



PATHS TO PROFESSIONAL CAREERS – A PARENT & GUARDIANS GUIDE

Support your child to explore all the options available. Opportunities for young people nowadays are incredible and whether they choose a gap year, an apprenticeship, the university route or something completely different, all of these will set them up for a very bright future.

The most important thing that we can do as parent's/guardians & families is to support the child by keeping communicating and providing the tools to help them make their own informed decisions. It is never too soon to think about careers, qualities, skills and interests and we would encourage families to work with the child to focus on building their profile to open future opportunities from Y7 onwards. Pioneer Secondary Academy use 'Unifrog' as their preferred careers platform, their guide [Careers Conversations with your child](#) is a very helpful tool. [Careerplilot](#) has a [Parent Zone](#) which has all of the information and tools you need to help your child to explore their future career choices.

[Careermag](#) is available for families and students to research together looking a key dates and options.

[The National Careers Service](#) has a page for [Parent's guide to exam results](#) which is very useful.

[The Bucks Skills Hub](#) have created a compilation of resources, supporting the best careers, education, information, advice and guidance possible.

Ways to help your child:

- Attend your school's parent's evening and speak to your Careers Adviser
- Discuss the careers activities that your son/daughter takes part in
- Encourage time and ways for them to discover their skills
- Support your child to adopt high aspirations with regards to education, career pathways and life
- Share positive attitudes, views and values
- Regularly speak to your child about the various career's pathways
- Set a good example
- Review and research together using [Unifrog](#) that every child at Pioneer Secondary Academy has access to
- Attend Open days and Careers events such as the [Bucks Skills Show](#) with the next one taking place on 4th - 5th March 2026.


It is important to support your child and help them to self-discover new skills and talents, to make decisions. It is fine if they are not sure about what career pathway to pick as long as they are actively being proactive to find what may be suitable for them. We all need space and time to discover what we truly want to pursue.

Research the various sites which will help you support your child:-



The Parents' Guide to Post 16 Options

2024-2025



HIGHLIGHTS:

- A levels
- BTECs
- Apprenticeships
- The EPQ
- Other options

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The Parents' Guide to Post 18 Options

BHASVIC 2024-2025



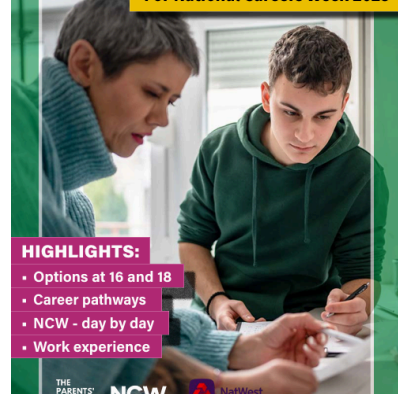
HIGHLIGHTS:

- Best next steps
- Work or further study?
- Meeting university costs
- Applying for an apprenticeship
- Getting ready to leave home

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The Parents' Guide to CAREERS

For National Careers Week 2025



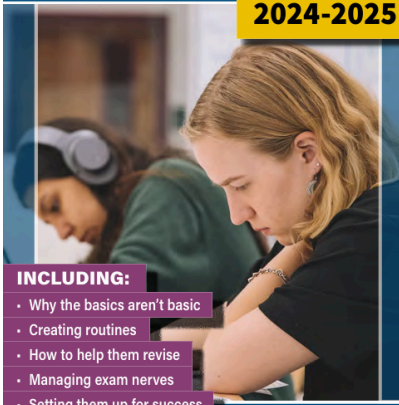
HIGHLIGHTS:

- Options at 16 and 18
- Career pathways
- NCW - day by day
- Work experience

THE PARENTS' GUIDE TO NCW NatWest Careers

The Parents' Guide to Homelife & Study (sixth-form)

2024-2025



INCLUDING:

- Why the basics aren't basic
- Creating routines
- How to help them revise
- Managing exam nerves
- Setting them up for success

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The Parents' Guide to Apprenticeships

2024-2025



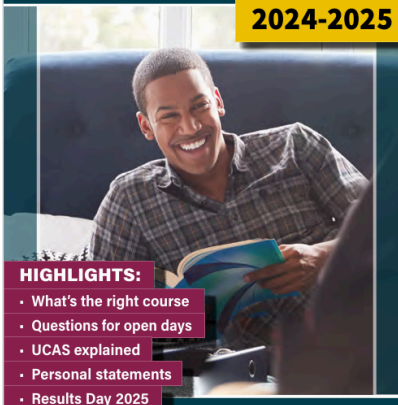
HIGHLIGHTS:

- Covers all entry levels - from 2-7
- How to apply
- Getting interview ready
- Degree apprenticeships
- Where apprenticeships lead

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The Parents' Guide to University

2024-2025



HIGHLIGHTS:

- What's the right course
- Questions for open days
- UCAS explained
- Personal statements
- Results Day 2025

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START

Begin by rolling the dice

What is your greatest strength and give me some examples

If you had enough money that you never had to work again, what would you do with your life?

What is the hardest or most difficult job in the world and why?

What brings you the most joy and happiness?

What did you develop during lockdown that can be described as a positive?

Supposing you became famous, what would you want to be famous for?

HEAD'S OFFICE

Sell yourself! You have just seconds to tell the Headteacher why you are a great student. If you aren't or aren't, you must start again!

LET'S GET TALKING 2021-2022 edition

Suitable for children aged 14-16 years old

www.theparentsguideto.co.uk

THE PARENTS' GUIDE TO

CAREER'S OFFICE

Grab a drink or a small snack and get comfortable. What questions do you have for me today?

Talk about a time in your life you found **challenging** or **difficult**. How did you deal with it?

When do you feel a **teen** becomes an **adult**? Why?

Is **salary** an important consideration when choosing a career?

What is your **dream job** and how does it fit in with your life?

What is your **least favourite** thing about school and why?

What's your favourite school subject? To your answer, choose the **subject** of the classroom?

What do your GCSE subject choices say about you?

Do you have any examples?

Roll the dice and write in the number below. How do you feel about your life when you start school?

1. Homework 2. Problem-solving 3. Time management 4. Creativity

START

What's a **hobby** or **skill** that you would love to learn one day and what's holding you back from starting?

TIME TRAVEL

If you could travel back in time two years and tell your younger self, what **advice** would you give?

Other than going to university, what **options** are there for an 18 year old about to leave school?

REFLECT

What **five words** best describe you this week?

Can you think of a job that doesn't exist today, but might in the future?

Explain how you might deal with **stress** (or **anxiety**) before an important exam, interview or presentation.

Roll Again!

What is an **extra curricular activity**? What extra curricular activities do you take, and what does this say about you?

What is an **extra curricular activity** that you don't take, and what does this say about you?

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