



# FUTURE YOU

A handbook to help Coventry young people (14-18)  
to take their best next step



## Next Steps

Training & Qualifications Guide  
for young people, careers  
professionals, teachers and  
parents/carers.



Region: **West Midlands**  
City: **Coventry**

# Welcome

Welcome to the first edition of our guide, 'Future You,' brought to you by the Coventry Careers Hub. This guide is here to help you figure out what to do after school. Inside, you'll find info on the education providers around you and the different jobs you can aim for.

Choosing what to do next can be confusing, but don't worry, this guide is like a map to help you pick the best path. It also helps teachers and careers advisers give you good advice. We've done lots of research to make sure you get fair and useful info.

The guide lists places that help thousands of people learn new things, build the right skills, and get interesting jobs every year.

With so many choices, it can feel a bit much, but our guide is like a friend giving you simple info so you can decide what's best for YOU! Let's start this journey together toward a successful future!



**I believe careers education in school is more important now than ever. I believe a better future begins with every student in Coventry having access to more opportunities.**

Year 12 student,  
Coventry

# FUTURE YOU

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Visit the [Coventry Careers Hub](#) for information on the work we do.

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## About

A free publication, Future You is published by Careermap Ltd on behalf of the Coventry Careers Hub. The target audience is anyone in Coventry wishing to progress their careers. These publications are designed to show it can be done by providing information about the available funded pathways and a list of free downloadable resources.

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Within this guide we have made recommendations of what we believe to be reliable sources to help you to find further information about careers, however these organisations have not endorsed this guide.

# Contents

- 4 What are your options?
- 5 Supported Internships
- 6 Inclusive Apprenticeships
- 7 T Levels
- 8 Apprenticeships
- 9 Vocational Courses
- 10 Central Coventry Providers
- 12 Transportation
- 13 Provider Director Useful Links
- 14 A Levels
- 15 Foundation Courses
- 16 University
- 17 Student Bank Accounts
- 18 Labour Market Information Coventry
- 19 Tips for a successful CV

# FUTURE YOU

## What are your options?

The options shared in this Directory offer information for everybody, whatever you want to do and whatever your starting point.



There are a variety of progression pathways you can take to build your career. Different pathways suit different people and what is great is that you can choose the best route to achieve your goals. An example of this is that you can take BTEC's, T Levels and/or A levels to progress to University to get a degree or you can take the apprenticeship route which allows you to work and study at the same time.



## Supported Internships

Supported internships are a structured, work-based study programme for 16 to 24-year-olds with SEND, who have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). The core aim of a Supported Internship study programme is a substantial work placement, facilitated by the support of an expert job coach.

The job coach provides in-work support that tapers off, if appropriate, as the supported intern becomes familiar with their role.



<b>16-24</b> with an EHCP	<b>70%</b> in workplace	 Develop key skills
 Progression into paid employment	 Progression pathways	 Supportive job coach
 Full time	 1 year	 Build confidence

# Inclusive Apprenticeships

The same as an apprenticeship with additional support for the apprentice if they are aged between 16 - 24 and have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

An apprenticeship is a real job, with a real employer, where the apprentice will both work and study, learning new skills and knowledge towards the apprenticeship standard.

For these apprentices, exemptions are in place for the regular apprenticeship English and Maths minimum requirements.



Employed



Paid a salary



Contract



Added support

600+  
Apprenticeship routes



Level 2 -  
degree level



Typically  
1-4 years +



Real job = real  
responsibilities

# T Levels

A new range of qualifications, Technical Levels (T Levels) are a practical, employer-led alternative to A Levels, designed to get students work ready.

## Structure of a T Level

A technical qualification, which provides:

- An opportunity to go directly into skilled employment
- Core theory, concepts and skills for a specific area of industry
- Specialist skills and knowledge for an occupation within a certain sector i.e. construction and the built environment
- An industry placement with an employer



Get work ready

24

courses by  
2023



Level 2 maths  
and English



Alternative to  
A-Levels

1 T-Level =  
3 A-Levels



Designed by  
employers



45 day industry  
placement



Progression  
options

# Apprenticeships

An apprenticeship is a real job, with a real employer, where the apprentice will both work and study, learning new skills and knowledge towards the apprenticeship standard.

