

## Pathways from Vocational Courses at KS4 to Post-16 and Higher Education

This guide shows how vocational courses chosen as part of the curriculum at KS4 can lead to higher level courses post-16, and finally to foundation degrees at local Higher Education institutions.

It should be used within the guidance process and careers education programme, alongside all the materials which provide information on the full and varied range of academic and vocational pathways to employment, training and higher education.

Vocational courses post-16 are offered by Training Providers as well as Colleges. Contact details are included for further information on apprenticeships.



## National Qualifications Framework

Qualifications in the National Framework are arranged in five levels from entry level awards to degrees and professional qualifications. The higher the level, the greater the depth of knowledge, skills and understanding that has to be demonstrated for the qualification to be gained. The qualifications are grouped in three types: academic, vocationally related and occupational. Courses leading to different qualifications will vary in content, learning styles and methods of assessment.

Level	Academic	Vocationally Related	National Vocational Qualifications (Occupational)
5 professional, chartered, management 4	Higher degrees, advanced diplomas etc.		NVQ 5
	First degrees	Foundation degree/HND	NVQ 4
3 advanced, technician, skilled, supervisory	GCE AS/A levels	Applied AS/A levels, VRQ level 3 e.g. BTEC National Diploma	NVQ 3 Apprenticeship
2 intermediate, operative, semi-skilled	GCSE grade A*-C	VRQ level 2, e.g. BTEC First Diploma	NVQ 2 Apprenticeship
1 foundation	GCSE grade D-G	BTEC Introductory VRQ level 1	NVQ 1
Entry level	Certificate of Achievement		

FE colleges offer wide range of learning environments and vocational courses across the different levels in the qualifications framework. These courses include NVQs, AVCEs, BTECs and many other vocational qualifications. Support is available for young people who need additional help with their learning through to those of the highest ability who want to progress onto Honours degrees. A number of the FE colleges also offer Apprenticeship and e2e programmes.

*If you choose to stay on in education you may be able to get an Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA).*

See: <http://www.ema.dfes.gov.uk/>

## Apprenticeships and Entry to Employment (E 2 E)

If you want to leave full time education you can combine training with paid work.

Apprenticeships involve full time paid work in a range of industries and business with time off to study for an NVQ level 2 or 3 in your area of work, as well as working towards gaining key skills qualifications and a technical certificate.

Apprenticeships can also be a route into a Foundation degree. For more details visit <http://www.apprenticeships.org.uk/>, phone the helpline: 0800 150 600 or talk to Connexions.

E2E suits those who are not ready for work or college as it offers opportunities for work experience, help with communication and life skills, progression to an NVQ, and help with job searching. You will be paid a training allowance. You will go to a local provider and work in small groups or with 1:1 help. For more information contact your local Connexions centre.

## Foundation Degrees

There are now many hundreds of Foundation degree programmes and the numbers are growing all the time. A varied range is available locally, in and around Hampshire, and courses are often linked with FE colleges. Many students combine study at this level with employment, so you might be working 3 or 4 days a week in a job which is relevant to the Foundation degree course. This type of course with part-time study could last 3 years, while a full time course might take 2 years.

Most Foundation degrees have a progression route onto an Honours degree course, which might involve 1 or 2 further years of study.

The Foundation degree **course fees** for Hampshire students are often paid by Hampshire and Isle of Wight Workforce Development funding.

**Learning styles** on these courses is very varied and **assessment** is likely to be based on continual assessment of assignments rather than an end of year exam.

**Entry requirements** could be traditional A-level subjects, but application is encouraged through **vocational pathways** and students who have followed a BTEC or AVCE programme are currently found to be coping very well at Foundation degree level. NVQ level 3 is another route and for some courses, such as Youth Work, the experience you have had matters more than the qualifications.

Here are some examples of Foundation degrees where you would need to apply initially for a job in the sector: Medicines Management, where you would need a clinical placement in a hospital; Paramedical Science, would need a job in the Ambulance Service.

**Flexibility:** There is more than one route to a qualification, particularly at higher levels. You should discuss this with your adviser. There is also flexibility across pathways and students can change direction mid stream, for example choosing a new vocational subject post-16.

Remember that **GCSE Maths and English** are particularly important for successful progression to most Higher Education courses.

You can look in your **Connexions Centre** and in colleges' **Careers Resource Centre** for College and University prospectuses with details of courses available and entry requirements.

