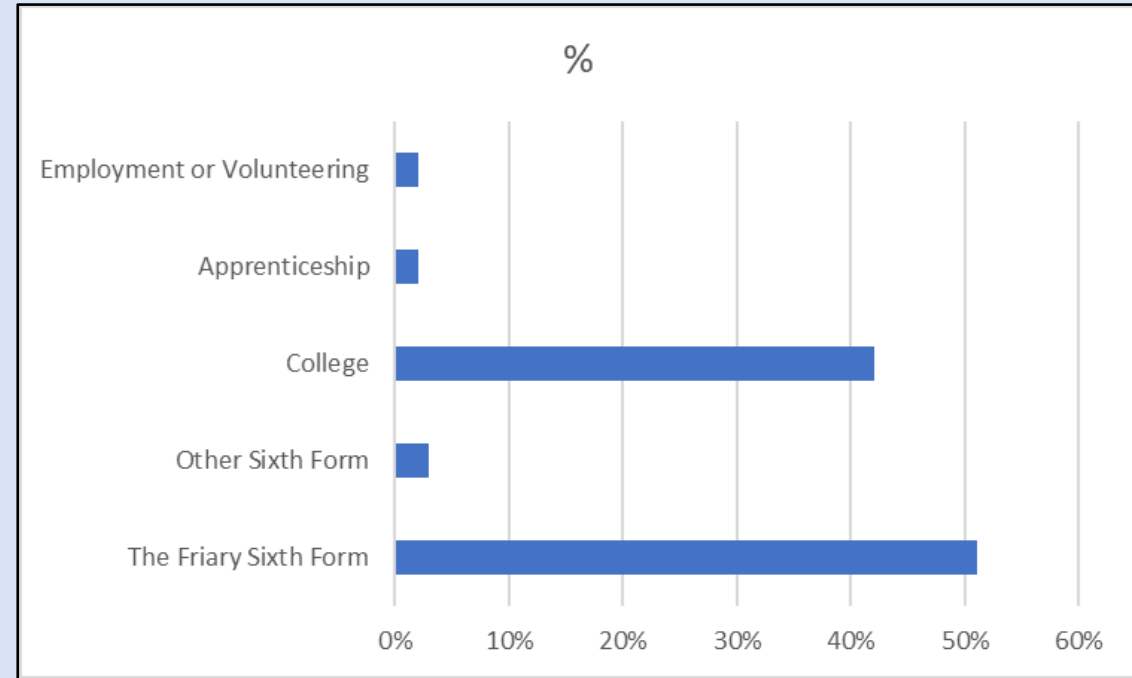


Y10 Partnership Evening: Apprenticeships

What are the post-16 options?

Since 2015 it has become law that all students must stay in some form of education or training until their 18th birthday. When students finish Y11 (age 16), they get to choose for the first time how they want to study/learn. Their choices are as follows:

- Sixth Form
- College
- An apprenticeship
- Working or volunteering (20 hours or more per week alongside part time education or training)

