

Post-16 Options

Personal Development Lead

Megan Walker

megan.walker@sharemat.co.uk

Your options after Year 11

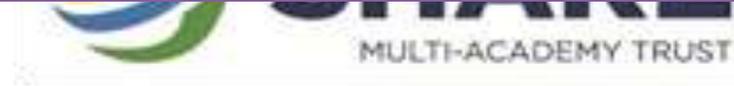


What can students do next?

- Study full-time at sixth form school, sixth form college or, FE College
- Start an apprenticeship
- Spend 20 hours or more a week, working or volunteering, while in part-time education or training



16+ qualifications



A levels

Vocational qualifications

T levels and T level foundation year

Qualifications

Here are some examples of qualifications at different levels - check colleges prospectuses/websites for more information

Minimum of four or five
GCSEs at grade 9 - 4

LEVEL 3

A levels (subjects may need specific grades)
BTEC L3 certs./diplomas etc. and other vocational qualifications
T levels
Level 3 (advanced) apprenticeship

Usually 2 years

Mostly GCSE grades
9 - 3
Not passing maths and/or
English?

LEVEL 2

BTEC level 2 certificates and diplomas etc and other vocational
qualifications
T level foundation year
Level 2 (intermediate) apprenticeship

Usually 1 year

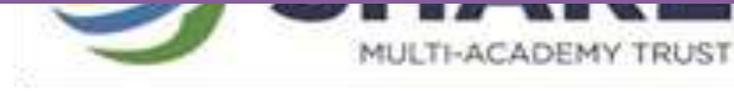
GCSE grades 2

LEVEL 1

BTEC Level 1 awards, certificates and diplomas
Entry levels 3, 2 and 1 awards, certificates and diplomas

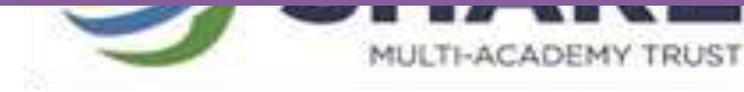
Usually 1 year

A levels



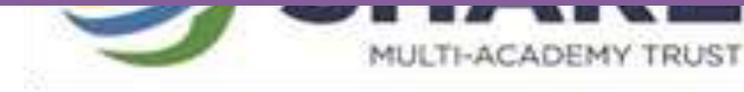
- You need at least five GCSEs at grades 9-4, including English and maths to study A levels. To study some subjects, you will need at least a grade 6 in the same GCSE subject.
- They are mainly assessed by exams at the end of a two-year course.
- A levels are available in subjects students know from GCSE such as English, History, and Art plus new ones such as Law and Psychology.
- Most students study 3 subjects.
- Many students decide to take A levels if they enjoy studying, are good at exams, and thinking about going to university.

Vocational qualifications - BTECs



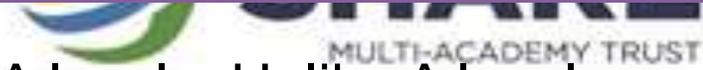
- BTECs are one type of vocational qualification - there are others, such as City & Guilds and NCFE CACHE.
- They focus on a specific area of work, such as animal care, art and design, computing, construction, engineering and performing arts.
- They are available at different levels. The level you do depends on your GCSE grades. For level 3 BTECs, you usually need four or five GCSEs at grades 9-4.
- Vocational qualifications at level 3 are accepted for entry to most higher education (HE) courses. For some courses you may need to have an A level alongside your BTEC qualification.

Vocational qualifications - BTECs



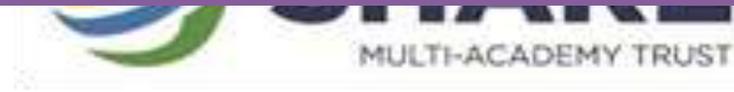
- This shows the names of some BTEC qualifications and how many A levels they are equivalent to:
 - Extended Certificate** - equivalent to 1 A level
 - Foundation Diploma** - equivalent to 1.5 A levels
 - Diploma** - equivalent to 2 A levels
 - Extended Diploma** - equivalent to at least 3 A levels
- Some BTECs and other vocational qualifications at level 3 are being replaced by T levels, and at level 2 by the T level foundation year, you will need to check what is available.

