



# Welcome



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# Session Objectives

- Options available Post-16
- Research and considering the best options
- Notre Dame 6<sup>th</sup> Form
- Support and Guidance
- The Application Process

# Post-16 Options



# GOLDEN RULES

- ❑ Young people must stay in some form of learning until they are 18.
- ❑ If students do not gain a grade 4 or above in GCSE English and Maths they are expected to continue studying these subjects after Year 11, alongside another course.



# Question Time

- What is the difference between A-Levels and a vocational course?
- What do T-levels involve?
- Can students still go to university if they study a vocational course?

# Post-16 Options

**A-levels**

**T-Levels**

**BTEC's**

**Apprenticeship**

**Work part-  
time & study  
part-time**

**Traineeship**

# Post-16: 3 Main Routes

Qualifications fall into 3 main categories:

**Academic**

**GCSEs/A Levels**

**Vocational**

**BTECs/NVQs/T Levels**

**Vocational/Technical**

**Apprenticeships**



# Educational Levels - Your Journey

Level	Academic Route	Vocational Route
Level 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GCSE's - Grades 3-1</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Foundational Learning</li> <li>BTEC Level One</li> </ul>
Level 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GCSE's – Grade 4-9</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BTEC level 2</li> <li>T-Level Transition</li> <li>Intermediate Apprenticeship</li> </ul>
Level 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A-levels</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>T-Level</li> <li>BTEC Level 3</li> <li>Advanced Apprenticeship</li> </ul>
Level 4 & 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Foundation Degree</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Higher Apprenticeship</li> </ul>
Level 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Batchelors Degree</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Degree Apprenticeship</li> </ul>
Level 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Masters</li> </ul>	

# A-levels



3- 4 subjects.



Important to consider -  
Quality v Quantity



Academic route – Exam  
focused.



How well you do after 2  
years of study.



Graded A\* - E grades



Consider – Do I need  
certain A-levels to study  
a particular degree?

# T-Levels & T-level Transitions

- Equivalent of 3 A-levels – two-year course
- Have been developed in collaboration with employers and business, so the content meets the needs of industry and prepares students for work
- Mixture of classroom learning and ‘on-the-job’ experience
- At least 315 hours (approximately 45 days) of work experience
- T-level Transitions – Level 2, one year course for students that have not reached the entry requirements for a T-level



# What T Levels Can I Study?

Agriculture, Land Management & Production	Building services engineering for construction	Onsite Construction	Design, surveying and planning for construction
Digital business services	Digital production, design and development	Digital support services	Education and Early Years
Engineering, manufacturing, processing and control	Accounting	Health – Support Adult Nursing	Healthcare science
Maintenance, installation and repair for engineering and manufacturing	Management and administration	Onsite construction	Science

Please note the title of course may differ

# Where Can I Study T-Levels?

**Access  
Creative  
College**

**City College  
Norwich**

**Easton  
College**

**East Norfolk  
Sixth Form**

**East Coast College –  
Lowestoft & Gt  
Yarmouth Campus**

**Lowestoft  
Sixth Form**

**Paston  
College**

**Thorpe St  
Andrew Sixth  
Form**

**UTCN**

# Apprenticeships

- You work for an employer doing a real job
- You get recognised training from a training provider
- 20% of the time must be off the job training
- You work towards nationally recognised qualifications
- You get paid - Min of £7.55 per hour
- You develop the skills that employers really want
- Competitive

# APPRENTICESHIP Levels in the UK

## INTERMEDIATE

Level 2  
Equivalent to  
5 GCSEs

## ADVANCED

Level 3  
Equivalent  
to 2 A Levels

## HIGHER

Level 4, 5, 6  
Equivalent to  
Foundation  
degree+

## DEGREE

Level 6 & 7\*  
Equivalent to  
Bachelor's  
or Master's  
degree



\*Can only be delivered in partnership with a university

# Post 16 Options

- Deciding which option is best will depend on a number of factors...



# Entry / Admissions

Understand what current studies will result in

**POINTS MATTER!**

**Calculate the total of  
your top 8 predicted  
grades.**

English Lang and Lit = 2 GCSE (e.g.4+4)

Triple Science = 3 GCSE

Double Science = 2 GCSE

Notice whether your young people are predicted a 4 or above in Maths and either English Lang or English Lit.

# Entry / Admissions

- 5 passes at grade 5 and above
  - 5 passes at grade 4+ (including) English and Maths
  - Grade 6 in Maths and Sciences
- 
- It is important to find out what grades are required to be able to apply to a course or institution.


# Check your child's Year 10 Summer Report

The **Minimum Expected Grade** will help you to see what teachers are currently expecting your child to achieve.

Check if **English and Maths** are at least a **grade 4**.

