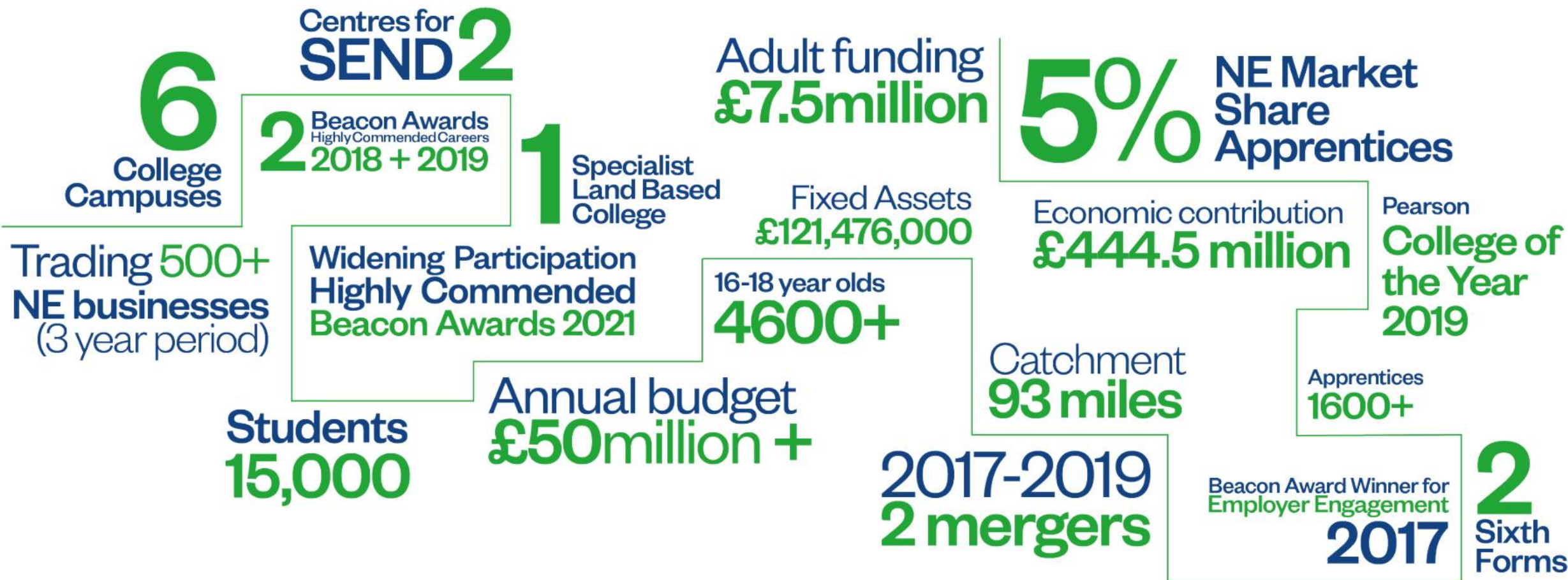


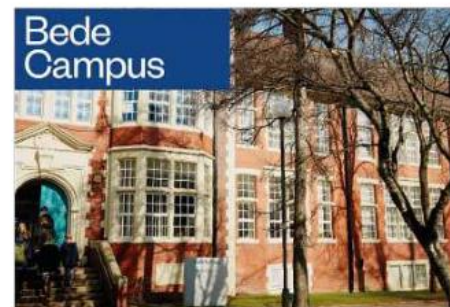
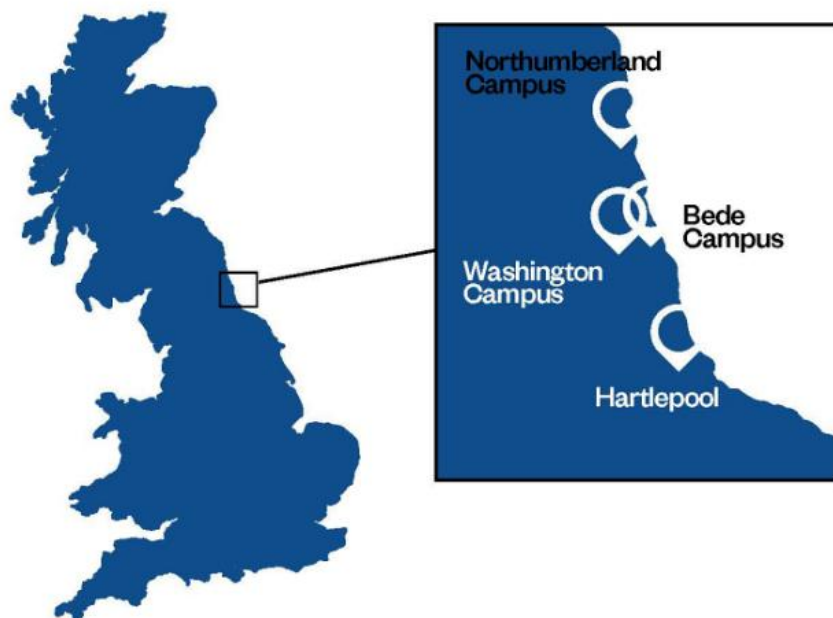
T Levels and Apprenticeships Update

