

# Student Careers Pack

Maiden Erlegh School  
Reading



**Who am I?**



**Who am I?**



**Who am I?**



**Who am I?**

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2020 - 2021

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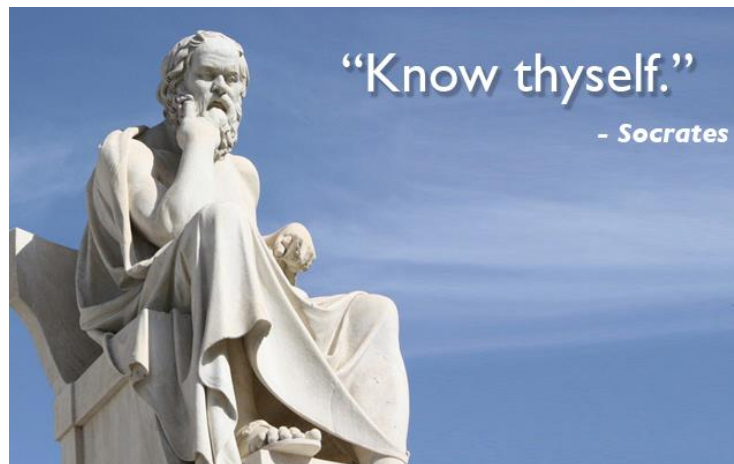
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## Section 1: i)



**Knowing yourself...**

**Your:**

**strengths**

**weaknesses**

**skills**

**values**

**preferences**

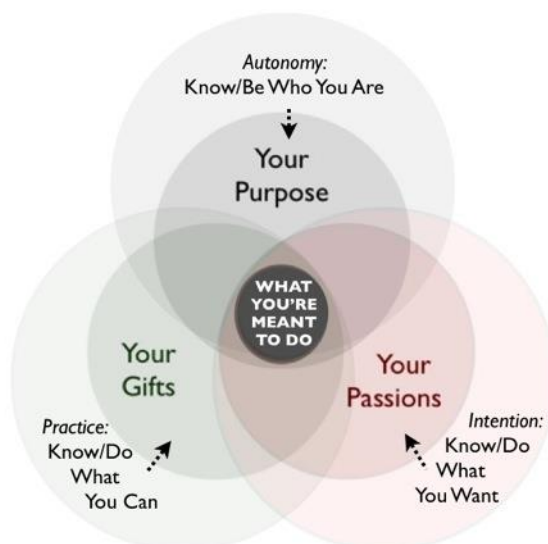
**As well as...**

**what you enjoy**

**what brings you the most fulfilment**

**Are all key in helping you:-**

- 1) Consider careers which may suit you well
- 2) Discover routes into those careers, which suit you best



## Section 1: ii)

**Buy a book or create a file – call it 'Career Ideas', 'My Career Dreams', or something similar. In it - begin to brainstorm - list what makes you, you – your abilities, skills, strengths...**

### **Hard Skills (measurable skills):**

A definition of ability – “talent, skill, or proficiency in a particular area”

A definition of hard skills – “**Hard skills** are teachable abilities or **skill** sets that are easy to quantify. You typically learn them through the classroom, at work or through studying training/teaching resources.”

### **Soft and Transferable Skills**

A definition of a Soft Skill – Wikipedia describe skills as:

“...a combination of people **skills**, social **skills**, **communication skills**, character or personality traits, attitudes, career attributes, social intelligence and emotional intelligence quotients, among others, that enable people to navigate their environment, work well with others, perform well, and achieve.”

A definition of Transferable Skills – Indeed.co.uk describe them as follows:

“...**Transferable skills**, also known as “portable skills,” are qualities that can be transferred from one job to another. You likely already possess many transferable skills employers want, like organization or strong communication. You can strengthen those skills and develop new ones that employers value across industries and jobs.”

Soft and Transferable skills are highly sort after by employers and universities. Research the words below. Write down the ones you already have, and give examples. Also write those you would like to work toward or improve upon:

**Adaptability**

**Analytical Skills**

**Commercial awareness**

**Communication**

**Decision making**

**Flexibility**

**Initiative**

**Innovation**

**I.T. Skills**

**Leadership**

**Negotiation**

**Networking**

**Numeracy Skills**

**Organisation**

**Problem solving**

**Research**

**Resilience**

**Teamwork**

**Time management....**

**There are more soft/transferable skills, can you find them online?**

**Weaknesses:** It is good to be self-aware. While we do not need to focus on our weaknesses all the time, it is important to be aware of areas you need to work on – is it *time management*? Or *Teamwork*? How can you improve on your weaknesses? Employers will be keen to know how you are working on your weaknesses too. Always seek to frame weaknesses in a positive way and let Employers know you are working on them.

