



CAREERS GUIDE FOR PARENTS, CARERS & YOUNG PEOPLE 2020 / 2021

How to help your child with their future plans
Support and advice on...choices, skills, work experience, jobs and more

Foreword by the Tees Valley Mayor

Welcome to the third edition of Tees Valley Combined Authority's Careers Guide for Parents, Carers and Young People.

The Combined Authority, which I chair, is committed to raising the aspirations of our young people, increasing their skill levels and helping them achieve their full potential to make a successful transition from education into a good quality career.

This year has been a difficult one for everyone. The coronavirus pandemic has created unprecedented challenges, not just in the Tees Valley but across the world. We need to make sure that we minimise the impact on our talented young people across Teesside, Darlington and Hartlepool and make sure they are well-equipped to take advantage of the fantastic opportunities that we're creating in the region.

And there are plenty of ways to get good-quality, highly skilled jobs here in the Tees Valley, whether it's through an apprenticeship programme, going to university, or choosing another route. The only barrier to success is lack of determination.

Now more than ever the importance of careers education cannot be underestimated. Studies show that just four engagements with the world of work significantly reduces a pupil's chances of being unemployed and they, on average, earn 22% more than those who have not engaged, so I urge everyone to get involved to get our young people off to the best possible start in the world of work.

The future of our area is determined by the choices our young people make and the Combined Authority's careers initiative is there to help our young people access the information and skills they need to flourish. TeesValleyCareers.com will see every school and college in the area work with local businesses to shape and deliver careers and enterprise.

This valuable resource provides young people with informed and impartial careers advice on progression route options post 16 and 18 years.

This is an exciting time for the Tees Valley. Our young people do not deserve to be disadvantaged because of the coronavirus – they are the workers of the future and we need to do all we can to support them. Our future is bright and we've got some really great companies in the area, with some exciting career opportunities.

I hope you find this useful and I wish you the very best of luck for the future.



Ben Houchen
Tees Valley Mayor

The importance of your role

Many young people will decide which career path they want to follow while they are still at school. However, it is all too common that they change their minds after completing one or two years of training. Many students enter college or training unclear about the opportunities available to them after they complete their course. Others may choose a course based on what their friends are doing. They have a much better chance of a successful career if they understand the implications of the path they choose through further education, employment, training or an apprenticeship.

Therefore it is essential that you have the right information to help your child with the important decisions they will soon have to make. One of the most useful things you can do is to discuss the various career options with your child, helping them explore their passions, interests and ambitions.

This guide provides you with information to help you understand the education and employment options, so that you can help prepare your child to make the right career choice.

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Jobs of the future

We can't know for certain where the new jobs of the future will be. However, employment opportunities are predicted to be big within science and technology related industries over the coming years. For example:

- Machine learning and Artificial Intelligence
- Drone technology
- Hybrid and low-emissions cars
- Energy efficient televisions, refrigerators, lighting
- New fuels, such as hydrogen or bio-fuels (for example Biodiesel is made from rapeseed oil and other plant oils. It can be used in diesel-powered vehicles without needing any modifications to the engine)
- Wind farms, solar power
- Digital healthcare and assistive technology



How can I help?

As a parent/ carer/ guardian there is a lot you can do to support your child and help them find a career that's right for them. General tips:

- Schools, colleges and learning providers have a statutory duty to provide an impartial 1:2:1 careers information advice and guidance interview to your child in Year 11 and 13. Support your child with preparation for the interview by looking at different options available to them once they leave school or post 16 education - think about their options in good time and be aware of application deadlines
- Encourage them to talk about their career ideas and future plans
- Support your child to research a range of careers by using some of the resources listed in this booklet
- Find out about entry requirements for college, university courses or apprenticeships by visiting local college websites, www.ucas.com or www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship
- Encourage your child to talk with adult relatives, friends, teachers, tutors and any employer contacts your child's school and college will have, about the kind of work that they do
- Be aware your child may change their career interest as they become aware of more options
- Encourage your child to participate in appropriate careers events and activities both in and out of school and college
- Encourage your child to find out about the world of work through experience of work opportunities
- Encourage your child to visit TeesValleyCareers.com to find out more information on career options and progression routes
- Use the National Careers Service website: <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk> where they can find:
 - Help to choose or change career
 - Skills tests, course searches and job search advice

- Personalised help from careers advisers - contact them direct on 0800 100 900

How can I help? Cont'd...