**Add up the best 8 scores** to get the **total points score**.

## Subjects



Subjects	Attitude to Learning	Mock Grade	Minimum Expected Grade
English Language	Good	5	5
English Literature		3	4
Maths	Good	5	5
Combined Science	Good	5-5	5-5

# Factors to Consider

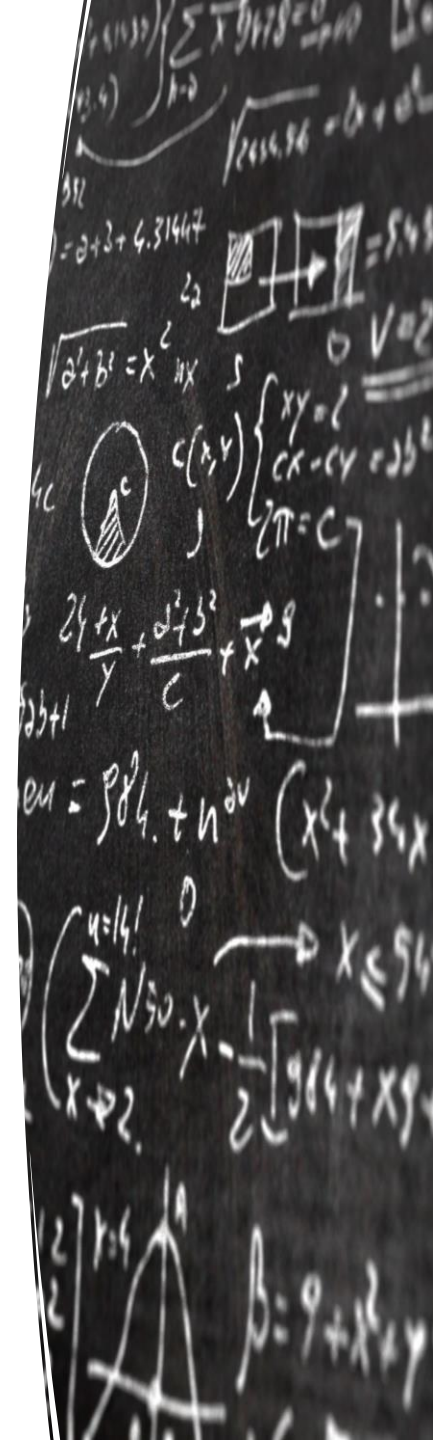
**Courses:** Likes, structure, assessment, “get out of bed” test

**Career:** What do you want to do?

**Campus:** Where would you learn best?  
Where are you willing to travel to?

# How to decide where & what to study

- Consider what subjects you enjoy and what you are good at.
- How is the course/qualification assessed? Does it play to my strengths?
- What are your predicted and aspiration grades? How far are your current grades away from course entry requirements?
- Do I want to go to university in the future? If so, what subjects might be useful for my future degree ideas?
- What industries are growing? Looking at Labour Market Information (LMI) is important.



# The Importance of Choice



# Research



## Studying in Norfolk?

[HelpYouChoose.org](https://www.helpyouchoose.org) is the best way to look for course providers in Norfolk. They also list some providers in Suffolk.

You can search by provider, subject, location or type of qualification you wish to study.



6<sup>th</sup> Form / College / Other  
Provider



Subject



Town



Qualifications

# Research



## Studying in Suffolk?

[thesource.me.uk](https://thesource.me.uk) is another way to look for course providers in Suffolk.

**The Choices at 16+** section has links to a variety of different routes and the different providers.



# Research

unifrog

ACCESS ALL THE TOOLS BELOW  
Exploring pathways

**Interests profile**  
✘ Quiz not taken  
[Start >](#)

**Personality profile**  
✔ Quiz completed: INFJ  
[Start >](#)

**Careers library**  
✔ Careers favourited  
[Go to tool >](#)

**Subjects library**  
✘ Subjects favourited  
[Go to tool >](#)

**Know-how library**  
✘ Guides favourited  
[Go to tool >](#)

**MOOC**  
You have 2 shortlists  
[Start >](#)

**Webinars**  
Hear directly from the experts  
[Go to tool >](#)

- If students need help with their log ins – email [Careers@ndhs.org.uk](mailto:Careers@ndhs.org.uk)

## Aerospace engineer


### Labour Market Information (LMI)

UK Current Jobs	UK Salary
<b>Science, engineering and production technicians (SOC3)</b> UK jobs: 221,864 Derbyshire jobs: 3,974 (7th of 214 UK LEAs) Top 5 LEAs: Hampshire (6,439), Essex (5,406), Kent (5,274), Hertfordshire (4,704), Lancashire (4,453)	<b>Engineering technicians (SOC4)</b> UK annual median: £36,537 <b>Science, engineering and production technicians (SOC3)</b> UK annual median: £29,000 East Midlands annual median: £27,342 Top 3 regions: London (£31,764), Scotland (£30,517), Isle of Man (£29,991)

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# Research

Careers Blog





*Check out our new blog!*

<https://www.ndhs.org.uk/careers>

To check out our latest blog posts, see the links below to find out more.

Latest News



Check out the new NDHS careers blog!

You can find it under the Careers page or the year 11 page.

# Research

- Visit Open Days/Open Evenings**  
so that an informed decision can be made
- Look at what courses/subjects they offer that might be of interest & impact on future career ideas
- Does the institution have a blocking scheme? If so, do the subjects fit in with my interests?
- Consider transport? Walk, bus, train?
- Other important information – e.g. learning environment e.g. extra curriculum, EPQ, private study areas.



