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## Options after Year 12

At the end of Year 12 you should start thinking about the career path you want to take. You should find out what qualifications are needed if you have a particular career in mind. You can carry on learning, get a job or do a training course or apprenticeship.

### Staying on at school

Before thinking about further study, consider the following:

- are you good at studying?
- do you enjoy studying?
- have your results been good enough for further study?
- do you need to study further for the type of job you want to do?
- do you understand the volume or difficulty of work you will expected to do?

Sixth form schools offer a range of academic and vocational Level 3 subjects (A-levels for example). They may also give you the chance to re-sit your GCSE's or sit Level 2 qualifications.

- [AS and A levels](#)

### Area Learning Communities

Your options include staying on in your current school or moving to a different school. Many schools are now involved in Area Learning Communities which are a partnership of schools in an area which work together to provide a greater choice of subjects. You can be at more than one school in your area to make sure you have access to the subjects you want to study.

It is always a good idea to think ahead to where this might lead you as some courses and/or jobs require you to study specific subjects. After Year 14, you could use your qualifications to enter further or higher education, training or employment.

When choosing your subjects for A Levels and you are not sure what jobs they may lead to you could go to the Subject Links section of the A-Z of careers which contains information on A Level subjects and what careers they can be useful for.

- [A to Z of careers](#) 

### Further education

Further Education (FE) colleges offer a range of courses. These include

#### Still at school

- Subject choices at year 10
- **Options after Year 12**
- Options after year 14
- Work experience

#### More in Education, learning and skills

#### Most popular

1. Higher National Certificates and Higher National Diplomas
2. Learning for free
3. Income assessment for full-time students
4. Routes into university and higher education
5. Student finance forms and guides

academic, vocational or a mixture of both and can be full-time or part-time. There are different levels of course available to suit individual ability and learning support for those with learning needs.

Further Education can give you more time in education or help you into employment or further study at University.

- [Colleges Northern Ireland website](#) 
- [Further Education](#)

## Training for Success

Training for Success provides you with the knowledge and skills you need to get a job or move onto the next level of training. The training is designed around you – your level, your interests and your goals. You will also get an Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA).

- [Training for Success](#)

## Apprenticeships

There are apprenticeships in over 100 occupational areas which lead to a recognised vocational qualification at Level 2 and/or Level 3.

- [Apprenticeships](#)

## Employment

You may want to go straight into employment when you leave school but remember that skills, experience and qualifications are important in this very competitive job market. Job vacancies can be found in newspapers or online:

- [Job trends](#)
- [The Job Centre Online website](#) 
- [Looking for work](#)

When you turn 16, you should receive your National Insurance Number. Keep this safe as you will need it when you start a job. If you lose this or for some reason do not receive one, contact your nearest Jobs and Benefits Office.

- [Find your local Jobs and Benefits Offices](#)

Talk to a Careers Adviser who will be able to offer you free, impartial careers information, advice and guidance to help you make your decisions.

- [Careers Service](#)



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- nibusinessinfo.co.uk