A common interview question – Tell us about your strengths and weaknesses! Start preparing now, it will definitely help you ☺.

**TASK: List the abilities / hard skills, soft and transferable skills you have...**

A few examples:

Subjects you are good at in school –

- Where you achieve your best grades
- When you have achieved a clear outcome – won a prize or commendation for a piece of work / artwork / written work, etc.
- An ability to communicate in another language

A skill you have acquired in your spare time – at a club, or at home –

- learning to play a musical instrument
- achieving a badge as part of a Uniformed organisation, e.g. Scouts, Girls'/Boys' Brigade, Guides, Air Cadets, Sea Cadets, Army Cadets, Volunteer Police Cadets, etc.
- Others tell you they love a particular dish you make
- You are able to fix and mend things – bikes, computers, clothes
- Success within a sport – within a team, competitively, or achieving a certain level – e.g. different belts within Judo, School or Local Team, etc.

**Can you think of any more strengths and skills? Why not ask at home and your friends too?**

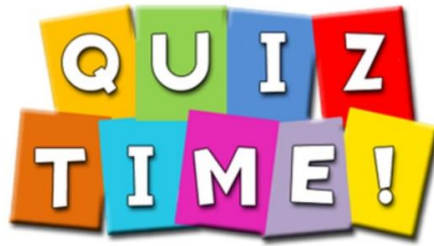
Write them down.

Don't worry if you are unable to think of many examples right now, your abilities and hard skills will grow as you go through life and acquire more!



Photo credit: Gerd Altmann. Pixabay.

## Section 1: iii) and iv)



### Complete Personality and Careers quizzes at:

- <https://www.16personalities.com/> (Learn about yourself and what makes you, you)
- [www.icould.com](http://www.icould.com) or [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com) (Buzz Quiz – short Personality and career matching test)
- [www.prospects.ac.uk](http://www.prospects.ac.uk) (You will need to register online)
- [www.sacu-student.com](http://www.sacu-student.com) (You will need to register online)



### Research careers, find job profiles and related information at:

- [www.careerpilot.org.uk](http://www.careerpilot.org.uk) (excellent all-round website including information, skills matching and videos)
- <https://www.adviza.org.uk/who-am-i/young-person>
- <https://www.allaboutcareers.com/>
- [www.icould.com](http://www.icould.com) (includes videos of people talking about their Job roles)
- <http://www.careerninja.co.uk> – for the free careers personality test
- [www.healthcareers.nhs.uk](http://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk) - for a wide range of detailed NHS careers information
- [www.prospects.ac.uk](http://www.prospects.ac.uk) – good source of careers information and what you can do with your degree.
- [www.planitplus.net](http://www.planitplus.net) - see careers areas or the careers match quiz
- <http://www.tomorrowsengineers.org.uk/> - engineering information
- [https://www.lmiforall.org.uk/explore\\_lmi/](https://www.lmiforall.org.uk/explore_lmi/) (important 'Labour Market Information' – including salary, estimated growth relating to different jobs/sectors, etc.)



## **Section 2:**

### **Post 16 Options and Qualification Levels 1, 2 and 3**

The beauty of education and training between the ages of 16-18/19 is that it is free! It is also a time when students can focus and go deeper into subjects which interest them, gain invaluable work experience, and choose their preferred way of studying.

The government want every student to continue in some form of education / training until they are 18.

It important to research and understand what is available. Choose the options which will enable you to excel and get ***your*** best grades.

Be sure to check entry requirements for schools, colleges and apprenticeships.

#### **A-Levels**

A-levels (advanced level qualifications) cover a variety of subjects and are exam based (apart from more practical subjects like Art, D.T. and Photography). They are one of the options allowing you to go on to university, if you achieve the required grades (certain subjects may be required to study certain courses). Some courses (e.g. Medicine) and universities (e.g. Oxford and Cambridge, and some Russell Group Universities) currently only recognise A-levels and some require the top grades – A\*'s and A's , while others will accept grades B – C or D, for entry). This form of study relies more on classroom teaching and independent study, followed by exams at the end of 2 years. Explore the subjects available at Sixth Form and some Colleges. Most people choose to study 3 A-Levels (standardly required by universities), but some opt to study 4 (and may then drop a subject). Be sure you are interested in the subjects you choose and will be most likely to achieve your best grades in them. A-levels often require around 5 GCSE's at grade 5, with potentially grade 6 or 7 achieved in the subject you are aiming for (e.g. some schools require a 7 at GCSE to study A-level Maths, and a grade 6 in certain other subjects to study a Science subject, English or History, for example). Some colleges offer lower grades. Students often find A-levels a much bigger stretch than GCSEs as they go much deeper into the subject. If you are unsure, talk with your teacher about whether A-levels will be a good fit for you.

