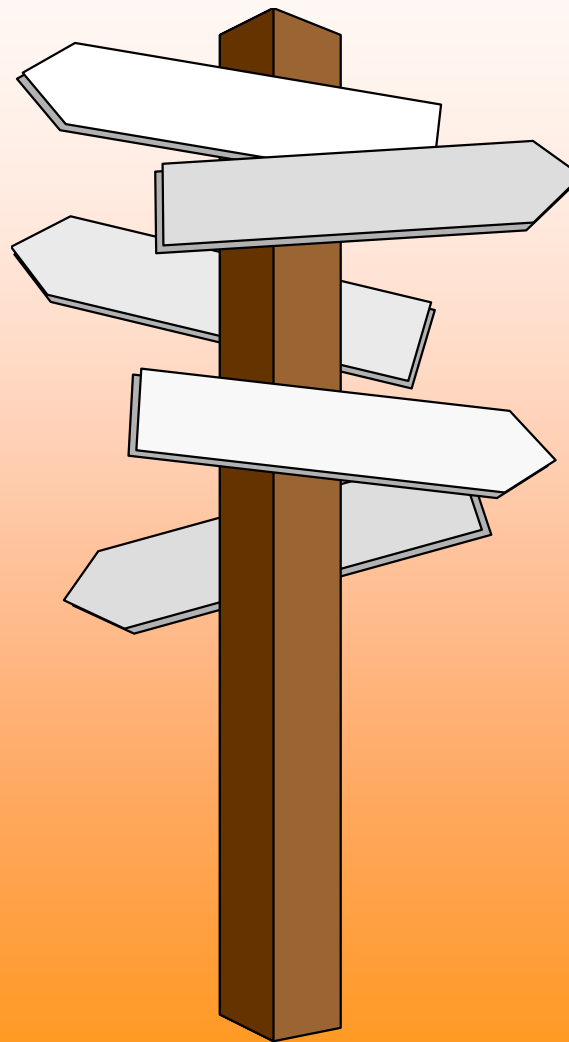


**Post 16**



**Options**

## 3 Main Types of Qualifications

**Academic** - eg. Maths , English , History

**Vocational** - related to areas of work

**Occupational** - taken during employment /  
work-based placements.

# Colleges and 6th Forms

- . Dudley
- . King Edward VI
- . and any out of area
- . Halesowen
- . Stourbridge

**Staying on at school (Earls Collegiate)**

## **6th Forms:**

- . Bishop Milner
- . Ellowes Hall
- . Haybridge
- . Oldswinford
- . Windsor High
- . Hagley RC

**SOME INSTITUTIONS WILL HAVE CLOSING DATES !**

# A Levels

EXAMPLES:

- Mathematics
- English Literature
- English Language
- French
- German
- Chemistry
- Biology
- Physics
- Geography
- I.T.
- Music
- Textiles
- Art
- Sociology
- Accounting
- Theatre Studies
- Statistics
- Psychology
- Performing Arts
- Media Studies
- Electronics
- Dance
- Law
- Design
- Archaeology
- Business Studies
- Economics
- Communication Studies
- Computing
- Design & Technology
- Geology
- Philosophy
- Spanish
- PE/Sports Studies

# A Levels

- Year 1 - Advanced Subsidiary (AS)

Take up to 4/5 subjects - AS is a qualification in its own right

- Year 2 - A2

Take 3/4 subjects

- A full A level equals: an AS level plus an A2.
- Can mix with Applied A levels/BTECs/Diplomas
- Entry around 5 GCSEs at grade C or above.
- AS/A2 levels graded A\* - E. Grades are then converted to points

Students may also have the opportunity to take functional skills.

Consider combination of subjects carefully -  
Are they acceptable for your University Course?  
Are they relevant/needed for your chosen career?

# BTEC



- **Art and Design**
- **Sport and Leisure**
- **Business**
- **Public Services**
- **Health and Social Care**
- **Information Technology**
- **Construction**
- **Travel and Tourism**
- **Performing Arts**
- **Music**
- **Early Years**

# **BTEC**

- Suitable for a wide range of learners (owing to levels available)
- Combine mix of academic and vocational methods of learning
- Suitable for students who have already decided about areas of work they wish to enter.

