



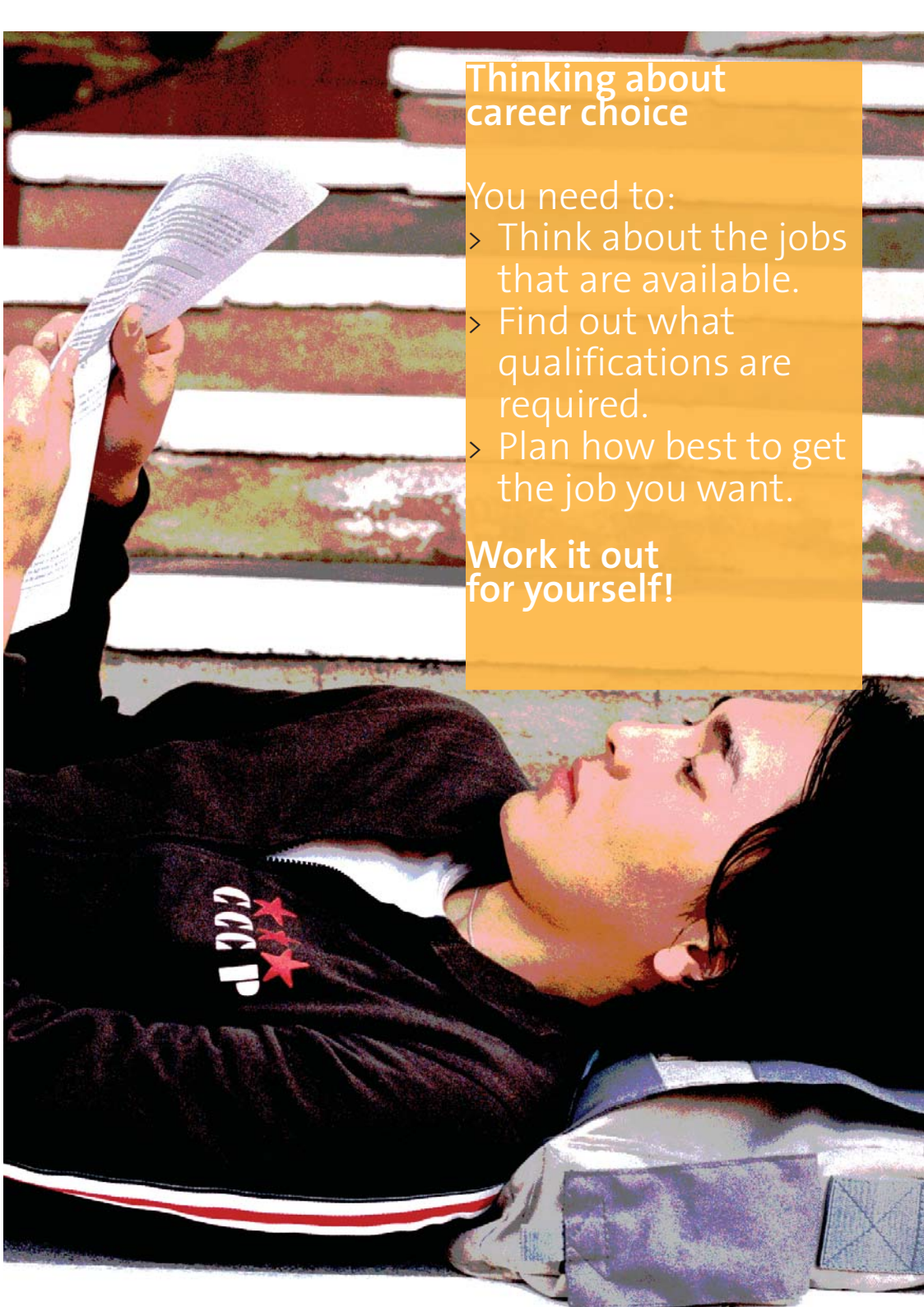
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WEST OF ENGLAND

Guide for young people

**Bristol work facts**  
[ WORK IT OUT! ]

It's never too early to plan for your future...



