



Qualification Chart / Table

Level of Qual	Entry Requirements	Academic Awards	Technical & vocational awards, T-Levels, Certificates and Diplomas	Apprenticeship Levels	Progression Route
8	Master's Degree or possibly Bachelor's Degree	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doctorate (PhD) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional Doctorate 		Further FE / HE or employment.
7	Bachelor's Degree (level 6) at appropriate grade.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Master's Degree (MA, Msc, Mphil) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Postgraduate certificate (PGCert) - Postgraduate diploma (PGDip) • BTEC Advanced Professional Award, Certificate and Diploma level 7 • NVQ7 	Degree Apprenticeship	Further FE / HE study or employment.
6	Relevant Level 3 qualification #	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • University Degree (BA, BSc) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BTEC Advanced Professional Award, Certificate and Diploma level 6 • NVQ6 	Degree Apprenticeship	Further FE / HE study, an apprenticeship or employment.
5	Relevant Level 3 qualification #	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foundation Degree (FdA, FsSc) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Higher National Diploma (HND) • NVQ5 	Higher Apprenticeship	Further FE / HE study, an apprenticeship or employment.
4	Relevant Level 3 qualification #	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foundation Degree (FdA, FsSc) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Higher National Certificate (HNC) • NVQ4 	Higher Apprenticeship	Further FE / HE study, an apprenticeship or employment.
3	Relevant GCSE A*-C or 9-4 or relevant level 2 qualification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A minimum of 2 A levels • Max of 4 A levels • could include AS levels ** • International Baccalaureate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C&G Certificates and Diplomas • BTEC/OCR ^ Certificates, Diplomas, Extended Certificates & Diplomas or Subsidiary Diplomas • NVQ3 • T-Levels 	Advanced Apprenticeship	Further FE / HE study, an apprenticeship or employment.
2	Relevant GCSE D and above or 3, or relevant Level 1 qualification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GCSEs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C&G Certificates and Diplomas • BTEC/OCR^ Awards, Certificates, Diplomas, Extended Certificates & Diplomas or Subsidiary Diplomas • NVQ2 • Transition Year for T Levels 	Intermediate Apprenticeship	Further study, an apprenticeship or employment.
1	No prior qualifications or relevant GCSE 2-1		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Awards, Diplomas or Certificates • C&G Certificates and Diplomas • Foundation courses • NVQ1 	Pre-Employment programmes (local traineeship opportunities)	Further study, an apprenticeship, traineeship or employment.
Entry	No prior qualifications		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entry Level Awards, Certificates and Diplomas • Essential and Functional Skills at Entry Level • Skills for Life 	Pre-Employment programmes (local traineeship opportunities)	Further study, a traineeship or employment.

• To learn more about what qualifications mean refer to : <https://www.gov.uk/what-different-qualification-levels-mean/list-of-qualification-levels>

• To learn more about the qualification comparison between UK qualifications from Scotland, Ireland, Wales, England and Northern Ireland : <https://eal.org.uk/support/document-library/7-uk-qualifications-comparison-table/file>

^ Other awarding bodies may also provide similar courses.

** AS level qualifications are now standalone taking one year.

(check prospectus for specific A level, T Level or technical & vocational requirements).

Note: if you are aged 18 or under you must be working towards an accredited qualification.



GCSE and Vocational Grades Guide

Old GCSE Grade (no longer used)	New GCSE Grade	Level 2	OCR Cambridge National and BTEC Tech Award
A*	9	D*	Level 2 Distinction * (D*2)
A*	8	D / D*	Level 2 Distinction * (D*2)
A	7	D	Level 2 Distinction (D2)
B	6	M	Level 2 Merit (M2)
B/C	5	P / M	Level 2 Merit (M2)
C	4	P	Level 2 Pass (P2)
D	3		Level 1 Distinction (D1)
E/F	2		Level 1 Merit (M1)
F/G	1		Level 1 Pass (P1)
U	U	Fail (F)	Fail (F)

Note, these are examples of grades from each type of qualification, there are slightly different grading systems from different examination boards and the grade boundaries might make these vary slightly.

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