



DEAN TRUST Ardwick



Post 16 Application Pack

Everything you need to know about your post 16 options.

Year 11 Timeline

Full Time
Study



Work Based
Learning



APPLY

You can apply to as many colleges as you want.

Apply to at least two!

EXPLORE

Websites
Open Evenings
Courses

The more you explore the more well informed your decision.

INTERVIEWS

Invited for interviews
Accept all offers from colleges - keep your options open.

GCSEs

RESULTS DAY

Achieve results and enrol at chosen college.

Not got results?

See Miss Ford
Phone college

Autumn

Spring

Summer

EXPLORE

Register on
www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeships
Provider Visits

APPLY

Job search
Prepare CV
Interview



You are entering an exciting stage of your education. You are making decisions that will lead you to positive and rewarding futures.

It is a requirement that all young people stay in learning until they are 18. This does not mean you have to be in school but it does mean that whatever you choose has to include some form of learning.

Your main options are full time study in school or college, work-based learning through an apprenticeship, traineeship or supported internship.

This pack is a guide through those choices, so that you are fully informed about the options available and when decisions need to be made.

Miss V. Ford
Career Advisor

Which pathway?

ACADEMIC



Best if you are good at Exams

Academic studies are best for those who are good at research, writing and independent thinking. They are subject based and are assessed by examination. Learners usually study more than one subject.



LEVELS



A levels and most Academic studies are Level 3 programmes of study that usually require at **least** five grades 4 to 9 at GCSE including English and Maths. Learners who might not get these grades should have a back-up plan.



- 👍 Wide **variety** of subjects
- 👍 **Flexible** combination of subjects provide a wide range of options
- 👍 Excellent **reputation** with both employers and universities
- 🤔 **Pressure** to achieve high grades
- 🤔 Reliance on 'one-off' **exams**



APPLIED GENERAL



Best if you enjoy Coursework

Applied general courses are best if you are good at coursework or if you enjoy doing practical tasks. They are vocationally (jobs) focussed and are assessed on practical performance and coursework.



LEVELS



Applied general courses are available at Level 3 and these require good grades just like A levels. However, vocational colleges are able to offer the same courses at lower levels in order to suit your future goals and also your ability.



- 👍 Courses for **all levels** of ability
- 👍 Assessment by **coursework** with no reliance on examinations
- 👍 Provide the **skills** and knowledge required by employers
- 🤔 **Single course choice** requires a clear understanding of goal(s)



WORK BASED



Best for Work Experience

Apprenticeships or other types of work based training is best if you are good at practical work and have a definite career in mind. They are assessment based and judged on what you do 'on the job'.



LEVELS



Apprenticeships are offered at both Level 3 and Level 2. These require reasonably good grades. Other types of work based training and Traineeships are available at lower levels for those learners who do not achieve well in school.



- 👍 **Earn** money as you learn skills
- 👍 Opportunity to undertake 'real-life' **working experience**
- 👍 Potential full-time **employment** after a successful placement
- 🤔 **Competition** for best vacancies
- 🤔 Not suitable for all **careers**



Your own goals and aspirations

Each one of the three main pathways can lead to the **same** destination. This could be employment, university, or a variety of different educational and vocational opportunities

How do I decide?



What do I want to study?

You need to consider the following:

Q. What do you want to learn?

- Are there any subject you particular enjoy?
- Are there any new subjects on offer at colleges and sixth forms that interest you?

Q. How do you like to learn?

- Do you prefer GCSE or BTEC courses?
- Do you prefer exams or coursework?
- Do you want to learn about a subject e.g. History, Art or Biology?
- Do you want to learn skills and knowledge that you can apply in different ways?
- Would you like a combination of the above?