## Thinking about career choice

You need to:

- > Think about the jobs that are available.
- > Find out what qualifications are required.
- > Plan how best to get the job you want.

**Work it out for yourself!**

## Did you know?

- > There are 178,000 jobs in Bristol.
- > Bristol houses the headquarters of more than 160 firms. It has a world-class reputation for its science, innovation, environmental and creative industries.
- > Bristol has the largest number of people working in banking, finance and insurance services outside London.
- > Bristol City Council is a major employer – the range of jobs is enormous and includes: accountants; builders; childcare workers; environmental scientists; housing managers; horticulturalists; office staff; teachers and traffic engineers.
- > Another large employer is the health service. The National Health Service (NHS) is one of the biggest employers in Europe. The health service doesn't just employ doctors and nurses – they have jobs for: ambulance drivers; builders; caterers; engineers; IT workers; laboratory staff; receptionists; porters and so on.
- > The new Cabot Circus development in Bristol provided over 4,000 new jobs when it opened in September. This was the biggest number of vacancies to come onto the local job market at any one time.
- > There are also lots of jobs with smaller companies. In total more people work for smaller companies than the large ones.
- > There are still opportunities for people with the right skills and qualifications in most industries – even those that have cut staff in the last few years.

## How do I get the career I want?

- > Stay in education/ learning for as long as possible. Even in what were traditional craft occupations – such as plumber, electrician and motor mechanic – you now need to achieve Level 3 qualifications to be fully qualified.
- > Have a good school attendance and punctuality record.
- > Do relevant work experience.
- > Do some volunteering and learn new skills – employers will be impressed.
- > As well as good qualifications employers are looking for people with what are called Key Skills.

## What sort of learning or training do I want in the future?

### At 16 you could:

- Continue in education:
- > at school
  - > at a college of further education
- Start work/work-based learning:
- > as an apprentice
  - > on an e2e course
  - > in a job with training

### At 18 you could:

- Continue in education:
- > at a college of further education
  - > at a university or college of higher education
- Start work/work-based learning:
- > as an apprentice
  - > in a job with training
- Do something else:
- > do voluntary work?



## Where do people work in Bristol?

See key opposite >



## Key Skills: Employers want people who can:

- > Read, write and use numbers. Nearly every job involves English and maths.
- > Work in a team – as well as by themselves.
- > Solve problems.
- > Use IT.
- > Explain what they mean and ask for help when they need it.

- A** Manufacturing 6.0%
- B** Construction 3.6%
- C** Retail 15.6%
- D** Hotels and restaurants 5.7%
- E** Transport, storage and communication 4.4%
- F** Financial services 8.3%
- G** Business services 21.7%
- H** Public administration 6.3%
- I** Education 9.2%
- J** Health and social work 13.5%
- K** Other 5.7%

## What sort of work did 16 year olds choose to go into?

In 2007 the most popular job areas for young people going into work straight after year 11 were:

- > Building and construction
- > Business, administration and finance
- > Catering and hospitality
- > Engineering and manufacturing
- > Hair and beauty therapy
- > Retail motor industry
- > Retail sales and customer service
- > Sport, leisure and travel and tourism

For entry into many careers further qualifications or training is required.

