



Welcome to The Parent and Pupil information session – Exploring post 16 options life after GCSE's

- Helping to explore all post 16 option available to your child
- Explore Sixth form route
- Explore Further Education College route
- Explore apprenticeships and Traineeships
- The sessions will explain the differences between A levels, T Levels, Technical and vocational pathways







Mission

We work with schools, colleges and employers to help **every** young person find their **best** next step.

ADDRESSING THE NEEDS LINKING CURRICULUM A STABLE CAREERS LEARNING FROM CAREER **PROGRAMME** AND LABOUR MARKET OF EACH PUPIL LEARNING TO CAREERS INFORMATION **ENCOUNTERS WITH EXPERIENCES OF ENCOUNTERS WITH** PERSONAL GUIDANCE **EMPLOYERS AND** WORKPLACES FURTHER AND HIGHER **EMPLOYEES EDUCATION**



CEC Vision

High quality, 21st Century careers education for everyone; everywhere

By:

- Supporting and challenging schools and colleges to deliver excellence
- Supporting and challenging employers to engage with purpose

Including all young people in careers education









Vicky O'Connor

Senior Coordinator - SEND

MEET THE TEAM

Vikki HainesBlack Country Careers Hub and Enterprise Adviser Network
Lead



Alison Danks
Enterprise Coordinator



Kelly Stackhouse Employer engagement



Carol Codner Enterprise Coordinator



Corin Kelsey Enterprise Coordinator



Jo Rasmin Consultant



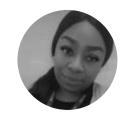
Nathan Hutchinson Enterprise Coordinator



Sally Stone Enterprise Coordinator

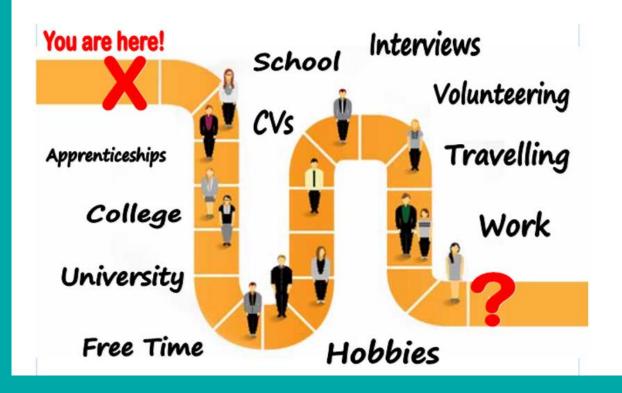


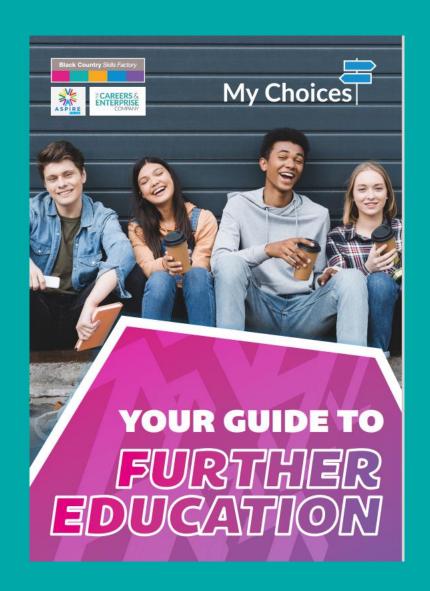
Julie Cornfield
Consultant



Rhianna Campbell-Grant Project Officer

Post 16 Options







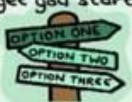
We will explore ...

- Broad overview of different routes
- GCSE grades
- Maths and English

Your next step will help shape your options at age 18 and beyond.



There are lots of options to choose from so think about these key questions to get you started...





What does life at 18 look like?



Working full-time



Studying full-time



Combination of work and study



ge 16 to start xploring. A T-LEVEL is a two-year course, which has been designed with employers to provide you with the right knowledge and skills to get started in a particular career

Examples of T-levels include digital design development and production or design, surveying and planning for construction.



APPRENTICESHIPS combine practical training in a paid job with study so you can earn while you learn.



A-LEVELS are a two-year course, usually you pick three subjects to study, which are equivalent to one T-level.



