

# Welcome to

## Aston Academy

# Post 16 Information Evening

Please help yourself to a drink and a handbook and take a seat...



Resilience



Pride



Respect



Ambition



Responsibility



# Purpose of this evening

Explain:

- Key differences between pre-16 and post-16 study
- Post-16 procedures
- Post-18 options
- Opportunities and support on offer during post-16 study



# Post-16 team

Mr Hall – Post-16 Lead

Mr Graham – Leadership link – Post-16

Mr Shaw – Careers Advisor

Mr Raymond – Careers Advisor

Year 12 tutors – Miss Bowden and Miss Tomley

Year 13 tutors – Mrs Brittain, Ms Baggaley and Mrs Ward



# Our aim

Y13 students at Aston 2023-24 achieved the highest progress score out of 9 sixth forms in Rotherham. Aston would rank second out of 19 sixth forms in Sheffield.

2024-25 results suggest a higher progress score: +0.29

We want to continue to this success with our current students.

<b>Aston Academy</b>	ABOVE AVERAGE	0.25	?
<b>Wickersley School and Sports College</b>	AVERAGE	0.01	?
<b>Brinsworth Academy</b>	AVERAGE	-0.01	?
<b>Dinnington High School</b>	AVERAGE	-0.18	?
<b>Wath Academy</b>	BELOW AVERAGE	-0.21	?
<b>Wales High School</b>	BELOW AVERAGE	-0.22	?
<b>Thomas Rotherham College</b>	BELOW AVERAGE	-0.23	?
<b>Swinton Academy</b>			
<b>Silverdale School</b>	ABOVE AVERAGE	0.29	?
<b>Forge Valley School</b>	ABOVE AVERAGE	0.24	?
<b>King Egbert School</b>	ABOVE AVERAGE	0.23	?
<b>Tapton School</b>	ABOVE AVERAGE	0.23	?
<b>Notre Dame High School</b>	ABOVE AVERAGE	0.21	?
<b>All Saints' Catholic High School</b>	ABOVE AVERAGE	0.19	?
<b>Birkdale School</b>	AVERAGE	0.11	?
<b>Meadowhead School Academy Trust</b>			

# Post-16 differences

- Small class sizes
- Most students have 15 lessons per week
- Separate area of school
- Flexibility about where to spend study periods
- No uniform
- Time for enrichment activities and fundraising
- More 'adult' relationships with staff



# Post-16 curriculum

- 5 hours per week per subject
- 1.5 hours a week briefing/tutorial PSHE
- GCSE Maths and English resit
- Work experience
- Week A and B



