



# TALKING FUTURES PARENTS' CAREERS PRESENTATION

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2024



## What we're going to cover

- Introduction to education and careers options
  - How you can help your child make decisions that are right for them
  - The support we offer to help you and your child make decisions
  - Where you can find further information and support
  - Upcoming careers events and key contacts
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# EDUCATION AND CAREERS OPTIONS AN OVERVIEW



## What's next?

- Young people in England are required by law to stay in education or training until age 18.
- There are a range of options available from apprenticeships to A-levels and in some parts of the country, you could do a new T-level qualification.
- There is a lot to consider when making this decision - here is an overview of the options and things to think about.

## Making choices

Your child's next step will help shape their options at age 16, 18 and beyond.

There are lots of options to choose from so think about these key questions with them to get started...

- Where do I want to get to?
- What's important to me?
- Where can I find out about my options?
- What is on offer locally?
- Who can help me find out more?

Teachers

Parents

## What does life at 18 look like?

- Working full time
- Studying full time
- Combination of studying and working

## Some options at age 16 that you might like to start exploring...

- A T-level is a two year course, which has been designed with employers to provide you with the right knowledge and skills to get started in a particular career e.g. Digital design, development and production or Design, surveying and planning for Construction
- Apprenticeships combine practical training in a paid job with study so you can earn while you learn
- A-levels are a two year course, usually you pick three subjects to study, which is equivalent to one T-level
- Other options available include BTECs, traineeships and more

## What we offer

- At Idsall School, we offer a wide range of A level courses and a number of BTEC courses at Post 16 level. We are also hoping to offer a T Level in Construction in the future.
- A large proportion of students choose to remain at Idsall School after they complete Year 11.
- Some students choose courses at other local colleges such as Rodbaston, Telford or Shrewsbury.
- More and more students are opting for an Apprenticeship at 16. We work closely with local colleges to help our students to secure these opportunities.

# CAREERS DECISION-MAKING HOW CAN YOU HELP?





## How can you help?

As parents, you will have the opportunity to support your child's decision making at several points in their education, and these decisions will impact their future career choices.