In addition you could attend careers events held at your child's learning establishment or attend careers events that take place across the area. You can talk to subject teachers and tutors at parent's evenings or contact your Local Authority team that deals with **post 16 participation**.

Your Local Authority team can be contacted on the following numbers:

- Darlington Borough Council: 01325 405000
- Hartlepool Borough Council: 01429 266522
- Middlesbrough Borough Council: 01642 245432
- Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council: 01642 444666
- Stockton Borough Council/ Youth Direction: 01642 677600

Your child's school or college has a statutory obligation to provide careers advice and guidance (www.gov.uk/government/publications/careers-guidance-provision-for-young-people-in-schools)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/careers-guidance-for-colleges--2>

Remember their career choice is a personal decision. Your child's choices and decisions should be based on their aspirations, abilities and future employment opportunities.



Choices when leaving school

Raising participation age

In England, the government has raised the participation age so that all young people are now required to continue in education or training until at least their 18th birthday.

The options are:

- Stay in their existing school if they have a Sixth Form/ Post 16
- An Apprenticeship or Traineeship
- Other full-time education e.g. at a Sixth Form College, Further Education College or Local Authority learning and skills service.
- Part-time education or training for 20 hours or more a week – as well as being employed, self-employed or volunteering.

What are advantages for my child?

The legislation encourages young people to study and train to gain the higher skills that are needed in today's workplace. There are fewer low-skilled jobs so young people must be as well qualified and trained as possible to enter the labour force. It will stop young people taking jobs with no prospects and there will be more options to get jobs with training as the government is investing in training and apprenticeships. By staying in education or training for longer, young people are more likely to get a higher level of qualification and therefore increase their earnings over their lifetime.

Who will help my child get a suitable education and training place?

Your local authority is ultimately responsible for identifying and supporting young people who are not participating but your child may also get help from the careers advice service in their school or college. Your Local Authority will get in touch once your child leaves school at 16 to offer the best support available for your child.

If your child has an Education Health and Care (EHC) plan, any planned move to a post 16 or post 19 education setting or training provider will be managed through the annual review of their EHC plan. All consideration of next steps will be personalised and will include preparing for adulthood outcomes to aid transition into adulthood.

Is there still a 'school leaving date'?

Yes, it is still called that but it is not strictly speaking a 'school leaving date'. It is the last Friday in June of the year when your child turns 16. After this date young people have to find a job or volunteering placement with training, an apprenticeship, or a school or college place.

Child Benefit when your child turns 16

Your Child Benefit stops on 31 August on or after your child's 16th birthday if they leave education or training. It continues if they stay in approved education or training, but you must tell the Child Benefit Office. You'll be sent a letter in your child's last year at school asking you to confirm their plans.

Tell the Child Benefit Office if your child is:

- Staying in approved education
- Leaving approved education

To find out more on Child Benefits please visit:

<http://www.gov.uk/child-benefit-16-19>

Full-time education

A Levels, BTECs and NVQ qualifications (see the chart opposite and Glossary for explanation of these terms) are delivered by post-16 establishments (further education colleges, sixth form colleges, schools that have a sixth form or through Local Authority learning and skills services).

From September 2020 post 16 education providers will begin delivering T Levels. T Levels will follow GCSEs and will be equivalent to 3 A levels. These 2-year courses have been developed in collaboration with employers and businesses so that the content meets the needs of industry and prepares students for work.

T Levels will offer students a mixture of classroom learning and 'on-the-job' experience during an industry placement of at least 315 hours (approximately 45 days). They will provide the knowledge and experience needed to open the door into skilled employment, further study or a higher apprenticeship.