## Increase your earning power!

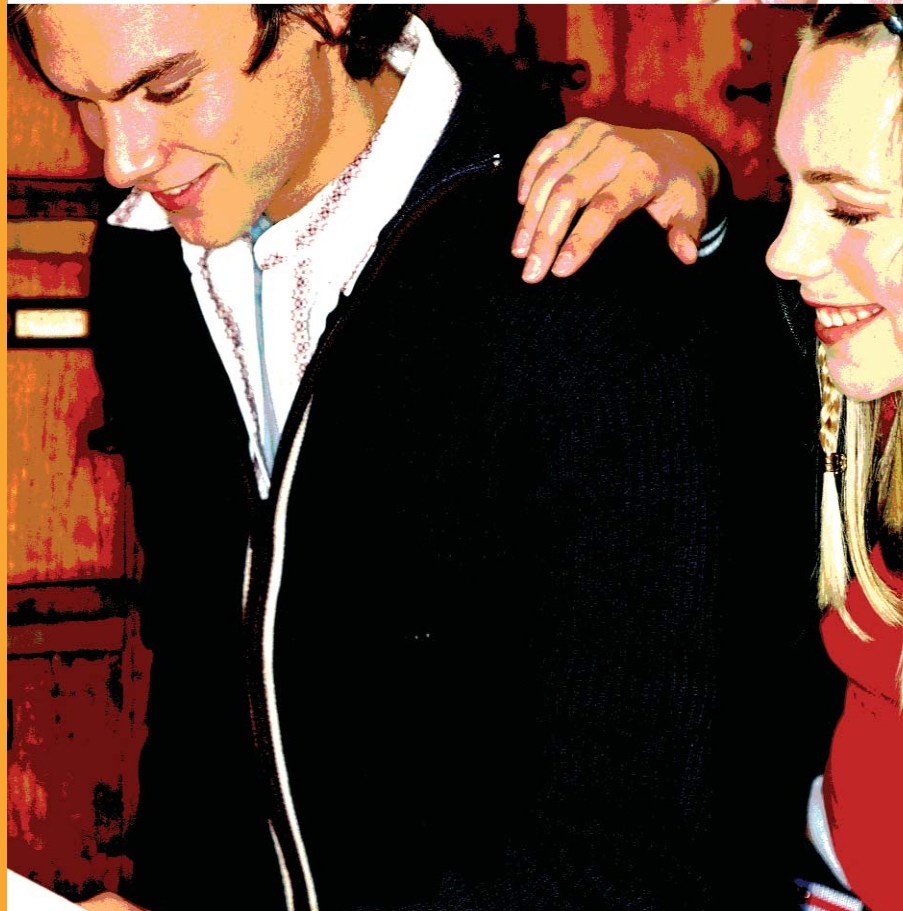
The more qualifications you have the more you are likely to earn.

Research by the Office of National Statistics suggests people with the minimum of five GCSEs earn an average of £55 a week more than those without such qualifications.

A survey of Higher Education leavers entering employment indicates that average starting salaries for graduates are around £18,000 a year, and on average, graduates earn around 20–25% more than similar non-graduates.

Over their working lives, the average graduate earns over £100,000 more compared to what a similar individual would have earned if they just had A-levels.

Source: Higher Education at Work. High Skills: High Value – Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills 2008.



## Where will the jobs be in the future?

More jobs:

- > Business
- > Caring
- > Culture, media and sports
- > Health service
- > Retail management
- > Science and technology
- > Skilled construction

Less jobs:

- > Agriculture
- > Low cost manufacturing
- > Machine operators
- > Routine office jobs
- > Unskilled labouring

# I have no idea what to do! Help!

Talk to your tutor or the person responsible for careers education or your Connexions Personal Adviser.

Connexions is an advice and guidance service for all young people aged 13 to 19 (up to 25 for those with a learning difficulty or disability).

Connexions Personal Advisers (PAs) can offer free information, confidential advice and guidance on education, employment, training and a wide range of other issues.

## Where to contact Connexions West of England in Bristol:

4 Colston Avenue, Bristol BS1 4ST.  
T: 0117 987 3700 Minicom: 0117 907 4514

Connexions Centres are open Monday to Friday – please contact them for the opening times.

You can visit our website at [www.connexionswest.org.uk](http://www.connexionswest.org.uk) or email [enquiries@connexionswest.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@connexionswest.org.uk)

## Other Connexions West of England offices:

Bath and North East Somerset:  
T: 01225 461 501  
North Somerset:  
T: 01934 644 443  
South Gloucestershire:  
T: 0117 961 2760 and 0117 969 8101

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