

## ADVICE AND GUIDANCE ON PROGRESSION BEYOND YEAR 11

### Option One – staying on at St Cuthbert's Sixth Form

St Cuthbert's Sixth Form is rated as an outstanding Sixth Form in all respects by Ofsted. Good results lead to rewarding careers, and our Year 13 destinations include top universities and employers around the UK and beyond.

#### **Applying to Sixth Form is easy. Just follow these simple steps.**

1. Attend the **Sixth Form Open Night** – date and format to be confirmed. This is **essential** so you can find out about our courses, entry requirements, assessment methods, as well as general aspects of Sixth Form life.
2. **Careers Guidance meeting.** All Year 11s will attend a careers guidance meeting in December/January. At these sessions you will receive advice on all the different pathways available to you. You will also be able to register your interest to stay at school for Sixth Form and to provide an early indication of your course choice.
3. **Induction.** After your GCSEs you will need to attend our induction (date to be confirmed). Attending induction is a requirement of admission to Sixth Form. An interview will take place on the second day to discuss suitability for course and/or sixth form.
4. **Conditional offer letter.** If you have been successful you will receive a conditional offer letter after your induction. This will outline the grades you need for your chosen courses as well as wider entrance requirements such as attendance requirements and induction.
5. **Collect GCSE results on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> August**
6. **Attend a confirmation appointment.** On results day you must attend an appointment with a copy of your results to confirm course choices.

## **Option two – choosing an apprenticeship**

Apprenticeships offer a combination of work and training. They are paid at a minimum of £4.55 an hour. Applying for an apprenticeship is straightforward, but be aware that a lot of applications are rejected because of careless errors on the forms. If you are interested in an apprenticeship, you should apply for a minimum of three to five vacancies as some apprenticeships attract hundreds of applications for each place.

There will be many events held in school during the year to support you in this process but the responsibility is yours for applying for apprenticeships you are interested in.

For further information on apprenticeships visit:

**[www.newcastle.gov.uk/services/schools-learning-and-childcare/post-16-and-adult-learning/connexions](http://www.newcastle.gov.uk/services/schools-learning-and-childcare/post-16-and-adult-learning/connexions)**

0191 277 1944

**[www.newcastleuxl.co.uk](http://www.newcastleuxl.co.uk)**

0191 2653003 ext. 217

All apprenticeships are advertised on the Gov.uk page. To be able to apply for an apprenticeship you must register here.

Go to **[www.apprenticeships.gov.uk](http://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk)**

Create an account

You will need an email and mobile telephone number.

Ensure your email address is professional.

If you have a National Insurance number enter it but you can still apply without it.

If you would like help completing the skills and experience sections please see **Mrs Garay**.

### **Option 3 – studying elsewhere**

Some students prefer to study elsewhere, usually at college, in order to access the ideal course for them. Colleges are big institutions that specialise in a number of areas that are not available at school. The most important things for you to consider are being on the right course/s at the right place for you.

If St Cuthbert's students' progress to College it is usually to Newcastle, Gateshead or Tyne Met colleges. Applying is easy, but make sure you know the following:

- a) What course you are applying for – both in terms of the subject area and the level that the course is offered at. For example, there's no point applying for a level three course if you know you won't get the grades to access it. The level of course you apply for usually determines the length of the course.
- b) What qualification you will receive and what pathways it could lead to?
- c) Have you get a definite written offer of a place and what are the entry requirements for that place?

Sometimes students decide to apply to other schools, usually because they are worried about entry requirements. Please be aware that entry requirements are put in place by good schools and colleges to protect you from spending two years studying a course only to fail it. Struggling through two years of an A level course, only to achieve a low pass grade or a fail is a very dispiriting experience. Our entry requirements are based on national statistics and are designed to help you get on the right course for you.

For more information about getting into college, you are strongly recommended to attend an Open Day as soon as possible. Visit the following for more details:

**[www.ncl-coll.ac.uk](http://www.ncl-coll.ac.uk)**

**[www.gateshead.ac.uk](http://www.gateshead.ac.uk)**

**[www.tynemet.ac.uk](http://www.tynemet.ac.uk)**

## Careers advice

The next steps and choices to make are really important as they can determine the courses and employment sectors you can enter in the future. For example did you know if want to study Medicine, Chemistry is **preferable** to Biology or for Architecture, you **don't** need to have studied Maths and Physics?

