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 appropriate education and careers choices that will enable them to have a rewarding career. It is our vision for careers guidance at Ashington Academy 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 (Careers education, information , advice and guidance 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.

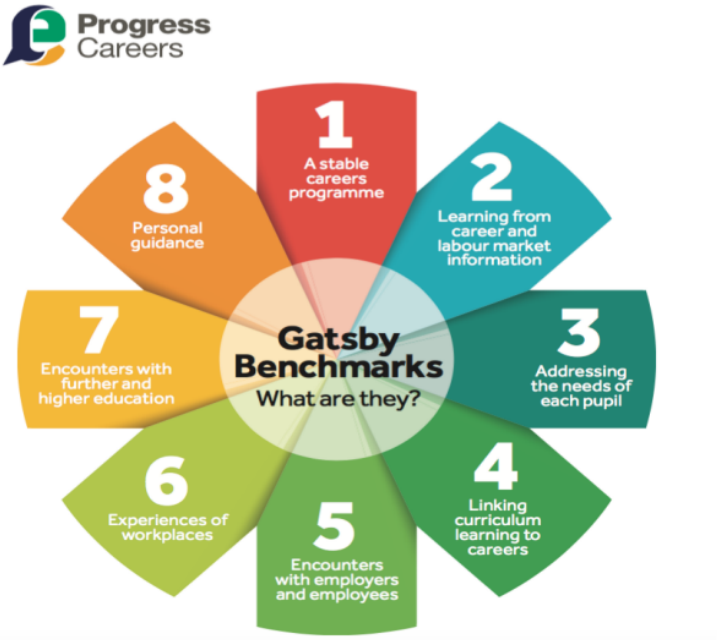
• Further education visits, assemblies and events (including training and apprenticeship providers).

• 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



Year 10 Specific

Year Group	
10 Introduction to careers and key skills	Northumberland College Assembly Newcastle College – Post 16 options STEM Careers in the North East Work Experience Launch Ask Apprentice Assembly – What is an apprenticeship?

	PSHE sessions including Interview Skills, CV writing delivered by form tutors. Northumberland College – various taster days such as outdoor and military. Careers Fair in school Work Experience (1 week) Raising aspirations presentation

Work Experience

At Ashington Academy we firmly believe it is vitally important for our students to experience the world of work first hand. Therefore we expect every child to source a work experience placement for themselves in July of year 10. All potential placements are vetting by NELT to ensure that they are safe and fit for purpose. It is not necessarily important that students experience a workplace in the industry they are intending on working, as sometimes this is not practical, as they will learn key careers skills during their time on placement that are transferable between jobs.

We recommend beginning to source a placement as early as possible, as places are highly sought after. Generally, employers are happy to be contacted either via telephone, email or in person. We would suggest having a CV ready for employers to look over, and students were provided with support writing a CV during tutor time in year 9. If they require further support writing a CV, there is a template on Unifrog that can help and students will have further sessions in school looking at how to write CVs, both from form tutors and external companies.

Students will also take part in a mock interview process within school which should help prepare them for any potential interviews taking place. If you require support sourcing a placement for your child, please do not hesitate to contact Miss Morgan (stephanie.morgan@ashingtonacademy.co.uk).Students will also receive information during tutor time about health and safety in the workplace, correct dress codes and behaviour.

Looking Ahead – Post-16 Options

There are many different options and pathways that students can take following year 11. 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-16 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 11 to start thinking about this.

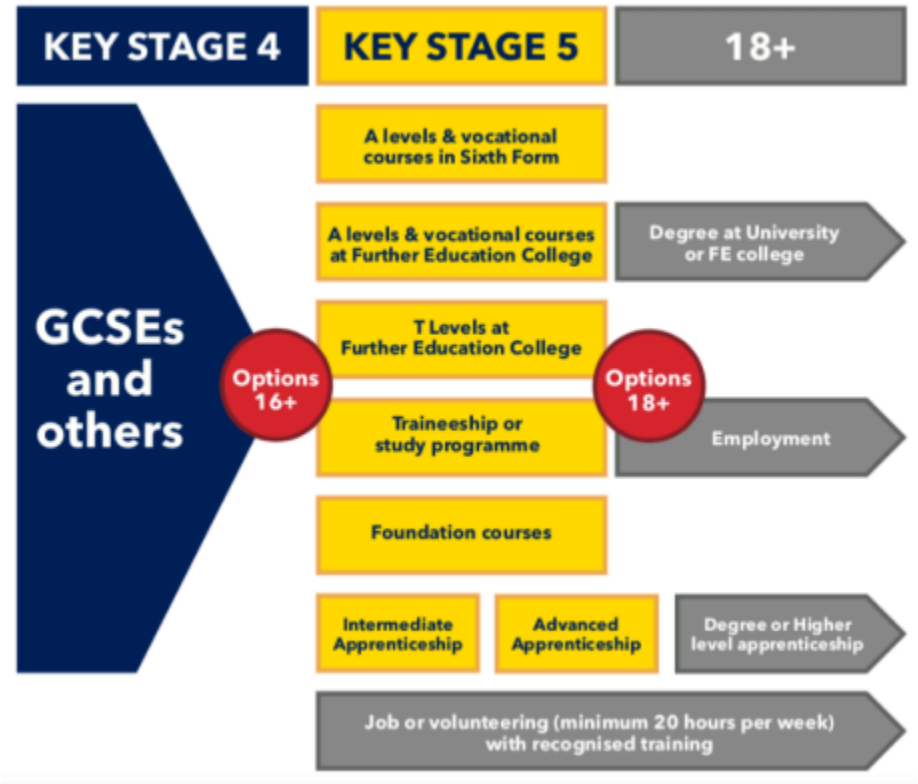
Post -16 Options

All young people must continue to do education or training until they are 18. There are several different options to choose from:

• Full-time education (Sixth Form or College)

• Apprenticeships

• Part-time education or training All students who do not gain a grade 4 or above (previously grade C) in GCSE English and maths will be expected to continue studying these subjects post 16.



Full Time Education

A large variety of courses are available to suit the needs of the student and can be studied at a 6th form, college or with a specialist training provider. All study programmes will prepare them for higher level learning and employment and include opportunities for work experience and enterprise activities. Types of courses include: A levels, technical and vocational qualifications and T Levels. If students are interested in, but not quite ready for work they may be able to do a Traineeship or Supported Internship

6th Form

Ashington Academy has its own 6th Form: NE6 offering a range of A level subjects as well as other Level 3 qualifications. Please contact if you would like more information. Further entry requirements regarding NE6 can be obtained from Mrs Traynor (Assistant Headteacher – 6th Form).

Colleges, FE and Training Providers

There are a number of local Further Education Colleges and sixth form providers in the area that students can choose to progress onto. They offer a wide range of vocational subjects and some also offer A levels or similar, more academic, qualifications. Contact details for local colleges and training providers can be found on the final page of this booklet. Colleges offer a variety of open evenings; it is best to check on individual college websites for details of these.

T Levels

T Levels are new courses that started in September 2020. These 2-year courses are equivalent to 3 A Levels and have been developed in collaboration with employers and businesses. T Levels offer students a mixture of classroom learning and 'on-the-job' experience during an industry placement of at least 315 hours (approximately 45 days). This year, in the North-East, the following T Levels will be available:

• Northumberland College: Building Services Engineering for Construction, Digital Production, Design and Development, Education and Early Years, Health, Onsite Construction

• Gateshead College: Digital Business Services, Digital Production, Design and Development, Digital Support Services, Education and Early Years, Finance, Health, Healthcare Science, Management and Administration, Media, Broadcast and Production, Science

• Newcastle College: Building Services Engineering for Construction, Craft and Design, Design and Development for Engineering and Manufacturing, Design, Surveying and Planning for Construction, Digital Business Services, Digital Production, Design and Development, Digital Support Services, Education and Early Years, Engineering, Manufacturing, Processing and Control, Health, Healthcare Science, Management and Administration, Science

Visit: https://www.tlevels.gov.uk/ for more information

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.

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.

Part Time Education or Training

If your teenager plans to work full-time for an employer, for themselves or as a volunteer, they must spend the equivalent of one day a week working towards approved and nationally recognised qualifications. What, where and how your teenager learns will depend on the nature of their full-time work and whether the learning is organised for them or they organise it for themselves.

Contact Information Colleges and Further Education Providers

• NE6 Ashington Academy sixth form https://www.ne6thform.co.uk/

• Northumberland College (Ashington and Kirkley Campuses) https://northumberland.ac.uk

• Newcastle College -https://www.ncl-coll.ac.uk/

• Gateshead College - https://www.gateshead.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/ Training Providers

• Tyne North Training – Engineering and business administration apprenticeship training provider www.tynenorthtraining.co.uk

• Springboard – Business admin, customer service, retail, health & social care, hair & beauty therapy, horticulture, childcare, hairdressing, motor vehicle https://springboard-ne.org.uk/

• Resources North-East - Construction, business administration, I.T. at Southwick www.resourcesnortheast.co.uk

• Foundation of Light - Football scholarships & the Back on Track programme https://foundationoflight.co.uk/

• Kleek Apprenticeships – Hairdressing/Beauty Therapy courses and apprenticeships https://kleekapprenticeships.co.uk/

• Learning Curve - Construction academy and travel & tourism www.learningcurvegroup.co.uk

• Sunderland Training & Education Farm - Animal care and horticulture at Keelman's Way www.sunderlandfarm.co.uk

• Chameleon Training - Motor vehicle training www.cvt-uk.co.uk

• Petal Training - Fork-lift truck, warehouse, logistics www.petaltraining.com

• TDR Training – Apprenticeships in science, business, engineering and manufacturing. Based in North Tyneside TDR Training | Apprenticeships and Training | North East

Where to find further information

• Further information and advice can be found on the schools CEIAG page: Careers education, information, advice and guidance | Ashington Academy

• At every parents evening we have a dedicated College Stands where parents, carers and students can access careers information and ask questions.

• Our careers team will be happy to discuss any queries you may have, or provide further advice and guidance.

• 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.

• Year 9 students will be invited to attend Options Evening, a dedicated parents evening to explore their GCSE choices.

• Local Labour Market information can be found on our schools CEIAG page, the link is above.