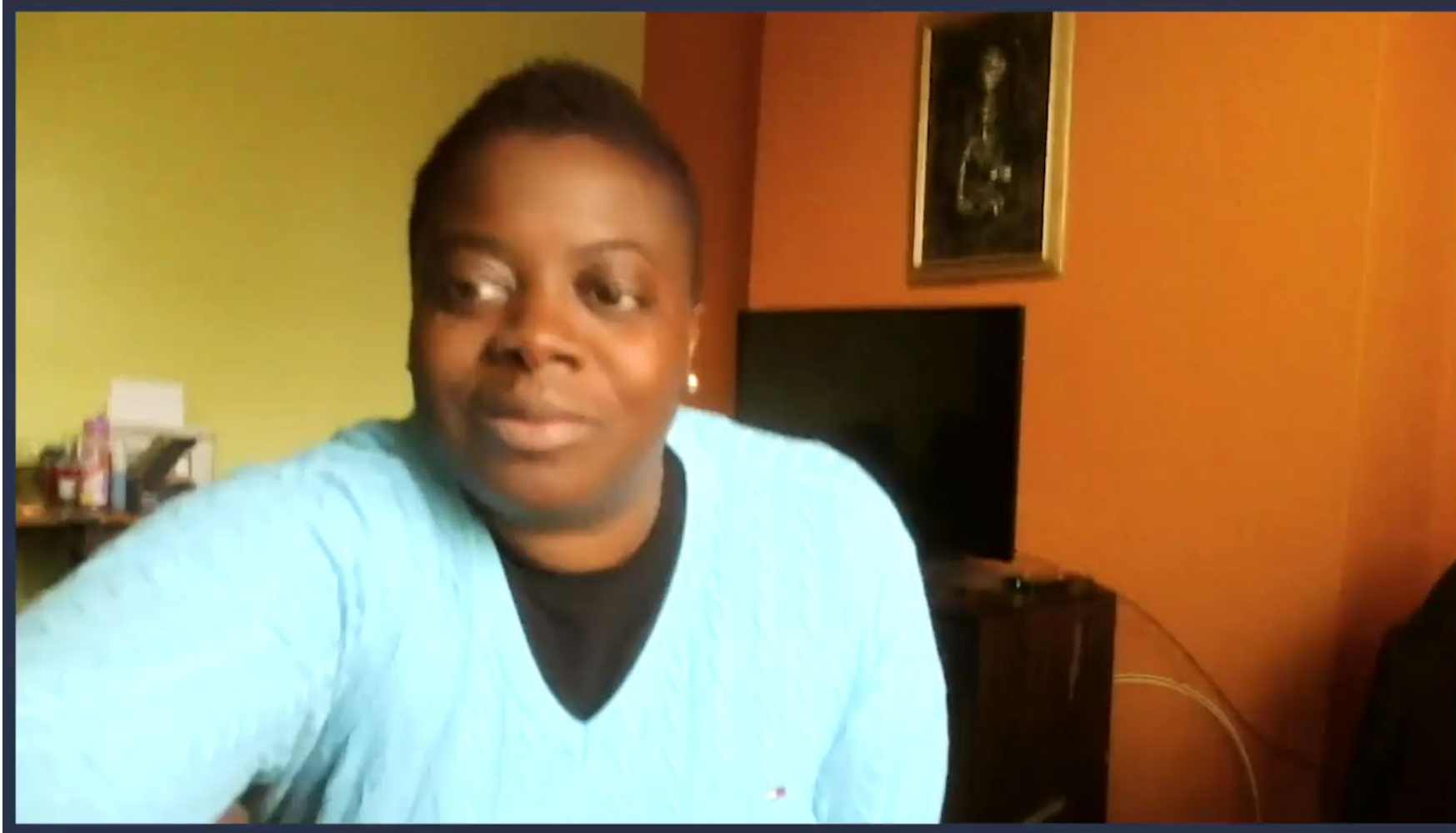
Around half of our students who have completed surveys about Careers said that they spoke to family members about careers.

So how can you help them make decisions that are right for them?

- Talk regularly about careers, aspirations and interests
- Share your experiences, the choices you made and your skills with your child
- Encourage your child to be curious and work with them to research their options even if you don't know the answers yourself.



# Supporting decision-making



### BE INTERESTED IN PEOPLE

Discover their stories of how they got to where they are.

What is the one thing you can take away from the conversation.

### BE A LEARNER IN LIFE

When you stop learning, you stop discovering.

The world of work is vast and changing.

### BE AN INVESTIGATOR

Learn to ask good questions.

Not just what they do, but why they do it.

### KEEP AN OPEN MIND

Don't limit yourself by past or experience.

Just because you didn't, doesn't mean you can't.

