



**ASHINGTON**  
Academy

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**Parent / Carer**  
**Sixth Form**  
**Careers Information Pack**

# Vision statement

Our students are ambitious with their career choices and have a clear understanding of how their time in school directly affects their career after.

## Vision rationale

Providing students with outstanding careers guidance is of the utmost importance. It is the key to opening our students' eyes to the possibilities and opportunities available to them once they leave school. It is our job to raise their social mobility, show them what is out there and guide them towards making good, appropriate education and careers choices that will enable them to have a rewarding career. It is our vision for careers guidance at Ashington is that all students have access to appropriate and bespoke careers guidance at every stage of their academic career that enables them to successfully access the next stage of their career.

We deliver Careers Education in a variety of ways to all pupils from Year 7 to Year 13 and beyond to ensure that our young people are making informed and well supported decisions. Our Tutorial and Personal Development programme encourages our pupils to think about career planning from their earliest time in school and develop positive approach in everything they do.

We are actively involved in a range of projects to enable our young people to understand the breadth of opportunities available to them in their future education and employment, and partner with several organisations that support us in this aspiration.

## Core careers offer and student entitlement

All students at Ashington Academy have access to a fully-embedded and age-appropriate careers programme which includes CEIAG and work-related learning. This programme is strategically designed to ensure that our learners' needs are met throughout their journey with us.

Our core offer to students includes the following:

- One-to-one careers guidance sessions with a qualified adviser. All students have at least one appointment by the age of 16; however, our most vulnerable learners are allocated multiple, and these are opened to our younger learners in the run up to options choices. We also work with the local County Council to offer additional careers advice as needed.
- Advice and support are strategically tailored to ensure that the needs of all individuals are met.
- Curriculum learning is linked to the world of work.
- Students are encouraged to engage with local market information via Unifrog, registration activities and subject lessons.
- Parental support, guidance, and communication.
- Dedicated careers and skills lessons delivered via form tutors.
- Regular access to up-to-date careers information via lessons, online resources and Unifrog.

- Further education visits, assemblies and events (including training and apprenticeship providers).
- Employer encounters, including STEM employers/training providers, including activities to challenge stereotypical thinking about the world of work.
- Experience of the workplace via work experience in Years 10 and 12.

## Gatsby Benchmarks

The Gatsby Benchmarks are a set of eight objectives, which form a framework that the school uses to design and improve our CEIAG provision. We take each one in turn and provide students with a range of experiences, lessons and information that ensure they receive high quality CEIAG



# Sixth Form

Sixth Form	<p>Higher Education Advice Evening</p> <p>UCAS Convention</p> <p>University Visits – Northumbria University, Newcastle University, University of York etc</p> <p>Residential University Visit – Kings College University of Cambridge (optional)</p> <p>Personal Statement Workshops</p> <p>Local Supported Entry Schemes with speakers from Newcastle University, Northumbria University, Durham University, Sunderland University</p> <p>ASK Apprenticeship Workshops – CV Writing and Interview techniques</p> <p>Work Experience (1 Week)</p> <p>Careers Fair at Ashington Academy and Bedlington Academy</p> <p>National Career Service Workshops - Health &amp; Wellbeing, Career &amp; Progression Guidance, Employability, Skills for Independent Living, Citizenship &amp; British Values, Volunteering &amp; Social Action</p> <p>Social Mobility Schemes – Social Mobility Foundation</p> <p>PSHE lessons on Independent living</p> <p>Active Citizenship – Volunteering</p> <p>Regular Guidance Interviews with Ms Bell, Mrs Robson and Miss Smith.</p>
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Specific dates of events will be confirmed nearer the time and information will be sent home with our Parent Communication system.

