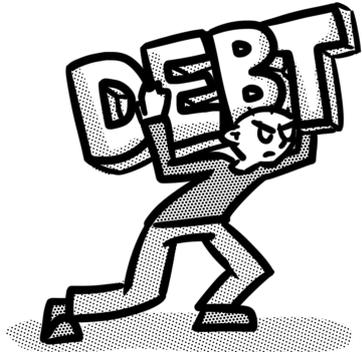


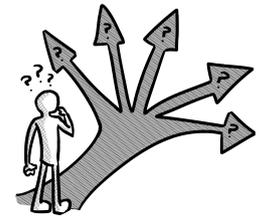
## Did you know?



University is not the right pathway for every child, but sometimes it takes courage to choose an alternative route. You may have heard a great deal about apprenticeships, but are not convinced they are a viable alternative for your young one. Doing your homework may change your mind.

### What is an apprenticeship?

It is a real job where you learn as you earn, often at a college, university or with a training provider. You can start from the age of 16, but there are no age limits. It can take one to six years to complete, depending on the apprenticeship. There are hundreds of different apprenticeships across a wide range of industries.



## What can you do?

### Deciding what to do

Before embarking on an apprenticeship, it is worth taking the time to talk to your young person about what interests them. Going to events such as WorldSkillsUK and Big Bang Fairs can open their eyes to a whole world of careers and jobs they may not even know exists. Getting inspired and being passionate is the key to success. You don't know what you don't know.

For many young people, going to university just does not appeal. Rather than falling in step, investigate what the options are. If it is inspiration you need, CareerMap publishes CareerMag with plenty of quality independent information about different careers and qualifications, dispelling many myths that exist.

And if wearing a cap and gown is important, consider a Degree Apprenticeship. A Degree Apprenticeship offers training on the job whilst gaining a full diploma, but without the debt. Once the apprenticeship is completed, most get a job straight away with their employers. Imagine competing for a job with up to six years' work experience with a degree and no debt! It will make your young person very employable in a competitive market.

### How do I find an apprenticeship opportunity?

The Government has set up the Register of Apprenticeship Training Providers to ensure universities, colleges and learning providers provide quality apprenticeship training. The full list of available apprenticeships available near you can be found at

[www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk](http://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk). You can either apply for Degree Apprenticeships on the UCAS website or direct with an employer or learning provider.

However, many parents and carers feel they would like much more information before applying straight away. Have a look at [www.careermap.co.uk](http://www.careermap.co.uk) for live apprenticeship vacancies with plenty of information to help make the right decision.

Careers are no longer a linear path. Our young people will typically have five or more careers in a lifetime. Whichever path your young person takes, the more experience and skills they gain along the way, the more successful future they will have.

### LINKS

Careermap <https://careermap.co.uk/>

CareerMag <https://careermap.co.uk/careermag-registration/>

WorldSkillsUK <https://worldskillsuk.org>

Big Bang Fairs <https://nearme.thebigbangfair.co.uk>

[www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk](http://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk)

### ABOUT SHARON WALPOLE

With over 10 years' experience leading in the careers sector, Sharon Walpole is a Director at CareerMap, Editor of CareerMag and Head of Friends and Partnerships. Her passion is to provide young people support and access to quality information about careers and qualifications to help with making the best decisions for their futures.