# Post 16 Facilities



New building with sports hall and 8 new classrooms



Common room



Pool room



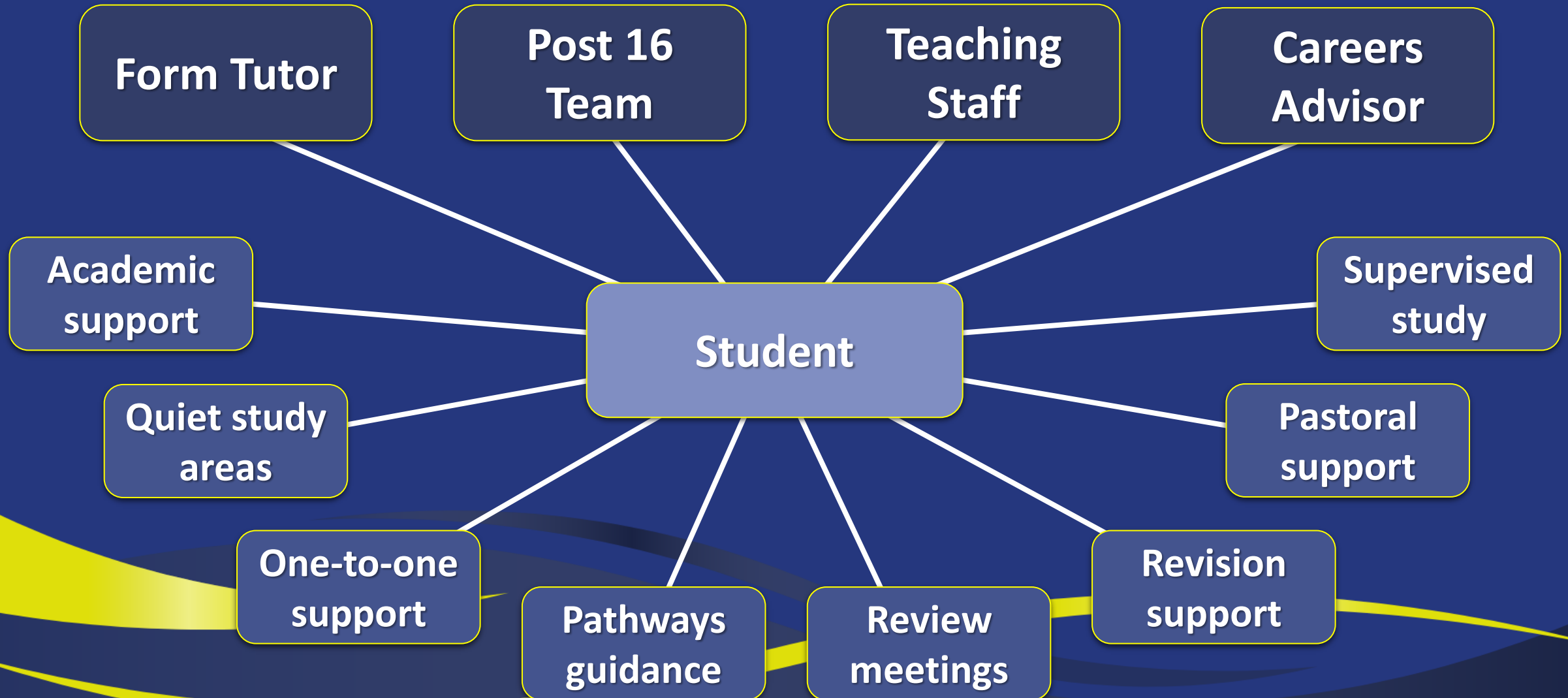
Post 16 kitchen area



Aston Leisure Centre Gym



# Post 16 Support



# Communication

- Weekly briefing for students
- Student handbook
- Post-16 section of the website
- Letters emailed home
- [Post16@astonacademy.org](mailto:Post16@astonacademy.org) or [aa-postleadershipteam@astonacademy.org](mailto:aa-postleadershipteam@astonacademy.org)



ASTON ACADEMY

HOME

OUR ACADEMY

CURRICULUM

PARENT/CARERS

POST 16

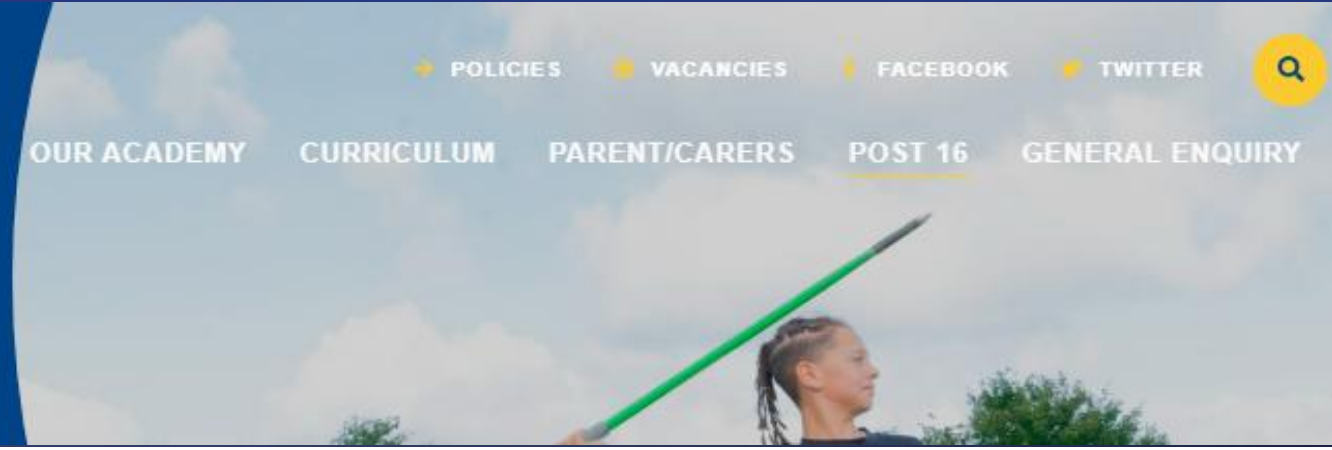
GENERAL ENQUIRY

POLICIES

VACANCIES

FACEBOOK

TWITTER



# Attendance

- Students or parents should report an absence by calling 0114 2872171 and leaving a voicemail and reason for the absence
- Students and parents will be texted if there is an absence with no reason reported.
- Students can report absences in advance with evidence at the post-16 or attendance office.



