

# YOUTH SERVICE

## School Leavers Options Guide Summer 2022 – North Essex

### Employability and Skills Team

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

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 2022, 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.

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## **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 2022**

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

### **Colchester Institute Colchester and Braintree**

Telephone: 01206 712000

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

### **Colchester Royal Grammar School**

Telephone: 01206 509100

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

### **Colne Community College**

Telephone: 01206 303511

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

### **The Colchester Sixth Form College**

Telephone: 01206 500743 / 505595

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

### **Philip Morant Sixth Form College**

Telephone: 01206 545 222

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

### **Colchester County High School for Girls**

Telephone: 01206 576 973

Website: [www.cchsg.com](http://www.cchsg.com)

### **Clacton County High School Clacton**

Telephone: 01255 424 266

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

### **Tendring Technology College Frinton on Sea**

Telephone: 01255 672116

Website: [www.tendringtechnologycollege.org](http://www.tendringtechnologycollege.org)

### **Clacton Coastal Academy**

Telephone: 01255 428131

Website: <https://sites.google.com/a/etinet.org/clacton-coastal-academy/home>

### **The Harwich and Dovercourt Sixth Form College**

Telephone: 01255 245460

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

### **Thurstable College Tiptree**

Telephone: 01621 816526

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

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## Other Colleges accessible to North Essex

### **Suffolk Rural College (which was Otley College) Ipswich**

Telephone: 01473382211

Buses are subsidised for Students coming from the Essex area.

Website: [www.suffolk.ac.uk/course-categories/suffolk-rural](http://www.suffolk.ac.uk/course-categories/suffolk-rural)

### **Suffolk New college, Ipswich**

Telephone: 01473 382200

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

### **Chelmsford College**

Telephone: 01245 265611

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

### **Suffolk One, Ipswich**

Telephone: 01473 556600

Website: [www.suffolkone.org](http://www.suffolkone.org)

### **Writtle College Chelmsford**

Telephone: 01245 424200

Website: [www.writtle.ac.uk](http://www.writtle.ac.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 27th 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](mailto:KeepInContactTeam@essex.gov.uk)**

## Apprenticeships & Traineeships

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 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 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)

#### **Key Training**

Business Administration and Customer Service  
[www.keytraining.co.uk](http://www.keytraining.co.uk)

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## **Career Track**

[www.tendringdc.gov.uk/jobs/career-track-apprenticeships](http://www.tendringdc.gov.uk/jobs/career-track-apprenticeships)

## **Colchester Institute**

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

## **Easi Hairdressing Academy**

[www.easihair.co.uk/](http://www.easihair.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.novatraining.co.uk/apprenticeships>

## **QA**

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

## **Ixion Holdings**

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

## **Steps to Success (Key Training)**

A traineeship opportunity typically lasting 12-26 weeks. It focuses on improving functional skills with a work placement with optional qualifications in business admin/customer services or recruitment resourcing.

Contact: [Olivia.Park@keytraining.co.uk](mailto:Olivia.Park@keytraining.co.uk)

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

## 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/>

Starting Autumn 2022: 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**

[www.tchc.net](http://www.tchc.net)

Positive Directions is a short course aimed at re-engaging young people aged 16-18 that have been out of education or unemployed for a while. GAPS is a longer term option. Both programmes include functional skills in English and Maths with an opportunity to link into various occupational areas or an apprenticeship.

<https://www.tchc.net/individual/youth-support/gaps>

For more information contact: Yuen-man Yau  
[yuen-man.yau@tchc.net](mailto:yuen-man.yau@tchc.net)

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## **Build Skill – Centre, Colchester.**

Build Skill is a new Bricklaying Academy and Construction Training Centre in Colchester, learners aim to complete a City & Guilds Certificate in Construction Level 1-Bricklaying.

This course includes both practical and knowledge-based sessions allowing our learners to begin their career within the construction industry.

We welcome young people aged 16-18 to help them gain experience, knowledge and qualifications alongside a work experience placement for a hands-on real life experience. To enable our learners to progress in the sector we support the achievement of their CSCS card.

Build Skill also provide both group and individualised remote learning support in Maths and English, this is determined by the needs and previous attainment of the young person.

In addition, employability skills sessions will support job readiness and provide the tools for successful job searches as we have a number of companies linked to our programme looking to support the new generation of construction workers.

Build Skill is part of the Fisher Services Group with our mission statement “ Building for Today, Training for Tomorrow” we are committed to grow our own talent and provide a succession plan to the wider construction industry.

Therefore we have opportunities and encourage those who complete our 18-week course to apply for employment within the group and our wider client base.

For more information on next programme start date, please contact: Lyanne Patterson 07903 949514 or email [info@buildskillplus.co.uk](mailto:info@buildskillplus.co.uk)

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

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

Programme based in Colchester at the learning centre in Hawkins Road. Training is aimed at young people aged 16-18 who are not in education, employment or training. It 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: Nikki Elmes [nelmes@wstraining.co.uk](mailto:nelmes@wstraining.co.uk)

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## **Nova Training - (Centre in Colchester & Clacton)**

Focusses 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, apprenticeship opportunities and support into employment.

For Colchester Centre email:  
[Joanna.runnalls@novatraining.co.uk](mailto:Joanna.runnalls@novatraining.co.uk)  
Or Telephone **01206 562 657**

For Clacton Centre email: Ruth Speake  
[ruth.speake@novatraining.co.uk](mailto:ruth.speake@novatraining.co.uk)  
Or telephone: **01255 427 785**

## **ALM Training**

[www.almtrainingservices.co.uk](http://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 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 Shannon Coleman or Darren Coleman.

Alternatively, email Shannon Coleman  
[Shannon.Coleman@almtrainingservices.co.uk](mailto:Shannon.Coleman@almtrainingservices.co.uk)

## 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](http://www.essexopportunities.co.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>

**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)

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## 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/>

## Search for volunteering opportunities across Essex

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

## Raising of the Participation Age

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

## Mental Health Support

### The Southend, Essex and Thurrock Children's and Adolescent Mental Health Services (SET CAMHS)

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](http://www.nelft.nhs.uk/services-ewmhs)

Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm:

call **0800 953 0222**

Email: [set-camhs.referrals@nelft.nhs.uk](mailto:set-camhs.referrals@nelft.nhs.uk)

Urgent or out of hours:

call **0800 995 1000**

This factsheet was produced by the Essex County Council Employability & Skills Team. All Information was correct as of April 2022.