

# Post 16 Options (2026-2027)

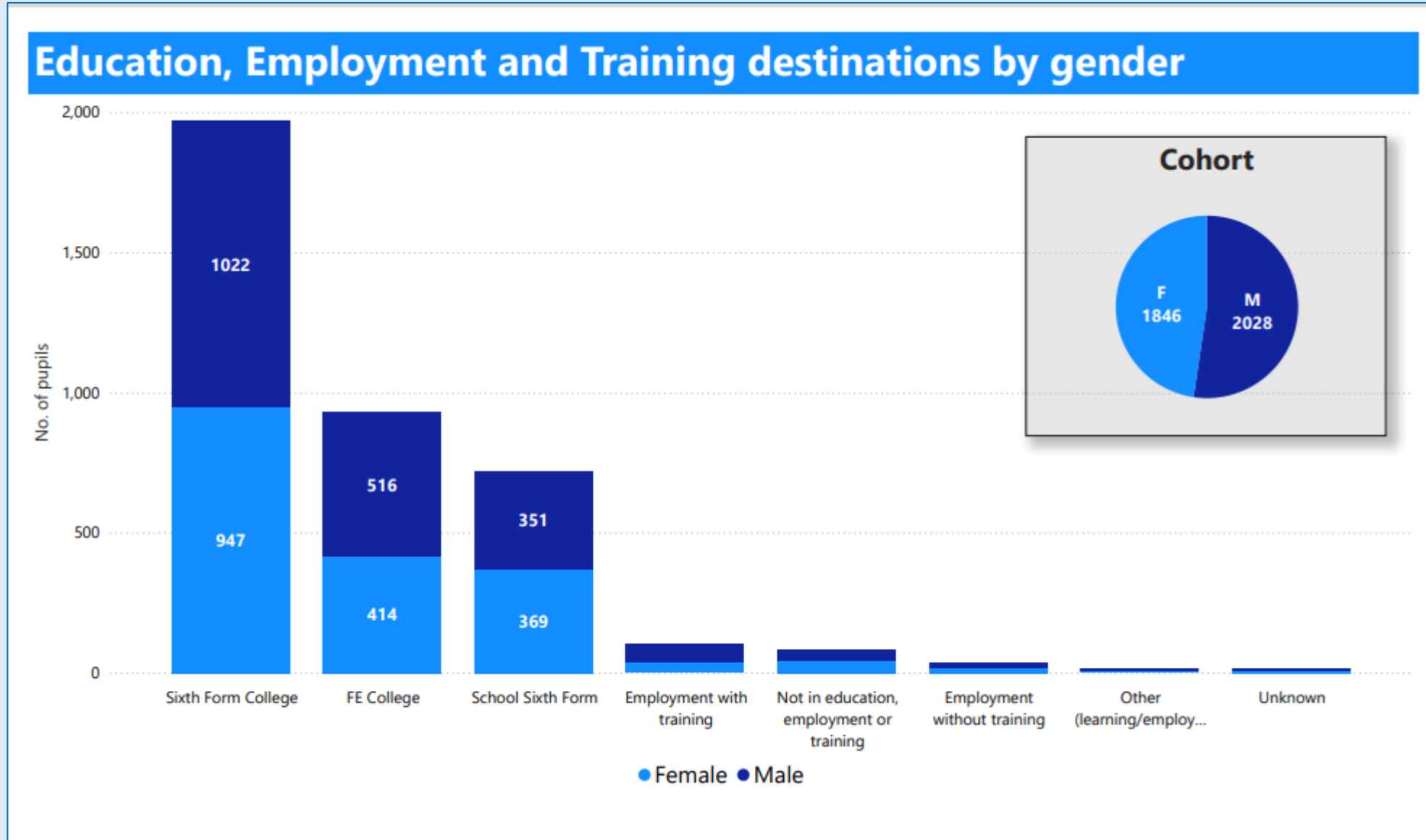
**Start an  
Apprenticeship**

**Study at college  
or  
sixth form**

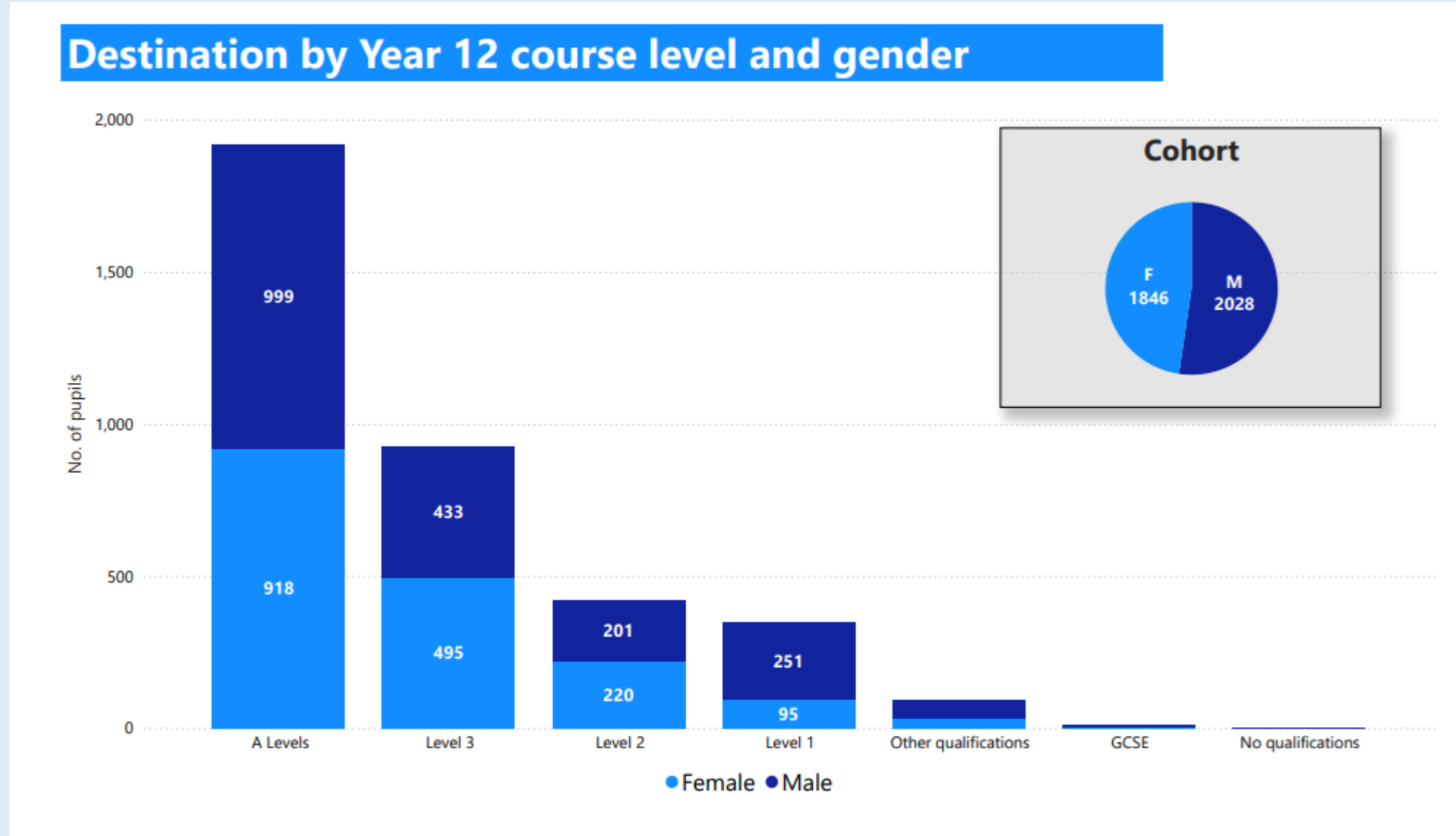
**Employment  
with training**

**Traineeship  
Volunteering**

# Destination of Year 11 leavers in CAP schools in 2024 by gender



# Course destination of Year 11 leavers in CAP schools in 2024 by gender



# Courses, Training & Qualifications

|                | <b>Academic</b><br><i>Mostly exams</i>     | <b>Applied</b><br><i>Some coursework</i> | <b>Technical Vocational</b><br><i>Mainly coursework based</i> | <b>T Levels</b><br><i>Some coursework, industry placement</i> | <b>Apprenticeship</b><br><b>Traineeship</b><br><b>Supported Internship</b><br><i>Employment/ training</i> |
|----------------|--|--|---|---|---|
| <b>Level 3</b> | A levels<br>International<br>Baccalaureate | BTEC/OCR L3                              | NVQ/C&G L3  | T Level   | Advanced<br>apprenticeship  |
| <b>Level 2</b> | GCSEs<br>(Grades 4-9)                      | BTEC/OCR L2                              | NVQ/C&G L2  |   | Intermediate<br>apprenticeship and<br>traineeship   |
| <b>Level 1</b> | GCSEs<br>(Grades 1-3)                      | BTEC/OCR L1                              | NVQ/C&G L1  |   | Traineeship and pre-<br>employment schemes  |

It is possible to combine Academic and Applied General route at some providers

# Maths and English for Full Time Students

- Students who achieve grade 3 or below in English and/or Maths will need to continue working towards their GCSE. Those with grade 3 need to retake GCSE, those with 2 and below can take qualifications that lead to GCSE or take GCSE. Students at CRC will retake GCSE English and/or maths if they have achieved a grade 2 or 3
