

Pathways, Careers and Higher Education

What are my options?





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My Next Step: What You Need to Know

- There are times in your life when you will need to decide what to do next such as making option choices throughout school and deciding what to do when you leave school.
- It can be difficult to make the right choice, especially when there are so many options available.
- It's important that you have the right information about each of your choices so that you can make the right decision.
- It can help to have some career ideas as this can help you decide which route to take





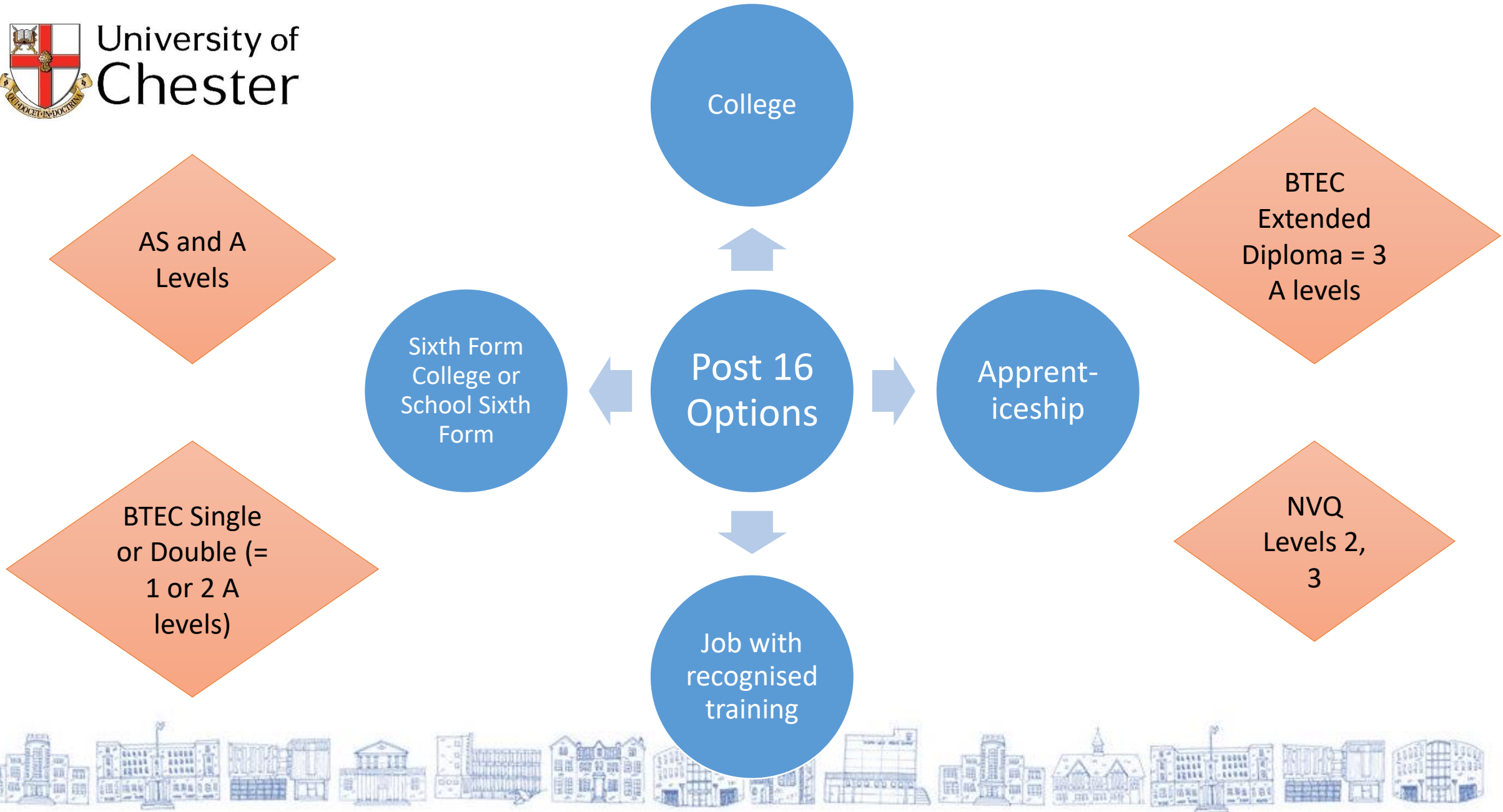
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What are your Post 16 options?