# Wellbeing

- Creating a sense of belonging through briefings, tutor and joint charity events
- Health information in PSHE sessions
- Trained MIND counsellors in school
- Post-16 tutors to oversee care
- Kooth – online support



**kooth**

Kooth is a free online service offering emotional and mental health support for children and young people

[www.kooth.com](http://www.kooth.com)

# Financial support: Bursary

- The bursary provides money for resources needed for study.
- Students may apply for the bursary if they are eligible in one of the following categories:
- **Category A:** Student is in care (LAC) or a care leaver; financially independent and receives Universal Credit; receives Personal Independence Payments; an unaccompanied asylum seeker.
- **Category B:**
  - **Priority 1:** live in a household with an annual income below £16,190 before tax and national insurance or be eligible for free school meals.
  - **Priority 2:** Student is from a household with a total income below £30,000. If there are other persons under 18 living in the household, a deduction of £1750 per dependent will be applied.



# Year 12 UCAS Discovery

- Sheffield Arena – Tuesday 9 June 2026
- Talk to universities and employers directly
- Free event – tickets booked by school
- Student make their own way there and home
- If you attend, you will need a ticket



# Year 12 Work Shadowing

- 13-17 July 2025
- Self-organised to develop skills
- Advice on how to organise in student handbook
- Examples of specific schemes
- See me or Mr Shaw for ideas
- Can be virtual (Springpod/The Forage)



# Post-18 options

- University
  - Employment
  - Apprenticeships
  - Gap year
- 
- Focus of term 3 PSHE in Year 12 tutor time
  - UCAS guide and Post-18 Options booklet