## School and Connexions Contact

	<u>Name and contact details</u>
Tutor, Head of Year	
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Careers Co-ordinator	
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Connexions Personal Adviser	
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## Useful websites

<a href="http://www.connexions.gov.uk/">http://www.connexions.gov.uk/</a>	General information about the Connexions Service and links to the service in the school's local area
<a href="http://www.connexions-direct.com/jobs4u">http://www.connexions-direct.com/jobs4u</a>	Information about jobs and courses
<a href="http://www.connexionscard.gov.uk/financial">http://www.connexionscard.gov.uk/financial</a>	Information about financial support for learning and training post-16
<a href="http://www.ema.dfes.gov.uk/">http://www.ema.dfes.gov.uk/</a>	Information on post-16 Education Maintenance Allowance.
<a href="http://www.dfes.gov.uk/progfile">http://www.dfes.gov.uk/progfile</a>	Information and materials for Progress File
<a href="http://www.gca.org.uk/14-19">http://www.gca.org.uk/14-19</a>	Updates and information about 14-19 curriculum
<a href="http://www.lsda.org.uk/">http://www.lsda.org.uk/</a>	Key skills and other 16-19 matters
<a href="http://www.apprenticeships.org.uk/">http://www.apprenticeships.org.uk/</a>	Apprenticeships
<a href="http://www.worktrainforadvisers.gov.uk/">http://www.worktrainforadvisers.gov.uk/</a>	Information about labour market trends
<a href="http://www.aimhigher.ac.uk/">http://www.aimhigher.ac.uk/</a>	Information and activities aimed at 14-19 year olds to inform and encourage participation in higher education
<a href="http://www.channel4.com/brilliantcareers">http://www.channel4.com/brilliantcareers</a>	A self- help web site on career choice for 16-19 year olds.
<a href="http://www.ucas.ac.uk/">http://www.ucas.ac.uk/</a>	All HE information, showing availability locally of Foundation degrees.

