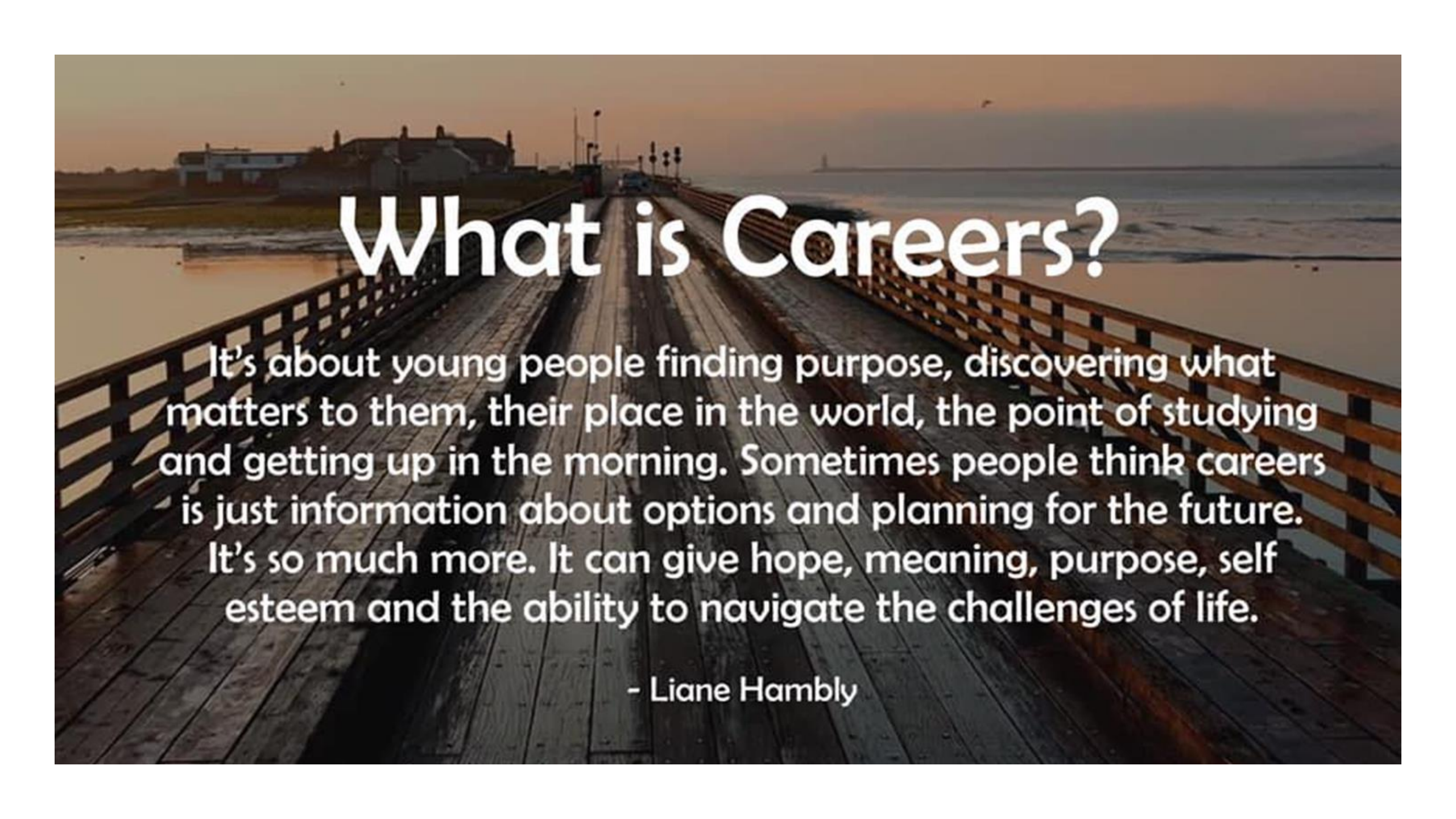




Year 11 Parents & Carers Coffee Morning

A photograph of a long wooden pier extending from a grassy shore into the ocean. The pier has a wooden railing and leads the eye towards the horizon. In the background, there are some buildings on the shore and a few birds flying in the sky. The lighting is soft, suggesting sunset or sunrise.

What is Careers?

It's about young people finding purpose, discovering what matters to them, their place in the world, the point of studying and getting up in the morning. Sometimes people think careers is just information about options and planning for the future. It's so much more. It can give hope, meaning, purpose, self esteem and the ability to navigate the challenges of life.

