

POST 16 INFORMATION EVENING 2026

A warm welcome to you all

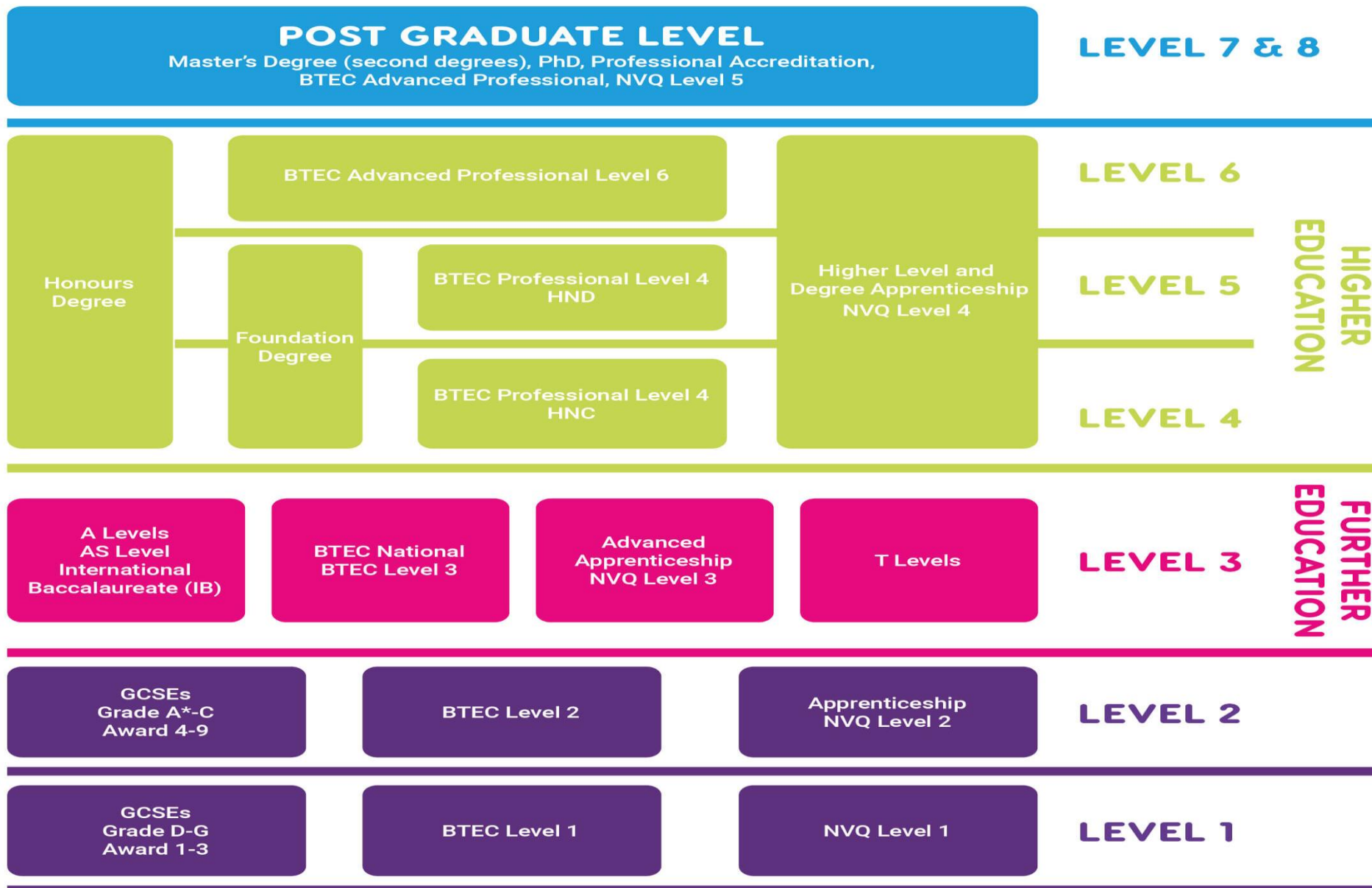


**WHICH PATHWAY WILL
YOUR CHILD TAKE?**



GOV.UK

- **England**
- You can leave school on the last Friday in June if you'll be 16 by the end of the summer holidays.
- You must then do one of the following until you're 18:
 - stay in full-time education, for example at a college
 - start an [apprenticeship](#) or [traineeship](#)
 - spend 20 hours or more a week working or volunteering, while in part-time education or training



VISITING PROVIDER TO CDC YEAR 11 ASSEMBLIES

- *Monday 7th September 2026 - Loughborough College*
- *Monday 14th September 2026 - Iveshead Sixth Form*
- *Thursday 17th September 2026 - Ashby Sixth Form*
- *Monday 21st September 2026 - Derby College*
- *Monday 28th September 2026 - Wilsthorpe Sixth Form*
- *Wednesday 30th September 2026 - Army Careers*
- *Monday 5th October 2026 - Long Eaton Sixth Form*
- *Monday 12th October 2026 - Nottingham College*
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POST-16 PATHWAYS/ROUTES



