

Supporting your child with their Post 16 options

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You can get in touch with the Careers Department at Bristol Met by emailing <areers@bma.clf.uk

All students in year 11 will have a 1:1 guidance meeting with a careers advisor to talk about their future plans and to create a personal action plan.

What options does my child have for post 16?

There are a range of options available to your child once they leave Bristol Metropolitan Academy. What they go on to do depends on their achievements, interests, values, and preferences.

We recommend the following websites for information on the options available:

- Bristol.gov.uk Your choices after 16
- National Careers Service Post 16 options
- CareerPilot Parents zone Choices at 16

The main options are also summarised below:

Vocational Qualification – BTEC Apprenticeships Available at Level 1, 2 or 3. Work based learning, available at Level 2 or Can be taken alongside A Levels or as an Level 3 qualifications. 80% industry placement, 20% classroom extended qualification on their own. Offer practical learning programmes that relate learning. to specific job roles or employment sectors. Students need to have a clear idea of what they They suit people who prefer coursework to want to do, as the qualification is job specific. You must find and apply to them in a similar way to applying for a job. Normally they use a range of different assessment methods (E.g., observations, and They can be very competitive, so students must work-based assessment) instead of final exams. be resilient and able to show what sets them BTEC Extended Certificate level 3 is equivalent apart from others. to 1 A-level. Application processes vary but it is a good idea BTEC Diploma level 3 is equivalent to 2 A-levels. to have a CV prepared before applying. BTEC Extended Diploma level 3 is equivalent to 3 A-levels. Vocational Qualification – T Levels A-levels A level 3 qualification. You usually take 3 or 4 A fairly new level 3 qualification, which is equivalent to 3 A levels. different A-Level subjects. 80% classroom learning, 20% industry Choose a subject you enjoy at GCSE or try a placement new subject such as Law or Psychology. Suits people who have an interest in a Usually assessed at the end of two years by particular job area/role. final exams - you need to be good at Only a small number of subjects offered in independent study, revision, and exams. Bristol currently. If students want to go to university in the The current government plan is that these will future, there are still some courses and gradually take over from all other vocational institutions that only accept A levels (and you may need specific A-level subjects too). courses.

For students on track to achieve five GCSEs between grades 9-4:

If your child achieves a minimum of five GCSEs grade 9-4, including English and Maths, they should be able to progress on to a Level 3. This gives the greatest amount of choice for post 16 and includes A-levels, vocational qualifications, and apprenticeships. However, you should check with each provider as some may ask for higher grades. Level 3 courses usually take 2 years, and all options lead to higher education options.

For students who may achieve fewer than 5 GCSEs at grades 9-4:

If your child does not achieve five GCSEs grade 9-4 then they will be unable to study A levels. However, there are a range of level 2 and level 1 vocational qualifications they can study. These qualifications typically last 1 year, after which your child will be able to move onto higher level courses.

If your child doesn't achieve a grade 4 in English and Maths by the end of year 11, they will need to continue to study this alongside their main course at post 16.

Post 16 providers in the local area

There are a wide range of providers in Bristol and the surrounding area that your child can apply to. The below list summarises some of the most popular post 16 providers with our previous students.

For a full list of the post 16 options available this year you can look at the Bristol Post 16 directory. The directory for this year is available online here: https://www.bristol.gov.uk/files/documents/4992-bristol-post-16-directory-2023/file

You can find out information about each provider on their website or by visiting at an open day or evening.

Name	Website	About us snapshot (in their own words)		
	Colleges			
City of Bristol College (7 centres across Bristol) SGS College	https://www.cityofbristol .ac.uk	City of Bristol College is one of the South West's largest further and higher education colleges. At City of Bristol College, we offer something for everyone in an inclusive and friendly learning environment. Our courses include A Levels, technical and vocational courses, apprenticeships, and pre-entry level courses SGS has six main campuses spread across		
(Closest to Bristol are the Wise and Filton campuses)		Gloucestershire, Bristol and South Gloucestershire with over 4000 full-time 16–18-year-old learners. Filton and WISE campuses are within easy reach of the centre of Bristol. We offer a vast range of courses in an even wider range of subjects from business to sport, performing arts to media so whatever you want to study, there's bound to be something for you.		
	Sixth	Form Colleges		
St Brendan's	https://www.stbrn.ac.uk/	St Brendan's is the only specialist Sixth Form College in the Bristol, Bath, South Gloucestershire, and North Somerset area. We offer A-levels and BTECs in over 60 different subjects at Level 3, and a varied selection at Level 2. St Brendan's is a Catholic college for the community, and we welcome students from all faiths, beliefs, backgrounds, or none. We are especially proud of our vibrant and diverse college community.		
	<u> </u>	Sixth Forms		
Areté Sixth Form (St Bede's Catholic College College)	https://www.stbedescc.o rg/page/?title=6th+Form &pid=10	A great education within a Christian community where every student is valued. At Areté we strive for academic excellence by enabling students to achieve their full potential. Combining academic work with an extensive co-curricular programme prepares each individual for a full and rewarding life. Closing date for applications: 8th January 2024		
Bristol Cathedral Choir School (BCCS) sixth form	https://bccs.bristol.sch.uk /sixth-form/	The community at BCCS Sixth Form is warm, friendly, and inclusive. Our first priority is to ensure that all students are valued and supported. Central to our identity is diversity, and as a church school underpinned by a Christian Ethos, we welcome those of all faiths and none. We offer more than 20 A-levels, providing students with a broad and balanced menu to choose from. Applications open: Friday 3rd November 2023. Closing date for applications: 12 Noon Friday 5th January 2024		