Other options to consider include BTECs, traineeships and more



• A **Grade 4** is a **Standard Pass**, while a **Grade 5** is a **Strong Pass**

Although the new grades don't exactly match the old grades, providers will mostly view them as follows:

Vocational qualifications like *BTEC* match up with GCSEs as follows:

L1 = GCSE grades 1-3 (Pass - Distinction)

L2 = GCSE grades 4-9 (Pass – Distinction)

New grading structure	Current grading structure
9	A*
8	A
7	А
6	В
5	C
4	
3	D
2	Е
2	F
1	G
U	U



Maths and English

Maths and English resits – What are the rules?

It is REALLY important to remember that if you get lower than a Grade 4/C in your GCSE Maths and English exams, you will need to re-sit these qualifications as part of any course you study at college or as part of an apprenticeship. Many apprenticeships and Level 3 courses at sixth forms and colleges will require you to get a grade 4 or 5 in English and Maths so it is essential you work hard to obtain these now rather than having to complete resits in the future

What are post 16 Education choices?

Since 2013, the Raising of the Participation Age law has stated that young people must be in some form of 'education or training' until they are 18. This can include

Full-Time Study

This could be a qualification taken at a sixth form, college or training provider, totalling 540 hours of learning time per year, or around 18 hours per week.

We will explore different qualifications today

Apprenticeships

This involves working for an employer while studying for a qualification as part of your training. Usually, work makes up 80% of an apprenticeship and at least 20% (or one day a week) should be dedicated to studying.

Traineeships

This is an option for students who would like to do an apprenticeship but may not have the experience, skills or qualifications to do so yet. Traineeships can last up to six months and involve a work placement, Maths and **English qualifications** and support with finding an apprenticeship

Part-Time Study with Employment or Volunteering –

This could be working in a full-time job (classed as any work that takes place over more than two months and is over 20 hours per week) or volunteering (again, over 20 hours per week) while studying part-time at a college or training provider (totalling 280 hours of learning per year).

WHAT MOVE? UR

QUALIFICATION	DESCRIPTION	LENGTH OF TIME	ASSESSMENT	LEVEL OF STUDY	DOES IT AWARD UCAS POINTS?	ENTRY REQUIREMENTS	WORK EXPERIENCE	WHAT DOES IT LEAD TO?
APPRENTICESHIPS	A real job with training and a salary	1 Year minimum	Apprenticeship dependent (including demonstrations, presentations and/or exams)	2/3 With the possibility to progress to higher Apprenticeships up to level 7	No	- Employer dependent - Age 16+ - Evidence of interest and ability to complete	Yes. (Paid job with at least 20% off the job training)	Higher level or degree Apprenticeship University / College Work
A LEVELS	An academic qualification, similar in style to GCSEs that prepares you for further study	2 years	Mostly exams at the end of the course	3	Yes	For individual schools and colleges to decide (commonly 5 GCSEs at grades 4 and above)	No	- Apprenticeship - University / College - Work
T LEVELS	A technical study programme, equivalent to 3 A levels, with an industry placement that makes up 20% of the course. T levels are designed to give you the skills that employers need	2 years	Exams, projects and practical assignments	3	Yes	Set by each school / college	Yes (80% classroom, 20% work)	- Apprenticeship - University / College - Work
TECHNICAL / VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS	Qualifications which teach you how to do tasks specifically related to the industry and role you want to be in	Course dependent	Course dependent (Coursework & exams)	1+	Some (course & awarding organisation dependent)	Course dependent	Course dependent	- Apprenticeship - College - Work
APPLIED QUALIFICATIONS	Qualifications that prepare you for further study by combining academic learning with practical skills to give you a broad overview of working in a sector	Course dependent	Course dependent (coursework & exams)	3	Yes	Set by each school / college	Course dependent	- Apprenticeship - University / College - Work
TRAINEESHIPS	A work focused study programme that prepares you for an Apprenticeship or work	6 weeks - 6 months	A formal job or exit interview with written feedback. Coursework and exams are course dependent	N/A	No	Have little to no work experience and qualified below Level 3	Yes	- Apprenticeship - Work



We will now explore ...