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My Next Step: Planning your Post-16 options

- A good place to start planning your Post-16 options is to think of these three questions:
 - Where am I now? (What qualifications, skills and interests do I have?)
 - Where do I want to get to? (What would I like to be doing in the future?)
 - How will I get there? (What course or training is likely to get you where you want to go?)
- Looking ahead can help you make the best choices for Post-16 study
 - What subjects will you need for a future career?
 - Do you need to do Higher Education?
 - Can you do BTECs or do you need to do A levels?
 - Can you do an advanced level apprenticeship?

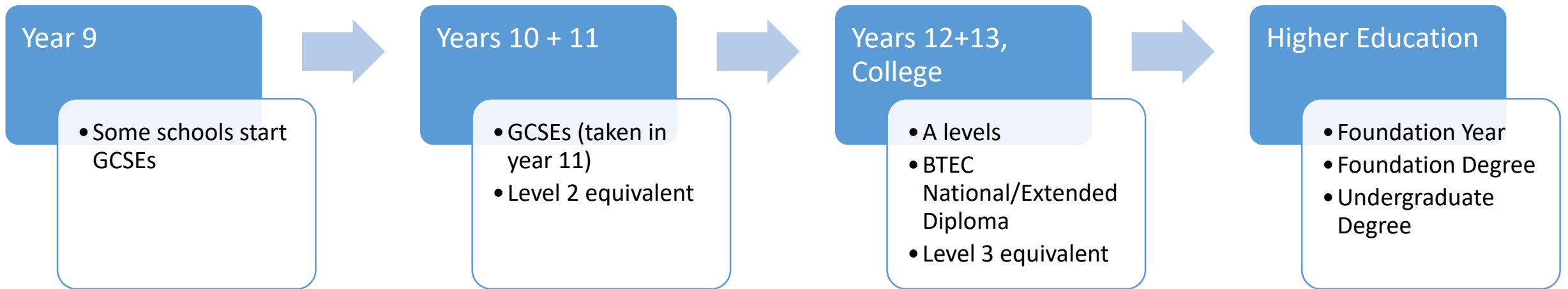




What is Higher Education?

Study beyond Level 3 (A levels, BTEC Level 3 or their equivalent)

After college or sixth form, min age 18





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Myth Busting

- University is an option for everyone
 - Not just for the “cleverest”
 - Lots of different grades and qualifications accepted
- You can go to university any age after 18
- You don't need to be rich to go to university
 - Funding is available for everyone
 - Explore more in our separate student finance factsheet





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What is a University?

- A place to continue your education after you've finished school and/or college
- A place that students over 18 go
- Work towards a degree (undergraduate)
 - *At least 3 years, some courses take longer*
- A choice
 - where you want to go and what you want to study
 - *Nearly 200 universities and over 50000 courses*
 - *Any subject...from the well known to the more unusual*
- Study for longer to get a Masters or PhD (postgraduate)



Why go to University?

Can you think of reasons why people choose to go to university?

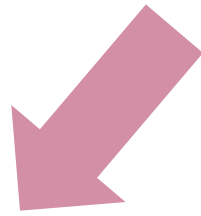
What are the advantages and benefits?