Bristol Free	https://www.hristolfrosss	Our civith form is small analysh for avery student to be	
	https://www.bristolfreesc	Our sixth form is small enough for every student to be	
School (BFS) Sixth	hool.org.uk/sixth-form-	known, supported, and championed. At BFS, we set the	
Form	welcome	highest expectations and academic ambitions for all of	
		our students. Students are also heavily involved in	
		supporting the lower school through mentoring, reading	
		support, sports leadership, in-lesson support and	
		involvement in the house system.	
CLE Doort 1C	https://post1C.olf.uk	Closing date for applications: 1st December 2023.	
CLF Post 16	https://post16.clf.uk	We are a centre of education for ages 16-19 offering a	
		range of level 2 and level 3 vocational courses and full	
		breadth of A Level qualifications. Our curriculum aims to	
		develop a deep connection with subjects which becomes	
		part of a student's identity, increasing their self-agency	
		and opening doors to their future. Our investment in	
		each individual develops a sense of belonging and	
Digitoch	https://digitochstudiocah	achievement so that they fulfil their potential.	
Digitech	https://digitechstudiosch	If you are passionate about digital, technical or creative	
	ool.co.uk/	subjects then Digitech could be the perfect choice for	
		you. We offer some amazing courses in year 12 and 13 which	
		are delivered in partnership with Boomsatsuma, The	
		Robins Foundation and The Bristol School of Acting. Our	
		courses give you the opportunity to work with industry	
		professionals, and in locations that immerse you right at	
		the centre of the creative industries that are putting	
		Bristol on the map.	
MA.16	https://www.merchantsa	MA.16. a modern, dynamic, student centred sixth form	
(Merchant's	cademy.org	provider, allowing you the freedom and independence to	
Academy)	/221/welcome-to-ma16	follow a personalised academic pathway towards your	
7.0000:1177	7 EE 27 Weiseline to male	goals and aspirations, whilst offering the pastoral	
		support and care fundamental to student wellbeing and	
		achievement.	
North Bristol	https://www.nbp16c.org.	The North Bristol Post 16 Centre is a highly successful	
Post 16 (Cotham	uk/	collaboration between Cotham and Redland Green	
and Redland		Schools. We welcome students from schools all over	
centres)		Bristol and the surrounding areas into our vibrant,	
		diverse, and industrious community. At NBP16, we are	
		proud to offer a large range of courses including A Levels,	
		AS Levels, BTECs and the Cambridge Pre-U. These are	
		offered, alongside our Level 2 Foundation Programme, to	
		ensure that every student can find a pathway of courses	
		that will allow them to reach their full potential.	
St Mary Redcliffe	https://www.smrt.bristol.	St Mary Redcliffe and Temple School Sixth Form Centre is	
and Temple Sixth	sch.uk/sixth-form	a specialist A Level centre, offering nearly 40 different	
Form		options. We draw students from across Bristol and	
		beyond with around two-thirds of our students joining us	
		in Year 12 new to the school. It is very important to us to	
		build a strong sense of community in which young	
		people are encouraged to take part in a wide range of	
		activities and challenged to fulfil their academic	
		_	
		potential.	

