



The information below aims to highlight the differences between accessing a career via two different routes: university and an apprenticeship. Use this when deciding which path to follow.

UNIVERSITY

- **Focus on subject in depth.**
- **Learn theories, gain knowledge & develop transferable skills before working.**
- **Gain reputable and accredited degree qualifications.**
- **Great social scene.**
- **Graduate schemes to help you into work when you finish studying.**
- **Broad range of careers available when you graduate.**
- **3 years to complete (undergrad degree).**

APPRENTICESHIP

- **Focus on a particular specialism.**
- **Gain practical experience in addition to subject knowledge.**
- **Gain nationally recognised qualifications.**
- **Progress into a degree with no tuition fees.**
- **Earn a salary while you train.**
- **Start your career straight away after leaving school.**
- **1 – 4 years to complete (approximately).**

CONSIDERATIONS

- Consider how long you want to be studying/training for.
- Do you learn better with books and studying, or by practically doing the tasks?
- Think about the financial aspects of both.
- Can you only access your desired career through a university degree? Or is there an apprenticeship available?
- Find current adverts for the job you want and see what educational/training is expected from new hires - this will give you an idea as to what employers want!