



Parents'/Carers' Guide to Careers Education and Guidance





Helping your son/daughter with choices about their future

Young people today have more choices about what to do in the future than ever before. With increased options for education, training and employment, young people are under pressure to make the right choices. To help them make the right decisions, every young person should receive information, advice and guidance about their future. Whilst for many young people a career may seem a long way off, decisions they make about education and training now may affect their options later on.

Parents' /Carers' Guide to Careers Education and Guidance

Schools and Colleges

Schools and colleges in the UK have a statutory requirement to deliver careers education and guidance at Key Stages 3 and 4.

This will often begin with an introduction to the world of work in **Years 7 and 8**, moving on to look at how GCSE and Diploma subject choices in **Year 9** affect career choice. By **Year 10** students should explore their ideas further in readiness for **Year 11** when they will choose what they want to do post-16. It is vital to develop an understanding of **post-18** options whilst in **Year 12**, in readiness for Higher Education applications, which are completed early in **Year 13**. Students from **Year 10** onwards may also be given the opportunity to take part in work experience.

Most schools have an appointed Careers Co-ordinator/Teacher, who is responsible for ensuring that students receive careers education, advice and guidance. There should also be an opportunity for students to discuss their plans with either a member of school staff or an appointed adviser from Connexions/Careers service. Schools should also have a careers library which students can use for further research.

Quick guide

Age	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Key Stage	← THREE →			← FOUR →			← POST 16 →	
	Introduction to careers	Subject choice		Exploring careers and planning next steps		Decisions about Higher/Further Education or training		

Local Advice Services

Connexions

Connexions offers advice and guidance about all aspects of personal development to young people in England aged 13-19. Connexions supports young people in making choices about their future education, training and work plans. Details of your nearest Connexions Centre can be found by visiting www.connexions-direct.com.

Careers Services

Outside of England, other areas of the UK have individual careers services which provide advice to young people and adults. Most have careers centres in major towns and cities which provide access to information and advice. All of the careers services have websites which provide contact details for your nearest centre.

Scotland

www.careers-scotland.org.uk

Wales

www.careerswales.com

Northern Ireland

www.careersserviceni.com

Isle of Man

www.gov.im/careers/

Channel Islands

www.careers.gg (Guernsey)

www.gov.je/careers (Jersey)



Who are CASCAiD?

CASCAiD is the leading UK producer of careers information and guidance solutions, with over 40 years' experience of supporting young people to consider their career options.

Our products are used extensively in educational organisations throughout the UK and internationally. We have supported millions of people worldwide with their career decisions.

Owned by Loughborough University, we are committed to providing innovative tools which inspire choices. Our products contain the highest quality information plus a unique system of matching which creates personalised results.

Our mission at CASCAiD is to provide the best possible careers planning and guidance services

Our products are used in over 75% of schools and colleges and across Connexions and Careers Services throughout the UK. The products provide interactive online support to 11-19 year olds when they are making decisions about their future.



Launchpad

Designed for 11 to 13 year olds during KeyStage 3, Launchpad introduces young people to making choices about their future. It helps them to identify the skills that they will need to study each Diploma and GCSE subject. Young people complete a short quiz which generates a personal skills profile which can be compared to different subjects. They can explore each subject to find out what's involved, what they will learn and what skills it will help them with. They can also investigate the careers which different subjects can lead to, with case studies and photographs showing what each workplace is really like. A crucial tool to help with subject choice, Launchpad encourages young people to improve their skills and set goals for the future.





CASCAiD Careerscape

Careerscape enables young people to explore and research education, training and employment options.

They can access detailed information on careers including case studies, photographs and videos which illustrate what jobs are really like. For young people who are considering continuing in education after 18, there is information on over 47,000 Higher Education courses linked to careers enabling them to plan a route into their chosen career. Careerscape also provides career families to explore plus the option to investigate careers where they can use their favourite subjects. There is also information on a variety of education, training, employment and lifestyle issues.





Our products

CASCAiD programs are not designed to tell a young person what to do, they are designed to be a starting point for career exploration. When coupled with support and advice from parents/carers and teachers, they help young people to make choices and plan their future direction.

