



- Oriel Sixth Form applications go live **TODAY**
- Yr 11 careers sessions 8th and 9th Dec

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## What are the differences between qualifications in Sixth Form?

With Oriel Sixth Form's application window about to open, and students in year 11 making choices about courses and education providers elsewhere, we thought it might be good to share with you some information on the various types of qualification available.

The first point to comprehend is the Level of study when choosing between courses and institutions. In year 11, students complete Level 2 courses (GCSEs or equivalents). Progression into year 12 would normally mean studying Level 3 courses, however some students may need to choose a provider that offers Level 2 courses, depending upon their results from year 11, or the type of course they would be entering onto. At Oriel we offer Level 3 courses primarily, with the only Level 2 courses being re-takes in English and Maths. These courses are only available for those students studying L3 courses that need to improve their grades from GCSE and

cannot be taken by themselves. Our provision comprises of three types: A-levels, BTECs, and Cambridge Technicals. Each qualification is different in its construction, with A-Levels



being exam based, whereas BTECs and Cambridge Technicals are coursework based, with some smaller exam elements. Each qualification allows entry to University, and are viewed equally, but some specific universities and courses will require a student to have completed only A-levels and have the required grades in specified subjects. Each subject will have a course requirement of grades or points.

At Oriel we offer different options for BTECs, which can mean that the award is the equivalent to one A-level or

two. This means that you could mix and match A-levels and BTECs, and study two or three subjects.

This said, it is a good idea for any students who may be contemplating university in the future to research potential requirements now. To do this, students can log into their Unifrog accounts where a wealth of information and guidance can be found. Alternatively, the UCAS search website provides details of all courses and entry requirements.

For those looking elsewhere to continue their studies, there has been a new qualification introduced in recent years. This new qualification is called a T-Level. T stands for *Technical*, with the idea being that these courses are academic, but also more vocational in nature than the standard A-level. The course make up is generally 80% classwork and 20% industry placement, with the qualification being equivalent to 3 A-levels.

## NHS Virtual Work Experience

As you know it has not been possible for the NHS to offer traditional 'in person' work experience this year due to COVID19.

Local NHS organisations are now working to provide virtual work experience opportunities and these will be promoted via their website next week.

Full programme information and a link to the application platform will be available on the SASH website on Monday 23rd November.

Places are limited and they anticipate a high demand so they recommend students submit applications as early as possible. The programme and the application process are managed by

a company called Springpod and all enquiries regarding applications should be addressed through them using the links provided.

Please follow this link to access the webpage:  
[www.surreyandussex.nhs.uk/working-for-us/work-experience](http://www.surreyandussex.nhs.uk/working-for-us/work-experience)

*"You want a career with opportunities? We have a world of them."*



## HSBC Investing in Futures

The COVID-19 pandemic has created a real sense of confusion and uncertainty for students, with question marks raised over the state of the employment market and future career prospects.

To counter this, the Early Careers team at HSBC have created a series of bite-sized virtual events and material all with the aim of developing your soft skills. This is designed to give confidence on employment prospects, mythbust common recruitment misconceptions and target key employability skills.

The webinars will all be free to attend, and will be hosted via Zoom. Please register in advance through the following links. Spaces are limited, and will be allocated on a first-come first-served basis.

### **FIND OUT MORE:**

#### **14th January – Who am I?**

An exploration of Personal Branding including: what is a Personal Brand, how to discover and build your own and why changing your mentality is key for success. **Register for this webinar:**

[https://hsbc.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_ujLUtO6NQc2VYaD17yoP9Q](https://hsbc.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ujLUtO6NQc2VYaD17yoP9Q)

#### **4th February – Do I need a degree to enhance my career?**

An exploration of various career routes that are available to students, with an emphasis on what you need to consider when trying to choose the correct one for you. **Register for this webinar:**

[https://hsbc.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_D3x-B7VPSLyECYocbLL5Og](https://hsbc.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_D3x-B7VPSLyECYocbLL5Og)



## Careers with British Airways

At this current time BA have paused our school engagement and work experience due to the covid pandemic. We hope to bring new ways of working in schools soon.

If students would like to continue to engage with our industry, we would recommend them joining Speedbird-Z, our student online learning portal with modules on aviation and skill development. This portal can be accessed using this link:

<https://britishairways.connectr.co.uk/inspire/>