To help you find out more about different career pathways, please spend time researching, using the following:

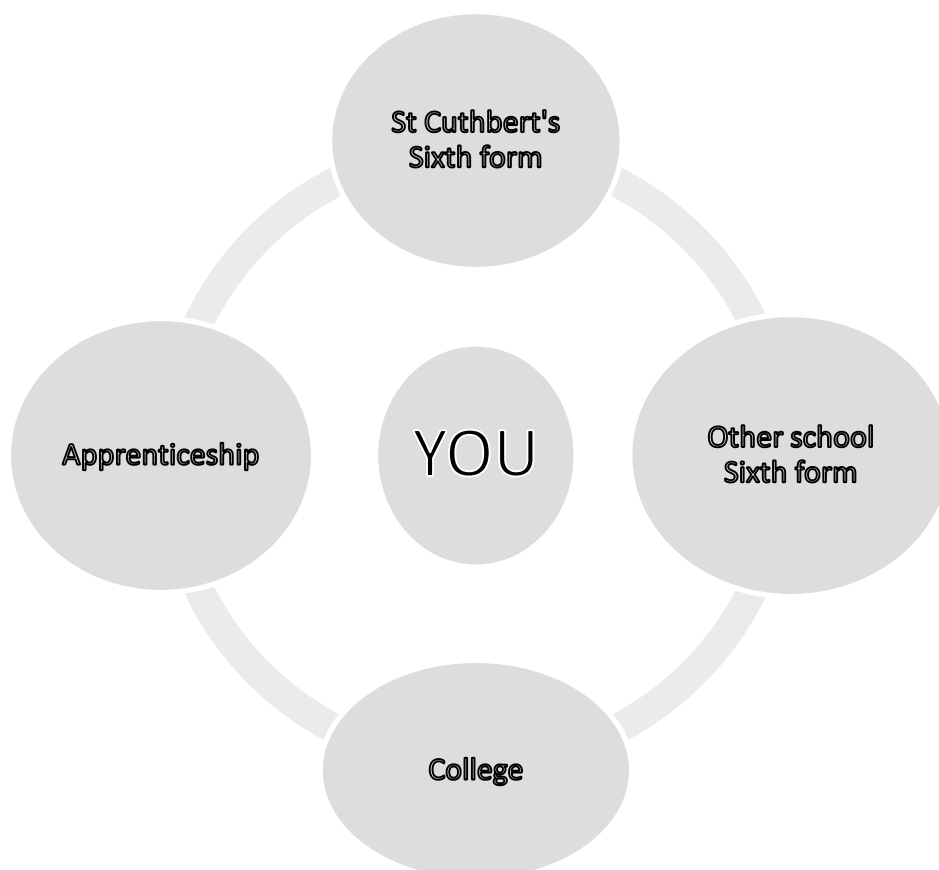
[www.nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk](http://www.nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk) – National Careers Service

[www.icould.com](http://www.icould.com) – Lots of information on different careers

[www.prospects.ac.uk](http://www.prospects.ac.uk) – Information on graduate careers

[www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com) – Information on what universities are looking for

[www.notgoingtouni.co.uk](http://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk) – Information on alternatives to further study