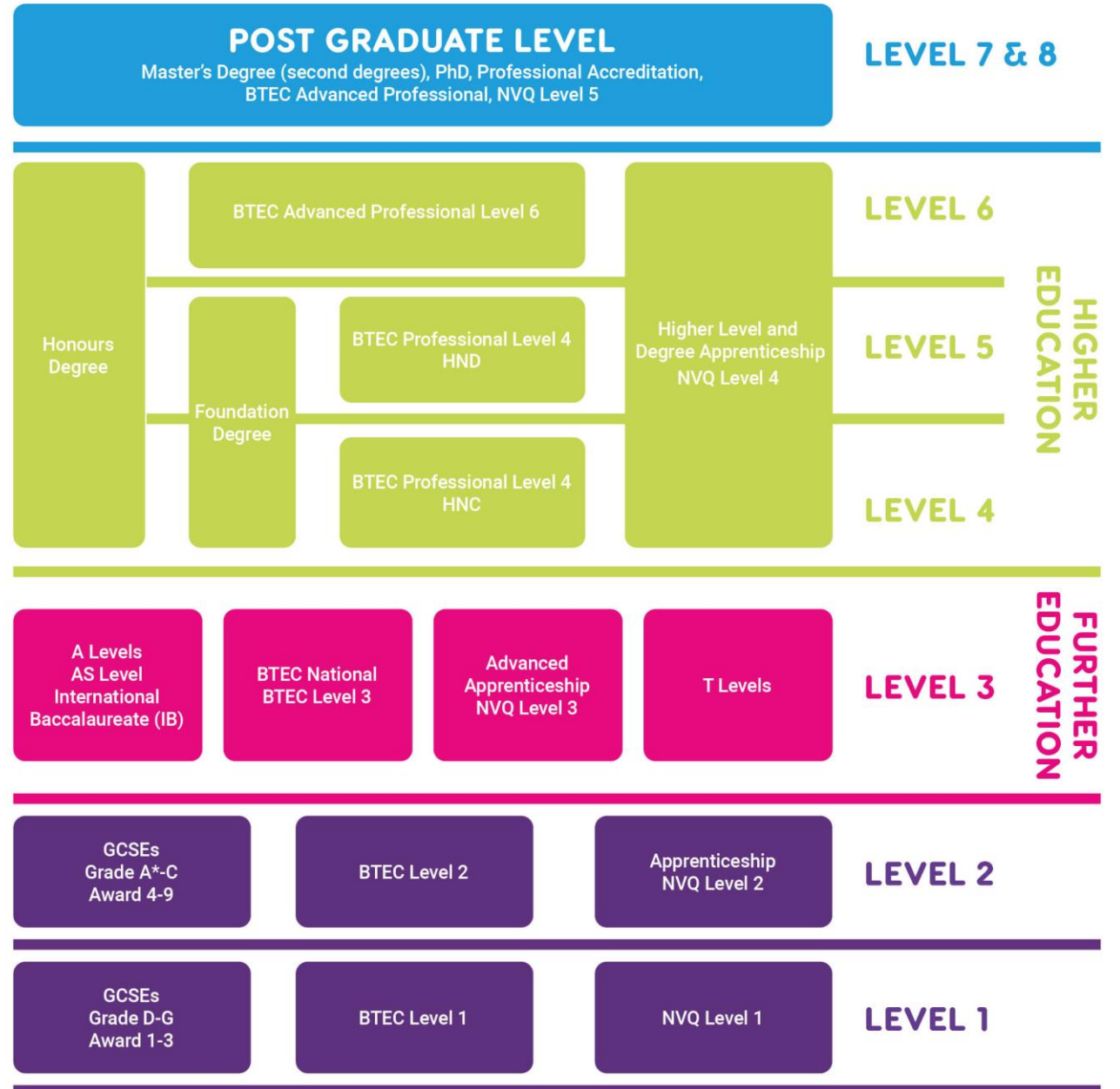
**Post-18**

**Options Booklet**

Summer 2025



# Levels of education



# UCAS

- Follow UCAS guide to complete application
- Tutor/Post-16 team write reference
- Make appointment with Mr Hall to send application
- Early deadline: Wed 15 October [Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary, Oxbridge]
- Equal consideration deadline: Wed 14 January 2026



