

POYNTON HIGH SCHOOL SIXTH FORM

WELCOME TO THE
HIGHER EDUCATION EVENING

Richard Hardman, Lorna Webb & David Moyle

- How we prepare our students for entry into Higher Education
- How parents can help
- What are the alternatives?



how can I help?

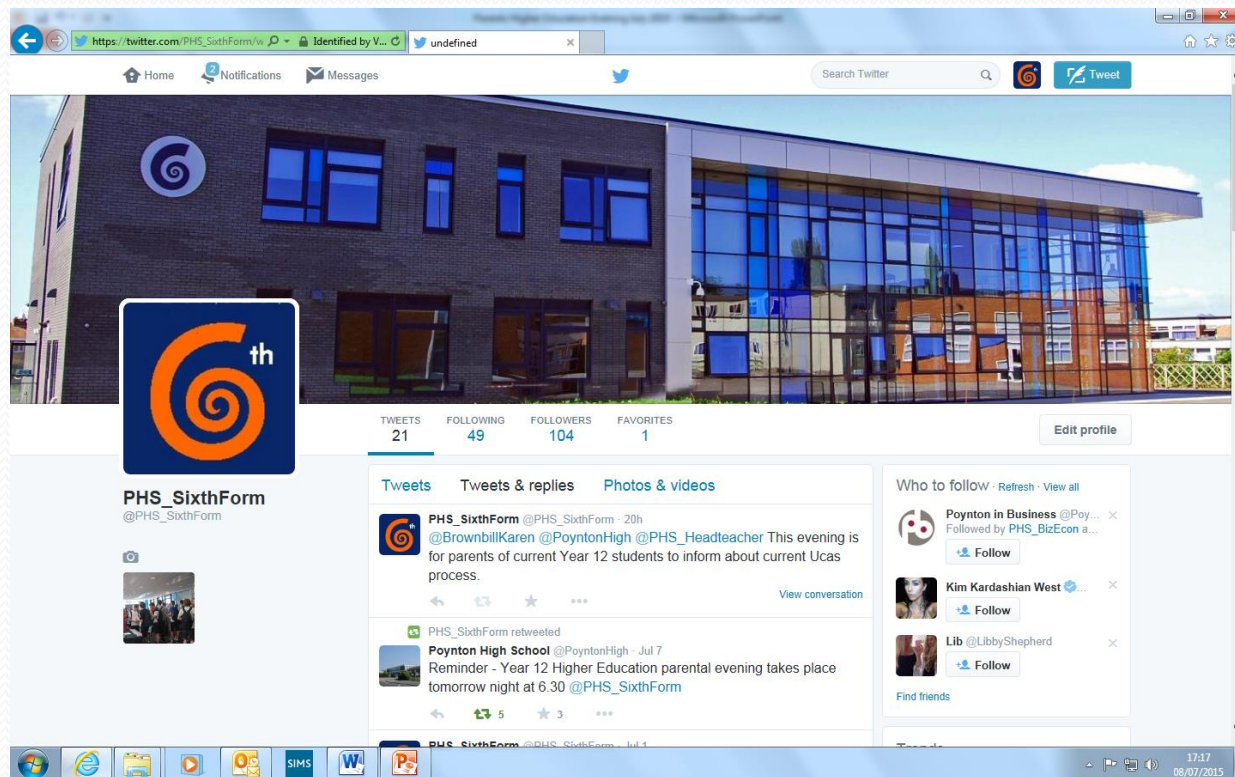
General Introduction and overview



Richard Hardman



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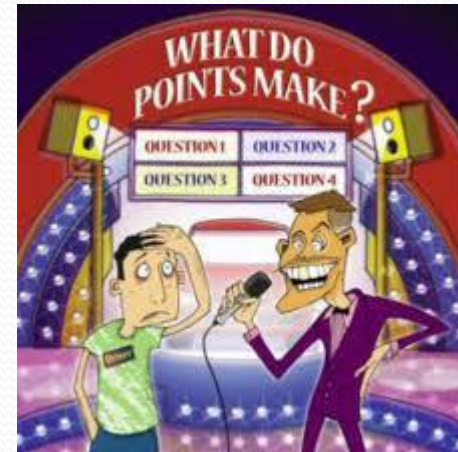
The UCAS Pathway