Your son/daughter will receive at least one individual guidance interview with either Miss Smith, Mrs Robson or Ms Bell possibly more if needed. However, if at any stage you feel your son/daughter requires additional support, or you would like to talk through different options, please do not hesitate to get in touch with one of the 6<sup>th</sup> form team, or Ms Bell

Ms Bell – Post 16 manager -sue.bell@ashingtonacademy.co.uk

Miss Smith- Assistant Headteacher – laura.smith@ashingtonacademy.co.uk

Mrs Bell- Careers Lead –sharen.bell@ashingtonacademy.co.uk

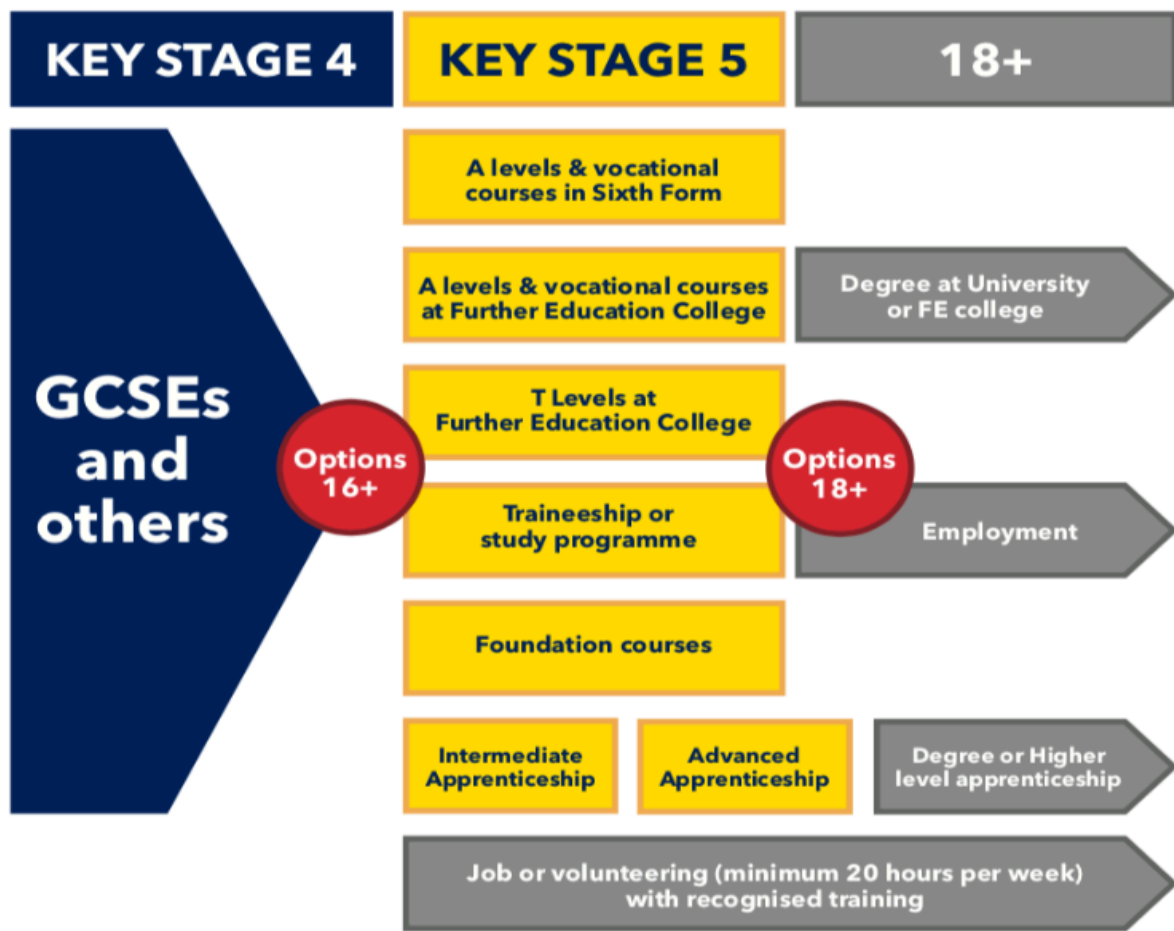
## Looking ahead – Post 18 options

There are many different options and pathways that students can take following Year 13. Investigating those opportunities and making the right decision can often be a daunting process for students and their parents or carers. We have put this guide together to give you an overview of the different post-18 options available and to signpost you to all the support available. If they have not already done so, students should begin investigating courses or apprenticeships as soon as possible – you don't need to wait until Year 13 to start thinking about this.

