

# Destinations 2023

## What next after Sixth Form?

# Destinations 2023

- University?
- Degree Apprenticeship?
- College course?
- Employment?
- Forces?
- Gap year?

# This evening

- **Student Finance and Budgeting**

- Clive Sheridan

- Anglia Ruskin University

- **Apprenticeship routes**

- Jane Cure

- Directions

- 

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& Braintree Sixth Form

# Why Higher Education?

- Essential for some career paths.
- Develop new transferable skills and subject knowledge.
- Increase confidence and independence.
- Broaden experiences.
- Show what they can do.
- Invest in their future.

# Decisions to make

## When to study:

- Straight after sixth form
- After a gap year
- After working for a period of time

## How to Study:

- Full time
- Part time
- Distance Learning

# Questions to start them off

- Which subjects do I like/am I interested in?
- What am I good at?
- Which jobs am I interested in? (Try it out!)

# Before applying

- Register in the UCAS Hub to explore options
  - find and 'favourite' over 35,000 courses
  - search for virtual tours and online events
  - turn predicted grades into Tariff points
  - All 2024 courses are on their search tool now
- 
- Go to: [ucas.com/hub](https://ucas.com/hub)



# Research

- Learning from others – [student videos](#) and [blogs](#).
- [Career options](#) – use the [job profiles](#) to explore different career roles and pathways, or take the [Buzz quiz](#) to find out more about individual strengths, and what roles may suit you.
- The [Career Finder tool](#) is ideal for considering options after education, including searching for [apprenticeships](#).