#### **Applied A-Levels (some are also referred to as Extended Certificates)**

Applied A-Levels are the equivalent to A-levels but are balanced between coursework and exams – roughly 50-50. Subjects offered currently include: Applied Criminology, Applied Games Production, Applied Human Biology, Applied IT, Applied Production Arts, Applied Psychology, Applied Law. They are offered by some Colleges and Sixth Forms.

Applied Levels will suit those who wish to show their ability through coursework, as well as exams. They are also a good option for students who wish to do a more coursework based qualification, but do not wish to commit to one subject area (as would be required with the BTEC Extended Diploma).

#### **Apprenticeships**

Apprenticeships combine work with learning and you get paid as well! This option is good if you are clear which career you would like to follow, and are looking to start work as soon as possible. You can find out more about apprenticeships and search for vacancies in your local area on the official government apprenticeship site: <https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/apprenticeshipsearch> .

You can start an apprenticeship straight after GCSEs (Intermediate level and Advanced level – depending on your GCSE grades). You can follow apprenticeships through all the way to degree level in some career sectors if you wanted to. Many colleges help to organise apprenticeships so contacting them may help, along with searching via apprenticeship websites.

**\*\*\*\*It is strongly advised you apply for college as back-up\*\*\*\***

## T-Levels

T-levels are new Level 3 courses which combine study at college with periods of work experience with a company. Like all Level 3 courses, they last two years. They will likely require the types of grades required to study A-levels (around grade 5). This will be a good option if you feel career about your career goals and if you prefer to be practical, gain experience, alongside studying. Certain subjects are being rolled out at a few colleges. They will eventually cover a wider range of subjects. You can find out more about them here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/introduction-of-t-levels/introduction-of-t-levels>

## Traineeships

A traineeship is a course with work experience that gets you ready for work or an apprenticeship. It can last up to 6 months.

You can apply if you're:

- eligible to work in England
- unemployed and have little or no work experience
- aged 16 to 24 and qualified below Level 3

Search for opportunities here: <https://www.gov.uk/find-traineeship>

## Vocational Courses – e.g. BTEC / other Technical Certificates and Diplomas:

These are work-related courses delivered mostly by colleges, and some sixth forms. They are available at different levels, to suit your GCSE qualifications – ranging from creative to construction to computing to engineering to vehicle maintenance to media and many more subjects. These courses usually combine coursework and fewer exams. You will need to work consistently throughout the course, meeting coursework deadlines. Many Universities accept BTEC qualifications. Employers appreciate the skills you learn in time management through this type of course. More traditional universities (e.g. Oxford and Cambridge and some Russell Group universities, may not recognise BTEC, or may require a single A-level alongside (the equivalent to taking 4 A-levels). Therefore, it is worth considering what you may like to study and where – research these options, and work backwards.

**Level 3:** Entry requirements for level 3 courses such as the BTEC National Diploma (equivalent to 3 A-Level) and BTEC National Certificates (equivalent to 1 A-Level) are usually GCSE grades 4 and 5 which is a bit lower than some schools/colleges for A-levels.

**Level 2:** Entry requirements for level 2 courses such as BTEC are usually a certain number of GCSEs at grade 3.

**Level 1:** This is an entry level qualification. Some colleges start students training for technical trades and professions at this level – e.g. Hairdressing and Motor Vehicle Maintenance, others start you on the Level 2 course. Level 1 courses tend to require lower grades for entry, but you need to show enthusiasm and professionalism, and a desire to succeed, through your application and interview.

Many courses are offered at all the local colleges. Some subjects like catering, construction trades, animal care and horticulture are only offered at some of the colleges so, again, check all these details carefully.

- It is important to **consider what career you are interested in** to help you map a path toward that goal.
- Some careers will require very specific routes – e.g. Medicine.
- It is important to **choose options** which will **enable you to flourish** and **achieve your best grades**. A-Levels are not best for everyone, and BTEC or an apprenticeship do not suit everyone...
- What is best for **you?**





## Section 3: Qualification Levels

National Qualifications Framework					
LEVEL 8	Doctorate PhD				
LEVEL 7	Masters Degree MS, MSc, MPhil		Masters Degree Apprenticeship		
LEVEL 6	Bachelor Degree BA, BSc		Undergraduate Degree Apprenticeship		
LEVEL 5			Foundation Degree FdA, FdSc	HND	Higher Apprenticeship
LEVEL 4				HNC	
LEVEL 3	A-Level	A2	L3 Diploma (National)	L3 Certificate (National)	Advanced Apprenticeship
		A1 (AS Level)			
LEVEL 2	GCSE Grades A*-C New grades 9-4		L2 Award/Certificate/Diploma (First)		Intermediate Apprenticeship
LEVEL 1	GCSE Grades D-G New grades 3-1		L1 Award/Certificate/Diploma (Foundation)		
	ENTRY LEVEL				

