

Student Name: _____

Tutor Group: _____



Ambition

Qualifications

Career Pathways

My Informed Decision, for My Future

Research

Guidance

Advice

Court Fields School

Year 9 Futures (Options) Student Workbook



Achieve | Belong | Participate

Week 1 - Plan your FUTURE with Careerpivot - www.careerpilot.org.uk

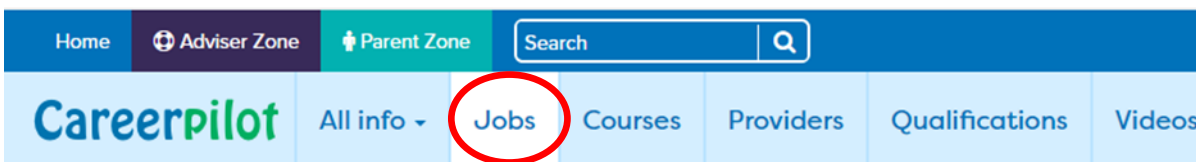
Careerpilot is a one-stop, impartial, careers website providing information, advice and tools to support 11-19 year olds in planning their progression effectively.

To start complete the student registration. [Careerpivot : Plan your future work & study](#)

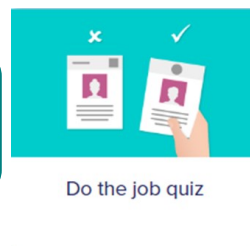


Once registered, sign in to your account. You can save all your choices until you are 21.

Now from the Main Menu select Jobs.



Select to complete—Do the job quiz.



Complete steps 1 to 4 of the quiz, selecting the aspects of a job that interest you. Once the quiz is complete you will be shown a job sector that is the closest match to your interests, as well as further job sectors that may be of interest.

Take some time to explore the results and sectors that have been identified as suiting you. If any are of interest select Add this to My Job Sectors .



Any results added to My Job Sectors can be found in the Careers Tools menu My Job Sectors.

Extension Activity: Take a look at the short videos on YouTube, search My Path [MYPATH - YouTube](#)

Career Tools

- Dashboard
- My Skills Profile
- My Subjects
- My Job Sectors**
- My Values
- My Qualifications
- My Providers
- My Courses
- My Bookmarks
- My Next Steps
- My Action Points
- My Opportunities

Week 2 - Start with a Subject with Careerpilot - www.careerpilot.org.uk

Choose a subject you love and see where it might lead. Link [Careerpilot : Jobs by subject](#)

Take a look at the variety of jobs available for each subject, then reflect by answering the questions below.

Home Adviser Zone Parent Zone Search Sign in Register

Careerpilot All info Jobs Courses Providers Qualifications Videos

Start with a subject

What subject do you most enjoy at school?	
What Year 9 options are you considering?	
What job or careers do you think you might be interested in?	
Do you need to study certain subjects at school to access what you want to study at college (Further Education)?	
Do you need to study certain subjects at college to access what you want to do after you leave (Higher Education)?	

Career Tools

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- My Subjects**
- My Job Sectors
- My Values
- My Qualifications
- My Providers
- My Courses
- My Bookmarks
- My Next Steps
- My Action Points
- My Opportunities

Take some time to explore. If any are of interest select Add this to My Subjects.

+ Add this to My Subjects

Any results added to My Subjects can be found in the Careers Tools menu My Subjects.

Extension Activity: Take a look at the short videos on YouTube, search My Path [MYPATH - YouTube](#)

College Open Events this week - **BTC** Bridgwater Campus Weds 15 & Taunton Campus Thurs 16

Week 3 - Explore some of the other tools in the Jobs area in Careerpivot

- www.careerpilot.org.uk Link [Careerpivot : Jobs](#)



Jobs

Search for a job

Enter job title eg: accountant Search

Explore jobs and careers

- Jobs by job sector
- Start with your values**
- Start with a subject
- Green jobs**
- Do the job quiz
- Compare up to 3 jobs**
- Finding a job/experience

Things to consider ...

LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION

- What do people do in this job/industry?
- How many people work in this job/industry?
- What qualifications do I need for this job/industry?
- How much do people get paid to do this job?
- What skills and qualities do I need for this job?
- What are the typical working hours for this job/industry?
- What percentage of men and women work in this job/industry?
- Where can this job/industry take me in the future?
- Where are these jobs located around the country?
- How many of these jobs will there be in the future?

Extension Activity: Current Careers Opportunities—Student Padlet <https://padlet.com/SomersetCareersHub/current-careers-opportunities> [Current Careers Opportunities](#)

College Open Events this week - **PETROC** Tiverton Campus Tues 21. **BTC** Cannington Campus Sat 25

Week 4 - Year 9 Options Interview preparation

Use your Year 9 School Report to reflect and complete the following two pages.

What is my attendance?		What is 'expected' attendance at Court Fields?	
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Am I above or below expected attendance? Why?

If you are below, you will need to focus on improving your attendance. Even missing 2 days per half term will significantly impact on the GCSE grades that you can get. You will also need to have regular attendance once you have a job.

What are my S points?		What are they mostly for?	
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If you have any S points you will need to work on reducing them. Low-level disruption, lack of homework, not following instructions etc all impact on your GCSE grades. They also prevent others being able to learn.

What are my achievement Points?		In which subjects do I get the most and	
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Being someone who participates, is polite, makes effort, meets deadlines, is thoughtful of others etc, all help in any career. How could you increase your House Points overall or in a particular subject?

Which are my 3 favourite subjects and why?

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In which 3 subjects am I making the best progress? Why is this?

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You might enjoy a subject, but not be making good progress in it, or have poor Attitude to Learning grades. If you want to (or have to) study this subject at Key Stage 4, how can you change this?

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You have to take GCSEs in English, Maths & Science. From looking at your report, which other subjects could you consider taking at Key Stage 4?

MY FUTURES INTERVIEW

To help you choose the right courses at Key Stage 4 you will be having a 1:1 Futures Interview with a representative from a local college, Head of Year, Deputy Head, Senco or Charity. The majority will be conducted week commencing 3 February 2025.

You will need to use this page during the meeting to help with the conversations you will have.

Attendance %		
Number of Positive Points Number of Negative Points		
Target Grades	English: Maths: Science:	
Attitude		
Interests & Hobbies		
Career ideas or interests		
What are the 3 targets for you to complete over the remainder of this term to prepare you for your Key Stage 4 courses?		

Interview Completed By:		Date:
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Weeks 5- College Support

Week 4 - Wednesday 29 January - BTC, Assembly

Extension Activity: Career Curiosity Cards—what study programme would you recommend?

Week 5 - Post-16 Next Steps—Independent / Led Research

Week 5 - Wednesday 5 February - Richard Huish College, Assembly

Links to college websites

BTC - [Bridgwater & Taunton College](#)

Exeter College - [Search Our Courses - Exeter College](#)

Richard Huish - [All Courses - Richard Huish College](#)

PETROC - [Courses - Petroc College](#)

SPACE-HOME | [The SPACE](#)

The Big Act - [The Big Act](#)

Bicton-[Bicton College](#) | [Specialist Land-Based College in Devon](#)

Extension Activity: Use the box of college prospectuses and college website to find the answers to the list of “challenge” questions set by Charity.

Week 6 - My Future Plan

Choosing your Key Stage 4 courses is not an easy decision. It takes time, it takes research, and it needs to be discussed at school and at home. Your GCSE results will help open doors for you, and allow you to make choices about your future.

For the last part of your decision you need to have a discussion with your parents/ carers/family. You should note the details as a mind-map in the box below.

What do I need to discuss at home?

What subjects do I like?

My Future

What do I need to research further?

Which College Open Events have I attended?

Which are my 3 subject choices and why?

