

Who to Talk to

- ▶ Don't be frightened to talk people. If you can't make your mind up with what option to take.

Try talking to the following people who can offer all kinds of help and advice. Remember, you're not alone in your choices.



At School	Outside School
Mr Old	Lifetime
Personal Advisors at Balby Carr	Tel: 0800 0731913
Head of Departments	Connexions
Form Tutor	Parents
Head of Year	Friends
Subject Teachers	
Learning Mentor	

Checklist



- ✓ Found information about the subjects you are thinking of taking
- ✓ Found information on jobs and subjects
- ✓ Checked that the subjects you've chosen will give you future options
- ✓ You know the deadline for making your choices

Useful Resources

- ▶ There are some useful resources that can help you with your choices. It's very important to spend some time looking at your options and seeing the available information out there.
- ▶ Choosing the right subjects will help you after you leave school. So a little hard work now will help you in the future and give you the best start in life.



CD-ROMs	Information
KUDOS	Provides a unique list of career suggestions generated from your likes and dislikes in relation to different aspects of work.



Careerscape	Detailed information is provided on over 1700 career titles.
Streets Ahead	Help with your year GCSE options.



Publications	Information
Look Ahead Booklet 13-14	Look ahead is a useful free booklet that will provide essential information about your options.



Websites	Information
www.lifetimeinconnexions.co.uk	Your local Careers service in South Yorkshire. Provides useful advice on your options, jobs and opportunities in the region.
www.connexionssy.org.uk	Supportive help for 13-19 year olds. Your Careers advisor is part of connexions.
www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize	All about GCSE subjects. Excellent for when you start your subjects. Try looking at different courses here and see what you'd like to do.

Progression Routes

- ▶ Upon finishing your GCSEs you will have the option to enter further education and gain some higher qualifications.
- ▶ There are many routes to the top-level qualification and these take time, however look at the various pathways and courses available to you from studying GCSEs .

It's important to "**Aim Higher**" but also note that the pathway to the top can often take a variety of routes.

Example 1

You could start your journey doing work based learning at NVQ level 2. By level 4 you could be studying for degree or HND.



Example 2

There is no set route, however for some subject areas it may be better to learn in a linear fashion. For example. Vocational GCSE's can often lead to Vocational A-levels and then onto professional courses.



Choice

The qualifications you take will depend on the type of work you want to do and what employers, universities and colleges want. Check this out before making a decision.



16+ Choices

When you complete your GCSEs you will have a wide range of options.

During year 10 and 11 you will look at careers in more detail, and recognise your best options after completing your GCSEs.

You will be 16 and open to a wide range of opportunities.

- ▶ College
- ▶ 6th Form
- ▶ Entrepreneur
- ▶ Training
- ▶ Employment



Extra Curricular Activities

Apart from time tabled subjects you will continue to have the opportunity to develop other skills, which may later impress colleges, universities and employers.

Active involvement in sport teams, music, the school council, reading with younger students, the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, work experience and community schemes are just some of the things which can help you to stand out and give you the special skills which are often valued by people outside school. They will certainly be rewarded in school.

Here is a list of all activities you can get involved in.

- ▶ Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme
- ▶ Work Experience
- ▶ Community Schemes
- ▶ Sports at Balby Carr
- ▶ Music
- ▶ City Learning Centre

Aim Higher

What is Aim Higher?

In year 9 you will start to make choices about your GCSE options. This will be just the start of making future decisions. In the future you will have so many options from work to study that you will have to make some important decisions.



It's really important to have a clear sense of direction and turn career dreams into reality. One thing is for sure is that you will almost have to continue to study. Not necessarily full time, but be prepared to keep learning and updating you skills.

Higher Education

Higher Education or HE is one proven method that given many people excellent career prospects. It provides more possibilities than you ever imagined with clear pathways of study from GCSE right through to Degree and beyond.

The Aimhigher website provides all the information you need to get started on the road into HE, including links to all the key websites that can help answer your questions.

There are vast courses available at a variety of universities and different ways of studying. Above all it's important to think about the possibilities of what you could achieve in the future. Don't think small, reach high and above all aim higher.

Website Link

www.aimhigher.ac.uk

Individual Learning Plan

► What is an Individual Learning Plan (ILP)?

The Individual Learning Plan is a helpful tool that is used for personal planning. You complete the plan after a discussion with your personal advisor or teacher etc.

You can use your progress file and individual learning plan to help you make decisions at the end of year 9 and will form part of your careers education programme at Balby.

You will have a one-to-one interview with an adult advisor in Year 9. This will give you the chance to start to ask the right questions about subject choices, possible careers and how to get the best start in life.

You will complete the document with the support from the careers service and update/review the ILP in year 10 and 11.



► Some of the information the ILP will cover will be

1. Personal Statement
2. Moving on and looking ahead
3. Personal development target
4. Learning targets
5. Future Planning and careers.
6. Course options
7. Extra opportunities in year 10/11
8. Choices at 16.

Above all the ILP will make you think about the future in a structured way and allows you think about where you are and where you would like to be. With support from a variety of careers based services you will be given the best chance in life.

Progress File

What is progress file?

The progress file is a comprehensive resource that helps you plan your future and also think about your skills, attributes and qualities. Working along side the Individual learning Plan (ILP) you can really make a mark on your future through effective planning and self-reflection.

The progress file helps you to be more in control of your learning, your personal development and planning for your future. It is about making improvements and seizing opportunities, both personally and academically.

There is an actual file, the Progress File folder.



This is your 'working file' in which to keep evidence of your achievements and other material you use to review your progress and plan your next steps.

Progress File helps you identify and value your skills and qualities, recognise your achievements and then use that information to make better choices for the future. Progress File helps you learn how to sort and select information from your folder to present to various people as you move

through stages of your career. It can help you when you need to "self yourself" or explain where you are coming from and where you want to go.

