

## School Leavers Options Guide for Summer 2020 - West

### Employability and Skills Team

#### A guide to support a young person's next steps.

The recent Corona Virus outbreak may have left many young people unsure about their next steps, where to go for advice and maybe even unsure about their future career choices. With this in mind, we have produced this guide to support young people

Many of you will have achieved the grades needed, will be staying in your school sixth form, have secured a place at college, or have a start date agreed for an apprenticeship. If this is not the case, please read on:

### Planning

When considering your next steps, it can seem confusing as there are so many options to choose from. Whether you are looking at further education, apprenticeships, work or training, we recommend that you do some research. There are several websites listed in this resource which can help you to research courses and careers. In addition, it is good to identify existing skills as well as your hobbies and interests to help you to make a good match. You could also speak with school or college staff, careers advisers and family networks to help you to make a strong choice. Remember to keep your options open and to have a backup plan

### Extension to Child Benefit

If you are a school or college leaver, under 18, unemployed and do not have a course or training programme to start in September 2020, your parent/carer may be entitled to claim Extension to Child Benefit. There is a time limit in which you can register your claim. For more information contact the Employability and Skills Team on 0800 707 6384. They will put you in touch with an Adviser in your local area.

### College and Further Education options

If you have not already applied, then we suggest that you make late applications as quickly as you can. There are broadly two different types of college course:

#### Academic courses (e.g. A levels/ International Baccalaureate)

- Usually involves studying multiple subjects. This may provide more progression options at the end of the course.
- Assessment is usually weighted towards exams with less emphasis on continuous assessment.
- Entry Criteria: Typically, applicants will be expected to achieve at least five GCSEs at grades 9 to 4. The specific requirements vary across schools and colleges.
- Some schools and Sixth Form Colleges may offer GCSE resit options for young people that have narrowly missed out on GCSE grades.

#### Vocational courses (e.g. BTECs/ T Levels/ NVQ/ CACHE)

- Vocational courses are typically designed around a specific industry/ occupation.
- Courses can start at Level 1 and go up to Level 3 and higher.
- Vocational courses are an opportunity to specialise early in a subject that interests you.
- It usually means studying one main subject \*
- If you have not achieved Grade 4 in GCSE Maths or English, you will be required to complete these qualifications alongside your main course.

\* Some providers allow you to blend academic and vocational options

## Sixth Form/College options for summer 2020

For more information on the courses available, application procedures, open events and entry requirements, please contact the establishment directly.

### **New City College Epping**

Telephone: 020 8508 8311

Website: <https://www.ncclondon.ac.uk/epping-forest>

### **Harlow College**

Telephone: 01279 868000

Website: [www.harlow-college.ac.uk](http://www.harlow-college.ac.uk)

### **Stansted Airport Academy**

Telephone: 01279 701430

Website: <http://www.stanstedairportcollege.ac.uk/>

### **BMAT STEM Academy Harlow**

Telephone: 07866 018602

Website: <https://www.bmatstemacademy.org/>

### **Davenant Foundation Loughton**

Telephone: 020 8508 0404

Website: [www.davenantschool.co.uk](http://www.davenantschool.co.uk)

### **The Helena Romanes School & Sixth Form Great Dunmow**

Telephone: 01371 872 560

Website: [www.helena-roman.essex.sch.uk](http://www.helena-roman.essex.sch.uk)

### **Joyce Frankland Academy Newport (Near Saffron Walden)**

Telephone: 01799 540237

Website: [www.jfan.org.uk](http://www.jfan.org.uk)

### **Saffron Walden County High School & Sixth Form**

Telephone: 01799 513030

Website: [www.swchs.net](http://www.swchs.net)

### **St Marks Sixth Form Harlow**

Telephone: 01279 421267

Website: [www.st-marks.essex.sch.uk](http://www.st-marks.essex.sch.uk)

### **West Hatch High School Chigwell**

Telephone: 020 8504 8216

Website: [www.westhatch.essex.sch.uk](http://www.westhatch.essex.sch.uk)

## Other Colleges close to West Essex

### **Barking and Dagenham College Barking and Rush Green**

Telephone: 020 3667 0503

Website: [www.barkingdagenhamcollege.ac.uk](http://www.barkingdagenhamcollege.ac.uk)

### **Cambridge Regional College**

Telephone: 01223 418200

Website: [www.camre.ac.uk](http://www.camre.ac.uk)