For more information on T Levels please visit: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/introduction-of-t-levels/introduction-of-t-levels#t-levels-what-they-are>

Within Tees Valley there are six further education colleges and five sixth form colleges along with a **number of schools which contain a sixth form or post-16 college:**

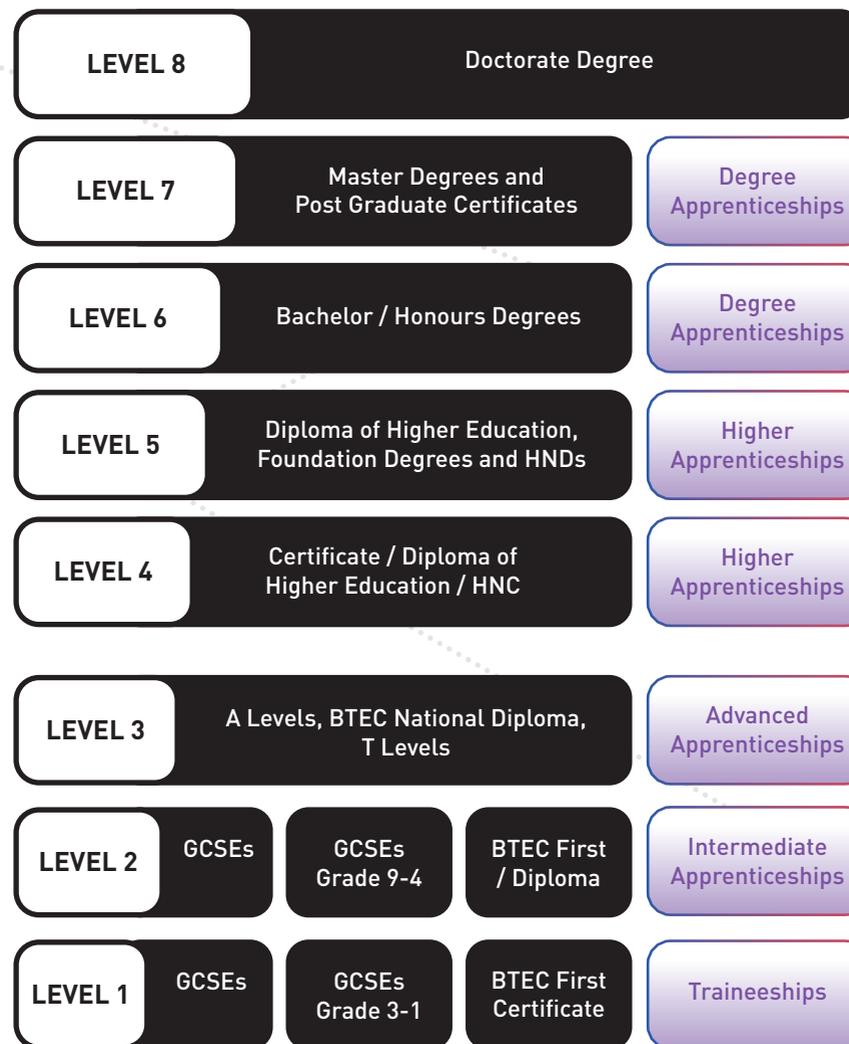
- ▶ Askham Bryan College, Stewart Park, Middlesbrough site
- ▶ The Northern School of Art Hartlepool & Middlesbrough sites
- ▶ Darlington College of Further Education
- ▶ Hartlepool College of Further Education
- ▶ Hartlepool Sixth Form College
- ▶ Middlesbrough College of Further Education
- ▶ Prior Pursglove College, Guisborough
- ▶ Queen Elizabeth College, Darlington
- ▶ Redcar & Cleveland College of Further Education
- ▶ Stockton Riverside College of Further Education
- ▶ Stockton Sixth Form College

Higher education

Full-time education can lead to higher education or a higher apprenticeship at university or a further education college. There are more than 150 different universities or colleges offering degree qualifications across the UK. For help on how to choose a course and university, visit www.ucas.com or www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk

The table opposite explains the different levels of qualifications that your child may choose upon leaving school.

