



Notre Dame

CATHOLIC SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

Options after Notre Dame

APPRENTICESHIPS

- Apprenticeships are available in a wide range of sectors including IT, Business, Health, Law and many more.
- The national minimum wage for an apprentice is £4.15 per hour from April 2020. However, some companies pay well over £200 per week.
- Apprentices work towards a vocational qualification e.g. diploma.
- Apprentices gain job-specific skills with a more practical approach to learning.
- There are four different levels of apprenticeships:
 - intermediate (level 2, equivalent to GCSE's)
 - advanced (level 3, equivalent to A levels)
 - higher (level 4, 5, 6 or 7, equivalent to some or all of a degree or master's degree)
 - degree (level 6 or 7, equivalent to a degree or master's degree)
- Apprentices can continue to work towards English and maths qualifications.
- Upper sixth students need to register, search for vacancies and apply online at the gov.uk apprenticeships website: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship> They could also use UCAS: <https://www.ucas.com/understanding-apprenticeships>
- Some companies only advertise on their own website so students need to check these in addition to the gov.uk website.
- The Leeds Employment Hub helps students find an apprenticeship with an employer in Leeds: <https://www.leedsemploymenthub.co.uk/>

EMPLOYMENT

- Students can look for full-time employment by contacting their local job centre: <https://find-your-nearest-jobcentre.dwp.gov.uk/search.php>
- The majority of vacancies are now advertised on websites e.g. Indeed, Jobsite, Monster, Simply Hired, Reed, Total Jobs, etc.
- Most large companies will advertise on their own websites.
- Students can also search for jobs in local newspapers <http://www.yorkshirepost.co.uk/jobs/>
- Local recruitment agencies can help anyone over 18 to find a job. Use this website to search for an agency: <http://www.agencycentral.co.uk/agencysearch/bytown/westyorkshire-leeds.htm>
- Competition for jobs is high so we encourage students to enhance their CV with volunteering and work experience. This helps them to stand out from the crowd and be selected for interview.
- The national minimum wage for 18-20 year olds is £6.45 from April 2020.
- The Careers Team at Notre Dame provides advice and resources regarding CV's, application forms, covering letters, interview techniques, and job search skills.



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SCHOOL LEAVER PROGRAMMES

- School Leaver Programmes are designed for A-level students.
- You are employed by a company, earn a salary and complete an employment training scheme.
- Either the company will train you, helping you work towards professional qualifications, or the company will sponsor you to gain a degree while working.
- The advantages are the specialised training programme, good salary, progression opportunities within the company, and no university tuition fees.
- You can apply through individual company websites.
- Useful websites:
 - <http://www.studentladder.co.uk/>
 - <http://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk/>
- These programmes provide a good opportunity to start your career and work your way up.
- The training is often fast paced, requiring commitment, independence and maturity.
- These programmes are most common within the business and financial sectors.
- The entry requirements vary but companies tend to ask for B grades (check individual websites).
- The Careers Team emails these vacancies to all students and uploads the information onto Moodle Careers.

FURTHER EDUCATION

- These colleges offer part-time and full-time courses, including GCSEs and BTEC qualifications:
 - Leeds City College www.leedscitycollege.ac.uk
 - Leeds College of Building www.lcb.ac.uk
- Leeds Arts University also offers some FE courses: www.leeds-art.ac.uk

Students need to apply now for courses starting in Sept 2020.

CAREERS SUPPORT AT NOTRE DAME

- **The Careers Team** are Anna Dickinson, Liz Crick and Vicky Pointing.
- Careers guidance appointments are available to all students and parents while at Notre Dame. *While college is shut due to Covid-19, please email us for guidance:* careers@ndonline.ac.uk
- Moodle - Careers is accessible to all students at Notre Dame and lists live job and apprenticeship vacancies, as well as a wide range of up-to-date careers resources.