## Section 4: Further Education

### i) Sixth Forms

**Your School: Maiden Erlegh School**

<https://www.maidenerleghschool.co.uk/>

**Other Sixth Forms:**

**Reading and Woodley:**

<b>Bulmershe</b>	<a href="https://www.thebulmersheschool.com/">https://www.thebulmersheschool.com/</a>
<b>Denefield</b>	<a href="http://www.denefield.org.uk/">http://www.denefield.org.uk/</a>
<b>Highdown</b>	<a href="https://www.highdown.reading.sch.uk/">https://www.highdown.reading.sch.uk/</a>
<b>Hugh Farrington</b>	<a href="https://www.hughfarrington.org/">https://www.hughfarrington.org/</a>
<b>John Madejski</b>	<a href="https://www.johnmadejskiacademy.co.uk/">https://www.johnmadejskiacademy.co.uk/</a>
<b>Kendrick</b>	<a href="https://www.kendrick.reading.sch.uk/">https://www.kendrick.reading.sch.uk/</a> (for Girls)
<b>Prospect</b>	<a href="http://www.prospect.reading.sch.uk/">http://www.prospect.reading.sch.uk/</a>
<b>Reading Girls</b>	<a href="http://www.readinggirlsschool.co.uk/">http://www.readinggirlsschool.co.uk/</a>
<b>Reading Boys</b>	<a href="https://www.reading-school.co.uk/">https://www.reading-school.co.uk/</a> (for Boys)
<b>Waingels</b>	<a href="https://www.waingels.wokingham.sch.uk/">https://www.waingels.wokingham.sch.uk/</a>
<b>The Wren</b>	<a href="https://www.wrenschool.org/">https://www.wrenschool.org/</a>

**Bracknell and Wokingham:**

<b>Edgbarrow School</b>	<a href="http://www.edgbarrowschool.co.uk">www.edgbarrowschool.co.uk</a>
<b>Brakenhale School</b>	<a href="http://www.brakenhale.co.uk">www.brakenhale.co.uk</a>
<b>Ranelagh School</b>	<a href="http://www.ranelagh.bracknell-forest.sch.uk">www.ranelagh.bracknell-forest.sch.uk</a>
<b>Sandhurst School</b>	<a href="http://www.sandhurstschool.org.uk/">www.sandhurstschool.org.uk/</a>
<b>St Crispin's School</b>	<a href="http://www.crispins.co.uk">www.crispins.co.uk</a>
<b>Emmbrook School</b>	<a href="http://www.emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk">www.emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk</a>
<b>Charters School</b>	<a href="http://www.chartersschool.org.uk">www.chartersschool.org.uk</a>
<b>Easthampstead Park</b>	<a href="http://www.epschool.org">www.epschool.org</a>

\*Please note, the above list is not exhaustive. You can find details of Local Authority and Independent schools via Council/Local Authority websites, google and google maps.

**\*\*Be sure to check dates of Sixth Form Open Days / Evenings and application deadlines\*\***



## ii) Further Education Colleges

Note - Dates that have been announced to date for this academic year – additional dates for some colleges may be added later. Some may be virtual. Please check websites regularly and before attending in case details have changed.