KS4 – schools can include subjects from this range	Subject: Catering & Hospitality	Subject: Built Environment / Construction	Subject: Motor Vehicle Studies	Subject: Engineering/ Manufacturing	Subject: Art and Design	Subject: ICT/Business	Subject: Health & Social Care	Subject: Applied Science	Subject: Horticulture / Land Based	Subject: Animal Care	Subject: Leisure / Tourism / Travel	Subject: Hairdressing
Entry Level	LQ Skills for Working Life: Hospitality & Catering (OCR) Certificate in Catering Certificate in Food Studies (WJEC & C&G)	LQ Skills for Working Life: intro to: Brickwork, Painting & Decorating, Joinery, Metalcraft, Motor Vehicle Care Certificate in: Motor Vehicle Care & Maintenance Certificate in: Motor Vehicle Studies (ABC) Certificate in Motor Vehicle & Road User Studies (WJEC)	LQ Skills for Working Life: Motor Vehicle Care & Maintenance Certificate in: Motor Vehicle Studies (ABC) Certificate in Motor Vehicle & Road User Studies (WJEC)	(OCR) Certificate in Manufacturing	Certificate in Skills for Working Life: Arts and Media LQ	Certificate in Skills for Working Life: Business, Admin, Retail LQ Cert. in Young Enterprise/Business/Administration	Certificate in Child Development Skills for Working Life (H&S) – LQ Cert. in childcare (WJEC)		Cert. in Land Studies WJEC Skills for Working Life: Land Based LQ	Skills for Working Life – Land Based LQ	(See also Leisure & Sport/Rec) Skills for Working Life: Sport & Recreation LQ Certificate in Leisure & Tourism Certificate in Travel & Tourism	Certificate in Hairdressing Skills for Working Life – Hair & Beauty LQ
LEVEL 1	NVQ1 Food Prep & Cooking NVQ1 Preparing & Serving Food NVQ1 Bakery GCSE Catering (WJEC) BTEC Introductory: Hospitality, Travel & Tourism	C+G Foundation Certificate: Building Craft Occupations, Construction BTEC Introductory: Construction In pilot: LQ GCSE construction and the built environment	Progression Award in Vehicle Servicing & Repair (C & G)	NVQ Performing Engineering Operations GCSE Engineering GCSE Manufacturing	GCSE Applied Art and Design BTEC introductory in Art, Design and Media	GCSE Applied Business GCSE Business Studies NVQ1 Administration GCSE Applied ICT BTEC Introductory in IT@work BTEC Introductory in Business	GCSE Health & Social Care BTEC Introductory: Health & Social Care OCR National Level 1: Health & Social Care (VRQ)	Applied Science GCSE	NVQ 1 Horticulture NVQ 1 Agriculture NVQ 1 Landbased Operations National Certificate in Horticulture	NVQ Horse Care NVQ Animal Care	NVQ1 Sport & Recreation GCSE Leisure & Tourism BTEC Intro: Hospitality, Leisure & Tourism OCR Nat: Leisure & Tourism	NVQ Certificate in Hairdressing
LEVEL 2	NVQ2 Food Prep & Cooking/or Food Processing & Cooking/ or Hospitality Quick Service Progression Award Bakery BTEC 1 <sup>st</sup> Hospitality	BTEC First Diploma in Construction In pilot: LQ GCSE construction and the built environment	BTEC First in Vehicle Services & Technology	NVQ Performing Engineering Operations GCSE Engineering GCSE Manufacturing BTEC 1 <sup>st</sup> Engineering etc as below	GCSE Applied Art and Design BTEC 1 <sup>st</sup> Art and Design	GCSE Applied Business GCSE Business Studies GCSE applied ICT BTEC 1 <sup>st</sup> Business BTEC 1 <sup>st</sup> IT Practitioners	GCSE Health & Social Care OCR National Health & Social Care (VRQ) BTEC 1 <sup>st</sup> Health & Social Care	Applied Science GCSE BTEC 1 <sup>st</sup> Applied Science BTEC 1 <sup>st</sup> Sport & Exercise Science	BTEC 1 <sup>st</sup> Agriculture Horticulture Countryside and Environment	NVQ Horse Care NVQ Racehorse Care BTEC 1 <sup>st</sup> Animal Care Horse Care	GCSE Leisure & Tourism OCR National Level 2 Sport BTEC 1 <sup>st</sup> Travel and Tourism	Certificate in Beauty Therapy, Beauty Consultancy, Salon Receptionist
<b>Post-16</b>												
LEVEL 1	BTEC Intro: Hospitality, Travel & Tourism Plus as above pre-16 Level 1 courses	NVQ 1 Construction Travel Occupations Wood Occupations BTEC Introductory in Construction	As Level 1 above plus NVQ motor vehicle maintenance	As Level 1 above	BTEC intro. Art, Design and Media	As Level 1 above plus many short ICT courses	As above pre-16 level courses		NCFE Landbased and Animal Care As above pre-16 level 1 and 2 Courses	NCFE Land Based and Animal Care As above pre-16 level 1 courses	As above pre-16 level 1 courses	As above pre-16 level 1 courses