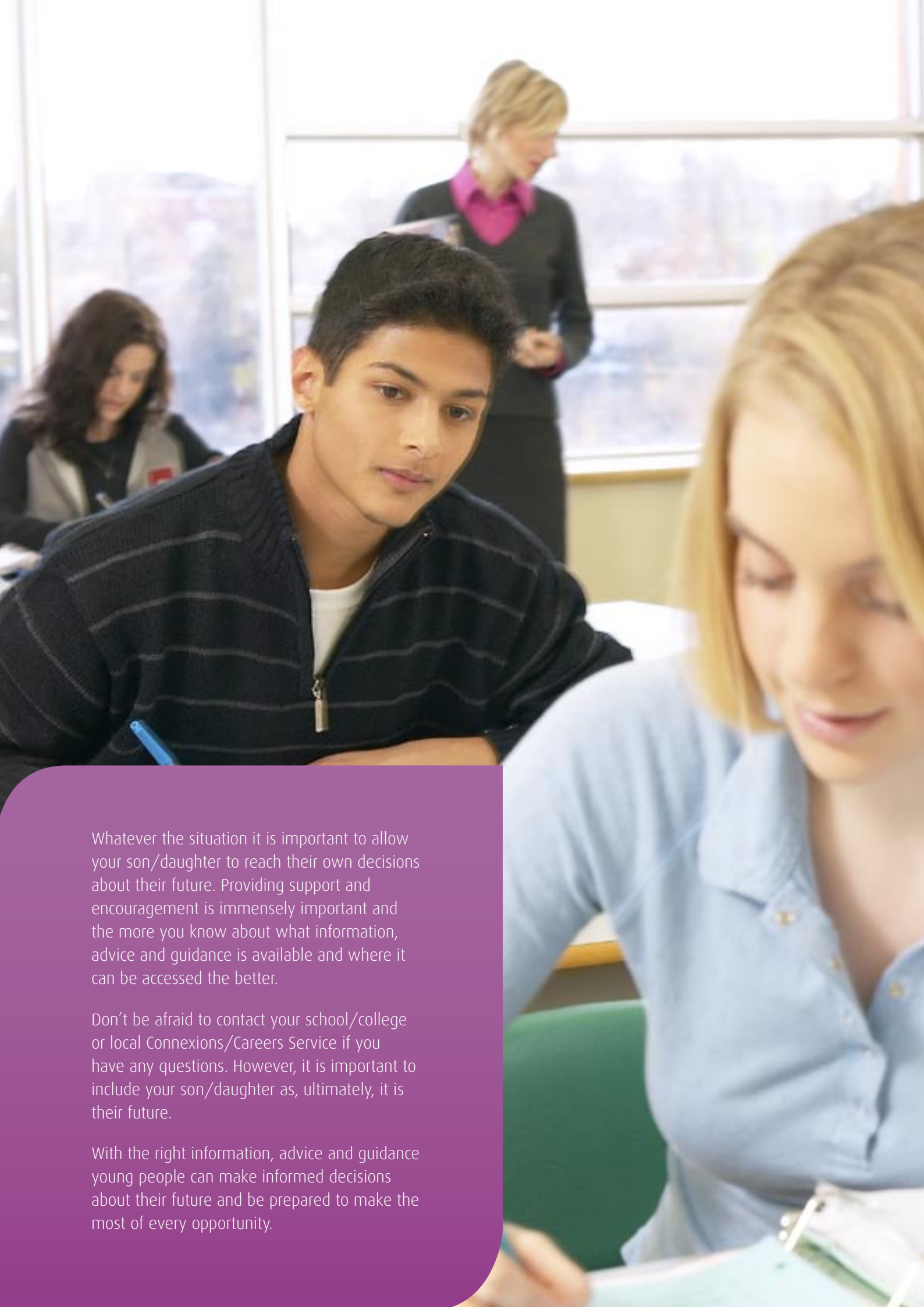
To access CASCAiD programs, speak to the Careers Co-ordinator/Teacher at your son's/daughter's school. If they subscribe to CASCAiD programs they will be able to provide your son/daughter with log in details which will enable them to access the programs from anywhere with Internet access. Alternatively visit www.cascaid.co.uk for more information on how you can access our programs.



How can you help?

As they make choices and plans for the future, young people need support from the people who know them best, their families. There are many ways that parents can offer support with choices. Here are a few ideas for parents:

- Find out about the choices your son/daughter has to make in Year 9. They will usually be asked to choose from a selection of GCSE and Diploma subjects which they want to study in year 10 and 11. Most students will have compulsory subjects which they have to study along with a selection of options.
- Talk to your son/daughter about careers they are interested in. Find out what they know already and encourage them to visit the careers library to find out more.
- Make an appointment to speak to a member of the Careers Department at the next Parents Evening. They will be able to answer any questions you have about career plans.
- Outside of school hours, encourage your son/daughter to visit your local Connexions/ Careers Centre to find out about what courses, jobs and training opportunities are available locally.
- Encourage your son/daughter to explore all of the learning options available to them at 14 and 16. The new Diploma offers a vocational alternative to traditional subjects and is an accepted progression route for many careers and university/college courses.
- If your son/daughter has completed Launchpad, Kudos or Careerscape ask them about their results. Even if the careers they are matched to do not appeal it is still useful to discuss why they have been suggested.
- Ask your school/college or local Connexions/Careers Centre if they have access to any resources that you and your son/daughter can use at home over the Internet.
- Make the most of open day opportunities. Your son/daughter may be considering post 16 study at a different institution to their current school/college and it is important to explore all of the options.
- Get involved with plans for post-18 study. If your son/daughter is planning to go to university or college they need to plan carefully. They should think about: what subject/s they want to study, which institutions offer relevant courses, whether the program of study suits them, if there is a work placement as part of the course, if their expected results from A levels or equivalent meet the entry requirements, whether they want to study close to home or move further afield and whether the campus offers other facilities which are important to them e.g. sports facilities.



Whatever the situation it is important to allow your son/daughter to reach their own decisions about their future. Providing support and encouragement is immensely important and the more you know about what information, advice and guidance is available and where it can be accessed the better.

Don't be afraid to contact your school/college or local Connexions/Careers Service if you have any questions. However, it is important to include your son/daughter as, ultimately, it is their future.

With the right information, advice and guidance young people can make informed decisions about their future and be prepared to make the most of every opportunity.

For more information on CASCAiD products visit our website or contact us via the details below.

CASCAiD Ltd
2 Oakwood Drive
Loughborough
Leics LE11 3QF

T: +44 (0)1509 226868
F: +44 (0)1509 226869
E: enquiry@cascaid.co.uk
www.cascaid.co.uk



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

CASCAiD Ltd is a Loughborough University company