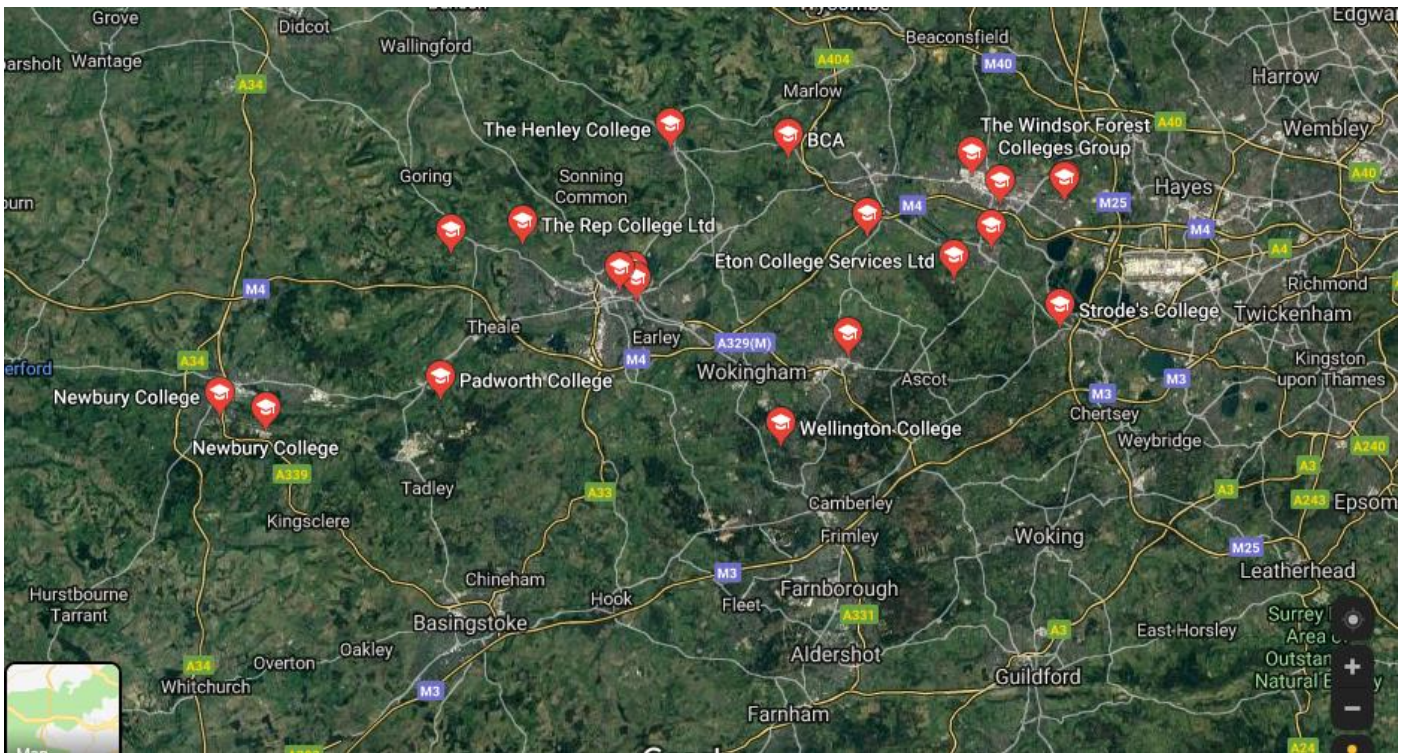
College	Contact details	Dates
<b>BCA</b> Hall Place Burchett's Green Maidenhead SL6 6QR	Tel: 01628 824444  Website: <a href="http://www.bca.ac.uk">www.bca.ac.uk</a>  Email Enquires: <a href="mailto:enquiries@bca.ac.uk">enquiries@bca.ac.uk</a>	<b>Open events</b> Saturday 3 October 2020 - 10am to 2pm Saturday 21 November 2020 - 10am to 2pm Saturday 6 February 2021 – 10am to 2pm, Wednesday 5 May 2021 – 5pm-7.30pm  <b>Keep an eye on and BOOK Taster days:</b> <a href="https://www.bca.ac.uk/">https://www.bca.ac.uk/</a>
<b>BCoT (Basingstoke College of Technology)</b> Worting Road Basingstoke RG21 8TN	Tel: 01256354141  Website: <a href="http://www.bcot.ac.uk">www.bcot.ac.uk</a>  Email: <a href="mailto:nextyear@bcot.ac.uk">nextyear@bcot.ac.uk</a>	<b>Open events</b> Tues 13 Oct 2020 – 4.00-8.00pm Sat 14 Nov 2020 – 10.30-12.30pm Tues 27 Apr 2021 – 4.00-8.00pm  <b>Apprenticeship and Recruitment Fairs</b> Please check via the college website
<b>Bracknell &amp; Wokingham College (Activate Learning)</b> Church Road Bracknell RG12 1DJ (RG12 1EH for sat navs) (part of Activate Learning Group of Colleges)	0800 612 6008 – central telephone number for all Activate Learning Colleges  Website: <a href="https://www.activatelearning.ac.uk/bracknell-wokingham">https://www.activatelearning.ac.uk/bracknell-wokingham</a>  Website for all Activate Learning colleges: <a href="http://www.activatelearning.ac.uk">www.activatelearning.ac.uk</a>	<b>Open events</b> Sat 10 Oct 2020 – 9.30am-1.30pm Wed 13 Nov 2020 – 4pm-8pm  <b>Recorded Virtual Event:</b> <a href="https://www.activatelearning.ac.uk/voe/bracknell-and-wokingham-college-virtual-open-event">https://www.activatelearning.ac.uk/voe/bracknell-and-wokingham-college-virtual-open-event</a>
<b>City of Oxford College</b> Oxford City Centre campus Oxpens Rd Oxford OX1 1SA  Technology campus Cuddesdon Way Blackbird Leys Oxford OX4 6HN	Tel: 01865 550550 <a href="http://www.activatelearning.ac.uk">www.activatelearning.ac.uk</a> <b>Oxford City Centre campus:</b> Courses in A-levels and business, Hair and beauty, hospitality and catering, furniture, sports and more!) <b>Technology campus:</b> Courses in IT and computing, construction, engineering, motor vehicle, plumbing, electrical)	<b>Open events at both Oxford City Centre and Technology campuses</b> Sat 17 Oct 2020 – 9.30am-1.30pm Wed 25 Nov 2020 – 4pm-8pm  <b>Recorded Virtual Event:</b> <a href="https://www.activatelearning.ac.uk/voe/city-of-oxford-college-virtual-open-event">https://www.activatelearning.ac.uk/voe/city-of-oxford-college-virtual-open-event</a>