## Apprenticeship benefits

Apprenticeships are an exciting paid option for anyone wanting to gain experience, upskill or change career because they offer the chance to earn a wage whilst they work and study.



Employed



Paid a salary



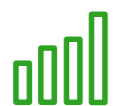
Contract



Typically  
1-4 years +

600+

Apprenticeship  
routes



Level 2 -  
degree level



Industry  
specific



Real job = real  
responsibilities

# Vocational Courses

A programme of study which has a focus on practical work, for example BTECs. These courses provide you with a particular skillset required for entry into different types of jobs. These courses are offered by a range of settings such as schools, colleges and independent training providers and can lead to further study or entry into employment.



Focus on  
practical work



Progress to  
further study



Gain transferable  
skills



Learning in real  
situations



Gain an L2 or L3  
qualification



Progress to skilled  
employment



Develop skills  
and knowledge

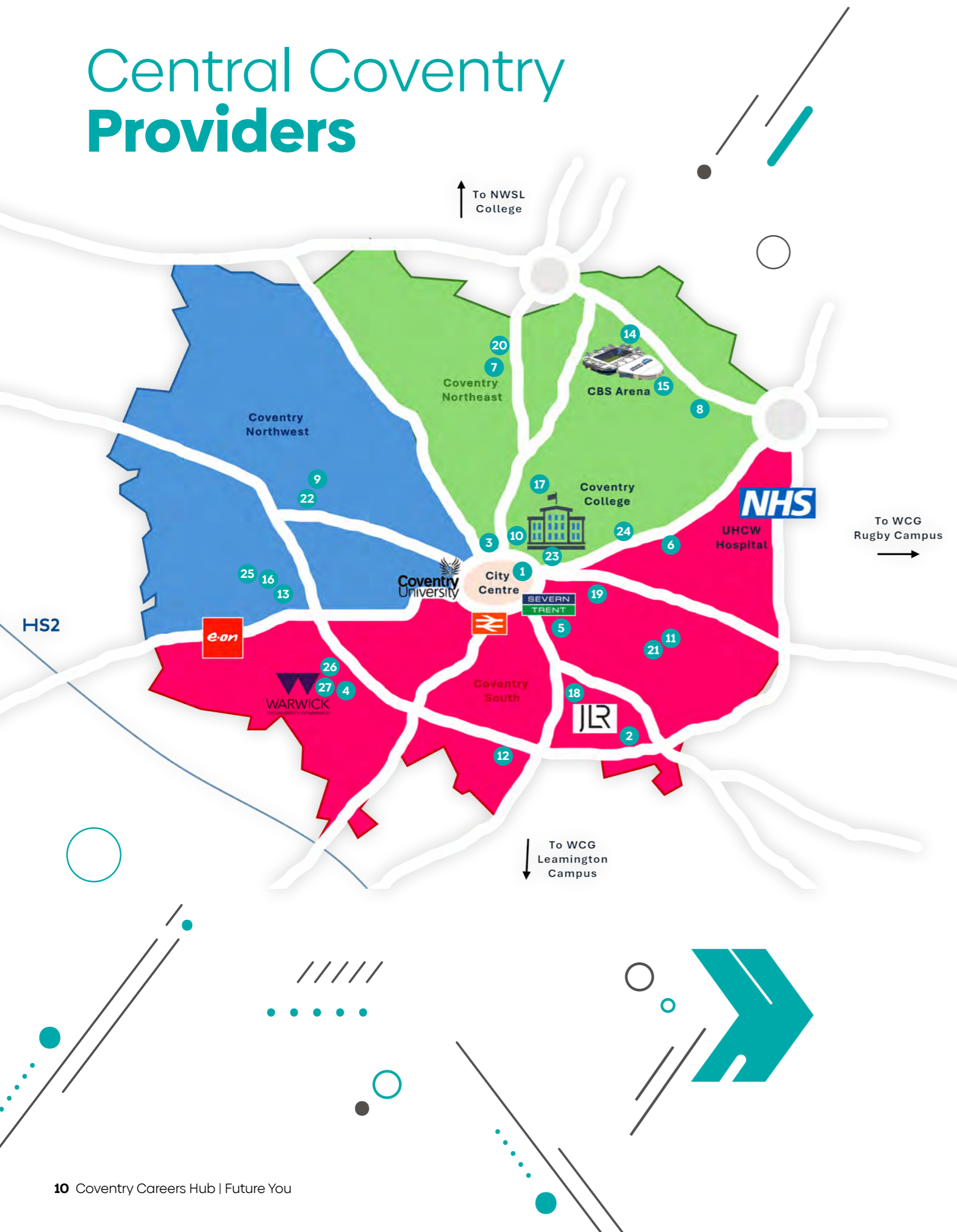


Meet the needs  
of employers

Some  
L3 quals  
attract  
UCAS  
points



# Central Coventry Providers



Institution Name	Website	Location	FE	HE	Training
1 Arden University	arden.ac.uk/	Coventry	•	•	•
2 Bablake School	www.bablake.com/SixthForm	Coventry	•		
2 Baginton Fields School	www.bagintonfields.thrive.ac/Post-16	Willenhall	•		
3 Barr's Hill School	www.barrshill.coventry.sch.uk/post16select/	Radford	•		
4 Bishop Ullathorne Catholic School	www.bishopullathorne.co.uk/post-16	Finham	•		
5 Blue Coat Church of England School	bluecoatschool.com/sixth-form	Stoke Heath	•		
6 Caludon Castle School	www.caludoncastle.co.uk/sixth-form/	Wyken	•		
7 Cardinal Newman Catholic School	www.cncs.school/Post-16	Keresley	•		
8 Cardinal Wiseman School	cardinalwiseman.coventry.sch.uk/sixthform	Potters Green	•		
9 Coundon Court	www.coundoncourt.org/sixth-form/welcome	Coundon	•		
1 Coventry College	www.coventrycollege.ac.uk/	Coventry	•	•	
