

Autumn 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

As your child starts Year 11, it is important to consider the different routes they can take after their GCSEs. Whilst your child may already have plans in mind, I wanted to write with information on all routes, as different paths are right for each child; different learning styles, exam pressure, work placed learning on the job, versus classroom style learning. It is so key that the route selected suits the students, and parents are so vital for supporting this process, to find the right style and level -so you child can enjoy and succeed in the route they choose. It is key parents fully understand the options available to help their child to choose the best route for them. We have created a Facebook page which provides snippets of information to help with this, follow us [here](#).

Kings Sixth is a vibrant and successful learning community. Our motto is: *Believe and Succeed*, which we believe applies to every student. Inspiring students and enabling them to achieve their greatest social and academic potential is at the heart of our ethos. At Kings Sixth, we offer a wide range of courses and warmly welcome every student to find a pathway that suits them. With the right support in place, we believe that everyone can truly 'believe and succeed'. We currently have 250 students on roll, meaning we can offer an impressive combination of A Level, Level 3 and Level 2 vocational qualifications. In addition, we are pleased to offer AS Level qualifications to further enhance your academic portfolio. Find out more [here](#)

A brief explanation of other routes, a skills assessment quiz and resources can be found at the Government's site [Skills For Careers](#). A 5 minute video very simply explaining the routes is [here](#). [What Are T Levels](#) is a short 6 minute video explaining this route.

The following 3 booklets comprehensively outline the different routes available. They explain options which often are less understood, such as T Levels, and pre-apprenticeships. As well as what to consider when choosing A Level and BTEC subjects and resources on apprenticeships. There is information on more specialist routes available in our area, such as AAT Accountancy training and specialist media/ drama schools. [Somerset Routes After Year 11 Guide For Parents](#), [Your Future Sorted Somerset](#), and [The Parents Guide to What's Next](#).

If your child has specific educational needs (SEN) or an EHCP. Imagine the Possibilities [Families Guide](#)-describes supported apprenticeships and traineeships, support in work and relevant legislation. Also see [Imagine the Possibilities](#) website. There is a short video explaining [What is a supported employment?](#)

Students who prefer the workplace, but are not quite experienced enough to secure an apprenticeship, could attend [Somerset Skills & Learning pre apprenticeships](#). They have centers in; Frome, Taunton, Yeovil, Bridgwater and Shepton Mallet, and support students towards securing an apprenticeship. Previously called Traineeships, these can last between 6 weeks and a year, and include Maths and English studies if a grade 4 has not been obtained. If your child is ready for an Apprenticeship, you can find some useful resources [here](#).

For further resources on many routes please see our [Post16 information sheet](#). Useful websites to generally explore different careers include; [Somerset – Your Futures](#) and [CareerPilot](#) which has an excellent [Parent Zone](#). Also see our [Student & Parent Padlet](#); updated daily with events, open days and opportunities.

Your child has access to Mrs Devlin, Employability Co-ordinator, in school but if you or your child would like further support, you can also contact a National Careers Service careers adviser on 0800 100 900 8am to 8pm weekdays or 10am to 5pm Saturdays or [use webchat](#) to talk online.

I hope this information is helpful.

Warm regards,
Somerset Careers Hub