



Sport and Leisure

Local Information Sheet No. 15

The Work

**Are you fit and interested in sport or leisure?
Have you considered joining this expanding industry?**

You could be employed in a wide variety of places - for example a leisure centre, health and fitness centre, tennis or golf club, sports shop, gymnasium, holiday complex or outward bound centre. In most of these jobs you will be working with, and helping, people in their sporting or leisure activities. The majority of these jobs will require some further training and qualifications. If you are interested in working in the leisure industry, (e.g. tourist attractions and/or the travel industry), also see Sheet no.16 on Travel and Tourism.

What's Happening?

The sport and recreation sector employs 621,000 people working in 231,000 businesses and organisations throughout the UK. This industry is spread across the public, private and voluntary sectors. One area of growth in this sector is the health and fitness industry. Currently there are over 3,500 private fitness clubs and 1,500 leisure centres that employ around 50,000 people in the UK. It is a sector with traditionally high labour turnover rates and a young workforce (34% under 25). The turnover creates good opportunities for those wanting to start working in this sector. Surveys of employers show that skills such as customer service, communication, problem solving and the ability to demonstrate initiative are essential in the sector. Tour operators also require good ICT skills, as internet use is becoming more common in the industry. The sports and active leisure sector is proving to be resistant to the current economic recession. Fitness and exercise are no longer perceived to be luxuries. There is a lot of interest in sports related work - because of this it's one of the most difficult areas to get a job in. To succeed you will need qualifications, ability and enthusiasm.

See Work Matters for more labour market information (see page six - Easy way to get useful information).

Possible Job Titles

Health and Fitness Instructor	Pool/Beach Lifeguard	Sportsperson Professional
Holiday Centre Worker	Sport and Exercise Scientist	Theme Park/Fairground Worker
Leisure Centre Assistant	Sports Coach	Yoga Teacher
Outdoor Activities Instructor	Sports Development Officer	

For information about these jobs see sections **GAG/GAJ** of the Connexions library.

Your Options at 16 and 17

- **Further education at school or college** – continue to study, full or part-time, for a career or keep your future options open and simply continue to improve your qualifications.
- **Apprenticeships** (Level 2)/Advanced Apprenticeships (Level 3) – learn new skills with an employer, gain qualifications and get some real work experience. You will receive a wage, or, if you are eligible, an Education Maintenance Allowance of up to £30 a week.
- **Job** – regular, paid work that, with training, can lead to recognised qualifications.
- **e2e** (Entry to Employment) & **Pre-e2e** – programmes to help you prepare for a job, an Apprenticeship or further education.

For details of all these options speak to your Connexions personal adviser or see page six – Easy ways to get useful information.

Section 1

Further education: what's available locally and how to apply.

- This sheet lists full-time vocational courses. Other courses and ways of learning may be available.
- **Futures4Me** – explore all post-16 learning and training opportunities available in the West of England.
- Contact colleges/sixth form colleges for information and an application form. They all have websites.
- Go to open evenings and information events. See page six – Easy ways to get useful information.
- Ask colleges/sixth form colleges how well previous students have done on their courses.
- Use your school's Connexions Information Centre for information about local colleges and sixth forms.
- Higher education, Apprenticeships, a job with training, self-employment or time out to travel or do voluntary work are all options after college/sixth form college.
- Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is a weekly payment to help with costs if you go into the sixth form, college or go into training. Other financial support exists to help with travel, specialist courses, books and equipment and childcare. Terms and conditions apply to all. For more information - <http://moneytolearn.direct.gov.uk>

CITY OF BATH COLLEGE

Avon Street, Bath BA1 1UP

Tel: 01225 312191

Website: www.citybathcoll.ac.uk

Sport and Leisure – BTEC Introductory Certificate

(1 year). There are no formal requirements. This course will provide learners with a basic introduction to sports and leisure topics. It is a stepping stone to employment in the Sport and Leisure Industry.