1 Coventry University	www.coventry.ac.uk/	Coventry	•	•	•
10 Eden Girls' School Coventry	www.edengirlscoventry.com/	Foleshill	•		
11 Ernesford Grande Community Academy	www.egacademy.org.uk/16plus	Ernesford Grange	•		
12 Finham Park School	finhampark.com/	Finham	•		
13 Finham Park 2	finhampark2.co.uk/sixth-form/about/	Tile Hill	•		
14 Foxford Community School	www.foxfordschool.co.uk/sixth-form/	Longford	•		
15 Grace Academy Coventry	www.coventry.graceacademy.org.uk/SixthForm	Potters Green	•		
1 Heart of England Training	hoet.co.uk/	Coventry	•		
16 Hereward College of Further Education	www.hereward.ac.uk/	Tile Hill	•		
1 King Henry VIII School	kinghenrys.co.uk/sixth-form/	Coventry	•		
17 Lyng Hall School	www.lynghallschool.co.uk/sixth-form/	Edgwick	•		
1 Manufacturing Technology Centre	www.the-mtc.org/	Coventry	•		•
18 Meadow Park School	meadowparkschool.com/sixth-form/	Whitley	•		
1 Midland Group Training Services	www.mgts.co.uk/	Coventry	•		•
19 Pattisons College	www.pattisons.co.uk/sixth-form/	Binley	•		
20 President Kennedy School	www.pks.coventry.sch.uk/Post-16	Holbrooks	•		
21 Riverbank School	riverbankacademy.org.uk/	Whitley	•		
22 Sherbourne Fields School	www.sherbournefields.co.uk/page/KeyStage5	Coundon	•		
23 Sidney Stringer Academy	www.sidneystringeracademy.org.uk/SixteenPlus	Hillfields	•		
24 Stoke Park School	www.stokepark.coventry.sch.uk/page/Post16	Stoke Heath	•		
University of Warwick	warwick.ac.uk/	Canley		•	•
25 West Coventry Academy	westcoventry.atlp.org.uk/sixth-form/welcome/	Tile Hill	•		
26 Westwood Academy	www.thewestwoodacademy.co.uk/Post16	Canley	•		
27 WMG Academy for Young Engineers	coventry.wmgacademy.org.uk/	Canley	•		

# Transport: Getting Around While You Learn!

Considering how you'll get around during your studies is an important factor when choosing a place to study. This guide will help you to make informed decisions about your commute, whether you're staying local or travelling further away.

