

Choosing where to study or train Post 16



**achieving
for children**

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After Year 11 (GCSEs) you could:

- Stay in School
- Go to a 6th form College
- Go to a further education (FE) College
- Or join a work-based Training Provider

FE college

- Go to college open days – they're great opportunities to talk to students and tutors.
- College is an adult environment where you take more responsibility for yourself and your learning – there's support and guidance available, but it's also a chance for you to prepare for work and life post-education.
- There's usually a range of sport and leisure opportunities – employers and universities look for evidence of your wider interests and achievements, so check out college clubs and activities!

School sixth form

- If you're already at a school with a sixth form, you could stay on – you already know the place, the teachers, and your friends (who might stay on too).
- It's still worth looking at other schools – sixth forms vary in size, course offering, and subjects, as well as extra activities and opportunities you might like.
- Check whether they offer the courses you want – wherever you choose to go, make sure you'll be studying subjects that interest you.

Sixth form college

- Sixth form colleges can be more informal than school sixth forms.
- They're usually bigger, and they can often offer you more study options.
- You'll get to make new friends from different schools.

Training providers

- There are lots of training providers offering a wide range of work-related training and qualifications, including [NVQs](#) and [apprenticeships](#).
- Some are specialists focusing on particular sectors and job roles – such as construction, business administration, childcare, or hair and beauty.
- Training providers work closely with employers who offer work-based training as part of placements or employment.

Top tips

- **Search for schools, colleges, and training providers** in your area that offer the course(s) or subjects you want to study.
- **Go to open days** – these are great opportunities to explore schools or colleges, and to find out more about the courses on offer.
- **Find out as much as you can** – college life and work-based training can be quite different from secondary school and the education you've known so far.

Support available

- If you require further support with exploring post 16 options and the local education/training providers please contact

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or visit the local offer website and the Next Steps Pack:

<https://kr.afcinfo.org.uk>