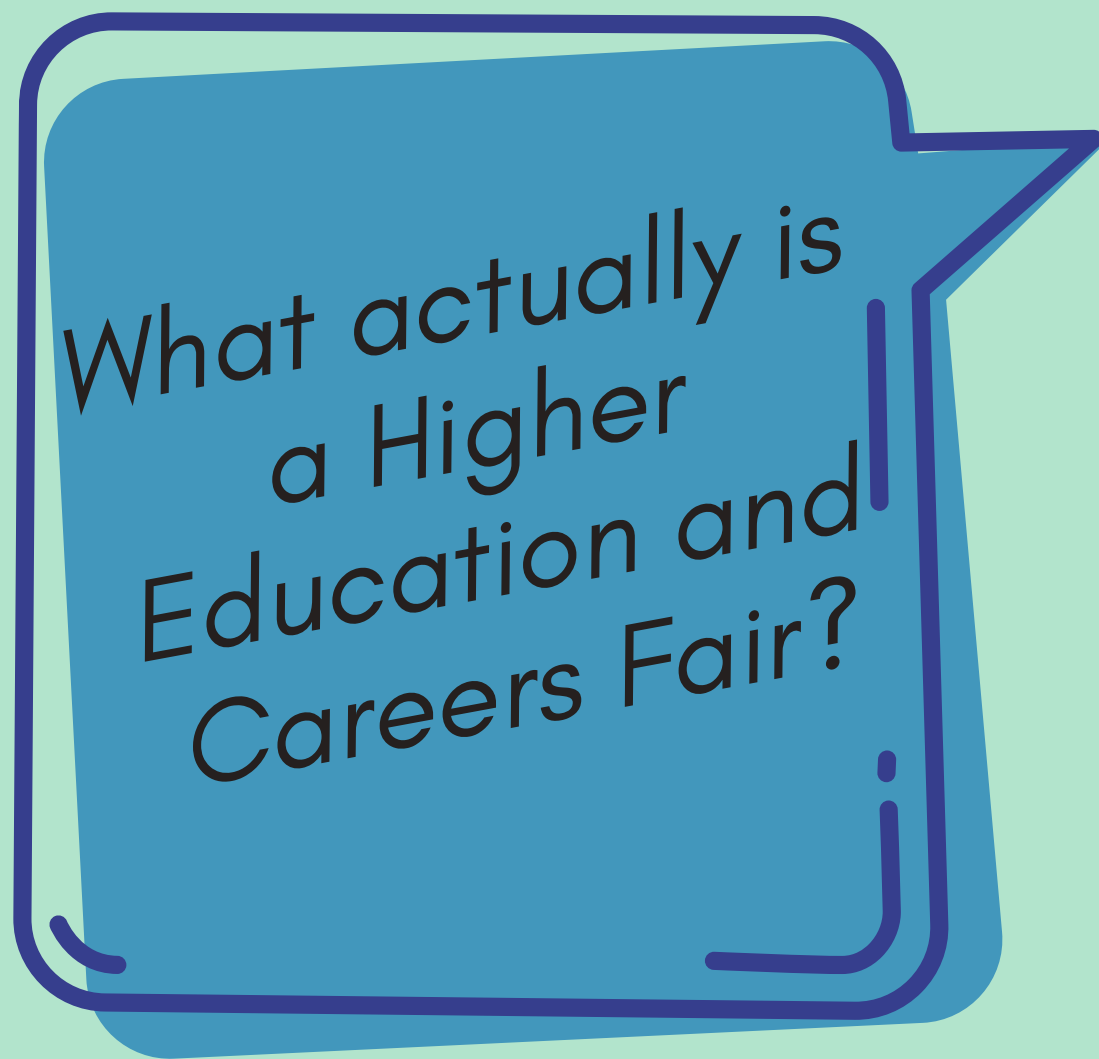




HIGHER EDUCATION AND CAERERS FAIR PREPARATION



The Higher Education and Careers Fair is held in school in the evening.

There will be universities, companies, apprenticeship providers, gap year organisers and OK's available to give you information and answer your questions.

You can come to the event with your family and walk round and talk to whoever you want to!

You will probably collect leaflets and have QR codes for you to find out more information, or ways to research after the fair.

