Post-16 Evening

Monday 5th October 2026

Bottisham Village College

Achievement through Inspiring, Caring, Enriching

Exciting time!

- Students get to make decisions about their life after Bottisham

- Two processes running along side each other
  - Mock Exams
  - Forming and finalising their post 16 ideas

Timeline

- *Wc 21 September: Launch with students and Briefing assemblies*
- *29 September: Start of Exams*
- *5 October: CAP post 16 evening*
- *End of exams*
- *End of this half term – deadline for personal statements*
- *5 November Mock results day – predicted grades published; Parents Evenings*
- *Students start finalising choices*
- *College grades published within this window*
- *7 December Deadline for applications*

The Application…..

- Is done online using the mychoice16 system *(students will log on to this in school next week in PSHE – the system is accessible 24/7)*
- For out of area applications (eg to CWA) apply directly to the college
- Has a deadline of 7 December*
- *BVC facilitates and supports but does not lead the process*

The Application consists of:

- Students' college grades, predicted by the school: the default is that this will be their predicted grade, based on their mock result – *Students need to make these as high as possible*
- A personal statement – *Students have started these and are working on them in PSHE on their ipads*
- A statement about their work experience
- A school reference, including information on attendance
- Their choice (first and reserves) of institution and courses – *these need to meet the entrance requirements*

Next

- What are the routes?
- What are the different types of post 16 course?
- What are the different types of post 16 institution?

Post 16 Options (2027-2028)

