

## Careers Support

Dear Parent / Student

In the lead up to 'A-Level Results Day' it is important to inform you of the careers support available.

I appreciate this can be both exciting and nerve-racking, so the purpose of this document is to provide you with some advice and guidance.

### Careers Guidance

Date	Support
5 July	UCAS Clearing opens. Students can view what courses are available.
15 August	On 'A-Level Results Day' Careers Support will be available.
16 August – 20 August	Support will be available by email and telephone.

To arrange a meeting prior to the above dates please email: [stagga@beck.uk.com](mailto:stagga@beck.uk.com)

### Options

While I hope every student achieves their desired grades, some maybe wish to pursue alternative pathways. Our job is to ensure you are aware of those options. The following information will detail those pathways.

#### Plan A - Clearing

If a student does not achieve the required grades there is the option to choose an alternative course or to complete a foundation year.

A foundation year at university is an introductory program designed to provide students with the essential knowledge and skills necessary to succeed on their chosen degree course.

The disadvantage of a foundation year is the additional cost. This means you will have to pay for an additional year at university.

For a simple explanation, please click on the link below.

[www.ukuniversitysearch.com/blog/post/university-foundation-year](http://www.ukuniversitysearch.com/blog/post/university-foundation-year)

On 5 July 2024 - Clearing will open. Use the links below to help you understand the process:

[www.ucas.com/undergraduate/clearing-and-results-day](http://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/clearing-and-results-day)

[www.ucas.com/events/2024-entry-clearing-opens-430761](http://www.ucas.com/events/2024-entry-clearing-opens-430761)

**Plan B - Year 14** Year 14 is an extra year of study at a college, potentially school.

This is for students who may not meet the entry requirements. In addition, it is for those but who do not wish to complete a foundation year because of the cost.

The reason you would pursue this option is to increase the number of UCAS Points to enable you to progress to university.

### **Plan C - Apprenticeships**

Apprenticeships are becoming a very popular choice for young people. They are evolving all the time as new jobs and sectors become available.

The best advice when looking for apprenticeships is to research the organisation. Look at the opportunities for progression, the salary and the brand. For example, research larger organisations, such as Unilever, Jaguar Land Rover and the Civil Service. Larger organisations invest heavily in the development of their apprentices.

The only disadvantage with apprenticeships is employers may advertise at different times of the year.

To search, use the link below. (Also search direct on employer websites)

[www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship](http://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship)

[www.ucas.com/apprenticeships](http://www.ucas.com/apprenticeships)

[www.notgoingtouni.co.uk](http://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk)

## Plan D - Employment / Work Experience

We appreciate university or full-time employment is not the right choice for every student. Therefore, gaining valuable work experience while continuing a part-time role is a great way of earning money, whilst allowing students to explore different roles.

The advantage of a student leaving sixth form aged 18, is access to a larger range of employers. Many employers' insurance policies do not cover aged 17 and under, which can limit opportunities.

The disadvantage is the time it takes to receive a decision. However, quality work experience is extremely important in helping young people make career decisions.

For work experience, the best way to secure a place is contacting the employer direct. Virtual experience is another option. See the links below to support you.

[www.springpod.com/virtual-work-experience/search](http://www.springpod.com/virtual-work-experience/search)

[www.prospects.ac.uk/jobs-and-work-experience/work-experience-and-internships](http://www.prospects.ac.uk/jobs-and-work-experience/work-experience-and-internships)

We hope this information helps you, and always remember there is support available throughout the summer. We wish all the very best for 'A-Level Results Day' and every success in the future.

Kind Regards

Antony Stagg

Careers – Archbishop Beck.