<b>Farnborough College</b> Boundary Road Farnborough Hants GU14 6SB  <b>Aldershot Campus</b> Aldershot Construction College Unit 2, Holder Road Aldershot Hants GU12 4PQ	<a href="https://www.farn-ct.ac.uk/school-leavers/">https://www.farn-ct.ac.uk/school-leavers/</a> A wide range of courses including A levels and BTEC vocational courses Call: 01252 405555  Bricklaying, Carpentry, Electrical Installation or Plumbing,  Call: 01252 407607	<b>Open events</b> Tues 13 Oct 2020 4:00 pm - 7:30 pm Wed 14 Nov 2020 4:00 pm - 7:30 pm Wed 18 Nov 2020 4:00 pm - 7:30 pm Wed 3 Mar 2021 4:00pm – 7:30pm  <b>Open events</b> Thu 15 Oct 2020 4:00 pm - 7:30 pm Thu 19 Nov 2020 4:00 pm - 7:30 pm Thu 4 Mar 2021 4:00 pm - 7:30 pm
<b>Farnborough Sixth Form College</b>  The Sixth Form College Farnborough Prospect Avenue Farnborough Hampshire GU14 8JX	Telephone: 01252 688200  A level and BTEC courses  Website: <a href="https://farnborough.ac.uk/">https://farnborough.ac.uk/</a>  Email: <a href="mailto:admin@farnborough.ac.uk">admin@farnborough.ac.uk</a>	<b>Open events</b> 14 <sup>th</sup> and 15 <sup>th</sup> October – more information to be published nearer the time. See: <a href="https://farnborough.ac.uk/calendar">https://farnborough.ac.uk/calendar</a> (click on Open days event – purple link on calendar)
<b>Henley College</b> Deanfield Avenue Henley RG9 1UH	Tel: 01491 579988  A-level, Applied A Levels, BTEC courses  Website: <a href="http://www.henleycol.ac.uk">www.henleycol.ac.uk</a>  Email: <a href="mailto:info@henleycol.ac.uk">info@henleycol.ac.uk</a>	<b>Open events</b> Please keep an eye on upcoming Open Days and Evenings.  <b>Virtual recorded event:</b> <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1NIZXHnOL7k&amp;feature=youtu.be">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1NIZXHnOL7k&amp;feature=youtu.be</a>
<b>Langley College</b> Station Road Langley SL3 8BY (part of Windsor Forest Colleges Group (formerly East Berks College))	Telephone: 01753 793 000  Website: <a href="https://www.windsor-forest.ac.uk">https://www.windsor-forest.ac.uk</a>	<b>Open events</b> Check online via college website  <a href="https://www.windsor-forest.ac.uk/opendays">https://www.windsor-forest.ac.uk/opendays</a>
<b>Newbury College</b> Monks Lane Newbury RG14 7TD	Tel: 01635 845000  Website: <a href="http://www.newbury-college.ac.uk">www.newbury-college.ac.uk</a>  Email: <a href="mailto:info@newbury-college.ac.uk">info@newbury-college.ac.uk</a>	<b>Open events</b> Please keep an eye on the college website