# What's your next move?

Compare your options after GCSE

QUALIFICATION	DESCRIPTION	LENGTH OF TIME	ASSESSMENT	LEVEL OF STUDY	AWARDS UCAS POINTS?	ENTRY REQUIREMENTS	WORK EXPERIENCE	WHAT DOES IT LEAD TO?
<b>APPRENTICESHIPS</b>  <a href="http://www.apprenticeship.gov.uk">www.apprenticeship.gov.uk</a>	A real job with training and a salary.	1 Year minimum	Apprenticeship dependent (inc. demonstrations, presentations and/or exams)	2/3 with the possibility to progress to progress to apprenticeships up to Level 7	No	- Employer dependent - Age 16+ - Evidence of interest and ability to complete	Yes (paid job, with at least 20% off the job training)	- Higher level or degree apprenticeship - University/College - Work
<b>A LEVELS</b>	An academic qualification, similar in style to GCSEs, that prepares you for further study.	2 Years	Mostly exams at the end of the course	3	Yes	For individual schools and colleges to decide (commonly 5 GCSEs at grades 4 and above)	No	- Apprenticeship - University/College - Work
<b>T LEVELS</b>  <a href="http://www.tlevels.gov.uk">www.tlevels.gov.uk</a>	A technical study programme, equivalent to 3 A Levels, with an industry placement that makes up 20% of the course. T Levels are designed to give you the skills that employers need.	2 Years	Exams, projects and practical assignments	3	Yes	Set by each school/college	Yes (80% classroom, 20% work)	- Apprenticeship - University/College - Work
<b>TECHNICAL/VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS</b>  <small>(G, S, some 'course' BTECs, Cambridge Technicals, VET Diplomas, and many others)</small>	Qualifications which teach you how to do tasks specifically related to the industry and role you want to be in.	Course dependent	Course dependent (coursework & exams)	1+	Some (course & awarding organisation dependent)	Course dependent	Course dependent	- Apprenticeship - College - Work
<b>APPLIED QUALIFICATIONS</b>  <small>(G, S, some 'course' BTECs, and some Cambridge Technicals, VET Diplomas, BTEC Extended, BTEC Applied and many others)</small>	Qualifications that prepare you for further study by combining academic learning with practical skills to give you a broad overview of working in a sector.	Course dependent	Course dependent (coursework & exams)	3	Yes	Set by each school/college	Course dependent	- Apprenticeship - University/College - Work
<b>TRAINESHIPS</b>  <a href="http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/tradeships">www.gov.uk/government/organisations/tradeships</a>	A work focused study programme that prepares you for an apprenticeship or work.	6 Weeks - 6 Months	A formal job or exit interview with written feedback. Coursework and exams are course dependent	N/A	No	Have little to no work experience and qualified Below Level 3	Yes	- Apprenticeship - Work

Levels are designed to indicate the complexity of qualifications and apprenticeships, allowing people to draw comparisons and understand where they sit in relation to the other options which are available. There are 8 levels plus entry level, with the higher levels offering the highest difficulty. Find out more about the different levels at [www.gov.uk/what-different-qualification-levels-mean](http://www.gov.uk/what-different-qualification-levels-mean) Visit [nationalcareers.service.gov.uk](http://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk) for information about careers, training and work.



HM Government

Applies to England only

**St Cuthbert's Catholic High School – Sixth Form**

**YEAR 12 COURSE AVAILABILITY - 2020-21**

**A Levels**

ART – Fine Art

ART - Graphic Communications

BIOLOGY

BUSINESS STUDIES

CHEMISTRY

COMPUTING

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY (PRODUCT DESIGN)

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

ENGLISH LITERATURE

FRENCH

FURTHER MATHEMATICS

GEOGRAPHY

HISTORY

MATHEMATICS

MUSIC

PHOTOGRAPHY

PHYSICS

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

SPORTS STUDIES

A number of subjects are available at Sacred Heart, subject to entry requirements being met and places being available. These include: Spanish, Psychology, Sociology, Economics and Film Studies.

**Level 3 Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate (all level 3)**

Applied Science

Business

IT

Sports Studies

**OPTION BLOCKS**

Most students will select THREE subjects (although students taking Further Maths can select four). There will be no AS exams in Year 12 with all subjects assessed at the end of Year 13.

Core RE and GCSE re-sits (English and Maths) are timetabled separately. The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) is available to all students who wish to take it.

**STUDENT TO COMPLETE AND RETURN TO MRS GARAY**

**Post 16 destinations**

What you do intend to do after Year 11?	St Cuthbert's Sixth form
	Other school Sixth form
	College/FE Provider
	Apprenticeship
	Don't know
If you don't know what support/information would be helpful?	
What would you like do as job/for your Career?	
What qualifications/experience do you need for this?	
If you would like to return to 6 <sup>th</sup> form, which subjects would like to study	Subject 1:
	Subject 2:
	Subject 3:
	Subject 4 (additional):