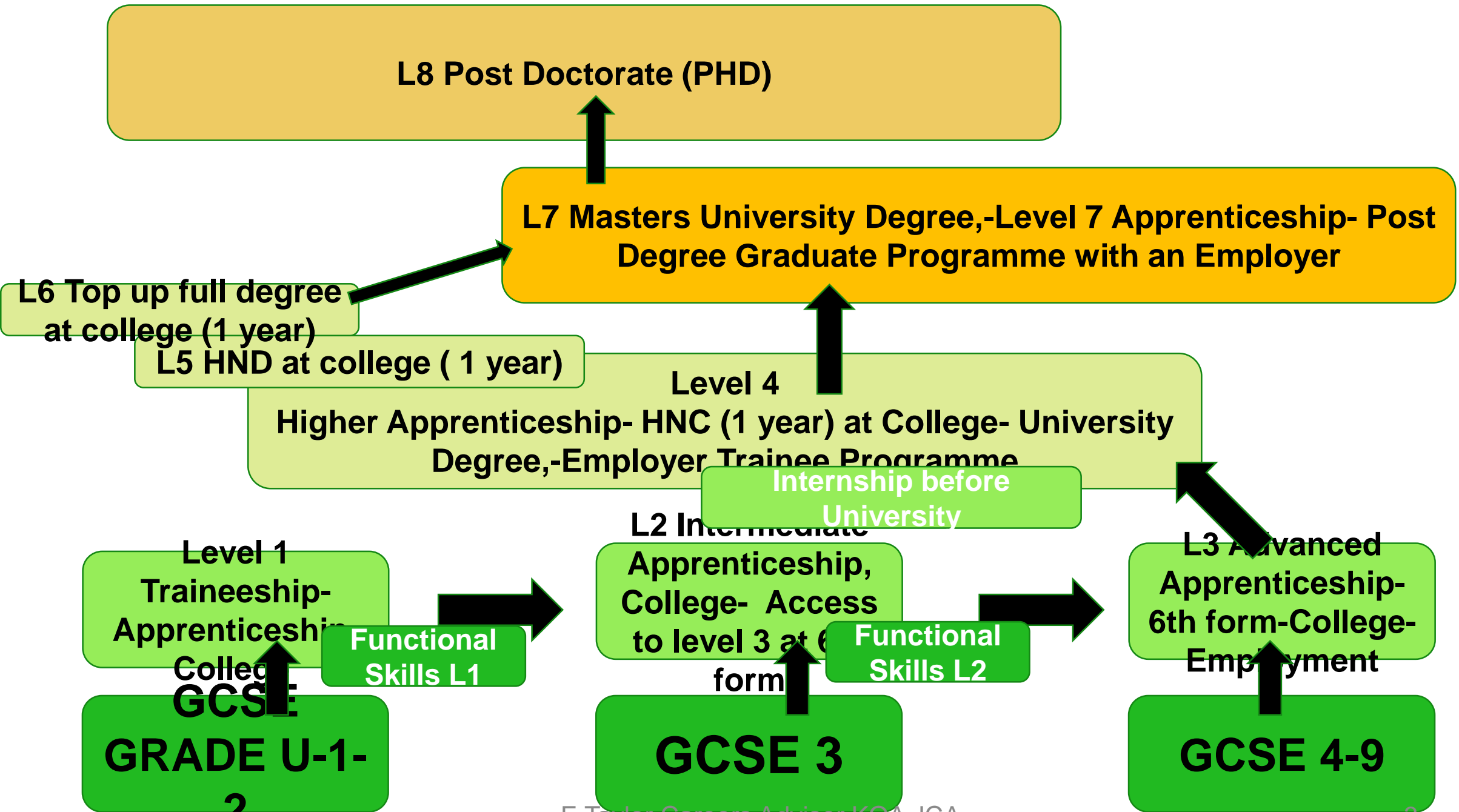


Pathway and Providers

Contents

- All the different pathways into employment through training and education.
- Explanations of qualification's and where you can study them
- The post 16 provisions and training providers in and around Bristol.
- Useful information and careers websites to use.