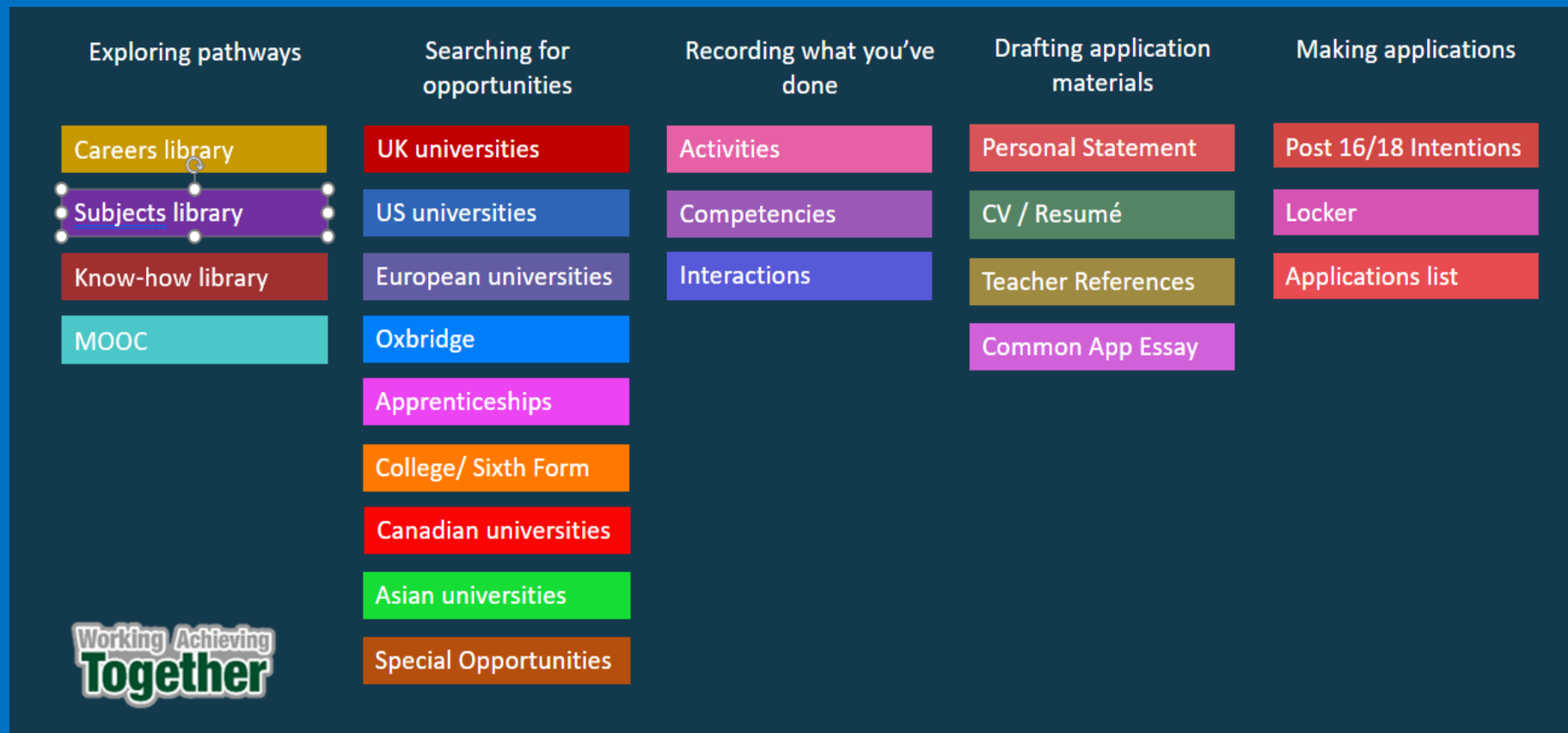




# The Unifrog tools



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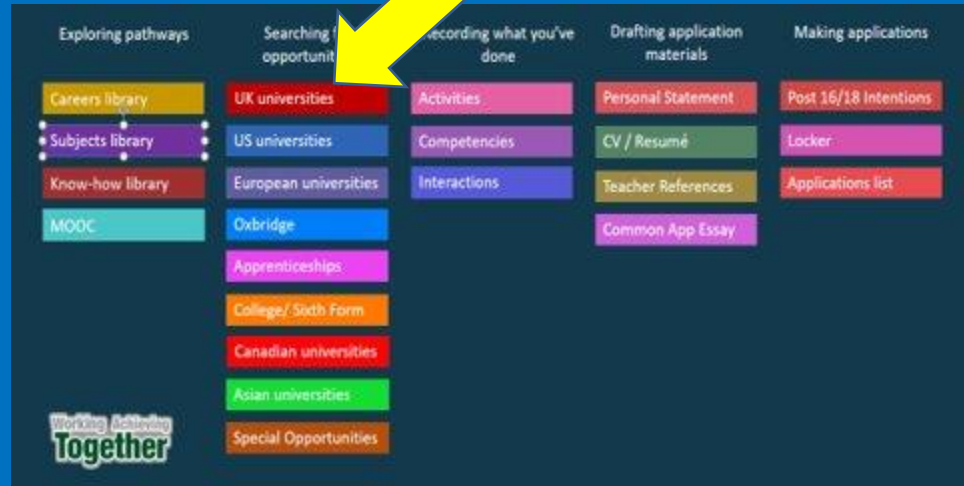


# Careers Library

- Over 1000 career profiles
- Presents information from a range of sources
- Includes qualifications and skills needed, interviews with industry professionals and labour market information
- Explores progression opportunities and what a working week really looks like



# UK Universities



- Students can enter subject of interest and projected grades to see all relevant university courses available in the UK
- Rank and filter opportunities by factors like hours of lectures, price of accommodation and graduate job rates
- Get direct links to university information pages, with impartial information on courses and institutions
- Save unlimited shortlists to refer back to later

# Special Opportunities



- Includes £5 million-worth of grants, bursaries, scholarships, contextual offers and extracurricular activities
- These can be filtered by circumstances or characteristics, depending on the access requirements of the opportunity
- Includes direct links for applying
- Unlimited shortlists can be created and referred back to



# Choosing the right degree



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- **Style** – from the traditional, with a focus on **subject-based** courses and research, to modern universities, with a greater focus on **vocational** courses.
- **Location** – some are based in large cities, others in smaller towns. This can have a major influence on the environment and lifestyle on offer.
- **Size** – larger universities can have more than 20,000 students, whereas some of the smallest have only a few thousand.
- **Culture and facilities** – influenced by a range of factors, including the diversity of students who attend.
- **What graduates do** – all universities collect destination statistics. It can be interesting to find out the types of jobs or further study students go on to.
- **Tuition fees** – can vary between course providers. Check if there are any scholarships or bursaries available.
- **Living costs** – accommodation, transport, and food can vary enormously.

