



Department
for Education

National Careers Week

Dear parents, carers and guardians,

As the Minister for Higher and Further Education, I am writing to share the latest information about the education, training and work choices your child has 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 the great apprenticeship opportunities there are available.



This week is National Careers Week and there is no better time for young people to start thinking about their next step than now.

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 get the training they need to secure the job or career path they want to follow. What so many of them had in common was good, early careers advice – this can make a huge difference in helping with those important decisions on what step to take next.

There is now a better range of education and training pathways available to young people. From T Levels that have been designed with employers to high quality apprenticeships, traineeships and Higher Technical Qualifications alongside A levels and university.

All the different training pathways are set out on a bespoke 'Get The Jump' Skills for Life [section](#) of the National Careers Service website, which has been designed specifically for young people to help them work out their next move. It has information about all the education and training pathways open to young people in one place and shows how they compare and where they can lead to.

The National Careers Service website has over 800 job profiles, providing you and your child with information on salary levels, typical responsibilities and the best route into each job or career.

You can also get handy 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 a more informed conversations with your child about what they want to do in the future.

Every school and college has a Careers Leader who is responsible for planning and coordinating the careers programme. The Careers Leader will be pleased to support the conversations you're having with your child.

It is my priority to ensure that every young person knows 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 hear more about them 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.”