Judith Quinn, Vice Principal Curriculum & Innovation
Iain Nixon, Vice Principal Partnerships & Commercial

Education Partnership North East



Geographical area



plus Berwick

Education
Partnership
NorthEast

Apprenticeships



educationpartnershipne.ac.uk

H Hartlepool
SixthForm
S Sunderland
College
N Northumberland
College

Apprenticeships – national trends



Fewer apprentices

Starts fell by 33% (160k)
2014/15 to 2022/23

Largest annual drop (-25%, 120k)
occurred in 2017/18, immediately
after levy started in April 2017

Another 70k starts were lost due
to the Covid-19 pandemic, with
little recovery after that

Starts in other UK home nations
(with different arrangements) did
not experience similar declines



Increase in higher level

Switch from Level 2 to Level 4+,
especially Level 6 and 7 degree
apprenticeships



Adult numbers came at expense of the young

Largest drop was in younger
people, with 100k fewer starts in
the 16-19 and 19-24 age groups



Access narrowed

Proportion of starters from most
deprived areas fell from 26% to
20%, from least deprived areas
rose from 14% to 18%



Drift to the south

The North-East and Yorkshire
and the Humber regions had
greatest relative fall in starts,
with lower relative decline in the
London and South-East



Large employers dominated

Starts for small and medium-
sized enterprises (SMEs) halved
in absolute terms



Cost has doubled

The average cost of an
apprenticeship doubled by
March 2019 compared to pre-
levy



OPPORTUNITY ENGLAND

100% opportunity:
the case for a tertiary
education system



Apprenticeships – funding changes and simplification

- English and maths flexibilities for SEND learners.
- Uplift in funding for English and maths.
- Employer co-investment removed for non-Levy payers supporting 16-21 year old apprentices.
- Streamline learning support claim process.
- Reduced onboarding administrative burden:
 - Initial assessments.
 - Greater provider access to digital account.
- Reduced evidence and audit requirements across the learner journey.
- Simplify End Point Assessment process.



Department
for Education

Apprenticeships – starts at EPNE

- 16-18 apprenticeship starts increased by 34% (60+) post pandemic.
- 19+ apprenticeship starts steady state post pandemic (300+ each year).
- Overall apprenticeship starts in 23/24 exceeding plan by 50+ with significant growth in engineering and leadership and management.
- Overall apprenticeship starts increased by 14% post pandemic.
- Non-apprenticeship Levy paying employers account for 35% of starts in 23/24; percentage varies by sector.
- Apprenticeship starts and on programme numbers have returned to pre-pandemic levels but not to pre-apprenticeship Levy levels.



Apprenticeships – quality at EPNE

- Three year improving trend in achievement rates, despite:
 - College merger and inherited poor quality.
 - Impact of pandemic on apprentice withdrawals.
 - End point assessment delays.
- YTD achievement rate 68.7%, well above the national rate (+10.9%).
- Achievement rates well above national rate for those apprentices with a learning difficulty or disability or from an ethnic minority.
- Very positive employer and apprentice feedback.
- Green on all Department for Education accountability measures.



Advance Manufacturing and Engineering Sector

- Apprentices on programme: **400+** (↑)
- Apprenticeship (engineering only) market share: **7%** (↑)
- Recruitment programmes: **1,500+** learners
- Client base: **130+** employers (45+ Levy payers)
- Employer partners include AESC, Faltec, Grundfos Pumps, Marelli, Nissan, Unipres, ZF



Case Study

AESC

- **Apprenticeships**
Technical and non-technical skills development
- **Non-Apprenticeships training**
English and maths | digital skills | sustainability
- **Higher education**
- **Work experience**
- **Career events**
- **Employer focus group**

"Throughout our relationship with EPNE, the full on-boarding process has been second to none. The account management has been frequent and thorough, consistently meeting our recruitment needs with high quality apprenticeship candidates for our ongoing apprenticeship programmes. From identifying staff development needs to the quality of programme delivery, the standard has been high. EPNE are playing a huge part in our vision for growth over the next 3-4 years."