**Post-18**

**Options Booklet**

Summer 2025



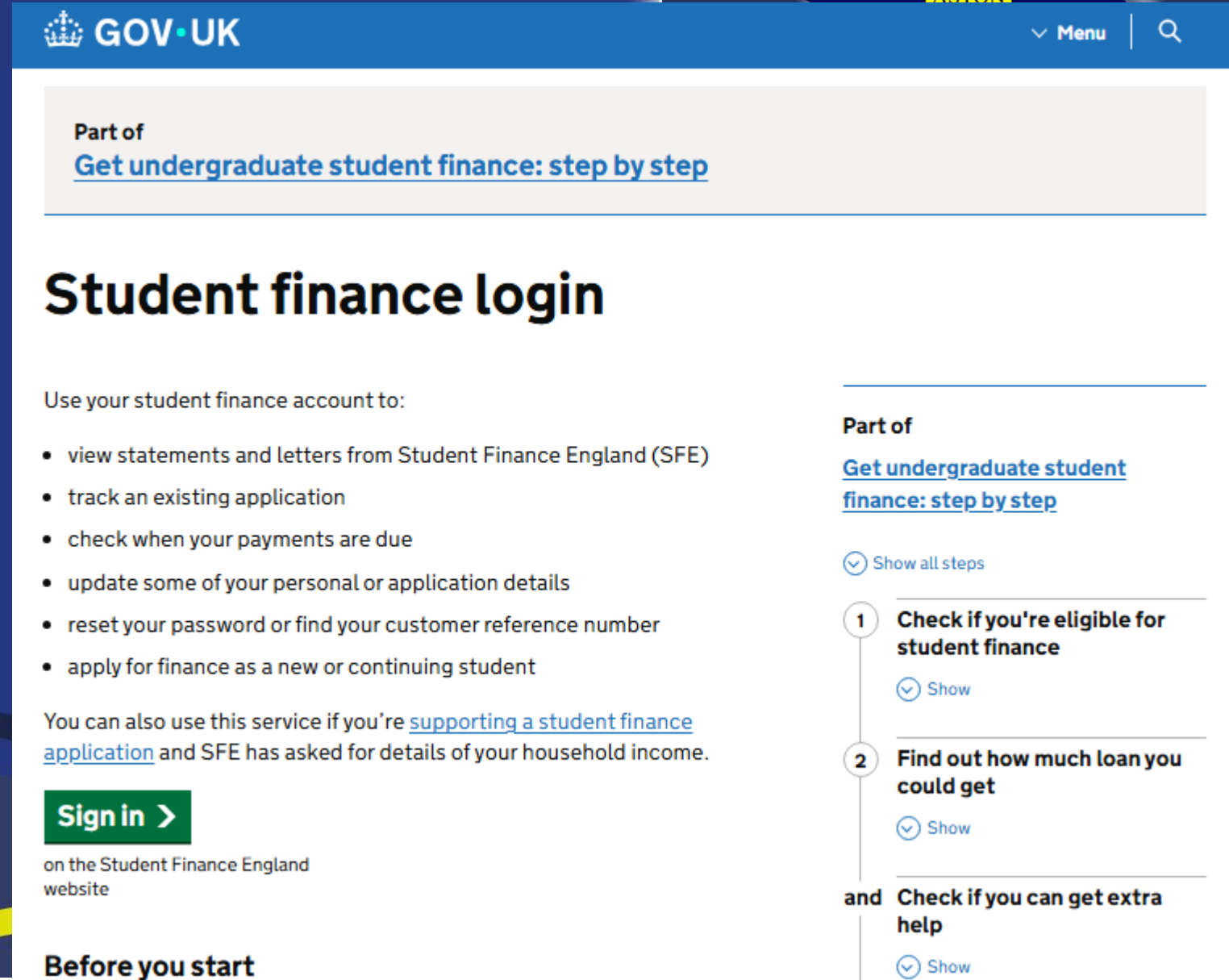
# University versus A level



	A level	University
Teaching	Lessons	Lectures, seminars, tutorials
Grades	A* - E /Dis* - Pass	First/2.1/2.2/3 class
Assessment	Exams, coursework	Exams, essays, presentations dissertation
Exam timing	End of course (A level)	Modular
Contact time	5 hours per subject	Varied – more independent reading/study
Holidays	13 weeks	17 weeks

# Student Finance

- Application opens in Spring of Year 13
- Applications should be completed by the end of May 2026
- Household income will be assessed



Part of [Get undergraduate student finance: step by step](#)

## Student finance login

Use your student finance account to:

- view statements and letters from Student Finance England (SFE)
- track an existing application
- check when your payments are due
- update some of your personal or application details
- reset your password or find your customer reference number
- apply for finance as a new or continuing student

You can also use this service if you're [supporting a student finance application](#) and SFE has asked for details of your household income.

[Sign in >](#)

on the Student Finance England website

**Before you start**

Part of [Get undergraduate student finance: step by step](#)

Show all steps

- 1 **Check if you're eligible for student finance**  
 Show
- 2 **Find out how much loan you could get**  
 Show

and **Check if you can get extra help**  
 Show

# Student Finance

Over their working lives, men will be £130,000 better off on average by going to university after taxes, student loan repayments and foregone earnings are taken into account. For women, this figure is £100,000. The analysis suggest that 80% of students benefit financially from university.

Institute of Fiscal Studies (2020)



# Student Finance



The maximum tuition fee in the 2025 to 2026 academic year will depend on whether an approved (fee cap) provider has:

- a Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) award from the Office for Students (OfS)
- an access and participation plan (APP) from the OfS

## **Providers with TEF and an APP**

The maximum tuition fee in the 2025 to 2026 academic year for approved (fee cap) providers with a TEF award and with an APP will increase to:

- £9,535 for standard full-time courses
- £11,440 for full-time accelerated courses
- £7,145 for part-time courses

# Student Finance: Living Cost Loan



## Maintenance Loan entitlement

Household income	Maintenance Loan – living away from home and studying outside London	Maintenance Loan – living away from home and studying in London	Maintenance Loan – living with parents
£25,000	£10,227	£13,348	£8,610
£30,000	£9,497	£12,606	£7,887
£35,000	£8,766	£11,863	£7,163
£40,000	£8,035	£11,120	£6,440
£42,875	£7,614	£10,692	£6,024
£45,000	£7,304	£10,377	£5,716

# Student Finance: Repayment

- Interest rate = 4.3%
- Repayment rate = 9% above threshold
- Example = if you earn £30,000 per year, you pay 9% on the £5000 you earn above the threshold. This works out at £450 per year, £37.50 per month.



