



# my way

into the world of work

## Next steps

Training & Qualifications Guide  
for young people, careers  
professionals, teachers and  
parents/carers.

Region: **West Midlands**  
City: **Birmingham**

**Birmingham**  
CAREERS HUB

THE **CAREERS &  
ENTERPRISE**  
COMPANY

 **BIRMINGHAM**  
Education  
Partnership

 **Greater Birmingham  
& Solihull**  
Local Enterprise Partnership



# Welcome



Welcome to the second edition of our LMI Guide; 'My Way Into the World of Work', brought to you by Birmingham Careers Hub in partnership with Greater Birmingham and Solihull LEP and Birmingham Education Partnership. Building on our first edition this new guide provides information on the routes available to you as you move through

education and training and into employment. It also gives details on the current training providers in our region and the qualifications and training options they offer.

For many young people, thinking about which way to go next can be a confusing time. This guide will provide you with clear information on the different routes you can take to get to where you want to be and which training providers can support you to get there.

As well as supporting young people to understand the full range of training and qualifications available to them, this guide can also be used by careers professionals and teachers in schools to comply with the [Provider Access Legislation](#) which came into force in January 2023 and to deliver impartial careers guidance with their clients.

Working with training providers across the city, and key organisations within the post-16 education, training and skills space we want to raise awareness of the opportunities available to young people and adults and support them to take their best next step. The Providers listed in the guide support thousands of people into Apprenticeships, Further and Higher Education each year.

But having so much choice can be overwhelming - the aim of this guide is to simplify the landscape by providing you with clear information so you can make good decisions on the best route for YOU!

## **Ruth Broome**

Strategic Hub Lead, RCDP  
Birmingham Careers Hub



***For many young people, thinking about which way to go next can be a confusing time. This guide will provide you with clear information on the different routes you can take***





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About

A free publication, My Way into the World of Work is published by Careermap Ltd on behalf of the Birmingham Careers Hub. The target audience is anyone in Birmingham wishing to progress their careers. These publications are designed to show it can be done by providing information about the available funded pathways and a list of free downloadable resources.

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Within this guide we have made recommendations of what we believe to be reliable sources to help you to find further information about careers, however all these organisations have not endorsed this guide.

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# What are your options?

**my way**  
into the world of work

The options shared in this Directory offer information for everybody, whatever you want to do and whatever your starting point.



**Supported Internships**

**T Levels**

**Apprenticeships**

**Inclusive Apprenticeships**

**A Levels**

**Foundation Courses**

**Vocational Courses**

**Adult and Community Learning**

**Skills Bootcamp**

There are a variety of progression pathways you can take to build your career. Different pathways suit different people and what is great is that you can choose the best route to achieve your goals. An example of this is that you can take BTEC's, T Levels and/or A levels to progress to University to get a degree or you can take the apprenticeship route which allows you to work and study at the same time.



# Supported Internships

Supported internships are a structured, work-based study programme for 16 to 24-year-olds with SEND, who have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). The core aim of a Supported Internship study programme is a substantial work placement, facilitated by the support of an expert job coach.

The job coach provides in-work support that tapers off, if appropriate, as the supported intern becomes familiar with their role.



**16-24**  
with an EHCP

**70%**  
in workplace



**Develop  
key skills**



**Progression  
into paid  
employment**



**Progression  
pathways**



**Supportive  
job coach**



**Full time**



**1 year**



**Build confidence**

# T Levels

A new range of qualifications, Technical Levels (T Levels) are a practical, employer-led alternative to A Levels, designed to get students work ready.

