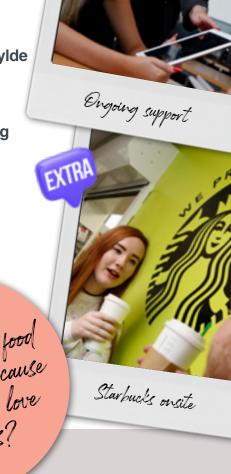
ALL THE SUPPORT YOU NEED

Right from the start, our friendly staff and advisers provide expert information, advice and guidance to give you the best learning experience possible.

Here are just some of the great benefits and services on offer...

- + FREE or discounted 24/7 Blackpool Transport travel pass.*
- + FREE bus service linking Bispham Campus to Poulton-le-Fylde
- + FREE healthy breakfast
- + FREE lunch for eligible students
- + Up to £1,200 Vulnerable Bursary if you're in care or receiving certain benefits*
- + Specialist learning support if you have a disability or learning/mental health difficulty (also available remotely)
- + Personal Progress Tutor to provide ongoing support
- + Help with childcare costs if you're a parent under 20
- + Low-cost membership of our Inspirations gym
- + Low-cost hair and beauty treatments
- + Confidential counselling
- + FREE careers service





FREE College bus

Contact us...

For information or for a financial support application form T 01253 504 224 E SSFUNDS@BLACKPOOL.AC.UK

You can also download the form at

BLACKPOOL.AC.UK/SUPPORT/FINANCIAL-SUPPORT-16-18S

For advice about help with disabilities and learning difficulties T 01253 504 356 | E LEARNINGSUPPORT@BLACKPOOL.AC.UK

STAY LOCAL. GO FAR.

WITH A UK TOP 10 UNIVERSITY DEGREE RIGHT HERE IN BLACKPOOL.





Did you know that at B&FC you can progress to one of a wide variety of degree-level courses, including higher and degree apprenticeships? And if you successfully complete a full level 3 qualification (and meet the entry criteria), we'll guarantee you a relevant place.³

Check out these other great reasons to choose a B+FC degree.

- + A UK top 10 Lancaster University degree4
- Gold standard teaching B&FC holds the highest rating in the government's Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF)
- Teaching to fit around your life (only 1-2 days a week timetabled sessions)
- + Smaller class sizes (average 15-20 students)
- + Over 1,800 partner employers feed into course design and delivery
- + Industry specialist tutors who keep their expertise up-to-date
- Dedicated learning mentors
- + A dedicated University Centre and Advanced Technology Centre

Save money when you stay local

COMPETITIVE FEES
WITH NOTHING TO
PAY UPFRONT

UP TO <u>\$500</u> WITH B&FC'S ADVANTAGE BURSARY⁵

UP TO £1,000 A YEAR WITH B&FC'S ACCESS SCHOLARSHIP⁵ FREE TUITION WITH B&FC'S OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP^{5/6}

FIND OUT MORE AND SEE OUR FULL COURSE LISTING AT

BLACKPOOL.AC.UK/DEGREES



APPLY NOW

TO SECURE YOUR PLACE IN THE B&FC COMMUNITY

1. COMPLETE AN APPLICATION

As soon as you've made your decision apply online by finding your chosen course and clicking 'Apply'.

2. ATTEND AN INTERVIEW

The next step is to attend an interview, which is your chance to chat with a tutor and ask them any questions about your chosen course. It also allows us to make sure you're on the right path to achieving your career goals.

3. GET CONFIRMATION OF YOUR PLACE

Following your interview, we'll write to you with full details of your offer, including any entry requirements you'll need to meet.

4. TAKE A CLOSER LOOK

We will invite you to our virtual and/or in-person open events, where you can find out more about your chosen subject area and speak to an industry specialist about the route to your future career.

5. ACCEPT YOUR PLACE

You're nearly there! You just need to contact our Admissions Team to accept your place, providing your full name, date of birth, student ID (at the top of your offer letter) and course title.

Finally, to secure your place you need to enrol. We'll be in touch with everything you need to know nearer the time.

APPLYING FOR AN APPRENTICESHIP?

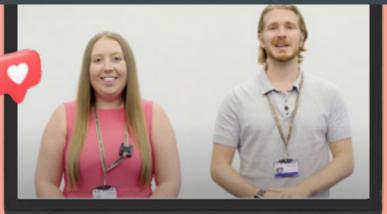
Just follow the process opposite. If you don't have a relevant position, you'll need to register on GetMyFirstJob.co.uk and start to look for a suitable role. In the meantime, we'll support you to get workready and invite you to complete assessments in English, maths and ICT.





At any stage of the application process, we're here to help and advise -

VIRTUAL OPEN EVENTS



They're the perfect time to explore the B+FC Community.

Take some time to check out the different options, chat to tutors and get answers to all your questions from our friendly, expert advisers.

Currently, all events are happening online but keep checking blackpool.ac.uk/upcoming-events for the latest updates.

These take place twice a month...

OPEN EVENTS

GET THE LOWDOWN BEFORE MAKING YOUR APPLICATION AT ONE OF OUR REGULAR OPEN EVENTS.

Find out more
BLACKPOOL.AC.UK/EVENTS

For exciting career routes in the merchant navy...

MARITIME COURSES
SATURDAY 16 JANUARY 2021 10AM TO 2PM



IN THE TOP 3% OF COLLEGES IN ENGLAND FOR 6 YEARS RUNNING*

Apply today to guarantee your place for September 2021!

GENERAL ENQUIRIES

T 01253 352 352 E info@blackpool.ac.uk

COURSE ENQUIRIES
T 01253 504 343

BLACKPOOL.AC.UK



















