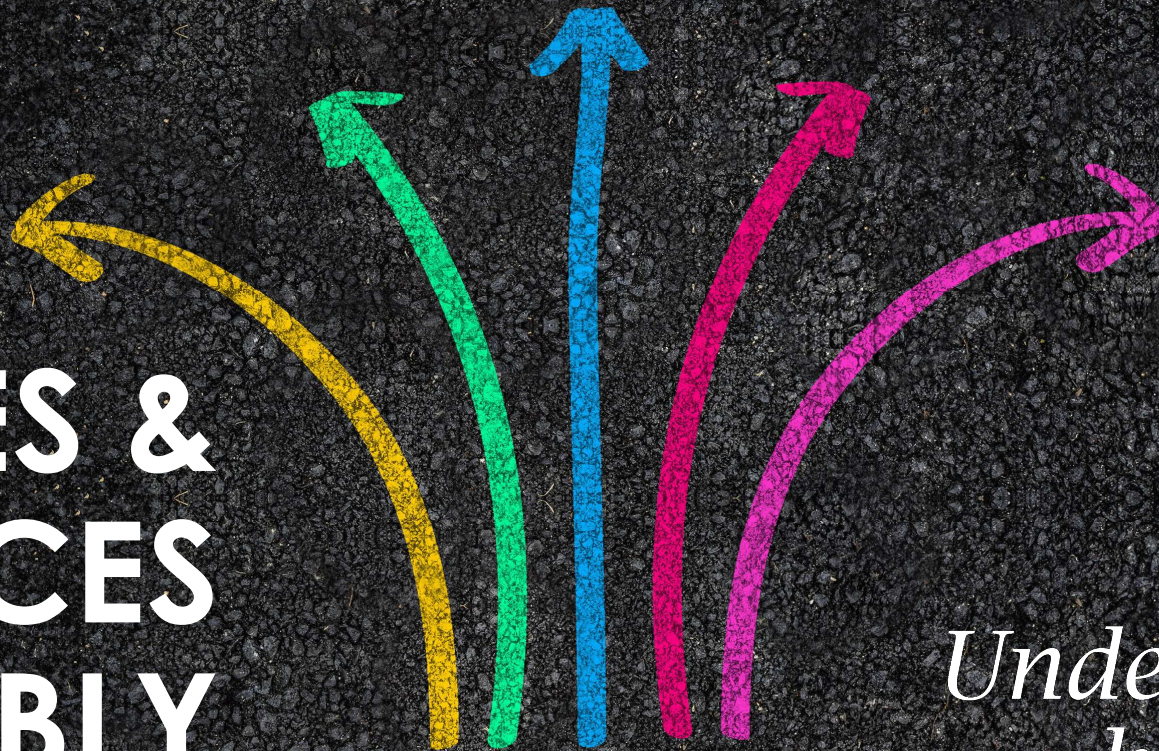


FUTURES & CHOICES ASSEMBLY II



*Understanding
how to best
choose your
post-16
options*



FUTURES: Fifth Form Timeline

MICHAELMAS

Weeks 11-13 & CHRISTMAS: Futures Assembly I // Initial thinking + refamiliarising with Unifrog

LENT

Weeks 1-2: GCSE Trial Exams

Week 3: 22nd Jan - Into Sixth Form Day // 23rd Jan - Futures Assembly II

25th Jan - Futures Workshop: BC & HA

Week 4: 30th Jan - Futures Workshop: DA & FA

1st Feb - Futures Workshop: FI & SH

Week 5: 6th Feb - Futures Workshop: ME & TO

HALF TERM

Week 6: 19th Feb - Deadline for A-Level Choices

20th Feb - Apprenticeships Assembly

Weeks 7-9: Further discussion with tutors // 1-1s with Futures Team

Week 10: Futures Reports sent to parents

EASTER

+ tutorial
exploration &
discussion with
tutor

1-1 meetings with
ZSS available at
anytime to support
decisions

CHOOSING SUBJECTS TO STUDY: KEY QUESTIONS

What are you interested in?

What are you good at?

How difficult will it be?

What will you need for a chosen career
or course?

What will give you the best options?

What will you need for a chosen career or course?

A few “what you may need” examples...

Economist

Need a degree in Economics or related subject. For uni-based path, A-Level Maths needed for top courses. A-Level Economics is of course highly useful and sometimes required.

Doctor

Medical degree essential. A-Level Chem is typically essential and Bio is often also needed. Work experience and early entry application essential.

Architect

Need an ARB-recognized Architecture degree. For uni-based path, A-Level Maths and/or Physics often desired and sometimes essential. Art also often preferred. Portfolio needed.

Solicitor

Law degree not essential; can convert another degree. No specific A-level subjects needed, though having a literary subject (e.g. Eng. Lit., Hist.) sometimes preferred.

All above jobs usually require a degree but not necessarily a university-based path. Those in GREEN already have an active apprenticeship pathway.

All need a set minimum in GCSE Maths and Eng Lang. Can potentially have further GCSE requirements.

MORE THAN
80%
OF EMPLOYERS
DON'T SPECIFY
A SUBJECT AREA

**HEPI, 2023*



UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM

What degree did these applicants hold?

- Analyst
- Buyer
- Editorial Assistant
- Policy Adviser
- Recruitment Consultant
- Underwriter
- Teacher



HISTORY





How about these careers?

- Business Development Manager
- Consultant
- Financial Analyst
- Quality Control Analyst
- Tax Associate
- Music Producer



UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM

CHEMISTRY

What will give you the best options?



