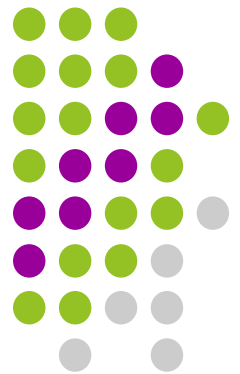


# SIRIUS ACADEMY WEST CAREERS INFORMATION



Come and see me for guidance about your future. I can help!

[kmilner@siriusacademy.org.uk](mailto:kmilner@siriusacademy.org.uk)

Room 133/ 01482 975556

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for yourself



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for the community



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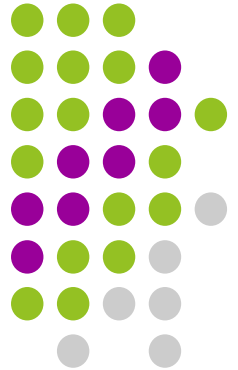
We want all our students to understand the full range of opportunities and journeys available to them; to learn from employers in a work-place situation, about jobs and the skills that are valued in the work-place. All students are able to access advice and guidance tailored to their

individual needs, that is provided in an impartial manner.

This brochure has been produced to help guide you (the student, along with your parents/carers) through the information needed to allow a smooth transition from Year 10 into Year 11, which will enable you make informed choices for when you leave the Academy.

You will have the chance to speak to your careers adviser, who will talk through your ideas and what you need to do to achieve them, The Academy holds a series of events throughout the year that will help you make your decisions about your future but this booklet will provide you with essential information to help you make these choices.

We encourage all students to access as much information as they can in order to complete their applications on the online prospectus-  
<https://www.logonmoveon.co.uk/>



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You can leave school on the last Friday in June if you'll be 16 by the end of the summer holidays.

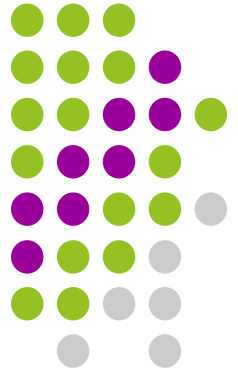
You must then do one of the following until you're 18:

- ◆ 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

**YOU  
CANNOT  
JUST LEAVE SCHOOL AND GET A JOB!!!**



It is entirely your decision as to where you want to go and what you want to do. Making this decision can be very daunting, so it's important that you all do as much research as possible.



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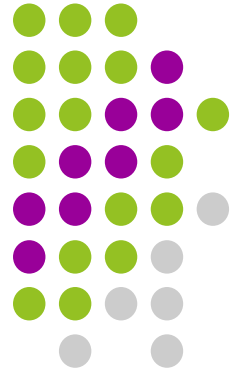
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### Now to October

- ◆ Book your careers interview with the Careers Adviser- Ms Milner- do this as soon as possible to talk through your ideas and discuss college and training applications
- ◆ Complete your personal profile on <https://www.logonmoveon.co.uk/>
- ◆ Explore your career ideas... use the Internet websites at the back of this booklet
- ◆ Find out as much as you can about all the opportunities available to you after Year 11 look at the website: <https://www.logonmoveon.co.uk/>
- ◆ Collect and read information about colleges and training.
- ◆ Attend any open days/ events at colleges or training providers.
- ◆ Talk over your ideas with friends, family and teachers.

### November/ December onwards...

- ◆ Apply using logonmoveon (or online if applicable) to colleges and training providers.
- ◆ Remember; give yourself choices-you can apply for several opportunities and have a back up plan.
- ◆ Ask your Careers Adviser for details of how to apply for anything you are not sure of... (Some apprenticeships may not be listed on logonmoveon).
- ◆ Remember to check <https://www.logonmoveon.co.uk/> for messages from colleges or training providers
- ◆ Make your applications before the end of December
- ◆ Prepare for and attend interviews



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### February/ March...

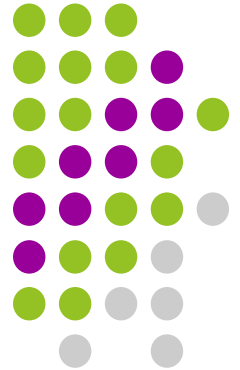
- ◆ Attend any assessments, which you may have to sit as part of the application process.

### April...

- ◆ Open a bank account if you have not done this already!