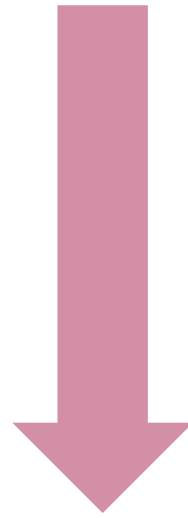


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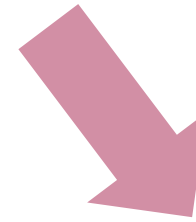
There are three main reasons to go to university;



Professional



Level of Study



Personal





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Professional

- You need a degree for your chosen profession
 - For example: Doctor, Engineer, Dentist, Teacher, Nurse, Architect etc.
- Enhance employability
 - Lots of transferable skills that can be used in future job roles
- To improve job prospects
 - Many graduate entry jobs are available
 - More opportunities





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Level of Study

- Study a favourite subject to a high level
 - Study a whole new subject, study modules that you wouldn't be able to study at school
- Some subjects can only be studied in a university environment
- Broad range of subjects from Astrophysics to Zoology
- Facilities and Equipment
 - More advanced labs, studio space, resources to use for design and practical subjects, lots of opportunities to expand your subjects





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Personal

- Transferable skills
 - Study skills
 - Self motivation and independent learning
 - Life skills
 - Employability skills and experience
- University Experience
- Independence and Life experience
 - Living, socialising, hobbies and more





What are the advantages?

Learning

- new skills
- world class facilities
- industry experience
- independence

Living

- Social and life experience
- Meet new people from all over the world
- Share experiences with like minded people
- Develop essential life skills
- Enjoy your time

Opportunity

- Be a part of something new
- Study Abroad
- Join a sports team
- Join or found a society from Anime to Quidditch
- Live in a new city or rediscover a familiar one
- Be brave



Studying at university

- University is a place where you learn, but it is very different to school
- All subjects are different in the way they are taught and structured
- Terms are shorter
- Independence - plan your day as you want around your subject timetable: studies, social life, work





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Not all jobs require you to go to university





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Alternatives to Explore

- Apprenticeships
 - On-the-job training
 - Self-Start
 - Other Qualifications
 - Mature Study
-
- Don't worry too much about finding your dream job straight away
 - Remember you can go to university any time after 18 so wait until you know what you want a bit more clearly and choose the right course
 - Consider the pros and cons of all your choices





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Thinking about your strengths and skills
can also help you to decide what kind
of job you might like to do...





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Strengths

Strengths are things that we are *naturally* good at like being funny or kind. Consider what some of your strengths might be...

- Kind
- Funny
- Clever
- Helpful
- Good listener
- Sensitive
- Tidy
- Calm
- Friendly
- Careful
- Enthusiastic
- Patient
- Thoughtful
- Open-minded
- Curious
- Creative
- Logical
- Confident





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Skills

Skills are things we have *learned* to be good at, like drawing, cooking or playing sport. They can be old or new. **Think about some of the skills you have developed, they may be included in the examples below.**

- Reading
- Writing
- Drawing
- Cooking
- Playing sport
- Maths
- Communication
- Public-speaking
- Research
- Discussion
- Problem-solving
- Organisation
- Time-keeping
- Playing an instrument





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Knowing which 'type' of job you like
can help you to decide what to do...

...but your favourite subject can help too!





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Job Types

- Practical- people who like to do things, make things and be active
- Thinking – people who like to learn, read, write, research and discuss ideas
- Creative – people who like to express themselves, make things and explore new ways of doing things
- People – people who like understand other people and to help them





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People

Teacher, Manager,
Psychologist, Sports Coach,
Youth Worker

Creative

Artist, Writer, Designer,
Dancer, Film Director, Actor

Practical

Builder, Plumber, Gardener,
Scientist, Hairdresser, Nurse,
Mechanic, Engineer, Athlete

Job Types

Thinking

Writer, Journalist, Politician,
Linguist, Economist,
Business-person





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Next Steps

- Think about what kind of jobs there are and if there is any particular career you would like to pursue.
- Think about what strengths and skills you have and the job ‘types’ that go with them

Download and complete the ‘Strengths and Skills’ activity sheet to identify your own strengths and skills and how they might relate to your future career.

<https://www1.chester.ac.uk/outreach/online-resources-schools-and-colleges/resources-secondary-schools>