# Apprenticeships

- Application is through employers
- Search on:
  - <https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>
  - <https://www.ucas.com/explore/search/apprenticeships>
- Individual employer websites



UCAS Discover Applying Money & student life International

Clearing 2025

## Choose your future

Search everything

Courses Uni & Colleges Apprenticeships Employers Events Subject guides Career guides Industry guides City guides

GOV.UK Sign in or create an account

### Find an apprenticeship Search

< Back

## 85 results found

Open map Sort results Distance

**Filter**

**Selected filters** Clear

**Where**  
S26 4SF (within 10 miles) X  
[Sign in to create an alert for this search](#)

**What**  
Enter a job or company

**Where**

**New**

**Finance Apprentice**  
ELECOMM LIMITED  
Sheffield (S20 1DJ)

**Distance** 1.0 miles  
**Start date** 3 November 2025  
**Training course** Assistant accountant (level 3)  
**Wage** £14,722.50 to £23,809.50 a year

Closes in 27 days (Saturday 18 October 2025 at 11:59pm)  
Posted 18 September 2025

disability confident

# Employment

- Search on:
- <https://findajob.dwp.gov.uk/>
- Individual employer websites



A screenshot of the findajob.dwp.gov.uk website. The browser address bar shows the URL. The page has a dark blue header with 'Find a job' and navigation links for 'Sign in', 'Create account', 'Employers', and 'Cymraeg'. Below the header is a search form with two input fields: 'What?' (for job, company, skills) and 'Where?' (for city, county, or postcode). A 'Search' button is to the right of the fields, and a link for 'Advanced search' is below it. The main content area is white and divided into two columns. The left column is titled 'Search and apply for jobs' and contains text about searching without an account and a green 'Create account &gt;' button. The right column is titled 'Latest update' and features a 'Seasonal Jobs Campaign' section with text about job opportunities until December 2025 and a 'Search' link.

## Find a job

[Sign in](#) [Create account](#) [Employers](#) [Cymraeg](#)

What?

for example job, company, skills

Where?

for example city, county or postcode

Search

[Advanced search](#)

## Search and apply for jobs

You can search for jobs without an account, but to apply you need to create an account or sign in.

[Create account >](#)

Already have an account? [Sign in](#)

## Latest update

### Seasonal Jobs Campaign

DWP is promoting seasonal job opportunities across the jobcentre network until December 2025. Don't miss out on these opportunities. [Search](#)

<b>Career pathway</b>	<b>Suggested subjects</b>
<b>Medicine/Dental/Veterinary</b>	<b>Biology, Chemistry,</b> Maths, Physics, Psychology
<b>Nursing</b>	Biology, Health and Social Care, Applied Science, Maths, Chemistry, Psychology,
<b>Accountancy/Finance</b>	<b>Maths,</b> English Language, Further Maths
<b>Law</b>	History, English Language, Sociology, Psychology
<b>Civil Engineering</b>	<b>Maths, Physics,</b> Chemistry
<b>Biochemical engineering</b>	<b>Chemistry, Biology, Maths,</b> Physics
<b>Teaching</b>	<b>The subject you want to teach</b> + English Language/Literature, Maths, Sociology, Psychology, Health and Social Care
<b>Social work/care</b>	Health and Social Care, English Language/Literature, Sociology, Psychology
<b>Farming/environmental</b>	Geography, Biology, Chemistry, Maths
<b>Town planning</b>	Geography, Maths, English Language
<b>Architecture</b>	<b>Maths,</b> English Language, History
<b>Pilot/Aerospace engineering</b>	<b>Physics, Maths,</b> Biology
<b>Policing /prisons/Criminology</b>	Sociology, Psychology, English Language
<b>Computing</b>	<b>Maths,</b> Physics, Further Maths,
<b>Marketing/advertising</b>	English Language, English Literature, Psychology,
<b>Leisure /Sports</b>	Sport, Psychology

# Building skills



Work Shadowing

Fundraising

Volunteering

Mentoring

Extra-curricular clubs

University Trips

Sports Leaders

Student Leaders



# Key messages

- We really appreciate your support and communication with parents
- Please get in touch by emailing [post16@astonacademy.org](mailto:post16@astonacademy.org) or [aa-post16leadershipteam@astonacademy.org](mailto:aa-post16leadershipteam@astonacademy.org)





**Thank you for listening**  
**Do you have any questions?**  
**Enjoy your evening**



Resilience



Pride



Respect



Ambition



Responsibility