Training & Development Lead, Chris Small



Case Study

Nissan Manufacturing UK

- **14-16 Skills Academy**
- **Apprenticeships**
Non-manufacturing supporting supervisory and management skills development
- **Skills Bootcamps**
Supporting recruitment into NMUK
- **Careers events**
- **Employer focus group**

“The students of today are the engineers and manufacturers of the cars of tomorrow and we are passionate about nurturing and refining the talent of the future. This partnership will benefit our plant as well as the wider supply chain as the North East region pushes towards becoming an electric vehicle manufacturing hub.”

HR Director, Michael Jude



Health and Care Sector

- Apprentices on programme: **210+** (↑)
- Upskilling with Diplomas: **80+** employees
- Client base: **45+** employers (15+ Levy payers)
- Employer partners include Cumbria, Northumberland Tyne & Wear NHS Trust, South Tyneside & Sunderland NHS Trust, Sunderland Care & Support



Case Study

Sunderland Care and Support

- **Apprenticeships**

Adult Care Worker | Lead Adult Care Worker |
Leader Practitioner in Adult Care |

- **Adult learners**

Employability | English and maths

- **Work experience**

- **Careers events**

- **Employer focus group**

"We really value our relationship with the College. We have worked in partnership together for many years. During this time the College has trained thousands of our staff. The quality of the training is always first class and the models of delivery are flexed to suit the needs of our organisation. We trust the integrity of the College, this is what sets it apart from other training providers we have worked with in the past"