Sport – BTEC First Diploma

(1 year) Entry requirements are 1 GCSE grade C or 3 GCSEs grade D or above in English, Maths and Science/P.E. This course will provide learners with the knowledge and practical skills to improve their understanding of many sports related subjects.

Sport (performance and Excellence) – BTEC National Certificate

(2 years) Entry requirements are 4 GCSEs grade C or above including Maths, English, Science and P.E. This qualification is designed for people performing to a higher standard in their chosen sport, and enhances opportunities for a professional career. It enables you to study and train while you compete.

Sport and Exercise Sciences – National Diploma

(2 years). Entry requirements are a minimum of 4 GCSEs grade C including English, Maths and a Science. The course is designed for those who wish to have a professional career in sports, health and fitness, leisure and physical education. It also enables entry into Higher Education.

CITY OF BRISTOL COLLEGE – ASHLEY DOWN CENTRE

Ashley Down Road, Bristol BS7 9BU

Tel: 0117 312 5000

Website: www.cityofbristol.ac.uk

Outdoor Adventure – BTEC National Diploma

(1 year). Entry requirements are 4 GCSEs grade C or above (including English) or BTEC First Diploma at Merit Level. You will also need a keen attitude to outdoor activities and some relevant experience. This course is for those with a strong interest in outdoor education who wish to develop personal qualities, skills and knowledge.

FILTON COLLEGE

Filton Avenue, Bristol, BS34 7AT

Tel: 0117 931 2121

Website: www.filton.ac.uk

Sport and Active Leisure – Diploma Level 1

(1 year). Entry requirements: applicants must have studied at GCSE Level and achieved a minimum of 2 GCSEs grade E, demonstrate enthusiasm for the industry, an interest in sport or coaching and be motivated and keen to learn.

Sport – BTEC First Certificate Level 2

(1 year). Entry requirements are 3 GCSEs grade D ideally in Science, PE, English; a merit profile in the Introductory Diploma in Sport, together with a key skills literacy qualification.

Sport – BTEC First Diploma Level 2

(1 year). Entry requirements are 3 GCSEs grade C including: English Language, Mathematics, Science or PE or a minimum of 16 points plus a literacy qualification from Introductory Diploma in Sport.

Sport and Active Leisure – Diploma Level 2

(1 year). Entry requirements: Applicants must have studied at GCSE level and achieved a minimum of two GCSEs at grade C, and demonstrate enthusiasm for the industry, an interest in sport or coaching and be motivated and keen to learn.

Sport – BTEC National Certificate Level 3

(1 or 2 years). Entry requirements are 4 GCSEs grade C including: Maths, English and Science.

Sport – BTEC National Diploma (Development, Coaching and Fitness) Level 3

(1 year). Entry requirements are 5 GCSEs grade A* - C including: English, Maths, Science and preferably PE. Materials fee of £85 approx. in first year, £50 in second year.

Sport and Exercise Science – BTEC National Diploma Level 3

(1 year). Entry requirements are 5 GCSEs grade C or above which must include a B in Science.

Sport – BTEC National Award Certificate Level 3

(1 or 2 years). Entry requirements are 4 GCSEs grade C in Maths, English and Science or a Distinction on First Certificate in Sport and Leisure or Merit at First Diploma plus a literacy qualification (in each case you must achieve a Merit in the unit Body in Sport). Materials fee of £85 approximately.

NVQ Advanced Apprenticeship in Sporting Excellence (Golf) Level 3

(2 years). Entry requirements are 5 GCSE's grade A* - C including: English, Maths, Science and preferably PE. Golf Handicap of 5 or less for boys, or 10 or less for girls.

NORTON RADSTOCK COLLEGE

South Hill Park, Radstock, Bath BA3 3RW

Tel: 01761 433161

Website: www.nortcoll.ac.uk

Sport (Exercise & Fitness), Level 2, First Diploma EDEXCEL

(1 year). Entry requirements: GCSEs grades D - G, or Level 1 qualification and interview. If you're interested in a career in the sports or leisure industry, this course will provide you with a broad knowledge of the subject. You will study six units which cover the human body, health & safety, lifestyle, diet, psychology, local and national sports facilities, funding, planning exercise programmes, training and research into your own favourite sport. Progression: Study at Level 3, Apprenticeship, employment in sports or leisure industry.