## Factors to Consider:

- **Location:** Consider how close your institution is to your planned living situation. Will you be able to walk, cycle, or use a scooter? If public transportation is necessary, how far are you willing to travel daily? Remember, a long commute can become tiring and expensive.
- **Travel time:** Factor in commute times when comparing institutions. Research typical travel times for buses or trains, especially during peak hours when things might be slower.
- **Cost:** Travel costs can add up quickly. Consider the distance from your home or accommodation to the institution you want to go to. How affordable are the public transport options?

Having reliable transport options reduces stress and makes getting to and from your studies easier. Considering the factors above, think about how well the available transportation options fit your needs. Are they frequent enough, with schedules that align with your studies? Is the journey itself comfortable and direct? Be sure to choose the best option for you.

## Public Transport:

Coventry and Warwickshire have a well-connected public transport network, with buses and trains serving most areas. Here's a breakdown of the key options available:

**Buses:** Operators like [National Express West Midlands \(West Midlands Bus\)](#) and [Stagecoach](#) run extensive bus services across Coventry, Warwickshire, and surrounding areas. Discounted student travel passes are also available, making buses a budget-friendly option for students.

- **Tip:** Look out for special student passes like Stagecoach's unirider option, which provides unlimited travel within the Coventry and Warwickshire area for a discounted price during specific periods.

**Trains:** Train services connect Coventry and major towns like Leamington Spa and Nuneaton. While train travel may be more expensive than buses, it can be a quicker option for longer distances:

- [West Midlands Railway](#) for instance connects Coventry and Warwickshire to Birmingham, Wolverhampton, and other cities. Consider season tickets for regular travel.
- [CrossCountry](#) offers intercity train services connecting Coventry to destinations further away. May be suitable for occasional travel home or on long-distance journeys to other cities.

**Cycling:** Cycling is a healthy and environmentally friendly way to get around. Many local areas have dedicated cycle paths, and many institutions in the area offer secure bike storage facilities.

## Additional Resources:

- [Transport for West Midlands \(TFWM\)](#): Provides a journey planner for all public transport options across the West Midlands region. Use this tool to find the most efficient route for your needs.
- Alternatively, you can download mobile apps from public transport providers like [Stagecoach Bus App](#) and [NX Bus mTicket App](#). These apps provide real-time travel updates and allow you to conveniently plan your journeys on the go.

## Tips to remember before your commute:

- Plan your journey: Use journey planning tools to find the best routes and timetables.
- Consider student discounts: Most transport providers offer concessionary fares for students.
- Explore alternative routes: There might be less direct routes with shorter overall travel times.
- Check real-time information: Be aware of potential delays and adjust your journey accordingly.

## Getting Around Coventry & Warwickshire

*The idea is to show a 'relatable' example of how different students go about their commutes in ways that serve their needs best.*

**Example 1: Living in Coventry** Adam lives near his campus at Coventry University and doesn't need to rely on public transport for his lectures. However, he enjoys exploring the city in his free time. He uses the TFWM app to plan his trips and takes advantage of their student bus pass for discounted travel.

**Example 2: Cycling to WCG Royal Leamington Spa College** Sarah loves cycling and chooses to cycle to WCG Royal Leamington Spa College most days. The college provides secure bike storage facilities, and Sarah enjoys the health benefits and cost savings associated with cycling. However, for occasional trips or when the weather isn't ideal, Sarah also takes advantage of the available bus services to get to college.

# More Providers

Institution Name	Website	Location	FE	HE	Training
North Warwickshire and South Leicestershire College	<a href="http://www.nwslc.ac.uk/">www.nwslc.ac.uk/</a>	Coventry, Hinkley, Lutterworth, Nuneaton, Wigston	•	•	•
Etone College	<a href="http://www.etoncollege.co.uk/">www.etoncollege.co.uk/</a>	Nuneaton	•		
Intec Business Colleges	<a href="http://www.intecbusinesscolleges.co.uk/">www.intecbusinesscolleges.co.uk/</a>	Rugby	•		•
King Edward VI College	<a href="http://www.kedst.ac.uk/about/">www.kedst.ac.uk/about/</a>	Nuneaton	•		
Moreton Morell College - WCG*	<a href="http://wcg.ac.uk/">wcg.ac.uk/</a>	Warwick	•		•
Royal Leamington Spa College - WCG	<a href="http://wcg.ac.uk/">wcg.ac.uk/</a>	Leamington Spa	•	•	•
Rugby College - WCG	<a href="http://wcg.ac.uk/">wcg.ac.uk/</a>	Rugby	•	•	•
Stratford-upon-Avon College	<a href="http://www.stratford.ac.uk/">www.stratford.ac.uk/</a>	Stratford-upon-Avon	•	•	
Warwick Trident Centre - WCG	<a href="http://wcg.ac.uk/">wcg.ac.uk/</a>	Warwick	•	•	•