- Liane Hambly

Options at the end of Year 11

6th Form

Further
Education
College

University
Technical
College

Apprenticeship

Post-16 Qualifications

LEVEL 3	<u>A and AS Levels</u> <u>International Baccalaureate</u> <u>Open University Access Modules</u>	<u>T Levels</u> <u>Vocational Level 3 - e.g. BTEC, OCR,</u> <u>City and Guilds, Diploma</u>	<u>Advanced Apprenticeship</u> <u>NVQ Level 3</u>
LEVEL 2	<u>GCSE Grades 4- 9</u> <u>Maths/English/IT Functional Skills</u> <u>courses</u>	<u>Transition Year (to get ready for T</u> <u>Levels and other voc quals)</u> <u>Vocational qualifications - eg Level 2 -</u> <u>BTEC Certificate/ Diploma, OCR/ City</u> <u>and Guilds</u>	<u>Intermediate Apprenticeship</u> <u>NVQ Level 2</u>
LEVEL 1	<u>GCSE Grades 1- 3</u> <u>Maths/English/IT Functional Skills</u> <u>courses</u>	<u>Vocational qualifications - eg Level 1 -</u> <u>BTEC Certificate/ Diploma, OCR/ City</u> <u>and Guilds</u>	<u>NVQ Level 1</u>
ENTRY LEVEL	<u>Entry Level</u>		

FOUR PATHWAYS TO YOUR FUTURE

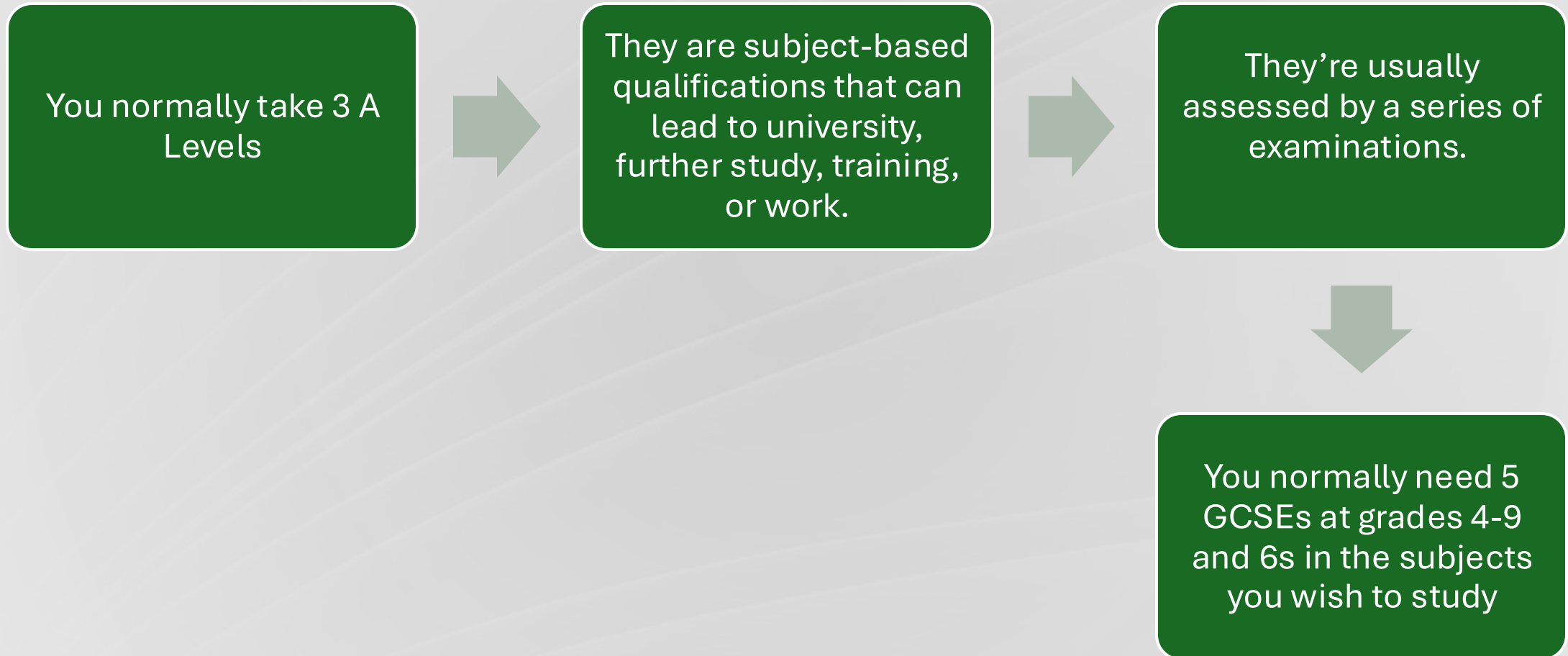
What This Means for 16-19 Learners (2025-2028)

- The government is simplifying qualifications so that young people choose between **Academic**, **Technical**, and **Work-Based** routes.
- By 2028, **A Levels**, **T Levels**, **Technical Occupational Qualifications (TOQs)**, and **Alternative Academic Qualifications (AAQs)** will be the main Level 3 options.
- Many older **BTEC** and **Vocational Technical Qualifications (VTQ)** courses will be replaced or restructured to align with these new pathways.
- Schools and colleges will help learners identify the most suitable route based on strengths, career goals, and learning style.

