



May 2021

## WHAT TO DO NOW

If you are in year 11 or year 13 then your time left at school may be coming to an end within the next month. This might feel quite daunting, but it can also be exciting when you are thinking about your next steps.

If you haven't made a plan yet, it's not too late and there are lots of resources to help you do so.

If you are in year 10 then you may also find parts of this newsletter useful as you start to think about your next steps.



## GET STARTED RIGHT AWAY

If you haven't already started to think about what you want to do after year 11 then now is certainly the time. Use the documents titled 'Exploring my options' and 'What are my options after year 11?' on <https://luminatecareersandcoaching.co.uk/resources/> to find out more about what you can do after Year 11. This video also explains the choices really well.

You may also need to do some research using the websites listed in the documents to find out more about different careers and what their entry requirements are.

If you are in Year 10 then the resources above will help you get a head-start when you are thinking about your options. You may also want to think about what is important to you in a job – your career values.

Once you have decided on the best pathways for you then it's time to find out what your local options are.

### How can I find out about the different local options?

Most local colleges and training providers will have online or virtual open evenings so you can get a good idea about the local provision.

It is not too late to apply for most courses at college, but you don't want to leave it much longer as the course that you want to do may start to run out of places.

### What if I want to do an apprenticeship?

Apprenticeships are very competitive to get in to, they always have been and are even more so now given the current economic climate. Find out more about apprenticeships using <https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk/#>



We also have information about applying for apprenticeships on our website <https://luminatecareersandcoaching.co.uk/resources/>

You can start an apprenticeship any time after the official school leaving date which is the last Friday in June.

### **What if I want to go to 6<sup>th</sup> Form?**

Most school 6<sup>th</sup> forms will have had their closing dates already, if you do really want to go to a school 6<sup>th</sup> form then it would be a good idea to find out what the procedures are for applying on GCSE results day.

### **What if I have changed my mind?**

It may be that you have applied and been offered a conditional place somewhere, but you are now having second thoughts. That is fine but try to think about why you might be having those second thoughts. This video on the Careers Derby You Tube channel might help you think about this - [https://youtu.be/Of2aG\\_4bKz0](https://youtu.be/Of2aG_4bKz0)

There's also lots more useful videos on a whole range of topics on the Careers Derby You Tube channel, from interview tips to employer information, to information on clearing and loads more.

### **Do I need a back-up plan?**

We would always advise considering a back-up plan just in case you do not get into your preferred choice. Unless you have an unconditional offer for after year 11 then spend some time thinking about what you would do if your first-choice plan does not come to fruition. Remember you can apply for more than one course at college and to more than one college or 6<sup>th</sup> form.

### **What if I do not want to do anything?**

If you are in year 11 then I am afraid that this is not an option; the government requires that all students stay in some form of education or training until they are 18.

## **RESEARCHING SECTOR AREAS**

It is a good idea to find out information about the job sector that you are interested in. Websites such as Unifrog, icould, Career Pilot and Prospects can help with that.

Start Profile and D2N2 have also put together information on local opportunities - <https://d2n2.startprofile.com/page/home-page>

There's also lots of information online including online work experience and real-life stories on You Tube such as this one from [Changing Education](#). Springpod, Speakers for Schools and Medic Mentors are also offering a whole host of online work experience to enable you to get a better idea about the world of work.



## USEFUL RESOURCES

We've listed below some resources that we think will be useful when you are thinking about your next steps and plans for the future.

- + [Luminate Careers You Tube channel](#)
- + Decisions e-zine – this is jam packed with lots of useful information about careers and transitions <https://www.decisionz.co.uk/>



- + Youth Employment UK have lots of useful resources about next steps and transitions. You can complete the Young Professionals training, have a say in the Youth Voice Census or even find out about the Sky Virtual open day! There's also lots of information for parents and carers so that they can help you with your next steps. <https://www.youthemployment.org.uk/>

- + Not Going to Uni is another really good resource for finding out about alternatives to university, ensuring that you are considering all of your options. <https://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk/>

- + BBC Life Hacks toolkit has some really useful tips and careers advice, including podcasts [Life Hacks - Careers Toolkit - What career options do I have after school? - BBC Sounds](#) You can also find out about different creative careers and attend workshops using this link [BBC Radio 1 - Radio 1 Big Weekend Connects](#)



## FURTHER SUPPORT

If you need further support over the summer break you can use the following services:

- + Space@Connexions you can contact them on [ask.for.advice@derby.gov.uk](mailto:ask.for.advice@derby.gov.uk) or tel:01332 643900
- + National Careers Service can be contacted on <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/> or you can talk to an adviser on 0800 100 900 or use their web chat service.
- + Colleges are also still holding some virtual events so follow their social media pages to find out more. They also have web chat functions for you to ask questions about courses.

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