



Careers Advice and Guidance

GCSE Prep Tutor sessions

Year 10

2017-2018

Respect, Commit, Achieve

Careers support and guidance available in school

16-18 Education and the Law

In the past, you had the option to leave school when you were 16. However, in 2013, the participation age was raised so you were required to stay in some form of education or training until at least their 18th birthday – and most will stay until the end of that college or school year anyway. This is to give you more skills and options for your future.

Mrs Bassan – Assistant Head Teacher – Responsibility for Year 11 GCSE Strategy.
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Mrs Dawes – Careers Leader. Based in Careers Office (D2)
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Mrs Bradnick - Careers and Work Related Learning Administrator. Based in Careers Office (D2)
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School's Independent Careers Advisor - Mr Pete Small, Youth Education & Training Initiative (YETI).
Based in Careers Office (D2) by appointment only on selected dates.

The staff named above are here to provide support, advice and guidance in helping you make your Post 16 choices – i.e. what you will do when you have left Dormston. We will deliver a programme to inform you of the different options available to you. We advise that you take advantage of all the school events/after-school sessions/activities to help you make the right choice for you.

Parents, relatives and your subject teachers will also be able to guide and support you but ultimately it will be your responsibility to research the different options available to you and your decision on your future pathway.

What are the choices available to you Post 16?

➤ **Sixth Form – A Levels**

Sixth Forms can be attached to a secondary school or they can be a college. You choose to study A Levels for a two year period. Usually you opt to study 3-4 academic subjects. For example: English Language, English Literature, Maths, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Law, Sociology, Psychology, Business, Economics, Computing, Languages, Drama, Music, Art, and many more. These are excellent qualifications that are valued by employers and universities. A Levels offer a great route to degree level study.

If you want to study A Levels the requirement is usually at least 5 (or more) GCSEs including English and Maths at level 5 or higher. Different colleges/courses may vary so you would need to check what entry requirements are needed. If you are unsure you can meet the grades required, speak to your subject teacher for advice.

Local Sixth Forms attached to schools include Bishop Milner, Ounsdale, Wolverhampton Girl's High, Wolverhampton Grammar School, Oldswinford, Royal School and Thomas Telford.

Local Sixth Form colleges include King Edward, Dudley Sixth, Halesowen and Wolverhampton.

➤ **College – BTEC and Vocational Courses**

These types of courses are usually related to a broad employment area such as business, engineering, IT, health and social care. They often lead to specific jobs such as hairdressing, accounting, professional cookery or plumbing. These qualifications are ideal if you have a particular career in mind. Again these courses usually studied for two years.

If you want to go down the BTEC/Vocational route the requirement is usually at least 5 (or more) GCSEs at level 4 or higher. Different colleges/courses may vary so you would need to check what entry requirements are needed. If you are unsure you can meet the grades required, speak to your subject teacher for advice.

Local colleges offering these courses include Dudley (Evolve), Halesowen, BMET (Stourbridge), Wolverhampton and Sandwell. There are also a number of UTC (University Technical Colleges) colleges opening in the area.

➤ **Apprenticeships**

Apprenticeships give you the chance to learn - and gain nationally recognised qualifications - while getting a weekly wage.

Apprenticeships take 1 to 4 years to complete depending on the level. Some apprenticeships take students from the age of 16. Apprenticeships are graded in levels. There are some higher level apprenticeships available in: science, engineering, technology, retail, construction, business, administration, environmental services, etc. However there is a lot of competition for these placements and companies will look to take the best of the best and this is reflected in their entry requirements. Some colleges provide apprenticeship routes and will provide education but they will require you to secure your own work placement and this route does not guarantee a salary.

Entry requirements will depend on the Apprenticeship you want to do. Depending on your grades in GCSE Maths and English, you may also need to take a literacy and/or numeracy test.

GCSEs achieved (in school)	Title	Level	Final qualification achieved
Fewer than 5 GCSEs at level 4 or higher	Intermediate	2	5 GCSE passes at levels 8 to 4
5 or more GCSE passes at level 4 to 8	Advanced	3	2 A level passes

You could then go on to:

Title of qualification	Level	Final qualification achieved
Higher	4,5,6 and 7	Foundation degree and above
Degree	6 and 7	Bachelor's or Master's degree

➤ **Traineeships**

You can enrol with a training Provider who will:

Provide high quality work placements – where you can learn what's expected of you in the workplace, and develop links with local employers.

Provide flexible training - in other relevant areas to help you get ready for work, such as job search and interview skills, time-keeping and team working.

Provide study in English and maths (if appropriate) – employers value these essential skills very highly.

Traineeships are unpaid. At the end of your traineeship, if there is a job or apprenticeship vacancy with the work placement host, you should receive an interview. If there isn't a job or apprenticeship opportunity at that time, you will receive an exit interview with the employer who provided the work placement. In this interview you can discuss what you've learned, and how it might help you with things like updating your CV and getting into a job or an apprenticeship.