PATHWAY	WHAT OPTIONS WILL BE AVAILABLE?			LEVEL	ENTRY REQUIREMENTS	IDEAL IF YOU...	LEADS TO...	KEY MESSAGE
ACADEMIC PATHWAY (A Levels & AAQ)	1 3 x A Levels	2 2 x A Levels + 1 small AAQ	3 1 x large AAQ	Level 3	Usually 5 x GCSEs at grade 4-9, including English and maths. Some subjects need higher grades in specific areas.	Enjoy academic learning, exams, and independent study.	University, Higher and Degree Apprenticeships, and professional careers.	The traditional route for learners aiming for higher education.
TECHNICAL PATHWAY (T Levels, TOQs & Occupational Diplomas)	1 T-Levels	2 Technical Occupational Qualifications (TOQs)	3 Occupational Entry Diplomas	Level 2 to Level 3	Usually 4-5 GCSEs at grade 4-9, including English and maths.	Want to combine classroom learning with industry experience and develop specialist technical skills.	Skilled employment, Higher and Degree Apprenticeships, or technical degrees.	The new specialist route for learners focused on technical careers.
VOCATIONAL PATHWAY (VTQs & BTECs – during the transition)	1 VTQs still available in some areas	2 BTECs and Cambridge Technicals (until phased out)		Level 1 to Level 3	Level 1-2 courses: open to learners with fewer GCSEs grades 1-4 Level 3 courses: usually 4-5 GCSEs at grade 4-9	Prefer practical, hands-on projects and continuous assessment.	Further study, Apprenticeships, or direct employment in skilled trades, health, business, and creative industries.	A practical skills-based route being streamlined as new technical qualifications replace some courses.
WORK-BASED PATHWAY (Apprenticeships & Supported Internships)	1 Apprenticeships (Intermediate to Advanced)	2 Supported Internships (for learners with SEND)	3 Work Experience or Industry Placements as part of a Study Programme	Entry Level to Level 3	Vary by employer; typically GCSE English and maths (grade 4+) for Level 3+.	Ready to earn while you learn and gain real work experience.	Employment, Higher or Degree Apprenticeships.	Learn on the job, develop skills, and get paid while you train.

Speak to a Careers Adviser to help you explore the options in more detail.

A Levels



BTEC Nationals

These are available from Level 3 (similar standard to A levels).

Many of these are well regarded by universities, further education colleges, and employers.

A BTEC National qualification can lead to employment, continuing study, or professional development programmes.

T-LEVELS

EQUIVALENT TO 3 A LEVELS

T Levels are an alternative to A levels, apprenticeships and other 16 to 19 courses. Equivalent in size to 3 A levels, a T Level focuses on vocational skills and can help students into skilled employment, higher study or apprenticeships.

A 45-DAY INDUSTRY PLACE **T-LEVELS**

Each T Level includes an in-depth industry placement that lasts at least 45 days. Students get valuable experience in the workplace; employers get early sight of the new talent in their industry.

80% CLASSROOM, 20% WORK

T Level students spend 80% of the course in their learning environment, gaining the skills that employers need. The other 20% is a meaningful industry placement, where they put these skills into action.

Sixth Form

1) **Stay at Great Marlow**

You will need to meet the entry requirements

There will be an Open Evening on 6th November

2) **Apply for another sixth form**

Keep an eye on school websites for open evenings

Further Education College

Henley College

Bucks College
Group

Windsor Forest
Colleges
Group

West Herts
College

City of Oxford
College

Henley College



Offers a variety of A Levels, T Levels
and vocational courses

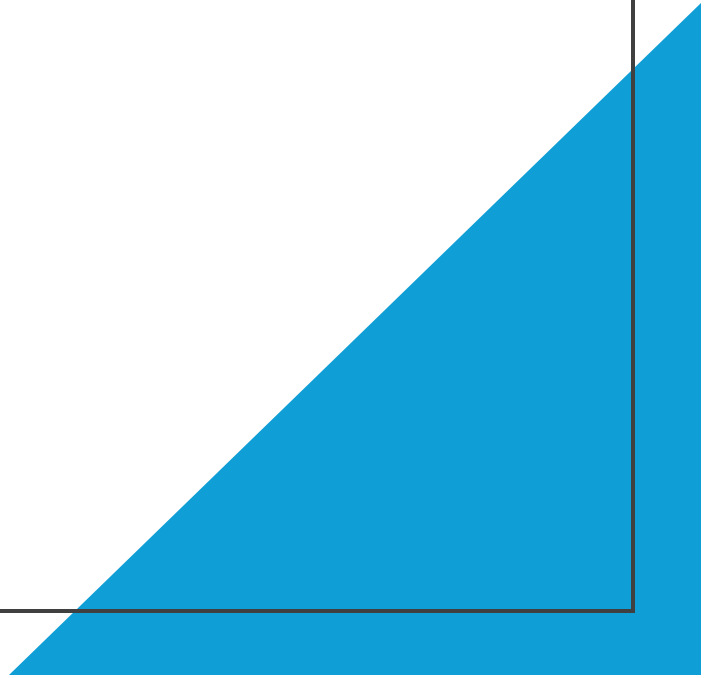
Open Events:
30th September
16th October

