



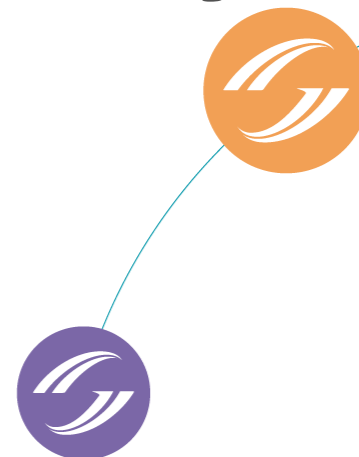
Gyrfa Cymru
Careers Wales

Alternatives to University

By Natalie Lewis

Careers Wales

For Cardiff High Year 12 Parents





What are the Options if I don't go to university?

- **Employment**
- **Apprenticeships:** A job involving recognised training and qualifications.
- **Further Education** college courses.
- **Part-Time or Distance Learning Higher Education**
- **Gap Year/ Voluntary Work**
- **Self Employment**

More information about your options here: <https://careerswales.gov.wales/plan-your-career/options-at-18>



Apprenticeships

- A job with training: Gain a recognised qualifications whilst you are working.
- Earn a wage. *Minimum wage for apprentices is £6.40 an hour. This goes up to normal minimum wage (£8.60) after first year if 19 or over.*
- Available in a wide range of sectors.
- Apply and search for vacancies like any other job.
- Can be advertised any time, so need to be proactive throughout year 13.
- Entry requirements and duration vary.