- Students with learning difficulties and/or disabilities, may be exempt from the above, but will still need to study Maths and/or English

# Where can I study?

| A Levels  | IB Career related Programme        | Applied courses   | Technical Vocational courses   |
|---|------------------------------------|---|--|
| Bishop Laney Sixth Form<br>Cambridge Academy for Science & Technology<br>Cambridge Maths School<br>Cambourne Sixth Form<br>Comberton Sixth Form<br>Chesterton Sixth Form<br>Hills Road Sixth Form College<br>Long Road Sixth Form College<br>Northstowe Sixth form<br>The Oakes College | Impington International Sixth Form | Cambridge Regional College<br>Bishop Laney Sixth Form<br>College of West Anglia (Cambridge)<br>Long Road Sixth Form College<br>Cambourne Sixth Form<br>Comberton Sixth Form<br>Northstowe Sixth Form<br>The Oakes College | Cambridge Regional College<br>College of West Anglia (Cambridge)         |
|   | <b>IB Diploma Programme</b>        |   | <b>T Levels</b>  |
|   | Impington International Sixth Form |   | Cambridge Academy for Science & Technology<br>Cambridge Regional College |

There may be other local non-CAP post 16 centres

# What do qualifications lead to?

| Qualification        | Leads to  |
|----------------------|---|
| A Level/IB           | University/college, higher and degree apprenticeships, work             |
| T Levels             | University/college, higher and degree apprenticeships, work             |
| Technical/Vocational | Apprenticeship, work, college or university                             |
| Applied              | University/college, apprenticeship, work                                |
