



STAY LOCAL GO FAR

Careers Guide for the Tees Valley 2022/2023

Support and advice on...choices, skills, work experience, jobs and more

Foreword by the Tees Valley Mayor

Welcome to our Careers Guide for young people, parents and carers 2022/2023.

As Mayor I am 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 well-paid, good-quality career.

It has been another year of unprecedented challenges created by the coronavirus pandemic. But it has also been a year of unprecedented opportunity across Teesside, Darlington and Hartlepool.

Our area is already benefiting from opportunities such as at Teesworks – the UK’s largest industrial zone; the Teesside Freeport – Britain’s biggest Freeport and the first to be operational; the Darlington Economic Campus, which will bring in some of the Government’s most important and powerful departments to the town – including the Treasury – and our growing clean energy, biologics, advanced manufacturing and digital sectors to name but a few.

These opportunities are just the tip of the iceberg.

The future of our area is looking brighter than ever. And yet, every year, 10% of young people leave our region to attend university or to secure an apprenticeship, training, or employment elsewhere.

Global businesses and innovative companies based right here are leading the UK and the world, but young people still think they need to go to a big city like London, Manchester or Leeds to succeed.

That’s why this year I launched our Stay Local, Go Far campaign, to encourage our talented local young people to consider future careers in our amazing region.

We need to make sure that our young people, whether they live in Billingham, Loftus, Wynyard, Seaton Carew or Ingleby Barwick, are well-equipped to take advantage of the fantastic opportunities that we’re creating here.

I want them to know that they can find good-quality, well-paid and fulfilling careers right on their doorstep. To know they don’t have to relocate to London to work for the Government, or that they can lead the clean energy revolution from the banks of the River Tees.

The future of our area is determined by the choices our young people make and the Tees Valley Careers initiative is here to help our young people access the information and skills they need to flourish.

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

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



Ben Houchen
Tees Valley Mayor

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STAY LOCAL GO FAR

FIND YOUR FUTURE IN THE TEES VALLEY

Each year, around 10% of young people in the Tees Valley move away. Of the people who study outside Tees Valley, around 30% come back to work in Tees Valley, despite the global businesses and innovative companies based right here.

The **#StayLocalGoFar** campaign aims to raise aspirations as well as to highlight the fantastic career options available locally, and to encourage young people to consider future careers in the Tees Valley.

From Government jobs to powering the clean energy revolution, there are more career opportunities than ever before right here in the Tees Valley.

Did you know about just some of these exciting opportunities and projects happening right here in the Tees Valley?

The Teesside Freeport is Britain's best connected trade region, unlocking global markets, major trade hubs and offshore projects. Covering 4,500 acres, the Teesside Freeport is the largest in the country – that's equivalent to 2,550 football pitches! It will create more than 18,000 jobs and provide a multibillion-pound boost to the local economy over the next five years.

The Centre for Process Innovation (CPI) in Darlington has been working with the UK Vaccine Taskforce to launch a new national training academy specialising in the development and manufacture of RNA technology used to create the Pfizer and Moderna coronavirus vaccines. As well as coronavirus, the technology can also be used in the treatment of HIV, cancer and heart disease.

SeAH Wind Ltd has started construction of its £400million offshore wind monopile manufacturing facility at Teesworks. When complete, the mammoth 1.13million sq ft facility will be the biggest of its kind in the world and is expected to produce between 100 and 150 wind turbine bases each year. When fully operational, the scheme will create 750 direct jobs.

Animmersion in Middlesbrough creates animations and immersive digital experiences using technologies including Virtual Reality and Augmented Reality – it's even recognised as the UK's leading hologram provider.

The Tees Valley is fast becoming a global leader in clean energy. BP has announced it will develop the UK's largest Blue Hydrogen production facility, H2Teesside, while Government has also unveiled a masterplan to house the UK's first ever multi-modal hydrogen transport hub for the UK on Teesside.

FUJIFILM Diosynth Biotechnologies recently hit headlines when it began manufacturing the Novavax coronavirus vaccine at its base in Billingham. Now, a £600million investment into the region's factory, which employs around 850 people, will help it increase its gene therapy production and capacity, meaning even more jobs and opportunities for local people.

Electronics manufacturer Merlin Flex in Hartlepool produced circuitry used in the steering wheel of Sebastian Vettel's Championship winning Formula One car.