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# Making Your 5 Choices

- Know where they are
- Go to Open days
- Read online student forums
- Ask experts
- Variety of entry requirements
- Realistic expectations
- There will be fewer offers at the top end
- Read the course specifications

# Key application facts



- Online application
- Maximum of 5 choices
- Choice restrictions
  - medicine, veterinary medicine/science, dentistry – maximum of 4
  - Oxford OR Cambridge
- One application cost of £27.50
- Equal consideration
- Invisibility

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# Oxford OR Cambridge Applications

- Early application – 16th October (\*can apply for rest after the deadline)
- Choose a college or make an open application
- Will need to be able to justify why they have selected a certain college
- Entrance tests



# Key dates for university applicants

**5 September** Applications can be submitted from this date

**2 October** BSF deadline for early entry personal statements

**16 October\*** Application deadline for courses in medicine, veterinary medicine/science, and dentistry, and courses at Oxford or Cambridge.

**31 October** Personal statement draft in to tutor; all research to be completed

**17 November** Final copy of Personal Statement due in; application form to be completed.

**30 November** BSF target to send off all applications

**31 January\*** Equal consideration application deadline.

**End of February** Student Finance opens (additional information will be provided nearer the time for students, parents and carers)

# Personal Statement

- Only chance to market themselves individually
- The same for all 5 choices
- A maximum of 4,000 characters, or 47 lines
- A minimum of 1,000 characters
- There isn't a spelling or grammar check
- No formatting is allowed
- Similarity detection service: every personal statement is run through software to check for plagiarism.

# Personal statement

- **Start Early!**
- Include:
  - academic achievements, past and present
  - why they're interested in the subject area
  - their knowledge of the subject area
  - Their enthusiasm to go beyond the syllabus (work experience; summer placements; wider reading etc)
  - what they enjoy about studying
  - details of independent study skills

# Tips for parents

- Make them do it but don't do it for them!
- Encourage them to show their interest by:
  - reading around the subject (books, articles, journals)
  - watching relevant documentaries etc
  - contacting experts
- Remind them about key experiences and achievements (but not too historic)
- Focus on skills learnt
- Show don't tell

# References

- **Changes this year:**

- Extenuating circumstances
- More subject specific

Please make sure we know!

Tell their subject teacher if they intend to take that subject

- **Attendance at tutorials and communication is vital**

# Apprenticeships

- Many are later in the year – more information to follow.
- Still need personal statement
- CV should be up to date
- Highly competitive so worth applying to university too
- Use UCAS and Unifrog too

# BSF Apprenticeship Support



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- Introduction to Apprenticeships talks
- Finding an Apprenticeship Workshop
- Application Form and CV Writing Workshop
- Mock assessment Centre workshop



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# Questions?



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# Our Achievements

We've got lots to shout about thanks to the National Student Survey 2022 results, and the Times Higher Education Impact Rankings! Here are just some of the headlines...

01

## A TOP 40 UNIVERSITY

We're ranked as one of the top 40 universities in the UK and in the top 350 in the world (THE World University Rankings 2023).



02

## TOP FOR HEALTH AND WELLBEING

We have been ranked 1st in the UK and 20th in the world for good health and wellbeing. (THE Impact Ratings 2022)

03

## ABOVE AVERAGE FOR STUDENT SATISFACTION

Our students have rated us 77% for overall satisfaction in NSS 2022 (above average for UK universities).

04

## NSS TOP 20%

Of mainstream universities in six categories, including: Learning Community, Assessment & Feedback, and Student Voice. (NSS 2022)

05

## NSS TOP 14%

For 'My course has challenged me to achieve my best work.' (NSS 2022)



# Student Finance



Schools & Colleges Engagement Team  
[Schooolsandcolleges@aru.ac.uk](mailto:Schooolsandcolleges@aru.ac.uk)

# Topics we'll cover

- Tuition Fee loan
- Maintenance Loan
- Applying for Student Finance
- Additional Support
- Repayments



# Maximum Tuition Fee: £9,250

*(the max. amount it costs per year to study a degree in the UK)*



State-Of-The-Art Facilities



Modern & Diverse Library Resources



Specialist Equipment



Expert Staff In All Teams



Student Services



# Tuition Fee Loan

- Provided by Student Finance England (SFE)
  - Covers the full amount of your course
    - Paid directly to the university
      - **NOT** means tested
      - Applied for yearly
      - No upfront fee