\*WCG = Warwickshire College Group

# Resource Directory

➤➤➤➤ [www.get-information-schools.service.gov.uk/Search](http://www.get-information-schools.service.gov.uk/Search)

➤➤➤➤ [www.officeforstudents.org.uk/advice-and-guidance/the-register/the-ofs-register/#/](http://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/advice-and-guidance/the-register/the-ofs-register/#/)

➤➤➤➤ [www.gov.uk/employers-find-apprenticeship-training](http://www.gov.uk/employers-find-apprenticeship-training)

# A Levels

Short for Advanced Level, A Levels come after GCSEs.

They usually focus on academic subjects, compared to vocational qualifications like BTECs and T Levels, which are more practical. There are more than 40 different A Level subjects on offer – some will be subjects that you studied at GCSE and others may be new.



Recognised internationally



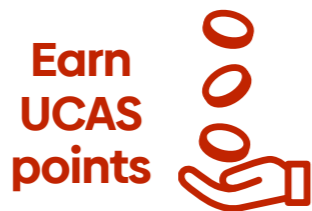
2 year course of study

16+

year olds



Route to higher education



Earn UCAS points



Level 3 qualification



Range of subjects



Progression options



A range of environments

# Foundation Courses

A foundation course will help you build your confidence and improve your knowledge and skills.

Study can be undertaken at college or with an independent training provider. You can study a range of subjects, or you may choose to focus on one subject to give you an insight to a specific subject area or course. These courses prepare you for further study or employment.



Wide range of courses



CV writing



Progression options

16+

year olds



English & maths

Entry Level 3 to Level 1



Interview techniques



Boost your confidence

16-19

Full time courses





# University

Universities across the UK offer a wide range of courses covering different levels and subjects. Universities predominantly offer academic courses, however, degree apprenticeships are increasingly available.

There are lots of things to consider when applying for university such as the subject you want to study, where you would like to study, the course requirements and student finance.

Seek advice, information and guidance from your Careers Leader, UCAS, school or college staff, and trusted family and friends so you are making an informed decision about your future.




**Recognised internationally**

**18+**  
year olds



**Level 4-8 Qualification**



**There are over 160 universities in the UK**

**There are over 50,000 undergraduate courses in the UK**

**Graduate students on average earn £11,500 more per year than working non-graduates**

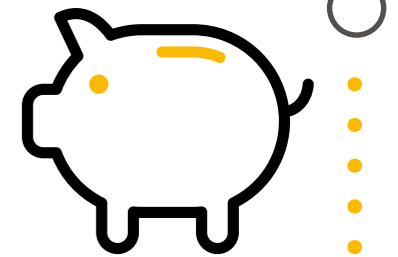
**Most undergraduate courses last 3-4 years**



**Student Finance is available**

**Grants, bursary's and scholarships provide additional funding**

# Student Bank Accounts



**A student bank account works like any other bank account - you can put money into it, take money out and build savings. These accounts also often have added benefits like interest-free overdrafts and freebies!**

When it comes to choosing a student bank account it is worth considering the following things:

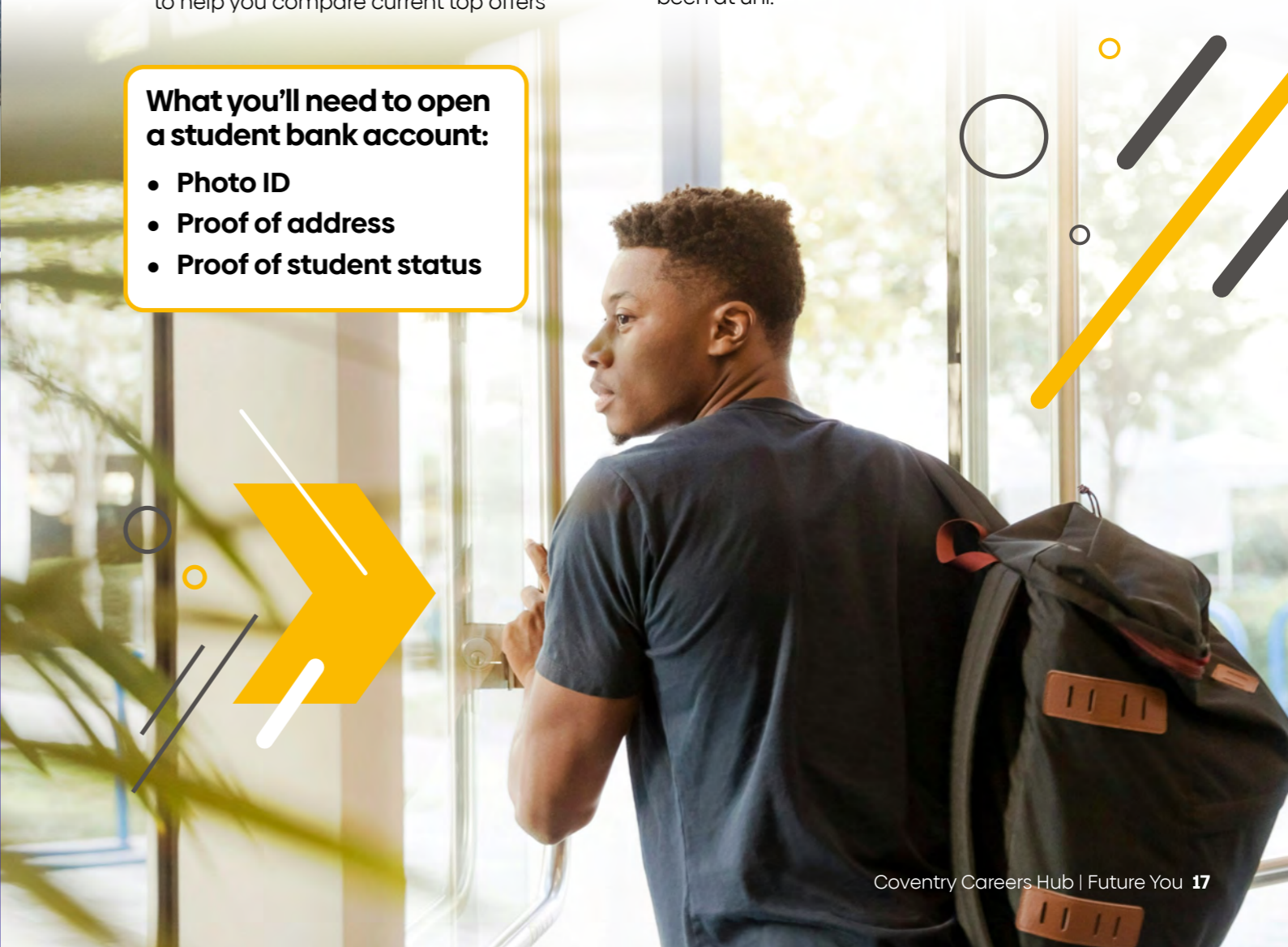
- Your credit rating: This may affect the offers available to you
- The small print: look out for key insights like whether any overdraft is 'guaranteed' or 'up to' as it may change the offer you are receiving, and also what will happen after your course finishes as the account or interest rate may change
- Compare freebies: accounts with the biggest amount and lowest interest overdraft will be better in the long run than many upfront freebies
- Visit impartial comparison sites: sites like 'Save the Student' and 'Money Expert' are available to help you compare current top offers

Student bank accounts come with generous 0% overdrafts - but not forever. Once you've finished university, the end of this perk is suddenly on the horizon. That's not to say you shouldn't use your 0% overdraft, or that you should be excessively worried about going over a certain amount. What it does mean is that you shouldn't blindly go into your overdraft without knowing how, and when, you'll pay it off. And this is where graduates (and soon-to-be graduates) really need to pay attention.

Also, be wary of the bank's use of "up to", though, as you're unlikely to get the maximum 0% overdraft straight away. Instead, the allowance is usually tapered, so more is available the longer you've been at uni.