EST. 1864

NDHS 6<sup>TH</sup> FORM

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DIEU

# Mr McKay

Deputy Headteacher and Director of Sixth Form

## Notre Dame Sixth Form





EST. 1864

# NDHS 6<sup>TH</sup> FORM

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DIEU

- Entry is based upon GCSE results
- A minimum of **42 points** over the **best 8 GCSEs**
- English & Maths – 9,8,7,6,5,4,3,2,1
  
- The best 8 must include a grade 4 in Maths and English
- Many subjects require certain grades e.g. MFL (6), Maths (6), Sciences (6 +Maths 5/6)



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Open Evening

Thursday 13th Nov.

Deadline for applications Dec.

Please see website for more details.

# My offer to all ND Yr1 1 Students

A **guaranteed** place



EST. 1864

## NDHS 6<sup>TH</sup> FORM

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DIEU

Hit the deadline and get 42 or more points in your best 8 GCSEs (INCLUDING English and Maths)

and you meet individual subject requirements.

Support to progress to the chosen course / college / VI Form / apprenticeship

# Which A Levels?

Depends on the university / college

Research/UCAS/Unifrog

The subject matters

# What do (some) universities want?

GCSE – Maths & English – min grade 4 or 5

MFL GCSE

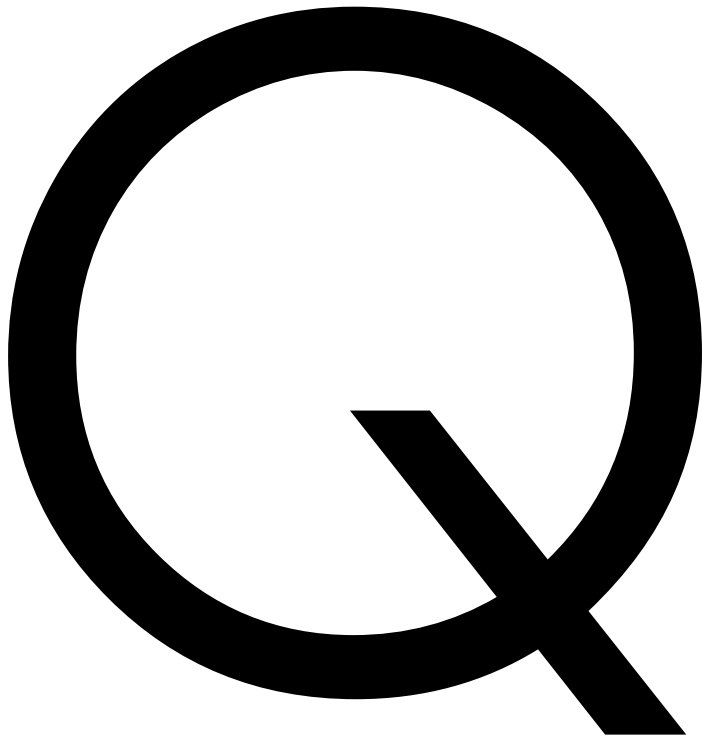
Interview

Evidence of Extra Curricular activity

Russell Group:

[www.informedchoices.ac.uk](http://www.informedchoices.ac.uk)

# Where are you now?



On track for VI Form or College?

On track for 4 or above in English and Maths?

Improvement needed?

# How to apply for 6<sup>th</sup> Form/College Courses



- Apply via institutions website –
  - **NDHS must apply via school website**
- Apply via [www.helpyouchoose.org](http://www.helpyouchoose.org)
  - Apply for **more than one** institution

Students use their school RM Unify log in to access Help You Choose.

Don't forget to check application deadlines!



SWH



# Next Steps

- Aim to visit at least two open days/evenings
- Apply to up to 3 institutions including a back- up plan (Plan B), by December 2025.
- Some institutions have early cut off dates, so important to check
- We will be contacting parents/carers in December and will ask you to complete a short Google Form so that we can track students' progress in their applications.

# Next Steps

- ❑ If wanting to progress on to an **apprenticeship** students must **have a backup** of a full-time course application, as no guarantee of securing an employer.
- ❑ School website – Careers section has lots of useful information regularly updated.
- ❑ Book a careers guidance appointment if unsure of next step.

# Support Available



## Independent Careers Advisor

- Request a careers guidance appointment with **Siobhan Whiddett**

By e-mailing:

[swhiddett1@ndhs.org.uk](mailto:swhiddett1@ndhs.org.uk)

or

**Complete the form on the  
Careers page** of the school  
website

or

via your form tutor or Head of  
Year



Attend

Attend more than one open day/evening

Be prepared before going to the event

Apply

Apply for 2-3 courses including a backup plan by end Nov 2025

Look

Look realistically at your predicted grades V entry requirements

Ask

Ask questions

Seek

Seek Support – <sup>38</sup>Careers Advisor, Teachers

**GCSE results day – Thursday 20th August 2026**