

School Leavers Options Guide for Summer 2021 – Mid Essex

Employability and Skills Team

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

The ongoing Corona Virus epidemic 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. The way that these opportunities are delivered may be subject to change.

Many of you will expect to achieve the grades needed and will be staying in your school sixth form, have secured a place at college, or have a start date agreed for an apprenticeship. If you do not have any firm plans in place then 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 research thoroughly. There are several websites listed in this resource which can help you to explore courses and careers. In addition, it is important 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 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 2021, 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** to be put 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 applications quickly. 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 increased 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 usually range from 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 often means studying one main subject (some schools and colleges allow you to blend academic and vocational options).
- If you have not achieved Grade 4 in GCSE Maths or English, you will be required to complete these qualifications alongside your main course.

Sixth Form & College options for summer 2021

For more information about course availability, application procedures, open events and entry requirements, please contact the establishment directly.

Chelmsford College

Telephone: 01245 265611

Website: www.chelmsford.ac.uk

The College at Braintree

Telephone: 01206 814000

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

Writtle College

Near Chelmsford

Telephone: 01245 424200

Website: www.writtle.ac.uk

The Boswells School

Chelmsford

Telephone: 01245 264451

Website: www.boswells-school.com

The Braintree Sixth Form College

Telephone: 01376 556300

Website: www.braintreesixthform.com

Braintree Town Football Academy

Website: <https://www2.communityiron.co.uk/braintree-town-football-academy/>

Chelmer Valley High School

Chelmsford

Telephone: 01245 440232

Website: www.chelmervalleyhighschool.co.uk

Chelmsford County High School for Girls

Telephone: 01245 352592

Website: www.cchs.co.uk

Great Baddow High School

Telephone: 01245 265821

Website: www.gbhs.co.uk

Hedingham School

Sible Hedingham

Telephone: 01787 460470

Website: www.hedingham.essex.sch.uk

Hylands School

Chelmsford

Telephone: 01245 266766

Website: www.hylands-tkat.org

King Edward VI Grammar School

Chelmsford

Telephone: 01245 353510

Website: www.kegs.org.uk

Maltings Academy

Witham

Telephone: 01376 512911

Website: www.maltingsacademy.org

Moulsham High School

Chelmsford

Telephone: 01245 260101

Website: www.moulshamhigh.org

New Rickstones Academy

Witham

Telephone: 01376 515756

Website: www.newrickstonesacademy.org

Ormiston Rivers Academy

Burnham on Crouch

Telephone: 01621 782377

Website: www.ormistonriversacademy.co.uk

Tabor Academy

Braintree

Telephone: 01376 323701

Website: www.taboracademy.co.uk

**Sandon School
Chelmsford**

Telephone: 01245 473611

Website: www.sandon.essex.sch.uk

**St John Payne
Chelmsford**

Telephone: 01245 256030

Website: www.sjp.essex.sch.uk

The Plume Maldon

Telephone: 01621 854681

Website: www.plume.essex.sch.uk

**William De Ferres School
South Woodham Ferrers**

Telephone: 01245 326326

Website: <https://www.wdf.school/>

Other Colleges close to Mid Essex

Suffolk Rural College (was Otley College)

Telephone: 01473 382211

Website: www.suffolk.ac.uk/course-categories/suffolk-rural

**South Essex College
Southend, Basildon**

Telephone: 0345 52 12345

Website: www.southessex.ac.uk

**Thrustable College
Tiptree**

Telephone: 01621 816526

Website: www.thrustable.essex.sch.uk

Still unsure?

- Where possible, speak with the Careers Adviser at your school or college who will have access to information about subject choices and career paths. Please check websites for contact details.
- **From Monday 28th June:** 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 7076384** or email KeepInContactTeam@essex.gov.uk

Apprenticeships & Traineeships

Due to the Corona Epidemic, there may be fewer apprenticeships advertised. It is very important for you to have a backup plan. For up to date information about local vacancies, please visit: www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship

What is an Apprenticeship?

An apprenticeship gives you the opportunity to gain work experience, a qualification 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

Key Training

Business Administration and Customer Service
<https://www.keytraining.co.uk/young-person-looking-for-an-apprenticeship/>

Career Track

Career Track - Apprenticeships | Tendring District Council

www.tendringdc.gov.uk/jobs/career-track-apprenticeships

Easi Hairdressing Academy

www.easihair.co.uk/

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Halls of Ivy

Hairdressing and Beauty Apprenticeships
www.hallsofivy.co.uk

Hit Training

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

TCHC Apprenticeships

<https://www.tchc.net/individual/apprenticeships>

NOVA Apprenticeships

<http://www.novatrainng.co.uk/apprenticeships>

Ixion Holdings

Offers Apprenticeships and Traineeships in:
Business, Construction, Customer Service, Digital
Media and Marketing,
<https://www.ixionholdings.com/>

QA

Apprenticeships in IT Systems and Networking/
Software and Website Development, Digital Skills,
Business Admin
<https://www.qa.com/learners/become-an-apprentice>

Multiverse

Business, Accountancy and Tech Apprenticeships
in London
<https://platform.multiverse.io/apprenticeships>

Colleges that offer Apprenticeships

Chelmsford College

<https://www.chelmsford.ac.uk/courses/apprenticeship-vacancies.asp>

Harlow College

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

Colchester Institute

www.colchester.ac.uk/apprenticeships

Cambridge Regional College

<https://www.camre.ac.uk/apprenticeships/apprenticeship-job-vacancies/>

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 is usually accepted as approved training.