- Information on How University applications work
- Recent changes
- Updates on how this is affected by A level reforms



UCAS and POINTS/GRADES NEEDED

- UCAS = Universities and Colleges Admissions Service
- Students generally apply for 5 places
- Offers are given on grades or points. Check the Entry Requirement detail, make sure you are clear on HOW the points are made up (i.e. How much must come from A2 study). Note that AS points are only counted separately if the subject is not continued.
- Grade A*=56
Grade A =48 AS=20
Grade B=40 AS=16
Grade C= 32 AS=12
Grade D= 24 AS=10
Grade E= 16 AS=6
- BTEC Award
D*D* = 112
D*D = 104
DD = 96
DM = 80
MM = 64
MP = 48
PP = 32



WHAT DO WE MEAN BY HIGHER EDUCATION?

- There are all sorts of different institutions:

- ❖ Campus or City

- ❖ Collegiate or not

- ❖ Foundation Courses (Pre-degree level)

- ❖ Grade offers or points offers



THE ADVICE WE GIVE TO STUDENTS

- Research should have now begun (2017 prospectuses and websites). Many Universities start their Open Days in the Summer Term
- Choose the course carefully. Consider:
 - ♦ Course content
 - ♦ Grades or points required
 - ♦ ‘Sandwich’ course/opportunities to go abroad



- ♦Length of Course
3, 4 or 5 years

- ♦How is it assessed?

Continuous assessment

Examinations at end of year

A mixture of the two



CHOOSE THE INSTITUTION CAREFULLY

- Campus/ City/ Collegiate?
- Proximity or distance from home?
- Accommodation provided? (In Year 1 and afterwards)
- Catered or Self-catered?
- Size?

Manchester	36,000 students
York	11,000 students



AND FINALLY.....

- AIM HIGH but.....
- Be realistic about your grades
- Consult with Subject Tutors



OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS AT 18+

- Higher Education
- Apprenticeships
- Employment
- Gap Year

(Info to follow on this from Miss Webb)



CLASS OF 2015 DESTINATIONS

- Further and Higher Education – 77% of the year (131 applications) (45% Russell Group and 93.3% placed)
2 students accepted to Oxbridge
- GAP Year – 4%
- Employment/Apprenticeship- 19%



WHAT RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE?

UCAS Website www.ucas.com	Register as a parent for updates and info
Individual HEI websites	UCAS Admissions Criteria Profiles
Prospectuses	Open Days
Employ programme	Careers Advisor in School

Any Questions

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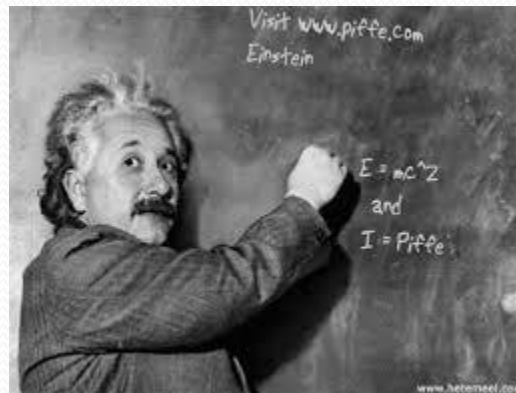
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How the UCAS application process works



THE APPLICATION PROCESS

- Make choices of institutions and courses-five for 2017 entry
- Submit application online. **PHS deadline: 28th November 2016**
- Oxbridge/Medicine/Dentistry/Veterinary deadline:
PHS Deadline 30th September 2016
- Institutions either make offer or reject. Some universities will make offers as they receive applications, some will wait until after the deadline
- UCAS Extra March 2017 for anyone who either holds no offers or who has rejected ALL offers for whatever reason.
- By April/May 2017, accept 2 offers- 1 firm, 1 insurance
- **17th August 2017** - Results, Adjustment and Clearing

UCAS

- Recruits for over 300 institutions
- Around 700,000 applicants
- A very large organisation with complex applications process
- Procedures to be followed for UCAS and PHS



UCAS APPLY

- Online applications through UCAS website
- Up-to-date information about courses
- Students work on applications in or out of school
- Parents can help or supervise!
- Flexibility- work saved and returned to later



THE PERSONAL STATEMENT

- Word-processed, prepared off-line in Verdana font
- Cut and paste on to application form after review by Personal Tutor and Sixth Form Team link
- 47 lines of text available - 4000 characters
- Often this will be your only contact with Admissions Tutors as many universities do not interview prospective students
- Must be high quality- standard of English and grammar!