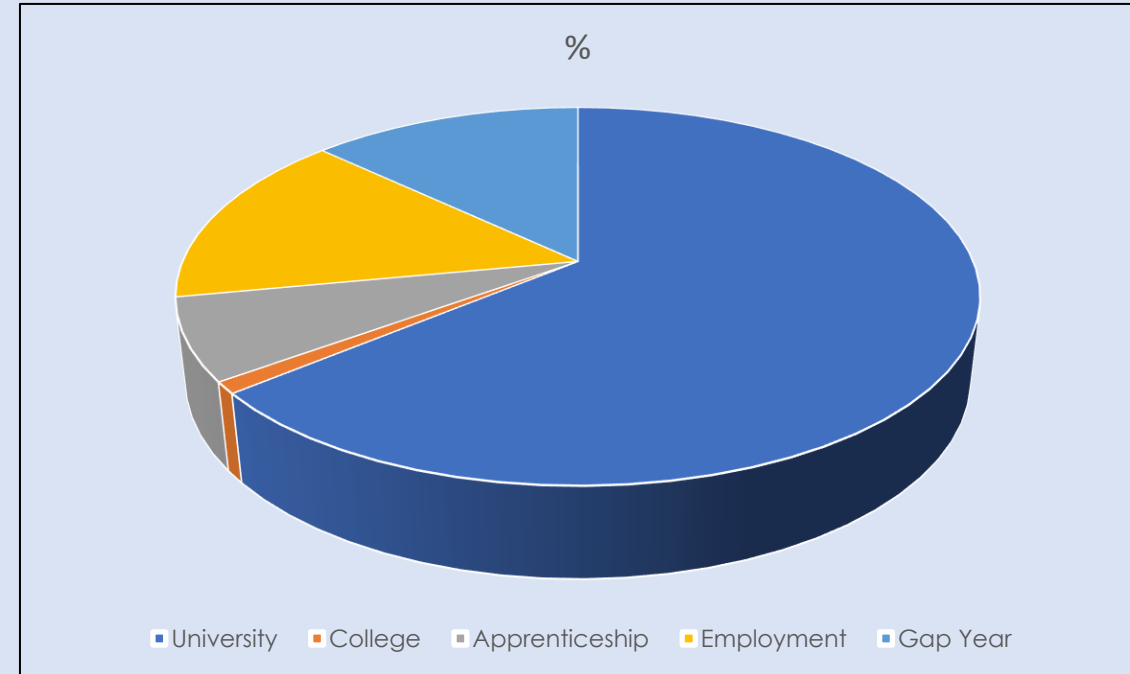


At The Friary the most common choice is to carry on into Sixth Form. Whilst many other students go to college. A small number of students get an apprenticeship, volunteer or work (with training).

What are your options when you reach 18?

At age 18 there is no requirement to be in any form of education or training if a student chooses not to. But many students still choose to continue with some form of learning in order to make them more employable. Their choices are as follows:

- University or College of higher education (part-time or full-time)
- An apprenticeship
- Employment
- Gap year
- Internship



When the Y13s leave The Friary the most common choice is to go to university. But more and more students are starting to think differently about what they do age 18.

What are the pros and cons of university?

Pros	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• You'll experience more independence• You'll increase your earning potential• It helps you develop transferable skills• You'll develop new friendships and networks• You can become more knowledgeable in a subject you love• It may broaden your mind• Many students have the time of their life	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• It's very expensive: tuition fees alone for a typical 3-year degree are just under £30,000• Most students finish their degree and are in considerable debt• Lack of individual attention• Competition• A degree does not guarantee a job• Some people feel homesick and struggle to settle at university

Though a common option, many young people are choosing not to go to university. An option that is becoming ever more popular is an apprenticeship.

What is an Apprenticeship?

An apprenticeship is a **paid job** where you get hands-on work experience and off-the-job training.

Typically you spend **80%** of your time doing the job and **20%** studying.

The **earliest** you can get an apprenticeship is at age **16**. After that you could apply for an apprenticeship at **any time in your life**.



What level of apprenticeships are there?

Name	Level	Equivalent educational level
Intermediate	2	5 GCSE passes at grade A*-C or 4-9
Advanced	3	2 A Levels / Level 3 diploma / international Baccalaureate
Higher	4,5,6 & 7	Foundation degree and above
Degree	6 & 7	Bachelor's or master's degree

After GCSEs you'd do a Level 2 or 3 depending on how good your GCSEs were.

After sixth form or college you'd be looking at a minimum of a Level 4 apprenticeship.