*Some Foundation Learning courses may have restrictions due to funding. Check with the provider when making your enquiries.

Plan B Programme (Via Essex Youth Service)

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

Starts Autumn 2021: 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 currently being taught online with assessments at the training centre. Positive Directions is a short course aimed at re-engaging young people that are out of education or unemployed. GAPS is longer term. Both courses include functional skills in English and Maths with an opportunity to link into various areas. Contact: deb.paine@tchc.net

WS Training - Next Steps Programme

www.wstraining.co.uk

Programme based in Colchester at the learning centre in Hawkins Road. This may be subject to change depending on COVID 19 restrictions at the time of applying. Training is aimed at young people aged 16-18 who are not in education, employment or training. This includes, functional skills qualifications in English and Maths plus, the opportunity to work towards an accredited vocational qualification or an apprenticeship opportunity. For more information contact: Chloe Barnett CBarnett@wstraining.co.uk

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ALM Training

www.almtrainingservices.co.uk

Small groups of students attend 3 days a week in a learning centre based in Colchester. Young people aged 16-18 who are not in employment, education or training can access qualifications in Forklift Truck Operations and gain a Forklift Truck Licence as well as undertaking a Level 1 qualification in Warehousing and Storage. Covid learning restrictions may be in place so it is best to check when calling to see how the programme will be delivered.

For more information Call **01375 489738** and ask to speak with Sue Turnbull or Darren Coleman.

Alternatively, email Sue Turnbull
sue.turnbull@almtrainingservices.co.uk

Nova Training - Colchester

All operations are being delivered remotely during the COVID 19 outbreak with a view to offer a blended learning programme once it is appropriate to do so. As well as focussing on improving English and Maths up to level 1, 2 or GCSE if needed, this programme offers 16-18-year olds the opportunity to gain work experience.

Email: Joanna.runnalls@novatraining.co.uk or Telephone **01206 562 657**

Youthbuild

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

Construction based courses up to Level 1 in Chelmsford. They also offer a CSCS course and test which is required to work on construction sites.

Please contact - admin@essexyouthbuild.co.uk

Halls of Ivy

www.hallsofivy.co.uk

The NEET Programme is currently delivered remotely via Zoom. However, learners need to commit to face to face practical assessments at the Romford Centre once it is safe to attend. Email: info@hallsofivy.co.uk or Telephone: **01708 766395** Text: **07498067977**

Central Training

16-week course delivered online Customer Service/Business Admin L1, Employability, Functional Skills English & Maths, Work Experience and support into an apprenticeship or employment. If you are job ready the course can be shortened to 6 weeks.

info@centraltraininggroup.com

Skills for Growth (Stratford) - Traineeship Pre-Employment course.

<https://londonskillsforgrowth.co.uk/>

Currently running remotely, it ordinarily operates from a training centre. Content includes functional skills and a work placement. It can last between six weeks and six months.

Steps to Success (Key Training)

A remote learning opportunity typically lasting 12-26 weeks. It focuses on improving functional skills with basic qualifications in business admin/customer services or recruitment resourcing.

Contact: Olivia.Park@keytraining.co.uk

<https://www.keytraining.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/KeyTraining-Steps-To-Success.pdf>

Useful Websites

Below is a list of useful websites ranging from careers advice, skills assessments, finding work to volunteering.

Virtual One Stop Shop providing young people and adults with information and advice on careers, skills, training, and employment opportunities.

www.essexopportunities.co.uk

Help and support opportunities for young people and adults in Essex

www.whatsyourthing.org.uk

National Careers Service- job profile

<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/explorecareers>

National Careers Service- Skills Assessment

<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/skillsassessment>

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

Job search website for the Job Centre Plus

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

Job search engine

www.indeed.co.uk

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

www.notgoingtouni.co.uk

Higher Education courses

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/>

Search for volunteering opportunities across Essex

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

Raising of the Participation Age

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

Mental Health Support

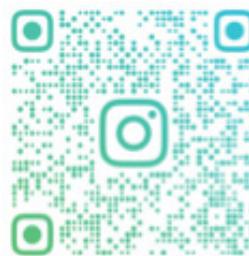
The Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Service (EWMHS) provides advice and support to children, young people and families who are in need of support with their emotional wellbeing or mental health difficulties.

www.nelft.nhs.uk/services-ewmhs

Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm: call **0300 300 1600**

Email: nelft-ewmhs.referrals@nhs.net

Urgent or out of hours: call **0300 555 1200**



This factsheet was produced by the Essex County Council Employability & Skills Team.
All Information was correct as of 1st May 2021

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