Course (Post 16)	Where it can be studied	Description of course
Functional Skills	School/ College	These are often called Skills for Life qualifications and they are designed to help you develop the skills you need in everyday life, such as reading, writing, maths or IT. These qualifications are aimed at 16yrs and over and If you don't have a grade 4 at the time to leaving school, you'll be expected to study this alongside any other study.
Traineeship	College/ training provider	A traineeship is a course that includes a work placement. It can last from 6 weeks up to 6 months. This can involve various work placements, functional skills qualification and employability skills and will prepare you for an apprenticeship.. This is aimed at people between 16- 24 qualified under a level3. Who is not sure of the career or apprenticeship path they's like to choose.
National Vocation Qualification (NVQ)	College/ Apprenticeship	National Vocational Qualifications (NVQs) are 'competence-based' qualifications. This means you will be expected to show you can do set things to a competent standard. They suit students wishing to develop work-related skills. Learning is through practical work-related tasks which help you develop the skills and knowledge to do a job to the right standard. They are designed to be studied at 5 levels from introductory to senior management level. Level 4 and 5 NVQs are equivalent to higher education qualifications.
A levels	6th form/ college	Approximately half of all sixteen years olds go on to take A (Advanced) levels. These are academic qualifications valued by both universities and employers. A level qualifications in England (not in Wales, Scotland or Northern Ireland) have changed and now all A levels are two-year linear qualifications with grades [A* - E] based on final exams taken at the end of the course. As well as being exams focused, they have less emphasis on coursework. Most students take 3 A level subjects or a mixture of A levels and BTECS.
BTEC/Cambridge Tech, City and Guilds/ OCR/ Diplomas	School/ 6th form/ College/ Distance learning	These are vocational qualifications, available in a wide range of subjects. Vocational qualifications offer practical learning programmes that relate to specific job roles or employment sectors. These qualifications start from a level 1-8 Level 3 can give you credits into university
T Levels	6th form/ College	Tlevels are full time two-year technical vocational qualifications equivalent to A levels for 16-19 yr olds. These are a mixture of classroom based academic learning and practical employer-based work experience. 45 days paid work experience, industry specific tech knowledge and experience, literacy, numeracy, digital skills and wider transferable skills.
Cambridge Pre U's and EPQ	6th form	Cambridge Pre U's Cambridge Pre-U is a post-16 qualification that prepares learners with the skills and knowledge they need to succeed at university. It promotes independent and self-directed learning in preparation for undergraduate study. An EPQ is short for Extended Project Qualification and is usually studied in the 2nd year at 6th form. An EPQ is an independent research project which involves writing an essay of 5000 words (that's around 10 typed pages), or creating a product, which might be anything from an art object to an iPhone app.
Apprenticeship	College./ Training provider	Apprenticeships give you the chance to gain nationally recognised qualifications while getting a weekly wage. There are different levels available, including new Degree Apprenticeships. You can study up to a level 7- Masters level.
Access/ transition courses	College/ 6th form	There are level 2 courses that are transition to level 3 A level study. This is a 1-year course, and you will have the opportunity to retakes some GCSE's alongside other level 2 courses of your choice such as Health and social, public services, IT, Business, Sports.

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Access to Higher Education	College	This is an opportunity for 19+ yr olds to complete 1 year's course in preparation for university. This is for someone who doesn't have Alevels.
HNC/ HND/ Top up	University/ Further Education College	Higher National Certificates (HNCs) and Higher National Diplomas (HNDs) are work-related qualifications which are available in a wide range of subjects. While degrees tend to focus on gaining knowledge, HNCs and HNDs are designed to give you the skills to put that knowledge to effective use in a particular job. They are highly valued by employers and can also count towards membership of professional bodies and other employer organisations. HNCs are at level 4 and provide a solid route directly into a HNDs at level 5. You can go on to complete a further year top up year at a level 6, to gain a full 3 year degree. HNC and HND's can also be part of your apprenticeship degree level programme.
Foundation degree	Workplace/ University/ Further Education College	Foundation Degrees combine academic study with work-based learning. Designed jointly by universities, colleges and employers, they are available in a range of work-related subjects. Typically, you'll get the chance to learn in the workplace as well as the classroom. So whether you're looking to change job, return to work or boost your career prospects, Foundation Degrees offer a route into higher education for people of all ages and backgrounds. This is a 2 year course, and a 3rd year top up can be completed for a full degree either full time or part time.
What is an Internship	Workplace	The position of a student or trainee who works in an organisation, sometimes without pay, in order to gain work experience or satisfy requirements for a qualification like a degree for example.
What is an Employer Trainee Programme	Workplace	This is a trainee programme that would be offered at candidates which may have just completed A levels or a Level 3 equivalent. For example an employer may offer a school leavers management programme which may take up to two years to complete and will give you experience and training to progress within the organisation
What is a graduate scheme	Workplace	A graduate scheme is a work-based training programme that allows recent graduates to gain practical experience with a company, giving them a head-start into the world of work. The structure of the scheme could vary depending on the employer and industry, but it will usually involve training, mentoring, and hands-on work in different areas of the organisation usually from 2- 4 years.
Degrees	University, distance learning, FE Colleges	Degree courses are usually three years, or four years with a placement year. Degree courses usually lead to a BA (Bachelor of Arts) or BSc (Bachelor of Science) qualification; some lead to BEd (Bachelor of Education) or BEng (Bachelor of Engineering) or other titles. A very wide range of subjects are on offer – from academic subjects like history or English, to work related subjects such as town and country planning or civil engineering.
Masters	University	For Master's courses, the normal entry requirement is a degree. However, universities also value skills, experience and knowledge gained through work and life and other qualifications - these can sometimes gain you entry to a Masters level course even if you do not have a degree.
PHD	University	A doctorate qualification gives you the opportunity to undertake an original piece of research. Throughout the course, you will be expected to work independently, with guidance from a supervisor. The supervisor advises you whether your research is on track and about deadlines you have to meet. Many doctorate courses lead to a qualification such as a Doctor of Philosophy - a PhD or Dphil- This will take 3 years full time.

