



Supporting Your Child – Post 16 Choices

Year 11 is when students make important decisions about their further education options, while completing their coursework and taking final exams. There is a lot of help and support available at Rossett School to help you and your child with these decisions.

Their choices are:

- Staying in full-time learning either in school sixth form, further education college or with a training provider*
- Training, such as an apprenticeship, traineeship, supported internship*
- Full-time work or volunteering for 20 hours or more AND part-time study leading to a qualification.*

***Important:** Students in Year 11 have to stay in learning until they are 18 ((something most 16-18 year olds already do) due to the Government Raising the Participation Age (RPA). Learning is classed as education or training.

Full time learning - sixth form, colleges and training providers offer some or all of the following types of full-time courses:

- **Academic** - in a broad range of subjects, such as History, French or Maths. Good if your child likes to study and are predicted to do well in exams.
- **Practical/vocational (or work-related)** - in broader career-related courses, such as Art and Design, Health and Social Care or Business. Good if students like projects and coursework. They lead to qualifications, such as BTECs, Cambridge Nationals or A levels in applied subjects. T Levels are a new vocational qualification at Level 3 being piloted in our region.
- **Job specific** - in subjects such as childcare, engineering, catering, motor vehicle or construction, such as joinery. They usually lead to NVQ or VQ qualifications.

Find out more about each option:

<https://guest.startprofile.com/article/155>

<https://www.eclips-online.co.uk/leaflet/2.35> - A guide to qualifications

<https://www.eclips-online.co.uk/leaflet/1.10> - Choices at Sixteen -

Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships are a job with pay, training and the chance to gain professionally relevant qualifications. There are four types of apprenticeship:

- **Intermediate** - level 2 apprenticeships for students over 16. Some (but not all) employers will ask for some GCSEs at grade 4 or above.

- **Advanced** - level 3 apprenticeships are for over 16s. They need four or five GCSEs at grade 4/5 or above, usually including English and Maths, or have already achieved an intermediate apprenticeship.
- **Higher or Degree** - level 4-7 apprenticeships are for over 18s. Degree apprenticeships include an honours or master's degree. Higher apprenticeships lead to the equivalent of a foundation, honours or master's degree, or professional qualification. Usually you require a level 3 qualification, such as an advanced apprenticeship, A levels, BTEC diploma or equivalent.

Download the government's [Guide to apprenticeships](#) for more information. Also check out the Amazing Apprenticeship website for more information.

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/> and
<https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk/apprentices/get-started>

Traineeships

Traineeships are designed for students aged 16 to 24, who want a job or an apprenticeship, but are not yet ready and need to get some work experience first. Traineeships last up to six months. Over 50% of trainees go on to do an apprenticeship.

Parents can help by:

- Talking to your child about their ideas and how they are doing at school. The single biggest influence on young people's career choices are parents and carers. Help them consider what each option means for them, so they can choose the route that best suits their skills, interests and future plans. Helping them to break down their research tasks is really helpful – so they don't get overwhelmed with information by trying to do it all in one go.
- Encouraging them to work hard to get the best results they can, this will increase the choices which will be open to them.
- Help your child to reflect on what they're good at and enjoy; how they learn best; and whether they need extra support. Students often find this stage tricky and your input and feedback can really help with this.
- Attend virtual open evenings and options events at school sixth form, colleges and training providers. A list of events will be kept updated on the school careers website - <https://www.rossettschool.co.uk/curriculum/careers/>

How to help if your child doesn't know what they want to do:

- If you want to help your child to get started with ideas, try [i-could](#) or the Skills Explorer on [Careersbox](#). Both websites have quick quizzes to help with career ideas and useful links to other sources of information.
- **START** - <https://www.startprofile.com/> This takes about 30 minutes to complete. Year 11 students should already have registered but may need to complete the sections to get good career/subject and course suggestions.
- **Use the school eCLIPS website** - eCLIPS makes careers exploration simple. It offers accurate, impartial information on over 1400 careers plus a wealth of advice and information on education and employment choices. www.eclips-online.co.uk (the password is Rossett).

Useful leaflets for this group of students are:

Careers by school/college subject - <https://www.eclips-online.co.uk/careers-by-school-college-subject>

Job Families, select those areas that interest you - <https://www.eclips-online.co.uk/jobgroups>

- **Sacu Spartan quiz** – this takes 20 minutes to complete. https://sacu-student.com/?page_id=2850 Produces a career and Higher Education subject cloud. SACU also has a free A level choice matching tool – see what courses you can do with different A level combinations. https://sacu-student.com/?page_id=5203

How to help students who know what they want to do:

- If you want to find out about routes into a career look at **Job Profiles** on the [National Careers Service](#) website or ...
- Use the school eCLIPS website - this offers accurate, impartial information on over 1400 careers plus a wealth of advice and information on education and employment. www.eclips-online.co.uk (password is Rossett).

Careers by A-Z - <https://www.eclips-online.co.uk/a-to-z>

- If you are wondering where certain Higher Education courses may take you then use the **Prospects website** <https://www.prospects.ac.uk/planner> - check out 'What can I do with my degree (details where students went after graduating)'. There is also a careers quiz for ideas.

Other useful Career Match sites for students with specific interests:

- **CITB** – This covers the full range of careers within construction from craft to technical to professional – students can look for specific information or have a go at the short quiz. This helps students to look more widely rather than just the obvious top four choices. [Go Construct](#)
- **Futuremorph Game** - Very helpful for those students whose main interest is STEM (Science and Maths) subjects.
- **NHS** - there is a wide range of options when working in the NHS - <https://www.stepintothenhhs.nhs.uk/>

Careers Advisers at Rossett School

In addition to support from school staff (subject tutors, heads of year, form tutors, student support officers etc) we provide additional support from the Shine Careers Advisers. The Shine advisers:

- See students individually or in small groups to help them with their ideas and planning for next steps and beyond.
- Offer drop-in sessions over break and attend school Parents' Evenings.
- Help with applications for full-time courses, jobs/apprenticeships and training.
- Supports the school with our career programme and attend many of our events.

You can also contact the National Careers Service

<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/contact-us>

Webchat - Contact an adviser using [webchat](#). This service is open from 8am to 10pm, 7 days a week. Phone 0800 100 900 to speak to an adviser. Lines are open from 8am to 10pm, 7 days a week. Calls are free from landlines and most mobile numbers.