Qualifications



Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships are a great option for young people who want to get into the world of work. Your child will develop skills, gain experience and qualifications on the job whilst working for a real employer and earning a real salary.

Apprenticeships can also offer the opportunity of gaining a degree such as a BA, BSc or MSc depending on the apprenticeship your child is completing. Your child can start their career gaining the kind of skills and experience that employers are looking for and they'll be earning while they're learning.

Apprenticeships are advertised through the national Find an Apprenticeship website <https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship> as well as with employers that are supported by a learning provider such as a college or university.

Apprenticeships are available across all industries. There are three levels of apprenticeships available:

Intermediate Apprenticeship	Advanced Apprenticeship	Higher & Degree Apprenticeship
<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Level 2■ 12 - 18 months■ Equivalent to GCSE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Level 3■ 18 - 48 months■ Equivalent to A Level	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Level 4, 5, 6, 7■ 24 months+■ Equivalent to Bachelor's or master's degree

Once an apprenticeship is complete your child can continue on to employment, further apprenticeships or university.

Detailed information on the types of apprenticeship offered in Tees Valley is available from the Tees Valley Learning Provider website www.tvvbl.net



Apprenticeship Support and Knowledge (ASK) for Schools project

The Tees Valley Learning Provider Network are a delivery partner for the ASK programme, commissioned by the National Apprenticeship Service.

The ASK programme offers every educational establishment in England with students in years 10 – 13 access to a free, bespoke apprenticeship support package to transform apprenticeship awareness activities so that students, parents and teachers can be informed about the wonderful opportunities that apprenticeships offer. We are proud that for 2019/20 the ASK offer has been expanded to offer even more fantastic activities and resources, including a new range of materials for students in Years 7, 8 and 9 as well as a new 6th form programme that positions apprenticeships equally alongside full-time university applications.

Contact the TVLPN Schools Support Team on **01642 271116 / 07305510149** or email jo.thompson@tvvbl.net or rachel.mccready@tvvbl.net



Traineeships

Traineeships prepare young people for their future careers by helping them to become 'work ready'. They provide essential work preparation training, maths and English and work experience needed to compete successfully for jobs, including Apprenticeships, or to progress to further learning.

The programme can last up to a maximum of 12 months with the content tailored to your child's individual career needs. They are ideal for those who want to get a job or apprenticeship but do not yet have the skills and experience.

To be suitable your child must be:

- ▶ Aged between 16 and 24 and qualified up to level 3
- ▶ Unemployed, or work fewer than 16 hours per week and have little work experience
- ▶ Motivated to work

Traineeships do not include a wage; however your child may get money to help towards travel costs. Bursaries are available for young people aged 16-19 on a Study Programme or Traineeship, subject to eligibility.

Traineeship opportunities are advertised regularly, to find a traineeship visit www.gov.uk/find-traineeship or contact your local college or training provider.



Part-time education or training

A minimum of 20 hours' education or training can be an option at age 16, however since the introduction of Raising the Participation Age (see page 7), it must be combined with one of the following until they are 18:

- ▶ Employment or self-employment
- ▶ Volunteering

Study programme

A study programme is a pathway to higher education and/or employment and is available to 16-19 year olds. Study programmes may be undertaken at a further education college, sixth form college and school sixth form or with a work-based learning provider.

A study programme has three key elements:

- ▶ Working towards Level 2 in maths and English (if a learner is not already at this level)
- ▶ A substantial qualification, e.g. A Level, BTEC First (Level 2) or BTEC National (Level 3)
- ▶ Work experience or other work-preparation programme such as activities to develop employability skills



Teesside Training and Support

There are a number of programmes being delivered across the Tees Valley that can support your child if your child is aged 15+ years old and either not in education, employment or training (NEET) or unemployed.