List of the local Colleges, sixth form colleges and specialist provisions in area

- [Bath College](#)
- [City of Bristol College](#)
- [Bristol Technology and Engineering Academy](#)
- [Digitech Studio School](#)
- [South Gloucestershire and Stroud College](#) (formerly Filton College)
- [St Brendan's Sixth Form College](#)
- [Weston College](#)

For more specialised colleges such as Harpbury college (Agriculture and animal care or Sparsholt College Fishery studies and aquatics, you need a more advanced internet search

List of the local 6th forms

- [Bristol Cathedral Choir School](#)
- [Bristol Free School](#)
- [Cabot Learning Federation Post 16](#)
- [MA.16 \(Merchants' Academy\)](#)
- [North Bristol Post-16 Centre](#)
- [St Bede's Catholic College](#)
- [St Mary Redcliffe and Temple School](#)
- [V6 \(Colston's Girls' School\)](#)

For more options and information on Post 16 Provisions please visit:

<https://www.bristol.gov.uk/schools-learning-early-years/where-you-can-get-post-16-education>

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A list of some the local Training Providers in the area

- [Access Creative College](#) -Music, gaming and creative media
- [Babington](#)- Apprenticeships
- [BEMA Limited](#) Mechanical Engineering Apprenticeships
- [Bespoke Consultancy and Education](#) - Apprenticeships
- [BIMM](#) - Music
- [Boomsatsuma](#) Music, gaming and creative media, acting
- [Bristol City Community Trust](#) Sports courses
- [Bristol City Council](#) Apprenticeships
- [Circomedia](#) Physical Theatre
- [dBs Music](#)
- [Didac National Training Providers](#)
- [HIT Training and Connect 2 Care](#)
- [JLT](#)- Traineeships, trade apprenticeships
- [Lifetime Training Group](#)- Apprenticeships, fitness, sports, hospitality, healthcare
- [Military Preparation College Training \(MPCT\)](#)
- [North Bristol National Health Service Trust](#) - Healthcare
- [On Site Bristol](#) Construction apprenticeships
- [Professional Apprenticeships](#)
- [QA Apprenticeships](#)
- [Reflections Training Academy](#) Hair and barbering apprenticeships
- [Rolls Royce](#) - Engineering and more
- [S&B Automotive Academy](#) Light vehicle apprenticeships
- [Square Food Foundation](#)- Cookery training and qualification's
- [The Big Act](#) - Drama courses

Useful Information

Careers Pilot: <https://careerpilot.org.uk/>

BBC Bitesize Careers: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/careers>

Where can you get post 16 education: <https://www.bristol.gov.uk/schools-learning-early-years/where-you-can-get-post-16-education>

Post 16

Directory: <https://www.bristol.gov.uk/documents/20182/239525/Bristol+Post+16+Directory+2019.pdf/03427095-79a8-92b3-c525-2ecf1221a2bd>

What is an Internship: <https://www.allaboutcareers.com/careers-advice/internships/what-is-an-internship>

Graduate schemes: <https://www.reed.co.uk/career-advice/graduate-schemes-what-you-need-to-know/>

Hard and soft skills: <https://www.thebalancecareers.com/hard-skills-vs-soft-skills-2063780>

Employability Skills: CV, cover letters, virtual work experience, interview tips: Barclays Lifeskills.com

What are T levels: <https://www.tlevels.gov.uk/#:~:text=T Levels are an alternative,lasts at least 45 days.>

Apprenticeships: <https://www.bristol.gov.uk/jobs-training/guide-to-apprenticeships>

Exploring Degrees and University: UCAS.COM

National Careers Service skills assessment: <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/skills-assessment>

ICOULD careers videos: <https://icould.com/>

Careers Box careers videos: <https://www.careersbox.co.uk/>

SWOT analysis: <https://www.indeed.com/career-advice/career-development/create-a-personal-swot-analysis> OR <https://www.livecareer.com/resources/careers/planning/swot-analysis>

Personal Development Plans: <https://www.reed.co.uk/career-advice/personal-development-plan-template/>

Cambridge Pre U's <https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-advanced/cambridge-pre-u/>