## Structure of a T Level

A technical qualification, which provides:

- An opportunity to go directly into skilled employment
- Core theory, concepts and skills for a specific area of industry
- Specialist skills and knowledge for an occupation within a certain sector i.e. construction and the built environment
- An industry placement with an employer



**Get work ready**

**24**

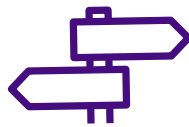
**courses by  
2023**



**Level 2 maths  
and English**

**80%**  
Study

**20%**  
Work



**Alternative to  
A-Levels**

**1 T-Level =  
3 A-Levels**



**Designed by  
employers**



**45 day industry  
placement**



**Progression  
options**

# Apprenticeships

An apprenticeship is a real job, with a real employer, where the apprentice will both work and study, learning new skills and knowledge towards the apprenticeship standard.

## Apprenticeship benefits

Apprenticeships are an exciting paid option for anyone wanting to gain experience, upskill or change career because they offer the chance to earn a wage whilst they work and study.



**Employed**



**Paid a salary**



**Contract**

**80%**  
Work

**20%**  
Study



**Typically  
1-4 years +**

**600+**

**Apprenticeship  
routes**



**Level 2 -  
degree level**



**Industry  
specific**



**Real job = real  
responsibilities**

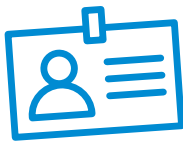


# Inclusive Apprenticeships

The same as an apprenticeship with additional support for the apprentice if they are aged between 16 – 24 and have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

An apprenticeship is a real job, with a real employer, where the apprentice will both work and study, learning new skills and knowledge towards the apprenticeship standard.

For these apprentices, exemptions are in place for the regular apprenticeship English and Maths minimum requirements.



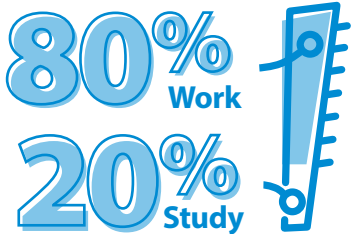
**Employed**



**Paid a salary**

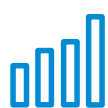


**Contract**



**Added support**

**600+**  
**Apprenticeship routes**



**Level 2 -  
degree level**



**Typically  
1-4 years +**



**Real job = real  
responsibilities**



# A Levels

Short for Advanced Level, A Levels come after GCSEs. They usually focus on academic subjects, compared to vocational qualifications like BTECs and T Levels, which are more practical. There are more than 40 different A Level subjects on offer – some will be subjects that you studied at GCSE and others may be new.



**Recognised internationally**

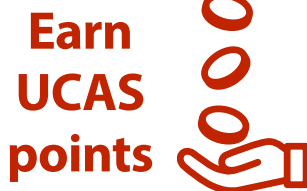


**2 year course of study**

**16+**  
year olds



**Route to higher education**



**Earn UCAS points**

**Level 3 qualification**



**Range of subjects**



**Progression options**



**A range of environments**

# Foundation Courses

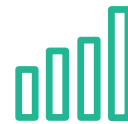
A foundation course will help you build your confidence and improve your knowledge and skills. Study can be undertaken at college or with an independent training provider. You can study a range of subjects, or you may choose to focus on one subject to give you an insight to a specific subject area or course. These courses prepare you for further study or employment.



**Wide range of courses**



**CV writing**



**Progression options**

**16+**

**year olds**



**English & maths**

**Entry Level 3 to Level 1**



**Interview techniques**



**Boost your confidence**

**16-19**

**Full time courses**

# Vocational Courses

A programme of study which has a focus on practical work, for example BTECs. These courses provide you with a particular skillset required for entry into different types of jobs. These courses are offered by a range of settings such as schools, colleges and independent training providers and can lead to further study or entry into employment.



**Focus on practical work**



**Progress to further study**



**Gain transferable skills**



**Learning in real situations**



**Gain an L2 or L3 qualification**



**Progress to skilled employment**



**Develop skills and knowledge**



**Meet the needs of employers**

**Some L3 quals attract UCAS points**





# Adult and Community Learning

Many providers offer learning opportunities for people who are 19 years of age or older. Courses are designed to help you get a job or gain new skills for work. Some courses also offer opportunities to improve your mental health and wellbeing.