### **Post -18 Options**

There are several different options to choose from:

- Full-time education (University)
- Apprenticeships
- Part-time education or training
- Employment



## Full time education

If you wish to move onto a higher level of education, you could study at University, College, the Institute of Technology or a National College. There are also opportunities to learn online, as well as studying part-time. What is right for you will depend on your situation and the career or job you have in mind.

## 1 Year funded course for ages 18 to 19

If you can't access work in September 2022 you can take a free course to gain work related or technical skills needed by employers. Subjects include engineering, construction, health & social care and ICT. These courses can be completed with a range of college or training providers.

## Higher technical skill courses

These are an opportunity to learn the higher level skills needed by employers in sectors like finance, engineering, management and scientific jobs on a classroom taught course. Normally these are studied at a college or university, some of which specialise in subjects as part of the Institute of Technology or National Colleges. They generally last up to 2 years and can provide a range of qualifications such as a Higher Diploma (HNC/D), Foundation Degrees, Diplomas of Education or various other technical certificates. Entry requirements vary from provider to provider and it is best to contact them individually to find out more information.

# University degrees

This is an academic course that is usually studied at a higher education institution. Learning is through a variety of lectures, seminars, group projects and independent study. There is funding available to support you and courses range from full time to part time. You could go away to study, study at home, or study abroad. Degrees normally last between 3 and 4 years and universities set their own entry requirements. For general course information, the UCAS website is an excellent source and can be found here: [UCAS | At the heart of connecting people to higher education](#). For a more personalised experience, students can access the UCAS Hub which allows them to explore subjects, consider apprenticeships and shortlist their top choices. Students will need to sign up to UCAS to access this free service: [Create Your UCAS Hub today](#). In addition, students can also access information on the school's Unifrog platform.

# Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships combine high quality training with paid work. There are hundreds of types of apprenticeships, suitable for over 1,400 job roles. They are advertised throughout the year and can be found on <https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>. Some companies advertise on their own website so we would advise that students regularly check the websites of companies they are interested in. More information and application support can be found at [www.amazingapprenticeships.com](http://www.amazingapprenticeships.com).

Apprenticeships are increasingly popular but are very competitive, so students should start looking and applying for apprenticeship vacancies as early as possible. Given the uncertainty that many businesses face under these unprecedented circumstances, we would recommend that all students who have applied for or are thinking of applying for an apprenticeship also apply for a full-time course with either a further education or training provider as a backup option.

Depending on which type of apprenticeship you are interested in, TDR Training in North Tyneside or Northumberland County Council Apprenticeship Team may be able to support with your application.

# Employment

## Internships

These are a period of work experience where you can try out a job and get to know a new industry. They can range from 1 week to 1 year long and may lead to further employment with the company.

## Employment

You can get straight into employment by applying for jobs. We would recommend you begin applying for these as early as possible. You will usually need an up-to-date CV and cover letter. There are templates on Unifrog to support you with writing these. Entry requirements differ from employer to employer, but they are usually posted with the vacancy and job description. You can search for vacancies in places such as this: [Find a job \(dwp.gov.uk\)](#)

# Contact information

## Colleges, Further Education providers and Universities

- **Northumberland College (Ashington and Kirkley Campuses)**  
<https://northumberland.ac.uk>
- **Newcastle College** - [Newcastle College \(ncl-coll.ac.uk\)](https://ncl-coll.ac.uk)
- **Gateshead College** - [Gateshead College | Gateshead College](https://gatesheadcollege.ac.uk)
- **Sunderland College** - <https://www.sunderlandcollege.ac.uk/>
- **Askham Bryan College** - offering study programmes in Veterinary Nursing in Gateshead  
<https://www.askham-bryan.ac.uk/>
- **East Durham College** - <https://www.eastdurham.ac.uk/>
- **New College Durham** - <https://www.newcollegedurham.ac.uk/>
- **Newcastle University**     <https://www.ncl.ac.uk>
- **Northumbria University**   <https://www.northumbria.ac.uk>
- **Sunderland University**   <https://www.sunderland.ac.uk>
- **For a general search on a University** visit -[www.university-websites.co.uk](http://www.university-websites.co.uk)

