

Alternatives to University

Rugby Group
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www.isco.org.uk

A cry for help

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'I'm in my first year of A levels, and we're being pushed to go to uni, almost as if it's what we're supposed to do.

Now, i really have no idea what i want to do. I don't want to go to uni until i decide what i want to study or if it's even for me.

Would it be a good idea to find jobs in my fields of interests until i decide?

Or what if i don't decide at all, i'm worried i'll end up in a crap job that i don't enjoy.'

Posted on TheSite.org

Reasons why people don't go to university



- The cost of university is astronomical
- Because it's not for everyone
- So many drop-out of university
- Debt, debt, debt
- Because so many graduates are in non-graduate jobs
- People would rather gain professional qualifications
- Employers are now looking for school leavers

Source: NotGoingToUni

- Apprenticeships
- Employment
 - Job search
 - In house training schemes
 - Starting at the bottom
- Self-employment
- Sources of information

National Apprenticeship Awards 2011



Win national recognition for all the hard work you put into excelling in your chosen field and playing a leading part in putting Apprenticeships at the heart of your organisation whilst encouraging ambition and enterprise.



Top Questions and Answers

[Apprentices](#) [Employers](#) [Parents](#)



- What is an Apprenticeship?
- Do I have to pay anything to become an apprentice?
- Do I get paid?
- Do I get holidays?

[All Frequently Asked Questions](#) ▶

Apprentices



Earn while you learn and get recognised qualifications

Employers



Improve your bottom line through motivated new talent

Search vacancies



Find the right Apprenticeship vacancy for you

Apprenticeships

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- Available for 16 +
- 3 levels
 - Intermediate: level 2 qualification (5 GCSEs)
 - Advanced: level 3 qualification (2 A levels)
 - Higher: level 4 qualification



www.apprenticeships.org.uk

Types of apprenticeship

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200 + types of apprenticeships grouped into 10 categories:

- Agriculture, horticulture and animal care
- Arts, media and publishing
- Business administration and law
- Construction and built environment
- Education and training
- Engineering and manufacturing technologies
- Health, public services and care
- ICT
- Leisure, travel and tourism
- Retail and commercial enterprise

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Types of Apprenticeships

- > [Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Care](#)
- > [Arts, Media and Publishing](#)
- > [Business, Administration and Law](#)
- > [Construction, Planning and the Built Environment](#)
- > [Education and Training](#)
- > [Engineering and Manufacturing Technologies](#)
- > [Health, Public Services and Care](#)
- > [Information and Communication Technology](#)
- > [Leisure, Travel and Tourism](#)
- > [Retail and Commercial Enterprise](#)

Search types of Apprenticeships

Browse types of Apprenticeships

	Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Care 		Arts, Media and Publishing 
	Business, Administration and Law 		Construction, Planning and the Built Environment 
	Education and Training 		Engineering and Manufacturing Technologies 

- > Glass Industry Occupations
- > Industrial Applications
- > Laboratory Technicians
- > Marine Industry
- > Metal Processing
- > Nuclear Decommissioning
- > Paper and Board Manufacturing
- > Passenger Carrying Vehicle Driving: Bus and Coach
- > Polymer Processing Operations
- > Power Industry
- > Print and Printed Packaging
- > Process Technology
- > Rail Transport Engineering
- > Rail Services
- > Retail Motor Industry: Roadside Assistance



Engineering



Engineering Construction



Engineering Technology



Extractive and Mineral Processing Operations



Food Manufacture



Furniture, Furnishings and Interiors Manufacturing Industry



Gas Industry



Glass Industry Occupations



Industrial Applications



Laboratory Technicians



Marine Industry



Metal Processing

Types of Apprenticeships

- > [Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Care](#)
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- > [Business, Administration and Law](#)
- > [Construction, Planning and the Built Environment](#)
- > [Education and Training](#)
- > **[Engineering and Manufacturing Technologies](#)**
 - > [Building Products Occupations](#)
 - > [Ceramics Manufacturing](#)
 - > [Coating Operations](#)
 - > [Driving Goods Vehicles](#)
 - > **[Engineering](#)**
 - > [Engineering Construction](#)

Engineering



Engineers design and build the things that make our world go round. Everything, from aeroplanes to buildings, comes back to engineering. This hugely diverse field can be divided into seven sub-categories: aerospace, automotive, metals, electrical equipment, electronics, marine maintenance, and mechanical engineering. This Apprenticeship covers a range of job roles in these sub-sectors.

On this Apprenticeship, the sort of work you'll be doing will depend on your employer. Generally, engineering apprentices will learn to take on an operator role in a certain area of engineering. This could involve anything from assembling car engines to installing telecommunications systems. Most duties will involve the maintenance of equipment and machinery.

Through the Advanced Apprenticeship you can become either a skilled craftsperson (skilled in practical trades, like fitting or machining) or a technician (involved in technical matters and problem-solving).

Both Apprenticeships begin by learning about work safety, how to communicate technical information, and identifying engineering equipment.

Working in this field requires a good head for figures and IT literacy. You'll need good written and verbal communication skills; and you'll have to be a team player.