### **Capel Manor College Enfield**

Telephone: 0303 003 1234

Website: [www.capel.ac.uk](http://www.capel.ac.uk)

### **Chelmsford College**

Telephone: 01245 265611

Website: [www.chelmsford.ac.uk](http://www.chelmsford.ac.uk)

### **Colchester Institute Braintree Campus**

Telephone: 01206 712777

Website: <https://www.colchester.ac.uk/about-us/campuses/braintree/>

### **Hertfordshire Regional College Broxbourne and Ware**

Telephone: 01992 411400

Website: [www.hrc.ac.uk](http://www.hrc.ac.uk)

**Writtle University College  
Writtle (Near Chelmsford)**  
Telephone: 01245 424200  
Website: [www.writtle.ac.uk](http://www.writtle.ac.uk)

**Anglo European School  
Ingatestone**  
Telephone: 01277 354018  
Website: [www.aesessex.co.uk](http://www.aesessex.co.uk)

**The Bishops Stortford High School  
Bishops Stortford**  
Telephone: 01279 868686  
Website: [www.tbshs.org](http://www.tbshs.org)

**Birchwood School  
Bishops Stortford**  
Telephone: 01279 655936  
Website: [www.birchwoodonline.co.uk](http://www.birchwoodonline.co.uk)

**The Hertfordshire & Essex High School &  
College  
Bishops Stortford**  
Telephone: 01279 654127  
Website: [www.hertsandessex.herts.sch.uk](http://www.hertsandessex.herts.sch.uk)

**Hills Road Sixth Form College  
Cambridge**  
Telephone: 01223 247251  
Website: [www.hillsroad.ac.uk](http://www.hillsroad.ac.uk)

**Hockerill Anglo-European College  
Bishops Stortford**  
Telephone: 01279 658451  
Website: [www.hockerill.herts.sch.uk](http://www.hockerill.herts.sch.uk)

**Leventhorpe Business and Enterprise Academy  
Bishops Stortford**  
Telephone: 01279 836633  
Website: [www.leventhorpe.net](http://www.leventhorpe.net)

**Long Road Sixth Form College  
Cambridge**  
Telephone: 01223 631100  
Website: [www.longroad.ac.uk](http://www.longroad.ac.uk)

**St Mary's Catholic School  
Bishops Stortford**  
Telephone: 01279 654901  
Website: [www.stmarys.net](http://www.stmarys.net)

### Still unsure?

- Where possible, speak with the Careers Adviser at your school or college who will have access to lots of information about subject choice and career paths. Please check website for contact details
- If you are aged 16 – 18, do not have access to a school, or college Careers Adviser and do not have a firm plan for September, then please call the Employability and Skills Team on 0800 707 6384 or email [KeepInContactTeam@essex.gov.uk](mailto:KeepInContactTeam@essex.gov.uk)

### Apprenticeships & Traineeships

- Due to Corona Virus, there are currently far fewer apprenticeships being advertised than usual. It is very important for you to have a back-up plan.
- For up to date information about local vacancies, please visit: [www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship](http://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship)

### What is an Apprenticeship?

An apprenticeship gives you a unique opportunity to gain a qualification and work experience and earn a wage at the same time. Apprenticeships are available from Level 2 (equivalent to GCSE 9-4 all the way up to Degree level in some occupational areas.

### What are Traineeships?

Traineeships (sometimes referred to as Pre-Apprenticeships) are work experience placements with employers (occasionally paid) lasting from six weeks to six months. With a traineeship, you will gain employability skills, functional skills in English and Maths (if needed) and meaningful work experience. It could lead to an apprenticeship with an employer.

#### Training Providers that frequently deliver apprenticeship and/or traineeship opportunities for young people in the local area:

**ACL Essex County Council**-apprenticeships in Business Administration, Customer service and more  
[www.aclessex.com/apprenticeships-in-essex](http://www.aclessex.com/apprenticeships-in-essex)

**Aim Apprenticeships**  
[www.aimapprenticeships.co.uk](http://www.aimapprenticeships.co.uk)

**Key Training Business Administration and Customer Service**  
[www.keytraining.co.uk/young-person-looking-for-an-apprenticeship/](http://www.keytraining.co.uk/young-person-looking-for-an-apprenticeship/)