Youth Employment Initiative – Pathways and Routeways

The Tees Valley Pathways and Routeways Programmes form part of the Youth Employment Initiative. If you are aged 15 to 29 years old and either unemployed or not in education, employment or training (NEET) the programmes can help you progress into education, employment, training or self-employment by providing:

- ▶ A range of innovative and interesting activities, courses and opportunities to support your child into work, education or further training;
- ▶ Programmes using sport, creative arts, culture and outdoor activities to improve communication and personal skills;
- ▶ Activities to build confidence and improve employability skills using both enterprise and self-employment;
- ▶ A dedicated careers advisor who will provide personalised one to one support and independent advice and guidance;
- ▶ Support through a Flexible Fund which may be able to pay for items such as travel expenses, clothing, equipment, tools and specialist training;
- ▶ Routeways in partnership with employers in growth sectors such as Health & Social Care, Construction, Digital and Advanced Manufacturing.

For more information; phone **01429 401831**, email YEI@hartlepool.gov.uk or you can refer yourself online through www.hartlepool.gov.uk/careersservice. The programmes are part-funded by the European Social Fund and supported under the Youth Employment Initiative.

Youth Employment Initiative – New Directions

New Directions is a Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) scheme aimed at people aged 15 to 29 who are classed as NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training) and delivered across Tees Valley. Careers advisors are on hand to identify a range of training and practical support options, including mentoring, apprenticeships, job placements and further education, to find a job that will enable them to reach their potential.

For further information and support, please contact:

In Redcar & Cleveland ring **07823 536656** or email newdirections@beyondhousing.co.uk

In Hartlepool or Darlington ring Clare Forster on **07976682727** or email clare.forster@newdur.ac.uk

In Stockton or Middlesbrough ring Jamie-Leigh Lewis on **01642 947840** or email newdirections@thirteengroup.co.uk

or Johnny Harrison on **07801 897864** or email johnny.harrison@actes.co.uk

Tees Valley ESF NEET Programme

The ESF NEET programme is currently being delivered by Learning Curve Group. It is a programme to support Tees Valley residents aged 15-24 who are not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) or at risk of becoming NEET. Providing additional bespoke support to those requiring special assistance. Working to make young people aware of the employment opportunities and linking those to develop career pathways, employment experience and progression into Apprenticeships or Traineeships. There are several programmes from one day in collaboration with schools to a full time programme at one the specialist academies in Middlesbrough and Hartlepool. Smaller bespoke programmes are delivered across the Tees valley in community venues. A blended learning programme of online learning and face to face delivery methods will be available for September 2020.

For more information please contact Academies direct on:
Telephone number: **01388 777 129**

Email enquiries: tees.valley@learningcurvegroup.co.uk

Website: <https://www.learningcurvegroup.co.uk> or alternatively for bespoke community support diane.turner@learningcurvegroup.co.uk
Telephone **01388 777129** or mobile **07458 112923**



Available financial support for learning

Once your child leaves secondary education aged 16, the education choice they make until their 18th birthday will be funded the government. However, should your child change their education choice at the age of 19, there will be costs for training and qualifications that are not covered by the government.

It is important that your child makes the right informed decision/choice on education for them upon leaving school.

Your child may be able to get help with the costs of:

- ▶ Their course
- ▶ Childcare
- ▶ Day-to-day living costs

There are a number of schemes which aim to provide financial support, including;

- ▶ 16-19 Bursaries
- ▶ Advanced Learning Loans
- ▶ Care to Learn
- ▶ Dance and Drama Award
- ▶ Childcare Grant
- ▶ Discretionary Learner Support
- ▶ Professional and Career Development Loans
- ▶ Residential Support Scheme

For more information on any of these including how to apply, visit

www.gov.uk/education/funding-and-finance-for-students

Funding for essential skills

Most further education colleges and other learning providers offer free or subsidised education for young people aged 16-18 and for those up to age 23 who don't already have a level 3 qualification. However please check with each individual provider for details.

Will there be any financial help?

There is a 16-19 Bursary Fund to help young people most in need entering education or training. Some schools, colleges and training providers will also have some extra funding. For more information, visit www.gov.uk/1619-bursary-fund

Financial help at university

There are a number of financial packages available to those wishing to go to university, these include:

- ▶ Tuition Fee Loan
- ▶ Maintenance Loan (full-time students only)

Your child might get extra help on top of this, e.g. a travel grant if they need to study abroad.



