

Vocational and Technical Qualifications e.g. BTEC, Cambridge Tech, CACHE, City and Guilds

Mainly hands-on and practical learning. Delivered in simulated work environment and workshops. Mostly assessed by coursework and observations. Theory is taught in classroom and can include some exams.

Foundation Learning (Entry Level and Level 1) e.g. Catering, Childcare, Bricklaying, Beauty

- 'catch all' term given to Entry Level and Level 1 qualifications.
- in some job-specific trades you start at Level 1 no matter what grades you get e.g. bricklaying.
- can include personal and social development, vocational pathways, supported employment.
- progression into semi-skilled employment, apprenticeships or Level 2 courses.

Tech Certs/Levels (Level 2 and 3) e.g. Joinery, Engineering, Plumbing, I.T., Media, Agriculture

- recognised by employers, trade, professional bodies and supported by Universities.
- specialise in an industry or train for a specific job.
- develop specialist knowledge and skills.
- progression from Level 2 to Level 3.
- progression to Apprenticeship, Higher Apprenticeship or Degree Apprenticeship.
- progression to a related Higher Education course e.g. HND, Foundation Degree, Degree.
- progression into employment. Job readiness is the main focus of Technical Qualifications.

Applied Generals (Level 3) e.g. Sport, Health & Social Care, Performing Arts, Applied Science.

- recognised by Universities and supported by employers, trade and professional bodies.
- focus on a wider industry area or career family.
- develop transferable knowledge and skills.
- tend not to provide specialist knowledge and skills for a specific job.
- primarily for students who want to continue their education through applied learning.
- progression to a Higher Education. Continued learning is the main focus of Applied Generals.
- progression into Apprenticeships, Higher Apprenticeship or Degree Apprenticeship.
- progression into employment however may need further training to do the specific job.

In a College of Further Education you are likely to study a Vocational or Technical Qualification on its own. In 6th Form you can study a 'smaller' Level 3 Vocational or Technical Qualification



alongside other qualifications, such as A-levels.