It is a busy event where there will be students, parents and other adults around.



WHY BOTHER PREPARE FOR THE FAIR?

A higher education careers fair is a great opportunity to explore university courses, apprenticeships, and career paths. Even if you're unsure about your future, attending can help you gather useful information and make informed decisions.

Perhaps set some goals:

Could your goal be one or more of these to:

- **Find out more about the different post 18 options** that are available to you and what you need to do to access them.
- **Gather Information about university/apprenticeships** – Learn about courses, entry requirements, and career pathways.
- **Compare Options** – Gain a broader perspective by evaluating different pathways, jobs, companies and career routes side by side.
- **Find out about how to plan a gap year or set up a business**
- **Plan Next Steps** – Collecting brochures, information and research tools
- **Motivate yourself** to see how your education fits into your future



WHY BOTHER PREPARE FOR THE FAIR?



Having a goal will help you focus on what you want to find out, as a Higher Education and Careers Fair can be busy and a bit overwhelming!

Research your post 18 options and think about what you want to know about them. You can find out more [here](#)

INSTRUCTIONS

How do I prepare?

Think about your interests– Consider subjects you enjoy and career paths that might suit you. You could take a quiz [here](#)

Bring a note pad and paper and a bag to put all the information and prospectus you will get


Think about key questions you could ask...such as....

- What are the entry requirements for this course?
- What does the course cover?
- How is the subject taught?
- How many teaching hours are there each week?
- What can this course lead to?
- What clubs or societies are there?
- What are the results like for this subject?
- Will there be an interview?
- Is there any extra funding available?
- What is the university or training provider's reputation?
- How much is the cost of living where the university is?
- Can you give me examples of what your previous students have gone on to do?
- What support is there for special educational needs and disabilities?



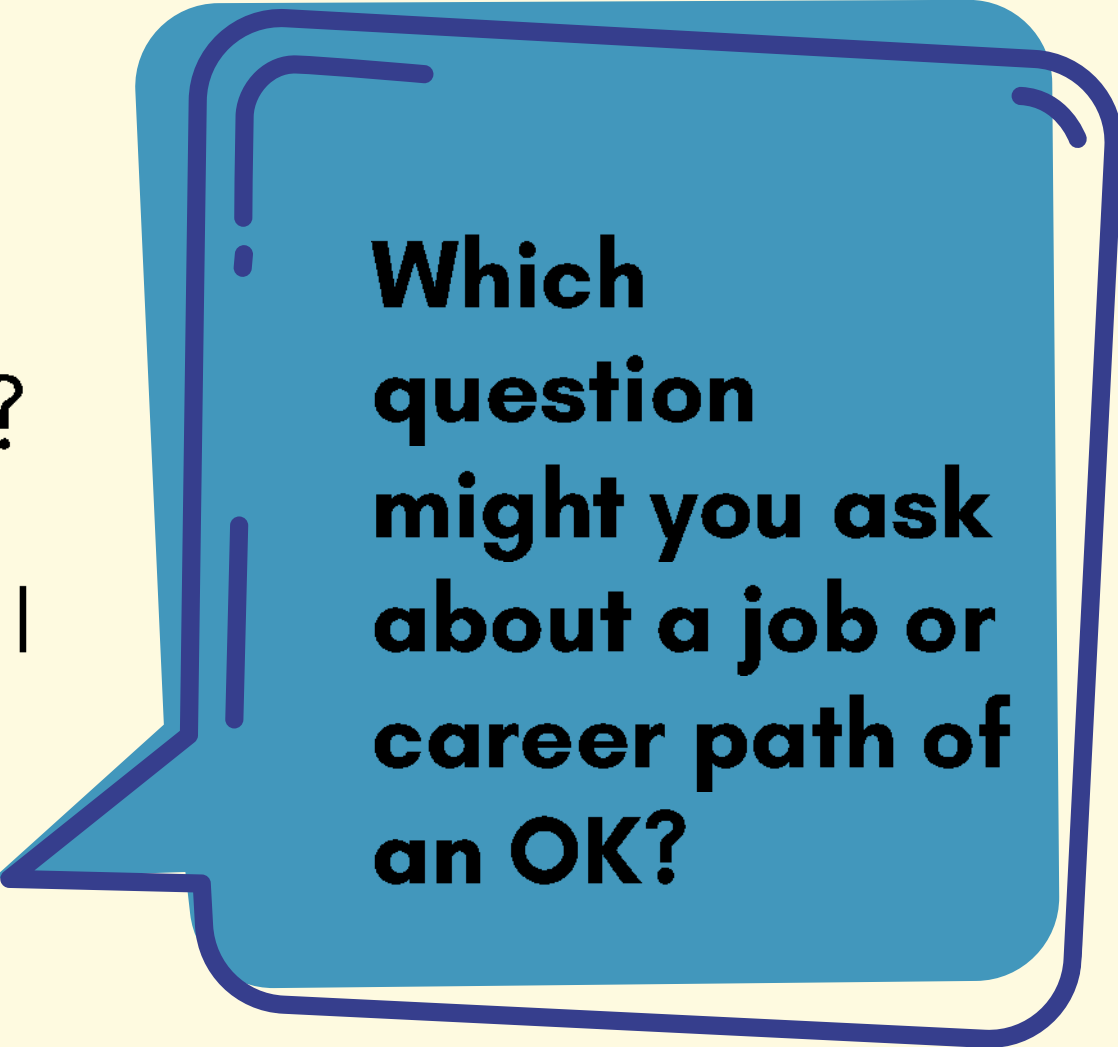
**Which
question
might you
ask a
university?**