➤ **Getting A Job**

You can consider leaving school and getting a job. At 16 years of age you can legally start work either full time or part time. If you are considering working full time you will need to have a clear idea of what it is you want to do and you will still have to be flexible in order to give yourself the best chance of getting employment. **Your employer must provide accredited training for you up until you are 18 years of age.**

➤ **Armed Forces**

The 4 main branches of the armed forces open to school leavers are The Army, The Royal Navy, The Royal Marines and The Royal Air Force. There are a vast range of jobs available in all services including technicians, chefs, and engineers.

Whatever pathway you are looking at, you need to ensure that you will achieve the entry grades required by the college/provider. As a school we will have to write a reference for you so your attendance, punctuality, behaviour and effort will all be reported.

There will be many assemblies/careers sessions/college open days during Year 11. We will keep you informed of any other important dates as and when they are confirmed. We will keep you updated by your school e-mail, assemblies and hand-outs. There is also a noticeboard in the corridor by D2 in front of Careers Office.

Local College and Sixth Form Addresses

Wolverhampton Grammar School

Compton Road, Wolverhampton WV3 9RB

Admissions contact number; 01902 422939 e-mail; jam@wgs.sch.net

King Edward V1 College

Lower High Street, Stourbridge DY8 1TD

Admissions contact number; 01384 398100 email; admissions@kedst.ac.uk

Oldswinford Hospital School (Sixth Form)

Heath Lane, Stourbridge DY8 1QX

Admissions contact number; 01384 817325

Dudley College

Broadway Campus – The Broadway, Dudley DY1 4AS

Dudley Sixth – 3A, Ednam Road, Dudley DY1 1HL

Dudley Evolve – Tower Street, Dudley DY1 1AF

Motor Vehicle Centre – Wolverhampton Street, Dudley, DY1 3AH

Admissions - Contact telephone number 01384 363363

Halesowen College

Whittingham Road, Halesowen, B63 3NA

Admissions contact telephone number; 0121 602 7777 e-mail; info@halesowen.ac.uk

Wolverhampton College

Paget Road Campus – Paget Road, Wolverhampton WV1 0DU 01902 836000

Metro One campus – Bilston Street, Wolverhampton WV1 3AH 01902 821300

Stourbridge College (BMET)

Hagley Road, Stourbridge DY8 1QU

Admissions contact number; 01384 344344

Bishop Milner Catholic College (Sixth Form)

Burton Road, Dudley DY1 3BY

Admissions contact number; 01384 816600

Ounsdale (Invictus) Sixth Form

Ounsdale Road, Wombourne, WV5 8BJ

Admissions contact number; 01902 504940

Wolverhampton Girls' High School (Sixth Form)

Tettenhall Road, Wolverhampton WV6 0BY

Telephone number; 01902 551515 e-mail; enquiries@wghs.org.uk

The Royal School

Penn Road, Wolverhampton WV3 0EG

Telephone number; 01902 341230

Thomas Telford School (Sixth Form)

Old Park, Telford TF3 4NW

Admissions contact number; 01952 200000 e-mail; admissions@ttsonline.net

Apprenticeship Applications and Traineeships

Apprenticeships combine practical training in a job with study. There are still entry requirements for apprenticeships and these will depend upon the individual apprenticeship but you will need to re-sit your maths and English GCSE (and science if applicable) if you do not achieve at least a Level 4. It is no longer just construction and engineering that offer apprenticeships - now you can go into 170 industries with 1400 different job roles such as design assistant, cabin crew, dental nurse or trainee accountant.

We will be offering advice and guidance in school on how to apply for apprenticeships (and traineeships) but you can get invaluable advice at <https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk/youngpeople/Pages/apprenticeshipstraineeships/apprenticeships.aspx>

Traineeships: Whether you go for a traineeship or apprenticeship will usually depend on your GCSE qualifications. All traineeships are the same level and usually last up to 6 months. They provide high quality work placements where you can learn what's expected of you in the workplace, and develop links with local employers; flexible training - in other relevant areas to

help you get ready for work, such as job search and interview skills, time-keeping and team working; study in English and maths (if appropriate).

At the end of your traineeship, if there is a job or apprenticeship vacancy with the work placement host, you should receive an interview. If there isn't a job or apprenticeship opportunity at that time, you will receive an exit interview with the employer who provided the work placement. In this interview you can discuss what you've learned, and how it might help you with things like updating your CV and getting into a job or an apprenticeship. **You do not get paid whilst you are on a traineeship.**

You will still need to complete an application form and usually send an accompanying letter to apply for apprenticeships and traineeships and the same advice and guidance applies as if you were completing a college/sixth form application.

Apprenticeships advice; <https://www.gov.uk/topic/further-education-skills/apprenticeships>

There are numerous helpful and informative websites that offer support and guidance with you with Post 16 choices.

National Careers Service

<https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk>

Barclays Life Skills

<https://www.barclayslifeskills.com>

Icould

<http://icould.com>