Maintenance loans

Maintenance loans help your child with their day-to-day living expenses (e.g. accommodation, books, and bills) and is paid directly into their bank account at the start of term.

The amount your child can borrow will depend on how much their family earns, where they'll be living when they are studying and the year they start their course.

Maintenance loans need to be repaid in exactly the same way as tuition fee loans.

For more details please see www.gov.uk/student-finance

Benefits

While your child is studying, they may also be eligible for benefits such as Universal Credit, which has been brought in to replace benefits such as Employment and Support Allowance and Income Support.

For more information visit www.gov.uk/universal-credit/overview

Funding from a charitable trust

Visit the Family Action website (www.family-action.org.uk) to check if you can get help from a charitable trust.

Advice

Find out more about courses and what financial help you can get through the National Careers Service or at www.gov.uk

Tuition fees

Tuition fee loans pay for the course. The cost of tuition fees varies between different universities or colleges. It can also vary between different courses at the same university or college. The tuition fee loan is paid directly to your child's chosen university or college and your child will have to pay it back.

Tuition fee loans are not paid back until your child has left university or college.

Wages

Employers are willing to pay higher wages to people who have the qualifications and skills that they need. The better the qualification, the higher the wage!



April 2020 - The national minimum hourly wage:

Apprentice - £4.15 (16 to 18 and those aged 19 or over who are in their first year of their apprenticeship. All other apprentices are entitled to the National Minimum Wage for their age)

Under 18 - £4.55

18-20 - £6.45

21-24 - £8.20

25 and over - £8.72 (also known as the national living wage)

For more information on minimum wages please see www.gov.uk/national-minimum-wage-rates

What are employers looking for?

In times of high unemployment, employers have more choice of applicants and will favour those with well-rounded employability skills.

Employability skills are the skills needed to get, keep and be successful in a job. Within school or college, your child may have participated in many activities that develop employability skills such as mock interview days, experiences of work and enterprise days.

Employability skills can also be acquired in a variety of other ways such as activities at home, with family and friends, volunteering, or undertaking extra-curricular activities.





Experience of work

Schools, colleges and learning providers that deliver 16- 18 full time study programme have a statutory duty to provide an opportunity for work-related learning, to enable your child to experience the world of work. This is a good chance for your child to find out about work and for them to understand the skills that are needed in the workplace. It can also be an opportunity for them to find out more about a career that interests them. For some courses or jobs, relevant experience of work is essential.

Sometimes the skills we develop through experience are not always obvious at the time. The teacher will not always say "we are going to work on problem solving" but the task will involve developing problem-solving skills.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/careers-guidance-provision-for-young-people-in-schools>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/careers-guidance-for-colleges--2>

Ways to get experience of work

- ▶ **Experience of work placements** – schools and colleges offer experience of work placements. Ask your child's school or college for individual support and guidance.
- ▶ **Volunteering** – donating time to good causes is a great way to stand out to potential employers. The amount of time dedicated to volunteering will depend on your child's study, work or family commitments. Whether it's just a few hours a week, a couple of days a month or the entire summer break, there is no limit to the amount of time they can spend volunteering. To find volunteering work visit sites such as www.do-it.org or www.volunteermatters.org.uk
- ▶ **Work shadowing** – ask family or friends whether your child can spend a day or two shadowing them at work.
- ▶ **National Citizen Service (NCS)** – available to 16 and 17 year olds, NCS is a 2-4 week programme which takes place in the summer and autumn holidays. Young people experience the freedom of living away from home, grow in confidence, and gain vital skills and experiences to boost their CV and UCAS applications. For more information visit www.ncsnortheast.co.uk

