



Department
for Education



National Careers Week

Dear parents, carers and guardians,

This week is [National Careers Week](#), and as the Minister for Higher and Further Education, I am writing to let you know about the many high-quality education and training options there are available to your child after they finish their GCSEs and once they turn 18. This follows a [recent letter](#) you may have received from the Minister for Skills about all of the great apprenticeship opportunities there are available.

In my role as a Minister, I have been able to speak to a lot of young people who have all taken different paths after school or college to their chosen job or career. What so many of them had in common was **good, early careers advice** - providing an insight into the different careers there are out there – from construction and engineering to digital technology and childcare - and helping with those important decisions on what step to take next.

There are now so many **exciting, high-quality education and training options** available to young people. From T Levels that have been designed with employers to high quality apprenticeships in hundreds of occupations, traineeships and innovative new Higher Technical Qualifications, alongside A levels and university.

I know that navigating what is out there in terms of education and training options for your child and taking that next step can seem overwhelming, which is where great careers advice comes in.

Here are some other useful resources that may help:

- You can get tips on how to have a career conversations with your child on the [Talking Futures website](#). It is designed to give you the information you need to have informed conversations with your child about what they want to do in the future.
- All the different training pathways are set out on the 'Get The Jump' Skills for Life [section](#) of the National Careers Service website, which has been designed for young people to help them work out their next move. This has information about all the different education and training pathways and shows how they compare and where they can lead to.
- You can also see over [800 job profiles](#) on the National Careers Service website, with important information on things like salary levels, typical responsibilities and the best route into each job or career.
- Every school and college has a Careers Leader who will be able to support the conversations you are having with your child.

It is my priority to ensure that young people know about all the opportunities available to them so they can make an informed choice about their future. I hope your child gets some time to consider their future during National Careers Week and that these resources will be useful to you too.

Yours faithfully,

The Rt Hon Michelle Donelan MP
Minister of State for Higher and Further Education



It's okay for your child not to know where they are heading in the future.

But you can help them to get going by supporting them with their next step.

To explore all the education and training choices available to them visit [Get the Jump](#)

Speak to an adviser

If your child needs help or advice about their education and training choices they can contact the National Careers Service on 0800 100 900 (8am-8pm Monday-Friday, 10am-5pm Saturday) or [use webchat](#).

**Jannah (20):
Software
Engineering
Apprentice at
KPMG**



“My apprenticeship allows me to combine my skills and passion for creativity in the digital sector and I get to earn whilst I learn on the job.”



**Joshua (17):
T Level Student
Studying Digital
Business
Services**

“I really enjoy practical work and getting hands-on experience, so when I heard the T Level included an extended work placement, I knew it was the right course for me.”

**Nellie (20): Former
Trainee, now an
Apprentice at
Specsavers**



“The 2 month traineeship was really good. It helped to build my confidence, prepare my CV and helped with my communication. The traineeship made me realise that this was what I wanted to do as a career.”