

School Leavers Options Guide for Summer 2020

Employability and Skills Team

A guide to support a young person's next steps

The recent Coronavirus outbreak may have left many young people unsure about their next steps, where to go for advice and maybe even unsure about their future career choices. With this in mind, we have produced this guide to support young people with their next steps.

Many of you will have achieved the grades needed, will be staying in your school sixth form, have secured a place at college, or have a start date agreed for an apprenticeship. If this is not the case, please read on:

Planning

When considering your next steps, it can seem confusing as there are so many options to choose from. Whether you are looking at further education, apprenticeships, work or training, we recommend that you do some research. There are several websites listed in this resource which can help you to research courses and careers. In addition, it is good to identify existing skills as well as your hobbies and interests to help you to make a good match. You could also speak with school or college staff, careers advisers and family networks to help you to make a strong choice. Remember to keep your options open and to have a back-up plan

Extension to Child Benefit

If you are a school or college leaver, under 18, unemployed and do not have a course or training programme to start in September 2020, your parent/carer may be entitled to claim Extension to Child Benefit. There is a time limit in which you can register your claim. For more information contact the Employability and Skills Team on **0800 707 6384**. They will put you in touch with an adviser in your local area.

College and Further Education options

If you have not already applied, then we suggest that you make late applications as quickly as you can. There are broadly two different types of college course:

Academic courses (e.g. A levels/ International Baccalaureate)

- Usually involves studying multiple subjects. This may provide more progression options at the end of the course.
- Assessment is usually weighted towards exams with less emphasis on continuous assessment.
- Entry Criteria: Typically, applicants will be expected to achieve at least five GCSEs at grades 9 to 4. The specific requirements vary across schools and colleges.
- Some schools and sixth form colleges may offer GCSE resit options for young people that have narrowly missed out on GCSE grades.

Vocational courses (e.g. BTECs/ T Levels/ NVQ/ CACHE)

- Vocational courses are typically designed around a specific industry/ occupation.
- Courses can start at Level 1 and go up to Level 3 and higher.
- Vocational courses are an opportunity to specialise early in a subject that interests you.

- It usually means studying one main subject *
- If you have not achieved Grade 4 in GCSE Maths or English, you will be required to complete these qualifications alongside your main course.

* Some providers allow you to blend academic and vocational options

Sixth Form/College options for summer 2020

For more information on the courses available, application procedures, open events and entry requirements, please contact the establishment directly.

Establishment	Location	Contact Details
Anglo European School	Ingatestone	Telephone: 01277 354018 Website: www.aesessex.co.uk
Basildon Academies	Basildon	Telephone: 01268 552536 Website: www.basildonacademy.org.uk
Beauchamps High School	Wickford	Telephone: 01268 735466 Website: www.beauchamp.org.uk
Becket Keys	Brentwood	Telephone: 01277 286600 Website: https://www.becketkeys.org/
Brentwood County High	Brentwood	Telephone: 01277 238900 Website: www.bchs.essex.sch.uk
Brentwood Ursuline Convent School	Brentwood	Telephone: 01277 277156 Website: www.buchs.co.uk
Greensward Academy	Hockley	Telephone: 01702 202571 Website: www.greenswardacademy.org
Mayflower High School	Billericay	Telephone: 01277 623171 Website: www.mayflowerhigh.essex.sch.uk
Unified SEEVIC and Palmers College	Benfleet/Grays	Telephone: SEEVC 01268 756111 Telephone: Palmers 01375 370121 Website: www.uspcollege.ac.uk
Shenfield High School	Shenfield	Telephone: 01277 219131 Website: www.shenfield.essex.sch.uk
South Essex College	Basildon, Canvey, Leigh, Southend and Thurrock	Telephone: 0345 52 12345 Website: www.southessex.ac.uk
St Martins School	Hutton	Telephone: 01277 238300 Website: www.st-martins.essex.sch.uk
The Appleton School	Benfleet	Telephone: 01268 794215 Website: www.theappletonschool.org
The Billericay School	Billericay	Telephone: 01277 655191 Website: www.billericay.essex.sch.uk
The Bromfords School	Wickford	Telephone: 01268 471201 Website: www.bromfords.essex.sch.uk
The FitzWimarc School	Rayleigh	Telephone: 01268 743884 Website: www.fitzwimarc.essex.sch.uk
The King Edmund School	Rochford	Telephone: 01702 545771