ST BRENDAN'S SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

Broomhill Road, Brislington, Bristol BS4 5RQ

Tel: 0117 977 7766

Website: www.stbrn.ac.uk

Community Sports Leaders Award – CSLA

This award enables students to develop their organisational and leadership skills within a variety of sporting situations. On successful completion of the course students will be able to assist a qualified coach. Furthermore, it provides the ideal stepping stone not only to employment but also to National Governing body coaching and officiating awards and provides a transition for those intending to study related courses in Higher Education or to seek employment.

Sport – BTEC First Diploma

This course prepares students for careers in the sports or outdoor sectors. Students will learn about how the body functions and apply this knowledge to prepare and train themselves and others for successful sports performance. The qualification also covers key aspects required for planning and instructing, for a range of clients appropriate exercise programmes.

Sport – BTEC National Award and Certificate

(2 years). This course is designed to enable you to learn about the sports industry with an emphasis on practical, work related projects and assignments. It can be studied as an Award or Certificate which is the equivalent of one or two A levels.

WESTON COLLEGE

Knightstone Road, Weston-super-Mare BS23 2AL

Tel: 01934 411411

Website: www.weston.ac.uk

Sport and Leisure – BTEC Introductory Diploma

(1 Year). Entry requirements are at least some GCSEs in the C - E range and you must be able to demonstrate an interest in the subject and a willingness to learn to study this course. A satisfactory reference may be required.

Sport – BTEC First Diploma

(1 Year). Entry requirements are at least 4 GCSEs in the C - E range, preferably to include English Language and Maths at grade C or above or an appropriate Level 1 qualification such as an NVQ 1 or BTEC Introductory Certificate or Diploma.

Sport (Sports Development and Fitness) – BTEC National Diploma

(2 Years). Entry requirements are at least 5 GCSEs in the A - C range, including English Language and Maths. Alternatively you will need an appropriate Level 2 qualification such as an NVQ 2 or a BTEC First Diploma.

Sport and Exercise Science – BTEC National Diploma

(2 Years). Entry requirements are at least 5 GCSEs in the A - C range, including English Language and Maths. Alternatively you will need an appropriate Level 2 qualification such as an NVQ 2 or a BTEC First Diploma.

What's available outside the area?**BICTON COLLEGE**

East Budleigh, Budleigh Salterton, Devon EX9 7BY

Tel: 01395 562400

Website: www.bicton.ac.uk

Outdoor Activity Leadership – Introductory Certificate Level 1

(1 year). Entry requirements: whilst there are no academic entry requirements, students will need to demonstrate an interest in the outdoor leisure industry and have sound reading, writing and numeracy skills. Entrance to the course is by interview. On-site lake, climbing wall, high ropes course, sports pitches and swimming pool are amongst the on-site facilities that provide a real-life working environment, suitable for applying theoretical studies through practical experience.

Outdoor Leisure – NVQ Level 1

(1 year). Entry requirements: whilst there are no academic entry requirements, students will need to demonstrate an interest in the outdoor leisure industry and have sound reading, writing and numeracy skills. Entrance to the course is by interview. On-site lake, climbing wall, high ropes course, sports pitches and swimming pool are amongst the on-site facilities that provide a real-life working environment, suitable for applying theoretical studies through practical experience.

Adventurous Activity Leadership – NVQ Level 2

(1 year). Entry requirements 4 GCSEs at Grade D or above, to include Maths, English and Science, or NVQ 1 or equivalent such as NVQ Outdoor Leisure. Entrance to the course is by interview. A variety of outdoor adventure related subjects are studied together with Key Skills at an appropriate level. Applicants should have reached the age of 18 during the course. On-site lake, climbing wall, high ropes course, sports pitches and swimming pool are amongst the on-site facilities that provide a real-life working environment, suitable for applying theoretical studies through practical experience.

