



A GUIDE FOR
CAREERS



A guide to the different options
for your child post secondary
education.

2023



TABLE OF CONTENTS

01 INTRODUCTION

02 DIFFERENT PATHWAYS

07 TOP TIPS!

09 LOCAL LMI

10 PLACES TO RESEARCH

11 FINAL WORDS...



INTRODUCTION

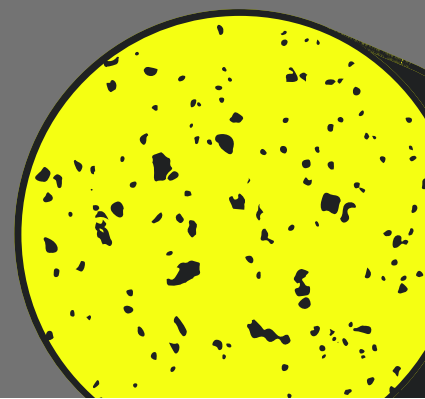
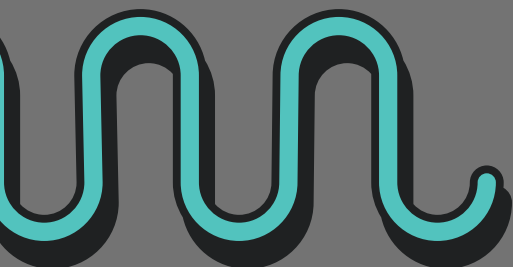
Dear Parents/Guardians,

As your child approaches the important milestone of leaving school at 16, it's natural to have questions and concerns about their future. It can feel like a very uncertain time for all, but with the right preparation, quality discussions and determination, you can really help your child to create a happy and bright future.

This guide aims to provide you with an overview of the various options available for young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

We will explore the opportunities and points to consider regarding: going to college; entering the workforce directly; pursuing an apprenticeship and other future alternatives. It's crucial to remember that every student is unique, so finding the right path depends on your child's strengths, interests, and aspirations.

Let's explore the possibilities
together!





LET'S TALK COLLEGE...

Going to college can offer an inclusive and supportive environment for young people with SEND. It is an exciting opportunity for your child to discover more independence as they develop more adult-like levels of responsibility. It is a safe environment for your child to continue their personal and academic development and can help to create more opportunities and connections for them in the future.

Opportunities include:

- Specialised support: Colleges often have dedicated learning support teams that provide tailored assistance, accommodations, and individualised education plans to help students succeed
- Expanded educational opportunities: College courses offer a wide range of subjects, allowing your child to explore their interests and develop new skills
- Socialisation and independence: College provides opportunities for making friends, building social skills and fostering independence.

Things to consider include:

- Academic challenges: College coursework can be demanding and students may face difficulties keeping up with the pace or adapting to new learning styles
- Transition challenges: Adjusting to a new environment, different routines and a new class can be overwhelming for some individuals
- Limited vocational training: Depending on the college and course, there may be fewer vocational training options compared to other pathways.



LET'S TALK INTERNSHIPS, TRAINEESHIPS AND APPRENTICESHIPS...

Internships, Traineeships and Apprenticeships provide a combination of practical work experience and training. Apprenticeships allow your child to learn and earn simultaneously. They are levelled to support the different needs and capabilities of students and can offer the exact support needed to help your child onto a vocational pathway.

Opportunities include:

- Hands-on training: All three of these routes offer practical learning opportunities enabling your child to develop valuable skills in a specific trade or industry, with the intent to lead to employment
- Earning while learning: If your child secures an apprenticeship, they will receive a wage that often increases as they progress through the programme
- Supportive environment: These programmes typically provide mentors and support networks to guide and assist learners throughout.

Things to consider include:

- Competitive entry: Positions for these programmes can be highly sought after, meaning your child may face stiff competition during the application process
- Limited subject choices: These programmes are usually available in specific industries, which might restrict your child's options if they are interested in a niche field

Balancing work and education: These programmes require dedication and commitment to both work and study, which can be demanding for some individuals.



LET'S TALK WORK...

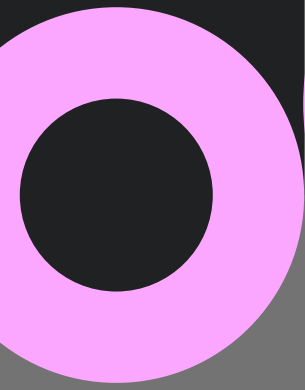
For some young people with SEND, entering the workforce directly after school can be a viable option. This will be paid work and can provide a feeling of independence and pride for your child.