Bucks College Group

Has 3 Campuses

Offers a variety of vocational courses

- 1) Aylesbury
- 2) Amersham
- 3) High Wycombe



Windsor Forest Colleges Group

4 Campuses

Offer a variety of vocational qualifications including T Levels

Windsor College – Open Day 14th October

Strodes College – Open Day 23rd October

Langley College – Open Day 5th November

Berkshire College of Agriculture (BCA) Maidenhead – Open Day
4th October



University Technical Colleges

These are secondary schools which work with businesses in their locations to offer both academic and technical education related to specific job sectors.

Aylesbury – Computing, Health and Social Care

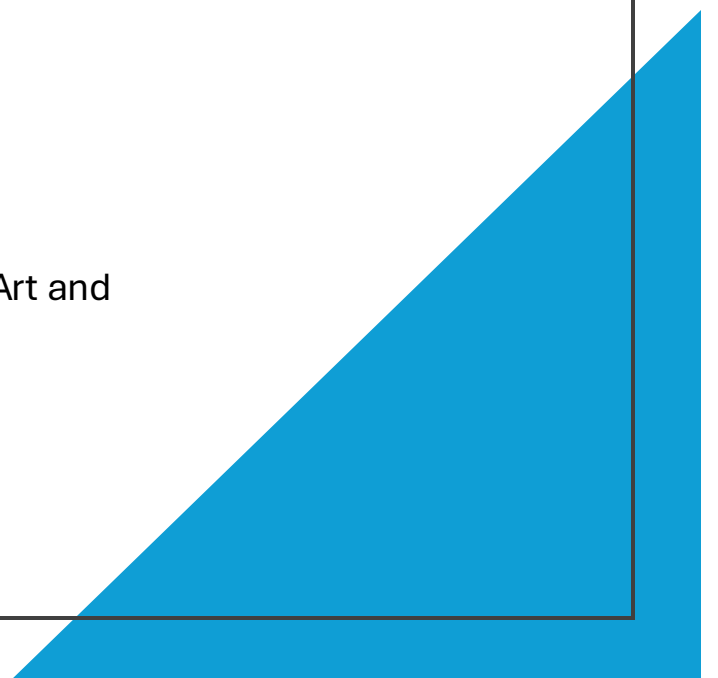
Silverstone – High Performance Engineering, Business with Events Management.

Heathrow – Engineering, Science, Maths

Elstree Screen Arts Academy – Creative Media Production, Hair and Make Up, Games Art and Design, Lighting, Sound Production and Stage Management.

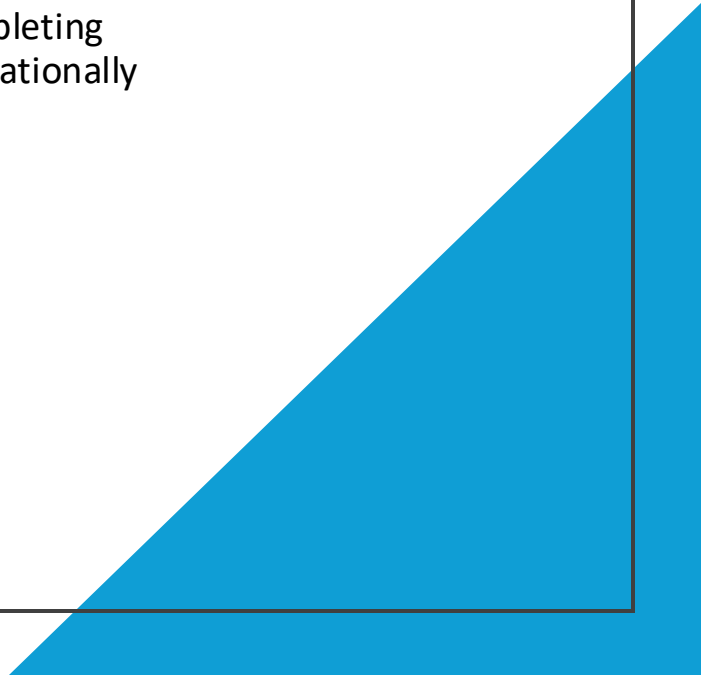
Reading – Computer Science and Engineering