WHAT TO INCLUDE IN PERSONAL STATEMENT

- Why chosen course?
- What interests student about subject
- Relevant experience, skills developed
- Career plans
- 75%-25% ratio of academic to personal
- Employment- skills developed
- Sports, musical, leisure interests to demonstrate relevant skills
- Plans for GAP Year
- Special circumstances Admissions Tutors should be aware of



THE SCHOOL REFERENCE

- Compiled by Form Tutor and checked by Sixth Form Team link
- Uses information from Subject Tutor (given on Subject Reference Form) and student
- Academic achievement and potential
- Suitability for chosen course
- Personal qualities
- Involvement in activities inside and outside school
- Estimated grades



HOW CAN PARENTS HELP?

- Offer support at each stage of the process
- Encourage an early application
- Check Personal Statement for spelling and grammar
- Coffee/Tea, Sympathy and TLC!



Student Finance Tonight's Speaker

David Moyle
Aberystwyth University



Introduction to Higher Education & Student Finance



THREE STEPS TO APPLYING



IN THE UK THERE ARE...

Over 300 Higher Education Institutions



& 37,000+ courses to choose from

True or False Degrees?



Motorsport Management



Computer Hacking



Car Park Management

True or False Degrees?



Folk & Traditional Music



Fire Safety Engineering



Sports Surface Management

Employment Opportunities

- Employers want well qualified people
- Increasing number of “Graduate Only Jobs”
- Greater variety of employment opportunities
- Graduate premium

Personal Development

Your time at Uni or College will increase:

- Confidence
- Independence
- Self awareness
- Communication skills
- Problem solving & analytical skills
- Ability to work independently and within a team

Expanding Horizons

- Independence
- Meet loads of people and make new friends
- Experience new things (sports, travel etc)
- Take advantage of being a 'student'

Student Finance



What will you spend your money on?

- **Tuition Fees**
- **Accommodation**
- **Food**
- **Socialising**
- **Personal essentials**
- **Academic Costs**
- **Other Costs**



How much will my tuition fees cost?



- Since 2012 higher education institutions in the UK have been able to charge tuition fees of up to £9,000.
- Undergraduate students will **not** have to find the cost of their fees before or whilst they are studying.
- *A Student Loan for Fees* is available.
- The loan becomes repayable following completion of your degree.
- Loan repayments begin when a graduate is earning over £21,000.
- Any remaining loan will be written off after 30 years.

What additional financial support is available?



2016 Loan for Living Costs

<u>Living Arrangements</u>	<u>Maximum Loan</u>	<u>Minimum Loan</u>
Living with your parents	£6,904	£3,039
Living away from home (in London)	£10,702	£5,330
Living away from home (outside of London)	£8,200	£3,821

Additional Sources:

- **Childcare Grant**
- **Adult Dependants' Grant**
- **University scholarships and bursaries**



Annual Income	Amount of salary from which 9% will be deducted	Monthly repayment
£25,000	£4,000	£30.00
£30,000	£9,000	£67.50
£35,000	£14,000	£105.00
£40,000	£19,000	£142.50
£45,000	£24,000	£180.00
£50,000	£29,000	£217.50
£55,000	£34,000	£255.00
£60,000	£39,000	£292.50

Accommodation

Halls of Residence – Catered or Self-Catered

- Are you any good at cooking?
- What type of room? (*single, sharing, en suite*)
- What's nearby? (*computers, bars, launderette etc*)

Private Accommodation

- Lists available from the University
- Electric bills, gas, water rates



Given all the different costs,
how do I go about budgeting?



Where does the money come from?