Sport (Outdoor Education) – First Diploma Level 2

(1 year). Entry requirements 4 GCSEs at Grade D or above, to include Maths, English and Science, or NVQ 1 or equivalent such as NVQ Outdoor Leisure. Entrance to the course is by interview. Prior experience of taking part in outdoor adventure activities is desired and a commitment to the participation in outdoor adventure activities is essential. On-site lake, climbing wall, high ropes course, sports pitches and swimming pool are amongst the on-site facilities that provide a real-life working environment, suitable for applying theoretical studies through practical experience.

Sport (Outdoor Adventure) – National Diploma Level 3

(2 years). Entry requirements: 4 GCSEs at Grade C or above, to include Maths, English and Science or NVQ 2. Entrance to the course is by interview. A variety of outdoor adventure related subjects are studied together with Key Skills at an appropriate level. On-site lake, climbing wall, high ropes course, sports pitches and swimming pool are amongst the on-site facilities that provide a real-life working environment, suitable for applying theoretical studies through practical experience.

Outdoor Industry – NCFE Certificate Level 3

(2 years). Entry requirements: 4 GCSEs at Grade C or above, to include Maths, English and Science or NVQ 2. Entrance to the course is by interview. A variety of outdoor adventure related subjects are studied together with Key Skills at an appropriate level. This is an ideal qualification for those with prior experience of outdoor activities and adventure who are focussed on a career within this industry. On-site lake, climbing wall, high ropes course, sports pitches and swimming pool are amongst the on-site facilities that provide a real-life working environment, suitable for applying theoretical studies through practical experience.

Sport, Recreation and Activity Leadership – Apprenticeship Level 2

(15-18 months). Entry requirements GCSEs and Initial Assessment Level 1 would be an advantage along with relevant experience and knowledge of your chosen industry. Entrance to the course is by interview.

You will require a good reference and a suitable work placement. Bicton College can help you to find one. On-site lake, climbing wall, high ropes course, sports pitches and swimming pool are amongst the on-site facilities that provide a real-life working environment, suitable for applying theoretical studies through practical experience.

Section 2

Year 12 (Sixth Form)

- Choose from a wide range of courses including AS/A2 Levels, GCSEs, Diplomas, National Diplomas, NVQs and other work related courses.
- Contact sixth forms for information and an application form. They all have websites.
- Go to open evenings and information events. See page six – Easy ways to get useful information.
- Ask sixth forms how well previous students have done on their courses.
- Use your school's Connexions Information Centre for information about local sixth forms.
- Additional further education, higher education, Apprenticeships, a job with training, self-employment or time out to travel or do voluntary work are all options after the sixth form.
- Educational Maintenance Allowance is a weekly payment to help you continue to learn or train. EMA is worth up to £30 a week. Other financial support exists to help with travel, specialist courses, books and equipment and childcare. Terms and conditions apply to all. For more information – <http://moneytolearn.direct.gov.uk>

Section 3

Apprenticeships and Jobs

Both of these options allow you to learn new skills with an employer and get some real work experience – but only an Apprenticeship will **guarantee** you training and the chance to gain qualifications. You will receive a wage, or, if you are eligible, an Education Maintenance Allowance of up to £30 a week. See page six – Easy ways to get useful information.

