

Self-development

Knowing yourself better can be a useful tool to support you in your job search and career planning or if you just want to increase your self-awareness.

Useful websites to find out what you're like and what you could do are:

[icould Buzz Quiz](#) - take the Buzz Quiz to find out what you're like and what you could do.

[Kudos](#) - If you are unsure of what careers you might be interested in, Kudos can give ideas based on what you like and dislike. You can also discover what careers your subjects can lead to.

[Start](#) - helps you to make better choices around careers and future study options, as well as providing careers and employability information from employer partners.

Careers Softwares

<https://chas.careersoft.co.uk/Hi>: Higher Ideas is your starting point for higher education research, generating lots of ideas for courses to consider based on your current studies, interests and career ambitions. **Login to your Moodle account, go to Careers and click on careers software and following instructions**

[Kudos Online](#) produces a list of career suggestions based on your answers to questions about your various aspects of work. You can see how well you are matched to any career within the program and see why each one has or has not been suggested for you. You can also look up your own career suggestions and see how suitable these are. Health factors can also be included to see how these may affect career choice.

[eCLIPS](#) offer online careers information. They have information about what qualifications, experience or interests you will need for a whole range of jobs

Career Choice/Careers Information and Advice

www.prospects.ac.uk: aimed at graduates but used effectively in schools and colleges. **Options with your subject** can help with course choice. **Industry Insights** gives information about future trends, graduate job prospects and individual jobs. What do graduates do? Useful info on postgraduate destinations

www.parentalguidance.org.uk: Careers information and advice from the Careers Writers Association with a mass of useful information for students aged 11 – 21. The website section has detailed links to specific employment sectors

www.icould.com: Videos and information on a wide range of careers. Also includes quizzes to help generate ideas

www.nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk : Hundreds of job profiles and career related topics

www.careersbox.co.uk : A website with a series of short films describing different jobs. New film clips are added regularly

www.careercompanion.co.uk: Comprehensive database describing a range of careers and required qualifications

www.direct.gov.uk/disabledpeople: Advice and information for disabled people on employment, financial support, education and learning and other issues.

www.disabilityalliance.org: Information for people with disabilities, including disabled students.

Careers research

There are thousands of different careers out there but you may only have heard of a few. Often people have difficulty choosing a career because they haven't even heard of the ones that would be an ideal match for them. You can find out about them by doing some career research.

Useful websites to help you with this are:

[National Careers Service - GOV.UK](#) - Explore the job profiles to find out what a job involves and if it will suit you.

[eCLIPS online careers information](#) - eCLIPS is an easy-to-use online careers resource that provides regularly updated information on over 1,000 jobs and careers.

[Bridge GM](#) - Labour market information can help you to find out about which areas of employment are growing (meaning there may be jobs for you in the future) and which are shrinking, which could mean that when you are older, that jobs in that field are not as available.

[Mykindafuture](#) - Build your CV, complete a company challenge and gain the opportunity to do work experience with some very appealing employers.

[Future Morph](#) - STEM careers (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths): Future Morph is the Science Council's careers website designed to provide information about the jobs available from studying science and maths.

[Student Ladder](#) - Information on careers, choosing A-Levels, work experience, university and much more.

Local Sixth Forms

Altrincham Grammar School for Boys: Tel: 0161 928 0858

www.agsb.co.uk

Altrincham Grammar School for Girls: Tel: 0161 912 5912

www.aggs.trafford.sch.uk

Loreto College: Tel: 0161 226 5156

www.loreto.ac.uk

Loreto Grammar School: Tel: 0161 928 3703

www.loretogrammar.co.uk

Lymm High School: Tel: 01925 755458

www.lymmhs.co.uk

Sale Grammar School: Tel: 0161 973 3217

www.salegrammar.co.uk

Stretford Grammar School: Tel: 0161 865 2293

www.stretfordgrammar.com

St. Ambrose College: Tel: 0161 980 2711

www.st-ambrosecollege.org.uk

Urmston Grammar School: Tel: 0161 748 2875

www.urmstongrammar.org.uk

Wellington School: Tel: 0161 928 4157

www.wellington-school.co.uk

Xaverian College: Tel: 0161 224 1781

www.xaverian.ac.uk

Local Colleges

Access to Music, Manchester: Tel: 0161 393 8260

www.accesscreative.ac.uk/locations/manchester

The Manchester College: Tel: 03333 222 444

www.tmc.ac.uk

Reaseheath College: Tel: 01270 625131

www.reaseheath.ac.uk

Trafford College: Tel: 0161 886 7070

www.trafford.ac.uk

Salford City College: Tel: 0161 631 5000

www.salfordcc.ac.uk

Stockport College: Tel: 0161 958 3100

www.stockport.ac.uk

Higher Education

Some Useful Websites for Higher Education Research

You can also find up to date information on individual universities websites

- **Applying to Higher Education**

www.ucas.com : Tells you how to apply and provides information on courses as well as financial support.

www.unistats.direct.gov.uk : The official website for comparing UK universities includes official data for undergraduate courses on each university and college's satisfaction scores in the National Student Survey, jobs and salaries after study and other key information for prospective students.

www.applytouni.com : Provides information on applying for university including tuition fees, open days, A-Z of universities and much more...

www.studential.com : Has information on Further Education, Gap Year, universities, apprenticeships, British Army options as well as free examples of personal statements but remember your personal statement **must** be your own work.

www.theguardian.com/education/universityguide : Has information on courses and university rankings

www.ukcoursefinder.com : Helps you look at courses relating to your study interests – complete the questionnaire if still unsure

www.bestcourse4me.com : Independent and free guide which shows the link between what you study, what you earn and the jobs you can get.

www.ukuniversitysearch.com : Provides information on the amount of points your predicted grades add up to and where you could study?