Oxford – 2 locations Banbury and Didcot



Apprenticeships

- An apprenticeship is a paid job where the employee learns and gains valuable experiences.
- Alongside on-the-job training, apprentices spend at least 20% of their working hours completing classroom-based learning with a college, university or training provider which leads to a nationally recognised qualification.
- An apprenticeship includes:
 - paid employment with holiday leave
 - hands-on-experience in a sector/role of interest
 - at least 20% off-the-job training
 - formal assessment which leads to a nationally recognised qualification

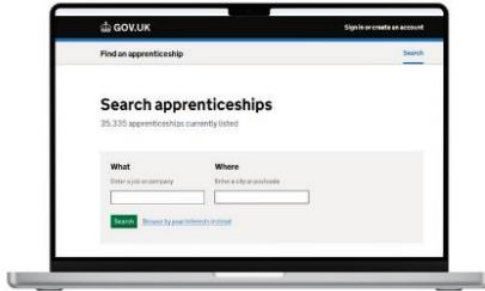


Apprenticeship Levels

	Level	Equivalent education level
Intermediate	2	GCSE
Advanced	3	A level
Higher	4,5,6 and 7	Foundation degree and above
Degree	6 and 7	Bachelor's or master's degree



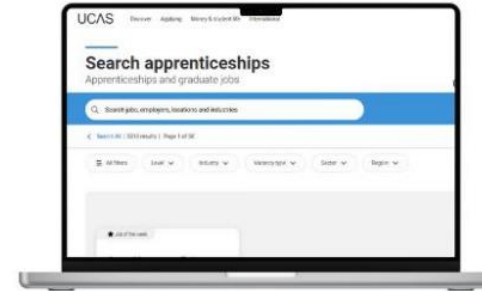
Finding vacancies



Find an apprenticeship



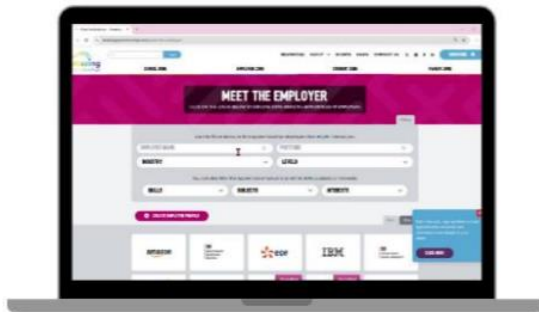
Employer websites



UCAS



Job websites



Meet The Employer



Friends & family



Higher & Degree Listing



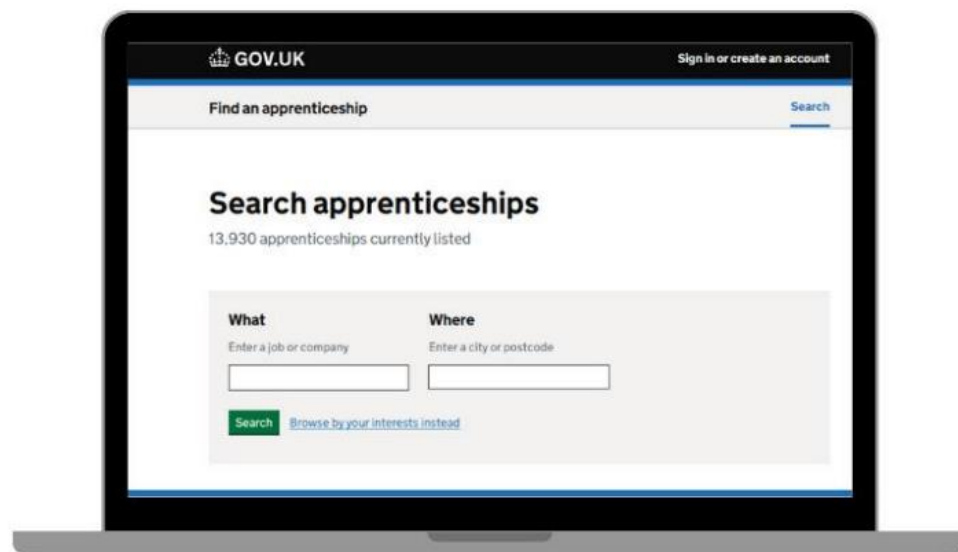
Vacancy snapshot



Accessing Find an apprenticeship



Accessing Find an apprenticeship



findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk



amapps.uk/register-faa



Your questions

Apprenticeship level

 Hide

[Understanding apprenticeship levels](#)
(opens in new tab)

- ☐ Level 2
Equal to GCSE
- ☐ Level 3
Equal to A level
- ☐ Level 4
Equal to higher national certificate (HNC)
- ☐ Level 5
Equal to higher national diploma (HND)
- ☐ Level 6
Equal to degree
- ☐ Level 7
Equal to master's degree

“How do you find the higher-level degree apprenticeships?”