### BE OPEN TO NEW OPPORTUNITIES

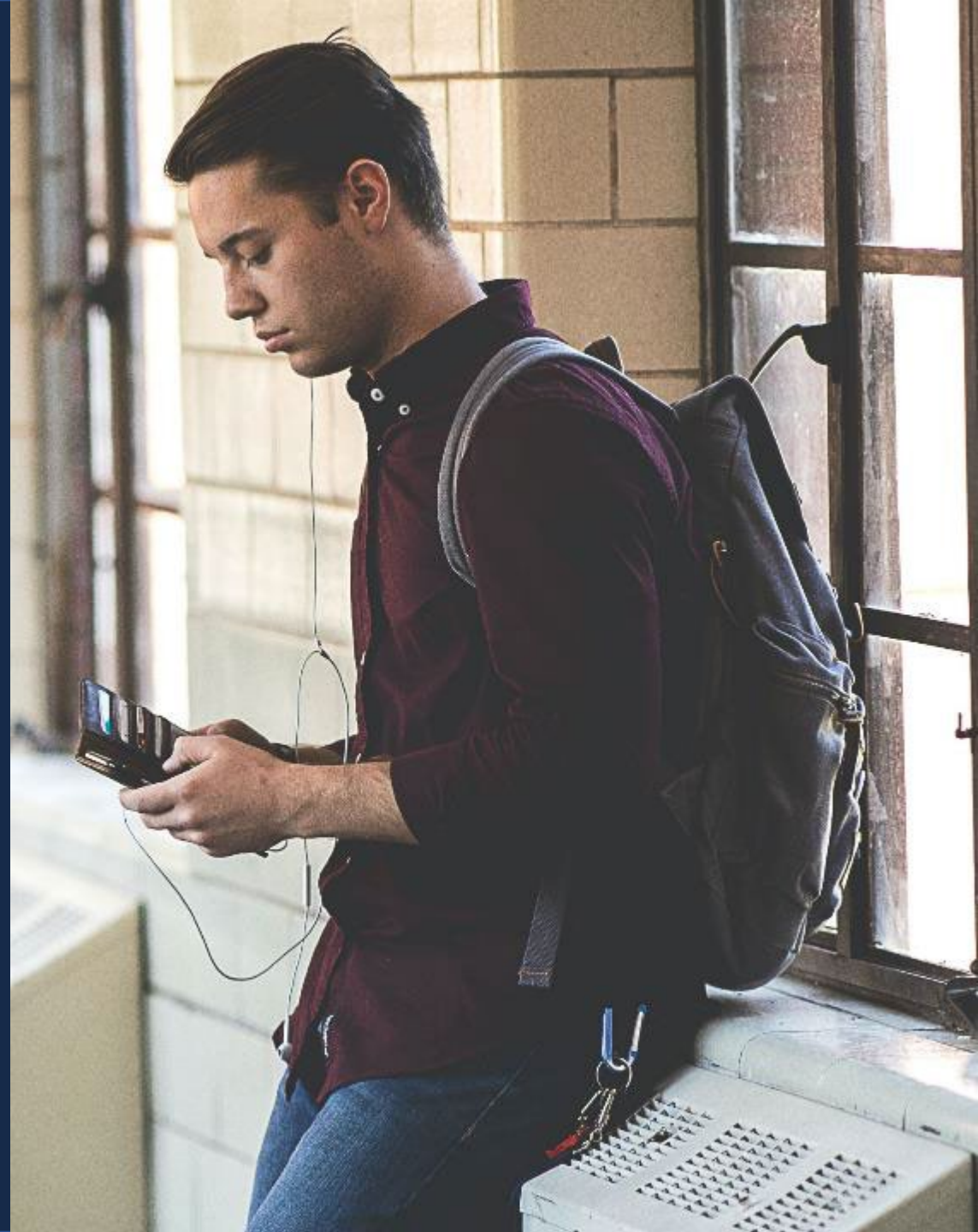
New hobby, project, interest or network.

Offer of work, change in role or new responsibility.

## How To Develop Career Curiosity

Career curiosity is a sustaining interest in the world of work. Developing this will motivate and help you navigate the changing landscape of opportunities.

# CAREERS DECISION-MAKING HOW CAN WE HELP?



### Our careers programme

- In Year 9
  - During the Autumn term, students participated in a number of PSHCE lessons focussing on Careers and work sectors.
  - This term, students have had access to the following events:
    - Subject sessions during lessons
    - Subject talks by subjects not offered before Year 10 in the Hall – Psychology, Business etc
    - Apprenticeship information in PSHCE as part of Apprenticeship Week.
  - They also have access to:
    - Unifrog – an online Careers portal which can be accessed using students school email addresses
  - In the Summer term, students will participate in:
    - Employability skills workshops
    - University led workshops
    - A World of Work day where they can talk to employers/ employees



## Who can help you and your child

- Mrs Kendall – Careers Leader
  - Mrs Bullas – Year 9 Learning Manager
  - Mr Thomas – Deputy Head (with regard to Options choices)
  - Form Tutors
  - Mr Ward and Mrs Barrass – SEND students
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## Information we provide

We provide students with access to a wide range of Careers information

- Careers software – [Unifrog](#) and [iCould](#)
  - Skillsbuilder lessons in Tutor time
  - Careers lessons in the PSHCE programme
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### How we develop our programme

We have developed our programme over the past few years and continue to review and refine our Careers provision in response to the changing landscape and feedback from students and parents.