Local Apprenticeships

Active, Leisure and Learning

- **Weston College**, Knightstone Road, Weston-super-Mare, North Somerset BS23 2AL. 01934 411411. Peggy Tovey. peggy.tovey@weston.ac.uk

Sport and Recreation

- **VT Training Plc**, 30 The Courtyard, Woodlands, Bradley Stoke, Bristol BS32 4NH. 01454 618960. Craig Dutton. craig.dutton@vtplc.com

Local Advanced Apprenticeships

Active, Leisure and Learning

- **Filton College**, Filton Avenue, Bristol BS34 7AT. 0117 909 2223. Claire Thorogood. claire.thorogood@filton.ac.uk
- **Weston College**, Knightstone Road, Weston-super-Mare, North Somerset BS23 2AL. 01934 411411. Peggy Tovey. peggy.tovey@weston.ac.uk

Sport and Recreation

- **VT Training Plc**, 30 The Courtyard, Woodlands, Bradley Stoke, Bristol BS32 4NH. 01454 618960. Craig Dutton. craig.dutton@vtplc.com

Other useful organisations

- The **Armed Services** can offer opportunities to practise sport. It is sometimes possible to train as a PE Instructor. Enquiries are welcome at:
Armed Forces Careers Office, 3rd Floor, 4 Colston Avenue, Bristol BS1 4TY
Royal Navy and Royal Marines, Tel: 0117 926 0233 - www.royalnavy.mod.uk
Army, Tel: 0117 926 2638 - www.army.mod.uk
Royal Air Force, Tel: 0117 929 4051 - www.raf.mod.uk/careers
- **Sport England**, Ashlands House, Ashlands, Crewkerne, Somerset TA18 7LQ. 01460 73491.
www.sportengland.org Email: info@sportengland.org
- **Active Places**, www.activeplaces.com
 Search for sports facilities any where in England by a number of different ways.

For more on Apprenticeships

- www.apprenticeships.org.uk – visit the National Apprenticeship website for information including the National Apprenticeship Vacancy Matching Service (scroll down and click on the ‘Apprenticeship Vacancies’ link). This service lets you search for Apprenticeship vacancies in a variety of ways, such as by occupational area, provider or by postcode.
- **08000 150 600** – Call the National Apprenticeship Hotline for help and advice.
- If you are still not sure and need help, please contact careers staff in your school/college or your local Connexions West of England Centre (addresses at end of this leaflet).

Time Off for study or training

- The right to Time Off for Study or training is designed to help you if you are aged 16-17, got few if any qualifications at school, and are now employed in a job which offers little or no training.
- For more information – www.connexions-direct.com – look under work schemes>time off for study and training.

Easy ways to get useful information

- www.connexionswest.org.uk – information for 13-19 year olds; vacancies; local support agencies; education & training database; publication downloads.
- <http://options.connexionswest.org.uk> – Your Way Forward - Options @ 16 and 17. Post-16 learning, training and work options; qualifications; sources of finance; useful websites.
- <http://workmatters.connexionswest.org.uk> – Information about working in the local area; how much people earn; number of people employed; types of jobs; useful websites.
- **Futures4Me** – explore all post-16 learning and training opportunities available in the West of England.

Connexions West of England Centres are open Monday – Friday. Contact direct for opening hours.

Bristol
 4 Colston Avenue
 Bristol BS1 4ST
 Tel: 0117 987 3700
 Fax: 0117 987 3701
 Minicom: 0117 907 4514

Bath & North East Somerset
 28 Southgate
 Bath BA1 1TP
 Tel: 01225 461 501
 Fax: 01225 465 619

South Gloucestershire
 21-23 High Street
 Kingswood
 Bristol BS15 4AA
 Tel: 0117 961 2760
 Fax: 0117 960 7838

South Gloucestershire
 28 Gloucester Rd North
 Filton
 Bristol BS7 0SJ
 Tel: 0117 969 8101
 Fax: 0117 931 2978

North Somerset
 45 Boulevard
 Weston-super-Mare
 BS23 1PG
 Tel: 01934 644443
 Fax: 01934 644409

www.connexionswest.org.uk
enquiries@connexionswest.org.uk

Connexions Direct (confidential information, advice and support for young people)
 Tel: 080 800 13 2 19. Text: 07766 4 13 2 19. www.connexions-direct.com

The information in this leaflet was correct at the time of writing. Please check details - information dates quickly.

Produced by Red Bridge Solutions Ltd - enquiries@redbridgesolutions.co.uk