

School Leavers Options Guide for Summer 2020 - North

Employability and Skills Team

A guide to support a young person's next steps.

The recent Corona Virus 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 backup 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.

Colchester Institute Colchester and Braintree

Telephone: 01206 712000
www.colchester.ac.uk

Colchester Royal Grammar School

Telephone: 01206 509100
www.crgs.co.uk

Colne Community College

Telephone: 01206 303511
www.colne.essex.sch.uk

The Colchester Sixth Form College

Telephone: 01206 500743 / 505595
www.colchsfc.ac.uk

Philip Morant Sixth Form College

Telephone: 01206 545 222
www.philipmorant.essex.sch.uk

Colchester County High School for Girls

Telephone: 01206 576 973
www.cchsg.com

Clacton County High School Clacton

Telephone: 01255 424 266
www.countyhigh.org.uk

Tendring Technology College

Telephone: 01255 672116
www.tendringtechnologycollege.org

Clacton Coastal Academy

Telephone: 01255 428131
contactus@clactoncoastalacademy.org

The Harwich and Dovercourt Sixth Form College

Telephone: 01255 245460
www.hdhs.org.uk

Thurstable College Tiptree

Telephone: 01621 816526
www.thurstable.essex.sch.uk

Other College accessible to North Essex

Suffolk Rural College (which was Otley College) Ipswich

Telephone: 01473382211
Buses are subsidised for Students coming from the Essex area.
www.suffolk.ac.uk/course-categories/suffolk-rural

Suffolk New college Ipswich

Telephone: 01473 382200
www.suffolk.ac.uk

Chelmsford College

Telephone: 01245 265611
www.chelmsford-college.ac.uk

Suffolk One Ipswich

Telephone: 01473 556600
www.suffolkone.org

Writtle College Chelmsford

Telephone: 01245 424200
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 Corona Virus, 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:

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

Aim Apprenticeships
www.aimapprenticeships.co.uk

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

Career Track
www.tendringdc.gov.uk/jobs/career-track-apprenticeships

Cambridge Regional College
<https://www.camre.ac.uk/apprenticeships/apprenticeship-vacancies/>

Harlow College
<https://www.harlow-college.ac.uk/study-options/apprenticeships>

Colchester Institute
www.colchester.ac.uk/apprenticeships

Easi Hairdressing Academy
www.easihair.co.uk/

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

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

TCHC Apprenticeships
www.tchc.net/individual/apprenticeships

NOVA Apprenticeships
<http://www.novatrainng.co.uk/apprenticeships>

Ixion Holdings
<https://www.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.

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.

* Some Foundation Learning courses may be restricted due to funding. Check with the provider when making your enquiries.

Plan B Programme (Via Essex Youth Service)

<https://youth.essex.gov.uk/young-people/plan-b/>

Starting September: This is a 10-week programme includes Maths and English Functional Skills and Level 1 Health and Safety and Level 2 Customer Services. For more information contact: Charly Muir - Youth Support Worker Charly.Muir@essex.gov.uk

TCHC – Positive Directions Programme and the GAPS Programme

www.tchc.net

These options are currently being taught online by specialist tutors. Positive Directions is a short course aimed at re-engaging young people aged 16-18 that have been out of education or unemployed for a while. GAPS is longer term option. Both programmes include functional skills in English and Maths with an opportunity to link into various occupational areas or an apprenticeship. From August 2020 TCHC are planning to offer a Health and Social Care an online programme as well as the IT User programme Level 1-2-and 3 as a blended learning option. For more information Contact: Cheryl Dozzell cheryl.dozzell@tchc.net

WS Training - Next Steps Programme

www.wstraining.co.uk

Usually delivered in Colchester, however due to COVID 19, online learning can currently be

accessed for young people across the county as well. Training for young people aged 16-18 who are not in education, employment or training includes, functional skills qualifications in English and Maths plus the opportunity to work towards an accredited vocational qualification or an apprenticeship.

For more information contact: Chloe Barnett
CBarnett@wstraining.co.uk

Nova Training - (Centre in Colchester & Clacton)

All operations are being delivered remotely during the COVID 19 outbreak with a view to offer a blended learning programme once it is appropriate to do so following government guidelines.

As well as focussing on improving English and Maths up to level 1 and 2 if needed, this programme also offers 16-18-year olds the opportunity to gain work experience. GCSE accredited Centre
Email Emma Brown for Colchester
emma.brown@novatraining.co.uk

For Clacton contact Rachel Candler
rachel.candler@novatraining.co.uk

ALM Training

www.almtrainingservices.co.uk

Currently all learning is being done remotely online. Practical assessments will take place once Covid restrictions are lifted. Small groups of students based over 3 days a week in a learning centre based in Colchester. Young people aged 16-18 who are not in employment, education or training can access qualifications in Forklift Truck operations and gain a Forklift Truck Licence as well undertaking Level 1 qualification in Warehousing and Storage.

For more information Call 01375 489738 and ask to speak with Sue Turnbull or Darren Coleman. Alternatively Email Sue Turnbull
sue.turnbull@almtrainingservices.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 profile

<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>

BT to help disadvantaged children with home schooling, offering six months free internet access

<https://get-help-with-tech.education.gov.uk/about-bt-wifi>

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