Some apprenticeships and job roles do not exist at degree level

“How can a young person find out more about introductory apprenticeships?”

[Information about Foundation apprenticeships](#)

Foundation

Your questions

“How can I keep up to date and find the latest apprenticeship vacancies?”

Filter

Selected filters [Clear](#)

Where

Bristol, Bristol (within 10 miles) X

[🔔 Sign in to create an alert for this search](#)

“How do I support young people with the application process?”

Education history	
School, college and university qualifications	Previous answer
Training courses	Previous answer
Work history	
Jobs	Previous answer
Volunteering and work experience	Previous answer
Application questions	
What are your skills and strengths?	Previous answer
What interests you about this apprenticeship?	Previous answer
How will you travel to this apprenticeship?	Not yet started

Recent features & improvements

Companies can advertise nationally or across multiple locations

Updated information about understanding apprenticeship types and apprenticeship levels

Ability to sort by start date

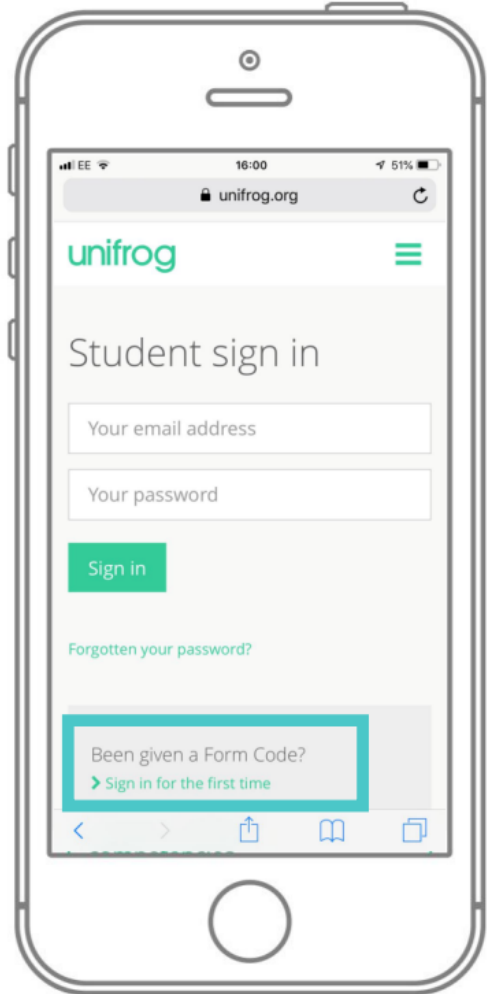
Your formatting of application answers will be retained

Upcoming features & improvements

You will be able to choose to copy over answers from any previous application, rather than the last submitted application

If a vacancy closes whilst you are applying, you will be notified immediately

Get signed up to a Unifrog account!



Scan this QR code or go to

www.unifrog.org/code

You'll be asked for some details and a Sign up Code. This is what you need:

GRMAparent

After signing up, log into Unifrog using your email address and password via the student sign-in page!



Key facts about the Buckinghamshire economy



How do I start?





Parents are the biggest
influence on students'
careers.