**Wide range of courses**

**19+**  
year-olds



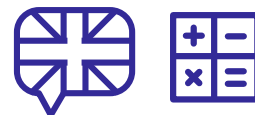
**Gain qualifications**



**CV writing**



**Improve skills**



**English & maths**

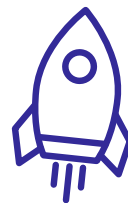


**Job interview preparation**



**Enhanced employability skills**

**Boost your current skillset**



# Skills Bootcamps

Skills Bootcamps are free flexible courses of up to 16 weeks for people looking for a new role or job opportunity.

A Skills Bootcamp could be for you if you are:

- Interested in progressing further in your current sector
- Interested in changing jobs or exploring a new industry
- Currently employed or self-employed
- Recently unemployed



up to  
**16**  
weeks

over  
**100**  
courses

**19+**  
year-olds



**digital skills**



**technical skills**



**green skills**



**HGV driving  
licence**



**Improved Skills**



**Flexible**

To apply or find a Skills Bootcamp [Click here](#)



# Provider Directory

Within this section we have listed the different training providers and the type of provision they offer using the key below:

- Supported Internships
- T-Levels
- Apprenticeships
- Inclusive Apprenticeships
- A-Levels
- Foundation Courses
- Vocational Courses
- Adult and Community Learning
- Skills Bootcamps
- Provision for students with SEND
- HE

You can also click on each institution to go directly to their website to find out further information.



# Further and Higher Education Institutions

College	Telephone	What's offered
<a href="#">Aston University</a>	0121 204 3000	■ ■ ■
<a href="#">BIMM Institute Birmingham</a>	0344 2 646 666	
<a href="#">Birmingham City University</a>	0121 331 5000	■ ■ ■
<a href="#">Birmingham Metropolitan College (BMET)</a>	0121 446 4545	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">Cadbury Sixth Form College</a>	0121 458 3898	■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">City of Wolverhampton College</a>	01902 836000	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">Coventry College</a>	02476 932932	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">Coventry University</a>	024 7765 7688	■ ■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">Dudley College</a>	01384 363 000	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">Dudley Metropolitan Council</a>	01384 818143	■ ■
<a href="#">Fircroft College of Adult Education</a>	0121 472 0116	■ ■
<a href="#">Halesowen College</a>	0121 602 7770	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">Heart of Worcestershire College</a>	01527 572522	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">Hereward College of Further Education</a>	024 7646 1231	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">Joseph Chamberlain Sixth Form College</a>	0121 446 2200	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">National College for Advanced Transport and Infrastructure</a>	0330 120 0375	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">Newman University</a>	0121 4761181	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">Sandwell Adult and Family Learning Service</a>	0121 557 0837	
<a href="#">Sandwell College</a>	0121 667 5000	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">Solihull College</a>	0121 678 7000	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">Solihull Sixth Form College</a>	0121 704 2581	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">South And City College</a>	0800 111 6311	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">South Staffordshire College</a>	0300 456 2424	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">University College Birmingham (UCB) Careers</a>	0121 1000	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">University of Birmingham</a>	0121 414 3344	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">University of Staffordshire</a>	01782 294000	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">University of Warwick</a>	024 7652 3523	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">University of Wolverhampton</a>	01902 321000	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

Continues over












































**Key**

■ Supported Internships	■ Inclusive Apprenticeships	■ Vocational Courses	■ Provision for students with SEND
■ T-Levels	■ A-Levels	■ Adult and Community Learning	■ HE
■ Apprenticeships	■ Foundation Courses	■ Skills Bootcamps	

## Further and Higher Education Institutions (continued)

College	Telephone	What's offered
<a href="#">University of Worcester</a>	01905 855 000	 
<a href="#">Walsall College</a>	01922 657000	       
<a href="#">Warwickshire College Group</a>	0300 456 0047	     
<a href="#">Wolverhampton Adult Education</a>	01902 558180	  