- **Where and what to study**

www.whatuni.com : Helps you find universities and courses in the UK. Provides ideas for degree subjects to study based on the A levels/BTEC L3 Diploma you are studying.

www.university.which.co.uk : Provides help with finding the best university and degree course for you.

www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk : Has information about university rankings, where and what to study, how to apply, student finance, bursaries, scholarships, student life etc...

www.bestcourse4me.com : Provides ideas about where and what to study.

www.wlv.ac.uk/ukinfo : Useful map showing locations of UK universities and HE Institutions.

www.yougofurther.co.uk : Sponsored by UCAS, receive a free discount card, tailored information on courses and institutions, chats to students, universities and UCAS.

- **Student Finance**

www.gov.uk/student-finance : To sign up to Student Finance online

www.gov.uk/student-finance-calculator : For a quick estimate of what student loans, grants, bursaries and other funding you could get.

www.thescholarshiphub.org.uk : Database of UK scholarships, grants and bursaries for university.

www.scholarship-search.org.uk : A comprehensive resource for UK student funding from Hardship Funds & Grants to Bursaries, Awards & Academic Scholarships.

- **Taking a Gap Year**

www.gap-year.com : Provides information relating to work and travel opportunities for students during this period. Also offers an online and printed directory of gap year organisations and opportunities.

www.bunac.org/uk: Offers opportunities for either a two-year working holiday, a six-month internship abroad or a six week volunteer expedition in various country in the world.

www.gapyear.com : Search for trip advice, travel inspiration, jobs and volunteering ideas.

www.yearoutgroup.org : Includes over 30 gap year organisations that provide opportunities at home and abroad.

www.etrust.org.uk/the-year-in-industry : UK's leading student placement experts. We provide high-quality, paid placements for students in their gap year

- **Studying abroad**

www.astarfuture.co.uk : Provides British students with helpful information about study opportunities abroad.

www.studyportals.eu : Provides a range of information on undergraduate degrees taught in Europe.

www.fulbright.org.uk : Government-supported, official source of information on applying to American universities for British students.

www.studyinaustralia.gov.au : The official Australian Government website for international students.

Apprenticeship / Employment

- **Apprenticeship**

www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk: The main website that advertises all apprenticeship opportunities. Can be searched by geographical region or by employment sector. Students can register to receive weekly updates

www.allaboutschoolleavers.co.uk : A website with jobs and careers information which is dedicated to educating young people about school leaver programmes.

www.gceducationandskills.ac.uk: The Growth Company, formerly **The Skills Company**, has helped thousands of young people, adults and businesses improve their skills through: Apprenticeships, Higher Education qualifications and Courses for Business

www.totalpeople.co.uk : is one of the largest providers of quality work-based training in the North-West...

www.setatraining.com: is one of the leading engineering training providers in the North West, helping young people succeed in engineering careers since 1966.

www.stegta.co.uk: offers a wide range of engineering & construction apprenticeship.

www.goconstruct.org/careers: showcases the many career opportunities available in construction and the built environment. It is funded by the CITB levy and led by the industry.

www.notgoingtouni.co.uk: Lots of information about training courses. Advice for students about apprenticeships, jobs and training. Details of employers offering apprenticeships and training. Students can register to receive weekly updates

www.plotr.co.uk: Interactive careers site aimed at 11-24 year olds with lots of information

- **Employment**

www.justconstruction.net : Construction jobs for the UK and Worldwide building industry including site managers, architects, builders, quantity surveyors and carpenters

www.gov.uk/jobsearch : View all jobs in a particular region, industry, country, category job type and the 200 most active companies by live jobs

www.leisureopportunities.co.uk : for jobs in the leisure industry

www.yourcounciljobs.co.uk : for jobs within 13 local councils in the North West including Trafford, Manchester, Salford and Stockport

www.stepintothens.nhs.uk ; www.nhscareers.nhs.uk: Two websites specifically designed for students with details about the jobs available in all areas of the NHS. Lots of case studies of people who work for the NHS. Links to university courses

CV Builder, Job interviews

www.mykindafuture.com/CvBuilder: Working with employer partners, together, to help give young people critical employability skills whilst connecting them with work experience and employment opportunities to ensure they succeed in life and at work.

www.barclayslifeskills.com/i-want-help-applying-for-jobs/school/cv-builder: Simply use the CV builder to write your CV. Simply input important information that will make your CV stand out, such as your personal statement, key skills and achievements and your qualifications and past work and voluntary experience and then download your readymade CV for free. It really couldn't be simpler to create a unique and powerful CV.

Include Barclayslikeskills video clips i.e.

- Video for barclays life skills videos ▶ 0:41
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zcWsQdR0FKs> - Speaking with clarity
- ▶ 0:31
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oNovp-s-s30> - Clear communication
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E-zwAyFwDil> -Body Language

-
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x8wovUNmMII> - Dressing appropriately
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TVANbyQpTJ0> - Interviews
- ▶ 1:10
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aP6A4I9ghsU> - Interviews

Volunteering

<https://do-it.org>: is a database of UK volunteering opportunities. You can search more than a million volunteering opportunities by interest, activity or location and then apply online.

<http://www.thrivetrafford.org.uk/volunteering-trafford>: Volunteering Opportunities available across Trafford and Greater Manchester. If you can't see an opportunity right for you.

<https://vinspired.com>: helps young people to make their mark on causes that they care about, whilst learning new skills and talents along the way.