- What are the entry requirements for this apprenticeship?
- What is the level of the qualification?
- How is the subject taught – online, face to face at a uni?
- How many teaching hours are there?
- What are the day to day activities?
- What skills do I need?
- What is the pay/benefits
- What can this apprenticeship lead to?
- Where is the company based? Are there multiple sites to work?
- What is the recruitment process?
- Do you offer support if I need to relocate?
- How much is the cost of living where the apprenticeship is?
- Can you give me examples of what your previous students have gone on to do?
- What support is there for special educational needs and disabilities?



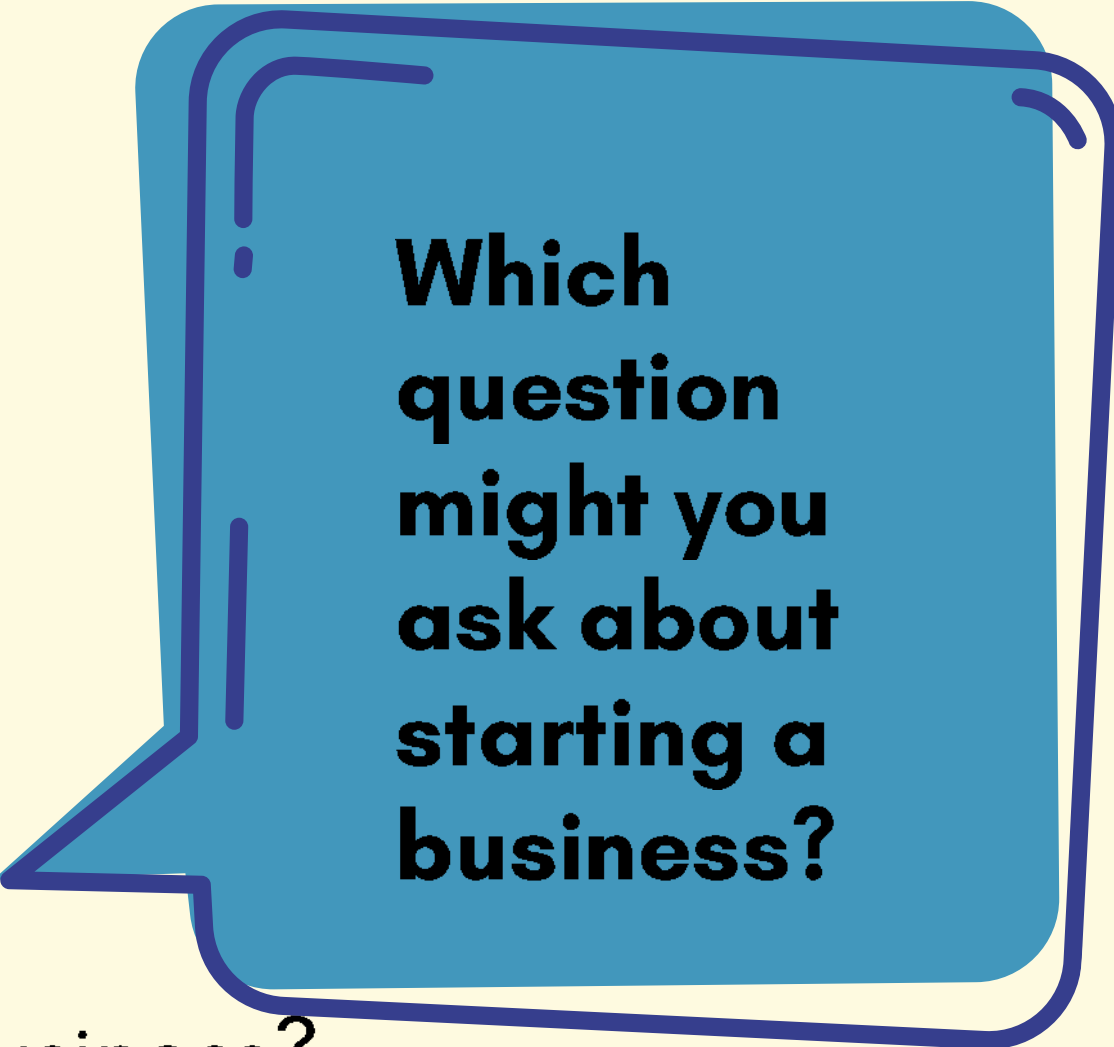
Which question might you ask an apprenticeship provider?