Opportunities include:

- Practical experience: Entering the workforce provides an opportunity to gain real-world experience and develop employability skills
- Financial independence: By earning a wage, your child may feel a sense of financial empowerment and contribute to household expenses
- Personal growth: Employment offers opportunities for personal development, increased confidence, and a sense of purpose.

Things to consider include:

- Limited job prospects: Finding suitable employment can be challenging, and it may take time to secure a job that aligns with your child's abilities and interests
- Support and accommodations: Some workplaces may not have adequate support systems in place for individuals with SEND, which could present additional challenges and frustration
- Lack of formal qualifications: Depending on the job, your child may miss out on acquiring formal qualifications, which could limit future career progression or opportunities to change to another career pathway
- You will need to consider how an income may affect your entitlement to benefits and be sure that any earned income would lead you to be financially better off.



LET'S TALK VOLUNTEERING...

Volunteering is the act of offering one's time, skills, and effort to support a cause or community without expecting monetary compensation. Engaging in volunteer work can be a rewarding experience. Volunteering should be an activity that everyone strives to do in some capacity.

Opportunities include:

- **Personal Fulfillment:** Volunteering often brings a sense of purpose and fulfillment as individuals contribute to making a positive impact in the lives of others or their community
- **Skill Development:** Volunteering can offer opportunities to learn new skills or enhance existing ones. Volunteers may gain experience in areas such as leadership, communication, time management and problem-solving
- **Networking and Connections:** Volunteering provides a chance to build connections with like-minded individuals, professionals, and organisations, potentially leading to valuable career opportunities
- **Health Benefits:** Studies suggest that volunteering can have positive effects on mental and physical health. It may reduce stress, combat feelings of loneliness, establish a positive routine and promote a sense of belonging.

Things to consider include:

- **Time Commitment:** Volunteering requires a significant investment of time, which may be challenging for individuals who need parental support
- **Emotional Toll:** Some volunteering opportunities involve working with vulnerable populations or addressing difficult issues, which can be emotionally taxing for volunteers.



LET'S TALK WORKING FOR YOURSELF...

Working for yourself can be an incredible option! When you work for yourself you can turn your talents, passions and hobbies into a source of income. It means that you get to be your own boss and you can make all of your own decisions about what you do and how you do it!

Opportunities include:

- Turning your hobby and passion into a working role is such an exciting adventure and thanks to the online world, this is now possible for everyone
- Being 'qualified' can be more about your level of experience and skill so you may be no longer limited by the expectations of workforce academic qualifications
- There are so many free resources out there to help people set up their own business. This includes financial support, planning, marketing and grant support. There is also the added bonus of free social media to help your business grow
- The self-employed community is extremely diverse and it means that your child could be part of a huge network where people with SEND support and encourage one another.

Things to consider include:

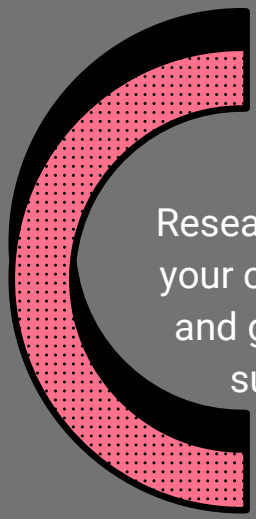
- Running a business requires a great deal of dedication, high responsibility and support. This is very viable, but it will require a lot of mental investment and time
- Uncertain Income: Finances may regularly change and this needs managing well
- Dealing with Regulations: Navigating legal and regulatory requirements can be complex, adding an additional layer of complexity for business owners with SEND.



P L A N N I N G



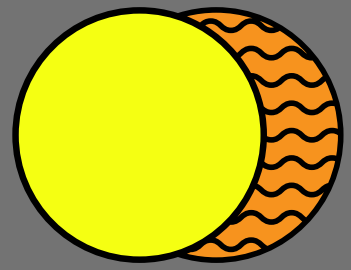
TOP TIPS!



Research, Research, Research!

Research all of the options available to your child. They will need your support and guidance. You will need to make sure that you are keeping high aspirations!