The new Darlington Economic Campus will bring some of the Government's most important departments to the town, including the Treasury, the Department for International Trade (DIT) and the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS). Hundreds of jobs will become available over the next four years, meaning that local people can take advantage of these exciting roles without having to make the move to London!



The Tees Valley is leading the way in hydrogen and carbon capture, storage and utilisation (CCUS) technologies, as part of the region's Net Zero Teesside project, to capture CO₂ equivalent to the emissions associated with the annual energy use of three million UK homes.

Middlesbrough's Double Eleven is one of the country's biggest independent games developers and has worked on some of the world's best loved video game franchises, including titles for Minecraft.

Best known for being the location of the former steelworks, Teesworks is one of the most exciting opportunities in the UK for careers in the clean energy and advanced manufacturing sectors, which are expected to create 20,000 jobs. The Teesworks Skills Academy has been set up to make sure that local people get the skills they need to secure jobs on the site.

E-commerce software and digital marketing agency Visualsoft helps retailers to grow online. From fashion and footwear to jewellery, home furnishing and sports, the team looks after some of the UK's leading online retailers, handling more than £1 billion of orders each year!



Tees Valley industry sectors

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

The sectors listed below have been forecast to be the main sectors for future job creation in the Tees Valley – for both new and replacement jobs (those who leave or retire).

To find out more about Tees Valley industry sectors visit www.teesvalleycareers.com/students/jobs/job-sectors/

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
- › Microbiologist
- › Immunologist
- › Laboratory Technician
- › Process Development Scientist



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:



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

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



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

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
- › Journalist
- › Artist or Author
- › Fitness Instructor
- › Chef
- › 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





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

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



- ▶ Web Designers/Programmers
- ▶ It Support Technicians
- ▶ It Business Analysts, Architects and System Designers
- ▶ Computer Coders

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
- ▶ Social Care Workers
- ▶ Carers
- ▶ Radiographers, Medical Engineers and Clinical Psychologists

Young Person

Where to start with finding your future career

Support and resources are available to help you find a career that's right for you. Here are some general tips on getting started:

- Schools, colleges and learning providers have a statutory duty to provide an impartial 1:2:1 careers information advice and guidance interview in Year 11 and 13. Prepare for the interview by looking at different options available once you leave school or post 16 education. Think about your options in good time and be aware of application deadlines
- Talk about your career ideas and future plans with your parent/ carer/ guardian/ career advisor or subject teachers
- 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
 - ▶ To find out about current apprentice opportunities in the Tees Valley visit teesvalley.jobs/apprenticeships
- Talk with adult relatives, friends, teachers, tutors and any employer contacts at your school or college about the kind of work that they do
- Don't worry if you change your career interest as you become aware of more options
- Join in with careers events and activities both in and out of school and college
- Find out about the world of work through work experience opportunities
- Visit www.teesvalleycareers.com/students to find out more information on career options and progression routes
- Use the National Careers Service website: www.nationalcareers.service.gov.uk where you 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**

Remember that your career choice is a personal decision! Your choices and decisions should be based on your aspirations, abilities and future employment opportunities.

Choices when leaving school

All young people are now required to continue in education or training until at least their 18th birthday.

The options are:

- ▶ Stay in your existing school if they have a Sixth Form/ post-16 provision
- ▶ 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 the advantages?

This 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 as 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.

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 you turn 16. After this date young people have to find a job or volunteering placement with training, an apprenticeship, or a school or college place.



Stay in full-time education

There are a range of subjects that lead to qualifications that can keep your options open, like GCSE or A Levels. Courses like T Levels or BTECs allow you to focus on your chosen career.

Some may ask for specific qualifications, so always do some research to find out where the course you are interested in could lead.

Post-16 establishments (further education colleges, sixth form colleges, schools that have a sixth form or through Local Authority learning and skills services) provide a number of different qualifications for you to study.

A Levels Qualifications:

Carry on studying subjects you took for GCSE to a higher level, or pick new ones you may not have done before. You could take three very different subjects you are interested in to keep your career options open or choose more closely related subjects if you need them for a specific career.