## Training Providers

- **Tyne North Training** – Engineering and business administration apprenticeship training provider [www.tynenorthtraining.co.uk](http://www.tynenorthtraining.co.uk)
- **Springboard** – Business admin, customer service, retail, health & social care, hair & beauty therapy, horticulture, childcare, hairdressing, motor vehicle [www.springboard-ne.org](http://www.springboard-ne.org)
- **Milltech** - Training and apprenticeships in motor vehicle, customer service, sales and many more [www.milltechtraining.co.uk](http://www.milltechtraining.co.uk)



- **Resources North-East** - Construction, business administration, I.T. at Southwick [www.resourcesnortheast.co.uk](http://www.resourcesnortheast.co.uk)
- **Foundation of Light** - Football scholarships & the Back on Track programme <http://www.foundationoflight.co.uk/careers-training/>
- **BL Hairdressing** – Hairdressing courses and apprenticeships [www.blhairdressing.co.uk](http://www.blhairdressing.co.uk)
- **Learning Curve** - Construction academy and travel & tourism [www.learningcurvegroup.co.uk](http://www.learningcurvegroup.co.uk)
- **Sunderland Training & Education Farm** - Animal care and horticulture at Keelman's Way [www.sunderlandfarm.co.uk](http://www.sunderlandfarm.co.uk)
- **Lead Education** - Outdoor education and performing arts [www.leadeducation.co.uk](http://www.leadeducation.co.uk)
- **YH Training** - Military preparation and personal development [www.yh-group.co.uk/centres/sunderland-mpc-2](http://www.yh-group.co.uk/centres/sunderland-mpc-2)
- **Chameleon Training** - Motor vehicle training [www.cvt-uk.co.uk](http://www.cvt-uk.co.uk)
- **Petal Training** - Fork-lift truck, warehouse, logistics [www.petaltraining.com](http://www.petaltraining.com)
- **TDR Training** – Apprenticeships in science, business, engineering and manufacturing. Based in North Tyneside [TDR Training | Apprenticeships and Training | North- East](#)

## Where can I find further information?

- Further information and advice can be found on the schools CEIAG page: Careers education, information, advice and guidance | Ashington Academy
- At parents evening we have a dedicated Careers Stand where parents, carers and students can access careers information and ask questions. Representatives from external agencies will also be in attendance.
- Our careers team will be happy to discuss any queries you may have or provide further advice and guidance. They are:
- Mrs Bell CEIAG Lead [sharen.bell@ashingtonacademy.co.uk](mailto:sharen.bell@ashingtonacademy.co.uk)
- Miss Smith Assistant Headteacher [laura/smith@ashingtonacademy.co.uk](mailto:laura/smith@ashingtonacademy.co.uk)
- Ms Bell – Post 16 Year manager – [sue.bell@ashingtonacademy.co.uk](mailto:sue.bell@ashingtonacademy.co.uk))
- Careers Advisor in school – Mrs Caron Mullin – [caron.Mullin@progress-careers.co.uk](mailto:caron.Mullin@progress-careers.co.uk)
- As a school we use Unifrog for all students, which is a dedicated careers platform. Students have been provided with log in details. If you have not received your login information, please contact the school and provide your email address.
- Local Labour Market information can be found on our schools CEIAG page
- Connexions at North Tyneside Council remain available to speak to young people. There is no longer a Northumberland based Connexions service. Contact can be made by ringing 0191 6436965 (pm only), through [connexions.nt@northtyneside.gov.uk](mailto:connexions.nt@northtyneside.gov.uk) or through their social media pages. Alternatively, you can call the National Careers Service helpline. Call 0800 100 900 to speak to an adviser. Lines are open from 8am to 10pm, 7 days a week. Calls are free from landlines and most mobile numbers.