# Maximum Tuition Fee: £9,250

*(the max. amount it costs per year to study a degree in the UK)*



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Student Services

# The Maintenance Loan



- A contribution towards your living costs
- Partly means tested
- Household income dependant
- Paid in 3 instalments directly into the student's bank account

# Student maintenance loan figures 2023/24

<b>Maintenance Loan 2023/24</b>		<u>Household income</u>	<u>Living at home</u>	<u>Away from home (Excl. London)</u>	<u>Away from home (London)</u>
All eligible students can apply for a loan		£0 to £25,000	£8,400	£9,978	£13,002
The amount you receive is means tested on your parents'/household income		£30,000	£7,694	£9,265	£12,227
		£35,000	£6,988	£8,552	£11,571
<u>Full Time Student</u>	<u>Maximum Loan 23/24</u>	£40,000	£6,282	£7,839	£10,825
Living at home	£8,400	£45,000	£5,576	£7,125	£10,120
Living away from home (outside of London)	£9,978	£50,000	£4,869	£6,412	£9,374
Living away from home (Inside London eg. Brunel)	£13,022	£55,000	£4,163	£5,699	£8,668
		£60,000	£3,698	£4,986	£7,923
You spend a year of a UK course studying abroad	£11,427	£65,000	£3,698	£4,651	£7,217



# Maintenance Loan- what it covers:

- Accommodation
- Food
- Bills
- Clothes & toiletries
- Cleaning products
- Travel/public transport
- Socialising
- Clubs, Societies, gym membership
- TV Licence- £159 per year
- Mobile phone contract



**a.r.u.**

# Budgeting Top Tips

- Learn to budget- use a planner
- Understand *Needs* vs. *Wants*
- Save now
- Buy now in readiness
- Money health check
- Plan your meals & cook
- Student discounts
- Reach out and ask for support!

# Additional Support

**Bursaries and Scholarships:** Do your research to find out what is available – eligibility and criteria applies.

**Long Course Loan:** Available for full-time courses exceeding 30 weeks and 3 days.

**Disabled Student Allowance (DSA):** Not just for physical disabilities.

**Parents Learning Allowance:** If you are a parent when you are studying – means tested.

**Adult Dependant Grant:** If you are a carer for somebody else – means tested.

*Our Money Advice Team are on hand to offer information, advice and guidance.*



# Applying for Student Finance



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Register online  
[www.gov.uk/student-finance](http://www.gov.uk/student-finance)

Parents/Guardians or  
Partner section

Application and proof of  
ID  
(Check Eligibility)

Nothing paid until student  
is confirmed as registered



# Repaying the loan

- Repayments start at £25,000+
- Repay 9% on earnings above £25,000
- The amount paid back is based on **what you earn**, not what you owe
  - Doesn't affect your credit rating
    - Taken directly from salary
  - You can overpay, with no penalty
  - Loan cancelled after 40 years



# Repayment examples



Amira  
earns **£38,000**  
per year

Her income before  
tax is **£3,166**  
per month

Student Loan Repayment is  
**£97.47**  
per month



Michael  
earns **£28,000**  
per year

His income before  
tax is **£2,333**  
per month

Student Loan Repayment is  
**£22.50**  
per month



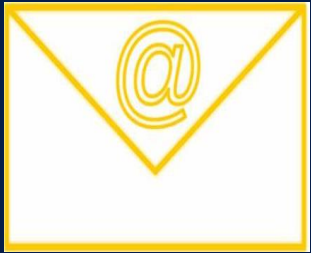
Emma  
earns **£24,975**  
per year

Her income before  
tax is **£2,085**  
per month

Student Loan Repayment is  
**£0.00**  
per month



[anglia.ac.uk/student-life/help-with-finances](https://anglia.ac.uk/student-life/help-with-finances)



[answers@aru.ac.uk](mailto:answers@aru.ac.uk)



[@AngliaRuskin](https://twitter.com/AngliaRuskin)



**Thank you for joining us today!**

**We are happy to take your questions.**







# Directions

CAREERS, INFORMATION, ADVICE & GUIDANCE

# Options after Sixth Form

Degree Apprenticeships

Higher Apprenticeships

Employment

University

GAP Year



# Content

This presentation will cover:

- Higher/Degree Apprenticeships –
  - The basics
  - Work areas covered
  - Pros and cons
  - Further information websites
- Apprenticeship Vacancies
  - Where to look
  - Selection process



# Apprenticeships – the basics

## What is an Apprenticeship?

An Apprenticeship is a paid work based learning programme which leads to nationally recognised qualifications in specific vocational areas.

