

YOUTH SERVICE

School Leavers Options Guide Summer 2022 – Mid 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.

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

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

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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

Thurstable College, Tiptree

Telephone: 01621 816526

Website: www.thurstable.co.uk/sixth-form

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**

Apprenticeships & Traineeships

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 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.

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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
www.keytraining.co.uk

Career Track

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

Easi Hairdressing Academy

www.easihair.co.uk/

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/>

Just IT Training

Apprenticeships in IT Support, Digital Marketing, Software Development and more
www.justit.co.uk/candidates/become-an-apprentice/

QA

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

Colleges that offer Apprenticeships

Chelmsford College

www.chelmsford.ac.uk/courses/apprenticeships.asp

Harlow College

www.harlow-college.ac.uk/study-options/apprenticeships

Colchester Institute

www.colchester.ac.uk/apprenticeships

Cambridge Regional College

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.

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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

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

WS Training - Next Steps Programme

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

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 undertaking a Level 1 qualification in Warehousing and Storage.

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

Nova Training - Colchester

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, apprenticeship opportunities and support into employment.

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

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Halls of Ivy

www.hallsofivy.co.uk

An independent training provider specialising in the hair, beauty and barbering industry. We offer apprenticeships and traineeships in hairdressing, beauty therapy and barbering with immediate starts available from our Chelmsford centre. Email: info@hallsofivy.co.uk or Telephone: **01708 766395** Text: **07498067977**

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

<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

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

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.volunteeressex.org/>

Raising of the Participation Age

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

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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

Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm: call

0800 953 0222

Email: 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.