Q. What do you want to do?

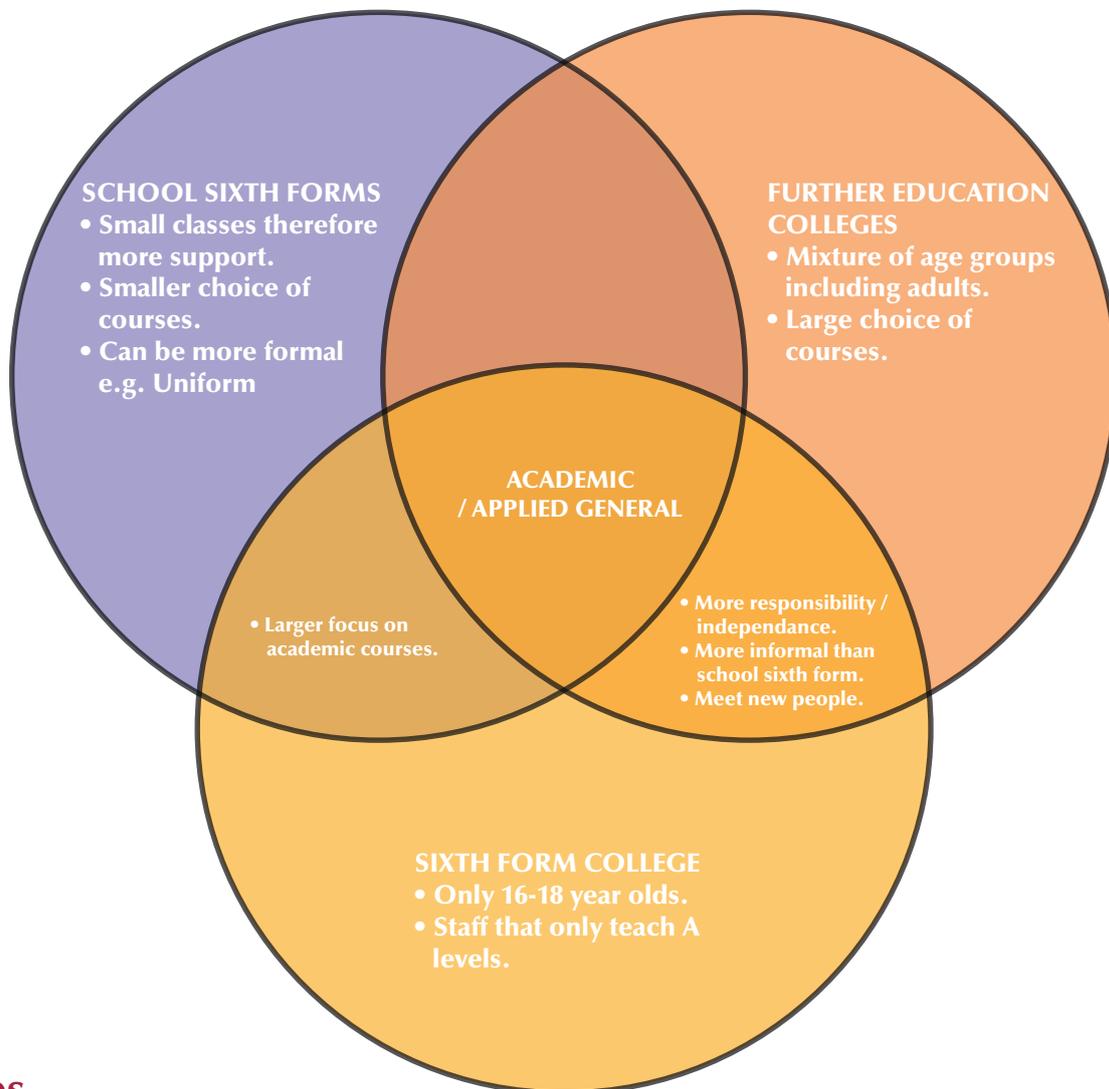
- Do you have a career idea?
- Have you researched what qualifications you need for the career you are interested in?

You can take a quiz at the following link to help you make your decision:

www.ucas.com/further-education/post-16-qualifications

Where do I want to study?

Post 16 Education



Top Tips

- Research Colleges and Sixth Forms online.
- Prepare for Open Evening.
- What courses do you want to find out more about?
- What questions do you want to ask?
- Where do students go after the course?
- What are the results?
- What does the course involve?
- Visit as many Colleges and Sixth Forms as possible.
- Be open minded.
- Do not waste your visit - find out as much as you can.



What is the 'best'?

A common question from young people and parents is 'What is the best college?' or 'What is the best qualification?'

There is no such thing as the 'best' college or qualification, only the best fit for you.

Helpful questions to ask are:

- Do they offer the courses I am interested in?
- Where do their students progress to after their qualifications?
- What are their pass rates/results?
- Am I making assumptions based on what other people have said?
- Am I picking it because all my friends are going there?
- Apart from the courses, what else do I want from my place of study? Size, formality, extra-curricular activities, travelling distance are all things to consider.

How do I apply?

College	Paper	Online	Reference	Deadline	Submitted to	Notes
Loreto	✓		✓	13/12/2019	School	
Xaverian	✓		✓	13/12/2019	School	
Manchester	✓	✓	✓	13/12/2019	School or online	If online make sure you have an e-mail receipt.
Access Creative		✓		Ongoing	Online	
Connell		✓		15/11/2019 - Priority 13/12/2019	Online	
Media City		✓		13/12/2019	Online	
Aquinas		✓		30/11/2019	Online	
Salford	✓	✓		13/12/2019	School or online	
Stockport	✓	✓		13/12/2019	School or online	
Trafford	✓	✓		13/12/2019	School or online	
Trinity	✓		✓	13/12/2019	School	

What happens next?