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Parent/Carer Signature:	Date:
Student Signature:	Date:

MAKING YOUR CHOICE

1. Do your research

Find out as much as you can about a particular option. If you're looking at courses, what is the course content like? Are there any projects? Does it involve any practical work? Can you speak to anyone who is doing the course? What do people who have taken the course do next?

2. Consider the detail

Listing the pros and cons and considering consequences are a good starting point when making decisions. Work through the 'tactics for making decisions' at [icould - Career ideas and information for your future](#) to help focus your thinking.

3. Think about what you prefer

Put simply, which do you like best and enjoy? In some cases, motivation counts more than ability so choosing something you really like doing, and are prepared to stick at, can work out well.

4. Follow your nose

What makes sense on paper doesn't always match real life. Sometimes a quality that you can't quite put your finger on can be the deciding factor, even if it doesn't match your original requirements. Try throwing a wild card into the mix – considering something which is not an obvious option can help question what you think you want.

5. Consider different points of view

Other people's advice – however well meaning – is often influenced by their own experience, which won't always be the same as yours. When anyone gives you advice, it's worth considering why they may suggest a certain approach. Are they thinking about their own regrets or do they want you to follow in their footsteps? How will your choice affect them?

6. Don't just follow the herd

It can be easy to get swept along with what people around you are doing without considering if it's really right for you. If all of your friends are taking GCSE History it can be easy to do the same. Just take a step back – check it's what you really want and make sure you haven't overlooked something that's a much better fit for you.

Finally, if things go wrong you can usually go back, retrain, or take another route to get to where you want to be – but getting it right first-time round can make things much easier.

Questions to ask

- What feels right, even if you can't explain why?
- What will you enjoy? How motivated are you? Can one balance the other?
- What are the pros and cons?
- What are the likely consequences or future opportunities? Does your choice open or close any doors?
- What do your friends and family think? Why might they have this opinion?

Wednesday 12 February - BTC & Richard Huish lunch time college information session, B Block Vestibule

Thursday 13 February - Futures (Options) Evening

Post-16 Pathways

Although it may seem a long way off you have much to consider before making a decision of what to do after leaving Court Fields School. The Government requires that all young people must do one of the following until they are 18:

- stay in full-time education, for example at a college or sixth form
- start a traineeship or apprenticeship
- spend 20 hours or more a week working or volunteering, while in part-time education or training

Therefore, it's important that you make the right choice.

Not only do you have many good local colleges and sixth forms to choose from, hundreds of courses on offer but you also have five Post-16 Pathways to consider, these being:

- A Levels
- Apprenticeships
- International Baccalaureate
- Technical Level qualifications (T Levels)
- Vocational qualifications



You can of course also move into employment that includes training.

College is the most popular choice for students. It is important that you consider your preferred learning style when researching college courses and understand the wide variety of courses available.

A Levels usually focus on academic subjects, offering a wide range of subjects including those studied at GCSE and many new ones. Like GCSEs, exams are taken at the end of a two-year study programme. Generally, students will need at least five GCSEs at grades 9-4 but may need a higher grade. Students will need to check this by referring to the college course entry requirements. A Levels can lead on to further study, a degree or an apprenticeship and can be studied at Bridgwater & Taunton College, Exeter College and Richard Huish College.

Apprenticeships Working alongside experienced staff whilst gaining job-specific skills and earning a wage. Students study towards a related qualification (usually one day a week at college) and will need to find an employer who is willing to offer them an apprenticeship. Students could ask family, friends or anyone who might be able to offer an apprenticeship, or contact businesses to enquire if they would be likely to have an apprenticeship vacancy. Most apprenticeships are advertised on the Government's Apprenticeship register here [Find an apprenticeship - GOV.UK](#) and if you're really interested, create an account so that you can get regular alerts about new opportunities. Education providers for apprenticeships locally are Bridgwater & Taunton College, Exeter College, PETROC and Richard Huish College, along with many other independent providers.

Post-16 Pathways

Traineeships A pre-apprenticeship programme that supports students who would like to be an apprentice but may lack confidence and experience and the required GCSE grades. Students attend extra tuition in classrooms, gain work experience and receive support to secure an apprenticeship.