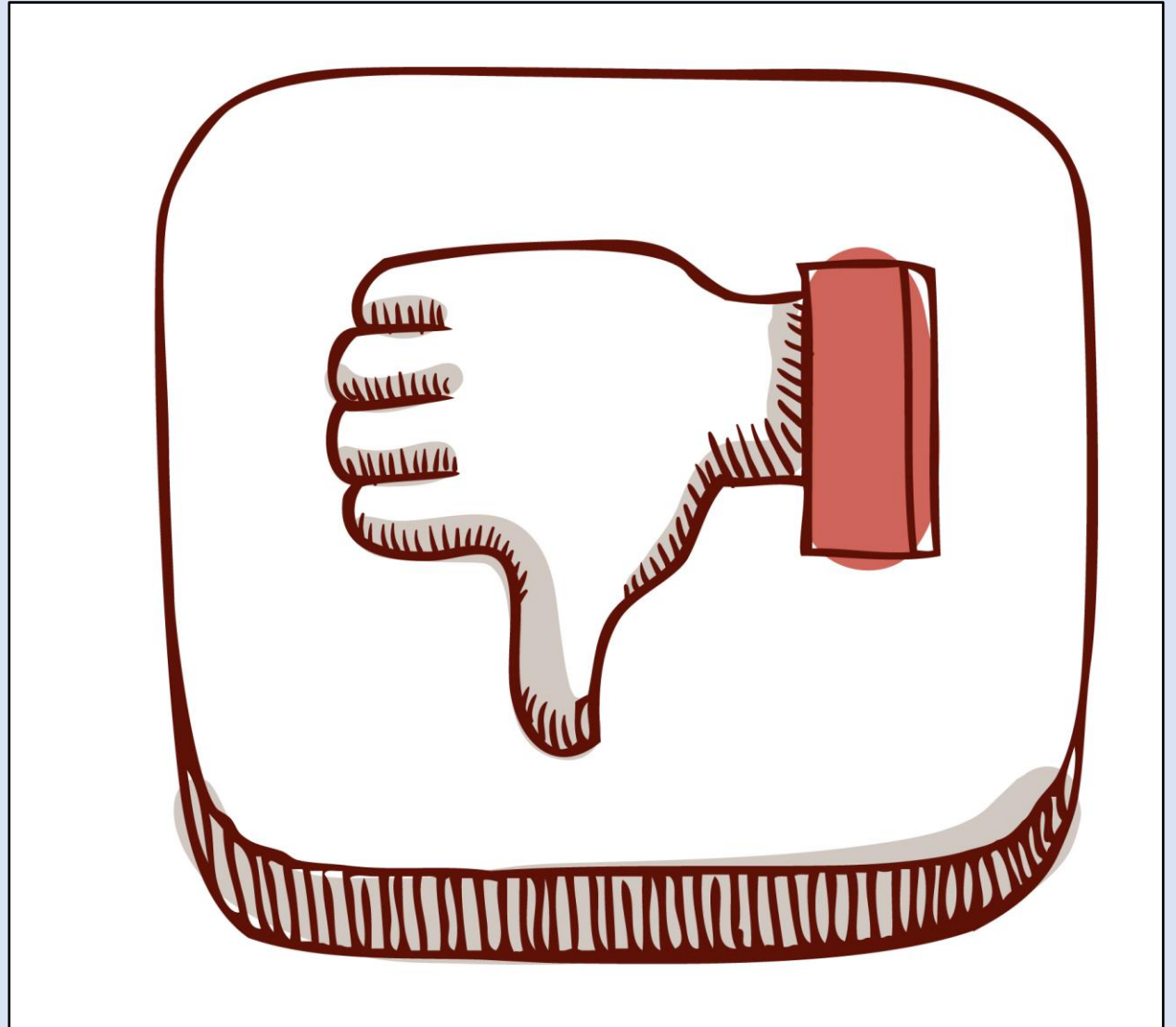
What are the advantages of apprenticeships?

- You gain specialist skills
- You get paid including holidays
- All of your tuition is paid for by the employer (even if you were doing a degree or masters)
- No student loans!
- Many apprentices get a permanent job at the end of it
- Excellent career progression



What are the disadvantages of apprenticeships?

- You have the responsibility of a full-time job
- Can be very specialised
- Fewer subjects available as an apprenticeship
- Takes longer to achieve the qualification
- Demand is very high so can be very difficult to secure
- Though you're paid, wages are often minimum wage (Under 18 = £7.55 and over 18 = £10.00 rising to £12.21 at age 21).

