

An Overview of the Post-16 Education System

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1

Pathways for All - recommendations

1. Improve outcomes through benchmarking
2. Implement a life skills curriculum; improve CEIAG
3. Implement Local collaborative planning of 16+ provision
4. Improve provision below Level 2
5. Support learners' mental health
6. Improve access to provision - travel
7. Learn from Lockdown
8. Improve strategic leadership at 16+

<https://www.kelsi.org.uk/kent-16-to-19-review>

2

Pathways for All Local Collaborative Partnership Areas

Area	Chair	Organisation
Ashford	Siobhan Matthews	North School Deputy Head
Cant/Fav/Than	Jon Watson	Canterbury Academies Trust - CEO
Folkestone	Neala Wybrow	EKC - Campus Principal
Dover	Lee Kane	Astor - Head of School
Sittingbourne and Sheppey	Nicki Hodges	Swale Academies Trust - Exec Head
Maidstone and Malling	Jim Mawby	MKC - Executive Director
T'wells, Tunbridge and Sevenoaks	Hilary Birkett	Hillview - Head teacher
Dartford and Gravesham	Rhiannon Hughes	NKC - Deputy Executive Principal – Teaching Learning & Improvement

3

Statutory Duties

- To secure sufficient suitable education and training provision for all young people in their area who are over compulsory school age but under 19 or aged 19 to 25 and for whom an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan is maintained. This is a duty 6 under the Education Act 1996 1. **To fulfil this, local authorities need to have a strategic overview of the provision available in their area and to identify and resolve gaps in provision.**
- To make available to all young people aged 13-19 and to those between 20 and 25 with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), support that will encourage, enable or assist them to participate in education or training under Section 68 of ESA 20082.

(Participation of young people in education, employment or training Statutory guidance for local authorities September 2016)

4

Key stages

Key Stage	Year Groups	Age of Children	Key Assessment
EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage)	Nursery, Reception Year	0-5	
Key Stage 1	Year 1 - 2	5-7	Phonics test in Year 1 KS1 SATs in Year 2
Key Stage 2	Year 3 - 6	7-11	KS2 Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) in Year 4 KS2 SATs in Year 6
Key Stage 3	Year 7 - 9	11-14	
Key Stage 4	Year 10 - 11	14-16	GCSEs in Year 11
Key Stage 5 / Sixth Form	Year 12 - 13	16-18	A-Levels in Year 13 Or NVQs / BTECs / Apprenticeships / IB

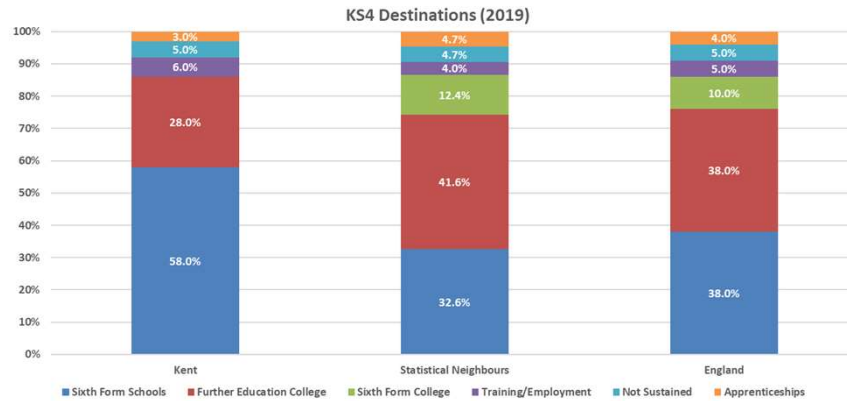
5

Qualification levels

- Entry
- Level 1 – GCSE Grades 1-3
- Level 2 – GCSE Grades 4+, BTECs, Apprenticeships (You need 5 GCSEs at this grade or higher to progress on to L3)
- Level 3 – A levels, Applied Generals, T- Levels, International Baccalaureate, Apprenticeships