		<b>Entry</b>
<b>Higher Education</b>	<b>Higher National Diploma</b>	<b>A levels/BTEC National</b>
<b>Level 3</b>	<b>National Diploma = 3 A levels</b>	<b>GCSEs grade C and above</b>
<b>Level 3</b>	<b>National Certificate = 2 A levels</b>	<b>GCSEs grade C and above</b>
<b>Level 3</b>	<b>National Award = 1 A level</b>	<b>GCSEs grade C and above</b>
<b>Level 2</b>	<b>First Certificate and Diploma</b>	<b>4 GCSEs D - E</b>
<b>Level 1</b>	<b>Introductory Diploma</b>	<b>GCSEs E/F</b>

# Diplomas

- **New Qualification for 14-19 Year olds**
- **Teach you about an area of work you are interested in**
- **Mixture of practical projects and work experience and life skills**
- **Usually take 2 years to complete**

# Diploma Area

- **Business**
- **Construction**
- **Creative and Media**
- **Hair and Beauty**
- **Hospitality**
- **IT**
- **Society Health and Development**
- **Manufacturing and Product Design**

# Diploma Levels

- **Level 1 – Foundation Level = 5GCSE D-G**
- **Level 2 – Higher Diploma = 7GCSE A –C**
- **Level 3 – Advanced Diploma = 3.5 A levels**

# Key Skills

**Communication**

**Application of Number**

**Information Technology**

**Working with others**

**Improving own learning and Performance**

**Problem Solving**

# Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA)

- . Up to £30 per week
- . Bonuses – up to £500 – if student meets criteria in Learning Agreement
- . Family Income under £30,810 to qualify

# EMA

- **Up to £20,817**                      **£30 per week**
  - **£20,818-£25,521**                      **£20 per week**
  - **£25,522-£30,810**                      **£10 per week**
  - **More than £30,810**                      **no entitlement**
- 
- **Paid directly to students who will need to have their own bank account open**

# Training Opportunities

connexions

BLACK COUNTRY

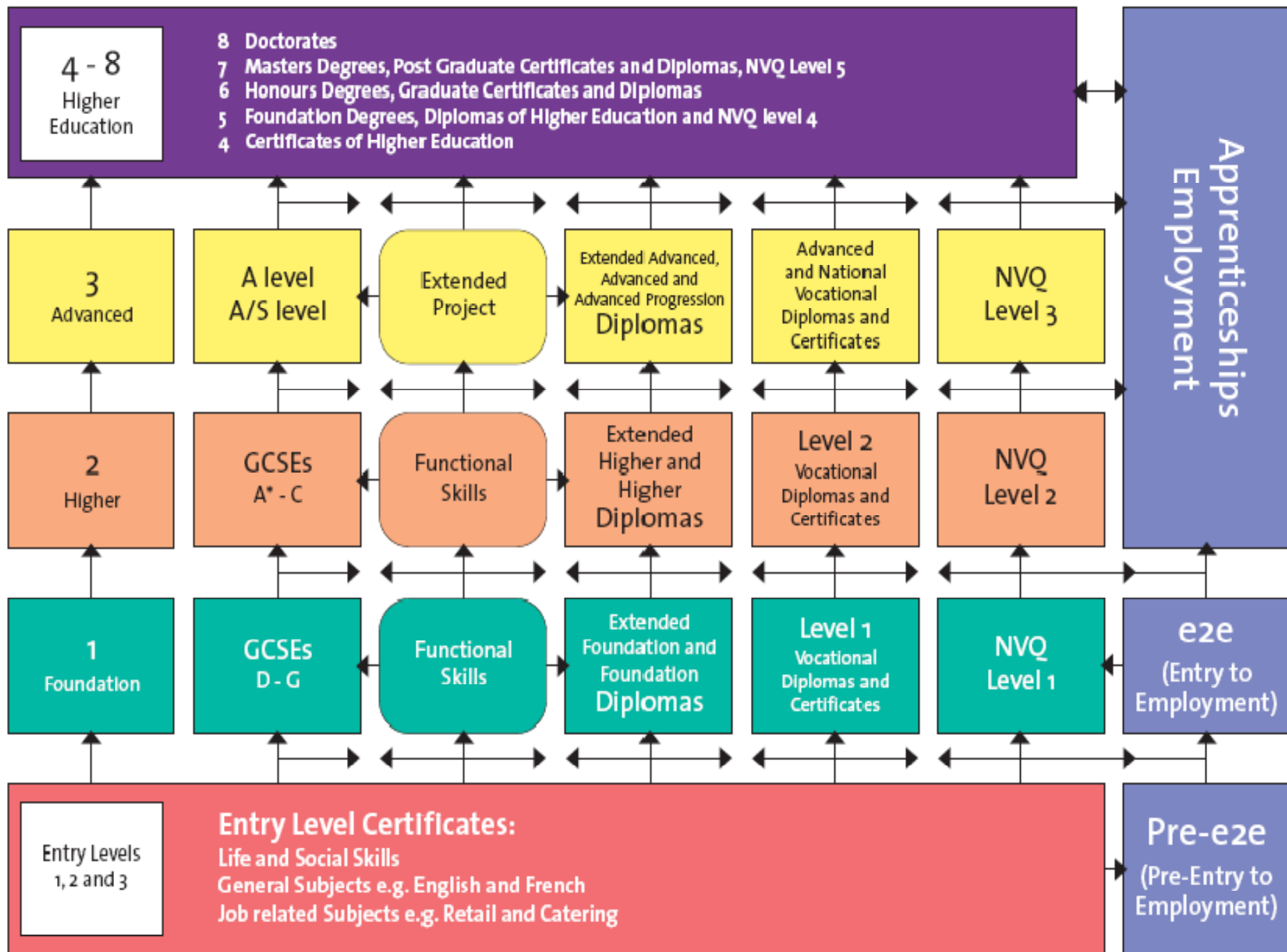
- **Business Administration**
- **Information Technology**
- **Construction**
- **Design and Printing**
- **Dental Care**
- **Engineering**
- **Electrical**
- **Hairdressing and Beauty**
- **Health and Care / Childcare**
- **Heating and Ventilation**
- **Hotel, Catering and Leisure**
- **Manufacturing**
- **Motor Vehicle Trades**
- **Plants and Animals**
- **Retail and Warehouse**
- **Sports and Recreation**
- **Upholstery**
- **Travel and Tourism**
- **Welding**