| Traineeship          | Apprenticeship, further education, work                                 |
| Supported Internship | Work, traineeship, apprenticeship                                       |
| Apprenticeship       | Work, next level of apprenticeship, further education, higher education |

# A general guide to entry requirements

| A Level /IB  | T Levels   | Applied general (Level 3)  |
|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Centres require a range of GCSEs including Maths and English.</li> <li>Some subjects need specific subjects and grades</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimum of 5 grade 4 GCSEs including Maths and English.</li> <li>Some require GCSE grade 4 or above in specific subjects</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimum of 4 GCSEs at grade 4 or above (or vocational equivalent) usually including Maths and/or English</li> <li>Some require 5 GCSEs grade 4</li> <li>Some require specific subjects</li> </ul> |
| GCSE   | Technical vocational   | Applied general (Level 2)  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimum of 3 grade 4 GCSEs including Maths and English.</li> <li>Some subjects need specific subjects and grades</li> </ul>       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You start most courses at Level 1, progressing to Level 2 and Level 3 as your skills develop</li> <li>For some courses you can enter at Level 2 or 3 depending on skill level</li> <li>Some courses need specific subjects</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimum of 3 GCSEs at grade 3 (or vocational equivalent) usually including Maths and/or English</li> <li>Some require 3 GCSEs grade 4</li> <li>Some require specific subjects</li> </ul>          |

