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Press Release

GCSE Advice

As thousands of young people across Kirklees receive their GCSE results, the advice from Connexions is “research your options and don’t panic if you haven’t got the results you need”. There are many choices open to you after Year 11.

The main option chosen by young people in this area is to stay in education, either at a college or a school sixth form. Judith Triner, a Connexions Personal Adviser from Calderdale & Kirklees Careers, offers this advice. “Hopefully, you will have already applied for a course and got the grades needed but if you haven’t got the grades don’t worry, you should take your results to the college and they may be able to offer you a place on an alternative course. If you haven’t applied for a course and you know what you want to do, you can contact a college or sixth form and ask if they still have vacancies. If you need advice you should contact your Connexions Personal Adviser or visit the Huddersfield Connexions Centre as soon as possible.”

Some school leavers choose to go straight into work and many students find apprenticeships, which offer employment and training leading to nationally recognised qualifications. Sarah Johnson, Employment and Training Adviser at C&K Careers says, “Apprenticeships are a fantastic way to start your career. However, if you have a job with no training, you can still improve your skills and qualifications by applying to college for part-time courses.”

To find out more about apprenticeships you can register with C&K Careers through the Huddersfield Connexions Centre. You can also register on the National Apprenticeship Service website www.apprenticeships.org.uk. You could also look on www.workabout.org.uk for local job vacancies suitable for young people. “We work directly with local and regional employers who want to fill apprenticeships and other vacancies,” Sarah continues. “In many trades, apprenticeships have been much harder to find because of the recession, so it is a good idea to contact Training Providers and employers to find out if they would be willing to take you on.” For those of you that have found your ideal Apprenticeship but haven’t got the grades you need, there

are still options open to you. You may still be accepted onto your chosen apprenticeship at NVQ/VQ Level 2. You need to check with the Training Provider or College.

If you are not quite ready for work, training or college, or are struggling to find the right programme, Foundation Learning may be for you. Foundation Learning is designed to help and support you with basic skills and prepare you for the next stage in your career. You can access lots of different skill areas through Foundation Learning and will be offered qualifications that will take you onto the next level.

For further information or advice about what to do next, see your Connexions Personal Adviser in school on results day or visit the Huddersfield Connexions Centre at 24 High Street, where Personal Advisers are available from 10am to 5pm Monday to Friday.

For further advice call the Learningline on 0800 5 979 979 (free from UK landlines). Lines are open 9am-5pm Monday to Friday or you can email learningline@ckcareers.org.uk

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Media Contact

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Editorial Notes

Calderdale & Kirklees Careers Ltd

Calderdale & Kirklees Careers is a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee. Any surpluses are used to develop the services provided to our clients. As providers of Connexions services, Personal Advisers offer young people information, advice and guidance relating to a number of issues including careers, education and training. Working with partnership organisations within Centres we are also able to offer specialist support in other areas such as health, housing and money. Adults are also encouraged to visit Centres, with specialist Careers 4 Adults advisers available to offer information, advice and guidance on careers, education and training.

Connexions Centres are located in Huddersfield, Dewsbury and Halifax,

Huddersfield Connexions Centre	Dewsbury Connexions Centre	Halifax Connexions Centre
24 High Street	Dewsbury Library	16 Alexandra Street
Huddersfield	Railway Street	Halifax
HD1 2LR	Dewsbury	HX1 1BS
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www.workabout.org.uk