

Dear Parent or Carer

Planning the two-year pathway after Year 11

We are writing to let you know about the options for young people as they leave Year 11 and the type of support available over the next two years. You will be aware that the government's current policy is that all young people in England are to continue in education or training until at least their 18th birthday under the Raising the Participation Age agenda. Find out more here: <https://thesource.me.uk/?s=Raising+the+participation>

Young people have a choice about whether to continue studying at school, to attend a college, sixth form college or training centre, to start employment (combined with part-time education and training) or to look for an apprenticeship or supported internship. Information on these routes is available by looking at school or college websites, attending open events, researching websites such as www.nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk:

If your son/daughter/young person still does not have a place in education, employment or training in place for September 2024, where can they get support?

- Schools provide independent information, advice and guidance to Year 8 – 13 students, so they will be able to tell you about all the training and education options locally.
- SomersetWorks support staff are available for young people who have not found the right option by the time they leave school or have dropped out in Year 12 or 13. We also work with schools during Year 11 to support students in working towards Education, employment and training.
- There is also information available on webpage [SomersetWorks NEETs Project](#) (includes online referral form)

We will be holding surgeries and booking appointments for young people over August and September and through next year.

You can contact us by email: SomersetWorksProject@somerset.gov.uk Text: **07823537358**

Keeping in touch: Somerset Council has a duty to follow up all young people in Somerset to find out what education, employment or training they are in and offer them support if they are not yet in a destination. We might contact you during Years 12 & 13 by email, phone call, letter or text or ask you to complete a questionnaire online or through a link to confirm the post 16 placement for a young person or offer support.

Somerset Council may share basic information about young people with local organisations that can help with their future (e.g. a college or training provider with courses that might interest them). We are careful about what we share and only authorised people will access the information, the only time we will share information without your permission is if the law requires us to do so. If you have any further queries about our support for young people, please contact:

If this summer a young person does not achieve the grades that they need to start a course, changes their mind or needs to talk about their options they can contact SomersetWorks for advice and support. Schools and colleges have contact details and or use online referral form the at [SomersetWorks NEETs Project](#)