To confirm entry requirements and specific subject requirements please contact post 16 centres you are considering

# A general guide to entry requirements

**Attending a Cambridge Area Partnerships (CAP) school gives preferential options for sixth form in the CAP area.**

CAP pre-16 schools include:

Bassingbourn Village College  
Cambourne Village College  
Chesterton Community College  
Coleridge Community College  
Impington Village College  
Melbourn Village College  
Netherhall School  
Parkside Community College  
Soham Village College  
Swavesey Village College  
Vista Academy Littleport,

Bottisham Village College  
Cambridge Academy for Science and  
Technology  
Cottenham Village College  
Ely College  
Linton Village College  
North Cambridge Academy  
Northstowe Secondary College  
Sawston Village College  
St Bede's Inter-church School  
Trumpington Community College  
Witchford Village College

To confirm entry requirements and specific subject requirements please contact post 16 centres you are considering

# Minimum entry requirements for 2026 entry

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Bishop Laney Sixth</b>                             | <p>A Level: Minimum 5 GCSEs at grade 9-4 including English and Maths (course dependent). Minimum of grade 5 or 6 in chosen or related subjects.</p> <p>Level 3: Applied &amp; Technical: Minimum 5 GCSEs at grade 9-4 including English and Maths.</p> <p>Level 2 Technical: A range of GCSES at Grade 3 or above.</p>  |
| <b>Cambridge Academy for Science &amp; Technology</b> | <p>A Level: At least 7 GCSEs at grade 9-4, including Maths (5; 6 if studying sciences; 7 if studying Further Maths) and English (4) with at least a grade 6 in the subjects chosen at A Level. Please also check some subject specific requirements.</p> <p>T Level: At least 5 GCSEs at grade 9-4, including Sciences (5), Maths (5) and English (4)</p>                                 |
| <b>Cambridge Maths School</b>                         | <p>Be predicted seven GCSEs at grade 5 or above including GCSE Maths grade 8 or 9, GCSE Combined Science 8-8 or higher (or separate science grade 8 or higher in the subject you wish to study) and GCSE English grade 5 or higher. All students with these predicted grades will be invited to an aptitude test. Students passing the aptitude test will be invited to an interview.</p> |

# Minimum entry requirements for 2026 entry

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| <b>Comberton Sixth</b>  | <p>For A-level study, 5 GCSEs at grade 5 and Maths and English grade 4. Also at least a grade 6 in the A-Level subject (or similar subject) to be studied. Grade 7 for A-level Maths and grade 8 for Double/Further Maths.</p> <p>For BTEC study, 5 GCSEs at grade 4 (individual BTEC courses do vary).</p> <p>All information is available on our website and in the 2025 prospectus.</p> |
| <b>Chesterton Sixth</b> | <p>Students need at least 5 grade 6s including Maths and English (either Lang or Lit) as well as subject specific requirements as detailed on our website and in our prospectus.</p>   |
| <b>Cambourne Sixth</b>  | <p>For A-level study, 5 GCSEs at grade 5 and Maths &amp; English grade 4. Also at least a grade 6 in the A-Level subject (or similar subject) to be studied. Grade 7 for A-level Maths and grade 8 for Double/Further Maths.</p> <p>For BTEC study, 5 GCSEs at grade 4 (individual BTEC courses do vary).</p>  |

Refer to individual websites and prospectuses for more detailed information.

