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SCHOOL LEAVER GUIDE 2018

FOR PARENTS

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SCHOOL LEAVER GUIDE 2018

FOR PARENTS

The AllAboutSchoolLeavers.co.uk team is dedicated to helping school and college students to understand all of their options and to find the best fit for them. Make sure you give your child the best advice and information about all school leaver opportunities by visiting AllAboutSchoolLeavers.co.uk/parents

More than 2,400 schools currently use our free websites and publications to advise students and set them on the path to employment.

Our resources include

- AllAboutSchoolLeavers.co.uk
- MyCareerSpringboard.org
- AllAboutApprenticeships.co.uk
- The School Leaver Awards and rankings, voted for by current apprentices and school leavers
- School Leaver Guide - for students
- School Leaver Guide - for careers advisers and teachers

For further information on your child's options, please visit, www.AllAboutSchoolLeavers.co.uk/parents.

Young people have some tricky decisions to make about their career paths. This leaflet provides bite-sized information on all the school leaver options available to them, so you are in the best position to help.

For even more advice, as well news and job listings, visit us at AllAboutSchoolLeavers.co.uk.

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OPTIONS

YOUR CHILD'S OPTIONS, EXPLAINED

Each school leaver option provides its own blend of learning, training and qualifications to suit different personalities, personal circumstances and interests.

What's more, these six options are all valid routes into careers with real potential for progression and success in leading companies.

It's just a case of understanding what each option entails, and whether it's a type of apprenticeship, school leaver programme or university route.

HERE ARE THE SIX ROUTES IN A NUTSHELL

Intermediate Apprenticeship

These apprenticeships follow a government framework and equip apprentices with the skills to thrive in employment. Apprentices work for an employer and learn on-the-job, but also spend time at a training institution or local college. Intermediate Apprenticeships are available at all types of companies. They can lead to an Advanced Apprenticeship or a related full-time job.

Typical entry requirements:

Usually two or more GCSEs (grades 9-4) or equivalent. Alternatively, applicants may have to sit a numeracy and literacy test.

Qualifications and training:

Nationally recognised vocation—all qualifications at Level 2, equivalent to five GCSEs (grades 9-4), including a Competence qualification, a Functional Skills qualification and, in some cases, a relevant knowledge-based qualification.

How long will it last?

Typically one to three years (depending on employer and programme structure).

Advanced Apprenticeship

Advanced Apprenticeships are designed for more challenging roles and developing advanced skills. Students access great training, develop skills and gain qualifications from a training provider (like a further education college) whilst working for an employer. From an Advanced Apprenticeship, apprentices can go on to do a Higher Apprenticeship or secure a job in a relevant industry.

Typical entry requirements:

Five GCSEs (grades 9-4) or equivalent, or an Intermediate Apprenticeship.

Qualifications and training:

National vocational qualifications at Level 3, including a Competence qualification, a Functional Skills qualification and a relevant knowledge-based qualification. Completing an Advanced Apprenticeship is equivalent to gaining two A-level passes.

How long will it last?

Typically one to four years (depending on employer and programme structure).

Higher Apprenticeship

Higher Apprenticeships are a great option for school and college leavers who are looking for an alternative to university. They allow for development to an advanced level in a full-time, paid role which includes in-house training. Students also study for a professional qualification or foundation degree, which is equivalent to the first year of university. Opportunities are available with both smaller companies and multinational firms.

Typical entry requirements:

A minimum of two A-levels or equivalent, or a completed Advanced Apprenticeship.

Qualifications and training:

Level 4 (or above) qualification, such as professional qualifications (eg the exams required to be an accountant) such as a Foundation Degree, HND or HNC.

How long will it last?

Typically three to five years (depending on employer and programme structure).

Degree Apprenticeship

Degree Apprenticeships are an exciting option for school and college leavers who want a degree but not student debt, as well as a full-time salary and proper work with an employer. Like all apprenticeships, they allow for development to an in a full-time, paid role which includes learning off-the job, but unlike most other programmes, that learning takes place on a university degree course. Opportunities are available with high-profile organisations in many industries.