- A levels
- Vocational Qualifications

A levels

QUALIFICATION	DESCRIPTION	LENGTH OF TIME	ASSESSMENT	LEVEL OF STUDY
A LEVELS	An academic qualification, similar in style to GCSEs that prepares you for further study	2 years	Mostly exams at the end of the course	3

DOES IT AWARD UCAS POINTS? ENTRY REQUIREMENTS		WORK EXPERIENCE	WHAT DOES IT LEAD TO?
Yes	For individual schools and colleges to decide (commonly 5 GCSEs at grades 4 and above)	No	- Apprenticeship - University / College - Work

A levels

Key information

- They usually focus on academic subjects, compared to <u>vocational</u> <u>qualifications</u> like BTECs and NVQs, which are more practical
- There are over 40 different A-level subjects on offer – some will be subjects that you studied at GCSE and others may be new – check with individual sixth forms/colleges to see which subject they offer
- You can study A-levels at school, sixth form or college. You don't need to stay at the school where you did your GCSEs
- If you enjoy academic learning and want to study a broad range of subjects, they could be the perfect option for you.
- If you're sure that you want to go to university then they are worth considering. They are valued by universities

I do know what career I want in the future!

- Some careers require you to have a degree, and you need to have certain A-levels to get a place on that degree. Some common ones are:
- Veterinary science biology and one or two subjects from chemistry, maths or physics.
- Medicine chemistry, biology and either maths or physics.
- English English literature.
- Computer science maths.
- Dentistry chemistry, biology and either maths or physics.



I don't know what career I want in the future!

- They are good if you don't know what you want to study at university, or haven't pinned down your ideal career yet, because they keep a lot of options open
- Here are some A-levels that help you to keep your options open.
 These are known as <u>facilitating</u> <u>subjects</u>. They are:
- English literature
- History
- Modern languages
- Classical languages
- Maths and further maths
- Physics
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Geography



vocational qualifications

QUALIFICATION	DESCRIPTION	LENGTH OF TIME	ASSESSMENT	LEVEL OF STUDY
TECHNICAL / VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS	Qualifications which teach you how to do tasks specifically related to the industry and role you want to be in	Course dependent	Course dependent (Coursework & exams)	1+
APPLIED QUALIFICATIONS	Qualifications that prepare you for further study by combining academic learning with practical skills to give you a broad overview of working in a sector	Course dependent	Course dependent (coursework & exams)	3

DOES IT AWARD UCAS POINTS?	ENTRY REQUIREMENTS	WORK EXPERIENCE	WHAT DOES IT LEAD TO?
Some (course & awarding organisation dependent)	Course dependent	Course dependent	- Apprenticeship - College - Work
Yes	Set by each school / college	Course dependent	- Apprenticeship - University / College - Work



vocational qualifications

Applied courses combine the theory of an academic course with skills-based, work-related learning. The BTEC is probably the most well-known; it comes in different levels, from certificate, which is equivalent to half an A-level, to the extended diploma, which is like studying 3 A-levels. Assessment includes coursework and exams. This route leads to: University/college, apprenticeship

Colleges and training providers usually offer Vocational, technical and applied qualifications that focus on a specific area of study in a practical way

Vocational and technical qualifications - These courses teach you the practical skills and knowledge for a particular area of employment. They can prepare you for a broad employment sector, like engineering or travel and tourism, or for a specific job like a chef or a hairdresser. Qualifications which teach you how to do tasks specifically related to the industry and role you want to be involved in. Assessment includes coursework, skills tests and exams. You'll learn in real situations in college, for example in a college restaurant or a salon that is open to the public. You may also have the chance to go out on a work placement with an employer. This route Leads to: Apprenticeship, work, college or university



vocational qualifications

Key information

- Are practical qualifications that relate to a specific job or career sector.
- They combine a mix of theory and practical learning and you'll probably do some work experience too.
- A good option if you have a clear idea of what type of career or trade you'd like to work in.
- Have been developed in partnership with employers and professional and trade organisations, which means that you'll be learning the skills that employers want – great for your CV and career.
- You'll develop real-life skills , there will be a more practical approach compared to traditional courses like A-levels, which will help you to leave education ready for the world of work

Examples of vocational subjects

- There are literally hundreds of different vocational subjects that you can do. Here's just a sample:
- Electrical installation
- Environmental services
- Food technology
- Gas installation
- Hairdressing
- Health and social care
- Heating and ventilation
- Hospitality
- Journalism
- Logistics
- Management
- Manufacturing
- Media and communications
- Plumbing
- Retail
- Warehousing

Key information

- Vocational qualifications are more directly linked to the world of work and involve more project work, problem solving, skills development and work experience
- Level 3 vocational qualifications are equivalent to A-levels
- These qualifications are very specific to certain jobs and industries
- A lot of universities will accept a Level 3 vocational qualification
- If you know what job or career you want to pursue, then this can be a good way to make sure that you develop the right skills and knowledge for that role.
- Great for practical learners They can help you to get the specific skills you need to get your first job or progress further in your career.