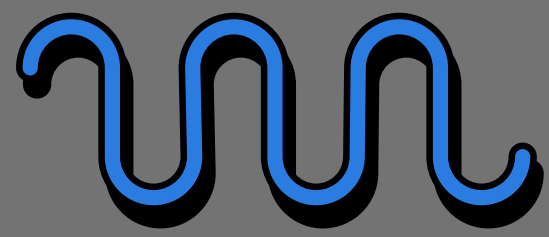
What you will need to know:



Understanding who you are, your needs, your strengths, areas of enjoyment and hopes for the future are all essential and these are a fantastic starting point. It will be important to know what your areas of improvement are and where you may have some limitations. It will take a lot of focus, courage and determination to overcome worries that might make you feel like your future hopes aren't possible. When in doubt you need to ask yourself... **But how could I make this happen...?**

Visit Colleges!

Make sure that you attend open days and evenings at local colleges. This will give your child the chance to see how they feel about an environment and its facilities, the staff and courses on offer!



Make a Plan!

Your child's future shouldn't just be left to chance, nor should it be treated like something that can be solved in a single careers talk. Allow as much time as required to explore different careers as well as time to decide what must be done to get there. For example: Want to be a mechanic? What qualifications will your child need? How can you help them grasp that essential grade? Can you help them find some work experience?





P L A N N I N G



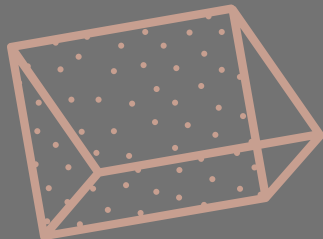
TOP TIPS!



Help along the way...


There are many different careers support avenues for you to explore. School has a careers service, college does too! Should you feel that you need additional support, there are other online resources available too!

Be prepared for rejection.



Hearing 'No,' can be extremely difficult. Your child may find rejection extremely difficult, but getting a job that you want isn't an easy process for anyone. Before your child sends a CV off for a job, have it checked. If your child gets an interview, make sure you have mock interviews at home with some of the most commonly asked questions for that industry. All can be found with a simple internet search. Make sure your child is confident with understanding their needs and disability so that they can speak openly to a potential employer about themselves and the reasonable adjustments needed.

You must be PROACTIVE!

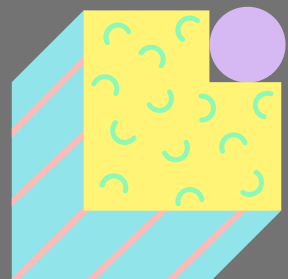


It will be essential that you model being proactive for your child. What they want will not just come knocking at their door. Encourage your child to do one thing a day that will shape their future success!



Check out Local Labour Market Information (LMI)!

Is the industry that your child wants to work in a niche? If so, is self-employment the way? Or do they want a job that is in demand? E.G. Being a nursery support worker? Great! Sign up to that course! Having local LMI can really help you to work out what the chances are of your child being able to secure a form of employment in the area that interests them the most.