Typical entry requirements:

UCAS points or A-levels, as specified in employer's entry requirements. This could be anything from two A-level passes to requesting 128 UCAS points.

Qualifications and training:

Levels 6 and 7 qualifications: bachelor's and master's degrees.

How long will it last?

Typically three to five years (depending on employer and programme structure)

School leaver programme

These are another opportunity to learn on-the-job in a full-time, paid role and obtain a professional qualification. The structure and running of a school leaver programme is at the discretion of the employer, but supported study for a relevant professional qualification is a key element, and school leavers will take on similar tasks to the employer's graduate intake.

Typical entry requirements:

UCAS points or A-levels, as specified in employer's entry requirements. This could be anything from two A-level passes to requesting 128 UCAS points.

Qualifications and training:

Some programmes are centred on attaining a bachelor's degree or foundation degree. Others might focus on obtaining an industry-relevant professional qualification, such as the ACA accountancy qualification. Some employers even offer the chance to obtain both a degree and a postgraduate professional qualification as part of the same school leaver programme.

How long will it last?

Three to six years (depending on employer and programme structure).

University

University is viewed as the traditional route to a career. A degree is essential for some career paths, such as medicine. If your child has a strong desire to explore a particular subject in more detail, then university is likely to be the place to do it. A 2:1 graded degree will make your child eligible for many graduate schemes.

Typical entry requirements:

Usually at least three A-levels or equivalent, which meet the minimum grades set out by the first choice or insurance choice university.

Qualifications and training:

An internationally recognised bachelor's degree.

How long will it last?

Three or four years (depending on whether course includes a mandatory placement year, year abroad, or leads to a master's qualification).

TRAINING PROVIDERS

Most employers use an external training organisation to provide training to apprentices. There are two main types of training organisations: further education colleges, and independent training providers.

Apprentices split their time between on-the-job learning with their employer, and off-the-job training at their apprenticeship provider. The off-the-job studying usually takes just one day a week.

What do training providers do?

The provider will help the employer to review and test the progress of an apprentice, as well as providing feedback and training to cover the knowledge elements of the programme.

There are a number of ways to find out more about the training provider that your child will use. You can check if a training provider is registered with the Skills Funding Agency (SFA) by visiting the Gov.uk website: gov.uk/government/publications/register-of-training-organisations. Like schools, training providers will also be inspected by OFSTED, so you will be able to see how they have been rated in those inspections.

SALARIES

Companies running apprenticeships are legally required to pay the Apprentice National Minimum Wage, currently £3.70 per hour for apprentices aged 16-18, and those aged 19 or over who are in their first year.

All other apprentices are entitled to the National Minimum Wage for their age (£4.20 for under 18s, £5.90 for 18-20-year-olds and £7.38 for those 21-24-year-olds).

UNDER 18

£4.20

18-20

£5.90

21-24

£7.38

However, many companies choose to pay much more than this. Salaries for apprenticeships and school leaver programmes tend to range between £10,000 and £25,000.

WHERE TO LOOK

The UK is seeing an ever-growing number of apprenticeships and school leaver programmes, pioneered by some of the UK's top employers. They all offer their own mix of training, paid work experience and qualifications. The next few pages showcase award-winning employers your child could consider...