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Trinity Academy V6	http://www.trinityacade mybristol.org/sixth-form/ https://www.v6bristol.or g/	If you want to be academically challenged, pastorally supported, and have access to the richest of co-curricular experiences, Trinity 6th Form is the place for you to develop Head, Heart and Soul. We are the sister school of the oversubscribed Bristol Cathedral Choir School. We offer over 20 A level courses and encourage our students to take an EPQ. Alongside our outstanding offer of traditional A levels, the school specialises in Music and the Performing Arts. V6 is co-educational Sixth Form providing an inspirational environment that enables students to flourish and achieve their personal ambitions. V6 Sixth Form provides a unique blend of traditional academic standards combined with innovative, enriching experiences. Our diverse community is united by the drive of every student and teacher to make exceptional progress, grasp opportunities and achieve ambitions.	
	Training Provide	ers and Specialist Colleges	
Access Creative	https://www.accesscreati	For the last 30 years, we have been focused on delivering	
College	ve.ac.uk/locations/bristol	the best possible education and training. Empowering young people with the skills, knowledge, and experience to forge meaningful careers within the creative industries. Students can forge careers in new, cuttingedge industries, from games and gaming to eSports,	
Decreateurs	https://www.haanaaatau	music, events and programming.	
Boomsatsuma	https://www.boomsatsu ma.education/	Take your first step towards a creative career. All boomsatsuma's courses aim to maximise our students' chances of getting jobs in the creative industries. Our courses aim to grow the creative talent for the UK's biggest market. Courses include Creative and Digital Media, Film and Television, Sports Media Production, Games, VR and VFX, and Photography.	
Bristol City	https://www.bcfc.co.uk/r	Each of our courses combine academic studies with real	
Robins	obins-foundation/post-	world practical experience and students have the	
Foundation	16-courses/	opportunity to gain invaluable work experience with Bristol City Football Club as well as partner organisations across the Bristol Sport Group. Offer courses in Sport, Sports Coaching and Development, and Esports.	
Bristol Rovers	https://www.bristolrover	Our BTEC Level 3 in Sport offers an excellent opportunity	
Community	scommunity.org.uk/educ	for males and females, aged 16–19, to continue their	
College	ation	education in a truly special and unique environment. We	
		combine both our exceptional classroom delivery and our fantastic football programme to provide a positive,	
Duiatal Calcast of	hatana //hariata laska a laska a	inspiring learning environment for all.	
Bristol School of	https://bristolschoolofact	Bristol School of Acting is the UK's newest drama school	
Acting	ing.com/	founded on the experience of some of the country's	
		most experienced acting teachers. Our mission is to re- imagine actor training for the 21st century; to challenge the status quo and to offer training of the highest	
	1	quality. Courses in Bristol: Acting and Dance	

Military	www.mpct.co.uk	Our courses are designed to give Learners the skills	
Preparation	-	needed to start their journey towards a rewarding career	
College Training		in the British Armed Forces or to progress on to further	
		education or training. The MPCT curriculum has been	
		designed to develop our student's physical fitness,	
		essential skills, and self-confidence.	
MUTI	https://www.muti.live/	MUTI is a Southwest-based apprenticeship and training	
(Apprenticeship		provider for the live arts and events sector. We provide	
provider)		accessible pathways into dynamic careers in Events and	
		Live Arts through paid apprenticeships training with top-	
		end employers in our region.	
Next Level	https://www.nextleveltra	We offer Apprenticeships in Business Administration,	
(Apprenticeship	ining.uk.com/	Customer Service, Marketing, and Management	
provider)		Qualifications. With over 30 years in the Business	
		Training Industry, we have gained a wealth of knowledge	
		and experience that has resulted in us being market	
		leaders within the training sector.	
On Site	www.onsitebristol.co.uk	On Site Bristol have been supporting the construction	
(Apprenticeship		industry in Bristol with their apprenticeship needs since	
provider)		1996. We offer construction apprenticeship training	
		programmes in 7 key 'On Site' trades.	
Reflections Hair	www.reflectionstraining.c	Reflections offer a range of high-quality Hairdressing and	
Academy	<u>o.uk</u>	Barbering Apprenticeships, study programmes and	
		traineeships. We offer work-based learning which means	
		learners are based in a salon, earning money whilst	
		attending training sessions at Reflections on a regular	
		basis.	

Our advice to students when choosing their post 16 options.

When thinking about their post 16 options, we recommend students think about:

• Their preferences

- What subjects do they enjoy? What are they good at?
- How do they learn best? E.g., in a classroom or practically?
- What type of environment is going to suit them? Will they thrive in a big busy environment, or will a smaller environment suit them better?

Their future ideas

- Have they thought about what they want to do in the future and looked at what is going to get them there?
- Have they looked at all the routes they can take to get there?
- Is there anything that they **need** to continue along their chosen path (e.g., do they have to take particular subjects at A-level, or choose particular units in their BTEC). If your child has a clear idea of what they want to do after Post 16, we recommend looking at the entry requirements or criteria for this and then working backwards to post 16 options.
- If they don't know what they want to do in the future, have they looked at what others who have studied the course they are looking at have gone on to do? Does it sound interesting to them? Most courses give information about what their students have gone on to do after they have completed their course.