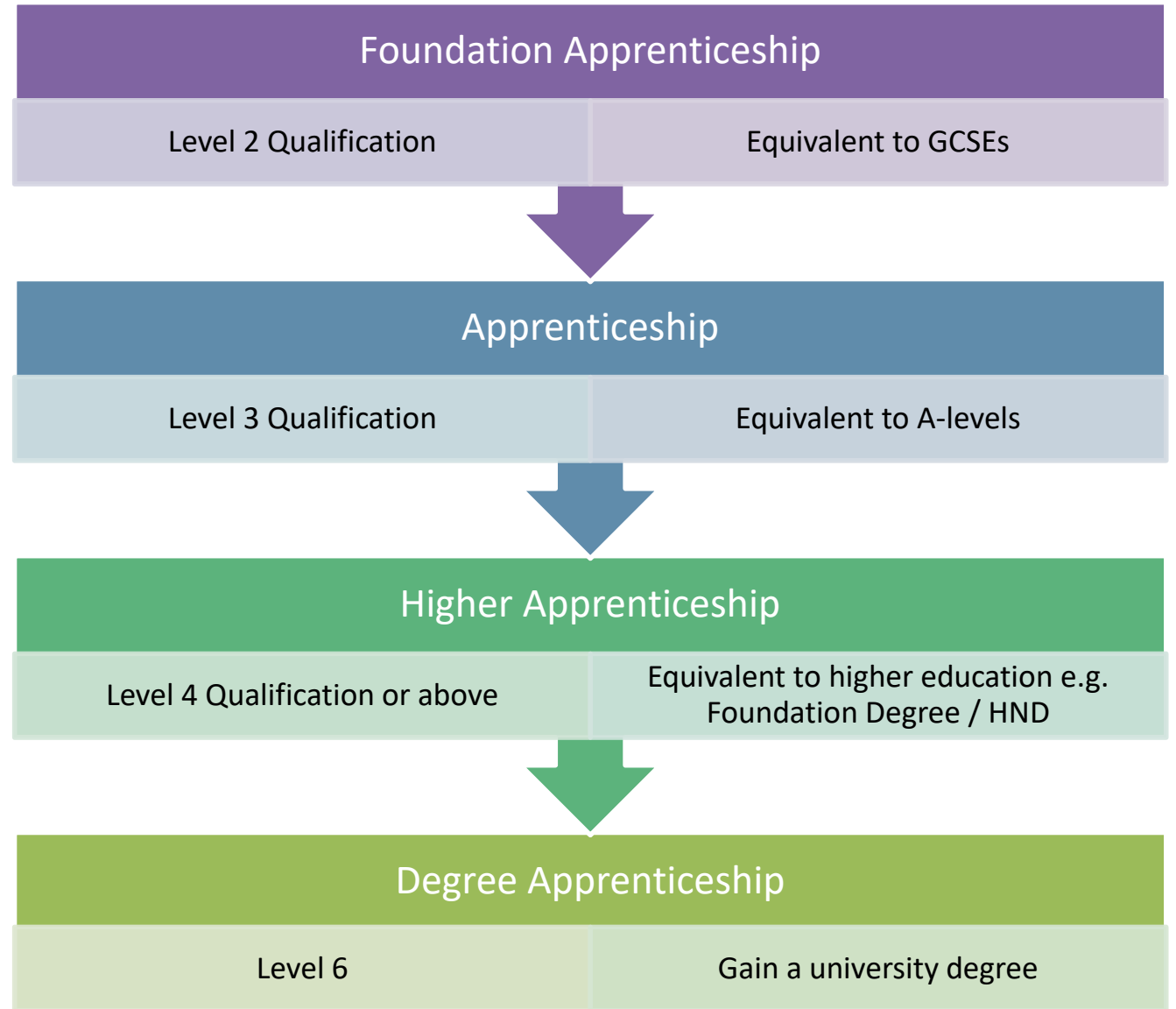


For more detail go to:

<https://careerswales.gov.wales/apprenticeships>

Levels of Apprenticeships

You may not always move up these levels in a linear way: someone with A-levels may take a level 2 or 3 apprenticeship if it enables them to gain new skills or experience.





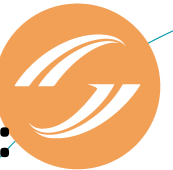
A few examples of companies who have advertised Higher or Degree Level Apprenticeships in South Wales in the last year.

- **NHS Wales Informatics Service** – Digital
- **Welsh Apprenticeship Alliance** – Civil Engineering and Quantity Surveying
- **Capgemini** – Digital Technology
- **Renishaw** – Manufacturing Engineer
- **Arup** – Building Services
- **Office for National Statistics** – Data Analytics
- **HSBC** – Commercial Banking
- **CGI Group** – Software Development

Caerdav– Aeronautical Engineering
Bristol Uni – Law degree

Welsh Government fund Degree apprenticeships in the priority areas of:

- IT/Computing
- Engineering
- Advanced Manufacturing



Apprenticeship Search Sites

- www.careerswales.gov.wales/apprenticeship-search
 - [Network75 | University of South Wales](#)

[Welsh Government Apprentices | GOV.WALES](#)

[Apprenticeships | Learn About Apprenticeships And Find The Right One For You \(ucas.com\)](#)

- www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk: apprenticeships in England.
 - www.notgoingtouni.co.uk: aimed at school leavers



Alternative Further Learning

Further Education Colleges:

Vocational courses, part-time courses or even Higher Education courses

Likely to have open days in Autumn term. Apply early, as so courses fill up quickly.

[Home - Cardiff and Vale College \(cavc.ac.uk\)](http://cavc.ac.uk) www.cymoedd.ac.uk

[Bridgend College - Be All That You Can Be](#)

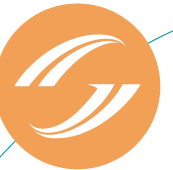
[Coleg Gwent - Further Education College in South East Wales](#)

[Coleg y Cymoedd - Study local, go further](#)

Part-Time University e.g.

www.open.ac.uk – distance learning with the Open University

[Part-time Courses \(southwales.ac.uk\)](http://southwales.ac.uk) - USW
gyrfacymru.llyw.cymru | careerswales.gov.wales





GAP YEAR OPTIONS

- **Volunteering**

Local - [Welcome - Volunteering Wales \(volunteering-wales.net\)](http://volunteering-wales.net)

Abroad – [Project Trust: The Original Gap Year Charity](#)

[Camp America® USA Summer Jobs in America Since 1969 | Camp America](#)

- **Travelling**

[All trips worldwide \(gap360.com\)](http://gap360.com)

- **FT Employment / Work Experience**

[Job Search | Indeed](#)

[Contact Jobcentre Plus: How to contact Jobcentre Plus - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

RESITS

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School Leavers:



Anyone who has left school can access our **Working Wales** service for further support and advice:

By contacting 0800 028 48 44
www.workingwales.gov.wales
Office on Churchill Way, Cardiff





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Careers Wales

How Can Careers Wales Help?

Contact us for information, advice and guidance on the options, making decisions and applications, as well as online and (hopefully!) in person events:

www.careerswales.gov.wales and social media

Email or webchat via our site

Helpline **0800 028 4844**

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