<b>Queen Mary's College (QMC)</b> Cliddesden Road Basingstoke RG21 3HF	Tel: 01256 417500  Website: <a href="http://www.qmc.ac.uk">www.qmc.ac.uk</a>  Email: <a href="mailto:info@qmc.ac.uk">info@qmc.ac.uk</a>	<b>Open events</b> Please keep an eye on the college website via: <a href="https://www.qmc.ac.uk/events/autumn-2020/open-evening">https://www.qmc.ac.uk/events/autumn-2020/open-evening</a>
<b>Reading College</b> Kings Road Reading RG1 4HJ (part of Activate Learning Group of Colleges)	Tel: 0800 612 6008  Website: <a href="http://www.activatelearning.ac.uk">www.activatelearning.ac.uk</a>  Enquiries via: <a href="https://www.activatelearning.ac.uk/contact-us/enquiries">https://www.activatelearning.ac.uk/contact-us/enquiries</a>	<b>Open events</b> Wed 14 Oct 2020 - 4pm-8pm Sat 14 Nov 2020 - 9.30am-1.30pm  <b>Virtual recorded event:</b> <a href="https://www.activatelearning.ac.uk/voe/reading-college-virtual-open-event">https://www.activatelearning.ac.uk/voe/reading-college-virtual-open-event</a>
<b>Sparsholt College</b> Westley Lane Sparsholt Winchester SO21 2NF	Tel: 01962 776441  Specialises in agriculture and related courses.  Website: <a href="http://www.sparsholt.ac.uk">www.sparsholt.ac.uk</a>  Email: <a href="mailto:enquiry@sparsholt.ac.uk">enquiry@sparsholt.ac.uk</a>	<b>Open events</b> Please keep an eye on information via: <a href="https://www.sparsholt.ac.uk/opendays/">https://www.sparsholt.ac.uk/opendays/</a>
<b>Strodes College</b> High Street Egham TW20 9DR (now part of Windsor Forest Colleges Groups)	Telephone: 01784 437506  Websites: <a href="http://www.strodes.ac.uk">http://www.strodes.ac.uk</a>  Courses: A Levels, Applied Levels and BTECs	<b>Open events</b> <a href="https://www.windsor-forest.ac.uk/opendays">https://www.windsor-forest.ac.uk/opendays</a>
<b>UTC Reading</b> Crescent Road Reading RG1 5RQ	Telephone: 0118 938 1020  Specialises in STEM subjects, A-levels and BTECs in IT and engineering  Website: <a href="http://www.utcreading.co.uk">www.utcreading.co.uk</a>  Email: <a href="mailto:enquiries@utcreading.org.uk">enquiries@utcreading.org.uk</a>	<b>Open events</b> Please keep an eye on the school website
<b>Windsor College</b> St Leonards Road Windsor SL4 3AL (part of <a href="#">Windsor Forest Colleges Group (formerly East Berks College)</a> )	Telephone: 01753 793 000  Website: <a href="https://www.windsor-forest.ac.uk">https://www.windsor-forest.ac.uk</a>	<b>Open events</b> Please keep an eye on the college website via: <a href="https://www.windsor-forest.ac.uk/opendays">https://www.windsor-forest.ac.uk/opendays</a>



# Map of F.E. Colleges, Berkshire



To find out where F.E. Colleges are located, you can use google maps:-

<https://www.google.com/maps/search/colleges+in+berkshire/@51.5724603,-0.9709554,10z/data=!3m1!4b1>





## Section 5

### Higher Education (University + some Further Education (F.E.) Colleges (levels 4-8):



#### **Thinking about university? Useful websites:**

[www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com) – The UK University application and information website

[www.sacu-student.com](http://www.sacu-student.com) – Personal Statement help and advice. Great student section

[www.prospects.ac.uk](http://www.prospects.ac.uk) – Graduate career prospects

<http://russellgroup.ac.uk/for-students/school-and-college-in-the-uk/subject-choices-at-school-and-college> – help with A' level choice (also explore what the Russell Group university are)

[www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk](http://www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk) – useful information

[www.thestudentroom.co.uk](http://www.thestudentroom.co.uk) – Forums on choosing universities / degrees / student life and much more!

<https://www.theguardian.com/education/ng-interactive/2019/jun/07/university-league-tables-2020> – ranks universities and university courses

\*Some F.E. Colleges also offer degrees and HNC (Higher National Certificates) and HND (Higher National Diploma) courses

**The Open University** - <http://www.open.ac.uk/> - Offer flexible ways to study



## Section 6

### Apprenticeships:

If you would like to apply for an apprenticeship to begin after Year 11, it is also important to apply for F.E. College/s / Sixth Form also, as entry to Apprenticeships can be competitive. Check the qualification you will gain and how it will enable you to go further in your education and training.

Depending on your grades, you will be able to apply for a Level 2 (Intermediate) or Level 3 (Advanced) Apprenticeship after your GCSEs.

#### Here are the different levels of Apprenticeship:-

- Intermediate Apprenticeship – A range of GCSE grades required for entry
- Advanced Apprenticeship – 4+ GCSE's at 4-9 grades required for entry
- Higher Apprenticeship – 2+ 'A' levels required for entry
- Degree Apprenticeship - 2+ 'A' levels required for entry

*\*\* Some apprenticeships may require you to have studied certain subjects\*\**

#### Helpful websites:

\*There is not currently one, go to website for Apprenticeships, so include a wide range of websites and assistance in your search\*

[www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk](http://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk) - the government website – probably includes widest number of apprenticeships available. Includes email alerts for new opportunities.

[www.notgoingtouni.co.uk](http://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk)

[www.thestudentladder.co.uk](http://www.thestudentladder.co.uk) - excellent apprenticeship website offering placements with large high profile companies as well as advice.