- What are the entry requirements for the jobs in this industry?
- What skills do I need?
- What work experience would you recommend and how can I get this?
- What pathways can get me into this industry/job?
- What are the working hours for this job?
- What are the day to day activities?
- What is the work environment like?
- What is the pay like?
- What is the career progression in this industry?
- What is the recruitment process for the roles in this industry?
- What would you have done differently if you were my age again?



Which question might you ask about a job or career path of an OK?

- What business did you set up and why?
- How did you set the business up?
- Who helped you set it up?
- What skills do you need to set up a business? /
- How did you finance setting up the business?
- What qualifications do you need to set up a business?
- What has been the biggest challenge of setting up a business?
- What have been the successes of setting up a business?
- Did you do anything alongside setting up your business?
- What advice would you give to someone who wants to set up a business?



Which question might you ask about starting a business?

- How did you plan your gap year?
- Why did you go on a gap year?
- Did you defer your university course or not apply?
- How much did it cost?
- What did you do on your gap year?
- Who did you go with?
- Did you go on an organised trip or organise it yourself?
- What were the challenges?
- What were the best parts of your gap year?
- What would you do if you had your time again?



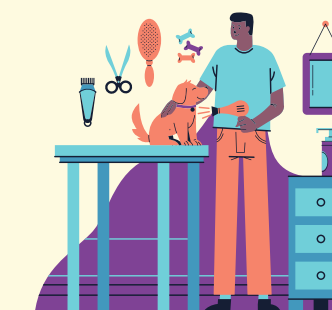
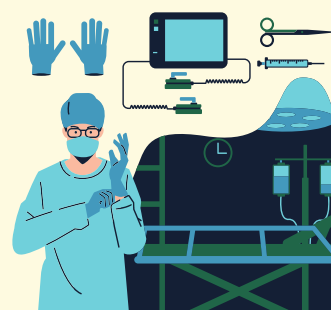
Which question might you ask about a gap year?

What do can I
do after the
fair?

- Reflect on what you learned – Which courses, universities, or careers stood out to you?
- Visit university and apprenticeship websites – Explore entry requirements, open days, and application deadlines. You can be ANY AGE to do this!

- Fill out the FEEDBACK FORM so that you can help improve the next HE and careers fair and also ask further questions
- Talk to teachers or Mrs Southern (careers adviser in the Careers Hub). You can make a 1:1 careers appointment here:
<https://forms.office.com/e/DzMJdJH8MC>
They can help you plan your next steps.





A career is a JOURNEY – this is a part of that journey of discovering which post 18 options might suit you and why.
Don't miss out by being UNPREPARED!