

Resource guidance: film 2

Skills for success: Navigating subject options

This short film is designed to support making KS4 subject choices. It features young apprentices, T-level students, employers, parents and teachers talking about how academic skills are transferrable to the workplace. Parents will gain an understanding that their child needs to think about academic subjects in terms of transferrable skill development, rather than content. This is supported further by the skill scan activity resource which introduces a method of considering skills in GCSE choices through making links to work via Apprenticeships and Technical pathways. They can be used together to maximise impact.

Key messages include the importance of:

- 1 | Helping their child to reflect on their interests, skills and goals.
- 2 | Encouraging their child to make decisions that are right for them.
- 3 | Considering the skills that will be developed through subject choices and how they transfer to the world of work.

When to use this resource

This film will help parents feel part of their child's journey through subject exploration towards making meaningful choices in line with skills-awareness. Therefore, this resource is best used as part of subject choice/options events whether this is in person, online or via the provision of information as part of a booklet or website. **It is important to consider maximising impact by using this video as part of a wider activity or with discussion questions, or reflection prompts, to accompany them.** See below for suggestions.

Maximising the impact of this resource

The strength of this film, as a tool for sparking conversation and discussion with parents and carers about Apprenticeships and Technical Education, lies in the context in which they are presented and the 'wrap around' or follow-up work. Therefore, your role is key to their effectiveness in meeting this aim.

Developing a bank of Apprenticeship and Technical Education role model case studies, from your institution, to use with the resources within this pack will help to bring them to life and offers relatability and an aspirational element to this work. Once developed, case studies can be used flexibly with all our short films for a higher impact.

The video includes stimulus discussion questions at the end of the film to help encourage immediate conversation about Apprenticeship and Technical pathways. To support you to maximise the potential impact of these films on parents, carers and young people, a selection of 'off the shelf' and 'high impact' use ideas are included below.



Off the shelf

- The video link can be shared with parents and carers as part of pre-reading/viewing/preparation or introduction to options evening.
- Alternatively, the video can be played as part of a presentation at an options event.

The key messages in the video can be drawn upon to emphasise the importance of considering skills development, whether this is to explore work options or work as a learning context, in the future. The development of skills-awareness ensures that pupils feel more confident about making the right choices for them.



High Impact

- For a higher impact approach, the video can be used together with the skill scan activity. The skill scan activity takes pupils and their parents and carers through a step-by-step approach to considering skill-development and preferences in making subject choices. It makes a great introduction to this at an options event or as a preparation/taster activity before completing the skill scan activities.
- The video also offers a reflection opportunity. For example, parents and carers and their child can summarise their advice and reflect on what resonates most strongly with them. Students could write down the subjects that they are drawn to using the tips from the video whilst parents and carers make predictions based on the same advice – they could compare these and how they imagine using them in work (similar to this [family conversations](#) video). They could then develop some tips and advice for someone who wants to explore vocational pathways.
- Parents and carers could watch the video (and complete the skill scan) with their child and discuss one or more of the role model case studies to suggest how their subject choices may have prepared them for their role.