International Baccalaureate An internationally recognised alternative to A Levels, accepted and highly regarded by all universities (including Russell Group and Oxbridge) and employers worldwide. Students choose six subjects; Maths, English, a Science, a Humanity, a Language and a Creative subject, studying three at Higher Level and three at Standard Level. The programme also includes a core programme, which is an Extended Essay, Theory of Knowledge and CAS (creativity, activity and service). Students will need at least six GCSEs in the 9-5 range and the motivation to study a variety of subjects. As a recommendation, it is advantageous to gain a grade 6 in subjects that have been studied at school and wish to be continued. Please see <https://www.ibo.org/programmes/diploma-programme/>

T Levels Technical Level qualifications are new qualifications, launched in Sept 2020. The content for each T Level has been developed in collaboration with employers and businesses to help students gain the skills and knowledge needed to progress to highly skilled employment, higher technical qualifications, higher apprenticeships or university. Aimed at those students who know what particular area of work they wish to undertake, one T Level qualification is equivalent to 3 A levels. It is a two-year course that brings the classroom and the work place together, as it includes a 45-day work placement. Currently available in Building Services Engineering for Construction, Onsite Construction, Engineering, Manufacturing, Processing & Control, Software Development, Data Management, Education & Childcare, Health (Nursing), Management & Administration and Finance & Accounting.

Please see www.gov.uk/dfe/t-levels for more information. T Levels can be studied at Bridgwater & Taunton College, Exeter College and Richard Huish.

Vocational qualifications Like BTECs vocational qualifications are more practical and include coursework, assignments, written tests, some formal examinations and work placements. Vocational courses are aimed at a particular area of work and Diplomas and BTECs are ideal for students with a vocation in mind and who have a practical and hands-on learning style. These qualifications can also lead on to a degree or an apprenticeship.

Can be studied at Bridgwater & Taunton College, Exeter College, PETROC, Richard Huish College and Somerset Performing Arts Centre for Education (SPACE).



Helpful Resources

Careers Resources

The following websites provide useful information:

The National Careers Service

<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk>

[Careers advice - job profiles, information and resources | National Careers Service](#)

provides information, advice and guidance across England to help with decisions on learning, training and work. The service offers confidential and impartial advice and is supported by qualified careers advisers.

Russell Group website www.informedchoices.ac.uk which gives advice about essential or useful A Level subjects required for certain degrees for those aiming to apply to one of the more prestigious universities.

Barclays Life Skills - <https://barclayslifeskills.com/>

Start – complete the START programme which will provide you with a variety of career ideas and should link to interests and skills. www.plotr.co.uk

Local Colleges

Follow our local colleges on social media to get a feel of what it's like to be a student studying there, look out for opportunities to visit such as Open Evenings and Taster Sessions as it's important to see inside the building and meet the staff before you apply.

- Bridgwater & Taunton College - <https://www.btc.ac.uk/>
- Exeter College - <https://exe-coll.ac.uk/>
- PETROC - <https://www.petroc.ac.uk/>
- Richard Huish College - <https://www.huish.ac.uk/>
- The Somerset Performing Arts Centre for Education (SPACE) - <https://www.thespacesomerset.co.uk/>

The last three years at school are important ones; students should be focussed on achieving the best grades they can and take time to consider all Post-16 Pathways.

If you want to talk through the Post-16 Pathways please get in touch with Charity chunt@courtfields.bep.ac.





**You must complete your Options Form online by
Wednesday 26th February
This is the final deadline.**

Provisional choices will be confirmed by late March / early April.

Key Dates

Date	Activity
Monday 6 January	Week 1 Start of Year 9 Futures Programme
Commencing 5th February	Week 5 Futures Interviews
10th— 14th February	Week 6 Futures Week
Thursday 13th February	Week 6 Futures (Options) Evening
Wednesday 26th February	Deadline for Options forms to be completed

If you have any questions please see your Form Tutor for support.