## School Sixth Forms

School Sixth Form	Telephone	What's offered
<a href="#">Archbishop Ilsey</a>	0121 706 4200	 
<a href="#">Ark St Alban's Academy</a>	0121 446 1300	 
<a href="#">Aston Manor Academy</a>	0121 359 8108	 
<a href="#">Aston University Engineering Academy</a>	0121 380 0570	  
<a href="#">Birmingham Ormiston Academy (BOA)</a>	0121 359 9300	  
<a href="#">Bishop Vesey's Grammar School (mixed 6th Form)</a>	0121 250 5400	
<a href="#">Bishop Walsh Catholic School</a>	0121 351 3215	 
<a href="#">Bordesley Green Girls</a>	0121 464 1881	 
<a href="#">Broadway Academy</a>	0121 566 4334	 
<a href="#">Colmers School and Sixth Form College</a>	0121 453 1778	 
<a href="#">Dame Elizabeth Cadbury School</a>	0121 464 4040	 
<a href="#">Fairfax Academy</a>	0121 378 1288	 
<a href="#">Fortis Academy</a>	0121 366 6611	 
<a href="#">George Dixon Academy</a>	0121 566 6565	 
<a href="#">Greenwood Academy</a>	0121 464 6101	 
<a href="#">Hamstead Hall Academy</a>	0121 386 7510	 
<a href="#">Hillcrest School and Sixth Form Centre</a>	0121 464 3172	 
<a href="#">Holte Secondary School</a>	0121 566 4370	 
<a href="#">Holyhead School</a>	0121 523 1960	 
<a href="#">John Henry Newman Catholic College</a>	0121 770 5331	 
<a href="#">John Willmott School</a>	0121 378 1946	 

Continues over

### Key

 Supported Internships	 Inclusive Apprenticeships	 Vocational Courses	 Provision for students with SEND
 T-Levels	 A-Levels	 Adult and Community Learning	 HE
 Apprenticeships	 Foundation Courses	 Skills Bootcamps	

## School Sixth Forms (continued)

School Sixth Form	Telephone	What's offered
<a href="#">King Edward VI Aston School</a>	0121 327 1130	■
<a href="#">King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Boys</a>	0121 444 3188	■
<a href="#">King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Girls</a>	0121 444 2150	■
<a href="#">King Edward VI Five Ways School</a>	0121 472 1147	■
<a href="#">King Edward VI Handsworth Grammar School for Boys</a>	0121 554 2794	■
<a href="#">King Edward VI Handsworth School for Girls</a>	0121 554 2342	■
<a href="#">King Edward VI Sheldon Heath Academy</a>	0121 464 4428	■ ■
<a href="#">King Edwards Lordswood Girls' School And Sixth Form Centre</a>	0121 472 1147	■ ■ ■
<a href="#">Kings Norton Girls' School</a>	0121 628 0010	■
<a href="#">Moseley School and Sixth Form</a>	0121 566 6444	■ ■
<a href="#">North Birmingham Academy</a>	0121 373 1647	■ ■
<a href="#">Plantsbrook School</a>	0121 362 7310	■ ■
<a href="#">Small Heath Leadership Academy</a>	0121 464 7997	■ ■
<a href="#">St Edmund Campion Catholic School</a>	0121 464 7700	■ ■
<a href="#">St Paul's School for Girls</a>	0121 454 0895	■ ■
<a href="#">St Thomas Aquinas Catholic School</a>	0121 464 4643	■ ■
<a href="#">Sutton Coldfield Grammar School for Girls</a>	0121 345 1479	■ ■
<a href="#">The Arthur Terry School</a>	0121 323 2221	■
<a href="#">Washwood Heath Academy</a>	0121 675 7272	■ ■
<a href="#">Waverley Studio College</a>	0121 566 6622	■ ■
<a href="#">WMG Academy For Young Engineers</a>	0121 289 3556	■ ■

