



## Y11 Post-16 applications Information for parents/carers



How can you support your child with their next step choices and applications?



Timescales: Important dates for your child's application process.



Post-16 options: What are the possibilities after Y11?



Links and Resources: Where to find more information



# Y11 Post-16 applications

## Information for parent/carers

### So far pupils have received the following input to support their choices;

- Personal development lessons covering **careers options**
- Time in personal development lessons to research **post 16 options**
- Time in personal development lessons to write their **personal statement** for Post 16 applications
- A visit to an **in-school careers fair** where they were able to meet some post 16 providers
- 1 to 1 **careers meetings** with our careers advisor to discuss their options, this is still ongoing.

The next steps are;

- Finalise personal statement following feedback from form tutor by the **end November**.
- Complete Post 16 applications on Sheffield Progress website, school deadline is **9<sup>th</sup> January 2026**.

All young people leaving Year 11 are required to **remain in Education or Training until the age of 18**. This is the equivalent of years 12 & 13. They may also have the option to remain in education for Year 14 if required to complete their studies (or until 25 if they have an EHCP).

This will also include a **requirement to study Maths and English resits until a Level 2 qualification is achieved** i.e. GCSE A\*-C/Grades 9-4

### How can you support your child through this process?

- **Personal Statements** should have already been completed and sent to form tutors, ensure your child has completed their personal statement, it would be beneficial for you to look over this together.
- Support your son/daughter in **researching courses** and providers through Sheffield Progress <https://www.sheffieldprogress.co.uk/>
- View the **individual websites** of the providers they are interested in together
- Attend **open events** to look around providers to find out more about the courses and support on offer.
- Offer support with **applications**, and encouragement for interviews
- Discuss **'back up' applications** and always check course entry requirements against predicted grades.
- Encourage them to **check emails** and to monitor the status and **progress of applications** through Sheffield Progress on a regular basis, especially around deadline dates. Interview dates will also appear here.
- For parents/carers of **students with SEND**, there is a wide range of supporting information available through the **Sheffield Local SEND Offer** website. Visit: [What are the Post 16 education options? | Sheffield \(sheffielddirectory.org.uk\)](https://www.sheffielddirectory.org.uk/)
- If they are worried or have any questions about this process ask them to pop in to see Sam Dunn in the Careers Office at lunch or break time (usual working days are Monday, Wednesday and Friday).



## Year 11 Careers/Post 16 Timeline 2025/2026



- 1-1 Careers Meetings continue
- Completion of Personal Statements
- Introduction assemblies for Sheffield Progress & P16 Options – Logins given out. P16 provider assemblies continue.
- Open events start at schools and colleges. School Careers Fair - Date **TBC**
- Applications to **colleges and non-Sheffield Sixth Forms** open **31/10/25 TBC**
- Predicted grades are added to Sheffield Progress after your mocks.

Sept-Nov 2025

- Carefully consider your learning styles and subject choices
- 1-1 Careers Meetings continue
- Ensure you have double checked your application for errors
- Have you got a 'back up' plan in place?
- Submit your applications via Sheffield Progress from **1/12/2025** onwards. (**Sheffield Sixth Forms**)
- Applications are double checked by school and sent off or returned to you for re-submission.

Nov-Jan 2026

- All applications **MUST** be submitted by **9th January** to ensure there is time to check and amend if needed
- **Applications submitted to sixth form schools after 9.00am on the 30th January will not be considered in the first round and you may not get your choice of course or subjects**

9th & 30<sup>th</sup> January 2026

- Course offers for sixth forms will arrive via Sheffield Progress from **between 25-27 February 2026**
- Offers will need to be accepted or declined by **13/3/26** You can still make new applications to colleges and other providers
- Late applications to Sheffield sixth forms will be added to a waiting list
- Colleges may contact you directly for interviews
- **Check your emails regularly!**

Feb-Mar 2026

- Conditional offers are given out via Sheffield Progress for Sheffield sixth form places mid-February and **MUST** be accepted or declined by **13<sup>th</sup> March 2026**
- **If you do not accept or decline by the allocated date you WILL lose your offer.**

13th March 2026

- Double check that you have suitable 'back up' plans in place
- Exams and assessments continue, and revision starts
- Apprenticeship opportunities start to arrive around Easter time
- College interviews continue and you may also need to complete pre-enrollment info
- You will officially leave school on the last Friday of June
- Time for a well-earned rest! Well Done.

Mar-June 2026

- GCSE Results Day will be held on **20/8/2026** and you will receive your results. Good Luck!
- You can appeal sixth form school application outcomes from July 26 onwards.
- Attend enrolment appointments
- Check emails and SP for transition/intro information
- You will accept your preferred course offer and enrol. Let others know you no longer require your place if you had multiple offers.
- You will enrol on your new course in September. Enjoy!