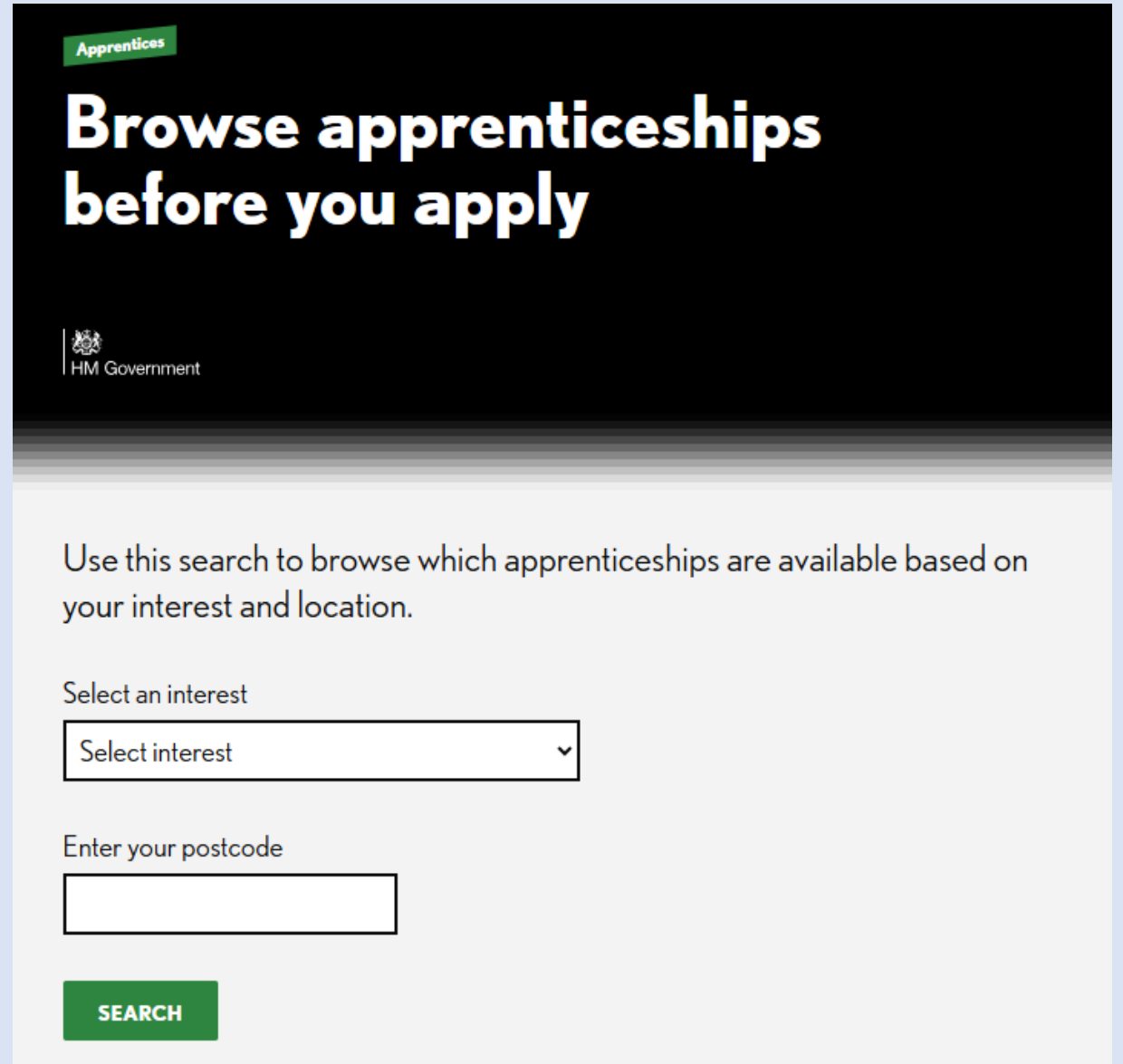


What type of apprenticeship opportunities are there?