### Key

■ Supported Internships	■ Inclusive Apprenticeships	■ Vocational Courses	■ Provision for students with SEND
■ T-Levels	■ A-Levels	■ Adult and Community Learning	■ HE
■ Apprenticeships	■ Foundation Courses	■ Skills Bootcamps	





# Independent Training Providers

Independent Training Provider	Telephone	What's offered
<a href="#">Access Creative College</a>	0330 123 3155	■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">Aspiration Training</a>	0121 339 5955	■ ■
<a href="#">Babington</a>	0333 323 4050	■ ■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">BCTG</a>	0121 544 6455	■ ■
<a href="#">Bellis Training Limited</a>	0121 270 1067	■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">BIMM Institute Birmingham</a>	0344 2 646 666	■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">Birmingham Electrical Training</a>	0121 616 0700	■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">Careers Seekers Direct</a>	0345 548 0080	■ ■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">Challenge-trg Group</a>	0121 772 4551	■ ■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">Crackerjack Training Ltd</a>	0121 454 2043	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">Creative Alliance</a>	0121 753 0049	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">East Birmingham Community Forum</a>	0121 328 4998	■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">Heart Of England Training Ltd</a>	0121 236 8595	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">Inspiro Learning</a>	0800 731 8199	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">JTL</a>	0800 085 2308	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">Juniper Training</a>	01902 864194	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">Kaplan</a>	0161 259 7400	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">Key Training</a>	0121 236 7512	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">Learndirect Limited</a>	024 7670 7921	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">Make UK</a>	0808 168 5874	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">Mercury Training Services</a>	01384 482 186	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">Midland Group Training Services</a>	024 7663 0333	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">Motivational Preparation College For Training</a>	0330 111 3939	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">New Horizons</a>	0120 328 7995	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">Nova Training</a>	0121 783 9824	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">Pathway First</a>	0121 707 0550	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">Performance Through People</a>	0121 643 2653	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">Pilot IMS</a>	0121 794 0230	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">Protocol Consultancy</a>	0121 236 2634	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

Continues over

**Key**

■ Supported Internships	■ Inclusive Apprenticeships	■ Vocational Courses	■ Provision for students with SEND
■ T-Levels	■ A-Levels	■ Adult and Community Learning	■ HE
■ Apprenticeships	■ Foundation Courses	■ Skills Bootcamps	

# Independent Training Providers (continued)

Independent Training Provider	Telephone	What's offered
<a href="#">Reflections Training Academy</a>	0121 643 2147	■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">Serco</a>	Visit website	■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">Skills Training UK</a>	0121 827 9400	■ ■ ■ ■ ■
<a href="#">System Group</a>	0151 317 4450	■
<a href="#">Vocational Skills Solutions</a>	01942 932 050	■ ■ ■



## Key

- Supported Internships
- Inclusive Apprenticeships
- Vocational Courses
- Provision for students with SEND
- T-Levels
- A-Levels
- Adult and Community Learning
- HE
- Apprenticeships
- Foundation Courses
- Skills Bootcamps



## Useful links

[Find a T Level](#)

[Apprenticeships](#)

[National Careers Service - Get the Jump: explore your education and training choices](#)

[Not Going To Uni](#)

[Birmingham Careers Service – Training Provider Marketplace](#)

[Careermag for Parents, Carers & Guardians](#) – Guide to support your young people

[Careermag for School Leavers](#) – Careers inspiration and options on next steps

[Amazing Apprenticeships](#)

[Aimhigher West Midlands](#) – Access to a range of opportunities/activities

[Provider Access Legislation | The Careers and Enterprise Company](#)

[Promoting all Pathways | CEC Resource Directory](#)

[Birmingham Careers Hub](#) – Labour Market Information Guide

[Ladder for Greater Birmingham – Apprenticeships](#)

[Technical Education Pathways Resource](#)

[SEND Birmingham](#)

[SEND Colleges and Providers](#)

[What qualification levels mean](#)

[Careerpilot - Qualifications](#)