Academic • A-Levels (FE Colleges/Sixth Forms)



Vocational • Occupational qualifications (FE colleges) • BTECs/CTECs (FE colleges)
Note: Some sixth form centres do offer BTEC qualifications



Technical • Apprenticeships (job) • T-Levels (FE colleges)

A-LEVELS



- L3 academic qualification (step up from GCSEs/L2) and require a lot of independent study



- Majority of Subject purely Exams based



- Most students would study 3 individual A-Level subjects



- Common entry criteria- at least 5 GCSE passes at a minimum of a grade 4 (colleges will have specific entry requirements and will all be different)



ACADEMIC

BTECS/CTECS- VOCATIONAL



- L3 qualifications (step up from GCSEs/L2) and require elements of independent study



- Different levels- equivalent to 1/2/3 A-Levels



- Can be taken alongside other qualifications (like A-Levels) but can also be done as a stand alone qualification related to a particular industry/sector



- Assignment based (but some courses do have exams)

OCCUPATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS- VOCATIONAL



- L3 work related qualifications (step up from GCSEs/L2) and require elements of independent study



- Assignment based (but some courses do have exams) and usually very practical



- Most students would study 1 individual course, related to a particular sector/industry

T-LEVELS - TECHNICAL



- Relatively new, L3 work related qualifications in specific industry sectors



- In-built work related placements (45 days)



- Assignment based with exams



- Students would study 1 individual T-Level course, related to a particular sector/industry (broadly equivalent to 3 A-Levels)

APPRENTICESHIPS - TECHNICAL

- First and foremost, this is a job!

- Earn whilst you learn- 80% on the 'job' and 20% on training (e.g. a day a week in college, online learning modules)

- Highly competitive

- Varying levels (L2- straight after GCSEs up to L7 post-grad equivalent)

APPRENTICESHIP PROVIDERS

- As this is a job, students apply for vacancies with companies (not through colleges) Although college may be able to signpost
- Intakes throughout the academic year (not necessarily September starts)
- Gov.uk website ('find an apprenticeship section')

Five most popular apprenticeships in 2025:

Business, Administration and Law apprenticeships

Health, Public Services and Care apprenticeships

Retail and Commercial Enterprise apprenticeships

Engineering and Manufacturing Technologies apprenticeships

Derby saw this as the most popular by a long way

Construction, Planning and the Built Environment apprenticeships



Department
for Education

ENGLISH & MATHS

Students need to continue studying GCSE English, GCSE maths, or both if on a 16 to 19 study programme and do not have a grade 4 or above in one or both of these subjects. They are not required to resit the exam, but most institutions will want to enter students.

Government talk of change but it almost certainly will not change before your child starts post 16!

National pass rate for resits??

MAKING YOUR APPLICATION EXAMPLE: (THEY ARE ALL DIFFERENT)

- Step 1 – Find Your Course
- Step 2 – Apply Online
- **Next Steps:** Students will be asked to submit a personal statement (for A levels) or complete interview questions (for all other courses) BEFORE they are given an interview or asked to attend a taster session.
- A level students will then attend a taster session, all other applicants will attend an on-site or telephone interview.
- **Offer:** If the application is successful, they will receive an offer, which will be conditional subject to entry criteria and exam results.
- **Accept:** NOTE: Due to high demand for our courses, to secure their place they will need to confirm you accept the offer within 14 days or their place will be lost. There will be an accept button in an InTouch account sent by email.
- **If your child has an EHCP,** Please inform your local authority SEND Officer about your application. This should also be done during your annual review or phase transfer meeting. Ms Fidler will support you with this. For any SEN concerns, you will need to contact the Post 16 provider directly.
- Step 3 – Enrolment
- In August students must attend a College/sixth form appointment to enrol, bringing all evidence required, where they will sign a Student Learning Agreement, get their College ID, and receive an induction date.



**WHICH PATHWAY WILL YOUR CHILD TAKE?
SUPPORT IN SCHOOL:**

**MR SINGH (CAREERS ADVISOR)
MISS NAJIB (CAREERS LEAD)
HOY & TUTORS
ALL STAFF AT CDC**

Contact us

Call 0800 100 900 to speak to an adviser. Lines are available from:

- 8am - 8pm Monday - Friday
- 10am - 5pm Saturday

Calls are free from landlines and most mobile numbers. Please check for [possible call charges and freephone numbers](#).

If you do not want to call us, you can also:

- ☐ Chat online
- ☐ By email
- ☐



NATIONAL CAREERS SERVICE

[HTTPS://NATIONALCAREERS.SERVICE.GOV.UK/CONTACT-US](https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/contact-us)

NOTE: THIS IS CHANGING FROM 1ST OCTOBER IN THE CURRENT FORMAT