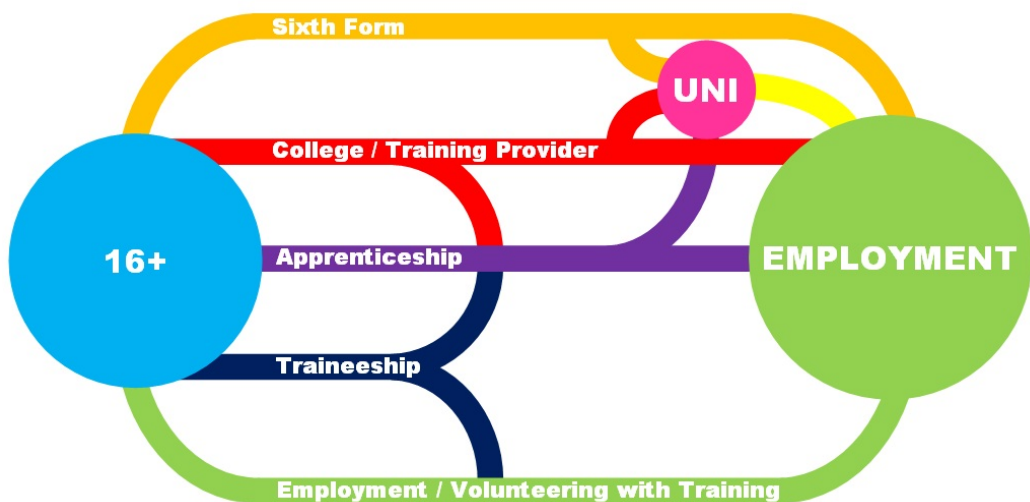


16+ ROUTE PLANNER



Education to Employment...what's your route?



SURREY

What's your route?

The choices young people make about what to do when they leave school are vital to their future success. Having the right knowledge, skills and qualifications improves job prospects and boosts future earning power. It's important that young people make an informed decision; this booklet gives a short overview of the choices available. But don't just rely on this booklet. It's also worth speaking to a careers advisor or doing independent research.

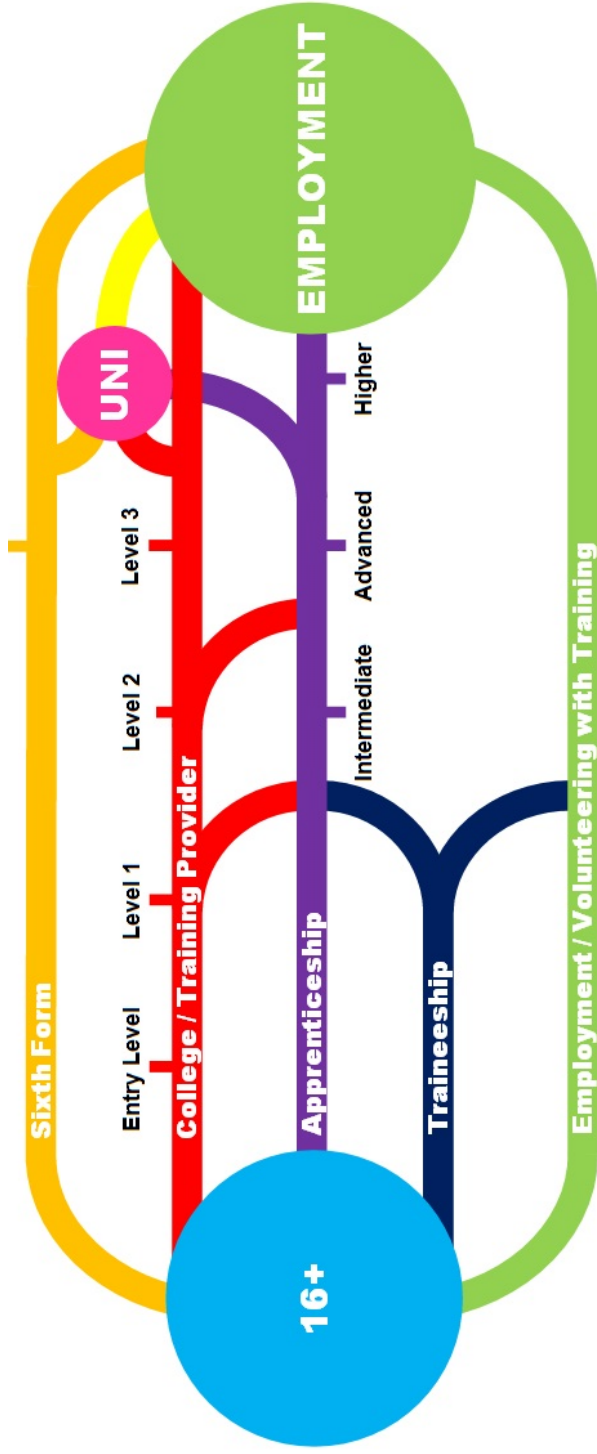
A taster activity is an opportunity to try out a subject and the types of things you would do on that course. To help you make the right choice, why not consider taking part in a taster activity?