6

The Kent Cohort – Where they study post-16



7

Destinations – the detail

	Jan-19		Jan-20		Jan-21		Jan-22		Jan-23		Jan-24	
	Number	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Cohort size	32496		32238		33668		33595		34178		36698	
Participating		90.6%		88.6%		90.4%		91.3%		90.9%		90.7%
In education	26816	82.5%	26628	82.5%	28808	85.5%	29102	86.6%	28738	84.1%	31308	85.3%
Sixth form	17965	55.2%	17619	54.6%	18983	56.6%	19286	57.4%	18916	55.3%	20303	55.3%
FE college	8589	26.4%	7986	24.7%	9487	28.1%	9268	27.6%	9439	27.6%	10439	28.4%
Higher Education	16	n/a	9	n/a	12	n/a	13	n/a	9	n/a	3	n/a
Part Time Education	15	n/a	835	2.6%	31	n/a	58	n/a	31	n/a	13	n/a
Gap Year	0	n/a	0	n/a	0	n/a	1	n/a	0	n/a	2	n/a
Full time education - other	213	0.6%	164	0.5%	223	0.6%	361	1.0%	251	0.7%	319	0.8%
Specialist Post 16 Institution	10	n/a	13	n/a	71	n/a	111	0.3%	87	0.2%	225	0.6%
Full Time Ed - Custodial	8	n/a	2	n/a	1	n/a	4	n/a	5	n/a	4	n/a
Employment/Training												
Apprenticeships	1941	6.0%	1390	4.3%	1126	3.3%	1262	3.8%	1605	4.6%	1537	4.2%
Employment no training	1048	3.2%	1098	3.4%	826	2.5%	1119	3.3%	1380	4.0%	1554	4.2%
Training	715	2.2%	535	1.6%	518	1.5%	393	1.2%	498	1.4%	442	1.2%
NEET	888	2.7%	1137	3.5%	1037	3.1%	953	2.8%	1218	3.6%	1257	3.4%
Not Known	1066	3.2%	1444	4.5%	1351	4.0%	754	2.2%	724	2.1%	598	1.6%

8

The Kent Cohort – Where they study by attainment level (Source: SCA Cohort Analysis)

Average GCCSE Grade	Destination - February Year 12							Total
	School	College	Apprenticeship	Employment	Training	Unemployed	Other	
1	9.2%	59.3%	5.9%	6.5%	7.9%	7.7%	3.5%	100.0%
2	15.6%	61.3%	7.4%	4.1%	6.1%	3.5%	1.9%	100.0%
3	22.5%	60.5%	8.7%	2.3%	2.8%	1.3%	1.8%	100.0%
4	44.6%	43.4%	7.0%	1.1%	1.4%	0.7%	1.8%	100.0%
5	71.6%	21.8%	3.6%	0.7%	0.6%	0.4%	1.2%	100.0%
6	88.4%	8.7%	1.5%	0.2%	0.1%	0.0%	1.0%	100.0%
7	96.6%	2.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	1.1%	100.0%
8	97.8%	0.8%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.0%	100.0%
9	98.7%	0.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.4%	100.0%

9

Qualification Reform

- Applied Generals (BTECs etc) – progressively defunded from 2024
- T- levels – new, flagship vocational qualifications – equivalent to 3 A levels.
- Additional Academic Qualifications (AAQs) – where there is no A level or T-level equivalent. Students will only be able to take one of these as part of a programme.
- Advanced British Standard – 5 subjects, 10 years away
- L2 and below qualifications – simplified, reduced in number focussed on employment and progression.
- Some subjects disappearing – gaming, legal secretary, cabin crew...

10

6th Form

- Approximately 60% of the cohort
- Selective – almost exclusively A levels
- Non selective – IBCP, A levels, Applied Generals
- Almost exclusively L3
- Mixed careers support
- Mainly judged on qualification outcomes

11

College

- Mainly Vocational
- Much higher % of students studying L2 and below
- Very varied offer across the county
- Main deliverers of T-levels.
- 2 campuses out of 12 now offer A levels
- Judged on outcome (less emphasis than schools) but also on how they meet local need.

12

Apprenticeships

Under 19	19/20	20/21	21/22	22/23
Immediate (L2)	950	680	770	750
Advanced (L3)	630	660	840	900
Higher (L4+)	90	70	160	210
19 to 24				
Immediate (L2)	590	590	540	470
Advanced (L3)	970	1220	1230	1240
Higher (L4+)	480	510	760	800
25+				
Immediate (L2)	870	800	800	530
Advanced (L3)	1690	1760	1900	1830
Higher (L4+)	1330	1690	1820	2020

13

Apprenticeships – National Comparison

Age	Kent	National
Under 19	+5%	+0.003%
19-24	-0.5%	-7%
25+	-4%	-3%

14

Apprenticeships - Issues

- Lots of opportunities, but not necessarily in industries of interest for young people
- Not all apprenticeship vacancies are advertised through the national apprenticeship service, as employers can choose where to advertise, which means people could miss out.
- Young people unaware of large employers' recruitment cycles as they are different with each employer.
- Small employer's struggle with providing the right support to an apprentice
- Current apprentice rules confuse employers.
- Government drive is L3 which has the potential to disadvantage anyone with low level qualifications.