### June onwards...

- ◆ Officially, leave school on the last Friday in June (you can start full- time College/ Training or employment after this date).
- ◆ Attend GCSE results day



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With so many different qualifications it can be hard to know what they mean and where they may lead to. To help you understand the summary below will highlight the academic, vocational and work-based routes. Generally, the higher the level of qualification, the more difficult it is.



Level	Qualification/ Educational Routes		
8	Doctorate (PhD)		Degree Apprenticeship/ NVQ 5,6,7,8
7	Masters Degree (MA)		
6	Bachelors Degree BA or BSc		
5	Foundation Degree	Higher National Diploma (HND)	Higher Apprenticeship/ NVQ 4
4		Higher National Certificate (HNC)	
3	A Levels  T Levels	BTEC Certificate BTEC Diploma	Advanced Apprenticeship/ NVQ 3
2	GCSE Grades 4-9	BTEC First Diploma	Apprenticeship/ NVQ 2
1	GSCE Grades 1-3	Foundation Diploma	Traineeship/ NVQ 1
Entry	Entry Level 1-3 ESOL	Foundation Diplomas	Traineeship
	Academic Route	Vocational Route	Work based Route



## WILL MY PREDICTED GRADES DECIDE WHICH COLLEGE I CAN GO TO? Quite simply – yes!

We understand your grades are predicted and as such may change, this is a baseline summary to help you know what you need to aim for to get on your chosen course

### To study A Levels you need:-

5+ GCSE's at least Grade 5/6 or higher/equivalent  
(however most require a Grade 6)

### To study a BTEC Level 3 you need:-

4+ GCSE's at least Grade 4/5 or higher/equivalent  
(however many require a Grade 5)

### To study for a T Level you need:-

4+ GCSE's at least Grade 4/5 or higher/equivalent  
(however many require a Grade 5)

### To study a BTEC Level 2 you need:-

4+ GCSE's at Grade 2/3 or equivalent  
(however many require a Grade 3)

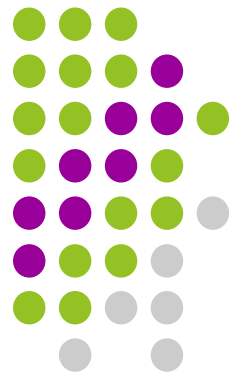
### To study a BTEC Level 1 you need:-

GCSE's at Grade 1/2 or equivalent  
(however many require a Grade 2)

### To study at Entry level you need:-

No formal qualifications

Contact Ms Milner at school if you have anything that you are not sure of or any worries. Either in 133, by email ([kmilner@siriusacademy.org.uk](mailto:kmilner@siriusacademy.org.uk)) or by telephone (01482 975556)



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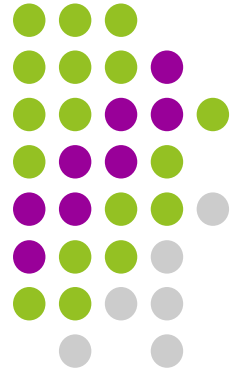
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### What are A Levels?

- ◆ A Levels are subject-based qualifications - you can normally study three or more A levels over two years. They're usually assessed by a series of examinations.
- ◆ A Levels are general and academic and are a good choice if you want to keep your career options open.

### What are T-levels?

T-levels are new - they've been developed alongside employers to make sure that what you learn meets the needs of industry and prepares you for work. Here's some key information to give you an idea of what to expect:

- ◆ T-levels are two-year courses
- ◆ They are equivalent to three A-levels
- ◆ Your time is split: 80% classroom learning; 20% industry placement
- ◆ Placements are at least 315 hours (approximately 45 days)

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### What are BTEC's?

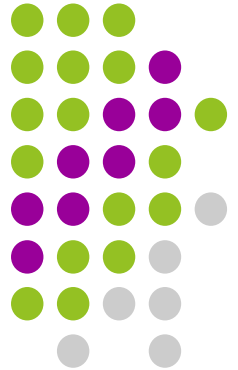
Most of you will have studied a BTEC already at school – maybe Sport or Health & Social or Construction, for example.

BTEC'S are vocational qualifications that can be studied at school or college.

