

## T Levels

T Levels are a new qualification after GCSEs. If you've already chosen your career and want to learn the relevant skills in a classroom, T levels could be for you.

**One T Level equals three A Levels and takes two years to complete.**

The courses have been written with the help of employers so you get the knowledge and skills they need. You'll be ready to get a good job when you qualify.

They're not an easy option and you'll have to work hard. You'll spend 80% of your time in the classroom learning the theory and practical skills. Then, for the other 20% or 45 days minimum, you'll put it into action on an industry placement with an employer.

You'll learn core skills and knowledge and then choose to specialise for a specific occupation. For example, you could study Design, Surveying and Planning for Construction T Level and then in that course choose to specialise in either civil engineering, building services design, hazardous materials & surveying or surveying and design for construction and the built environment.

### Is a T Level right for me?

T Levels can fast-track your career but only if you already know the industry you want to work in. So, if you were thinking of doing A Levels and know what career you want, there might be a T Level that will get you closer to doing the job, or degree, you want.

You won't get paid, like an apprentice, so you might need to think about a part-time job to support your studies.

You must pass every assessment and exam to get a T Level qualification. T Levels give you UCAS points so you can either go straight into work or apply for university or a degree apprenticeship.

## A Levels

A Levels are traditional qualifications where you study some of your favourite subjects in much more depth. They're very academic and are assessed with an exam at the end. They are the same level as T Levels but you will spend 100% of your time on classroom learning.

Taking A Levels gives you a broad knowledge of usually 3 academic subjects. They are a good choice if you haven't decided on your career and enjoy traditional studying.

This route is often referred to as the academic pathway and is often the chosen route for those wishing to progress to University

Are A Levels right for me?

You can take A Levels in some schools, sixth form centers or at some Further Education Colleges. They are very well regarded by universities and employers.

A Levels will give you a chance to find out about your favorite GCSE subjects in greater depth or you can choose to study one of the subjects that many schools and colleges only offer at A Level such as Law, Economics or Psychology.

They are good preparation if you are thinking of going onto higher education or if you are not sure of your career plans, as they can keep your options open.

To study A Levels you will need to have done well in your GCSEs. Most schools and colleges will expect you to have gained grades 9-4 (A\*-C in old grades) in your GCSEs with a minimum of grade 4 in English Language and Math's. Specific requirements can vary from four passes to six passes, so you should check with each institution. Often you will need a GCSE at grade 6 or above in a subject if you want to go on to study it at A Level.

## Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships are a paid job with an employer plus structured training with a college or training provider. You'll spend 80% working and 20% studying. **You can do an apprenticeship at any time in your life** and there are different levels of difficulty depending where you are in your career.

Want to start, grow or change your career? **Apprenticeships are real jobs with training and are a great way to build your skills and future. From work with big brands to small businesses, health or public services, you can find an apprenticeship that suits you.**

You'll learn as you go and gain valuable first-hand experience. You'll also get a salary, all your training costs paid, and other benefits such as holiday pay. And at the end of your apprenticeship, you'll be qualified for a job.

## What to expect working and studying

As well as learning at work, you'll spend at least 20% of your time training. Training is related to your job and usually takes place at college, university or with a training provider but could be in your workplace.

Training can be on day-release (which means going to college one day a week) or in blocks, so you may have a week of training in one go.

If you are taking a diploma or qualifications, you may want to top up your learning in your own time too.