## What you'll need to open a student bank account:

- Photo ID
- Proof of address
- Proof of student status



# LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION

## COVENTRY

### GROWTH INDUSTRIES



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT  
(GREEN CAREERS)



DIGITAL, CREATIVE  
& GAMING

### TOP POSTING OCCUPATIONS



OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE  
OCCUPATIONS



SALES RELATED  
OCCUPATIONS



NURSES



CUSTOMER SERVICE OCCUPATIONS



TEACHING & OTHER

### TOP 5 SECTORS

BUSINESS, PROFESSIONAL & FINANCIAL SERVICES

PUBLIC SECTOR INC. EDUCATION

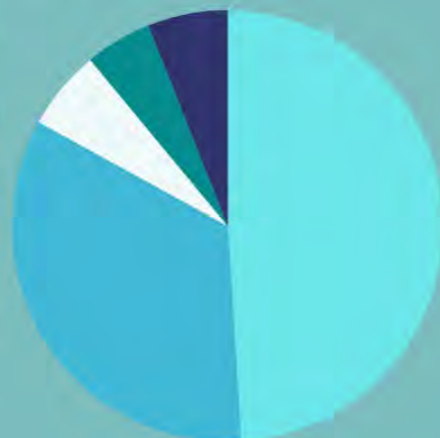
RETAIL

LIFE SCIENCES & HEALTHCARE

ADVANCED MANUFACTURING & ENGINEERING

### PUPIL DESTINATIONS

- SCHOOL SIXTH FORM
- FURTHER EDUCATION
- PUPILS NOT STAYING IN EDUCATION OR EMPLOYMENT
- APPRENTICESHIPS
- OTHER



### TOP EMPLOYERS



# Tips for a successful CV

Whether it's your first or tenth CV, writing one from scratch can be daunting. We've pulled together some tips to help you get started.

## What is a CV?

A well-written CV is your chance to sell yourself and stand out from the crowd. You'll talk about academic qualifications, work experience and skills. This will help to demonstrate why you're the best person for the role.

## Before starting...

Read the job description carefully so you understand what the employer is looking for. Consider how your academic and work experience relates to the skills they're seeking. You might want to write a list matching your skills, qualifications and experience against the job requirements.

Take time to research the organisation. Explore their website and see how they position themselves on social media and in the news. You might find more information that can help you tailor your CV.

## The essentials

### Contact details

You should include your full name and contact details (phone number and/or email address). You don't need to include your date of birth or image unless stated on the job description.

An increasing number of employers are asking applicants to redact their CV. This involves removing any personal details to help make the application process as fair as possible. The job description will state whether you need to anonymise your CV.

### Personal profile

One of the most important sections of any CV is your opening paragraph. This is your chance to tell the employer about yourself and why you're interested in the role. Keep this section brief and try to grab the employer's attention!

### Work experience

For each role you've held, include the company name, job title and the dates of employment. You should outline your responsibilities and achievements, including how they relate to the role you're applying for.

### Education/qualifications

List your education and other qualifications from most recent to oldest. Include the course title, years of study and grades achieved.

If you are applying for a technical role, dedicate a section listing your relevant skills and/or qualifications.

### Hobbies/interests

Listing your hobbies and interests is optional. You should only include them if they're relevant to the role. Be clear on how they have helped you to gain the skills you'd need for the job.

## CV top tips

- Keep it short (maximum two A4 pages).
- Make sure the font is easy to read.
- Use clear headings.
- Proofread! Double check spelling and grammar.
- Make sure your social media profiles are appropriate or set to private.
- Make sure the file name of your CV is clear, such as 'Your Name\_CV'.
- Do not use acronyms or jargon.
- Be honest - embellishing is fine, but lying is not.
- Personalise your CV for every application.



Did you know you can register your CV with [Careermap?](#)

Their CV Library is seen by hundreds of employers every day. While you're looking for a job, they may be looking for you!

**It's important that your CV creates a great first impression, but don't be tempted to cram in everything you have ever done! Recruiters may be reading hundreds of CVs, so try to be succinct and only include relevant information.**



# FUTURE YOU



**LET'S START THIS JOURNEY  
TOGETHER TOWARD A  
SUCCESSFUL FUTURE!**

