

YOU have brains
in **YOUR** head

YOU have feet
in **YOUR** shoes

YOU can steer
YOURSELF

any direction
YOU choose

Dr Seuss

Where are you
going?

Post 6th Form options

Option #1 – University

Good if:

- You know what you want to do
- Have a career aim which requires a degree
- Want to continue with formal education
- Want to experience living away from home
- Are not yet ready for full time work

"On average, if you're a woman you're likely to have higher lifetime earnings than women who don't go to the tune of about £250,000; £170,000 if you're a man."

Option #2 – Apprenticeship

Good if:

- You have a clear career path (profession) in mind
- You want to earn whilst you learn
- You are ready for the world of work

There are many different apprenticeships available across a wide range of industries, and for a wide variety of job roles. As a paid employee, each apprentice works alongside their studies. There are no student fees – your training costs are funded by the government and your employer.

Option #3 – Employment

Good if:

- You are ready for the world of work
- You want to start earning
- You want to gain valuable experience
- You can do the job you want with the qualifications you have

You can start developing essential skills and experience while increasing your employability. Having work experience and building your CV will make you more attractive to employers, and will open up more job opportunities in the future.

Option #4 – Internships

Good if:

- You want to gain experience in a particular field
- It's a competitive field
- You are unsure if this career is for you
- You don't mind possibly being unpaid

An internship allows you to spend time in a company, to learn new skills and gain experience in a particular industry or job role. Think of an internship programme like a fixed period of work experience – this work experience gives you the opportunity to improve your understanding of a particular job or industry.

Option #5 – Gap Year

Good if:

- You have a clear plan of what to do and what happens next
- You want a break from education
- You want to enhance your CV through travel, charity work etc.

A productive gap year can be valuable on your CV – many employers value the experiences students have gained if they've actively managed their time, set themselves goals, and stretched themselves.

If you decide to apply for uni, you could tailor your gap year to relate it to the subject area you plan to study.

What are your thoughts?

- Fill in the top section of the sheet to show what your thoughts are.

Next steps - University

- Register with UCAS – we will do this after half term.
 - Write down your password, username and ID. Give me a copy as well.
- Choose a course(s)
 - Look at prospectuses, websites, speak to teachers
 - Look beyond the obvious – there are 100s of different courses to choose from
- Consider universities
 - College vs not
 - Campus vs town
 - Local vs distant
 - Grade requirements – be realistically ambitious
- Write a personal statement
 - Start early.
 - Draft and redraft. 6 times!
- Get references from staff

Next steps – apprenticeship

- Research opportunities
 - Identify possible fields
 - Keep it fairly broad
 - Contact companies
 - Be prepared for people to say no but you don't know until you ask!
- Let me know
 - I get lots of opportunities sent through. I will pass them onto you if it's relevant
- Write a CV
 - We will do more with this after half term

Next steps – Employment

- Look into jobs you might be interested in
 - Can you do them with your predicted A Level results?
- Sign up for job websites
 - Find out what there is
- Consider registering with employment agencies
- What other skills can you develop?
 - Consider *transferable* skills.

Next steps – Internships

- Identify a career field
- Research
- Contact employers
- Apply

Next steps – Gap Year

- Be clear about what you are planning to do after ‘the year’
 - If university then apply now but defer entry
- What are you going to do?
 - Have a clear plan
 - Don’t waste the year
 - How much will it cost?

Now....

- Identify what you are going to do now
- Be proactive – don't wait

UCAS deadlines happen very quickly!

You want to be more or less complete by the end of this year.

This will take time.

25th September

Internal deadline for early entry

15th October

UCAS deadline for Oxford/Cambridge, medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine

27th November

Internal deadline for all UCAS entries

15th January 2021

UCAS deadline for all applications