

BIRMINGHAM
CAREERS SERVICE
NEWS

SUMMER 2024



EXAM
RESULTS
2024

BIRMINGHAM
CAREERS SERVICE
guiding young people



Birmingham
City Council

YOUR CHOICE
YOUR FUTURE



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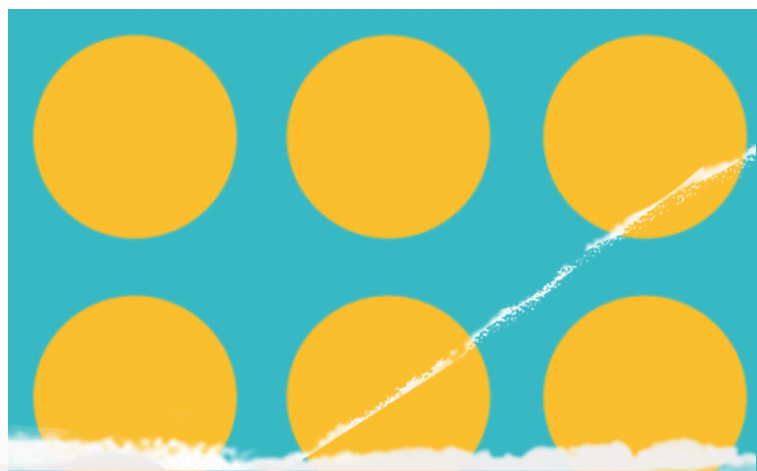




YAY!

EXAMS ARE FINISHED!

Try to relax and have fun over the summer, but also make sure you have plans for the next stage of your career journey.



NEXT STEPS

All young people need to continue in education or training until they are 18. This doesn't mean you have to keep attending School after Year 11, there are many ways of doing this. You can go to College, Sixth Form, start an Apprenticeship or a Study Programme. This is your opportunity to gain more qualifications, skills, and experience to prepare you for the world of work.

After Year 13 or from the age of 18, you can choose a Job, Apprenticeship, University or a Gap Year.



APPRENTICESHIPS

Many young people this year have told our Advisers they would prefer to start an Apprenticeship after leaving School or College.

It is not too late to find an Apprenticeship to start now or in September.

New Apprenticeship opportunities are being advertised every day, so don't despair if you have not yet found your perfect Apprenticeship.

An Apprenticeship is an option choice after Year 11, 12 or 13. They enable you to learn and earn at the same time. You will gain valuable employability skills, a relevant qualification and get paid. The apprentice wage is £6.40 an hour, though many companies will pay you more.

Apprenticeships are available in a wide range of industries, including construction, healthcare, engineering, IT, and finance. You will find many roles advertised which will be new to you. It is better to keep your options open and consider a wider range of roles.

The entry requirements for Apprenticeships vary depending on the employer, so always check that you have the required qualifications, skills and qualities.

Take time to read the job description carefully, pick out the skills and qualities asked for, and tailor your application to demonstrate you have these attributes, by giving examples from School or College, work experience, clubs, and activities outside of education.

Be prepared for the employer to follow up your application with online tests (eg numeracy, literacy, situational judgement), and an interview which might be in-person online, or by telephone. Practice and preparation will give you confidence and help you to succeed with these different methods of assessment and interview.



WHERE CAN I FIND AN APPRENTICESHIP?

*The National
Apprenticeship
Service*

CLICK

UCAS website

CLICK

*APPLYING FOR
Apprenticeships*

CLICK

Company websites
College websites
Local Training Providers
Employment agencies (e.g. www.indeed.co.uk)
Social Media – Instagram/X/Facebook

WHAT ABOUT A T-LEVEL?

T-Levels have been created alongside employers and businesses, so you gain the skills and knowledge needed for your chosen occupational area and like an Apprenticeship, they include a 45 day industry placement.

The main progression route is into employment – but they can also lead to Higher Education or Higher Apprenticeships.

So, if you want to be a Dental Nurse, Lab Technician, Teaching Assistant, Junior Games Designer, Installation Electrician, Advanced Site Carpenter – and many more careers – T-Levels might be for you.

