

## **Jargon Buster Careers addition (For Parents & Carers)**

**Supporting your child with their future can feel confusing — especially with so many unfamiliar terms. This guide explains the key careers and education language used in schools so you can feel confident supporting your child.**

### **CEIAG (Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance)**

The school's overall careers programme that supports students with future choices.

### **Gatsby Benchmarks**

Eight national standards schools follow to provide high-quality careers education.

### **Provider Access Legislation (PAL)**

Ensures students learn about all pathways, including apprenticeships and colleges.

### **Careers Leader**

The member of staff who organises and leads the careers programme in school.

### **Careers Advisor**

The member of staff who offers advice and guidance to help students make decisions about their next steps.

### **GCSE (General Certificate of Secondary Education)**

Qualifications taken in Year 11 (age 15–16)

### **Post-16 / FE (Further Education)**

Education after Year 11 (e.g. college, sixth form, apprenticeships, T-Levels).

### **Sixth Form**

School or college for students aged 16–18 (Years 12 and 13).

### **A Levels (Advanced Levels)**

Qualifications typically studied after Year 11 at a Sixth Form (ages 16–18), often needed for university.

### **T Levels (Technical Levels)**

Technical qualifications combining classroom learning with industry placements.

### **Apprenticeship**

A job where a young person earns a wage while learning and gaining qualifications.

### **BTEC / Vocational Course**

Practical, work-related courses (e.g. Health & Social Care, Engineering).

**CV (Curriculum Vitae)**

A document that lists skills, experience, and achievements when applying for jobs or courses.

**Post-18 / HE (Higher Education)**

Education after sixth form/college (e.g. university).

**Degree Apprenticeship**

An apprenticeship where a student works and studies at the same time, gaining a full university degree without paying tuition fees.

**UCAS**

The system students use to apply for university courses

**Labour Market Information (LMI)**

Information about jobs, salaries, and future career opportunities.

**Employability Skills**

Skills employers look for, such as teamwork, communication, problem-solving, and reliability

**Entry Requirements**

The grades needed to get onto a course, apprenticeship, or job

**Qualification levels:**

- Level 2 = GCSE equivalent / Level 3 = A Level or BTEC equivalent
- Level 4 / 5 = University

**Personal Statement**

A written paragraph explaining why a student is applying for a course, apprenticeship, or university.

**NEET**

Not in Education, Employment or Training – used to describe young people who are not currently in any of these.

**Unifrog**

An online platform used in school to help students explore careers, compare courses, and apply for next steps (e.g. apprenticeships, university, college).

**Work Experience**

Short placements where students spend time in a workplace to learn about different jobs.