

Are you up for the challenge: how much do you know about all the available FE options?

Challenge your daughter and see who wins.

1. **What does FE stand for?** - Further Education; any study after secondary education that's not part of higher education (that is, not taken as part of an undergraduate or graduate degree).
2. **What are the different levels in an FE qualification?** - **Level 3** can come in the form of Foundation degrees, Foundation years, Diploma, BTEC's, A Levels and advanced apprenticeships. Level 3 courses can be studied at a college or university. **Level 4** come in the form of 1st year of a bachelors programme, HNC or higher apprenticeships **Level 5** come in the form of 2nd year of a bachelors programmes a HND or a degree apprenticeship. **Level 6** the final component in a bachelor's degree or a degree apprenticeship. **Level 7** the final component in a bachelor's degree.
3. **What does A Level stand for?** - Advanced level qualifications
4. **What are A Levels?** -Subject-based qualifications that can lead to university, further study, training, or work. You can normally study three or more A levels over two years. They're usually assessed by a series of examinations.
5. **What are 'Facilitating Subjects'?** - Subjects that are more frequently required for entry to degree courses than others. These subjects are called 'facilitating' because choosing them at advanced level leaves open a wide range of options for university study.
6. **Can you name all of the Facilitating Subjects?** - Biology, Chemistry, Physics, English Literature, Geography, History, Modern and Classical Languages, Maths and Further Maths.
7. **What does EPQ stand for?** - Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)
8. **What is involved in studying for an EPQ?** - Taken alongside A levels they involve doing independent study of your choice. EPQ allows each student to embark on a largely self-directed and self-motivated project. Students must choose a topic, plan, research and develop their idea and decide on their finished product. It encourages creativity and curiosity.
9. **What does HNC stand for?** - Higher National Certificate
10. **What are HNC's?** - HNC qualification uses study and practical elements to prepare a student for a particular career. They focus on 'learning by doing' and give skills that you can use in a particular job. They are highly valued by employers and can also count towards membership of professional bodies and other employer organisations.
11. **What Level is a HNC course?** - A HNC course is a level 4 qualification.
12. **Where can I study a HNC course?** - HNC qualifications are provided by further education colleges. HNCs take about one year to complete full-time and two years part-time. HNCs can allow entry into the second year of a degree.
13. **What does IB stand for?** - International Baccalaureate

14. **What is the IB?** - IB is an academic programme regarded as a good alternative to A levels, and appropriate if you are thinking about university. It's taught in 143 countries around the world and has two levels of study for students aged 16-19.
15. **What is involved in studying the IB?** - You choose one subject from each of five groups - including two languages, social sciences, experimental sciences, and mathematics. You also choose either an arts subject from a sixth group, or another subject from groups one to five. The programme includes an extended essay and sections on theory of knowledge, creativity, action and service
16. **What is the Cambridge Pre-U?** - Cambridge Pre-U is a fairly new type of qualification for students thinking about university. There are 26 principal subjects available. Each is a two year course with exams at the end, either resulting in a certificate or a diploma. You can take up to four Pre-U subjects, which can be combined with other qualifications.
17. **What does BTEC stand for?** - Business and Technology Education Council
18. **What is a BTEC Diploma?** - BTEC's give you a broader knowledge of a particular sector or industry. They are available in a range of sizes which are equivalent to one, two, or three A levels. They can be taken in combination with other qualifications. BTECs are designed for young people interested in a particular sector or industry but who are not yet sure what job they'd like to do. You could study a BTEC at Level 2 or 3, either alongside academic qualifications or as part of a wider programme (such as an apprenticeship). You can also study a BTEC as a standalone course. There are over 2,000 BTEC qualifications across 16 sectors.
19. **What types of BTEC's are available?** - BTEC Firsts are available from entry level to Level 2 (similar standard to GCSEs). BTEC Nationals are available from Level 3 (similar standard to A levels). Apprenticeships are available at Levels 2 to 5 across more than 25 sectors
20. **What are Cambridge Technicals?** - Cambridge Technicals are a suite of vocational qualifications in a range of subject areas. Designed through consultation with employers and higher education providers, they offer opportunities to develop the skills, knowledge, and behaviours required to progress in both education and the workplace.
21. **Who are Cambridge Technicals for?** - Cambridge Technicals are designed specifically for students who have an interest in a particular sector. They can be completed alongside other academic or vocational courses, or on their own as a standalone qualification. Entry requirements will be determined by the school or college offering the Cambridge Technical. Typically, you may need up to five GCSEs at or above grade 4/C.
22. **What are T Levels?** - T Levels are new two-year courses equivalent to three levels, which will be available to students in England from September 2020. T Levels are based on the same standards as apprenticeships, designed by employers, and will offer around 1,800 hours of study over two years. This will include a 45-day work placement, so T Levels will be more suited to students who know what occupation or industry they want to move into.
23. **What is involved in taking a T Level?** - T Levels include compulsory elements: a technical qualification which includes core skills, theory, and concepts for the industry area, specialist occupational skills and knowledge of the career, an industry placement with an employer and a minimum standard in maths and English, if students haven't already achieved this.

24. **What UCAS points do you get for a T Level?** A Distinction* (A* on the core and distinction in the occupational specialism) is worth 168 UCAS Points or equivalent to AAA*, Distinction is worth 144 UCAS points or equivalent to AAA.
25. **What is an apprenticeship?** - Work while you study; an apprenticeship is a way to gain the skills, knowledge and experience you need to get into many careers. They combine work, training, and study, letting you 'earn while you learn'.
26. **What are the 2 different levels of FE apprenticeships?** - **Intermediate apprenticeships**, Level 2 and generally considered to be the same level as five GCSE passes. **Advanced apprenticeships**, Level 3 and generally considered to be the same level as two A level passes. Entry requirements vary, but you will usually need at least five GCSEs with grades 9 to 4, including English and Maths.
27. **What age can students apply for FE apprenticeships?** For both Intermediate apprenticeships & Advanced apprenticeships, you can apply while you're still at school. To start one, you'll need to be 16 or over by the end of the summer holidays.