# NVQ

## *National Vocational Qualifications*

### Main features:

- **Job specific**
- **Can be undertaken in the workplace or at college**
- **Practical Assessment (also to include Functional Skills)**
- **Levels:**
  - Advanced Apprenticeships Level 3
  - Apprenticeships Level 2
  - Other Training Level 1
  - Entry to Employment (e2e) (kickstart life)
- **Recognised in many occupational areas**



# **Employment**

- **Right to Time off for Study.**
- **Encouraged to choose employment with recognised training.**
- **School leaver clinics.**
- **Vacancy Bulletins and website advertisements of vacancies**
- **Help with interview techniques, letters of application etc**
- **Centre Vacancies and ongoing support**

# What Employers Look For

**Communication skills, both verbal and written**

**Reliability**

**Initiative**

**Creativity**

**Work experience**

**Willingness to learn**

**Able to learn with little supervision**

**Enthusiasm**

**Punctuality**

**Confidence**

# Unemployment

- **Hardly any benefits a young person can claim.**
- **Extended Child Benefit 20 weeks from when student finishes school.**
- **Continued support once students have left school.**
- **Follow up letters and calls.**
- **Home visits.**
- **As parents please encourage your sons or daughters to use Connexions services.**

# Things To Do

- **Visit Colleges and Training Providers on their Open Days - ask questions!**
- **Check content of Subjects.**
- **Consider Subjects and Training with an open mind.**
- **Check out future Careers - if considering subjects that you think are required.**
- **Only say no to a subject or training after checking them out!**
- **Try not to make assumptions - about subjects, jobs or training courses.**

**DON'T MISS ANY DEADLINES !!**

# **As parents:**

- . Talk to us if you have any concerns or queries.**
- . Keep up-to-date with developments in education, work-based learning or employment. Read the info you get from school and use the online 14-19 prospectus**
- . Encourage your son/daughter to make use of the resources available.**
- . Help them identify their strengths and weaknesses (Fast Tomato)**
- . Let us know of any changes in telephone number or address.**

# Parents :

- **Check application deadlines and remind them.**
- **Help them see the connection between what they are choosing now and what they want in the future.**
- **Gentle challenge any concerns you have, have they done enough research? are they being influenced ?**
- **Support their decisions and give in gracefully**
- **Encourage them to have a back up plan**

**10 Wolverhampton Street**

**Dudley, DY1 1DA**

**Telephone: 01384 242414**

**Opening Times:**

**Mon/Tue/Thu/Fri: 10.00am - 4.00pm**

**Wednesday: 1.00pm - 4.00pm**

**Saturday 10.00am – 1.00pm**

**82 High Street**

**Stourbridge, DY8 1ED**

**Telephone: 01384 397281**

**Opening Times:**

**Monday to Friday: 1.00pm - 4.30pm**