Start an Apprenticeship

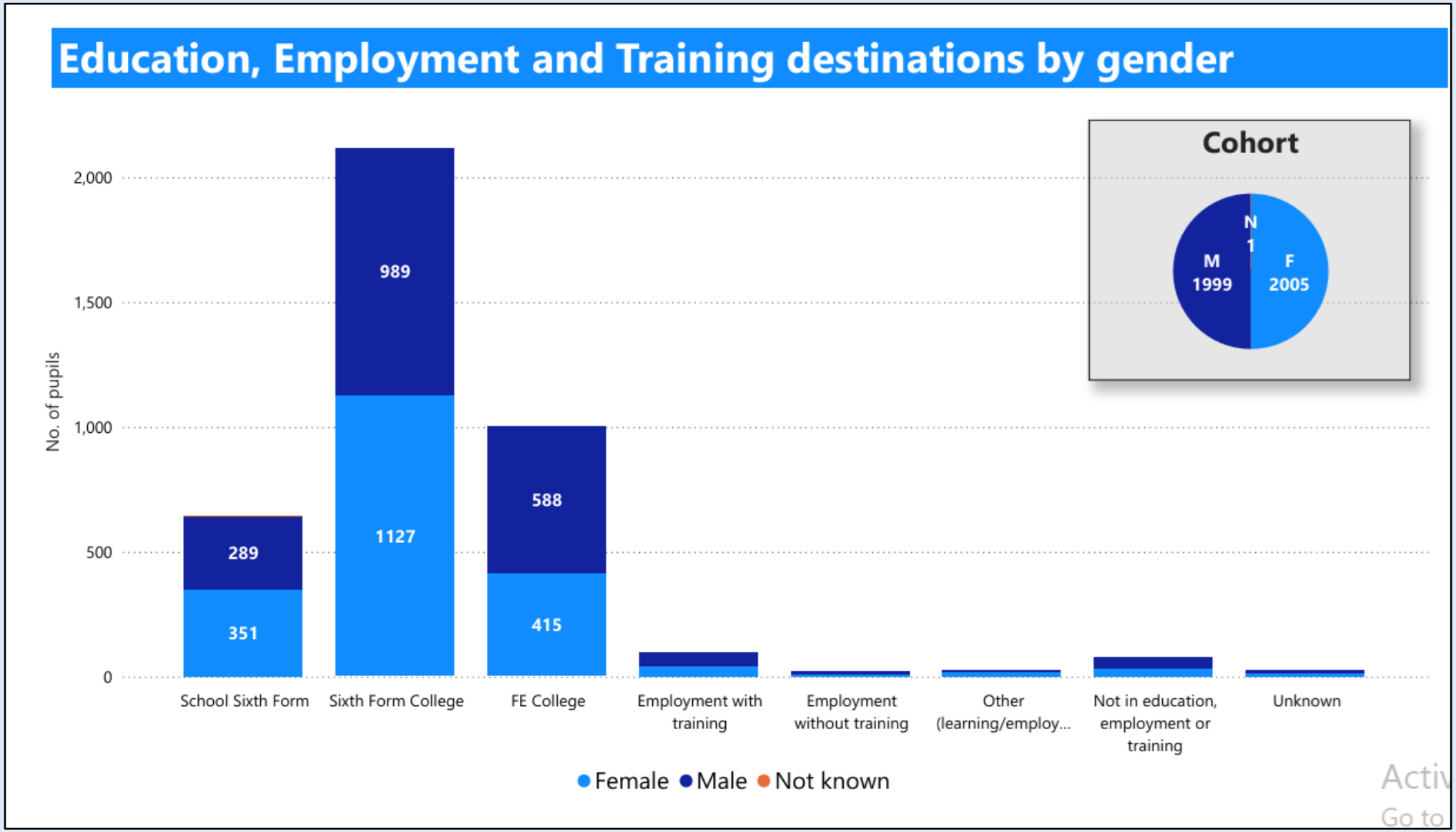
Study at college or sixth form

Employment with training

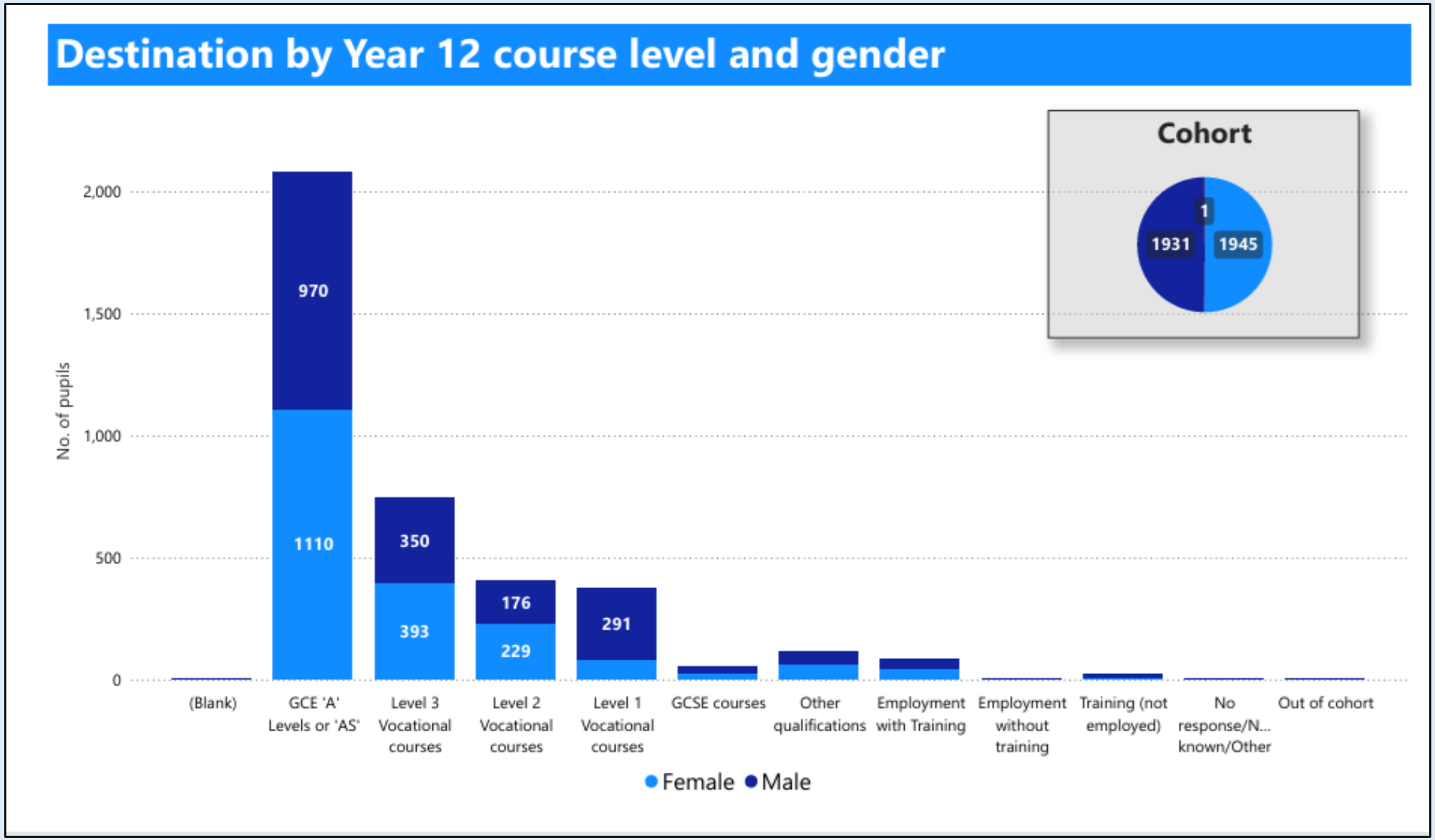
Traineeship Volunteering

No one route is better than another – it is what is right for the individual student

Destination of Year 11 leavers in CAP schools in 2025 by gender



Destination by Year 12 course level and gender



Courses, Training & Qualifications

	Academic *Mostly exams*	**Applied** *Some coursework*	**Technical Vocational** *Mainly coursework based*	**T Levels** *Some coursework, industry placement*	**Apprenticeship Traineeship Supported Internship** *Employment/ training*
Level 3	A levels (International Baccalaureate)	V levels L3	NVQ/C&G L3	T Level	Advanced apprenticeship
Level 2	GCSEs (Grades 4-9)	BTEC/OCR L2	NVQ/C&G L2		Intermediate apprenticeship and traineeship
Level 1	GCSEs (Grades 1-3)	BTEC/OCR L1	NVQ/C&G L1		Traineeship and pre-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 realted Programme	Applied courses	Technical Vocational courses
Bishop Laney Sixth Form Cambridge Academy for Science & Technology Cambridge Maths School Cambourne Sixth Form Comberton Sixth Form Chesterton Sixth Form Hills Road Sixth Form College Long Road Sixth Form College Northstowe Sixth form The Oakes College	Impington International Sixth Form	Cambridge Regional College Bishop Laney Sixth Form College of West Anglia (Cambridge) Long Road Sixth Form College Cambourne Sixth Form Comberton Sixth Form Northstowe Sixth Form The Oakes College	Cambridge Regional College College of West Anglia (Cambridge)
	IB Diploma Programme		**T Levels**
	Impington International Sixth Form		Cambridge Academy for Science & Technology Cambridge Regional College College of West Anglia (Cambridge)

There may be other local non-CAP post 16 centers

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	V Levels (Level 3)
• Centres require a range of GCSEs including Maths and English. • Some subjects need specific subjects and grades	• Minimum of 5 grade 4 GCSEs including Maths and English. • Some require GCSE grade 4 or above in specific subjects	• Minimum of 4 GCSEs at grade 4 or above (or vocational equivalent) usually including Maths and/or English • Some require 5 GCSEs grade 4 • Some require specific subjects
GCSE	**Technical vocational**	**Applied general (Level 2)**
• Minimum of 3 grade 4 GCSEs including Maths and English. • Some subjects need specific subjects and grades	• You start most courses at Level 1, progressing to Level 2 and Level 3 as your skills develop • For some courses you can enter at Level 2 or 3 depending on skill level • Some courses need specific subjects	• Minimum of 3 GCSEs at grade 3 (or vocational equivalent) usually including Maths and/or English • Some require 3 GCSEs grade 4 • Some require specific subjects