- ◆ They're less academic than A-levels, providing a more practical and hands-on way of learning.
- ◆ They are a popular alternative to A-levels & are a vocational qualification, which means that it has a career focus and is grounded in the world of work.
- ◆ BTEC students study to gain skills and knowledge in their subject area, then put those skills into practice in real-life scenarios

### What's the difference?

- ◆ A Levels are more academic and classroom-based, while BTECS are more vocational and practical.
- ◆ A Levels give you a broader academic base if you're not totally sure what you want to do later, while BTECS are more focused on a particular career path.
- ◆ A Levels are assessed by exams at the end of two years, while BTECS have a more continuous workload throughout the course.



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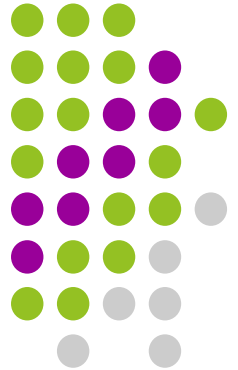
## CHOOSING A COLLEGE

You have to pick the college that best suits YOU – your learning styles, your needs and your requirements, along with your hopes & dreams for the future....

- ◆ NOT the one closest to you
- ◆ NOT the one your friends are going to
- ◆ NOT just because you have actually heard of it
- ◆ Go and see what you think - how does it feel to you?
- ◆ Go & look around the departments that interest you - talk to the students who are studying there & talk to the staff
- ◆ Do you like the feel of it all?
- ◆ Does the course offer what you need?

### We suggest the following:-

- ◆ Look on the college websites
- ◆ Follow them on social media
- ◆ Attend AS MANY taster days and open events as you possibly can
- ◆ Speak to your Careers Adviser
- ◆ Attend any events you are invited to at School



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## Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships offer the opportunity to combine study with paid employment, resulting in a professionally recognised qualification

On an apprenticeship, you're employed to do a real job, by the end of your apprenticeship, you'll hopefully have gained the skills and knowledge needed to either succeed in your chosen career or progress onto the next apprenticeship level.

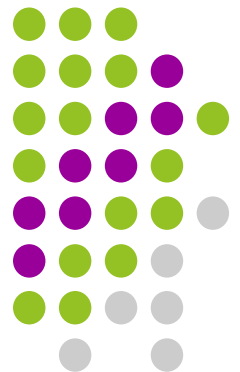
If you have a more practical, work related bias towards learning then an apprenticeship may suit you well.

However, taking an apprenticeship is not an easy option and competition can be fierce, remember you are balancing study and work. Holidays are fewer than when at college and you may have to work evenings or weekends depending on your chosen path.

### Where to find an apprenticeship

There's a range of ways to find an apprenticeship, it is recommended to use more than one!

- ◆ Logonmoveon– apprenticeships are listed on her both by the employer and the training provider
- ◆ Apply directly to training providers
- ◆ Use the Governments website– most apprenticeships are listed on here and it is updated daily– if you create an account you can set up alerts and apply directly. <https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>
- ◆ Use the internet– some companies (especially large companies) have apprenticeship sections on their websites
- ◆ Ask someone you know if they will take you on as an apprentice – this could be a member of your family or a friend who works somewhere or has a business that is of interest to you – this has to be an officially recognised apprenticeship position and not just a job!



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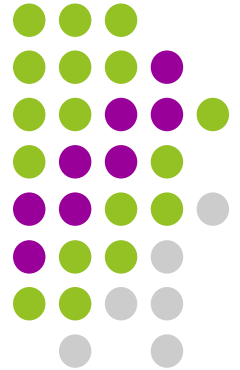
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### Traineeships

These are usually short term courses (usually up to 6 months) that incorporate work experience/ placements to help people become 'apprenticeship or job ready'.

### Open Events

These are usually in person (although last year were virtual and may continue to be virtual for a while).

For some you may need to book but for most you just turn up – it's a bit like going to town on a Saturday with your friends!

You can go with friends and/or family – 1 person or 5 people – you just walk in and the whole of the college is open for you to have a look around.

There are people there to help and advise if you need it, but otherwise they are happy for you to walk around, have a look and ask questions.

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### National Minimum Wage and National Living Wage rates

The hourly rate for the minimum wage depends on your age and whether you're an apprentice.

