

## Not sure what you want to do?

- Undecided between University and employment?
- Don't know what to study at university?
- Don't know what career path to take?
- Want to get my results before I apply to university.
- It's all too much to think about? Then focus on your current studies and exams. Talk to your parents about delaying the next step and hopefully they will support you in this.

<https://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk/>

<https://www.ucas.com/alternatives-to-university>

### Undecided between University and Employment?

Do both – make a university application and also seek employment – that way in August you have a choice about continuing to look for work or you can take your university place. If you gain employment and accept the job offer – you are bound to that – you of course can decline the offer but you have wasted the employers time and prevented another person from gaining that job – and it is unlikely that that employer will ever employ you again.

### Don't know what to study at university?

It is vital that you remember that university is about further in-depth study - so it needs to be a course that you are fascinated by and want to learn and do further research about. You can choose a course that does this – furthers a subject you currently study or it can be a course that you don't currently study but check if you have the right subjects/qualifications to do the course you have picked. (If it is a National Curriculum subject - Maths, English, Science, History, Geography etc then you have to have the A level. If it's not, like Business and Sociology, you can apply for these without studying that A Level first).

Another type of course is vocational – it leads to a career path i.e. Social Worker, Nurse, Policing, Doctor, Vet, Paramedic, Physiotherapist, Psychology.

### Don't know what career path to take?

You can undertake some online activities which help match your skills/likes/dislikes to particular job profiles. They are computer programmes and will only react to the information you put in – remember they are NOT personality tests it is OK to say you don't want to work with babies or children it does not make you a bad person.

Kudos: <https://kudos.cascaid.co.uk/#/> our licence code is helplist95.

UCAS <https://www.ucas.com/careers/buzz-quiz>.

National Careers Service <https://beta.nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/>

Or you can decide what type of industry/employer you want and start looking there – all industries have websites and Professional Bodies. (do a google search)

Want to get my results before I apply to university.

## Not sure what you want to do?

There is scope in the system to allow you to apply to courses/Universities even if it is ambitious some might give you a conditional offer based on your results. If you are going to wait until the following cycle remember you can register and start your application from May and need to get your completed application in before the beginning of November if you want to apply through college – so it does not give you very long. Also you will need to attend open days after your exams have finished and in September. You might want to seek employment for that year.

You might think you will apply through the clearing system – it is better to have had an application in the system – remember that highly competitive universities and courses (ones that everyone wants to apply for) are unlikely to have places in clearing as they will have enough applicants to fill places already. Also remember it is not a bargain sale – if the course requires AAA and you have BBB you are unlikely to get a place. (Universities do drop their offers slightly – remember they wanted higher grades and so you might be on a course with more academic students and so might be at the bottom of the class – is it better to be at a “better” university but struggle or at another university where you are top of the class?)