LEVEL 2	BTEC 1 <sup>st</sup> Catering BTEC 1 <sup>st</sup> Hospitality Certificate in Cake Decoration NVQ Certificates: Pastry, Meat & Bakery etc. NVQ 2 Housekeeping and as above pre-16 level 2 courses Apprenticeship	BTEC 1 <sup>st</sup> Diploma in Construction NVQ 2 specialist courses Apprenticeship	As Level 2 above plus NVQ2 motor vehicle maintenance BTEC 1 <sup>st</sup> as level 2 above Apprenticeship	As Level 2 above plus: BTEC 1 <sup>st</sup> Electronics BTEC 1 <sup>st</sup> Manufacturing BTEC 1 <sup>st</sup> Engineering BTEC 1 <sup>st</sup> Operations & Maintenance Engineering etc. ** plus 12 different applications Apprenticeship	BTEC 1 <sup>st</sup> Art and Design	NVQs: Cert in Using IT BTEC/OCR 1 <sup>st</sup> Diploma for IT Practitioners BTEC 1 <sup>st</sup> in Business Apprenticeship	As above plus BTEC 1 <sup>st</sup> Caring BTEC 1 <sup>st</sup> Early Years NVQ2 Childcare NVQ2 Care Apprenticeship	BTEC 1 <sup>st</sup> in Applied Science BTEC 1 <sup>st</sup> in Sport and Exercise Science GCSE Applied Science	NVQ 2 Horticulture NVQ 2 Agriculture BTEC 1 <sup>st</sup> in Agriculture BTEC 1 <sup>st</sup> in Horticulture BTEC 1 <sup>st</sup> in Countryside & Environment National Certificate in Horticulture (C+G) Apprenticeship	As above pre-16 level 2 courses BTEC 1 <sup>st</sup> in Animal Care BTEC 1 <sup>st</sup> in Horse Care	As above pre-16 level 2 courses BTEC 1st Tourist Guide Travel Operation and Travel & Tourism Plus others Sport & Exercise Apprenticeship	As above pre-16 level 2 courses NVQ 2 Beauty Therapy NVQ2 Hairdressing Apprenticeship
LEVEL 3	BTEC Nat: Food Science & Manufacture BTEC Nat: Hospitality & Catering Advanced Apprenticeship	BTEC National: Construction AVCE Construction / Built Environment Advanced Apprenticeship	BTEC National Diploma: Vehicle Repair Advanced Apprenticeship	BTEC Nationals in Engineering, Telecommunications, Aerospace, Electric, Electronics, Manufacturing AVCE / AL Engineering Advanced Apprenticeship	BTEC Nat. in Design/3D/ Fine Art/Photography /Fashion/ Textiles etc – many options. Applied A Level Art and Design	NVQ 3 in Administration A Level Business Studies A Level Applied Business BTEC Nationals in Business and E-Business BTEC Nat. Dip in Digital Applications BTEC Nat Dip in IT Practitioners Advanced Apprenticeship	BTEC National Early Years BTEC National Care AVCE/A Level Health & Social Care OCR Level 3 Health, Social Care & Early Years NVQ3 Care Advanced Apprenticeship	BTEC Nat. in Applied Science (Bio/Chem./Phys/Enviro n/Forensic/ Medical/Pharmacy) BTEC Nat in Beauty Therapy Sciences BTEC Nat. in Sport & Ex. Sciences BTEC Nat. in Dental Technology BTEC Nat. in Food Science A Level Applied Science	BTEC National: Landbased – Agriculture BTEC National: Horticulture BTEC National: Environmental Science Advanced Apprenticeship	BTEC National Landbased – Animal Management etc. (many specialities)	BTEC National: Travel & Tourism, Sport/sport & Exercise and others OCR National 3 Sport OCR National 3 Travel & Tourism AVCE/A Level: Leisure Studies AVCE/A Level Travel & Tourism Advanced Apprenticeship	BTEC National: Hair & Beauty NVQ Hairdressing NVQ Beauty Therapy Holistic Therapy Diploma Advanced Apprenticeship
LEVEL 4	BTEC HND in Hospitality Management	Foundation Degree Structural Engineering Engineering Construction	Automotive engineering with motor sport	Foundation year in Engineering leading to various degrees Foundation degree in auto motive engineering with motor sport	Pre-degree Foundation course leading to BA in Fine Art, Textiles, Fashion etc. BTEC HND in Art & Design Foundation year in Art and Design leading to various degree courses Foundation degree in Design	BTEC HND in Business, Finance etc. Foundation Degrees in : Business and Management Business Computing Internet Computing Business Business IT Business Travel Computing	Foundation Degrees in: Health care Health & Social Care/Working with Children/Early Childhood Studies/Community Development Youth Work Early years Care and Education Police Studies Youth Justice Learning Support Diploma HE/BA/BSc Comm Dev./ Social Care Studies BTEC HND Children & Families BTEC HND Health & Social Care	Foundation degrees leading to Honours degrees: Oncological therapy Medicines management Medical imaging Paramedic science Applied medical technology BTEC HNDs in Applied Biology, chemistry, Physics, Biomedical Science Foundation year in science leads to various degrees	Foundation degrees in management of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>woodlands</li> <li>rural land</li> <li>wildlife</li> <li>adventure education</li> </ul> and also agriculture garden design	BTEC HND in Equine Management Foundation degrees in equine studies Wildlife management Fish farming Management of animals	Foundation Degrees in: Travel and Tourism operations Creative Industries Health and Fitness management Facilities Management Business and Leisure Man Business Travel Bus. & Sports Man Personal Training & Sports Performance Sports Coaching & Dev. Coaching Assoc. football Diploma HE/BA/BSc Leisure Management Diploma HE/BA/BSc Sports Development/Studies Diploma HE/BA/BSc Tourism Management Dip HE/ Heritage Man	Holistic therapies