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 2027 entry

Bishop Laney Sixth	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. Level 3: Applied & Technical: Minimum 5 GCSEs at grade 9-4 including English and Maths. Level 2 Technical: A range of GCSES at Grade 3 or above.
Cambridge Academy for Science & Technology	A Level: At least 7 GCSEs at grade 9-4, including Maths (5; 6 if studying sciences; 7 if studying Maths; 8 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. T Level: At least 5 GCSEs at grade 9-4, including Sciences (5), Maths (5) and English (4)
Cambridge Maths School	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.

Minimum entry requirements for 2027 entry

Comberton Sixth	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. For BTEC study, 5 GCSEs at grade 4 (individual BTEC courses do vary). All information is available on our website and in the 2027 prospectus.
Chesterton Sixth	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.
Cambourne Sixth	For A-level study, students typically require 5 GCSEs at grade 5 and a grade 6 in the subject (or related subject) to be studied. Some subjects also carry a GCSE English and/or Maths requirement. For A-level Maths a grade 7 is required, and grade 8 for Double/Further Maths. For BTEC study, students require 5 GCSEs at grade 4, and if combing with an A level subject will need to meet individual course requirements. Where it has been impossible for a student to study the desired subject at GCSE, other evidence can be submitted and will be considered on a case-by-case basis (for example, submission of a portfolio or audition).

Minimum entry requirements for 2027 entry

Hills Road Sixth	There is no minimum number of GCSEs required or specific grades in English and Maths for admission. Instead, each A level has its own entry requirements, including a minimum GCSE grade and Admissions Score. For 30 of our 36 subjects, CAP applicants need a predicted grade 6 in the relevant GCSE and an Admissions Score of 56. Higher Admissions Scores are required for Maths, Biology, Computer Science, Chemistry, Physics and the Four A Level Programme. Some subjects, including Dance, Drama, Art, Music and languages, also offer alternative entry routes for students who have not taken the relevant GCSE. Please see the subject pages on our website for the full information
Long Road Sixth	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 and V Level courses, we require at least five GCSEs at grade 4, usually including Maths and/or English. To study our Level 2/GCSE programme, we require three GCSEs at grade 4, with at least grade 3 in both Maths and English. Additional requirements for each course are specified on our website.
Northstowe Sixth	Students wishing to enrol on A Level courses are generally expected to achieve a minimum of five GCSEs at grades 9–5, including English and Mathematics. Please note that individual A Level subjects may have additional entry requirements, with some courses requiring higher GCSE grades in specific subjects. Entry requirements for BTEC and other vocational courses vary depending on the course of study. Full details of course-specific criteria can be found on our website and within the school prospectus.

Minimum entry requirements for 2027 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 2027 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

Bishop Laney Sixth	Level 3 -Sport & Exercise Science, Business, Media, Applied Science, Medical Science, Hairdressing, Beauty Therapies, Health and Social Care, Criminology, Food & Nutrition Level 2: Hairdressing, Beauty Therapies, Sport Coaching, Business Enterprise. Norwich City Football Regional Development programme available to students at all levels
Cambridge Regional College	A range of **entry Level** 1-3 courses available in: Amination & VFX , Architecture and Interior Design, Art & Design, Beauty Therapy, Business, Business & Law, Cambridge United Scholarship Programme, Childcare & Early Education, Catering & Hospitality, Computing, Construction & Trades, Engineering, ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages), E Sports, Hairdressing, Health & Social Care, Media, Games Development, Media Make-Up, Motor Vehicle, Music, Performing Arts, Forensic & Criminal Investigation, Sports, Supported Learning, Travel & Tourism, Uniformed Protective Services **T levels** in: Construction & The Built Environment,Digital Software Development Education & Early Years, Engineering,Health (supporting the Adult Nursing Team)
Cambridge Academy for Science & Technology	T Levels in Science (Laboratory Science) and Health (Adult Nursing)
Comberton Sixth	BTEC Level 3 Extended Diplomas in Sport & in Business