Jul-Sept 2026

# What's your next move?

Compare your options after GCSE

QUALIFICATION	DESCRIPTION	LENGTH OF TIME	ASSESSMENT	LEVEL OF STUDY	AWARDS UCAS POINTS?	ENTRY REQUIREMENTS	WORK EXPERIENCE	WHAT DOES IT LEAD TO?
<b>APPRENTICESHIPS</b>  <small>www.apprenticeships.gov.uk</small>	A real job with training and a salary.	1 Year minimum	Apprenticeship dependent (inc. demonstrations, presentations and/or exams)	2/3  <small>With the possibility to progress to higher apprenticeships up to level 7</small>	No	- Employer dependent - Age 16+ - Evidence of interest and ability to complete	Yes (paid job, with at least 20% off the job training)	- Higher level or degree apprenticeship - University/College - Work
<b>A LEVELS</b>	An academic qualification, similar in style to GCSEs, that prepares you for further study.	2 Years	Mostly exams at the end of the course	3	Yes	For individual schools and colleges to decide (commonly 5 GCSEs at grades 4 and above)	No	- Apprenticeship - University/College - Work
<b>T LEVELS</b>  <small>www.tlevels.gov.uk</small>	A technical study programme, equivalent to 3 A levels, with an industry placement that makes up 20% of the course. T Levels are designed to give you the skills that employers need.	2 Years	Exams, projects and practical assignments	3	Yes	Set by each school/college	Yes (80% classroom, 20% work)	- Apprenticeship - University/College - Work
<b>TECHNICAL/VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS</b>  <small>(e.g. some Pearson BTECs, Cambridge Technicals, City and Guilds Diplomas, AQA Technical, VET Diplomas and many others)</small>	Qualifications which teach you how to do tasks specifically related to the industry and role you want to be in.	Course dependent	Course dependent (coursework & exams)	1+	Some (course & awarding organisation dependent)	Course dependent	Course dependent	- Apprenticeship - College - Work
<b>APPLIED QUALIFICATIONS</b>  <small>(e.g. some Pearson BTECs and some Cambridge Technicals, WJEC Diplomas, AQA Certificates, NCFE Applied and many others)</small>	Qualifications that prepare you for further study by combining academic learning with practical skills to give you a broad overview of working in a sector.	Course dependent	Course dependent (coursework & exams)	3	Yes	Set by each school/college	Course dependent	- Apprenticeship - University/College - Work
<b>TRAINEESHIPS</b>  <small>www.gov.uk/government/collections/traineeships</small>	A work focused study programme that prepares you for an apprenticeship or work.	6 Weeks - 6 Months	A formal job or exit interview with written feedback. Coursework and exams are course dependent	N/A	No	Have little to no work experience and qualified below Level 3	Yes	- Apprenticeship - Work



Levels are designed to indicate the complexity of qualifications and apprenticeships, allowing people to draw comparisons and understand where they sit in relation to the other options which are available. There are 8 levels plus entry level, with the higher levels offering the highest difficulty.

Find out more about the different levels at [www.gov.uk/what-different-qualification-levels-mean](http://www.gov.uk/what-different-qualification-levels-mean)  
Visit [nationalcareers.service.gov.uk](http://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk) for information about careers, training and work.



HM Government

Applies to England only

[CEC Post 16 Booklet Endeavour FINAL.pdf \(careersandenterprise.co.uk\)](#)  
[Post 16 Option Choices after GCSEs / Year 11](#)

## **Sheffield Sixth Form Schools**

All Saints  
Forge Valley  
High Storrs  
King Ecgbert  
Kind Edward VII  
Meadowhead  
Notre Dame  
Sheffield South East VI  
Form (Sheffield Park  
Academy)  
Silverdale  
Tapton

***All admissions are co-ordinated through Sheffield Progress by Sheffield City Council.***

[information for sixth form 2026 applications.pdf](#)

## **Other Sixth Forms Schools & Colleges**

Aston Academy  
Astrea Academy  
Chapelton Academy  
Birkdale School  
Longley Park 6<sup>th</sup> Form  
Mercia School  
Penistone Grammar School  
UTC Sheffield City Centre  
UTC Sheffield Olympic Legacy  
Park  
The Sheffield Sixth Form (Sheffield  
College)  
Barnsley Sixth Form College  
(Barnsley College)

***All admissions are undertaken through Sheffield Progress and applications are co-ordinated individually by the provider Applications to Sheffield High School are done directly through the school, not Sheffield Progress***

## **Colleges and Training Providers**

Sheffield College\*  
Barnsley College\*  
Rotherham, Dearne Valley,  
Chesterfield & North Notts  
Colleges\*  
NACRO (Various)  
CTS (Various)  
GB Creative Academy (Performing Arts)  
Learning Curve Hair & Beauty  
Academy (White Rose)  
MPCT (Learning Curve) (Sport/Pre-  
Uniformed Services)  
Nova Arts (Performing Arts)  
Pro Direct Academy (Sport)  
Qualitas (Sport)  
Sheffield United Community College  
(Sport)  
Sheffield Wednesday FC  
Community Programme (Sport)  
Thomas Rotherham College TRC\*

***All admissions are undertaken through Sheffield Progress and applications are co-ordinated individually by the providers***

***\*May also offer apprenticeships and/or T Levels***

## **Apprenticeships & Traineeships**

AMRC Training\* – Engineering  
Apprenticeships

The Source Academy (various)

Opportunity Sheffield (Sheffield  
City Council Apprenticeships)

Armed Forces – Visit Sheffield  
AFCO – Sarah has details.