- **Duration:** 2 years
- **Assessment:** Mostly exams at the end of the course
- **Level of study:** Level 3
- **Entry requirements:** Typically 5 GCSEs Grade 9-4 (usually including English and maths)



T Levels Qualifications:

T Levels follow GCSEs and are the equivalent to three A levels. These two-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.

<https://www.teesvalleycareers.com/students/t-levels/>

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

- **Duration:** 2 years
- **Assessment:** Exams, projects and practical assignments
- **Level of study:** Level 3
- **Entry requirements:** Course dependent
- **Work experience:** At least 45 days on industry placement

For more information on T Levels please visit: www.tlevels.gov.uk

Technical and vocational qualifications:

These courses teach you the practical skills and knowledge for a particular area of employment. They prepare you for a broad employment sector, like engineering or travel and tourism, or for a specific job like a chef or a hairdresser. Qualifications which teach you how to do tasks specifically related to the industry and role you want to be involved in.

- **Duration:** 1 or more years
- **Assessment:** Coursework, skills tests and exams
- **Level of study:** Level 1+
- **Entry requirements:** Course dependent

Applied Qualifications:

Qualifications that give you a broad overview of working in a specific sector, like business, media, engineering, leisure or science and technology. A mix of classroom-based learning with the chance to get some practical skills.

- **Duration:** Course dependent
- **Assessment:** Course dependent (coursework and exams)
- **Level of study:** Level 3
- **Entry requirements:** Course dependent

Exam retakes:

If you didn't get the results you wanted, you can resit some of your courses or sign up for some new qualifications.

You can sit these at your school, sixth form or further education college.

- **Duration:** 1 year
- **Entry requirements:** 16+
- **Qualifications:** Level 2 and 3 qualifications like GCSE, A level and BTEC
- **Leads to:** Higher level or degree apprenticeship, further education, higher education, work

Within the 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:**

- › Darlington College
- › Carmel College
- › Hartlepool College
- › Askham Bryan College
- › Middlesbrough College
- › Northern School of Art
- › Prior Pursglove College
- › Redcar & Cleveland College
- › NETA Training Group
- › Stockton Riverside College
- › Queen Elizabeth Sixth Form
- › Catcote Sixth Form
- › English Martyrs Sixth Form
- › Hartlepool Sixth Form
- › Kings Academy Sixth Form
- › Macmillan Academy Sixth Form
- › Trinity Academy Sixth Form
- › Nunthorpe Academy Sixth Form
- › Abbey Hill Sixth Form
- › Bede Sixth Form
- › Conyers Sixth Form
- › Egglecliffe Sixth Form
- › Stockton Sixth Form

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 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 you must be:

- ▶ eligible to work in England
- ▶ unemployed and have little or no work experience
- ▶ aged 16 to 24 and qualified up to and including Level 3 (equivalent to A Level)

Traineeships do not include a wage; however you may get money to help towards travel costs. Bursaries are available for young people aged 16 to 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, it must be combined with one of the following until you 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 to 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 Grade 4 in maths and English (if a learner is not already at this level)
- ▶ A substantial qualification that stretches students and prepares them for education at the next level or for employment, e.g. A Level, BTEC, T Level
- ▶ Work experience or other work preparation programme such as activities to develop employability skills
- ▶ Other non-qualification activity to develop a student's character, broaden skills, attitudes and confidence, and to support progression



Apprenticeships

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

Apprenticeships can also offer the opportunity of gaining a degree depending on the apprenticeship you are completing. You can start your career gaining the kind of skills and experience that employers are looking for and you'll be earning while you're learning.

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

You can also search for apprenticeships available locally through Tees Valley Jobs by visiting teesvalley.jobs/apprenticeships

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

| Intermediate Apprenticeship | Advanced Apprenticeship | Higher & Degree Apprenticeship |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| ■ Level 2 | ■ Level 3 | ■ Level 4, 5, 6, 7 |
| ■ 12 - 18 months | ■ 18 - 48 months | ■ 24 months+ |
| ■ Equivalent to GCSE | ■ Equivalent to A Level | ■ Equivalent to Bachelor's or master's degree |

Once an apprenticeship is complete you can continue on to employment, higher apprenticeships or university.



Apprenticeship Support and Knowledge (ASK) for Schools project

Tees Valley Learning Providers Network (TVLPN) is a delivery partner for the Apprenticeship Support and Knowledge for schools and colleges programme (ASK), which is funded by the National Apprenticeship Service, part of the Department of Education.