Applied, Alternative Academic & Vocational Qualifications

Cambourne Sixth Form	Cambourne currently offers the BTEC National Diploma in Enterprise and Entrepreneurship (Business) and BTEC National Diploma in Sport, both of which are equivalent to two A levels. We are also running the new Digital Systems and Data V level.
College of West Anglia (Cambridge)	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.
Long Road Sixth Form College	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. 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 Level 2 Diplomas (full study programme): Media, Health and Social Care, Art and Design. Level 2 Extended Certificate (equivalent to 1 GCSE): IT.

Applied, Alternative Academic & Vocational Qualifications

Northstowe Sixth	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.
The Oakes College	Level 3 courses in Media, Applied Psychology, Computing: Application Design, Applied Science, Criminology, Health and Social Care which can be combined with A level subjects
CRE8 Cambridge	Level 3 qualification equivalent to three A-Levels, providing progression into university, apprenticeships, employment and the wider creative industries. Develop genuine creative skills, build an industry-ready portfolio Level 2 programme for learners who need a different starting point, as well as post-18 Level 4 qualifications for students looking to continue developing their creative skills beyond Level 3.

V levels

- V Levels are a new type of Level 3 qualification, available from 2027. They will initially be available in 3 subject areas with more over the following 3 years, replacing the existing Level 3 extended certificates.
- V Levels are the same size of qualification as an A Level. There can be more than one V Level in your study programme, and you can combine them with A Levels or applied courses to make up your full programme.
- Each V Level will involve a mix of practical and written assessment, which will be different depending on the subject. This mix will be reflected in the way they are taught, including involving employers.
- V Levels will suit students who want to progress to higher education, training such as an apprenticeship or into employment when they complete their study programme.

V level providers

Cambourne	Digital systems and Data.
Long Road Sixth Form	Digital systems and Data
Northstowe	Education, Digital systems and Data
Bishop Laney	Finance and Accounting, Digital systems and Data

Employment options

Apprenticeship	Employment with training	Traineeship
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	

EARN

- Work 4 days a week, earn a salary for 5
- Best of both worlds = student discounts & employee benefits

LEARN

- Learn Knowledge, Skills & Behaviours important for your role
- Typically 1 day a week

PROGRESS

- Progress within business
- Go onto University or Higher/Degree Apprenticeship

Apprenticeships

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

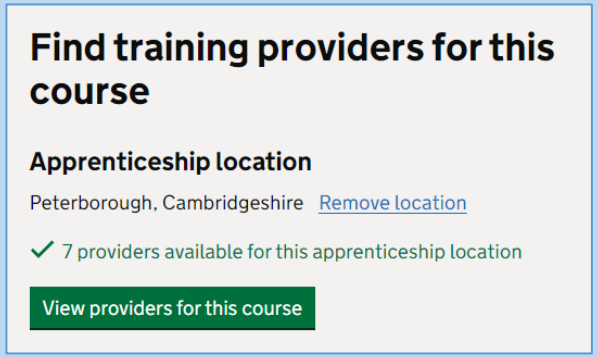
To increase a students' chance of success, it is advisable if there are options locally to contact more than one training provider for the apprenticeship area you are interested in.

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)

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.



How do I decide?

Things to consider	More advice or information needed?
• Future plans/aspirations • Subjects you enjoy • Entry requirements v projected grades • Learning style • Assessment methods • Transport	• School careers/transition advisors • Post 16 open evenings/days • Post 16 centre websites/prospectuses • https://www.mychoice16.co.uk/ • Family and Friends

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.