




WHAT ARE MY OPTIONS?

Exploring apprenticeships and technical education



There are various technical education options available to consider after Year 11 and Year 13. The table below sets out the differences between three popular technical education pathways for young people and provides links of where you can find out more information.

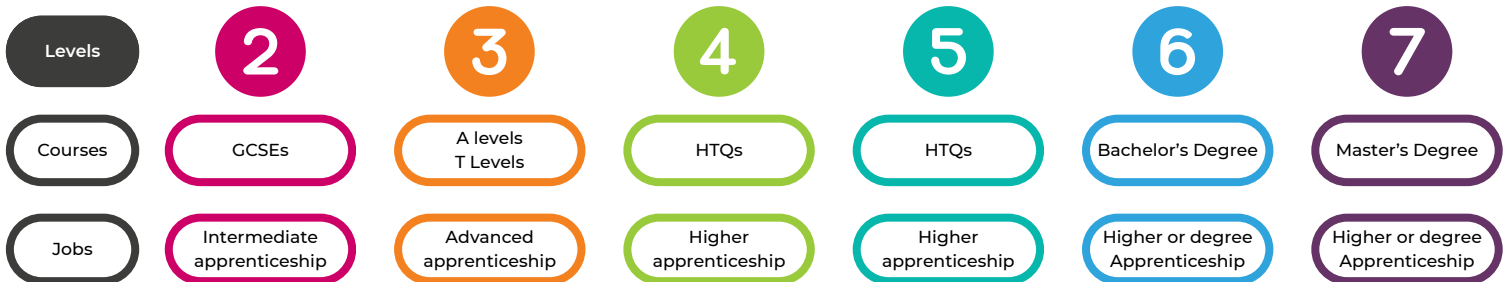
	 Apprenticeships	 T-LEVELS <small>THE NEXT LEVEL QUALIFICATION</small>	
Description	<p>A job</p> <p>Paid employment while gaining qualifications in the chosen field. Mainly based in the workplace with the equivalent of 6 hours per week spent on off-the-job training.</p>	<p>A course</p> <p>A mainly classroom-based technical qualification (80% of the time) with industry placement experience included (20% of the time).</p>	<p>A course</p> <p>HTQs are classroom-based, job-focused qualifications such as HNCs, HNDs and Foundation Degrees, that have been approved against employer developed standards for specific job roles.</p>
Full-time or part-time	Typically full-time, although by exception an apprenticeship can be for a minimum of 16 hours per week.	Typically full-time during term-time.	Can be full-time or part-time.
Age range	16+ (no upper age limit).	16-19 years.	18+ (no upper age limit).



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	 Apprenticeships	T-LEVELS THE NEXT LEVEL QUALIFICATION	
Duration	12 months + depending on the level, the experience of the apprentice and the delivery model.	2 years (there is also an optional 1-year foundation year).	1-2 years.
When can you start?	Throughout the year.	Usually a September intake.	Usually a September intake, but some providers offer January starts.
Levels	From level 2 through to level 7.	Equivalent to a level 3 qualification or 3 A levels.	Levels 4 and 5.



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	 Apprenticeships	T-LEVELS <small>THE NEXT LEVEL QUALIFICATION</small>	
English, Maths and Digital skills	Apprentices will work towards the attainment of maths and English if they have not already achieved grade 4 at GCSE. There are exceptions for learners holding an EHCP or requiring additional support, however.	Students will be required to work towards the attainment of maths and English if they have not already achieved grade 4 at GCSE. However, it is no longer required that they achieve either a grade 4 in English and maths GCSE or level 2 in functional skills to pass their programme.	Each educational provider sets their own entry requirements. The grades or qualifications needed will depend on the type of course being applied for, but you would typically need a level 3 qualification (e.g. A levels, L3 BTEC or equivalent).
Additional skills gained	Industry knowledge, skills and behaviours, plus sector recognised certification.	Industry recognised certification and workplace experience.	Industry and technical knowledge, as well as skills employers have said they need are integral to HTQ courses.
Work experience element included	No as it is a paid job.	Minimum of 315 hours industry placement unpaid.	No.



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How are they assessed?	<p>The apprentice will be observed, hold discussions and complete written work for the training provider who will grade the work. At the end of the apprenticeship, the apprentice will be required to complete an End Point Assessment.</p>	<p>T Level students will be assessed through exams and an employer set project related to the subject they are studying. The project will be set by the awarding organisation. Students will then gain a nationally recognised certificate which will show their overall grade and a breakdown of what they achieved.</p>	<p>HTQs are normally assessed through assignments, projects and practical tasks throughout the course, but exact details on assessment will vary depending on the course.</p>
How are they graded?	<p>Pass, Merit, Distinction</p> <p>Some apprenticeships will also include eligibility for professional recognition by an authorised body.</p>	<p>Pass, Merit, Distinction, Distinction*</p> <p>If not all of the elements are met, they will receive a statement of achievement.</p>	<p>Pass, Merit, Distinction</p>



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	 Apprenticeships	 T-LEVELS THE NEXT LEVEL QUALIFICATION	
Salary	Employer sets the salary. Paid at least the National Minimum Wage for apprentices .	Unpaid.	Unpaid (if the individual is not employed).
Additional information	Apprentice will receive the company's rewards and annual leave.	The provider may provide discretionary financial support.	Look out for the HTQ Quality Mark, meaning that a course delivers the skills employers need.
Are they included on the UCAS tariff?	It will depend on the qualifications included within the apprenticeship standard.	Yes.	HTQs are Higher Education courses so are not included on the UCAS tariff.
Next steps / progression pathway	Higher or degree apprenticeships, professional qualifications or employment.	Apprenticeships, further education or employment.	Apprenticeships, further education or employment.
How to find out more	https://amazingapprenticeships.com/apprenticeships/	https://amazingapprenticeships.com/t-levels/	https://amazingapprenticeships.com/htqs/

