

Learner Journey: V Levels*

Michaela



Michaela knows she wants to get into the digital IT sector. She takes a mixture of V Levels and A Levels to help her focus her options and to support her progression to the right HE course. She will need to continue to study English. She has achieved 6 GCSEs grade 4-6, and a grade 6 in maths and grade 3 in English.

Starting point

Michaela enrolls on a L3 study programme, which includes:

Digital Systems and Data V Level
(360 GLH)

Extended Certificate in Business Applied General Qualification (AGQ)
(360 GLH)

AAQ Applied Science (360 GLH)
English GCSE resit (240 GLH)

Qualifications

Michaela finds work experience in the IT department of her local council, allowing her to gain real-world experience and build her confidence.

Through observing and supporting tasks, she gains a clearer understanding of how and the IT team collaborate, while developing her confidence, communication skills and awareness of industry standards within a professional setting.

To support her personal development and progression, Michaela's college offer career coaching, UCAS preparation sessions, and mentoring from professionals in the IT sector. Confidence-building workshops and goal-setting activities help her refine her interests and prepare for higher education.

In addition to face-to-face English timetabled lessons, Michaela is supported with additional study support for her GCSE resit through personalised online programmes.

Possible enrichment/ non-qualification activity (illustration only)

Michaela could progress on to a **Higher Education course** in **computing / IT** or a level 4 **apprenticeship** – examples include **Data Analyst, Software Developer, Business Analyst or Cyber Security** and at Level 5 Data Engineer.

Progression



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Will



Will is interested in business, finance and engineering but is not yet certain about his future career path. He chooses a broad study programme that keeps a range of progression options open while helping him develop valuable analytical, commercial, technical and digital skills.

Having achieved 7 GCSEs at grades 4-5, including maths and English, he combines qualifications in Accounting and Finance, Business and Engineering to explore different sectors while building transferable knowledge and skills.

Starting point

Will enrolls on a level 3 study programme, which includes:

Accounting and Finance V Level (360 GLH)

Extended Certificate in Business Applied General Qualification (AGQ) (360 GLH)

AAQ Engineering (360 GLH)

Qualifications

Will could progress to **higher education** courses in subjects such as **Accounting and Finance, Engineering, Business** or **Project Management** or **Business Information Systems**. Alternatively, he could move into **higher or degree apprenticeships** in areas including **Finance, Business Administration, Project Management, Engineering** or **Commercial Operations**.

Progression

As part of his study programme, Will undertakes work experience with a local employer, giving him exposure to business operations, financial processes and technical problem-solving in the workplace.

Through employer-led projects, workplace visits and industry encounters, he gains insight into a range of careers across business, finance, engineering and manufacturing.

He also participates in careers guidance sessions, employer talks, mentoring opportunities and CV workshops to help him explore potential career pathways and make informed decisions about his next steps.

Possible enrichment/ non-qualification activity (illustration only)



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Aisha



Aisha enjoys working with children and is passionate about helping young people to succeed. She is interested in both education and social care but is not yet sure which setting would suit her best.

She chooses a study programme that allows her to explore different aspects of working with children and young people while developing a broad range of practical, creative and interpersonal skills. She has achieved 6 GCSEs at grades 4-5 and a grade 6 in Art and Design.

Starting point

Aisha enrolls on a level 3 study programme, which includes:

Education V Level (360 GLH)
AAQ Health and Social Care (360 GLH)
Art and Design A Level (360 GLH)

Qualifications

Aisha undertakes a range of work experience activities, including a placement in a primary school. This experience helps her understand the different ways professionals support children's learning, development, wellbeing and safeguarding. Through observing and supporting staff, she develops her communication, empathy and teamwork skills while gaining confidence working with children and families from diverse backgrounds.

To support her progression, Aisha's college provides careers guidance, university and apprenticeship information sessions, and opportunities to meet professionals from education, health and social care settings. She also takes part in volunteering activities such as reading support, youth clubs or holiday programmes. Her art qualification allows her to develop creative approaches to engaging children through play, learning and wellbeing activities, skills valued across both education and social care settings.

Aisha could progress to **higher education** courses in **Primary Education** or **Early Childhood Studies** or **Social Work/ Health and Social Care**. Alternatively, she could pursue **apprenticeships** at Levels 4-6 in areas such as **Teaching Assistant** or **Young People and Families Practitioner**.

Progression

Possible enrichment/ non-qualification activity (illustration only)



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Leah

Leah has a strong interest in how organisations make financial decisions but has not yet settled on a specific career path.

She enjoys working with numbers and analysing data, and is also interested in understanding how people's behaviour, judgement and decision-making influence financial outcomes within organisations.

Leah prefers to work in a more applied, practical way where she can see how concepts are used in real-world contexts. She has **8 GCSEs** at **grades 4–6**, including maths and English.

Leah enrolls on an A Level / V Level mixed study programme which includes:

Accounting and Finance V Level (360 GLH)

A Level Psychology (360 GLH)

A Level Economics (360 GLH)

Qualifications



Leah could progress to **Higher Education** to study for a degree in **Financial Management** or a level 4 **apprenticeship** in **Accountancy** or **Finance**.

Progression

Starting point

As part of her work experience, Leah completes a placement supporting finance or business teams, where she reviews budget information and observes how financial data is communicated to stakeholders.

She also attends careers talks from finance professionals and academic study skills.

Possible enrichment/ non-qualification activity (*illustration only*)

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Jordan



Jordan would like to work with children and pursue a career in teaching. He enjoys learning in an applied way, so wants to take a mixture of a V Level with 2 A Levels to understand more about his options. He has 8 GCSEs all grades 5-7.

Starting point

Jordan enrolls on a mixed A Level / V Level mixed study programme which includes:

Education V Level
(360 GLH)

Art and Design A Level
(360 GLH)

English Literature A Level (360 GLH)

Qualifications

Jordan takes part in creative play sessions at a local primary school to explore careers in education or child-centred services.

He also supports college open days and participates in mentoring programmes developing his leadership, communication, and teamwork skills.

Possible enrichment/ non-qualification activity (*illustration only*)



Jordan could progress to **Higher Education** to study a **degree** in **Education Studies** or **Primary Education (with QTS)**.

Progression

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