**Cambridge Regional College**  
<https://www.camre.ac.uk/apprenticeships/apprenticeship-vacancies/>

**Harlow College**  
<https://www.harlow-college.ac.uk/study-options/apprenticeships>

**Colchester Institute**  
[www.colchester.ac.uk/apprenticeships](http://www.colchester.ac.uk/apprenticeships)

**Hit Training Hospitality and Catering**  
<https://hittraining.co.uk/contact-us>

**WhiteHat Business, Accountancy and Tech Apprenticeships in London**  
<https://whitehat.org.uk/>

**TCHC Apprenticeships**  
[www.tchc.net/individual/apprenticeships](http://www.tchc.net/individual/apprenticeships)

**Hertford Regional College**  
<https://www.hrc.ac.uk/apprenticeships/apprenticeship-vacancies>

**New City College**  
<https://www.ncclondon.ac.uk/apprenticeships>

**Barking and Dagenham College**  
<https://www.barkingdagenhamcollege.ac.uk/find/courses-for-me/apprenticeship-vacancies>

**Ixion Holdings**  
<https://www.ixionholdings.com/>

8-week traineeship programmes in Customer Service, Business Administration, Retail & Hospitality. There is a work experience element which is yet to be finalised due to current COVID19 restrictions.

### Foundation Learning Programmes

Foundation Learning Providers offer English and Maths qualifications often alongside vocational elements to help improve your skills and get you ready to undertake an apprenticeship opportunity. This option often counts as approved training.

\* Some Foundation Learning courses may be restricted due to funding. Check with the provider when making your enquiries.

**CTP Training Harlow**  
<https://www.learn-construction.co.uk/>

Construction/ Hair and Beauty/ Motor Vehicle + Functional Skills in English and Maths. Programme

runs over the academic year. Contact: John 01279 424121, Email: [info@learn-construction.co.uk](mailto:info@learn-construction.co.uk)

### **Plan B Programme** (Via Essex Youth Service)

<https://youth.essex.gov.uk/young-people/plan-b/>

Starts September: This is a 10-week programme includes Maths and English Functional Skills and Level 1 Health and Safety and Level 2 Customer Services.

### **TCHC – Positive Directions Programme and GAPS Programme**

Both these options are being taught online by tutors. Positive Directions is a short course aimed at re-engaging young people that have been out of education or unemployed for a while. GAPS is longer term. Both courses include functional skills in English and Maths with an opportunity to link into various areas. Contact: [Positivedirections@tchc.net](mailto:Positivedirections@tchc.net)

### **WS Training - Next Steps Programme**

[www.wstraining.co.uk](http://www.wstraining.co.uk)

Usually delivered in Colchester, however due to COVID 19, online learning can currently be accessed for young people across the county. Training includes functional skills qualifications in English and Maths plus the opportunity to work towards an accredited vocational qualification. Contact: [CBarnett@wstraining.co.uk](mailto:CBarnett@wstraining.co.uk)

## Useful Websites

Below is a list of useful websites ranging from Careers Advice, skills assessments, getting a job and volunteering. These are just a few of the many websites offering support.

### **Help and support opportunities for young people and adults in Essex**

[www.whatsyourthing.org.uk](http://www.whatsyourthing.org.uk)

### **National Careers Service- job profile**

<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/explore-careers>

### **National Careers Service- Skills Assessment**

<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/skills-assessment>

### **Careers support**

<https://icould.com>

### **Youth Employment-help and advice getting a job**

<https://www.youthemployment.org.uk/employment-help-young-people/choices/getting-a-job/>

### **Help, support and opportunities for young people finding their first job**

[www.getmyfirstjob.co.uk](http://www.getmyfirstjob.co.uk)

### **Job search website for the Job Centre Plus**

<https://www.gov.uk/find-a-job>

### **Major aggregated job search engine**

[www.indeed.co.uk](http://www.indeed.co.uk)

**Jobs, training and college options for those that may not go to university**

[www.notgoingtouni.co.uk](http://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk)

**Higher Education courses**

[www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com)

**Essex Youth Service- Information for young people and details of online activities**

<https://youth.essex.gov.uk/>

**Connects 14- 25-year olds with volunteering opportunities in England**

<https://vinspired.com/>

**Raising of the Participation Age**

<https://www.essex.gov.uk/education-and-training-for-young-people>

**BT to help disadvantaged children with home schooling, offering six months free internet access**

<https://get-help-with-tech.education.gov.uk/about-bt-wifi>

This factsheet was produced by the Essex County Council Employability & Skills Team. All Information was correct as of July 2020