

Welcome to Aston Academy Y11 Parents Evening -Careers,



Foreword – James Shaw – Careers Advisor and NCW Ambassador

“We are passionate to empower students through linking education with the world of work, ensuring students are inspired and prepared to make informed decisions on their future”



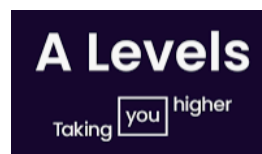
To book 1-1 careers meeting please email james.shaw@astonacademy.org

Choices after Year 11

A levels – Academic route

A levels or Advanced Levels are two-year subject-based qualifications for students aged 16 or older who plan to go to university or want much deeper knowledge of a study area.

A levels are offered at Aston 6th form and there is a wide range of subjects for students to choose from, including level 3 BTECs



Available at Aston Post 16 and other School 6th Forms, Thomas Rotherham College and Sheffield College 6th Form

What to expect from A Levels

Entry Requirements 5 GCSEs at Grade 4 or above including Maths & English (please check each course)

An increase in difficulty compared to GCSEs, differences in the way you're taught and what's expected from you

More independent study time – you'll only have between three and five subjects to study as opposed to ten or more at GCSE, meaning less time in the classroom.

T Levels – Available at Most Colleges including Rotherham and Sheffield

T-levels are a new type of technical qualification, designed for after your GCSEs. They've been developed alongside employers to make sure that what you learn meets the needs of industry and prepares you for work. Here's some key info to give you an idea of what to expect:



What to expect from T-Levels

Entry requirements - minimum of 5 GCSEs including English and Maths at grades 9-4 (A*-C)

T-levels are two-year courses, they are equivalent to three A-levels, Student's time is split: 80% classroom learning; 20% industry placement, Placements are at least 315 hours (approximately 45 days), T-levels could help you get into skilled employment, further study or a higher apprenticeship

Vocational Courses – College – Available at Rotherham and Sheffield College and other FE settings

A vocational course is a training programme which focuses more on practical work, rather than traditional academic exams. Vocational courses focus on a specific job or a broad employment area, such as childcare, engineering or IT. They might be for you if you have a strong interest in working in a particular industry.



Vocational Qualifications Entry (please check provisions as entries may differ)

| Level | Entry Qualifications |
|---|--|
| Entry Level - 1 year course | No qualifications needed |
| Level 1 – 1 year course | 4 GCSE grade 2s (inc English Language) |
| Level 2 – 1 year course | 4 x GCSE grade 3s (inc English Language) |
| Level 3 and T-Levels – 2-year course Equivalent to 3 x A levels | 5 x GCSE grade 4s or above (inc maths and English) |

Vocational Courses (continued)

- If students don't gain a level 4 in Maths and English in their Y11 examinations these will be retaken alongside their vocational studies
- Full time College is classed as 2 or 3 days a week at college (and extra half a day if needed for English and Maths retakes)

Useful Websites and links

- Rotherham College Courses <https://www.rotherham.ac.uk/courses/>
- Sheffield College Courses <https://www.sheffcol.ac.uk/courses>

Open Days

Rotherham College – Saturday 18th November 2023 – 10am – 12 (please book)

<https://www.rotherham.ac.uk/event/rotherham-college-open-event-november-2023/>

Sheffield College Open day – Thursday 19th October 4pm -7pm <https://www.sheffcol.ac.uk/open-days>

Apprenticeships

An apprenticeship is a paid job where the employee learns and gains valuable experiences. Alongside on-the-job training, apprentices spend at least 20% of their working hours completing classroom-based learning with a college, university or training provider which leads to a nationally recognised qualification. Students are advised to search and find their own employer for their apprenticeship placement



What to expect:

- An apprenticeship includes: paid employment with holiday leave.
- Hands-on-experience in a sector/role of interest, at least 20% off-the-job training,
- Formal assessment which leads to a nationally recognised qualification

Apprenticeship Levels Equivalent education level

Intermediate 2 GCSE

Advanced 3 A level

Higher 4,5,6 and 7 Foundation degree and above

Degree 6 and 7 Bachelor's or master's degree

Website to find apprenticeships- or check specific company websites opportunities such as AMRC etc.

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>

Useful Websites: <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/>

Parents guide to post 16 options after GCSEs <https://www.theparentsguideto.co.uk/post/what-can-my-child-do-after-their-gcse>