# Minimum entry requirements for 2026 entry

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| <b>Hills Road Sixth</b> | There is no set number of GCSE grades (e.g. six at grade 5) and there is no minimum for Maths and English. Instead, each A level has its own entry requirements, including a GCSE grade and Admissions Score. For 30 out of 36 of our subjects, this is a predicted GCSE grade 6 and an Admissions Score of 56 for CAP students. Maths, Biology, Chemistry and Physics have a higher Admissions Score, as does studying a Four A level Programme. Some of our subjects (Dance, Drama, Art, Music and languages) have different routes where students haven't studied the GCSE, e.g. an audition. |
| <b>Long Road Sixth</b>  | To study A Levels, we require at least five GCSEs at grade 5 in a range of subjects, usually including Maths and English. To study Level 3 Applied courses, we require at least five GCSEs at grade 4, usually including Maths and/or English. Additional requirements for each course are specified on our website. To study our Level 2/GCSE programme, we require three GCSEs at grade 4, with at least grade 3 in both Maths and English   |
| <b>Northstowe Sixth</b> | Minimum 5 GCSEs at grade 9-5 including English and Maths (course dependent). Minimum of grade 5 or 6 in chosen subject.  |

Refer to individual websites and prospectuses for more detailed information.

# Minimum entry requirements for 2026 entry

## Oakes Sixth Form

Students require 6 GCSE grades 9-4, including Maths and English grade 4, for A level subjects. A minimum grade 6 is advised where a subject is continued from GCSE. There are subject specific requirements for particular A level courses. For Applied subjects, a requirement of 5 GCSEs grades 9-4 is our standard offer, including a pass or near pass in English and Maths. Students are allowed to mix A level subjects with Applied subjects and an individual offer based on their chosen course will be made. We will consider students who have alternative qualifications or who have not been able to sit a full set of GCSEs on a case by case basis.

Refer to individual websites and prospectuses for more detailed information.

# Minimum IB profiles for 2026 entry

## Impington International College

**International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme:** at least seven GCSEs with Grade 6 or above, including English Language and Maths. For subjects you wish to take at higher level you will need at least a grade 7.

**International Baccalaureate Career-related Programme:** at least five subjects at GCSE grade 5 or above, ideally including Mathematics and English and preferably with a grade 6 in your area of specialism.

Refer to post-16 centres for current entry criteria, specific subject requirements and how subject combination and putting a centre first when applying may affect your chances of success.

# Applied, Alternative Academic & Vocational Qualifications

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Bishop Laney Sixth</b>                             | <p>Level 3: Sport &amp; Exercise Science, Business, Media, Applied Science, Medical Science, Hairdressing, Beauty Therapies, Health and Social Care, Criminology</p> <p>Level 2: Catering, Hairdressing, Beauty Therapies, Barbering, Sport Coaching, Business Enterprise. Norwich City Football Regional Development programme available to students at all levels.</p>   |
| <b>Cambridge Regional College</b>                     | <p>A range of Level 1-3 course available in: Animation &amp; VFX, Architectural Technology, Art &amp; Design, Beauty Therapy, Business, Business &amp; Law, Cambridge United Scholarship Programme, Childcare &amp; Early Education, Catering &amp; Hospitality, Computing, Construction &amp; Trades, Engineering, ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages), E Sports, Hairdressing, Health &amp; Social Care, Media, Games Development, Media Make-Up, Motor Vehicle, Music, Performing Arts, Science &amp; Forensic &amp; Criminal Investigation, Sports, Supported Learning, Travel &amp; Tourism, Uniform Public Services</p> |
| <b>Cambridge Academy for Science &amp; Technology</b> | <p>T Levels in Science (Laboratory Science) and Health (Adult Nursing)</p>   |
| <b>Comberton Sixth</b>                                | <p>Sport, Business, Health and Social Care</p>   |