FAST FACTS

- Academic qualification equivalent to 3 A-Levels
- 2 year programme
- 80% Classroom and 20% Work
- Includes 45-day industry placement
- Exams and assessments
- Practical skills obtained
- Gain a minimum standard in maths and English if not already achieved
- Entry requirements vary – check with the provider

Find out more about T-Levels at

<https://www.birminghamcareersservice.co.uk/t-levels/> and where you can study a T-Level at <https://www.tlevels.gov.uk/students/find>

NOT QUITE READY FOR AN APPRENTICESHIP OR A T-LEVEL?

Not everyone is ready to start an Apprenticeship or a T-Level after Year 11, so you can begin your journey with a Study Programme (sometimes called a Pre-Apprenticeship programme). These are flexible programmes built around what you want and need to do next, and your career plans. They include qualifications, English and maths, work experience and activities to enhance your CV. Alternatively, you can enrol on a T-Level Transition/Foundation year. This is a route onto T-Levels if you need additional study time and preparation for employment before starting a T-Level.



WORRIED ABOUT YOUR EXAM RESULTS AND YOUR NEXT STEPS?

Don't worry alone, get support and guidance from Birmingham Careers Service. You can [contact us](#) by phone/text/email/WhatsApp. We also have many free resources available on our website

www.birminghamcareersservice.co.uk .

Check out our weblinks in the Careers Library and local Colleges and training providers in the [Marketplace](#).

If you are feeling anxious, be sure to talk to your family and friends, and you can access free support resources and chat anonymously to trained counsellors through:

<https://bwc.nhs.uk/young-people-ybm>

<https://www.kooth.com>

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EXAM RESULTS DAYS

Get up early to find out your results. This might mean going into School/College to collect your results in person or checking your emails.

Everyone feels nervous when they open the envelope or email – you can do this alone or have a family member or friend by your side for support.



YEAR 11 LEAVER

GCSE results come out on **Thursday 22nd August 2024.**

Colleges and Sixth forms will start enrolment on or after GCSE results day, and they will let you know whether this can be done online or by appointment only.

Don't worry if your grades are not what you expected. There is a starting point for everyone at College, at enrolment tutors will ensure you are placed on the right level course. You could also consider a Study Programme with a Training Provider so you can improve your maths and English and gain work experience to lead to an Apprenticeship.

If you achieve higher grades than expected, you can also change your original plans. You might decide to study a more academic course with exams such as A Levels. You can talk about changing your course at College/Sixth Form enrolment.

YEAR 13 LEAVER

Depending on the qualifications you studied, you will receive your exam results on or before Thursday 15th August 2024.

The decisions you make next will be really important, so don't rush into anything. Consider all your options carefully, and remember most careers have a range of entry pathways, so don't be disappointed if your original plans need to change. For example, you don't need A'level Law to study a Law degree, or you can study a Foundation Programme in Science at University to progress onto a pharmacy degree.

APPLIED TO UNIVERSITY

On A Level results day, which this year is **Thursday, 15th August**, log into the UCAS Hub to see if you have been accepted at your Conditional Firm or Insurance University.

If you haven't met the conditions of your offers you can use UCAS Clearing until 21st October 2024 to find a place in Higher Education.

If your results are better than expected and you now want to change Universities, from 5 July 2024, if you are holding a firm unconditional place, you can release yourself into **Clearing**, using the 'decline your place' button in your application.

Only use this button if you no longer wish to take up your place at your firm choice, and you have spoken to your University or College and/or an adviser at your School/centre.

You can also use Clearing Plus. You will find a button beneath your 'My Matches' section on your UCAS hub. UCAS will use the information on your application to match you to courses with spaces that they think you will find interesting and also factor in what Universities are looking for in a student.

ALTERNATIVES TO HIGHER EDUCATION

You may feel you need a break from full-time study. If so, consider a Higher or Degree Apprenticeship, or an Advanced Apprenticeship if you wish to start employment in a new or different career.

If you need more time to consider your options or future career path, take a year out from studying, defer your place at University for one year and have a Gap Year. You can use this time to volunteer, earn money, do an internship, work experience, or travel.

<https://www.push.co.uk/gap-years.html>



BIRMINGHAM CAREERS SERVICE ARE HERE TO HELP

Whatever your situation on results day, Birmingham Careers Service's friendly Advisers are here to help with your next steps. We can help you find a pathway into your chosen career, or get you back on track, by talking through your options. As one of our clients recently said *'I liked the way the adviser talked to me, she helped me to understand that I have lots of opportunities and options in my career plan'*

www.birminghamcareersservice.co.uk/contact

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EMAIL US
TEXT/WHATSAPP
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