The ASK programme offers every educational establishment a bespoke engaging support package to transform apprenticeship, traineeship and T Level knowledge, offering provision to years 10, 11, 12 and 13 across the Tees Valley. The project aim is to work with students, teachers, careers advisers, and parents/carers, alongside other key partners to support schools, to ensure that they meet their statutory duties regarding the provision of impartial information advice and guidance, specifically in relation to apprenticeships, traineeships and T Levels.

We are proud that for 2021/22 the ASK offer has even more fantastic activities and resources, including a new range of materials for students and parents/carers. www.apprenticeships.gov.uk for more information.

For further information contact the TVLPN Schools Support Team on 01642 271116 / 07305 510149 or email jo.thompson@tvlpn.co.uk or rachel.mccready@tvlpn.co.uk



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

The table on page 23 explains the different levels of qualifications that you may choose upon leaving school.

Each year, around 10% of our young people move away to study for a Higher Education qualification elsewhere in the UK, with around 30% of those young people returning to work in the area.

There are more opportunities than ever before to get an exciting and rewarding career in a wide-range of sectors locally. Visit www.teesvalleycareers.com/staylocal for inspiration on where your career could take you in the Tees Valley.



Experience of work

Schools, colleges and learning providers that deliver 16 to 18 full-time study programmes have a statutory duty to provide an opportunity for work-related learning, to help you to experience the world of work. This is a valuable opportunity for you to find out about work and to understand the skills that are needed in the workplace. It can also be an opportunity to find out more about a career that interests you. 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.

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



Ways to get experience of work

- ▶ **Experience of work placements** – Some schools and colleges offer experience of work placements either at a physical placement or by a virtual option. Ask your 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 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 you can spend volunteering. To find volunteering work, visit sites such as www.volunteermatters.org.uk www.volunteers.co.uk/opportunities www.southtees.nhs.uk/services/therapeutic-support/volunteering/ or search 'Volunteer opportunities Tees Valley'
- ▶ **Work shadowing** – ask family or friends whether you can spend a day or two shadowing them at work
- ▶ **National Citizen Service (NCS)** – available to 16 and 17 year olds, NCS is a two to four 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.wearencs.com/what-is-ncs

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 required to support you to be successful in a job. Within school or college, you 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, work experience and internships or undertaking extra-curricular activities.



Qualifications

| | | | | |
|----------------|--|-----------------|------------------------|------------------------------|
| LEVEL 8 | Doctorate Degree | | | |
| LEVEL 7 | Master Degrees and Post Graduate Certificates | | | Degree Apprenticeships |
| LEVEL 6 | Bachelor / Honours Degrees | | | Degree Apprenticeships |
| LEVEL 5 | Diploma of Higher Education, Foundation Degrees and HNDs | | | Higher Apprenticeships |
| LEVEL 4 | Certificate / Diploma of Higher Education / HNC | | | Higher Apprenticeships |
| LEVEL 3 | A Levels, BTEC National Diploma, T Levels | | | Advanced Apprenticeships |
| LEVEL 2 | GCSEs | GCSEs Grade 9-4 | BTEC First / Diploma | Intermediate Apprenticeships |
| LEVEL 1 | GCSEs | GCSEs Grade 3-1 | BTEC First Certificate | Traineeships |

For Parents & Carers

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, including supporting your child with the tips on page 11.

You could also 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.

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).

For more information on how you can support your child and help them find a career visit <https://www.teesvalleycareers.com/parents/>



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 they make an informed decision/choice on education upon leaving school

Child Benefit when your child turns 16

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 will be sent a letter in your child's last year at school asking to confirm their plans.

You will need to 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: www.gov.uk/child-benefit-16-19

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

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

They may be able to borrow money to help pay for university or college tuition fees and to help with living costs.

They may get extra money on top of this, for example if you're on a low income, are disabled or have children.

www.gov.uk/student-finance

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)

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

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.

