



What's your next move? Post GCSE's options



| Qualification | Description | Length of time | Find out more |
|--|--|------------------|--|
| A-levels (Advanced level qualifications) | A Levels are U.K subject-based qualifications that can lead to university, further study, training, or work. You can normally study three or more A levels over two years. They're usually assessed by a series of examinations. | 2 years | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The UniGuide • Career Pilot • BBC Bitesize |
| T-Levels | Launched September 2020 a T Level is equivalent to 3 A-Level's it focuses on vocational skills and can help students into skilled employment, higher study or apprenticeships. A T-level combines 80% study and 20% work experience | 2 years | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tlevels.gov.uk |
| International Baccalaureate (IB) | An IB is available in many countries and aims to foster internationally minded and well-rounded students. You choose one subject from each of the five groups – You also choose either an arts subject from a sixth group, or another subject from groups one to five. The programme includes an extended essay. An IB is another option if you are thinking about University. | 2 years | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ibo.org • Kings University • UCAS • Crimson |
| Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) | EPQ's are taken alongside A levels, the qualifications are worth the equivalent of an AS level and involve a written research report between 1,000-5,000 words on a topic which doesn't have to be linked to your other courses. Supervision from a teacher is required & many universities look favourably on this extra qualification. | 7-8 months | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Career Pilot • Target Careers • AQA.org.uk |
| Level 3 Apprenticeship | Level 3 apprenticeships combine on the job training with studying for nationally certified qualifications e.g. NVQ, BTEC's. The qualification is generally considered to be equivalent to 2- A-Levels | 2 years | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rate my apprenticeship • Apprenticeships.gov.uk |
| National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) | NVQ's are vocational, work-based awards. You're trained and tested on your competency in the workplace, rather than academic skill. Many Universities do accept NVQs as an alternative to A-levels. | Course dependent | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City and guilds • Find Courses |
| BTEC (British and Technology Education Council) | BTEC's are specialist work-related qualifications. The major difference between A-levels and BTECs is the latter is 100% coursework assessed, and you still have the option to go to University after. There are over 2,000 BTEC qualifications available across 16 sectors. | Course dependent | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pearson's BTEC |