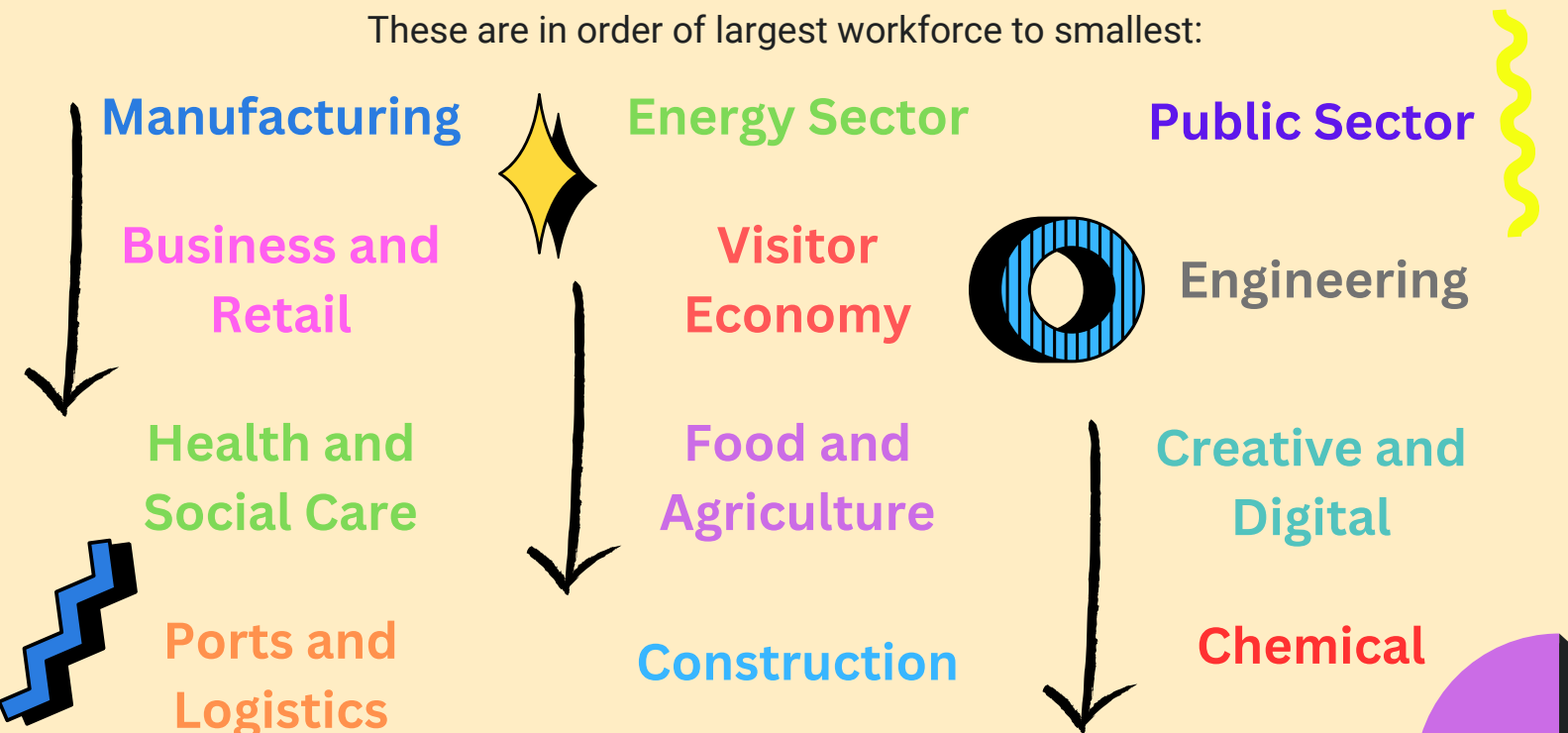


CURRENT LOCAL LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION

Supply and demand for jobs has always been the way of the world. Your child will be aware that some jobs are absolutely going to require a level of certified qualifications, as well as linked work experience to ensure that they are ready to carry out such roles.

Attaining the expected qualifications for young people with SEND can be extremely challenging for some and they therefore want to ensure that the qualification that they are working toward will be worth it. This is where Local Labour Market Information (LMI) is going to be very important.

For example, see the popular sectors in North Lincolnshire (based on the last updates). These are in order of largest workforce to smallest:





USEFUL PLACES TO RESEARCH!

Sites to support your child developing a wider knowledge of careers on offer:

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

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles>

<https://icould.com/>

<https://futuregoals.co.uk/education-and-careers-advice/careers-support/>

Sites to support your child developing a wider knowledge about internships, traineeships and apprenticeships:

<https://www.gov.uk/find-internship>

<https://www.gov.uk/find-traineeship>

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>

<https://www.northlincs.gov.uk/schools-libraries-and-learning/learning-opportunities-and-funding-for-over-16s/>

Know your rights:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/equality-act-2010-guidance>

Colleges in your local area:

Trent View

John Leggott College

North Lindsey College

Engineering UTC

FINAL WORDS...

As your child prepares to transition from school to the next phase of their lives, there are several pathways to consider. Remember that each option has its own benefits and challenges, and what matters most is finding the right fit for your child's abilities, interests and aspirations.

Seek advice from career advisors, educational professionals and support networks to make informed decisions along the way. Plans change, people change and opportunities change, but with the right planning you can help your child have a successful and happy future.

Disclaimer: This guide is for informational purposes only and does not constitute legal or financial advice. Please consult with relevant professionals for personalised advice along the way as the world of careers changes on a regular basis. No liability is accepted by Mrs Q's Private Tuition and Careers Service for the use of these resources or the decisions made by an individual.

This careers booklet has been created by Mrs Q's Private Tuition and Careers Service on behalf of St Hugh's School, Scunthorpe.

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