

Dear Parents,

On Monday 13th March we are running a Futures Evening from 6-7pm. This is an event for both parents and students in KS4 and 5 which will help them explore the different options that are available to them, both post-16 and post-18. We will have representatives from the Careers Hub, Inspira and Kendal and Carlisle College. The evening will begin with a brief presentation about the different options available, before you will be able to meet with the individual representatives of these organisations to discuss options further. Even if your child is certain regarding their future plans, it would be well worth attending to ensure that both you and they have a full sense of the options available.

**Pathway options**

There are three types of routes students can consider:

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During the evening we will discuss all three of these options to ensure that you have the correct information to enable you and your child to make informed choices about the option that is best for them.

Below is some information and links that you may wish to look at before the evening regarding the different options.

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**Apprenticeships**

Key information:

Apprenticeships are real jobs that allow young people to earn a wage whilst they learn. They can take 1 to 5 years to complete depending on the level and go all the way to degree level. Students can apply for an apprenticeship whilst still in school but must be 16 or over to start one.

To find out more, visit the [National Careers Service](https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/explore-your-education-and-training-choices/apprenticeship) website apprenticeship pages.

**T Levels**

Key information:

A T Level is a nationally recognised qualification for 16-19 year olds that lasts for two years and is the equivalent of 3 A Levels. Leading businesses and employers have helped design T Levels to give young people the knowledge and skills they need for work or further study.

To find out more, visit the [National Careers Service](https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/explore-your-education-and-training-choices/t-levels) website T Levels pages.

**Vocational Technical Qualifications (VTQs)**

Key information:

VTQs are practical qualifications for over 16s designed to help students get the skills they need to start their career or go on to higher levels of education. There are a few different types and levels of VTQs including [BTECs](https://www.ucas.com/further-education/post-16-qualifications/qualifications-you-can-take/btec-diplomas) from Levels 1 - 7, [Cambridge Nationals: Levels 1 and 2](https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/cambridge-nationals/), [Cambridge Technicals: Levels 2 and 3](https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/cambridge-technicals/) and [T Levels](https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/explore-your-education-and-training-choices/t-levels) at Level 3.

To find out more, visit the [National Careers Service](https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/explore-your-education-and-training-choices/vocational-technical-qualifications-vtqs) website VTQ pages.

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**Higher Technical Qualifications (HTQs)**

Key Information:

HTQs are technical qualifications for young people 18 or over, that are approved by employers. They are usually classroom based and there are many different types, including [Higher national diplomas](https://digital.ucas.com/coursedisplay/results/providers?studyYear=2022&destination=Undergraduate&qualifications=HND%20or%20DipHE&postcodeDistanceSystem=imperial&pageNumber=1&sort=ProviderAtoZ&clearingPreference=None), [Higher national certificates](https://digital.ucas.com/coursedisplay/results/providers?studyYear=2022&destination=Undergraduate&qualifications=HNC%20or%20CertHE&postcodeDistanceSystem=imperial&pageNumber=1&sort=ProviderAtoZ&clearingPreference=None), [Foundation Degrees](https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/what-and-where-study/choosing-course/foundation-degrees) and [Higher education diplomas.](https://digital.ucas.com/coursedisplay/results/providers?studyYear=2022&destination=Undergraduate&qualifications=HND%20or%20DipHE&postcodeDistanceSystem=imperial&pageNumber=1&sort=ProviderAtoZ&clearingPreference=None)

To find out more, visit the [National Careers Service](https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/explore-your-education-and-training-choices/higher-technical) website HTQ pages.

**A Levels**

Key information:

A Levels are subject based qualifications usually studies over two years assessed by exams. They can lead to further study, training or work.

To find out more, visit the [National Careers Service](https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/explore-your-education-and-training-choices/a-levels) website A Level pages.

**Higher Education (HE)**

Key information:

HE is the name for qualifications and courses young people can take after 18. There are many different types including Diplomas, Bachelor degrees, Foundation degrees and foundation years, [HTQs](https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/explore-your-education-and-training-choices/higher-technical) and [Degree Level Apprenticeships](https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/explore-your-education-and-training-choices/apprenticeship).

To find out about more, visit the [National Careers Service](https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/explore-your-education-and-training-choices/higher-education) website HE pages.

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Young people can only enter the world of work that does not involve further education or training full time, after the age of 18.

**Supported Internships with an education health care plan (EHCP)**

Key information:

This is an unpaid work-based study programme that usually last for one year. It includes an extended work placement that lasts for at least 6 months. They help young people on EHCPs to take their first step from education into the workplace.

To find out more, visit the [National Careers Service](https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/explore-your-education-and-training-choices/supported-internship) website supported internship pages.

**School leaver schemes**

Some companies offer school leaver schemes to young people who have completed A Levels. The schemes allow them to learn and train with a large company whilst earning a wage.

To find out more, visit the [National Careers Service](https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/explore-your-education-and-training-choices/school-leavers-schemes) website school leaver schemes pages.

We look forward to seeing you at the event to have further discussions and provide you with more information about the options listed above.

If you would like to attend, please can you fill out the form here to give us an understanding of the numbers likely to attend.

Best wishes,

Careers Lead name