## Levels of Apprenticeships

- ▶ Degree - Level 6/7 is equivalent to Bachelor's/Master's Degree.
- ▶ Higher - Level 4/5 is equivalent to Higher National Diploma/Foundation Degree.
- ▶ Advanced - Level 3 is equivalent to 2 'A' Levels at grade C.
- ▶ Intermediate - Level 2 is equivalent to 5 GCSE's grade 9 – 4.

# Apprenticeships – the basics

## How long does an apprenticeship take to complete?

- ▶ Degree apprenticeships last between 3 – 6 years.
- ▶ Higher apprenticeships last between 1 – 4 years with many moving onto a degree apprenticeship.

## What are the entry requirements?

These will vary from employer to employer with some requiring specific grades and subjects.

- ▶ Degree apprenticeships – tend to require 3 'A' levels or an equivalent Level 3 qualification (similar to entry requirements for a traditional degree course).
- ▶ Higher apprenticeships – typical requirements are a minimum of 2 'A' levels or an equivalent Level 3 qualification.

# Apprenticeships – the basics

## What does a Higher/Degree apprenticeship involve?

- ▶ There is an apprenticeship standard for each job role which sets out the knowledge, skills and behaviours required for that role.
- ▶ A minimum of 20% of an apprentice's time must be spent on off the job training/study. The employer will partner up with a specific college, training provider or university to deliver this.
- ▶ An apprentice may study in a number of different ways:
  - day release
  - block release
  - online
  - a combination of the above

# Apprenticeships – the basics

## How is it assessed?

Apprentices must take an independent assessment at the end of their training which tests their ability to do the job as well as their academic learning. The assessment methods may vary but could involve written exams, and observation of work. There may also be assignments to do throughout the course.



Please Note!

Every apprenticeship is different and it is important to check the details with the employer.

# Apprenticeships

## What sectors are higher and degree apprenticeships currently available in?

Agriculture, Environmental & Animal Care      Engineering & Manufacturing  
Arts, Media and Publishing      Health, Public Service & Care  
Business, & Administration      Information & Communication Technology  
Catering & Hospitality      Legal, Finance & Accounting  
Construction, Planning & Built Environment      Protective Services  
Creative & Design      Retail & Commercial Enterprise  
Digital      Sales, Marketing & Procurement  
Education and Childcare      Science and Maths  
Transport & Logistics

The Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education website lists individual job roles.

[www.instituteforapprenticeships.org/apprenticeship-standards/](http://www.instituteforapprenticeships.org/apprenticeship-standards/)



# Apprenticeships - advantages



- ▶ No student debt as tuition fees are paid for.
- ▶ Earn a salary while learning.
- ▶ Gain hands-on experience in your chosen career.
- ▶ Start on career path earlier.

# Apprenticeships - disadvantages



- ▶ It is not an easy option. An apprentice needs to balance academic study with work commitments — time management skills required.
- ▶ Although studying a higher education qualification, the student life experience will be different compared to those studying full-time.
- ▶ Location of vacancies – what is available locally/within commuting distance?
- ▶ Might not be a possible route for career choice.

# Apprenticeships

## Need more information?

[www.gov.uk/become-apprentice](http://www.gov.uk/become-apprentice)

[www.ucas.com/apprenticeships](http://www.ucas.com/apprenticeships)

[www.ratemyapprenticeship.co.uk](http://www.ratemyapprenticeship.co.uk)

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com>



Apprenticeship standards –

The Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education has information on each job role. This includes content, typical entry requirements and length of the apprenticeship.