We will now explore ...

- Apprenticeships
- Traineeships
- T Levels



Combine work and study route

QUALIFICATION	DESCRIPTION	LENGTH OF TIME	ASSESSMENT	LEVEL OF STUDY
APPRENTICESHIPS	A real job with training and a salary	1 Year minimum	Apprenticeship dependent (including demonstrations, presentations and/or exams)	2/3 With the possibility to progress to higher Apprenticeships up to level 7

DOES IT AWARD UCAS POINTS?	ENTRY REQUIREMENTS	WORK EXPERIENCE	WHAT DOES IT LEAD TO?
No	- Employer dependent - Age 16+ - Evidence of interest and ability to complete	Yes. (Paid job with at least 20% off the job training)	- Higher level or degree Apprenticeship - University / College - Work



Combine work and study route



Apprenticeships are work-based training programmes. Apprentices are employed by a business, whilst working towards relevant qualifications at the same time.

The training element of an apprenticeship is normally undertaken at a colleges or training provider

An Apprenticeship is a real job where you learn, gain experience and get paid.

You're an employee with a contract of employment and holiday leave. By the end of an Apprenticeship, you'll have the right skills and knowledge needed for your chosen career.

It can take between one and six years to complete an Apprenticeship depending on which one you choose, what level it is and your previous experience. It's funded from contributions made by the government and your employer.

To become an Apprentice, you must:

- be 16 or over
- · not already be in full time education
- · spend at least 50% of your working hours in England

As an Apprentice you'll:

- · learn and gain hands-on experience in a real job
- · get paid
- · get training for a specific job role
- · be on a career path with lots of future potential

You can find an Apprenticeship whether you're starting your career, want a change or are returning to work.







Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships can now be undertaken in a variety of industries, including Engineering, Graphic Design, Software Development, Hair and Beauty and Catering (and can be started as soon as an individual turns 16 and has left full-time education, although you can apply beforehand)

Become an apprentice: Apply for an apprenticeship GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

Apprenticeships – Involve working for an employer in a specific role while being trained to do the job by experienced staff, in a combination of on-the-job and off-the-job training at a college or training provider

Apprenticeships must be at least one year long and all apprentices must be paid a minimum of £4.30 per hour (although many companies pay more!).

Intermediate/Level 2 (equivalent to GCSE) – usually requires Maths/English at GCSE

Advanced/Level 3 (equivalent to A-Level) – usually requires 5 GCSEs at Grade 4+

Higher/Level 4-5 (equivalent to Foundation Degree) – usually requires L3 or A-Levels

Degree/Level 6-7 (equivalent to University Degree) – usually requires 3 A-Levels or similar





QUALIFICATION	DESCRIPTION	LENGTH OF TIME	ASSESSMENT	LEVEL OF STUDY
TRAINEESHIPS	A work focused study programme that prepares you for an Apprenticeship or work	6 weeks - 6 months	A formal job or exit interview with written feedback. Coursework and exams are course dependent	N/A

DOES IT AWARD UCAS POINTS? ENTRY REQUIREMENTS		WORK EXPERIENCE	WHAT DOES IT LEAD TO?
No	Have little to no work experience and qualified below Level 3	Yes	- Apprenticeship - Work

TRAINEESHIPS ESHIP TRAINEESHIPS ESHIP

Traineeships are available for young people aged between 16 - 24 and aimed at those who are unsure of what employment sector they wish to work in.

They are a good way to gain work experience, secure an Apprenticeship, and ideal for supporting young people to develop all round abilities including employability skills, CV writing, job applications and gain confidence. The cost of training is free to the individual and is a good way of finding out what type of sector and work you may be suited to.

Upon completion of the Traineeship learners will be better prepared for moving onto an Apprenticeship.

From the training provider you can expect:

- training to prepare you for work, including CV writing and what to expect in the workplace
- support to improve your English, maths and digital skills if you need it
- sector focused vocational learning to help prepare you for your apprenticeship or job and recognition of your learning
- · From the employer you can expect:
- a high-quality work placement of at least 70 hours

 an interview for an apprenticeship or job if available, or an exit interview with written feedback

Programmes can be tailored to meet your needs and prepare you for what local businesses are looking for. A traineeship is a training programme and isn't a job. Employers are not required to pay you for the work placement, but they can support you with expenses such as transport and meals.