Vocational qualifications - T levels



- T levels are a level 3 vocational qualification, equivalent to three A levels. Unlike A levels, where you usually study three subjects, you study just one T level subject.
- They are a two year course and involve a mixture of classroom-based learning and 45 days of work experience related to the subject you are studying.
- They are available in subjects that are related to a job or area of work – such as accounting, onsite construction, health, and education and childcare.
- They are designed for students who want a job after they have finished the course - but HE providers also accept them.
- The T level foundation year is a one year course to help prepare some students to do a T level.
- T levels tend to be offered by FE colleges, but some school sixth forms and sixth form colleges offer them too.

Apprenticeships



What is an Apprenticeship?

A real job where your child earns a wage while learning. Combines working on the job with studying for qualifications. Usually lasts between 1 and 5 years depending on the level and sector.

Levels of Apprenticeships:

Intermediate (Level 2): Equivalent to GCSEs OR **Advanced (Level 3):** Equivalent to A-levels.

Benefits of Apprenticeships:

Earn while you learn — no tuition fees like at university.
Gain practical, hands-on experience and skills.
Often leads directly to a job or career progression.
Develops professional connections and workplace skills.

Who Can Do Them?

Usually open to students 16+ after finishing Year 11.
Some apprenticeships require specific subjects or grades.

Where Are They Available?

Across many industries: engineering, healthcare, IT, business, creative industries, hospitality, construction, and more.

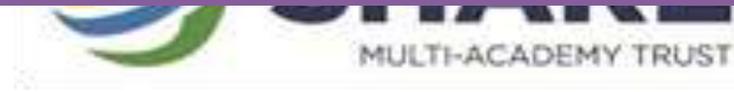
How Do You Apply?

Similar to job applications: CV, interview, sometimes aptitude tests.
Many apprenticeships are advertised on websites like GOV.UK, Find an Apprenticeship.



Our careers adviser

- All students will have a 1-2-1 careers meeting, they can have additional if they feel they need it
- Can help students decide what's right for them and tell them about options locally.
- All students will be seen prior to Christmas
- Our Careers Adviser, Rob Crookes, works at TCA on Tuesdays and Wednesdays



robert.crookes@ckcareers.org.uk

Chat C+K

Support, advice and guidance for young people in Calderdale and Kirklees

01484 213856

chat@ckcareers.org.uk

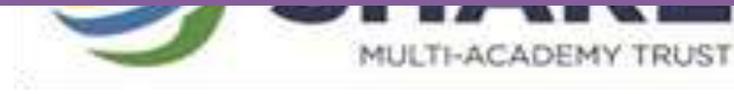
Facebook messenger

Year 11 Careers Countdown



September	October	November	December
<p>Careers Guidance Meetings <i>(Meetings begin in the summer term with Y10 – with a focus on potential applicants for colleges with December deadlines)</i></p>	<p>Careers Guidance Meetings</p> <p>Attend open days</p> <p>Get Inspired events in Huddersfield, Batley and Halifax</p> <p>Mock Interviews (Friday 17th October)</p>	<p>Careers Fair (6th November)</p> <p>Careers Guidance Meetings</p> <p>Attend open days</p> <p>Start applying for courses (College Application Day Monday 24th November)</p>	<p>Careers Guidance Meetings</p> <p>Attend open days</p> <p>Apply for courses - watch out for deadlines!</p> <p>Start looking for an apprenticeship</p>
January	February	March	April
<p>Careers Guidance Meetings</p> <p>Apply for courses - watch out for deadlines!</p> <p>Go to open days</p> <p>Look for apprenticeships</p>	<p>Watch out for deadlines!</p> <p>Course interviews</p> <p>Look for an apprenticeship</p> <p>Attend C+K apprenticeship events</p>	<p>Watch out for deadlines!</p> <p>Course interviews</p> <p>Continue looking for an apprenticeship?</p>	<p>Continue looking for an apprenticeship ?</p> <p>(August = GCSE Results Day)</p>

Some Points to Remember



- **The government expect students to remain in learning in Year 12 and 13 (up to 19 yoa) e.g. college or apprenticeship & certified training.**
- Colleges will see a report from school about student's attendance, punctuality, attitude to learning and your mock exam results.
- Some colleges have higher entry requirements on grades, attendance (often it's 96% +). Check them before you apply.
- 75% of employers want to see a grade 4 or higher in Maths and English, for apprenticeships.
- Research long-term plans. What do students need to do to get there?
- Students will have to continue to study English and Maths if they do not get a Grade 9-4 in the subject at GCSE at school.