The King John School	Benfleet	Website: www.kes.essex.sch.uk Telephone: 01702 558284
The Sweyne Park School	Rayleigh	Website: www.thekjs.essex.sch.uk Telephone: 01268 784721 Website: www.sweynepark.com
Other Colleges close to South Essex		
Barking and Dagenham College	Romford	Telephone: 020 8090 3020 Website: www.barkingdagenhamcollege.ac.uk
Chelmsford College	Chelmsford	Telephone: 01245 265611 or 01245 293031 Website: www.chelmsford-college.ac.uk
New City College Havering Campus	Hornchurch	Telephone: 01708 455011 Website: www.ncclondon.ac.uk/havering-colleges
New City College Havering Sixth Form Campus	Hornchurch	Telephone: 01708 514400 Website: www.ncclondon.ac.uk/havering-colleges
Writtle University College	Chelmsford	Telephone: 01245 424200 Website: www.writtle.ac.uk

Still unsure?

- Where possible, speak with the careers adviser at your school or college who will have access to lots of information about subject choice and career paths. Please check website for contact details
- If you are aged 16 – 18, do not have access to a school or college careers adviser and do not have a firm plan for September, then please call the Employability and Skills Team on 0800 707 6384 or email KeepInContactTeam@essex.gov.uk

Apprenticeships & Traineeships

- Due to Coronavirus, there are currently far fewer apprenticeships being advertised than usual. It is very important for you to have a back-up plan.
- For up to date information about local vacancies, please visit: www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship

What is an Apprenticeship?

An apprenticeship gives you a unique opportunity to gain a qualification and work experience and earn a wage at the same time. Apprenticeships are available from Level 2 (equivalent to GCSE 9-4 all the way up to Degree level in some occupational areas.

*What are Traineeships?

Traineeships (sometimes referred to as Pre-Apprenticeships) are work experience placements with employers (occasionally paid) lasting from six weeks to six months. With a traineeship, you will gain

employability skills, functional skills in English and Maths (if needed) and meaningful work experience. It could lead to an apprenticeship with an employer.

Training Providers that frequently deliver apprenticeship and/or traineeship opportunities for young people in the local area:

Ixion Holdings: <https://www.ixionholdings.com/> **Contact:** Bethany.bruce@ixionholdings.com
8-week traineeship programmes in Customer Service, Business Administration, Retail & Hospitality. There is a work experience element which is yet to be finalised due to current COVID19 restrictions.

ACL: Essex County Council-Apprenticeships in Business Administration, Customer Service and more
www.aclessex.com/apprenticeships-in-essex

Aim Apprenticeships:
www.aimapprenticeships.co.uk

Barking and Dagenham College:
<https://www.barkingdagenhamcollege.ac.uk/find/courses-for-me/apprenticeship-vacancies>

Central Training: Hairdressing, Barbering, Retail & Customer Service, Digital Marketing, Teaching Assistant and Business Administration
<https://www.centraltraininggroup.com/>

Chelmsford College: Accountancy, Electrical Engineering, Warehouse and more
<https://www.chelmsford.ac.uk/courses/apprenticeships-view.asp>

Crown College: Business Administration, Customer Service, Estate Agency, Lettings and Property Management, Learning and Development and Retail
<https://www.crownvocationaltraining.co.uk/apprenticeships/>

Debut: Nails and Beauty
<https://debutacademy.com/>

Eden Training: Care and Child Care
<http://edentraining.co.uk/>

Hit Training: Hospitality and Catering
<https://hittraining.co.uk/contact-us>

JET: Hairdressing
<https://www.j-ettraining.com/>

The Lightbulb: Business Administration, Digital Marketing and Teaching Assistant
<https://www.thelightbulbapprenticeships.com/>

Key Training: Business Administration and Customer Service
www.keytraining.co.uk/young-person-looking-for-an-apprenticeship/