The Main Info

The Salary
Starting salary (on £12,000 - £15,000)

The Level
Intermediate Level Apprenticeship
Advanced Level Apprenticeship

Current Vacancies

See what vacancies are available for this Apprenticeship.
[Engineering vacancies](#)

Interested?

To progress your interest in Engineering Apprenticeships, click on the relevant link below

[I'm an Employer](#) »

[I'm an Apprentice](#)

Airbus Higher Apprenticeships

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- Higher Engineering Apprenticeships: applicants must have a minimum of two A levels at grade C or above in maths or physics
- Higher Supply Chain Logistics Apprenticeships: applicants must have a minimum of two A levels at grade C or above in business studies, economics, DT computing or maths (or equivalent)
- Applicants must also have six GCSE at grade B or above including maths, English and science
- Both apprenticeships are usually over 3 years - the first year is spent at one of our partnership colleges and the second and third year working on site with day release to the partner college



Benefits of an apprenticeship



Key benefits of a Higher Apprenticeship include:

- Structured training programme
- Recognised qualifications
- Earning a salary and paid holidays
- Learning job-specific skills
- Improved career prospects and earning potential
- Progression to higher education

Employment for school leavers



Many of the job search websites have a school leaver section

- www.totaljobs.com/careers-advice/inside-careers/top-5-jobs-for-school-leavers
- www.indeed.co.uk/School-Leaver-jobs
- www.jobrapido.co.uk/?q=school%20leaver
- www.yourcareerguide.co.uk/leavers.asp
- www.london2012.com/get-involved/jobs/working-for-locog/get-ahead-school-leavers-programme/



Top 5 jobs for school leavers

If you've just received your A-level or GCSE results, you're probably wondering what to do next. With experts predicting up to 150,000 students won't be getting a place at university this year and graduate jobs scarce, going straight into work after your GCSEs or A-levels could be a savvy career move. If you're currently debating ducking out of education, here are the top five jobs to temp you away.

1. Air traffic controller

Get a job as an air traffic controller and you could be banking a healthy salary of £80,000 or more per year. You'll work with

Job search

Keywords
e.g. sales or marketing
Skill or job title

Location
e.g. W1T 1TJ or London
Town or postcode

Your perfect career

Take the SHL [Careers Assessment](#) to find the industry you're suited to.

Share this content



Home » School Leavers



Recruitment trends

39% of UK employers plan to add new employees in 2011 with a mix of full-time, part-time, contract or temporary workers and interns. Technology is the number one area cited for hiring.

Reading and writing skills

One in five 15-year-olds in Europe, as well as many adults, lack basic reading and writing skills, which makes it harder for them to find a job and puts them at risk of social exclusion.

Job opportunities in 2011

There will be job opportunities in 2011 despite predictions of a 17-year high in unemployment according to recruitment guru James Caan of TV's Dragons' Den.

Retail



Work opportunities for teenagers

The rising monthly income of teenagers reflects their greater propensity to work; 25% of 16-17 year olds and 30% of 18

Automotive



Road safety

New research using a world leading motorcycle simulator to analyse rider behaviour has proved that safer doesn't necessarily mean slower and

Construction



Construction opportunities

The UK has recently seen record numbers looking to get into the construction industry with opportunities aplenty.



Get Ahead School Leavers' Programme



You don't have to be an athlete to **Get Ahead**

Working for LOCOG

Diversity and inclusion

Get Ahead School Leavers' Programme

- About the programme
- FAQs for the School Leavers' Programme
- How to apply
- Profiles

LOCOG Technology internship programme

The Get Ahead School Leavers' Programme offers those leaving school or college the chance to work at the London 2012 Organising Committee (LOCOG). They'll be playing their part in the biggest show on Earth.

Our third intake of school and college leavers started with us in August 2010. Applications for 2011 are now closed.

About the programme



Frequently asked questions



Online



Did you know

If you have questions about the School Leavers' Programme, you can email us at getahead@locog.org

Public sector employment

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- Armed Forces
 - www.army.mod.uk/join/join.aspx
 - www.raf.mod.uk/careers
 - www.royalnavy.mod.uk/careers/index.htm
- Emergency Services
 - www.policecouldyou.co.uk
 - www.fireservice.co.uk/recruitment
- Local Government
 - www.lgcareers.com
- National Health Service
 - www.nhscareers.nhs.uk

Starting at the bottom

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- Take a job as office junior, runner, tea boy or girl, or post room worker
- Creative, design, media and performing arts
- Foot in the door
- Gain experience
- Network
- Build CV



In house training schemes

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- HEADstart programme
- Join after A levels or equivalent - 280 UCAS points
- Earn while working for a professional qualification
- ACCA in 4 years
- Formal study, on-the-job experience, coaching and mentoring
- Study leave

PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS 

www.pwc.com/uk/en/careers/student/head-start.jhtml

In house training schemes

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- Trainee management scheme
- 2 A Levels (or equivalent)
- 2 year programme
 - £18,000 in first year
 - £19,00 in second year
- Fast track to commercial manager (£24,000 +)