# Applied, Alternative Academic & Vocational Qualifications

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Cambourne Sixth Form</b>               | BTEC Extended Diploma in Enterprise and Entrepreneurship (Business) and BTEC Extended Diploma in Sport   |
| <b>College of West Anglia (Cambridge)</b> | Our Cambridge campus is a specialist landbased college; we offer entry level – level 3 courses in animal care, animal science, horse care / equine and dog grooming. Depending on your location, the King's Lynn campus may also be accessible and we offer a wider range of courses, including A-Levels.  |
| <b>Long Road Sixth Form College</b>       | <p>Level 3 Extended Diplomas (equivalent to 3 A Levels): Art and Design, Sport, Media, Games Development, Health and Social Care. Level 3 Diplomas (equivalent to 2 A Levels): Media, Sport, Health and Social Care. Level 3 Extended Certificates (equivalent to 1 A Level): Business, Criminology, Graphics, Computing, IT: Application Development, Media, Musical Theatre, Sport, Applied Science, Psychology and Music. Diplomas and Extended Certificates can be studied in combination with A Levels.</p> <p>Level 2 Diplomas (full study programme): Media, Health and Social Care, Art and Design. Level 2 Extended Certificate (equivalent to 1 GCSE): IT.</p> |

# Applied, Alternative Academic & Vocational Qualifications

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| <b>Northstowe Sixth</b>  | Level 3 courses in Applies Science, Dance, Performance Acting, Health and Social Care, and Sport, which can be combined with A Level subjects. We also offer a Level 3 extended diploma in Dance, equivalent to 3 A Levels. |
| <b>The Oakes College</b> | Level 3 courses in Media, Applied Psychology, ICT, Criminology, Health and Social Care which can be combined with A level subjects  |

# Employment options

| <b>Apprenticeship</b>                          | <b>Employment with training</b>          | <b>Traineeship</b>   |
|--|--|--|
| Employer and Training Provider must be secured | Equivalent of 1 day per week of training | For those just short of the skills and qualifications required for apprenticeship or further study |

# Apprenticeships

| Name         | Level       | Equivalent Educational Level  | Entry Requirements  |
|--------------|-------------|-------------------------------|---|
| Intermediate | 2           | GCSE                          | English and GCSE at 3 or above  |
| Advanced     | 3           | A Level/IB                    | English & maths at 4 or above (other specialist L2 qualifications also might be required) |
| Higher       | 4,5,6 and 7 | Foundation degree and above   | Entry requirements may vary dependant on subject area                                     |
| Degree       | 6 and 7     | Bachelor's or master's degree |   |

# Apprenticeships

Any apprenticeship will require a training provider to complete the course.

To increase a students' chance of success, it is advisable if there are options locally to contact more than one training provider for the apprenticeship area you are interested in.

To find out if there are other training providers in our area please see below.

To choose a training provider – go to the apprenticeship training service:

[Find apprenticeship training if you're an employer - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

Choose an apprenticeship training course and at the bottom of each apprenticeship there is information and a link to other training providers in your area.

## Find training providers for this course

### Apprenticeship location

Peterborough, Cambridgeshire [Remove location](#)

✓ 7 providers available for this apprenticeship location

[View providers for this course](#)

# How do I decide?

| <b>Things to consider</b>   | <b>More advice or information needed?</b>   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Future plans/aspirations</li><li>• Subjects you enjoy</li><li>• Entry requirements v projected grades</li><li>• Learning style</li><li>• Assessment methods</li><li>• Transport</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• School careers/transition advisors</li><li>• Post 16 open evenings/days</li><li>• Post 16 centre websites/prospectuses</li><li>• <a href="https://www.mychoice16.co.uk/">https://www.mychoice16.co.uk/</a></li><li>• Family and Friends</li></ul> |

# How do I Apply?

## College or Sixth Form courses

- Use the online application process for centres in CAP <https://www.mychoice16.co.uk>
- For centres outside CAP, approach the centre directly

## Apprenticeship

- National Apprenticeship website  
<https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/apprenticeshipsearch>
- Not Going to Uni website <https://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk/>
- In CAP area express an interest in an Apprenticeship area on  
<https://www.mychoice16.co.uk>
- Companies own websites
- Contact colleges and training providers that offer apprenticeships.