- Loans
- Part-time Employment
- Student Bank Accounts
- Scholarships, Bursaries etc
- A Year Out/Gap Year

The Budget Planner

Item

Student Loan for Fees
Student Loan for Maintenance
Grant, Bursary, Scholarships etc
Part-Time Employment

Income

Item

Rent/Fees
Bills
Transport
Food
Clothes
Social Life

Outgoing

Thanks for listening

Next Open Day: Weds 29th June



Miss Webb

Alternate Pathways



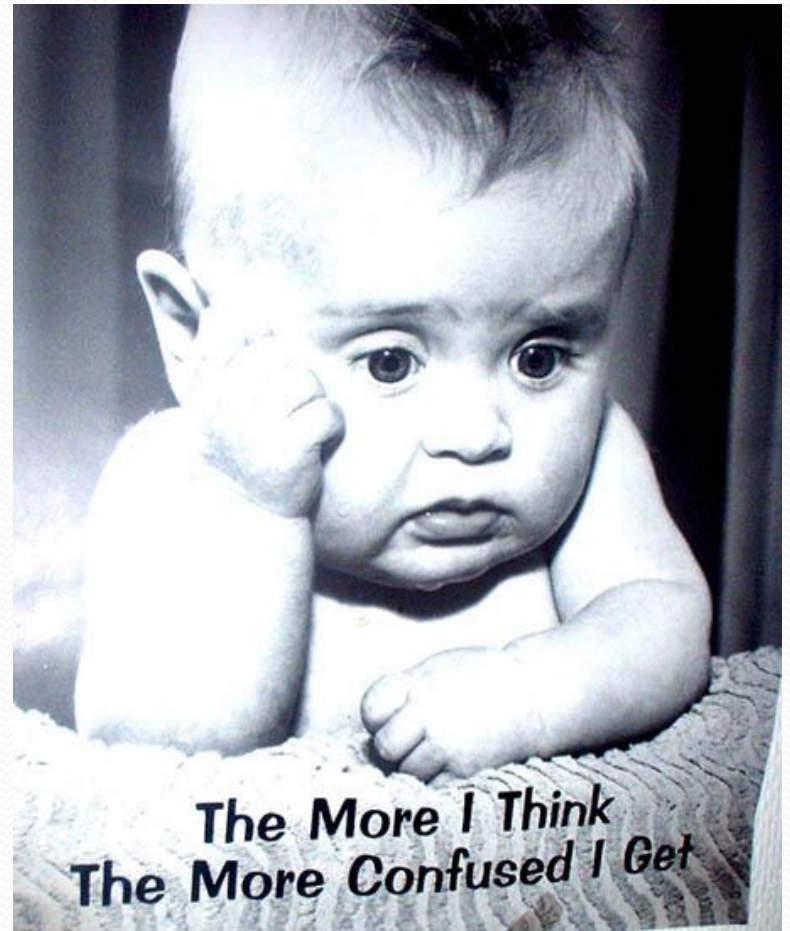
Other options for students after A levels....