We are always keen to hear from all participants and would welcome your comments and questions to enable us to continue to improve the support that we can give to our students. This is particularly true with regard to the virtual offer available this year.

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# CAREERS DECISION-MAKING FINDING FURTHER INFORMATION



# Using Talking Futures

- Talking Futures has a range of resources to help you do further research and develop your careers conversations:
- Activities to try at home include:
  - A conversation starter activity to prompt your discussions with your child.
  - A Skills Builder Challenge activity to help you to discuss the skills needed to be successful in the workplace.
  - The Talking Takeaways guide is a great place to start too.
- Resources and information including the films you've seen in this session plus more information on the routes available and external sites that can provide more detail.

[www.talkingfutures.org.uk/parents/](http://www.talkingfutures.org.uk/parents/)

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## Cool tips & Hot nibbles

**Some things to snack on before you get stuck into a conversation with your child**

**Pick your time** .....

The sooner you start the conversation the better. But if they don't have the appetite for it, don't try to push.

**Passion over practicality** .....

Focusing on what they enjoy is the best ingredient for a good chat.

**Listen positively** .....

Be open to whatever ideas they put on the table, stay positive and try to listen more than talk.

**Keep it flowing** .....

Check in regularly to keep conversations about their future sizzling.

**Common teenage allergic reactions:**

Watch out for: Silence, one-word responses, crossed arms, eye-rolling, etc.

If you recognise any of these, acknowledge them, rather than try to fix or ignore them.

## Conversation Starters

**Some tasty questions to get things warmed up**

1. Do you remember what you wanted to be when you were little?
2. What do you think you would like to do in the future?
3. What's your favourite subject?
4. What do you like doing outside of school?
5. What skills do you think would be useful in a job?

## Discovery Platter

**With so many tempting options, choosing isn't easy!**

*If your child is still trying to work out what job they want, this might help them discover what matters to them.*

Try asking them to put the below in order of importance. (1-6)

- Working in a team..... ☐
- Helping others..... ☐
- Solving problems..... ☐
- Making the world a better place..... ☐
- Making a lot of money..... ☐
- Something else?..... ☐

Keep the conversation flowing and look at jobs that match their tastes.

## Tasting Menu

**Try some new flavours to see what whets their appetite**

*If your child isn't 100% sure about their future, give them a taste of different options.*

1. What jobs might you be interested in?
2. What qualifications do each of them need?
3. What interests you about the jobs you're considering?
4. Is there one job that excites you more than the others?

## Set Menu

**Fired up and ready to go**

*If your child has their mind set on a job, these questions will help them map out a path to get there.*

1. What qualifications do you need to do your dream job?
2. What made you choose that job or sector?
3. Do we know anyone who has a job relating to that career?
4. What careers events are taking place at your school or college?



Your savoury guide to talking jobs, training, and education with your child.

**Fresh approaches to tricky talks  
Open 365 days a year**



## Extras *A platter of pathways*

There are many different ways to set out on a career. Does your child know their options?

16+

**Apprenticeships** combine study with training in a paid job. 🍴 or 🍴🍴

**T-level** is a two-year career-focused course taught through a mix of classroom and workplace learning. 🍴🍴

**A-levels** are two-year subject-focused courses (usually three studied at the same time) taught mostly in the classroom. 🍴🍴

*Don't forget, picking now doesn't mean they can't follow another path later.*

**Choose your level of spice:**

Level 2 = 🍴  
Equivalent to GCSE

Level 3 = 🍴🍴  
Equivalent to A-level or T-level

18+

**Employment** is the first step on a career ladder, with many employers offering training opportunities.

**Higher Education** is delivered in further education **colleges** and **universities**.

Can be studied **full-time** or **part-time**.