Apply

Q. Why do I need to hand my application form to school rather than sending it straight to college?

A. When you give it in to school your application is logged and your reference is attached. If your application form were to get lost you would have evidence that it had been sent and Miss Ford would be able to chase it up for you.

Q. Why am I handing in my application form before the college deadline?

A. Handing your form in for the school deadline will mean that we have time to log every application, as above. Most schools have a deadline prior to the college deadline. If we didn't take this approach you would be at a disadvantage.

Acknowledgement

Q. How do school know about applications I have submitted online?

A. Miss Ford will receive a report from every college detailing who has applied and what they have applied for.

Q. How will I know if my application has been accepted?

A. You will receive acknowledgement of your application, either via e-mail or post. If you do not receive acknowledgement please see Miss Ford so that she can chase up your application.

Interview

Q. What happens next?

A. You will be invited to an interview at your chosen college. You should expect questions about:

- Your interests
- Your chosen courses
- Your future ambitions
- You will also have the opportunity to ask questions and discuss courses.

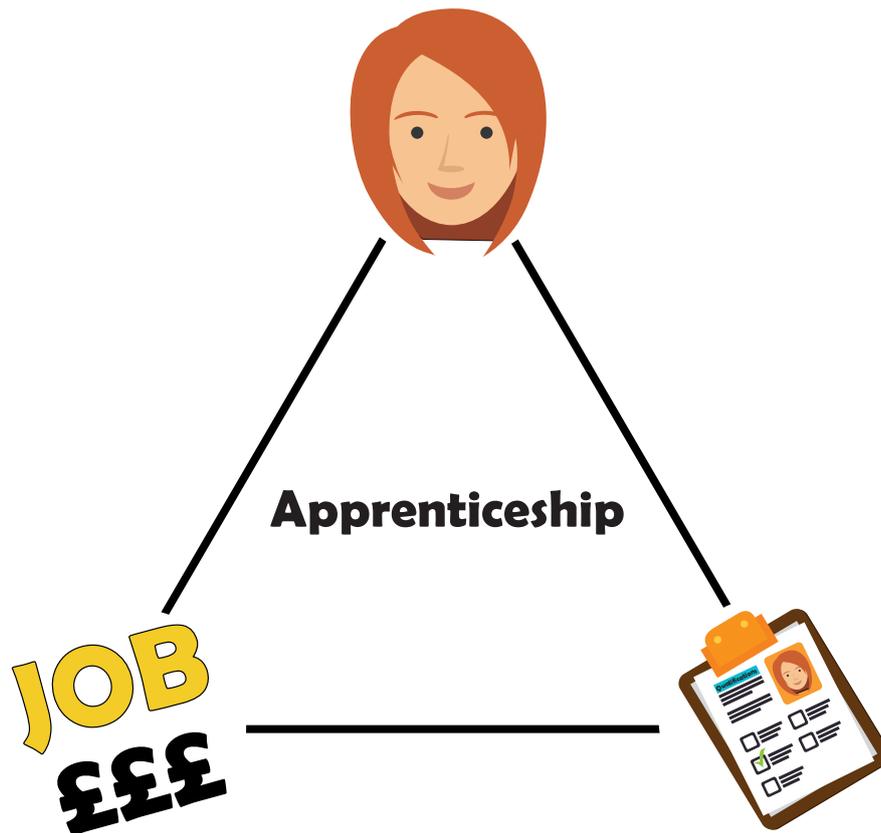
Work Based

If you are keen to get straight into work after Year 11 then the work based pathway could be for you. There are also opportunities to move into work based training after A Levels or BTECs and there are even Degree Level Apprenticeships.

Apprenticeships combine work, training and study. They allow you to 'earn while you learn'. If you have a clear idea of the career you are interested in then they can be a great alternative to college.

Key Facts

- 20% of your time in an Apprenticeship will be spent studying for your qualification. This could be a day a week, one week a month or a block placement.
- Apprenticeships are offered at different levels; Intermediate, Higher, Advanced and Degree.
- It is competitive to secure an Apprenticeship. They are not an 'easy' option that young people do if they have not achieved well at GCSE.
- Securing an Apprenticeship is just like looking for work as an adult; you will need a CV, you will need to do job search and you will need to apply for multiple vacancies. You have to be pro-active.
- Apprenticeship vacancies will be advertised throughout the year, some larger companies may recruit in the Autumn term but most will recruit in the Spring and Summer Term.
- You have not secured an Apprenticeship until all sides of the triangle are in place ie employment and training.



