

## Re-take requirement for GCSE English Language and Mathematics

For those students who do not achieve a grade 4 or above in GCSE English Language or Maths, there is a requirement to re-sit the GCSE(s) or, possibly, to complete an alternative qualification.

- Full-time students with a grade 3 in GCSE Maths and/or GCSE English must re-sit these GCSE exams if they want to continue to study full-time at a school or college.
- Full-time students with a GCSE grade 2 or below, and part-time students who have a GCSE grade 3 in Maths and/or English, can study either a GCSE or an approved stepping-stone qualification. The approved-stepping stone qualifications include Functional Skills.

### Top tips for considering post-16 pathways:

There is no set route for any student to take so the opportunities are extensive. It is therefore vital for young people to seek advice from a careers advisor.

Post-16 providers have their own specific entry requirements, so it is worthwhile contacting individual providers to determine what the entry requirements are.

Concessions may be made for EAL students due to their unique backgrounds and prior educational experiences.

## For further support

[The National Careers Service](#) provides information, advice and guidance to help with making an appropriate decision in relation to learning, training and work. There is also support with writing a Curriculum Vitae (CV) and covering letter, filling in an application form and advice on how to do well in an interview.

There are [several different ways](#) the National Careers Service can be contacted. If you need advice in a language other than English, you can phone 0800 100 900 and choose option 5 to speak to an adviser using an interpreter.

[Hampshire Futures](#), part of Hampshire County Council's Children's Services department, also provides help for young people aged 16-24 who are not in education, employment or training.

The [full guidance](#) on our website sets out further links to other useful services and websites.

In addition, the [government website](#) sets out the circumstances for when financial help might be available.

## For more information

Visit our website for our full guidance on post-16 pathways:

[www.hants.gov.uk/emtas](http://www.hants.gov.uk/emtas)

Follow us on Twitter:

[@HampshireEMTAS](https://twitter.com/HampshireEMTAS)

For further questions, please contact EMTAS:

[EMTAS@hants.gov.uk](mailto:EMTAS@hants.gov.uk)

## Information on Post-16 provision and pathways for students for whom English is an Additional Language (EAL)



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## Options for students post-16

Students must stay in some form of education or training until the age of 19.

This could be

- full-time education (such as at school or college)
- an apprenticeship
- part-time education or training alongside being employed, self-employed or volunteering for 20 hours or more a week, dependent on having the right to work in the UK.

## Eligibility for funding

Most young people legally residing in England will be eligible for 16 to 19 study programme funding.

The government has set out the limited exceptions in '[16 to 19 education: funding guidance - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/16-to-19-education-funding-guidance)'. The main exception is those students whose main reason for residence in the UK is attendance at a fee paying school.

## What qualifications are available?

Generally, students are expected to progress from the lower level qualifications, listed below, upwards. However, more advanced learners of EAL may be in a position to work towards the higher level qualifications.

### Entry Level

Entry Level qualifications such as ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) can provide students without previous qualifications, such as GCSEs, with the practical language skills they need for work. ESOL can also help with developing language skills to access future courses or alternative pathways.

### Level 1

Level 1 qualifications, such as foundation diplomas, Functional Skills at Level 1 and traineeships, may be an option for those students who have achieved GCSEs grades 1-3 at school. Such courses will help students to develop practical skills. Students could then progress onto a Level 2 course.

### Level 2

If students have achieved grades 1-3 at GCSE, they may be able to complete a Level 2 qualification such as an apprenticeship, Functional Skills at Level 2, further GCSEs or a Higher Diploma. Employers are likely to ask for Level 2 qualifications.

### Level 3

Level 3 qualifications such as A-Levels might be more suitable for those students who have achieved GCSE grades 4 and above.

## Traineeships

A traineeship is a course with work experience that gets young people ready for work or for an apprenticeship. A traineeship can last up to 6 months.

The criteria below must be met in order to be able to apply for a traineeship

- eligible to work in England
- unemployed and have little or no work experience
- aged 16-24 and qualified below Level 3

Traineeships are not paid placements but young people may be given expenses for travel and meals, for example.

Opportunities for traineeships can be found on the [government website](https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-education).

## Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships provide an opportunity for young people to combine further study with practical training in a job.

As an apprentice, young people

- work alongside experienced staff
- gain job-specific skills
- earn a wage and get holiday pay
- get time for study related to their role (usually one day a week)

There are different levels of apprenticeships available, which will have their own entry requirements, in terms of previous qualifications and experience.

To apply for an apprenticeship, young people must be

- 16 or over by the end of the summer holidays
- living in England
- not in full-time education

Opportunities for apprenticeships can be found on the [government website](https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-education).