For information about how to access a taster activity please contact rpa@surreycc.gov.uk.

From September 2015 all young people will have to participate in education or training until they are 18. The options open to them when they turn 16 are:

- full-time education (known as a study programme) at a college, school or with a training provider
- an apprenticeship or traineeship or
- full-time employment or volunteering (20 hours or more per week) combined with accredited part-time education or training.

Parents/guardians will not be prosecuted if their child does not participate full time.



Study programmes

Full time further education is known as a 16-19 study programme. This is made up of three key elements:

1. a substantial qualification (academic or vocational)
2. working towards GCSE grade C in English and maths
3. work experience.

A full time programme is 540+ hours across the academic year.

Learning styles?

Work based - learning that takes place in a work environment. It is a practical way of learning that offers real life work experience whilst working towards relevant qualifications in the industry.

Vocational - often involving more practical activities, it is commonly used to prepare a person for a particular trade or industry.

Academic - a more formal style of learning which is usually based on theory rather than practical activities.

Qualifications

	Work Based	Vocational	Academic
Functional Skills		✓	
GCSE			✓
International Baccalaureate			✓
BTEC (<i>award, certificate, diploma</i>)	✓	✓	
NVQ	✓	✓	
A Level			✓

Levels



Intermediate apprenticeship = 5 GCSEs (A*-C)
 Advanced apprenticeship = 2 A Levels

Providers

Training Provider - a smaller group environment offering vocational subjects and often specialising in a small number of industries.

General Further Education (GFE) College - a large college environment offering a wide range of vocational subjects as well as some academic subjects.

Sixth Form College - a large college environment offering a wide range of academic subjects as well as some vocational options.

School/Academy Sixth Form - attached to a secondary school/academy, this is a smaller academic learning environment.

	Work Based	Vocational	Academic
Training Provider	✓	✓	✓
GFE College	✓	✓	✓
Sixth Form College		✓	✓
School Sixth Form		✓	✓

✓ Wide range of subjects

✓ Limited range of subjects

APPRENTICESHIPS

As an apprentice you can earn a salary whilst studying for a nationally recognised qualification and getting on the job training. It's a way to gain experience, strengthen your CV and build your career. There is a wide range of apprenticeships available to suit every taste.

It's a different way of learning compared to college or university, and you have the opportunity to get a qualification that potential employers will value.

BENEFITS	Short	Earn a wage while you learn
	Medium	Gain recognised qualifications and train for your future career
	Long	*On average apprentices earn over £100,000 more than unqualified employees over the course of their career

Search & apply for apprenticeship vacancies at:

www.apprenticeships.org.uk

The number of Surrey young people starting an apprenticeship increased by 9.1% between 2009/10 and 2013/14

* www.babington.co.uk/apprenticeships/10-reasons-apprenticeship/

TRAINEESHIPS

Participating in a traineeship allows you to develop your skills and gain qualifications (including English and maths for those who need it) whilst benefitting from high quality work experience. They can last from six weeks to six months and are an ideal stepping stone to an apprenticeship. The work experience placement is not paid, but support for the costs of travel and meals might be supported by the training provider or employer.

