

Information for parents



2018-19

Who is the biggest influence on your son or daughter's career choices?

You!

Research tells us that parents and carers are the biggest single influence on young people's career decisions. Your interest and support makes a real difference.

There are several ways you can help your son or daughter:

- Talk to them about their ideas.
- Look at all the options available. The more you know, the more you can help.
- Go to open events with them in the autumn term.
- Be aware that many applications have to be made by **the end of January 2019**.
- Support them to work for the best grades they can achieve. This will give them more choices.
- Encourage them to take up any opportunities to meet employers, such as work experience, company visits or careers fairs.
- Always use up to date information as things change all the time.

Aim high – and have a backup plan.



What's happening 2018-19?

- The world of work is changing so fast that young people could find themselves in careers that don't even exist yet. We will all need to be flexible and keep our skills up-to-date.
- Every secondary school should have a named careers leader and publish their careers programme on their website.
- Young people should stay in learning until age 18. There are several ways of doing this – visit www.ucasprogress.com.
- There have been reforms to GCSEs, A Levels and some vocational qualifications. Most GCSEs are now graded 9-1 with Grade 4 recognised as equivalent to the old Grade C.
- Young people who don't achieve at least GCSE Grade 4 in English and maths must continue them as part of any studies beyond Y11.
- Apprenticeships are a popular choice. They require young people with good English and maths who can learn quickly. There are also work based learning programmes that can help build confidence and skills.
- There are several routes into higher education, including higher and degree apprenticeships. These are jobs that include study for higher education or professional qualifications with all tuition fees paid.
- Higher education funding is currently under review.
- Our **Options 2019** guide has more details. If your school doesn't have copies you can buy one (£2) from our centre at Star House.



How we support young people



Our careers advisers work in secondary schools across the city, supporting young people through one-to-one careers guidance appointments, drop-in clinics and group work.

We welcome parents at careers appointments and always produce an action plan which sums up the discussion and sets out any steps your son or daughter needs to take. You can also speak to us at parents' events.

Extra Support

No matter how well prepared young people are, things can still go wrong. They may change their plans or miss their predicted grades or sometimes just take longer than expected to find their feet after Year 11. If that happens, we work with Community Youth Teams (Sheffield Futures, Sheffield City Council and South Yorkshire Police) to help them get back on track.

Some young people face additional barriers such as a Special Educational Need or Disability (SEND). We have specialist advisers to help and you can meet them at Education, Health and Care Plan Meetings, parents' events and market place events.

We also run Door43, which is a new emotional wellbeing service for young people aged 13-25 in Sheffield.



About us



Sheffield Futures is a local charity that works with young people to help them achieve a brighter future. We believe that independent careers guidance helps everyone fulfill their potential. All our careers advisers are professionally qualified and independent - our only concern is to help your son or daughter make choices that are right for them.

Outside of and beyond school we offer youth work, support with emotional well being, positive activities plus opportunities for young people to get involved with their communities and have their say in issues that affect them. We also support adults with careers advice and help with job hunting.

Find out more

www.sheffieldfutures.org.uk

www.ucasprogress.com

www.apply-apprenticeship.gov.uk

www.skillsmadeeasy.org.uk

www.ucas.com

Get in touch

Find us at: Star House, 43 Division St, S1 4GE

Mon-Thurs 9.00am-5.00pm, Fri 10.00-4.30

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