New City College:
<https://www.ncclondon.ac.uk/apprenticeships>

QA Apprenticeships: Business Administration and IT related
<https://www.qa.com/learners/become-an-apprentice/apprenticeships-vacancies/>

South Essex College: Hair, Welding, Construction and more
<https://www.southessex.ac.uk/apprenticeships>

TCHC Apprenticeships:
www.tchc.net/individual/apprenticeships

Unified SEEVIC and Palmers: Accountancy, Business Administration, Early Years, Teaching Assistant and IT
<https://www.uspcollege.ac.uk/courses-apprenticeships/>

VTS: Business Administration, Child Care and Health and Social Care
<https://vts.ac.uk/information-for-apprentices/>

WhiteHat: Business, Accountancy and Tech Apprenticeships in London:
<https://whitehat.org.uk/>

Foundation Learning Programmes

Foundation Learning Providers offer English and Maths qualifications often alongside vocational elements to help improve your skills and get you ready to undertake an apprenticeship opportunity. This option often counts as Approved Training.

Crown College: <https://www.crownvocationaltraining.co.uk/pre-apprenticeships/business-it-level-2-course/>

Level 2 Business Administration and IT Course based in Leigh on Sea. You will be required to attend 4 days a week over 20 weeks and will have the chance to improve your Maths and English

Debut: <https://debutacademy.com/training-courses/funded/>

A range of beauty related courses

Eden Training: <http://edentraining.co.uk/16-18/study-program/>

Level 1 and 2 Health and Social Care course based in Leigh on Sea, is a good starting point for a career in Health and Social Care or Child Care. The course includes college and work experience and a chance to improve Maths and English.

Lifeskills: <https://learnaliving.co.uk/centres/basildon/>

Level 1 and 2 courses in Employability, Construction, Customer Services, Health and Social Care and Motor Vehicle. Courses are run over 26 weeks and you will be required to attend either 4 mornings or afternoons a week and the opportunity to improve Maths and English

Plan B Programme: (Via Essex Youth Service) <https://youth.essex.gov.uk/young-people/plan-b/>

Starts September: This is a 10-week programme includes Maths and English Functional Skills and Level 1 Health and Safety and Level 2 Customer Services.

TCHC: Positive Directions Programme and GAPS Programme

Both these options are being taught online by tutors. Positive Directions is a short course aimed at re-engaging young people that have been out of education or unemployed for a while. GAPS is longer term. Both courses include functional skills in English and Maths with an opportunity to link into various areas. Contact: Positivedirections@tchc.net

WS Training - Next Steps Programme www.wstraining.co.uk

Usually delivered in Colchester, however due to Coronavirus, online learning can currently be accessed for young people across the county. Training includes functional skills qualifications in English and Maths plus the opportunity to work towards an accredited vocational qualification. Contact: Work towards an accredited vocational qualification. Contact: CBarnett@wstraining.co.uk

Useful Websites

Below is a list of useful websites ranging from careers advice, skills assessments, getting a job and volunteering. These are just a few of the many websites offering support.

Help and support opportunities for young people and adults in Essex
www.whatsyourthing.org.uk

National Careers Service- Job Profiles
<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/explore-careers>

National Careers Service- Skills Assessment
<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/skills-assessment>

Careers support
<https://icould.com>

Youth Employment-Help and advice getting a job
<https://www.youthemployment.org.uk/employment-help-young-people/choices/getting-a-job/>

Help, support and opportunities for young people finding their first job
www.getmyfirstjob.co.uk

Job search website for the Job Centre Plus
<https://www.gov.uk/find-a-job>

Major aggregated job search engine:

www.indeed.co.uk

Jobs, training and college options for those that may not go to university

www.notgoingtouni.co.uk

Higher Education courses

www.ucas.com

Essex Youth Service- Information for young people and details of online activities

<https://youth.essex.gov.uk/>

Connects 14- 25-year olds with volunteering opportunities in England

<https://vinspired.com/>

Raising of the Participation Age

<https://www.essex.gov.uk/education-and-training-for-young-people>

***Please note due to funding if you have completed one traineeship, you may not be eligible to do another. Individual circumstances apply**

This factsheet was produced by the Essex County Council Employability & Skills Team. All Information was correct as of July 2020