

Which College Qualifications are Right for Me?

A-Levels

Level 3

- ✓ I would like to keep my options open.
- ✓ I would like to mix and match options and take multiple subjects (e.g. History, Psychology, and Art).
- ✓ I like being assessed through exams.
- ✓ I enjoy traditional classroom learning and want to progress to HE/other.
- ✓ I am expecting grades 4 and above for at least 5 subjects in my GCSEs.

Requirements may vary. Some subjects such as Maths, Science and languages may require higher grades. Be sure to check with the colleges that interest you.

AAQs*

Level 3

*Alternative Academic Qualifications available 2025-2026

- ✓ I would like a varied choice of subjects not typically covered by A Levels.
- ✓ I would like to have academic qualifications with applied, learning and different assessment methods.
- ✓ I want to be able to progress to Higher Education/other.
- ✓ I would like to mix and match with A Levels.
- ✓ I am expecting grades 4 and above for at least 5 subjects in my GCSEs.
- ✓ I enjoy traditional classroom learning.

Requirements may vary. Be sure to check what you need for your chosen course/ check multiple colleges.

T-Level / Foundation T Level

Level 2 / 3

- ✓ I like the idea of gaining work experience while I learn. 80% classroom / lab / workshops 20% work placement.
- ✓ I would like to focus on one specific T Level, occupational area because the careers in this industry interest me and I want to progress to HTQs / HE / other.
- ✓ I find that a balance of hands on learning combined with classroom learning suits me best.
- ✓ I like the idea of part of my assessment being an employer-set project.
- ✓ I am expecting grades 4/5* and above in my GCSEs (if this is not the case, a Foundation T-Level could be an option).
- ✓ A foundation T Level helps you prepare for the T level and learn about the occupational area.

Requirements may vary. Be sure to check what you need for your chosen course/ check multiple colleges.

Technical Quals

Level 2 / 3

- ✓ New qualifications designed to provide a head start towards a job that interests you.
- ✓ I want to learn an occupation - Technical Occupational Entry qualifications (TOQs) are based on occupations, studying skills knowledge and behaviours that employers need.
- ✓ I want to specialise - Technical Additional Specialist qualifications build on the skills and knowledge in an occupation and allow you to specialise.
- ✓ I would like industry relevant skills (not T Levels) with hands on and practical learning.
- ✓ I would like I want skilled work and opportunities to progress to apprenticeships or higher education.

New

New

Vocational Quals

Level 1 / 2 / 3

- ✓ I work best when using my practical skills or working with my hands.
- ✓ I really like the style of BTEC/OCR or Cambridge National subjects I have taken in school.
- ✓ I would like the option to focus on one course or mix and match (e.g. mix with A-Levels or other vocational courses).
- ✓ I prefer to be assessed through coursework or combined assessment methods.
- ✓ I would like the option to come in at a lower level if I do not quite get my 4s in Maths and English.

