



# **Progression Routes: Parents' Guide**

Bradford College Careers Service  
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# Aims

To familiarise yourself with the study options available to your child

To learn about the different courses options available

To understand how to support your child with career planning

# Options available

There are 3 main options available to your child:

1. College course (Bradford College or other colleges)
2. Apprenticeships
3. Higher Education (University)
4. Employment



# College courses

There are a wide range of college courses available for your child. College courses have different levels and entry qualifications.

You can explore different college courses using these websites

<https://www.bradfordcollege.ac.uk/courses/>

<https://www.shipley.ac.uk/our-course-areas/>

<https://leedscitycollege.ac.uk/>

<https://www.kirkleescollege.ac.uk/>

<https://www.calderdale.ac.uk/>



Here is a guide to show you what the different course levels are:

It is important that you check entry requirements for each course your child is interested in on college websites.

| Level | Qualification / educational routes  |                               |                                     |  |                                     |
|-------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| 8     | Doctorate (PhD)                     |                               | NVQ 8                               |  |                                     |
| 7     | Masters degree (MA)                 |                               | Degree apprenticeship / NVQ 5, 6, 7 |  |                                     |
| 6     | Bachelors degree<br>BA or BSc       |                               |                                     |  |                                     |
| 5     | Foundation degree<br>FdA or FdSc    | Higher National Diploma (HND) |                                     |  |                                     |
| 4     |                                     |                               | Higher National Certificate (HNC)   | Higher apprenticeship / NVQ 4                      |                                     |
| 3     | A levels<br>Grades A-E              | International Baccalaureate   | T Levels                            | BTEC (extended) diploma<br>BTEC certificate        | Advanced apprenticeship / NVQ 3     |
| 2     | GCSE<br>Grades 4- 9 (C, B, A or A*) |                               |                                     | BTEC first diploma                                 | Intermediate apprenticeship / NVQ 2 |
| 1     | GCSE<br>Grades 1- 3 (D,E,F or G)    |                               |                                     | Foundation diploma /<br>entry level qualifications | Traineeship / NVQ 1                 |
|       | Academic route                      |                               | Vocational route                    | Applied / work route                               |                                     |

# Level 3 courses

- T Levels
- A Levels
- BTEC National Diplomas/ BTEC Extended Diplomas
- Other Level 3 technical qualifications

**Entry Requirements:** Usually 5 GCSEs grades 4-9s in Maths and English

**Next steps:** After doing a Level 3 course you can go to university, do a higher level apprenticeship or go into full time employment





- T Levels are a new 2 year Level 3 qualification for 16-19 year olds (equivalent to A Levels)
- Focus on vocational learning
- 80% is classroom based and 20% is work placement



**T-LEVELS**  
THE NEXT LEVEL QUALIFICATION

For more info please visit:

<https://www.tlevels.gov.uk/>

<https://www.bradfordcollege.ac.uk/16-to-18-school-leavers/t-levels/>

# Level 2 courses

- GCSEs
- BTEC First Diplomas
- Level 2 certificate/Diploma

**Entry Requirements:** Usually GCSE  
Grade 2 in Maths and English

**Next steps:** After doing a Level 2 course you can progress onto a Level 3 course, do an apprenticeship or go into full time employment (if you are over 18)





# Level 1 and Entry Level courses

- Entry Level and Level 1 courses are suitable for those with no GCSE grades. These courses will help you to gain a vocational qualification while you work on your maths and English.



# Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships are jobs where you gain qualifications while you work and earn money.

- A great way to EARN whilst you LEARN
- For anyone 16 or over
- Work alongside experienced staff
- Training and skills that employers want and need
- Get time for study related to your role (usually one day a week)
- Entry requirements vary depending on occupation and level of apprenticeship.
- Apprenticeships take 1 to 6 years to complete depending on their level.
- <https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>





When your child is over 18 they are able to get employment.

If your child is looking to get a job after they finish college, we recommend speaking to your child about the transition from education to work, speak to them about the commitments of a full time job including being punctual, reliable, willing to learn new skills on the job.



To prepare for work we recommend:

- Careers guidance interview to help you decide what type of job or industry you would like
- CV to help your child to apply for jobs
- Interview skills

**The careers team can help you write a CV and give you advice on applications and interviews.**



# Here are some websites you can use to help your child with job searching

<https://uk.indeed.com/>

<https://www.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate>

<https://www.bradford.gov.uk/jobs/apply-for-a-council-job/bradford-council-vacancies/>

<https://www.reed.co.uk>

<https://www.cv-library.co.uk/search-jobs>

**How can I support  
my child with  
career planning?**



# Things you could do to help your child make their next steps

- Encourage your child to think carefully about their skills, favourite subjects and strengths and values and help them to translate these into potential employment possibilities for the future.
- Please read through some of the parents and carers guide on our Bradford College careers web pages <https://www.bradfordcollege.ac.uk/support/students/careers-advice/>
- Suggest that your child looks at the links on the Bradford College Website (careers section)
- Book to see one of our qualified, impartial Careers Advisers.



# Careers Advice at Bradford College

We can help you with:

- ✓ Careers guidance to explore all options and pathways for the future
- ✓ Apprenticeships information and advice
- ✓ CV writing
- ✓ interview techniques
- ✓ Job search techniques and completing applications
- ✓ T Level information and advice
- ✓ UCAS and university enquiries





# Labour Market Information (LMI)

- LMI provides data and predictions about present and future trends in the workplace.
- When people have up to date information, they are more able to make key decisions about future career pathways, which skills to develop and make informed choices.
- It is also important to think about jobs of the future when choosing your courses.
- FutureGoals – career roles outside the box

<https://futuregoals.co.uk/engage/parents-carers/career-roles-outside-the-box/>





**ANY**

**QUESTIONS?**

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