[www.instituteforapprenticeships.org/apprenticeship-standards/](http://www.instituteforapprenticeships.org/apprenticeship-standards/)

# Apprenticeships

## Need more information?

Apprentice stories and profiles

[www.notgoingtouni.co.uk/inspirations](http://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk/inspirations)

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/apprentice-stories/>

[www.schools.ratemyapprenticeship.co.uk/student-success-stories](http://www.schools.ratemyapprenticeship.co.uk/student-success-stories)

Parents packs –

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/parent-zone/>

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/resources/?parents=1>

[www.ratemyapprenticeship.co.uk/advice/apprenticeships-parents](http://www.ratemyapprenticeship.co.uk/advice/apprenticeships-parents)



# Apprenticeship vacancies – where to look

National Apprenticeship Service



Company websites



University websites



Careers Information and Job Board websites



Social Media



# Vacancy websites

## National Apprenticeship Service

[www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/apprenticeshipsearch](http://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/apprenticeshipsearch)

[www.gov.uk/government/publications/higher-and-degree-apprenticeships](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/higher-and-degree-apprenticeships) - scroll down to the Higher and Degree vacancy listing.

## Careers information and job board websites

<https://careerfinder.ucas.com>

[www.notgoingtouni.co.uk](http://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk)

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/higher-degree-listing>

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/vacancies/>

[www.essexopportunities.co.uk/search-opportunities/apprenticeships](http://www.essexopportunities.co.uk/search-opportunities/apprenticeships)

[www.indeed.co.uk](http://www.indeed.co.uk)

[www.getmyfirstjob.co.uk](http://www.getmyfirstjob.co.uk)

**University websites** – for example Anglia Ruskin University lists vacancies.

<https://aru.ac.uk/study/degree-apprenticeships/employer/current-vacancies>

# Vacancy Example

## **Environmental Practitioner Degree Apprenticeship**

**Employer** – The Environment Agency      **Annual salary** - £19,370.

**Start Date** – September.      **Apprenticeship duration** – 60 months.

### **Qualifications required -**

A minimum of two A Levels (or equivalent) grades A – C.  
Five GCSE's Grade 9 - 4 including English and Maths.

### **Qualification to be studied -**

BSc (Hons) Environmental Science (Practitioner) through Keele University.  
(Combination of block release and distance learning).

# Vacancy Example

## Apprentice Quantity Surveyor (Level 6)

**Employer** – Braintree company      **Annual salary** - £10,004.80 - £19,760.

**Start Date** – September.      **Apprenticeship duration** – 42 months.

### Qualifications required -

A minimum of 112 UCAS points from 'A' levels or equivalent qualifications.  
Four GCSE's Grade 9 - 4 including English and Maths.

### Qualification to be studied -

BSc Construction Quantity Surveyor



# Vacancy example

## Paralegal Apprenticeship

**Employer/Location** – Law firm, Chelmsford.

**Apprenticeship duration** - 2 years

### **Qualifications required -**

A Levels or an equivalent qualification.

### **Qualification to be studied –**

Level 4 Certificate of Higher Education in Legal Services, which is equivalent to the first year of a law undergraduate degree.

On completion there may be an opportunity to join the Level 7 solicitor apprenticeship. This take 4 years to complete.

# Vacancy example

## Engineering Apprenticeship (Level 6)

**Employer/Location** – Engineering firm, Braintree.

**Annual salary** - £19,000 - £19,750.

**Start Date** – September.

**Apprenticeship duration** – 60 months.

### Qualifications required -

A Level Maths, and a Science at grade C or above.

Five GCSEs grades 9 – 4 to include English, Maths and Science.

### Qualification to be studied –

Manufacturing engineering degree.

# Selection process

This may involve some or all of the following -

- ▶ **Initial application**
- ▶ **Online tests – for example aptitude tests.**
- ▶ **Telephone interview**
- ▶ **Video interview**
- ▶ **Assessment centre – may include group activities, role play, presentations.**
- ▶ **One to one interview(s)**

# A common question

Should I take a full time university course or a Higher/Degree apprenticeship?

Things to consider:

Do you have a specific career in mind?  
Is there an apprenticeship route available into this career?

Would an apprenticeship suit your style of learning?

Have you the self-discipline to juggle high level study alongside employment?

Do you want to experience the university student life?

Are you keen to explore your favourite subject(s) in more depth and leave your career choices open?

For further help or information  
please contact  
Jane Cure,  
the school careers adviser  
on  
[Janelouise.cure@notleyhigh.com](mailto:Janelouise.cure@notleyhigh.com)



<https://directions-careers.co.uk/useful-information/>