In terms of **connectivity**
e.g. BIO / GEOG / BUS

In terms of **discipline /
work format** - e.g. 2 +1
e.g. MAT / PHYS / ART

In terms of your **instincts**
vs your **results...**

What are you interested in?

What are you good at?

How difficult will it be?

UNIVERSITY-BASED DEGREE PATH

but not the only path

- 100's of Institutions, 1000s of Courses
- **Russell Group** - RG - group of 24 top research universities. Not the only “good” unis.
- **Oxbridge** (Oxford & Cambridge)
- **University League Tables** - what ‘best’ / ‘better’ means to you
 - For budding computer scientists - Liverpool Hope (9th in Guardian Rankings) or Exeter (18th in Guardian Rankings)
- **Entry Requirements** -Letter grades vs UCAS point (tariffs) offers – **Higher Tariff** unis typically issue 3 letter grade offers
- **UCAS application** – centralized application portal for almost all UK unis

UCAS POINTS (TARIFF)

AS LEVEL	A LEVEL	UCAS Points	Enrichment addition example: EPQ UCAS Points
-	A*	56	28
-	A	48	24
-	B	40	20
-	C	32	16
-	D	24	12
A	-	20	
B	E	16	8
C	-	12	
D	-	10	
E	-	6	

ALSO EXTRA UCAS POINTS:

- Junior Sports Leader Qualification = 16
- Leith's Extended Certificate = 12-36
- ...

What grades do I need to get to get **104 UCAS points?**

A-Levels are not the only option

T Levels

New 2-year technical courses equivalent to three A levels. Launched in September 2020 and expanding. Include sizable work placements. Suited to those who want to get started in an occupation / industry.

BTEC

Diplomas combining theory and practical learning. BTECs are specialist work-related qualifications. A great option if you're interested in a sector, but aren't sure what to do yet. A Level-3 BTEC equals A levels, and is accepted by universities.

A Levels

Another two years in school, which can lead you to traditional degrees, degree apprenticeships, further study, internships, training, or work.

Opportunities to develop specific knowledge and transferable skills.

Gateway to further education, training and kinds of employment.

Potentially indicative of ability to employers, esp. in early career roles, though this is generally overtaken by higher qualifications and experience once you gain them.

Apprenticeships

Ideal for students who want to work and study at the same time. There are different levels of apprenticeships, and you can head over to our ultimate guide on [finding an apprenticeship](#) to learn more.

but not exclusively by all unis / courses

*Find out more in your
Apprenticeships
Assembly on 20th Feb*

Cause

What to do

You either don't know what you want to do or are unsure what your options mean.

Confused

Study the options you have and understand where each route leads.

You either fear failure, or you fear missing out on the road not taken.

Anxious/Scared

Look at your results and achievements so far. What are you capable of? Mistakes will always be part of learning.

You have an idea about what to do. You're just not confident enough to bet on it.

Uncertain

Study your motivations, achievements, and future goals. Are they pointing you towards a particular direction? Use that as a guide to find clarity in your decision.

So much to decide on, but so little time? Remember, you only need to choose one, but it has to be the one that works best for you.

Overwhelmed

Narrow down your choices. Use your results and advice from those who know you well to determine your learning style, and weigh your options from there.

<https://ultimateguides.ucas.com/choosingwhattostudyaftergcses/>

FUTURES WORKSHOP

You will have received a welcome email from Unifrog at some point, but use the 'Forgotten your password' link any time to send yourself a password reset.

To get started, sign in to unifrog.org and click on a **pathways** or **opportunities** tools.

The 'Exploring pathways' dashboard features five colored tiles with 'Go to tool' or 'Start' buttons:

- Careers library** (yellow): ✓ Careers favoured. Button: Go to tool >
- Subjects library** (purple): ✓ Subjects favoured. Button: Go to tool >
- Know-how library** (red): ✓ Guides favoured. Button: Go to tool >
- Webinars** (orange): Hear directly from the experts. Button: Go to tool >
- Read, Watch, Listen** (blue): ✓ Profiles favoured. Button: Start >

ACCESS ALL THE TOOLS BELOW

Students aged 11-15 have the option to see only tools appropriate for their age, and can click 'all tools' to see everything. Older students see everything as standard.

Ages 11-14 | **Ages 14-16** | All tools

The 'Searching for opportunities' dashboard for ages 14-16 shows two tiles:

- Apprenticeships** (10 shortlists): Start >
- College / Sixth Form** (0 shortlists): Start >

The 'Searching for opportunities' dashboard for all ages shows a grid of 12 tiles:

- UK universities** (03 shortlists): Start >
- US universities** (0 shortlists): Start >
- European universities** (1 shortlist): Start >
- Oxbridge** (0 shortlists): Start >
- Apprenticeships** (10 shortlists): Start >
- College / Sixth Form** (0 shortlists): Start >
- Canadian universities** (1 shortlist): Start >
- Asian universities** (0 shortlists): Start >
- Australasian unis** (1 shortlist): Start >
- Irish universities** (0 shortlists): Start >
- Special opportunities** (0 shortlists): Start >
- Events** (0 upcoming events): Go to tool >

TUTORIAL FUTURES DISCUSSION

Discussion Points:

- a) Possible career aspirations
- b) Post-16 options (e.g. A-level choices / Alternatives to DCS)
- c) Possible post-18 options
- d) Work experience & skill development

Futures Reports shared with parents / school leaders / Futures team

FIVE-POINT PLAN

1. Know what you want to study? Check out entry requirements
2. Not sure yet? Keep your options open.
3. GCSEs matter
4. Think Balance
5. Make sure you know WHY