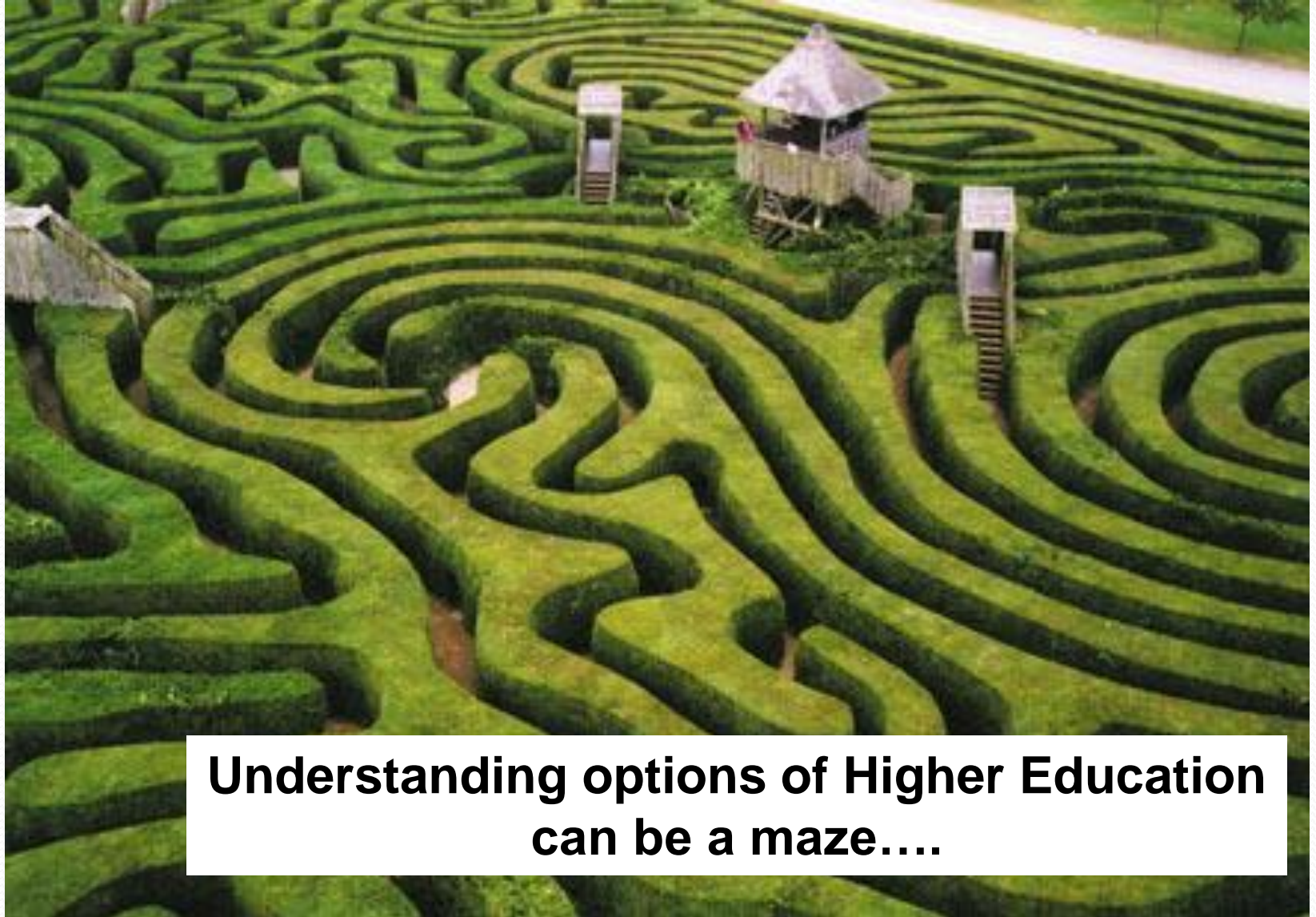


This can be a time of confusion for your sons and daughters. With the changing society we live in it is essential to have all the options and information to hand in order to make informed decisions.

Is Higher Education right for my child?

- Do they like studying?
- Do they find A levels easy or difficult?
- Do they know what they want to study and where?
- Why do they want to go into Higher Education?
- Are they looking for a job or a career?
- Will they make the most of the financial outlay?
- Will they complete the course?





**Understanding options of Higher Education
can be a maze....**

What other options are there?

