



Raising



Participation



Age

Did you know that soon all young people will be required to stay in education or training until they are 18?



By 2015 all young people will be required to stay in education or training until their 18th birthday.

By 2015 all young people will need to continue in learning at least until their 18th birthday.. This is called Raising the Participation Age (RPA).

Choices at 16

Does this mean staying at school until age 18?

Not necessarily, although lots of young people will choose to stay on. After year 11 there will be a range of options:

- full-time education or training in a school, college or training provider
- an apprenticeship
- get a job, or become self-employed or a volunteer for more than 20 hours a week, and do part-time training or education alongside (usually approximately one day a week).

There is a choice of qualifications to aim for as well, such as A levels, more GCSEs and professional and vocational courses.



Why is RPA happening?

The law is changing because the world of work is changing. It is more important than ever to have skills and qualifications to get a job.

Employers now choose to recruit people with skills. Getting qualifications and additional skills improve a young person's chance of getting a good job and staying in employment. It also increases the earnings they can expect at work. The two years of post-16 education up to age 18 is a crucial time to get the qualifications to get a head start.

How can people prepare for RPA?

Young people can try to keep their options open in their choice of GCSE subjects and work hard to get the best possible grades.

Families and carers can help young people decide what kind of career paths are most attractive to them.

- find information about the courses available at post-16 and decide what interests you
- attend open days or open evenings at schools, sixth form colleges, FE Colleges and training providers about options
- find out about apprenticeships from schools' careers advisers
- drop in to see a youth support worker who can help you with choices.
Look at careers websites – see overleaf for some ideas.



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For more information about choices at age 16 go to

Direct Gov - pages about your choices in years 9 and 11

www.direct.gov.uk/en/EducationAndLearning/14To19/index.htm

Information about Apprenticeships:

www.apprenticeships.org.uk/Be-An-Apprentice.aspx

www.apprenticeships.org.uk/Parents.aspx

Speak to the Careers Adviser or Co-ordinator at your school or visit their website.

Visit our website at:

www.barnet.gov.uk/BEETS

The National Careers Service – careers advice and advisers online for young people:

<https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk>

You can call the National Careers helpline for individual advice:

0800 100 900