Journal of the National Institute for
Career Education and Counselling

Your Role: Career Catalysts

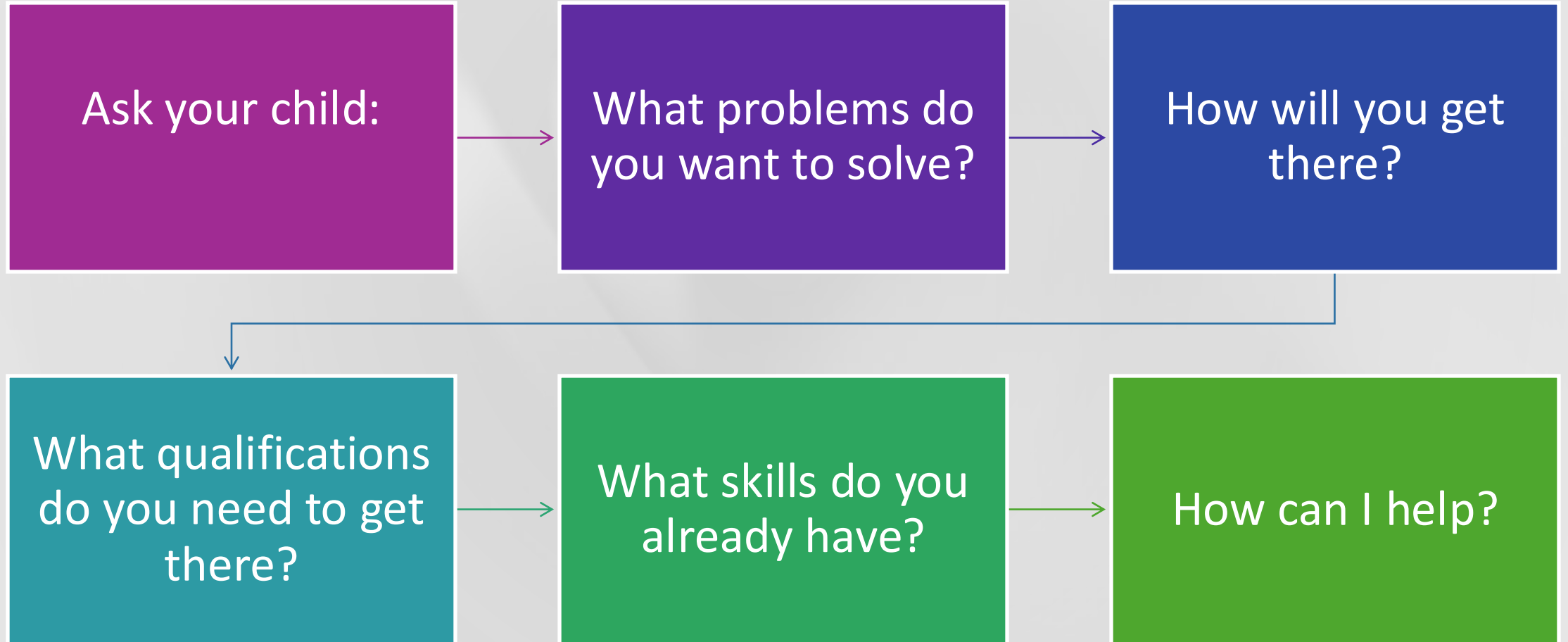
Role	Set your child up for a lifetime of career growth. Prepare them to adapt & not plan for one future. They do not need to decide on one thing for the rest of their lives.
Help Your Child To	• Broaden their horizons • Discover new possibilities • Gain clarity on their path forwards • Take ownership of their career exploration
Short Term	Help them make immediate decisions.
Long Term	Help them prepare to navigate a world of change so they can create meaningful lives.

Mindset

- The labour market isn't driven by job titles. It is driven by **problems to solve**.
- Encourage students to:

FIND CHALLENGES TO TACKLE RATHER THAN JOB TITLES TO FIT INTO.
- The “job title” mindset wrongfully assumes students know what jobs are available. Traditional career tests just reflect what students already know.
- Equip a mindset to explore and contribute to the ever-changing world around them. Identify the reasons behind their studies.

Work Backwards



Where am I now?

What do your results tell you?
Are there certain subjects you
like and excel at? Do you love
numbers, theories, or more
hands-on courses?

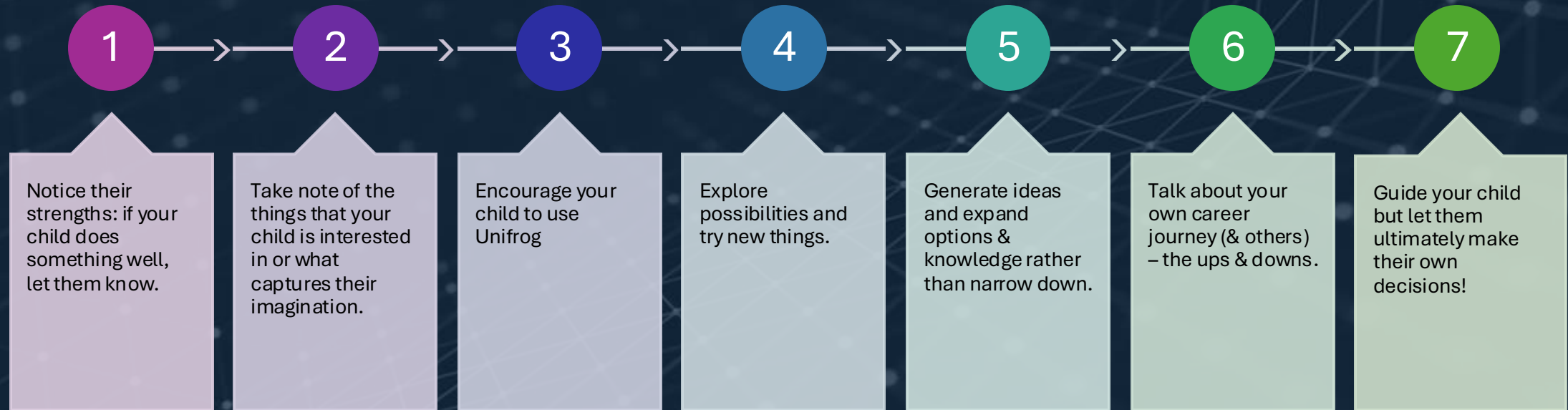
**What do I see myself doing in
a few years?**

Picture yourself in lecture halls
and learning from world-class
professors. Does that seem
exciting to you? Or do you prefer
learning on the job and getting
paid at the same time?