15

Training providers – by district

District	Number of providers delivering 2 or more places in a district							
	No. providers 18/19	No. Providers 19/20	Difference 18/9-19/20	No. Providers 20/21	Difference 19/20-20/21	No. Providers 21/22	Difference 20/21-21/22	No. Providers 22/23
Canterbury	9	4	-5	3	-1	4	+1	2
Swale	10	4	-6	6	+2	8	+2	7
Thanet	13	5	-8	5	0	3	-2	3
Ashford	5	4	-1	3	-2	1	-1	1
Dover	7	3	-4	2	-1	1	-1	3
Folkestone/Hythe	5	2	-3	4	+2	3	-1	2
Maidstone	10	3	-7	2	-1	2	0	3
Tonbridge and Malling	5	1	-4	1	0	1	0	1
Tunbridge Wells	2	0	-2	0	0	0	0	0
Dartford	8	3	-5	2	-1	2	0	1
Gravesham	7	1	-6	3	+2	2	-1	3
Sevenoaks	2	1	-1	1	0	2	+1	0
Countywide	0	0	0	3	+3	6	+3	3

16

Training providers - countywide

Total providers for the county		
	Providers	Difference
18/19	42	
19/20	19	-23
20/21	25	+6
21/22	24	-1
22/23	20	-4

17

Training providers - number of places

District	Places								
	No. Places 18/19	No. Places 19/20	Difference in Places 18/19 – 19/20	No. Places 20/21	Difference in Places 19/20 - 20/21	No. Places 21/22	Difference in Places 20/21 – 21/22	No. Places 22/23	Difference in Places 21/22- 22/23
Canterbury	132	76	-56	54	-22	89	+35	65	-24
Swale	182	89	-93	77	-12	107	+30	155	+48
Thanet	253	104	-149	122	18	65	-57	72	+7
Ashford	101	53	-48	27	-26	16	-11	16	0
Dover	116	63	-53	63	0	25	-38	79	+54
Folkestone/Hythe	108	71	-37	76	5	71	-15	37	-34
Maidstone	177	102	-75	104	2	95	-9	102	+7
Tonbridge and Malling	97	10	-87	21	11	2	-19	0	-2
Tunbridge Wells	22	0	-22	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dartford	146	147	1	81	-66	50	-31	85	+35
Gravesham	98	30	-68	22	-8	27	+5	74	+47
Sevenoaks	19	10	-9	4	-6	33	+29	1	-32
Countywide	0	0	0	148 Online	148	513 F2F	+365	420	-93
Total	1451	755	-696	799	+44	1101	+292	1106	+5

18

General issues

- Funding for training providers
 - Training providers can't access enhancements and capital
 - Almost impossible to get direct funding for training providers
- Lack of response from DFE
- Shrinking of lower level offer/raised entry criteria
- Perceived hierarchical nature of provision
- Doesn't work well for those who don't go straight through the system
- Support – transition, mental health...

19

Adult Learning

Through DfE Adult Education Budget funding, fully funded learning opportunities for eligible learners aged 19+ include:

- English and maths, up to and including level 2, for individuals aged 19 and over, who have not previously attained a GCSE grade 4 (C), or higher, and/or
- first full qualification at level 2 for individuals aged 19 to 23, and eligible adults aged 23+ who don't hold a full Level 2 and are seeking work, or on a low income presently <£20,319 pa.
- first full qualification at level 3 for individuals aged 19 to 23, and eligible adult aged 23+ who don't hold a full Level 3 and are seeking work, or who hold a level 3 but are unemployed or are on a low wage, are fully funded once, under **NSF Free Courses for Jobs**.
- essential digital skills qualifications, up to and including level 1, for individuals aged 19 and over, who have digital skills assessed at below level 1

Note: A learner can only be fully funded for one vocational qualification from the entitlement qualifications list.

20

Adult Learning continued

For 19+, Advanced Learner Loans (ALLs) are available to help with costs of courses at L3 and above, for learners not available for AEB funding.

Sector-based Work Academy Programmes (SWAPs) are designed to help Job Centre Plus claimants build confidence to improve their job prospects and enhance their CV, whilst helping employers in sectors with current local vacancies to fill them.

Other learning opportunities for adults include:

- Apprenticeships
- Skills Bootcamps – courses of up to 16 weeks linked to job outcomes
- Multiply – to improve numeracy confidence and skills for adults who don't hold a L2
- education and training services funded by the Shared Prosperity Fund/ HMT Guarantee

21

Adult Learning continued:

Challenges:

- Reduced/reducing range of L2 and L3 courses
- AEB grant funding not increasing for 25+ years despite cost increases
- Limited rates increases for qualifications
- Provider Advanced Learner Loan allocation not matching demand
- ESF funding ceased

22