You can become an apprentice in hundreds of different sectors.

Many employers prefer to take on apprentices because it means that they can train their staff to have the exact skills and knowledge that their business needs.

Finding an apprenticeship is a very easy process.



The screenshot shows the 'Apprenticeships' section of the HM Government website. It features a dark header with the title 'Browse apprenticeships before you apply' in large, bold, white text. Below the header is the HM Government logo. The main content area is white and contains a search instruction: 'Use this search to browse which apprenticeships are available based on your interest and location.' There are two input fields: a dropdown menu labeled 'Select an interest' with the placeholder text 'Select interest' and a downward arrow, and a text box labeled 'Enter your postcode'. A green 'SEARCH' button is located at the bottom of the search section.

Apprenticeships

Browse apprenticeships before you apply

HM Government

Use this search to browse which apprenticeships are available based on your interest and location.

Select an interest

Select interest ▼

Enter your postcode

SEARCH

Unifrog

All students have a login to Unifrog – they completed a module of work on it last year.

Unifrog is a one stop shop that enables students to investigate **all** of their future pathways and career options.

It provides personalised guidance based on interests, skills and attributes. Its research capabilities are incredible. Opportunities are updated every 24 hours.

The screenshot displays the Unifrog website's main dashboard. At the top, a navigation bar includes the Unifrog logo, links for HOME, FAVOURITES, LOCKER, APPLY, HELP, and icons for search, settings, and email. A 'TEACHER' button with a right arrow is also present. The main content area is organized into several categories, each with a title and a list of interactive cards. The 'Quizzes' category includes 'Work environments profile' (Quiz not taken) and 'Quiz profile' (0 of 4 quizzes complete). The 'Recording' category includes 'Activities' (Recorded at least 10), 'Skills' (Completed all 12), 'Interactions' (Missing 5 Interaction types), and 'Placements' (No placements added). The 'Searching' category includes 'UK universities' (0 shortlists), 'Apprenticeships' (0 shortlists), and 'College / Sixth Form' (0 shortlists). The 'Exploring' category includes 'Careers library' (Careers favourited), 'Subjects library' (Subjects favourited), 'Know-how library' (Guides favourited), and 'Courses' (No courses added). The 'Materials' category includes 'CV / Resumé' (Write CVs tailored for each roles). The 'Connecting' section has a message: 'No tools in this category are tailored to you this year - click "All tools" to see everything'. The 'Applications' category includes 'Post 16 Intentions' (Plan A and Plan B complete). Each card features a right-pointing arrow for navigation.

Information will be sent out within the next few weeks to all parents from Y9 upwards so you can login and use the platform too.

How do you secure an apprenticeship?

Securing an apprenticeship isn't anywhere near easy. As they gain in popularity **demand is increasing**. You may be one of hundreds, even thousands applying (depending on the apprenticeship).

You will definitely have an interview. But for some, there will be several rounds of interviews and assessments. Interviews may be face to face, with a panel, over the phone or online. Some companies use AI to assess whether they want you or not.

- 1 Research the company and your interviewers
- 2 Practice your answers to common interview questions
- 3 Study the job description and note required skills, qualities and experience
- 4 Answer questions using the STAR method (Situation, Task, Action, Result)
- 5 Recruit a friend to practice answering questions
- 6 Be prepared with examples of your work
- 7 Plan your interview attire the night before
- 8 Prepare smart questions for your interviewers
- 9 Bring copies of your resume, a notebook and pen
- 10 Tie your answers back to your skills and accomplishments

Some recent Friary apprenticeship stories



Minhaz Uddin - Airbus degree level apprenticeship (engineering)

Jack Wykes – JLR degree level apprenticeship (engineering)

Abigail Jelfs – Cooper Parry degree level apprenticeship (accountancy)

Amelia Barratt – Staffordshire Police degree level apprenticeship (police constable)

Abigail Pinches – Moseley Solicitors degree level apprenticeship (law)

Logan Ho – The Boss Partnership degree level apprenticeship (accountancy)