**What kind of skills or
qualifications will help me get
there?**

Will a degree help you land that
goal? Or will a work placement
at a college suit you better?
Think about the knowledge and
skills required to get to where
you want to be.

Quick Win for Parents



Careers Meeting – What to expect



An impartial one to one meeting between you and the careers advisor



You cannot get anything wrong!



The aim is to help you think about your future career choices based on your interests, skills and qualifications.



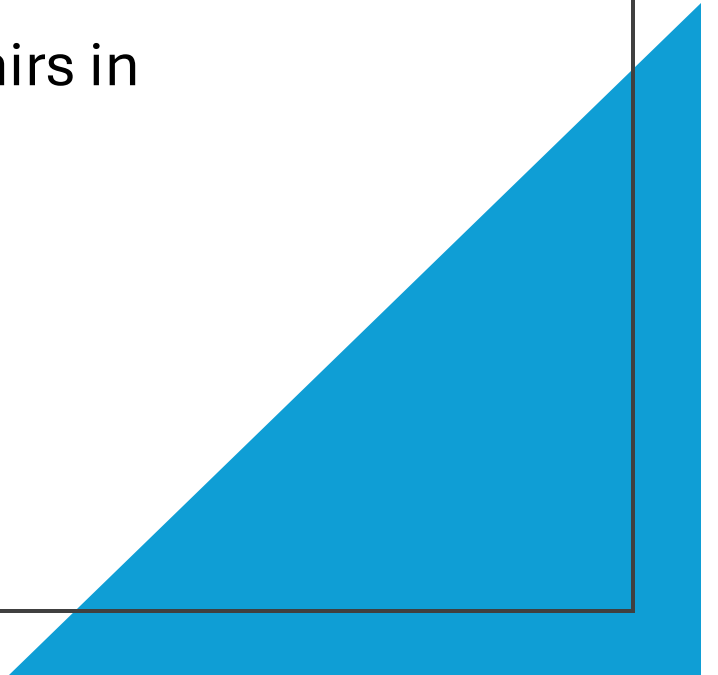
Help you make decisions about what pathway to take after school.



Mrs Brunt will need to ask you lots of questions to get a clearer picture of the best way to help you.

How long will the meeting last?

- The meeting will last between 30-45 minutes.
- It will be in a confidential space (Careers Office upstairs in B Block)



How to get the most from your careers meeting

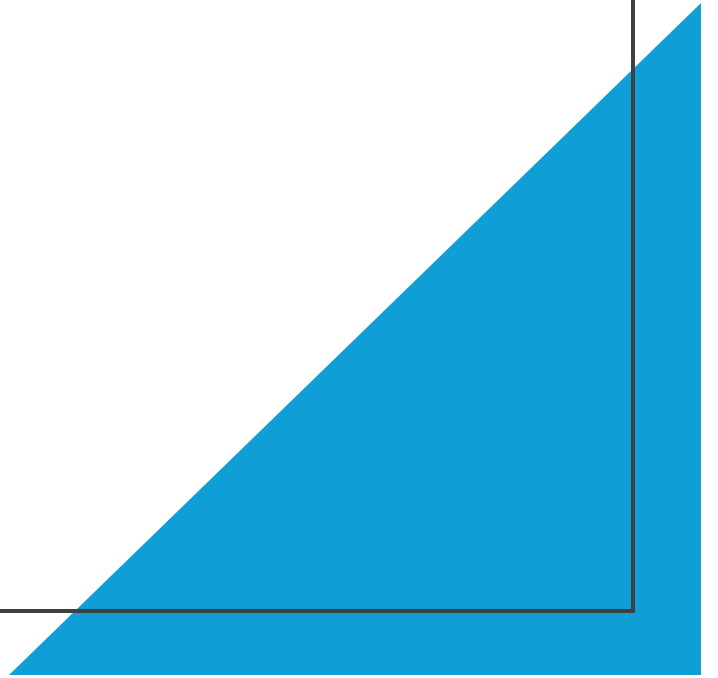
Think about what you would like to get out of the meeting.

Prepare some questions



Planned Careers Events

- Careers Fair
- CV Workshop
- Mock Interviews



Useful Websites

- <https://www.unifrog.org/>
- <https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/>
- <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/>
- <https://www.prospects.ac.uk/>
- <https://www.ucas.com/>
- <https://www.unitasterdays.com/>
- <https://notgoingtouni.co.uk/>
- <https://amazingapprenticeships.com/>