

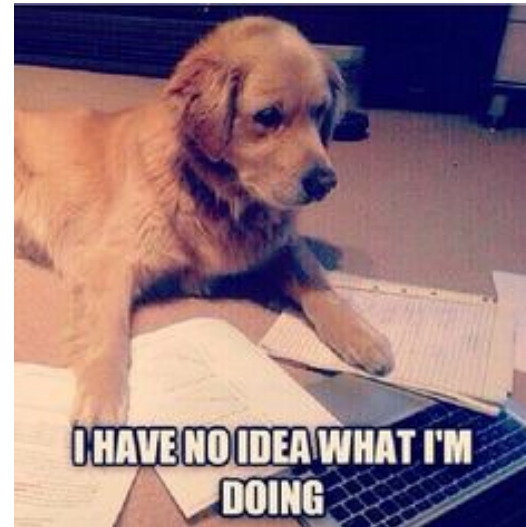


# Choosing 'A' Levels

- The Information You Need



# Is This You?





## What are 'A' Levels?

- A Levels are general **academic** qualifications.
- A Levels can give young people a chance to find out about their favourite GCSE subjects in greater depth or perhaps do one of the subjects that many schools and colleges only offer at A Level such as Law, Economics or Psychology.
- A Levels are good qualifications for entry to higher education.





## What are Vocational Qualifications?

Level 3 BTECs (and OCR, City and Guilds) are **vocational** qualifications available in a wide range of subjects. People choose these courses if they are interested in learning more about a particular job sector or industry.

Level 3 vocational qualifications can be studied instead of, or in combination with, A Levels. At Level 3, many of these qualifications are awarded [UCAS tariff points](#) for entry to higher education.



## How Many GCSEs will I need to take 'A' levels?

To study A Levels you will need to have done well in your GCSEs. Most schools and colleges will expect you to have gained grades 9-4 in your GCSEs with a minimum of grade 4 in English Language and Maths. Specific requirements can vary from four passes to six passes, so you should check with each institution. Often you will need a GCSE at grade 6 or above in a subject if you want to go on to study it at A Level.



## How Many Subjects Do I Take?

- Most students take 3 subjects
- It is possible to combine vocational qualifications such as BTEC Level 3 qualifications or OCR qualifications with A Levels.



## Options After 'A' Levels

After A Levels many students continue with their education by:

- Attending Higher Education to do a degree, Foundation Degree, HND/HNC, etc.
- starting an Advanced, Higher or Degree Apprenticeships
- applying for employment with training.
- Some take time out with a gap year.





## What Subjects Should I Choose?

- Research – college open events; talk to your teachers.
- Don't assume you will like the subject at A Level just because you liked it at GCSE – it could be really different!
- Do be careful with your combination of choices – some universities might not like a combination of subjects that they feel are too similar, such as Business and Economics etc.
- Be careful about taking all new subjects – it could be too much to cope with having 3 or even 2 new areas of study.
- Most employers are happy with maths and English at GCSE
- Don't take subjects because you need them for your chosen career if you don't really like the subject or it is not one of your stronger subjects







## Useful Websites

<https://youtu.be/BHKFrXMCHII>

<https://careerpilot.org.uk/information/a-levels/choosing-your-a-levels-what-you-need-to-consider>

<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/>

<https://www.ucas.com/>

School website – KUDOS.





[www.mploysolutions.co.uk](http://www.mploysolutions.co.uk)



01606 828382



01606 43435



[info@mploysolutions.co.uk](mailto:info@mploysolutions.co.uk)



9 Dalby Court,  
Gadbrook Park  
Northwich  
Cheshire  
CW9 7TN