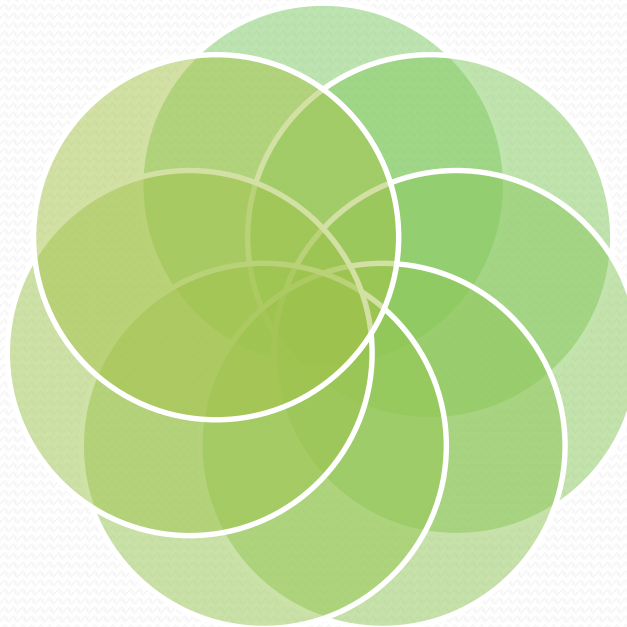
University

Gap Years

Open University
/ Distance
Learning

Jobs and
Careers

Higher
Education
College



Apprenticeships

Study Abroad

Is Open University / Distance

Learning a good option for my child?

Pros

- Can study from home.
- Limits financial burden of student housing.
- Gain a degree, or diploma in a wide variety of subjects.
- Open University financial assessments are different to studying at university.
- Courses and modules are flexible in order to fit the students own needs.

Cons

- Lack of university experience and integration.
- Still a financial implication for tuition fees and course costs.
- Needs student to be independently motivated to work on their chosen course.
- Can take longer to complete full course dependent upon the pace with which modules are completed.



Would further study at a **Further or Higher Education College** benefit my child?

<u>Pros</u>	<u>Cons</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Opportunity to access more vocational courses or foundation degrees.• Can be more accessible for students who found A levels challenging.• Can lead to further qualifications.• Potential to be local.• Financial implications can potentially be lower the University.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Could be working with younger students.• Places can still be limited.• Some of the courses may not challenge all students.• Still has a financial implication.• Some students would need to collect a number of qualifications (this has a time implication on the student.)

Why should my child **Study abroad?**

Pros

- Access to a variety of courses.
- Worldwide strengths of courses.
- Competitive edge in the employment market.
- Tuition fees can be less than the UK.
- Improve language skills.
- Recognition of international qualifications is currently being standardised on first degrees.

Cons

- Distance.
- Financial commitment can be high (air fares, visas, cost of living etc.)
- Research required (at least 12 months in advance) i.e. now.
- Students must check qualifications can be transferred and recognised in the UK or country they wish to work in.

Would an **Apprenticeship** suit my child?

Pros

- Earn a Salary.
- Receive training.
- Gain Qualifications.
- Can qualify up to degree level in a specific career.
- Learn skills to be used in the work place.
- Paid holidays.
- Anyone over 16 can apply.

Cons

- Minimum pay £2.50 per hour.
- Need to make sure the Apprenticeship is valid.
- Growing competition especially in niche markets.
- Needs student to be proactive in researching and applying for the Apprenticeship.

Should my child get a **Job or Career** now?

<u>Pros</u>	<u>Cons</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Earning their own money.• Developing work skills.• Developing confidence, organisation, maturity and reliability.• Developing financial awareness and management skills.• Can open opportunities to future training and/or funded training.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Difficult economic climate for 18-26 year olds in the job market.• Needs drive from student to find and apply for job.• Do they know what they want to do?• Are their expectations of jobs, careers, qualification levels and wages realistic.• Do they want a job or a career?

My child wants to go on a **Gap Year** is it worth it?

<u>Pros</u>	<u>Cons</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gain New Skills.• Time to consider future options.• Exposure to new cultures.• Develop maturity• Develop self reliance• Meet new people.• Can develop financial responsibility if they find the funding themselves.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Can be costly (for them and/or you.)• Needs student to be focused and organised or it can be misused.• Needs planning and organisation.• Needs clear aims before setting off.

What **other** options are there?