Senior Business Manager, Faye Gregory Smith

**Sunderland
Care and Support**



Introduction of T Levels

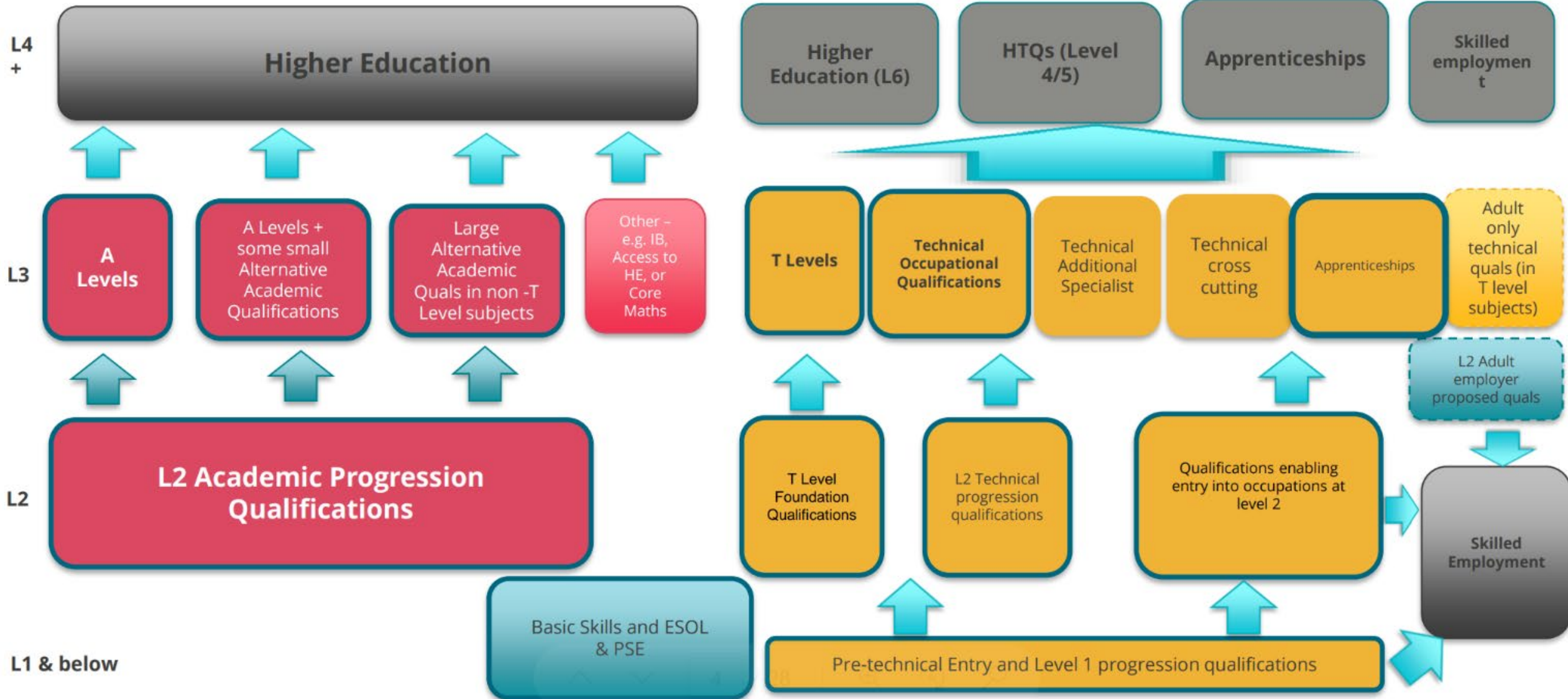
T Levels Background

- T Level delivery started September 2020, with the digital, construction and education and childcare routes
- 2016 Sainsbury Review of Technical Education and Government Skills Plan to reform post 16 technical education.
- Now 18 routes available
 - Ranging from Engineering and manufacturing, Health and science, through to Business and administration
 - No T Levels in sport, PS, travel, hair
- Sunderland College started delivery 2021



Academic

Technical



What are T Levels?

- 2 year advanced, technical programme for 16-19 year olds, developed in collaboration with employers
- Taken after GCSEs (and/or Level 2 T Level Foundation)
- Broadly equivalent in size to 3 A Levels
- Prepares students for entry into skilled employment, apprenticeships or related technical study at higher education
- Practical knowledge based learning (80%) and industry placement (20%). At least 315 hours / 45 days relevant placement



T LEVEL PROGRAMME

1800 Hrs over 2 years

TECHNICAL QUALIFICATION (TQ)

900 -1400 GLH

CORE

- Up to half the qualification
- Knowledge and understanding of the concepts, theories and principles relevant to that sector
- Assessed through an external examination and a substantial project

OCCUPATIONAL SPECIALISM

- At least half of the qualification
- Knowledge and skills required to enter employment in that occupational specialism
- As close to full competence as possible
- English, maths and digital competence integrated where relevant

T LEVEL INDUSTRY PLACEMENT

- Between 315-420 hours
- Undertaken with an external employer
- Chance to apply skills and apply knowledge in a workplace environment
- Support for travel and subsistence costs but employers not expected to pay students

ENGLISH AND MATHS REQUIREMENTS

- Students required to achieve a level 2 in English and maths.
- Either GCSE (grade 4 and above) or level 2 Functional Skills (pass)

ADDITIONAL MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS

- Occupation-specific requirements, included where possible if essential to enter employment

T Level Example

Health and Science
T Level Route

Health T Level

Occupational
Specialisms
eg Supporting adult
nursing, supporting
mental, midwifery
etc



sunderlandcollege.ac.uk



Moving forward September 2024

- New T Levels in animal care and management, craft and design, media and production introduced
- Confirmed no T Levels in hair and barbering
- Funding removed from qualifications that overlap with earlier T Levels



What does this mean for our 16-19 learners going forward?

Technical

- T Level
- Occupational entry diploma in areas not served by T Levels
- Apprenticeships

Academic

- 3 A Levels
- 2 A Levels and smaller alternative academic quals (AAQ) eg applied science or engineering principles qualification
- 1 large AAQ eg extended diploma performing arts or sport

- Advice and guidance
- English and maths requirements
- SEN Students with EHCP
- Unable to take some current qualifications that overlap with T Levels

Proposal to introduce Advanced British Standard for 16-19 year olds, bringing together A Levels and T Levels into a single qualification



And FinallyPositive Destinations and Next Steps

**Construction – Architecture
at Northumbria Uni,
Construction management
at Nottingham
Trent. Education-Primary
Ed and Clinical psychology
at Uni Sunderland.
Computing – Computer
science at Northumbria**

**Nathan - Construction,
design and surveying
student
Offered job role as
junior land surveyor
with
Academy Geomatics
PT job already.**

**TJ-Construction T Level
student
Offered job as Junior
site manager
Robertson Group**

Education Partnership NorthEast



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H Hartlepool
SixthForm
S Sunderland
College
N Northumberland
College