If you are eligible, you can maintain your entitlement to benefits whilst on a traineeship as necessary. Along with recognition of your learning, there will be support to link you with job opportunities.

You may get:

- expenses for transport and meals from your employer
- financial support for travel, childcare or a disability from your training provider
- support from your local Jobcentre Plus if you are eligible for work benefits



ENTERPRISE COMPANY

Will I be paid?

A traineeship is a learning programme including a work experience placement, not a job. Work experience placements are unpaid, but employers are encouraged to support expenses, such as for transport and meals. Depending on your circumstances, you may be eligible for support with education related costs.

Who is eligible?

You can apply for a traineeship if you're:

- · eligible to work in England
- have little or no work experience but are motivated to work
- · aged 16 to 24 (or 25 with an EHC plan)

There are many training providers who offer Traineeships and advertise opportunities, your

There are many training providers who offer Traineeships and advertise opportunities, your local Connexions Adviser (see pages 16 to 20) will be able to support you to find a place.

For further information on Traineeships visit

https://www.gov.uk/find-traineeship







T Levels - Find a T Level | T Levels

QUALIFICATION	DESCRIPTION	LENGTH OF TIME	ASSESSMENT	LEVEL OF STUDY
T LEVELS	programme, equivalent to 3 A levels, with an industry placement that makes up 20% of the course. T levels are designed to give you the skills that employers need	2 years	Exams, projects and practical assignments	3

DOES IT AWARD UCAS POINTS?	ENTRY REQUIREMENTS	WORK EXPERIENCE	WHAT DOES IT LEAD TO?
Yes	Set by each school / college	Yes (80% classroom, 20% work)	- Apprenticeship - University / College - Work



T Levels - Find a T Level T

Levels

EQUIVALENT TO 3 A LEVELS

T Levels are an alternative to A levels. apprenticeships and other 16 to 19 courses. Equivalent to 3 A levels, a T Level focuses on vocational skills and can help students into skilled employment, higher study or apprenticeships.



Each T Level includes an in-depth industry placement that lasts at least 45 days. Students get valuable experience in the workplace; employers get early sight of the new talent in their industry.



T Level students spend 80% of the course in the classroom, learning the skills that employers need. The other 20% is a meaningful industry placement, where they put these skills into action.

AVAILABLE NOW

- Building Services Engineering for Construction
- Design, Surveying and Planning for Construction
- Digital Business Services
- Digital Production, Design and Development
- Digital Support Services
- · Education and Childcare
- Health
- · Healthcare Science
- Onsite Construction
- Science

SEPTEMBER 2022 **ONWARDS**

- Accounting
- · Design and Development for Engineering and Manufacturing
- Engineering, Manufacturing, Processing and Control
- Finance
- · Maintenance, Installation and Repair for Engineering and Manufacturing
- Management and Administration



We will now explore ...

- Studying at a school sixth form /sixth form college
- Studying at a further education college
- Studying at training providers

SEGRM

The Sixth Form represents the final years of secondary school, for pupils aged 16 to 18. The Sixth Form provides the academic preparation needed for university, transitioning pupils from GCSEs to an undergraduate degree.

School Sixth Form: These offer both A Level and BTEC/vocational qualifications - These are usually attached to a secondary school

Sixth Form Colleges: These are very similar to sixth forms, but they are separate from secondary schools based at a college. Sandwell college, Halesowen College, Dudley college, Wolverhampton college all have sixth forms.

Sixth Forms are smaller and tend to offer an individualised approach to your learning. In most cases the standard of teaching will be high in academic subjects especially. Also, a student with disabilities will already know how their school accommodates disabled pupils.

Entry requirements for school and college sixth forms vary – ranging from four to five GCSEs at level 4 or 5, with perhaps GCSE level 6s in the subjects you want to study, through to at least six GCSEs at level 7 or above for the most selective colleges.

Most Schools Sixth Forms and Sixth Form colleges will offer a wide range of A-levels and vocational courses. In addition to offering A-level courses, many sixth form colleges offer BTEC, T Levels, diplomas and other vocational courses too.

Most colleges and sixth forms within schools will start to open their application process in the autumn term of Year 11. This is the time when you should be visiting colleges and schools, going to open days, talking to former and current students and finding out more about the studying options available.