***All admissions are undertaken through Sheffield Progress and applications are co-ordinated individually by the provider You can also find details of local and national apprenticeship vacancies through:  
[www.apprenticeships.gov.uk](http://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk)***

***\*AMRC application processes are accessed through Sheffield Progress***

## Important information for applying for specific providers via Sheffield Progress:

### Sheffield Sixth Form Schools (see list on slide 8)

- Refer to the following for important information: [information for sixth form 2026 applications.pdf](#)
- You can apply for a **maximum of three schools** from this list **but one MUST be a TSAT sixth form** (Tapton or Forge Valley) These **must be entered in order of preference** (i.e. favourite choice of school first) as if not it could affect your offers. You will only receive **one offer out of the three** but will remain on a waiting list if you were not offered a place at a higher preference. You are not guaranteed your first choice!
- Applications are processed through Sheffield Progress and Sheffield City Council. Responses, messages and offers will be processed through Sheffield Progress.
- You can choose **up to four subjects** within each school and these **MUST be order of preference** (i.e. favourite subject first).
- All other sixth form schools, colleges and academies will manage their own applications via Sheffield Progress but still use the same deadlines. These are additional applications and are not included in the three choices.
- Applications open on 1/12/25 and close on 30/1/26. (Strict deadlines are in place – See slide 21 for timeline).
- Please choose schools and courses carefully as these are very hard to change at a later date and you may not get your choice of school or subjects.
- Please check entry requirements carefully as these differ from school to school. Some schools also have subject/option blocks to choose from.

### Sheffield College for September 2026 entry (City, Hillsborough & Olive Grove/ATC)

- Applications open on 31/10/2025 and have no specific cut off. Earlier applications will be processed quicker and lead to a better chance of getting a place on your preferred course. Later applications may have to join a waiting list.
- Applications **are sent via Sheffield Progress** but are then **managed through the Sheffield College prospectus** which you will be given access to. They will communicate with you through the prospectus and through your personal email address. Please check this regularly and make sure the email account is working. You will be required to complete the 'pre-enrolment' process when you have been given an offer. This is nothing to worry about and is just to save time should you choose to study with them in September. It is not a commitment to have to study there.
- **You MUST have a personal email address for college applications** as some school accounts cut off during the summer. Your school can support you in creating one if you do not have one. Make sure that you can check it regularly as college will send you all information through this email.
- Please **do not make applications directly through the Sheffield College website**. If you have done this, please let your Careers Adviser know so that they can make sure we can monitor and support your application.
- All applicants will be **invited to attend a group information session which will lead to an offer being given. You must attend this session to secure your offer.**
- Do not miss your enrolment appointment (last week of August), missing enrolment can result in you losing your place.
- You must reply to contacts from Sheffield College so that they can support you through your application. Just simply applying does not secure you a place!

# Helpful websites:

- Sheffield Progress - <https://www.sheffieldprogress.co.uk/>
- <https://www.ucas.com/> - The 'go to' site for everything HE (Higher Education/Post18) related.
- <https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk/> - Everything you need to know about apprenticeships.
- <https://www.southyorkshireapprenticeships.org/> Live vacancies and general advice about apprenticeships in our area.
- <https://www.shu.ac.uk/careers/career-options/lmi> - Labour Market Information, with links to up to date and local information.
- <https://www.tlevels.gov.uk/> - Everything you need to know about T-Level qualifications
- [What are the Post 16 education options? | Sheffield \(sheffielddirectory.org.uk\)](https://www.sheffielddirectory.org.uk/) Local offer 0-25 SEND directory- Information on Post 16 Education & learning Opportunities. <https://www.sheffielddirectory.org.uk/>
- <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/> The main careers site for England. Very good job profiles and lots of interactive quizzes as well as information about anything careers related. Very informative.
- <https://www.prospects.ac.uk/> - Lots of helpful information and job profiles, Register to take the career quiz.
- <https://www.ucas.com/explore/career-list> - Browse career information and take the quiz.
- <https://www.unifrog.org/sign-in> - Every student can access Unifrog, using your school email address you can reset your password to access a great selection of careers quizzes to help inspire, and an extensive Careers/Subjects library to explore, plus MOOCS (online learning).
- Complete Careers Quiz – Great Personality quiz to help you identify strengths, areas for growth and possible jobs/careers that could suit you. <https://careersquiz.complete-careers.com/>.
- <https://successatschool.org/career-zones> - Simple Careers research site.
- <https://icould.com/> - Lots of real-life career videos. You can also search for 'Careers Box' on YouTube.
- <https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/> - Easy to use careers research site suitable for all ages. Create and account to access quizzes and other tools.
- <https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/> - Great site packed with tools and quizzes as well as job profiles. Great 'Animal Me' personality quiz.
- <https://www.gov.uk/child-employment> - Information on part time working for children under 18.