Practical matters

- What are the entry requirements? How does that compare to their predicted grades?
- Where are places located? How long does it take to get there and how will they make the journey.

What can you and your child be doing now to prepare?

- 1. Use websites and other resources to start to research your child's career interests and journey. Good websites to look at are:
 - https://careerpilot.org.uk/
 - https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/.
- 2. Check provider websites and attend open events for any options your child is considering. Attending these events allows them to get a feel for the place, meet tutors and ask any questions they have.
- 3. We recommend all students try to make at least 2 applications for post 16 before we break up for Christmas. Students can attend the careers after school sessions for help with applications.
- 4. Some sixth forms in Bristol close their applications around December, so check provider websites to ensure they're not disappointed.
- 5. If your child is considering an apprenticeship, they should start to think about creating a CV. We also recommend that all students considering an apprenticeship also make an application to at least one sixth form or college to act as a back-up.
- 6. It is a good idea to apply to multiple places. Your child can then wait to see where they get offers for, attend additional open events and taster days, and then decide once they get their results in August.

Post 16 Open Events

Current known dates for open events are listed below, but for the most up to date information it is best to check each providers website as they may add more dates.

Most providers ask you to book ahead on their website before attending open events. For providers with more than one centre, check you book for the correct location.

Date	Post 16	Additional Info	
19/09/2023	Digitech	From 4:00 – 6:30pm	
21/09/2023	Bristol Rovers Community College	From 7pm. Book online via their website.	
28/09/2023	SGS – Filton Campus	Filton and A-Levels only. From 5.30pm-8.00pm. Book online via their website.	
Week of 2 nd October	Boomsatsuma	Check the website for additional information.	
03/10/2023	Bristol Robins Foundation	From 6:30pm. Check the website for additional information.	
03/10/2023	Bristol School of Acting (BSA)	Book online via their website.	
07/10/2023	St Brendan's	Saturday from 9:30am. Book online via their website.	
07/10/2023	SGS – All campuses	Saturday, from 10:00am-1:00pm Find out more and book online via their website.	
07/10/2023	City of Bristol - All centres	From 10:00am-1:00pm.	
10/10/2023	CLF Post 16	Check the website to book online.	
11/10/2023	Trinity Academy	Find out more and book online via their website.	
11/10/2023	Weston College	From 5:00-8:00pm. Register online via their website.	
12/10/2023	North Bristol P16 - Cotham	Check the website for additional information.	
17/10/2023	Bristol Free School	From 4.30pm-6.30pm. Find out more and book online via their website.	
18/10/2023	St Brendan's	Open evening. Booking opens 9th October.	
18/10/2023	Bath College – City centre campus	From 4:00-7:00pm. Register online via their website.	
19/10/2023	North Bristol P16 – Redland	Check the website for additional information.	
19/10/2023	V6 6 th Form	From 5.45 – 8:00pm.	
19/10/2023	St Mary Redcliffe	Doors open 6pm. Open evening 6:30-8:15pm. Book your place on a talk via their website.	
19/10/2023	Bristol Rovers Community College	From 7pm. Book online via their website.	
27/10/2023	Next Level Training	Check the website for additional information.	
27/10/2023	Reflections Training Academy	Check the website for additional information.	
31/10/2023	Abbeywood Community School P16	From 5:30-7:00pm.	
01/11/2023	Bradley Stoke Community School P16	From 5:30-7:00pm.	
02/11/2023	Winterbourne Academy P16	From 5:30-7:00pm.	
02/11/2023	St Bede's Catholic College	Check the website for additional information.	
02/11/2023	Bristol Cathedral Choir School 6 th form	Find out more and book online via their website.	
04/11/2023	Access Creative College	Saturday, 11am–2pm. Book online via their website.	