YOUR M&S

http://corporate.marksandspencer.com/mscareers/opportunities/trainee_management_scheme/trainee_programme

In house training schemes

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- Lloyds Banking Group - Business Specialist Programmes
- 260 - 300 UCAS points to be eligible to apply
- 2 year programmes
 - Retail
 - Corporate
 - Commercial



www.lloydsbankinggrouptalent.com/programmes/business-specialist

Self-employment

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The Prince's Trust

www.princes-trust.org.uk

Shell LiveWIRE

www.shell-livewire.org



Prince's Trust

Helping change young lives

- [Home](#)
- [Need help?](#)
- [Support us](#)
- [About The Trust](#)

Search



Need help? →

- [Get experience, skills and motivation to get your life working](#)
- [Get a grant to help you get a job or start a community project](#)
- [Get help to explore and test your business idea](#)

Support us →

- [Over a million young people are not in education, employment or training](#)
- [The Prince's Trust helps over 40,000 young people every year](#)
- [To continue our support, we need to raise £40 million this year](#)

Our work depends on your donation.
Will you help? You can donate by credit or debit card

[Donate](#)

Today's Youth
Tomorrow's Leaders



Latest News
The Cheryl Cole Job Squad website



AAA Search

- Home
- News
- My Business Kit
- Awards
- Business Library
- Discussion Forum
- Social Network
- Video



Mhairi Threlfall, a 21yr old Chemistry graduate from the University of Bristol, wins £1,000 for her innovative new shampoo at NACUE's National Student Enterprise Conference.

- NSEC 2011
- Jamie Murray Wells
- Funding
- Business Advice
- Networking

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Cocktails

Helen McA
Kibble, win

Inspirational Quotes

Sources of information

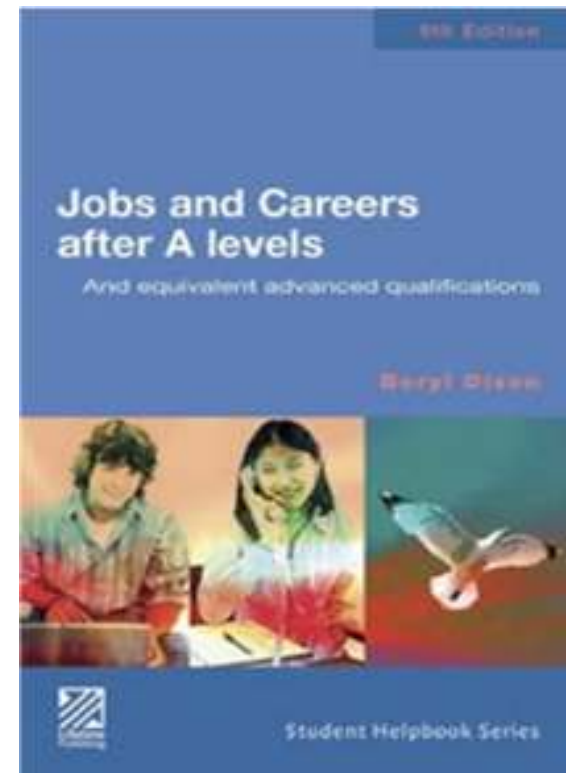
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Jobs and Careers after A levels

Beryl Dixon

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www.lifetime-publishing.co.uk



Sources of information

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NotGoingToUni

Award-winning portal providing advice on alternatives to the traditional university route

Founded by Tom Mursell, named one of the Future 100 Young Entrepreneurs of 2008





DISTANCE LEARNING?
GAP YEAR?



Welcome

So you're thinking about not going to uni. Congratulations! You've just proved that you're not afraid to think differently. Contrary to what the masses may say, university isn't the only path to success. From apprenticeships to debt-free learning, there are literally thousands of other opportunities out there.

Read More

Thought of the Day

Come join our fan page on facebook

Jobs and Training

1 - Select one of the following categories.

Apprenticeship	932 Vacancies	
Advanced Apprenticeship	172 Vacancies	

Sign up to our ne

Your email address

Submit

Be Inspired

Sources of information

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Sector Skills Councils cover approximately 85% of the UK economy

Information on skills and training

www.ukces.org.uk/sector-skills-councils



asset+skills

creative
& cultural
skills



Sources of information

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Work based learning for young people

www.eclips-online.co.uk/full_leaflet.php?leafletID=11.16

Employment at 18 with A levels

www.eclips-online.co.uk/full_leaflet.php?leafletID=11.06

eCLIPS



Sources of information

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TheSite.org your guide to the real world

www.thesite.org/workandstudy/studychoices/whatcourse/alternativestouniversity

Universities UK

www.universities.co.uk/university-guide/alternatives-to-university



[www.thestudentroom.co.uk/wiki/Alternatives_to_University -
A General Overview](http://www.thestudentroom.co.uk/wiki/Alternatives_to_University_-_A_General_Overview)

Advice for students

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- Research careers, routes and entry requirements
- Build CV and develop employability skills
 - Work experience
 - Taster courses
 - Co-curricular activities
- Application and interview technique

Questions & answers

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Q & A