FEATURED EMPLOYERS



INDUSTRY

Professional Services



LOCATIONS

London, Manchester, Newcastle, Warwick



PROGRAMMES

Degree Apprenticeship, School Leaver Programme



INDUSTRY

Retail



LOCATIONS

Nationwide



PROGRAMMES

Intermediate Apprenticeship, Advanced Apprenticeship, Degree Apprenticeship



INDUSTRY

Design and Consultancy



LOCATIONS

Nationwide



PROGRAMMES

Advanced Apprenticeship, Degree Apprenticeship



INDUSTRY

Law



LOCATIONS

London



PROGRAMMES

Advanced Apprenticeship, Degree Apprenticeship



INDUSTRY

Law



LOCATIONS

Manchester



PROGRAMMES

Advanced Apprenticeship, Solicitor
Apprenticeship



INDUSTRY

Law



LOCATIONS

Bristol



PROGRAMMES

Advanced Apprenticeship



INDUSTRY

Accounting



LOCATIONS

Nationwide



PROGRAMMES

Higher Apprenticeship



INDUSTRY

Law



LOCATIONS

London



PROGRAMMES

Degree Apprenticeship



INDUSTRY

Law



INDUSTRY

Accounting and Professional Services



LOCATIONS

Manchester, Liverpool, London



LOCATIONS

Nationwide



PROGRAMMES

Intermediate Apprenticeship, Advanced Apprenticeship



PROGRAMMES

Higher Apprenticeship, Degree Apprenticeship



INDUSTRY

Energy and Utilities



INDUSTRY

Banking and Finance



LOCATIONS

Nationwide



LOCATIONS

Kingswood in Surrey



PROGRAMMES

Intermediate Apprenticeship, Advanced Apprenticeship, Higher Apprenticeship, Degree Apprenticeship



PROGRAMMES

Advanced Apprenticeship

EVERSHEDS SUTHERLAND



INDUSTRY

Law



LOCATIONS

Birmingham, Leeds, London, Manchester, Nottingham



PROGRAMMES

Degree Apprenticeship



ICAEW
CHARTERED
ACCOUNTANTS



INDUSTRY

Accounting



LOCATIONS

Nationwide



PROGRAMMES

Higher Apprenticeship

**Goldman
Sachs**



INDUSTRY

Banking and Finance



LOCATIONS

London



PROGRAMMES

Degree Apprenticeship

LAING O'ROURKE



INDUSTRY

Construction



LOCATIONS

Nationwide



PROGRAMMES

Intermediate Apprenticeship, Degree Apprenticeship, School Leaver Programme

**INDUSTRY**

Engineering

**LOCATIONS**

Nationwide

**PROGRAMMES**

Advanced Apprenticeship, Higher Apprenticeship, Degree Apprenticeship

MAYER • BROWN**INDUSTRY**

Law

**LOCATIONS**

London

**PROGRAMMES**

Degree Apprenticeship

MACFARLANES**INDUSTRY**

Law

**LOCATIONS**

London

**PROGRAMMES**

Advanced Apprenticeship

nationalgrid**INDUSTRY**

Engineering

**LOCATIONS**

Nationwide

**PROGRAMMES**

Advanced Apprenticeship, Higher Apprenticeship



INDUSTRY

Accounting and Professional Services



LOCATIONS

Nationwide



PROGRAMMES

Higher Apprenticeship, Degree Apprenticeship, School Leaver Programme



INDUSTRY

Engineering



LOCATIONS

Nationwide



PROGRAMMES

Advanced Apprenticeship, Degree Apprenticeship, Sponsored Degree



INDUSTRY

Military



LOCATIONS

Nationwide



PROGRAMMES

Intermediate Apprenticeship, Advanced Apprenticeship, Higher Apprenticeship



INDUSTRY

Accounting



LOCATIONS

Nationwide



PROGRAMMES

School Leaver Programme



INDUSTRY

Banking and Finance



LOCATIONS

London



PROGRAMMES

Advanced Apprenticeship



INDUSTRY

Automotive



LOCATIONS

Nationwide



PROGRAMMES

Advanced Apprenticeship



INDUSTRY

Automotive



LOCATIONS

Nationwide



PROGRAMMES

Advanced Apprenticeship



INDUSTRY

Engineering



LOCATIONS

Nationwide



PROGRAMMES

Degree Apprenticeship, School Leaver Programme



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What you should know about apprenticeships

- Do you know the four levels of apprenticeship and the differences between them?
- Can you name the three ways your child can get a degree?
- How long does an apprenticeship last and how much do apprentices get paid?
- Which level of apprenticeship qualification is at the same level as a master's degree?
- When is the application deadline for apprenticeships?
- Have you checked who an employer's training provider is?
- Have you checked the training provider's most recent OFSTED report?
- Have you seen how current apprentices rate their company in AllAboutSchoolLeavers's Top 100 employers?