You must be at least:

- ◆ school leaving age to get the National Minimum Wage
- ◆ aged 23 to get the National Living Wage - the minimum wage will still apply for workers aged 22 and under

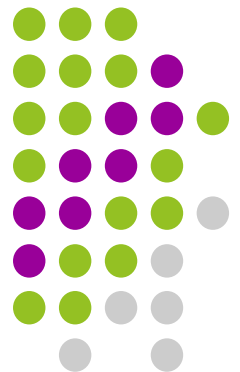
These rates are for the National Living Wage (for those aged 23 and over) and the National Minimum Wage (for those of at least school leaving age). The rates change on 1 April every year.

	23 and over	21 to 22	18 to 20	Under 18	Apprentice
<b>April 2022</b>	£9.50	£9.18	£6.83	£4.81	£4.81

Parents receive Child Benefit until approx. November and this will continue if you are in full time learning.

If you do not continue in full time education or non- employed training, Child Tax Credits will also stop- this will be in February- the young person may be able to claim benefits if in severe hardship.

- ◆ ***Please note there are exceptions to this and the rules are constantly changing so please check with GOV.UK***



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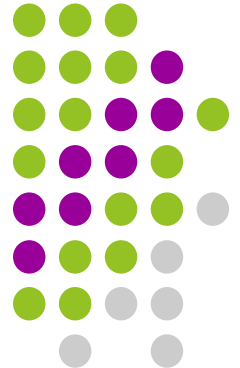


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There has never been a better time to sign up for the College@Sirius. Over the past five years we have enjoyed unprecedented success. Our students now attend the best universities in the world and go on to enjoy the most fulfilling lives. In the past two years a significant proportion of our students have gained admission to Oxford and Cambridge Universities to study the sciences, law, English literature and social science subjects. Every student leaves us with a worthwhile destination. On average, ninety percent of our students will go on to higher education (university) and the rest will secure apprenticeships or work.

We know that when you choose your Post-16 destination you are trusting us with your academic future and two years of your life. This is a responsibility we take very seriously. We want to make sure that you fulfil your intellectual potential, but also – that you have fun. We have created a strong community atmosphere in our Sixth Form. Supported by our trips and visits programme. All our trips are organised to broaden your horizon, and all are **free of charge**. We have a huge number of visitors from external providers, from psychologists, lawyers, geographers, professors at university and employers, all with a view to your next steps.

Our award-winning teachers will provide you with the skills you need to achieve, in small classes where you are treated as an individual. This is incredibly important, enabling you to obtain the attention and help you deserve. We have expert EPQ tutors, outstanding UCAS support and everything you need to ensure you have an amazing future.



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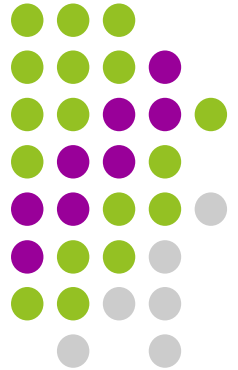


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All we ask is that you secure a minimum of a grade four in English and Maths, and three other grades at four in addition. If ever you have any questions about post-16, please feel free to contact us: [rrhodes@siriusacademy.org.uk](mailto:rrhodes@siriusacademy.org.uk). If you have any queries about the subjects we have on offer, or require some more information, please find us at: <https://www.sirius-academy.org.uk/students/college>.



### The College@Sirius Offer

- Free trips and visits**
- Small class sizes**
- Free laptop/device to support your study**
- Awarding winning, outstanding teaching**
- Community atmosphere**



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## WHAT IF YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU WANT TO DO!?!

Don't worry – a lot of students don't know what they want to do yet! Your Careers Adviser is there to guide and advise you and help you make informed choices.

We use the following website to help you undertake career, personality, and learning style assessments which help you understand your interests, skills, and strengths and you can research careers and explore hundreds of career, college, and university options

<https://login.xello.co.uk/>

<https://login.xello.world/login>

In the “search” bar at the top put anything that is of interest to you – such as animals or cars or games designer or fashion etc.

It will bring up lots of different careers– click on any of interest and explore your ideas!

<https://www.logonmoveon.co.uk/>

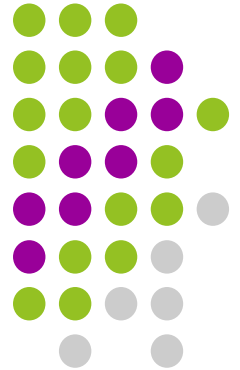
<https://www.unifrog.org/>

<http://icould.com/>

<https://www.startprofile.com/>

<https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk/Pages/Home.aspx>

<https://kudos.cascaid.co.uk/#/>



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