Check with your school (or the sixth form you want to attend if you're changing schools to study them) and ensure you know exactly what you need to get. You can take a maximum of five A Levels, although most universities are happy to offer you a place based on three subjects.



- Visit open days/ evenings
- Do research into what else the school offers
- Book another tour during the day
- Don't listen to your friends
- Listen to your gut feeling





School Sixth Form, sixth form college Route

Sixth forms typically focus on A-Level (Advanced Level) qualifications – two-year courses that end in an overall examination and a grade from A*-E (1-9), with a similar structure to GCSEs but looking at the subject in a lot more depth. Students can study:

<u>Traditional A-Levels</u> – Subjects like Biology, Chemistry, Physics, English Literature, English Language, Mathematics, Geography, History, Languages, Religious Education

Alternative A-Levels – Subjects like Sociology, Psychology, Business Studies, Media Studies, Economics, and Sport

practical assessments and coursework, as well as exams.
Subjects can include Health and Social Care, Applied
Science, and Travel and Tourism etc

Entry Requirements – sixth form/colleges usually ask students to have 5 GCSEs at Grade 4/C or above but make sure that you do your research, as some courses, such as A-Level Maths, Physics, Biology and Chemistry, require students to achieve a Grade 6 or above at GCSE in order to demonstrate their deeper understanding of the subject.-check individual setting for their entry requirements



What is a sixth form like?

- The environment at a Sixth Form College is generally more adult, and students are expected to take more responsibility for themselves and their learning.
- Sixth Form Colleges tend to be slightly more relaxed when comparing them with School Sixth Forms, and students usually address their teachers on a first name basis
- A Sixth Form College is closer to what the university experience will be like

Teachers at a School Sixth Form might ask that you still address them as 'Sir' or 'Miss'

 Knowing your teachers and surroundings may help you settle into A level life a lot quicker •School Sixth
Forms tend to be
more formal places
and familiar to you

If you stay on at the same school and go to that sixth form you will more than likely already know the teachers and they will know you.



College Route

•Colleges usually offer what's called vocational courses. These courses are very hands-on and practical, like cooking or uniform services, and will sometimes be in the form of apprenticeships. If you're looking to switch things up a bit, College could be for you. With hundreds more students per year than at Sixth Form, you've got more chance of meeting 'your kind of people' and expanding your circle.

There could also be a wider range of courses available at College, allowing you to further explore what you're into, and guide you towards career path of your dreams

They provide a different learning environment to what you were used to at school

Entry Requirements:

Entry Level/Level 1 – Can require anything from no qualifications up to 3 GCSEs (any grade)

Level 2 – Usually requires 3 GCSEs at Grade 3/D or above

Level 3 – Usually requires 5 GCSEs at Grade 4/C or above

The environment at a Sixth Form College is generally more adult, and students are expected to take more responsibility for themselves and their learning students usually address their teachers on a first name basis

•Probably the biggest incentive for students to go to College is for the experience of being part of a place that functions a little more like a university. Coming out of your comfort zone and meeting loads of new people can be life changing, and a huge boost of confidence



Thank you for listening

- People (blackcountrylep.co.uk)
- https://www.blackcountrylep.co.uk/our-strategy/people/support-for-school-leavers/black-country-guide-for-school-leavers/
- Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership & Jobs | Learn Live | Contact Us Today (learnliveuk.com)
- Welcome to the CEC Resource Directory | CEC Resource Directory (careersandenterprise.co.uk)
- The Careers & Enterprise Company | The Careers and Enterprise Company



Training providers

What are training providers?

Examples of Training Providers

• <u>Smaller Training Providers</u> – In addition to the larger FE colleges, there are a number of smaller training organisations around our area and further afield that offer a range of vocational courses for students, including *Motor Vehicle*, *Business Admin*, *Customer Service*, *Health and Social Care*, *Construction*, *Personal Fitness*, *Hair and Beauty* and *Hospitality and Catering*, as well as support with *Maths* and *English* and help for students wanting to progress on to apprenticeships or work, all delivered in a much smaller environment with class sizes of 10-15 students

- Juniper Training https://www.junipertraining.co.uk/
- Nacro https://www.nacro.org.uk/education/education-centres/nacro-walsall-centre/
- Nova Training http://www.novatraining.co.uk/
- Skills Training UK https://www.skillstraininguk.com/
- PTP Training Home Page : PTP (ptp-training.co.uk)