Top tips

- Write down a list of the potential organisations you would like to work for in the sector you are interested in
- Explore their websites, larger companies will have a section on Careers and Apprenticeships
- Register on Find An Apprenticeship website to be kept informed about current vacancies: www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship
- Consider what your Unique Selling Point (USP) is. What will set you apart from 100s of other applicants?
- Consider how you can develop the skills that employers are looking for. Problem Solving, Resilience, Creativity, Communication and Interpersonal Skills, Leadership and Proactiveness.
- Consider what you would be looking for in a candidate if you were employing someone in your business.

If you are interested in an Apprenticeship let Miss Ford know!

Open Evenings 2019-20

	Date	Time	Notes
Access Creative College	Tuesday 29/10/2019	3.00pm, 4.30pm or 6.00pm	Book via website
Aquinas College www.aquinas.ac.uk	Saturday 28/09/2019	10.00am - 1.00pm	
	Wednesday 09/10/2019	6.30pm - 8.30pm	
	Thursday 31/10/2019	6.30pm - 8.30pm	
Connell Co-op College www.connell.ac.uk	Saturday 05/10/2019	10.00am - 1.00pm	
	Wednesday 13/11/2019	5.00pm - 7.00pm	
Loreto College www.loreto.ac.uk	Saturday 05/10/2019	10.00am - 1.00pm	
	Sunday 13/10/2019	10.00am - 1.00pm	
Manchester College www.tmc.ac.uk			
A Level Open Evening Shena Simon Campus	Thursday 03/10/2019	5.00pm - 7.00pm	
16-18 Open Evening	Thursday 10/10/2019	5.00pm - 7.30pm	
Media City UTC www.utcmidiacityuk.org.uk	Thursday 23/01/2019	6.30pm - 8.30pm	
Salford College www.salfordcc.ac.uk			
Pendleton Sixth Form College	Saturday 12/10/2019	10.00am - 12.00pm	
	Thursday 05/12/2019	5.30pm - 7.30pm	
Worsley College	Monday 14/10/2019	5.30pm - 7.30pm	
	Saturday 09/11/2019	10.00am - 12.00pm	
City Skills	Monday 14/10/2019	5.30pm - 7.30pm	
	Saturday 09/11/2019	10.00am - 12.00pm	

Open Evenings 2019-20



Future Skills at Media City	Tuesday 15/10/2019	5.30pm - 7.30pm
	Saturday 09/11/2019	10.00am - 12.00pm
Eccles Sixth Form College	Thursday 17/10/2019	5.30pm - 7.30pm
	Saturday 23/11/2019	10.00am - 12.00pm
City Skills	Monday 14/10/2019	5.30pm - 7.30pm
	Saturday 09/11/2019	10.00am - 12.00pm
Stockport College stockport.ac.uk	Wednesday 25/09/2019	4.30pm - 7.30pm
	Wednesday 06/11/2019	4.30pm - 7.30pm
Trafford College	Saturday 02/11/2019	10.00am - 2.00pm
Trinity Sixth Form	Wednesday 09/10/2019	6.00pm - 8.00pm
Xaverian College	Saturday 05/10/2019	10.30am - 2.00pm
	Sunday 13/10/2019	10.30am - 2.00pm

Useful Websites

Vocational Colleges

Access Creative College
The Manchester College
Stockport College
Salford City College
Trafford College
UTC@MediacityUK

www.accesscreative.ac.uk
www.tmc.ac.uk
www.stockport.ac.uk
www.salfordcc.ac.uk
www.trafford.ac.uk
www.utcmmediacityuk.org.uk

Sixth Forms

Aquinas College
Connell Sixth Form College
Loreto Sixth Form College
Salford City College
The Manchester College
Trinity Sixth Form
Xaverian Sixth Form College

www.aquinas.co.uk
www.connellesixthformcollege.com
www.loreto.ac.uk
www.salfordcc.ac.uk
www.themanchestercollege.co.uk
www.trinityhigh.com/sixthform
www.xaverian.ac.uk

Training Providers

The Skills Company
Total People
YMCA Training

www.gceducationandskills.ac.uk
www.totalpeople.co.uk
www.ymca.co.uk/centres/manchester

Other Websites

Unifrog
National Careers Service
Apprenticeship Information
University Information
Russell Group Universities

www.unifrog.org
www.nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk
www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship
www.ucas.ac.uk
www.russellgroup.ac.uk



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