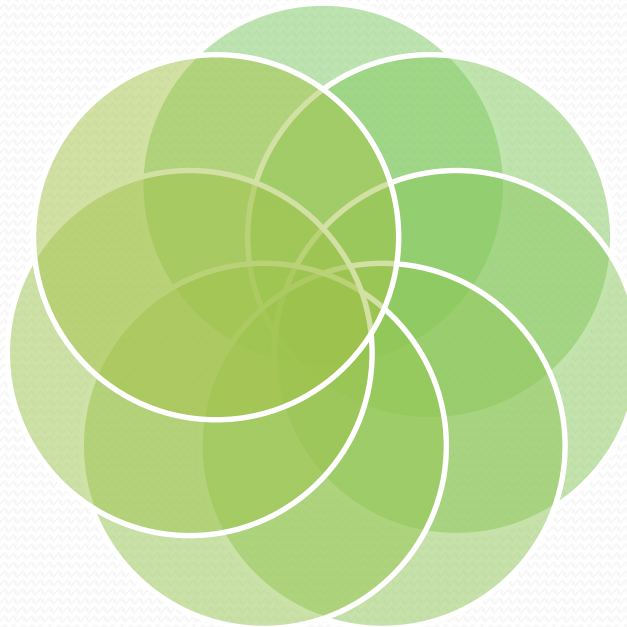
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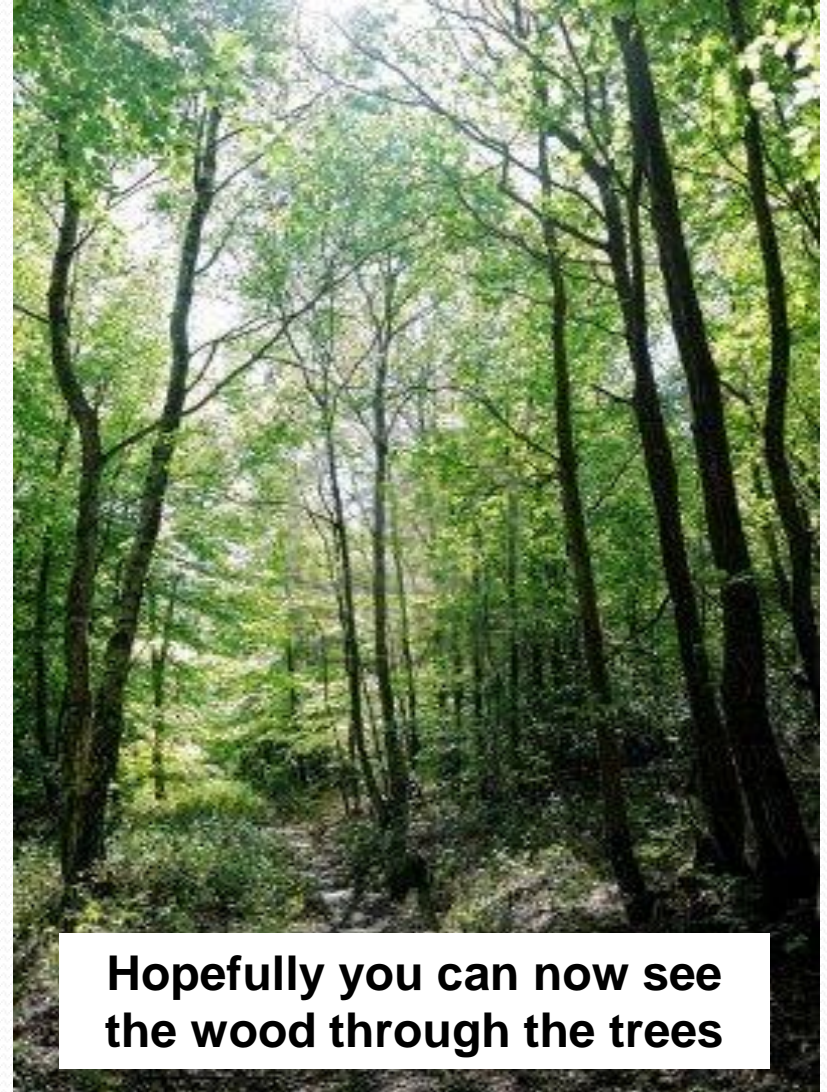


Apprenticeships

Study Abroad

A whistle-stop tour of other options...

- Students have access to:
 - Miss Webb (Head of Careers)
 - The Sixth Form Team.
 - Mrs Rowe (Careers Advisor)
 - The Careers Library/ Computer programmes.
 - You.
- If you or your children have any questions or concerns please access www.phs.cheshire.sch.uk (Careers department) or lmw@phs.cheshire.sch.uk to contact me.



**Hopefully you can now see
the wood through the trees**



GOOD LUCK!