Maintenance loans

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

The amount they can borrow will depend on how much your 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 they are 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

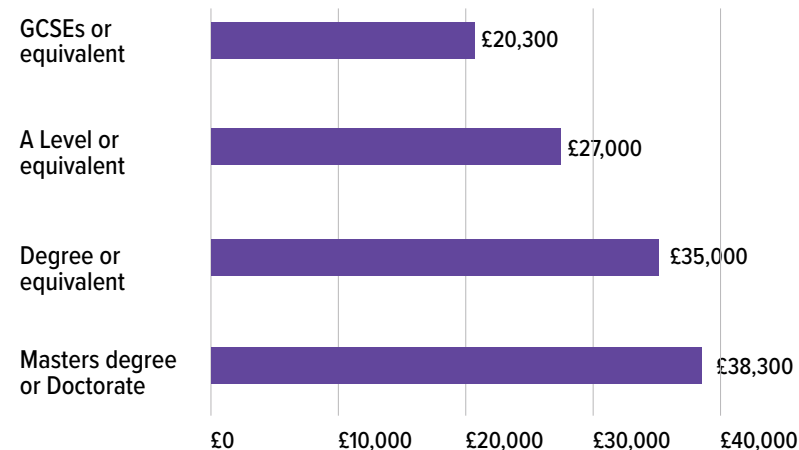
Funding from a charitable trust

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

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!

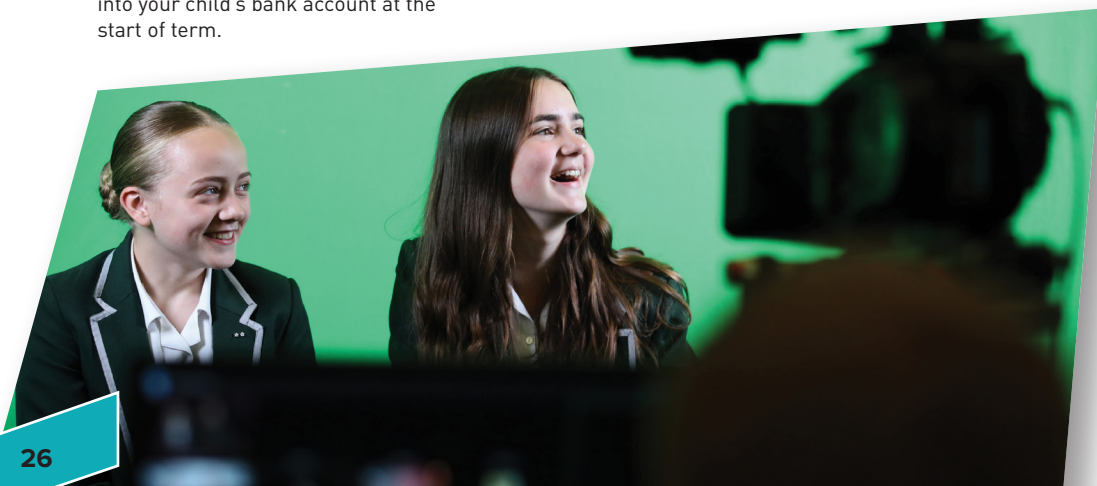
After a period of employment the average wages are...



| | Current rate (April 2021 to March 2022) | Rate from April 2022 |
|----------------------|---|----------------------|
| National Living Wage | £8.91 | £9.50 |
| 21-22 Year Old Rate | £8.36 | £9.18 |
| 18-20 Year Old Rate | £6.56 | £6.83 |
| 16-17 Year Old Rate | £4.62 | £4.81 |
| Apprentice Rate | £4.30 | £4.81 |

Data Source: Labour Insight Burning Glass, Median advertised salary (1st November 2020 – 31st October 2021).

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



How to find out more

1. Tees Valley Careers website: www.teesvalleycareers.com/students/
2. Ask your school or college for individual support and guidance. Your school and college has to follow statutory guidance for impartial careers guidance.
3. National Careers Service provides impartial information, advice and guidance to help you make decisions on learning, training and work. Visit nationalcareers.service.gov.uk or ring the helpline on 0800 100 900.
4. Visit www.teesvalley.jobs to search Tees Valley jobs that suit you. The website covers all industries, with vacancies from across the whole of the region, and is constantly updated with new positions.



Glossary

TVCA – Tees Valley Combined Authority is chaired by the Tees Valley Mayor. Its purpose is to drive economic growth, create jobs and transform the Tees Valley for the benefit of local people and businesses. It is a partnership of five Local Authorities; Darlington, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar & 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 three 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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