

Class of 2024

You have to be in some form of recognised study or training until your 18th birthday – you can do Apprenticeships and Traineeships, for example, but couldn't go straight into a full-time job.

You will have plenty of options to choose from when it comes to education, training or entering the world of work after you get your GCSE results.

- Vocational qualifications
 - GCSEs don't have to lead to A Levels. You might find that vocational qualifications like BTECs and T-levels are a better option because they're a practical springboard into a career that involves hands-on learning.
- A Levels
 - You can check with your several local sixth forms and colleges to find out what's involved in studying A Levels.
- Apprenticeships
 - Apprenticeships are a way to combine earning a salary, building experience and learning to gain a qualification.

Provider	Address	Phone number	Website	Entry Requirements
Bedford Academy	Mile Road Bedford MK42 9TR	01234 301500	https://www.bedfordacademy.co.uk/sixth-form/6.html	Five level 2 qualifications at a grade 4 or above. This must include at least 3 GCSE qualifications and English or Maths. For A Level subjects, a grade 6 is required in that subject (or a facilitating subject) at GCSE. For BTEC subjects, a Merit in that subject (or a facilitating subject) is required at Level 2.
Biddenham International School and Sports College	Biddenham Turn, Biddenham. MK40 4AZ	01234 342521	https://www.biddenham.beds.sch.uk/sixth-form/	Level 3 courses – 5 GCSEs inc. Eng Language & Maths Level 2 courses – 6 GCSEs at Grade 3 or above inc. English & Maths Higher grade requirements for specific subjects
Kimberley Sixth Form College	Green Lane, Stewartby, Beds. MK43 9LY	01234 762890	https://www.kimberleycollege.co.uk/	7 GCSEs at Grade 4 or above (ideally including English Language & Maths) Higher grade requirements for specific subjects
Mark Rutherford School	Wentworth Drive, Bedford. MK41 8PX	01234 290200	http://www.markrutherford.beds.sch.uk/information_6thform.asp	7 GCSEs at Grade 4 or above including English & Maths Higher grade requirements for specific subjects
Sharnbrook Academy Sixth Form	Odell Road, Sharnbrook, Bedford. MK44 1LE	01234 782191	https://www.sharnbrook.beds.sch.uk/sixth-form/	5 GCSEs at Grade 4 or above inc. English Language & Maths Higher grade requirements for specific subjects (only 2 BTECs can be counted for those wishing to study A Levels)
St Thomas More Sixth Form	Tyne Crescent, Bedford. MK41 7UL	01234 400222	https://www.st-thomasmore.org.uk/6thform	3 GCSEs at Grade 6 for A Levels or 3 BTECs at Merit for BTEC Level 3 Min. Grade 4 in English for subjects not previously studied Higher grade requirements for specific subjects

The Bedford Sixth Form	Bromham Road, Bedford. MK40 2BS	01234 291291	https://www.bedfordsixthform.ac.uk/	5 GCSEs at Grade 4 or above including English Language Higher grade requirements for specific subjects Grade 3 or above in Maths Only 1 BTEC can be counted which must be at Merit or above
Bedford College	Cauldwell Street, Bedford. MK42 9AH	01234 291000	https://www.bedford.ac.uk/ https://bedfordcollegegroupopendays.co.uk/	Level 1 – normally 3 GCSEs at Grade 1 or above. Level 2 – normally 3 GCSEs at Grade 3 or above. Level 3 – normally 4/5 GCSEs at Grade 4 or above including English (and sometimes Maths) Foundation Learning – This programme is designed to support young people with identified learning difficulties and / or disabilities. There are no minimum grade requirements.
Moulton College	West Street, Moulton, Northampton. NN3 7RR	01604 491131	https://www.moulton.ac.uk/	Please see website for specific course requirements
Milton Keynes College	Woughton Campus West, Chaffron Way, Leadenhall, Milton Keynes. MK6 5LP	01908 684551	https://www.mkcollege.ac.uk/	Please see website for specific course requirements
Shuttleworth College	Old Warden Park, Biggleswade. SG18 9DX	01767 626222	https://www.shuttleworth.ac.uk/	Level 1 – normally 3 GCSEs at Grade 1 or above Level 2 – normally 3 GCSEs at Grade 3 or above Level 3 – normally 4/5 GCSEs at Grade 4 or above including English (and sometimes Maths)
SSG training	SSG Services Alexander Sports Centre, Sidney Rd, Bedford MK40 2BQ	01234 340782	https://ssgservices.co.uk/education-and-training/ssg-post-16-4d-teaching-learning/	Various courses including apprenticeships. Check website for specific courses and requirements

Note – correct at the time of writing, but requirements may change. Always check the provider's website or contact them directly for up-to-date information in the autumn term

If none of the above appeal to you in any way, don't worry. Here are some phone numbers and websites you can use to speak to a professional careers adviser who will help and support your situation as best they can.

Provider	Phone number	Website
National Careers Service	0800 100 900	https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/webchat/chat https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/ Text your name and the word ADVICE to 07766 413219 and an adviser will call you back for free. You can also use this text number to ask for information like telephone numbers and addresses.
Bedford Borough Council	01234 223510	https://www.bedford.gov.uk/jobs-and-careers/jobs-hub/careers-advice-and-guidance/
Bedford College	01234 291943	https://www.bedford.ac.uk/student-support/careers-advice