BENEFITS	Short	Improve your English and maths and gain work preparation qualifications
	Medium	Develop your CV and gain work experience
	Long	Progress to an apprenticeship or employment

*66% of recruiting employers say having work experience is a critical or significant factor in their decisions

Search and apply for traineeship vacancies at:

www.apprenticeships.org.uk

VOCATIONAL

E.g. GFE College or Training Provider

Vocational qualifications, such as BTECs, provide practical learning opportunities and are often available at a range of levels to help learners develop their skills. They enable you to develop technical skills related to a specific industry which can be applied to real life situations to prepare for employment. Learners may be required to take some exams as well as produce evidence of their new skills and knowledge throughout the year.

BENEFITS	Short	Learn practical skills related to real life work
	Medium	Gain qualifications relevant to a specific industry or job
	Long	Vocational qualifications are available up to degree level

The new Technical Baccalaureate (TechBacc) is a high quality specialist vocational study programme available at Level 3 which includes a 'core maths' qualification and extended project alongside a vocational qualification

ACADEMIC

E.g. Sixth Form

Whether you choose to go to a school sixth form or a sixth form college, A Levels provide qualifications that are recognised by employers and universities. Assessments usually include an exam towards the end of the course and the learning style provides good foundations for progression to higher education.

BENEFITS	Short	Continue learning in a familiar style
	Medium	The option to gain an in-depth knowledge of a range of subjects
	Long	Get qualifications that are widely recognised by employers and universities

From September 2015, AS level results will no longer count towards an A Level qualification. They will be separate, stand-alone qualifications.

EMPLOYMENT or VOLUNTEERING (with accredited training)

Although young people must be doing some form of recognised accredited education or training until their 18th birthday, this does not mean you have to go into education. For those that would rather work (whether paid or voluntary) this is still an option, as long as it involves at least twenty hours of work per week PLUS working towards a nationally-recognised qualification.

BENEFITS	Short	Gain valuable work experience
	Medium	Work towards nationally-recognised qualifications
	Long	Gain the potential to climb the career ladder using new skills learnt

*87% of employers think that volunteering can have a positive effect on career progression for 16-25 year olds

Interested in volunteering?

Visit www.do-it.org.uk

Things you need to know:

- Full time students starting a study programme who have not already achieved a GCSE grade C or higher in English and maths must continue to work towards these. Those who have achieved a grade D (or equivalent) must be enrolled on a GCSE qualification; however those who have not may enrol on to stepping stone qualifications (e.g. functional skills).
- Students wanting to change courses after their first year or those starting a two year course when they turn 17 may find it difficult to get a place on a new course. This is because there is less funding available for young people over 18 years old on a study programme.
- A Levels are not the only route to university. Vocational qualifications and apprenticeships also offer routes to higher education.
- You can become self-employed and still count as participating, as long as you are doing part-time accredited education or training as well.
- Apprenticeships don't always require the apprentice to attend a college. Some allow all of the learning to take place in the work place. It is important to choose an apprenticeship that is not only the desired job but also offers the preferred way of learning.
- It is possible to claim child benefit for a young person after their 16th birthday if they continue in full-time approved education or training. This includes traineeships but not apprenticeships. The Child Benefit Office must be informed otherwise payments will stop on 31st August. For full details go to www.gov.uk/child-benefit-16-19.

If you have any other questions please contact

rpa@surreycc.gov.uk

Useful Links:

Careers advice:

www.careersadviceinsurrey.co.uk

<https://nationalcareersservice.gov.uk>

www.surreycc.gov.uk/opportunitiesfair

www.notgoingtouni.co.uk

Apprenticeships:

www.apprenticeships.org.uk

www.surreycc.gov.uk/apprenticeships

Traineeships:

www.apprenticeships.org.uk/traineeships

Volunteering:

www.do-it.org.uk

Special Educational Needs or Disability:

www.surreysendlo.co.uk

Not currently participating in education, employment or training?
Contact Surrey's Youth Support Service for advice
Telephone 01483 519333



www.surreycc.gov.uk/yournextmove



If you would like this information in large print, Braille, on tape or in another language please contact us on:

Tel: 03456 009 009

Minicom: 020 8541 9698

Fax: 020 8541 9575

Email: contact.centre@surreycc.gov.uk