		Saturday, 10am-1pm. Email	
04/11/2023	Circomedia	admissions@circomedia.com_to book. Include your	
		name, phone number, and any special requirements.	
07/11/2023	Trinity Academy	Find out more and book online via their website.	
08/11/2023 St Mary Redcliffe		Doors open 6pm. Open evening 6:30-8:15pm. Book your	
00/11/2023	St Wary Redemie	place on a talk via their website.	
13/11/2023	Bristol Robins Foundation	From 6:30pm. Check the website for additional	
		information.	
15/11/2023	Weston College	From 5:00-8:00pm. Register online via their website.	
16/11/2023	St Brendan's	Open evening. Booking opens 19 th October.	
10/11/2022	SGS – All campuses (all	Saturday, from 10am-1pm. Each campus will cover a	
18/11/2023	courses)	specific range of subjects on the day. Find out more and book online via their website.	
	Bristol Rovers Community	book offillie via trieff website.	
23/11/2023	College	From 7pm. Book online via their website.	
	City of Bristol – All centres		
23/11/2023	except Ashley Down.	From 5:00pm-7:30pm	
25 /11 /2022	Bath College – City centre	From 10:00am-1:00pm. Register online via their	
25/11/2023	campus	website.	
02/12/2023	Access Creative College	Saturday, 11am–2pm. Book online via their website.	
Week of 4 th	Boomsatsuma	Check the website for additional information.	
December	Boomsatsama		
04/12/2023	Bristol Robins Foundation	Online live Q&A event. Check the website for additional	
47/04/2024		information.	
17/01/2024	Weston College	From 5:00-8:00pm. Register online via their website.	
20/01/2024	City of Bristol - All centres	From 10:00am-1:00pm.	
25/01/2024	Bristol Rovers Community College	From 7pm. Book online via their website.	
	SGS – All campuses (all courses)	Saturday, from 10am-1pm. Each campus will cover a	
27/01/2024		specific range of subjects on the day. Find out more and	
		book online via their website.	
30/01/2024	CLF Post 16	Check the website to book online.	
30/01/2024	Bristol Robins Foundation	From 6:30pm. Check the website for additional information.	
06/02/2024	St Brendan's	Open evening. Booking opens 17 th November.	
16/02/2024	Reflections Training Academy	Check the website for additional information.	
13/03/2024	City of Bristol - All centres	From 5:00pm-7:30pm.	
	Bristol Rovers Community		
14/03/2024	College	From 7pm. Book online via their website.	
19/03/2024	City of Bristol - All centres	A level only open event.	
	2.7, 3. 2. 3.0. 7. 11 00110103	From 5:00pm-7:30pm.	
05/04/555	SGS – All campuses (all	Saturday, from 10am-1pm. Each campus will cover a	
25/04/2024	courses)	specific range of subjects on the day. Find out more and book online via their website.	
		From 6:30pm. Check the website for additional	
01/05/2024	Bristol Robins Foundation	information.	
08/06/2024	City of Bristol - All centres	From 10:00am-1:00pm.	
00/00/2024	City of Distor - All Cellues	110111 10.00α111 1.00μ111.	

Guide to the different qualification levels:

LEVEL	QUALIFICATION		
	Work-based	Vocational	Academic
8	Level 8 NVQ	Level 8 Award, Certificate, Diploma Level 8 NVQ Doctorate	Level 8 Award, Certificate, Diploma Doctorate
7	Degree Apprenticeship Level 7 NVQ	Level 7 Award, Certificate, Diploma Level 7 NVQ Master's Degree Postgraduate Certificate Postgraduate Diploma	Level 7 Award, Certificate, Diploma Master's Degree Postgraduate Certificate Postgraduate Diploma
		1	
6	Degree Apprenticeship Level 6 NVQ	Level 6 Award, Certificate, Diploma Level 6 NVQ Degree with honours Graduate Certificate Graduate Diploma	Level 6 Award, Certificate, Diploma Degree with honours Graduate Certificate Graduate Diploma
5	Higher Apprenticeship Level 5 NVQ	Level 5 Award, Certificate, Diploma Level 5 NVQ Higher National Diploma (HND) Foundation Degree	Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE)
4	Higher Apprenticeship Level 4 NVQ	Level 4 Award, Certificate, Diploma Level 4 NVQ Higher National Certificate (HNC)	Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE)
3	Advanced Apprenticeship Level 3 NVQ	Level 3 Award, Certificate, Diploma Level 3 National Certificate, National Diploma Level 3 NVQ Tech Level (T Level)	AS Level A Level
2	Intermediate Apprenticeship Level 2 NVQ	Level 2 Award, Certificate, Diploma Level 2 National Certificate, National Diploma Level 2 NVQ	GCSE: grades 9-4 Level 2 Essential Skills Level 2 Functional Skills
1	Traineeship Level 1 NVQ	Level 1 NVQ Level 1 Award, Certificate, Diploma	GCSE: grades 3-1 Level 1 Essential Skills Level 1 Functional Skills
ENTRY		Entry level Award, Certificate, Diploma Functional Skills Essential Skills Skills for Life	

(Image taken from careers.startprofile.com)