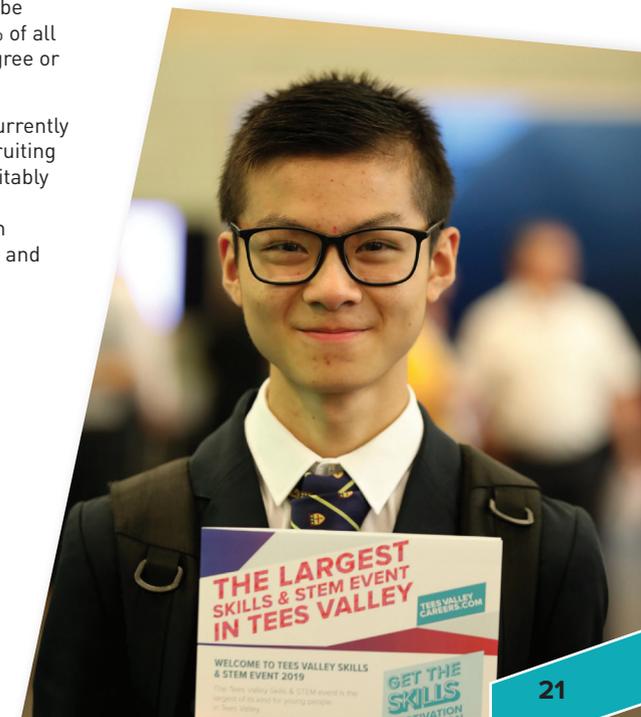
Tees Valley skills challenges

Raising educational attainment and skill levels is essential for our future success in Tees Valley. It will help to attract new businesses, as well as increase the quantity and quality of jobs available within the area. It will also support local people to access these jobs, and achieve their full potential.

In Tees Valley we have lots of great businesses creating new and exciting jobs.

- ▶ Tees Valley (like the rest of the UK) has an ageing workforce with many due to retire over the next few years. Employers know that they will need to replace many of their most skilled employees. There may be as many as 95,000 people currently in jobs in Tees Valley who will need to be replaced before 2027, with 40% of all jobs requiring a foundation degree or higher.
- ▶ Employers in Tees Valley are currently experiencing difficulties in recruiting to some roles due to lack of suitably skilled people – jobs include IT programmers, teachers, health professionals including carers, and engineers.

- ▶ Over the coming years there will be an increase in requirements for health workers, such as nurses, doctors, dentists, social workers and carers.
- ▶ In Tees Valley there is now a huge emphasis on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) subjects in schools, colleges and universities. A survey found that 44% of Tees Valley STEM employers have experienced difficulty in finding suitably skilled staff. Within Tees Valley, employers need young people with these skills.



Tees Valley industry sectors

Industry is classified into something called 'sector areas'. Sector areas are different categories that a business falls into, for example, a clothes shop is in the retail sector.

The sector areas listed below have been forecasted to be the main sectors for future job creation in Tees Valley – for both new and replacement jobs from those who will leave or retire:

Advanced Manufacturing

is the use of innovative technology to improve products or processes. Examples of job roles in Advanced Manufacturing:



- › Production managers and engineers, mechanical engineers
- › Welders, platers, fabricators and boiler making trades

Bioscience is the scientific study of living organisms and manufacture of healthcare products. It includes nutrition, biology, botany, zoology, genetics, microbiology and molecular biology. Examples of job roles include:



- › Biomedical scientist
- › Laboratory technician
- › Microbiologist
- › Process development scientist
- › Immunologist

Business and Professional Services

includes banking, pensions and insurance, legal services and accounting, management consultancy and real estate. Examples of job roles in Business and Professional Services include:



- › Accountants, office administrators, payroll managers and wage clerks
- › Customer service, call and contact centre staff
- › Estate agents, housing officers

Chemical Processing is the conversion of raw materials (natural gas, air, water, metals and minerals) into more than 70,000 different products. Examples of job roles in Chemical Processing:



- › Chemical engineers, laboratory and process technicians
- › Instrument and control technicians

Clean Energy is energy derived from renewable, zero-emissions sources, as well as energy saved through energy efficiency measures. Example of job roles in this industry include:



- › Carbon consultant
- › Energy & Environment Engineer
- › Environmental Specialist
- › Pollution Prevention Engineer