[www.getmyfirstjob.co.uk](http://www.getmyfirstjob.co.uk)

[www.allaboutcareers.com](http://www.allaboutcareers.com)

[www.thebigchoice.com/School College Leavers](http://www.thebigchoice.com/School_College_Leavers)

[www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) – Higher and Degree Apprenticeships

[www.university.which.co.uk](http://www.university.which.co.uk) – Higher and Degree Apprenticeship Guide

[www.careermap.co.uk](http://www.careermap.co.uk)

[www.adviza.org.uk](http://www.adviza.org.uk) – young peoples' section

[www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com) – apprenticeship section

[www.thescholarshiphub.org.uk](http://www.thescholarshiphub.org.uk) – Degree Apprenticeships

<http://www.aimapprenticeships.co.uk/>

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/>

[www.young-professionals.uk](http://www.young-professionals.uk)

[www.indeed.co.uk](http://www.indeed.co.uk)

**Look at the websites of companies.** They carry a huge amount of information on recruitment and opportunities

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/resources/>



## Section 7: GRADES

### Academic Grades: GCSEs and BTEC Level 2 equivalent

#### GCSE's

	New grading structure	Old grading structure
	9	A*
	8	
	7	A
	6	B
Strong pass →	5	
Standard pass →	4	C
	3	D
	2	E
	1	F
	U	G
		U

### BTEC Level 2 and GCSE grade equivalent

GCSE Grade	BTEC grade	Current points	New points
A*	Distinction*	58	8
A	Distinction	52	7
B	Merit	46	6
C	Pass	40	5
D		34	4
E		28	3
	L1 Pass	25	2.5
F		22	2
G		16	1
U		0	0



**Academic Grades: 'A' Levels, BTEC Level 3 and UCAS Tariff Points** Link for further information and copy of table on following page:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/support/support-topics/understanding-our-qualifications/comparing-btec-to-other-qualifications/btec-ucas-points.html>

## Academic Grades: 'A' Levels, BTEC Level 3 and UCAS Tariff Points

Extended Diploma	Diploma	Foundation Diploma	Extended Certificate	Certificate	AS level	A level	UCAS tariff points
D*D*D*							168
D*D*D							160
D*DD							152
DDD							144
DDM							128
DMM	D*D*						112
	D*D						104
MMM	DD						96
		D*					84
MMP	DM						80
							78
		D					72
MPP	MM						64
			D*			A*	56
PPP	MP	M	D			A	48
						B	40
	PP		M			C	32
				D*			28
		P		D		D	24
					A		20
			P	M	B	E	16
					C		12
					D		10
				P			8
					E		6

## UK Degree Classification

<div><div>British Undergraduate Degree Classification System</div><div></div><p>Navigate your way through the the British undergraduate degree classification system which grades degrees (bachelor's degrees and integrated master's degrees) in the UK.</p></div>			
Classification	Mark	OU Mark	Equivalent grade
First-class (1st)	70%+	85%+	A
Upper second-class (2.1)	60-69%	70-85%	B
Lower second-class (2.2)	50-59%	55-70%	C
Third class (3rd)	40-49%	40-55%	D

**\*OU = Open University**

## Section 8

### \*Top Tips\*

- **Use** a **notebook** or create a **file** – name it 'Careers Ideas' or something similar. **Record** your ideas and research as you go along. **Invest** time in YOU...You will not regret it!
- **Complete** Personality and Careers Quizzes
- **Explore** Job Profiles on Career websites
- **Keep** an ongoing list of your abilities / skills with examples
- **Research** your options after Year 11 – what steps will you need to take to reach your career goals?
- **Attend** your Careers meeting 😊. It will be 30 minutes long. Be as prepared as you can – complete quizzes, etc. If you like, bring your research and ideas notebook or file
- **Visit** your Sixth Form, other Sixth Forms and F.E. Colleges (check Open Day / Evening dates and times – add them to your calendar (\*book a place if necessary)
- **Explore** Apprenticeships:

If you would like to do an Apprenticeship after Year 11 – register with the government website: [www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk](http://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk)

**Apply** for Apprenticeships via a variety of websites. Also apply for F.E. College as back-up

- **Remember** – you can **apply** to as many Sixth Forms and/or F.E. College Courses as you like – you just need to confirm or decline places once you get your GCSE results in August 2021. Some courses are very popular – **apply soon**.

Always **remember**...

*\*Believing in yourself is the first step to success\**



## *- Inspiration -*

**“HARD WORK BEATS  
TALENT WHEN TALENT  
DOESN'T WORK HARD”**  
-TIM NOTKE

**The best preparation for  
tomorrow is doing your best  
today.**

H. Jackson Brown, Jr.

 BrainyQuote

*Run Your Own Race...*

*(your journey is unique to you, no need to compare it to others people's journeys 😊)*