🍴🍴🍴 / 🍴 or 🍴🍴🍴🍴🍴 / 🍴

**Apprenticeships** combine study with training in a paid job. Up to 🍴🍴🍴🍴🍴 / 🍴

Level 4 and 5 = 🍴🍴🍴🍴 / 🍴  
Equivalent to Higher Technical Qualifications,  
Higher National Diploma and Foundation Degrees.  
Level 6 and 7 = 🍴🍴🍴🍴🍴 / 🍴  
Bachelors Degree, Masters Degree and  
Degree Apprenticeship

## Sweet Course

**There's always room for more support!**

*If your child is already working towards the future they want, here's some sweet questions to keep them on track.*

1. What skills do you think you've gained through your experiences in and outside of school or college?
2. Do you know what training you will need for the job you want, and the costs involved?
3. Have you spoken to someone that works in the area or industry you're interested in?
4. Could you confidently write about your skills and experiences in an application?

TALKING  
FUTURES

For more juicy tips, tools, and guidance on talking with your child about their future, visit

[talkingfutures.org.uk](https://talkingfutures.org.uk)

## Talking Takeaways

Your savoury guide to talking jobs, training, and education with your child.

TALKING FUTURES



Fresh approaches to tricky talks  
Open 365 days a year

Dine in or takeaway, conversations  
can happen wherever you are

**All sweet. No sour.**

Talking will help your child feel confident  
in following their delicious dream job

## Sites to try for more information

- [nationalcareers.service.gov.uk](https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk)
  - [apprenticeships.gov.uk](https://apprenticeships.gov.uk)
  - [tlevels.gov.uk](https://tlevels.gov.uk)
  - [Unifrog.org](https://Unifrog.org)
  - [careerpilot.org.uk](https://careerpilot.org.uk)
  - [Icould.com](https://Icould.com) (auto-correct can change this to icloud)
  - [Aspiretohe.co.uk](https://Aspiretohe.co.uk)
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# CAREERS DECISION-MAKING WHAT NEXT?



## Upcoming careers events

### For Parents

- Today – Some ideas to help to start the conversation between you and your child
- **28<sup>th</sup> February 2023 - Options deadline**



# Conversation Starters – it can be difficult to know where to begin, why not try these ideas?

## Questions for Parents to ask Students

- What do you ENJOY most in and out of school / college?
- What is your favourite SUBJECT? Do you know what kind of jobs are related to these subjects?
- Who can help you at school / college with questions about CAREERS? Is there a Careers Leader, Careers Advisor or Head of Careers?
- What sort of ENVIRONMENT would you like to work in? An office / in a big team / independently / outside?
- My path has included (education, apprenticeship, university, work, homemaking etc). Is there anything that SURPRISES you or you want to know more about?

## Conversation Starters – it can be difficult to know where to begin, why not try these ideas?

### Questions for Students to ask Parents

- What do you ENJOY doing most at home, work, with friends or family?
- What do you think your TALENTS are / you are good at?
- Do you know anyone who's completed an APPRENTICESHIP? What did they tell you about it?
- What did you want to be when you were 10 YEARS OLD?
- If money wasn't a factor what would be your DREAM JOB?

# A Family Challenge – What skills do you need to succeed?

Organise a game of 'Who Am I' with your family.

- Each member of the family writes three famous people's names to put in a bowl.
- Take it in turns to pick a name, describe clearly the person without saying their name and see if your family can guess who it is.
- How many names people can guess in one minute?

- What skills are you developing?
- What were you good at as a family?
- How do you use these skills at work?
- What jobs might they be particularly useful for?

# A Family Challenge – What skills do you need to succeed?



Your child will be familiar with the Universal Skills Framework through their Skills Builder sessions in morning registration.

You can find more ideas for a family challenges on their home learning site <https://www.skillsbuilder.org/homelearning/skills-challenges>

## You can contact

Mrs Kendall –

[careers@idsall.shropshire.sch.uk](mailto:careers@idsall.shropshire.sch.uk)

Or the general school email -

[info@idsall.shropshire.sch.uk](mailto:info@idsall.shropshire.sch.uk)

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