Construction is the process of constructing a building or infrastructure. Construction starts with planning, design, and financing, and continues until the project is built and ready for use. Examples of job roles in Construction:



- › Architects, civil, design and structural engineers
- › Bricklayers, carpenters and joiners, electricians, fork lift drivers
- › Plumbing and heating engineers

Digital / IT involves working with computers and information systems, including:



- › Web designers/programmers
- › IT support technicians
- › IT business analysts, architects and system designers
- › Computer coders

Creative, Culture and Leisure

The Creative industry includes the creative development of ideas and products such as art and design, TV and radio, media and advertising. Culture and Leisure includes galleries, museums and libraries, sport and fitness, food and accommodation. Example of job roles:



- › Graphic designer
- › Fitness instructor
- › Journalist
- › Chef
- › Artist or Author
- › Hotel manager

Logistics is the commercial activity of transporting goods to customers. Examples of job roles in Logistics:



- › Warehouse managers, transport managers
- › Stock control clerks and assistants
- › Large and small goods vehicle drivers

Health and Social Care is the treatment of ill health and medical conditions in hospitals, health centres and in the community. Social care is the care and support of vulnerable people, usually in the community. Example of job roles include:



- › Doctors, nurses, healthcare assistants
- › Carers
- › Social Care workers
- › Radiographers, medical engineers and clinical psychologists

How to find out more

1. Tees Valley Careers website: www.TeesValleyCareers.com
2. Ask your child's school or college for individual support and guidance. Your child's school and college has to follow statutory guidance for impartial careers guidance.
3. National Careers Service - provide impartial information, advice and guidance to help your child make decisions on learning, training and work. Visit <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk> or ring the helpline on 0800 100 900.
4. Tees Valley Learning Providers Network - the Tees Valley Learning Providers Network Ltd (TVLPN) is a registered charity with 51 members consisting of local Training Providers, Colleges and Local Authorities. They are dedicated to supporting Learning Providers and Learners to achieve their potential in the field of work based learning. For more information visit www.tvwbl.net



Glossary

TVCA – Tees Valley Combined Authority is chaired by the Tees Valley Mayor. Its purpose is to drive economic growth, create jobs and transform Tees Valley for the benefit of local people and businesses. It is a partnership of five local authorities; Darlington, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar and Cleveland and Stockton-on-Tees, working closely with the business community and other partners to make local decisions to support the growth of our economy. As part of the devolution deal, the Combined Authority has responsibility over the Education, Employment and Skills agenda, as well as transport and infrastructure, business growth and culture and tourism.

FE – Further Education is education which goes beyond what has been achieved in compulsory education, but which is not at degree level. Typically, further education includes A Levels, AS Levels and vocational qualifications.

HE – Higher Education is an advanced level of study normally after you turn 18 years old. Higher education courses are usually studied at universities, university colleges and higher education institutions.

HNC – A Higher National Certificate is a higher education/further education qualification in the UK. A full-time HNC takes one year to complete, or two years part-time. Generally an HNC is the equivalent to one year at university.

HND – A Higher National Diploma is a work-related course provided by higher and further education colleges in the UK. A full-time HND takes two years to complete, or three to four years part-time. Generally an HND is the equivalent to two years at university.

BTEC – The Business and Technology Education Council is a secondary school leaving qualification and further education qualification in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. BTEC qualifications are equivalent to other qualifications such as GCSE (levels 1 to 2), A Level (level 3) and university degrees (levels 4 to 7). BTECs are undertaken in vocational subjects ranging from business studies to engineering.

NVQ – National Vocational Qualifications are work based awards in England, Wales and Northern Ireland that are achieved through assessment and training. NVQs are based on National Occupational Standards that describe the 'competencies' expected in any given job role. Typically, candidates will work towards an NVQ that reflects their role in a paid or voluntary position.

T Levels – T Levels follow GCSEs and are equivalent to 3 A levels. Course duration is two years and there is a requirement of classroom learning and 'on-the-job' experience during an industry placement of at least 315 hours (approximately 45 days).



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