

How local authorities can ensure local young people, colleges and employers can get the most from T Levels

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Dear Council Leader,

T Level Week

We are writing to you to ask you to lend your support to '*T Level Week*', which is due to take place on 20-27 September and is being organised by the All-Party Parliamentary Group on T Levels.

As we are sure you are aware, many young people across the country are already benefiting from this new qualification. We would be very grateful for your support in helping local young people, colleges and employers to get the most from T Levels.

T Levels are widening the opportunities available to post-16 year olds by putting technical and academic qualifications on an equal footing.

T Levels play an important role in aligning the education and training system with the skills British businesses and students need for the future. T Levels will support the next generation of the workforce to acquire important knowledge and skills and practical industry experience, which are in demand by employers and the wider economy, as well as providing students with universal skills such as a qualification demonstrating English, maths and digital skills proficiency.

As part of wider reforms for technical education, T Levels are based on the same employer-developed occupational standards as apprenticeships, so that the content meets the needs of industry and prepares students for work, further training or study.

T Levels will become one of the main choices for students after GCSE, alongside A Levels and apprenticeships. T Levels are equivalent to 3 A Levels and focus on vocational skills and can assist students get into skilled employment, higher study or apprenticeships. T Levels offer a blend of classroom learning alongside an 'on-the-job' industry placement, which not only makes them highly desirable as a qualification but directly relevant to employers.

This September marks not only the first anniversary of T Levels, but also their expansion to a whole new range of topics including building services engineering for construction, digital business services, digital support services, health, healthcare science, onsite construction, and science, widening career opportunities for more young people.

Show your support for T Levels, students and teachers in your local authority area and 'T Level Week' in the following ways:

- 1. Visit a school or college in your local authority to show your support for their work in delivering high quality technical education.
- 2. Send a press release to your local media celebrating the students undertaking this new qualification in your local authority. Please find a template attached.
- 3. Show your support for T Levels, the students studying them and the staff providing them on social media by using the attached infographics, hashtag #TLevels and sample tweets tagging @TLevelsAPPG and @TLevels_govuk.
- 4. Promote T Levels on your Council's website and in your newsletters and magazines/publications.
- **5. Table a Council motion at your next full Council meeting.** We have attached an example to showcase the excellent work on T Levels taking place in your local authority area.

We hope that you will be able to lend your support to this important new qualification.

Yours sincerely,

Christian Wakeford MP, Chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on T Levels



T LEVELS - QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Q: What are T Levels?

T Levels are a two-year qualification that are equivalent to 3 A Levels and focus on vocational skills and can assist students get into skilled employment, higher study or apprenticeships.

T Levels offer a blend of 80% classroom learning alongside 20% learning through an 'on-the-job' structured industry placement, which not only makes them highly desirable as a qualification but directly relevant to employers.

T Level courses comprise a technical qualification, a placement in industry together with maths, English and digital requirements, as well as other occupation-specific requirements / qualifications, and employability, enrichment and pastoral provision.

Q: How will T Levels work with other post-16 choices?

T Levels will become one of the main choices for students after GCSE, alongside A Levels and apprenticeships.

The UCAS tariff is aligned with other Level 3 qualifications such as A Levels so that T levels will support student progression into higher education. For example, highest T Level grade, Distinction, will be awarded the same number of UCAS points as 3 A*s at A level and a pass grade at T Level will be awarded at least as many points as 3 Ds at A level.

Q: How has the course content been designed?

T Level Panels consisting of employers, professional bodies and providers have prepared the outline course contents, with input from education experts.

Q: Where are T Levels being delivered?

The full list of colleges and schools delivering T Levels can be found here: Find a T Level | T Levels

O: What subjects can be studied?

From September 2020, students have been able to study:

- Design, Surveying and Planning for Construction
- Digital Production, Design and Development
- Education and Childcare

From this September, students are able to study:

- Building Services Engineering for Construction
- Digital Business Services
- Digital Support Services
- Health
- Healthcare Science
- Onsite Construction
- Science



Q: What subject will be able to be studied in the future?

From September 2022	 Accounting Design and Development for Engineering and Manufacturing Finance Maintenance, Installation and Repair for Engineering and Manufacturing Management and Administration Engineering, Manufacturing, Processing and Control
From September 2023	 Agriculture, Land Management and Production Animal Care and Management Catering Craft and Design Hair, Beauty and Aesthetics Legal Services Media, Broadcast and Production



COUNCIL MOTION: T LEVELS

[Council] notes that for too long the UK has failed to deliver parity between technical and academic qualifications.

[Council] notes that ensuring our education system takes account of a changing world, of the demands made by the labour market, and the world economy is vital to young people's long-term progression, opportunity and success.

[Council] notes that T Levels are widening the opportunities available to post-16 year olds by putting technical and academic qualifications on an equal footing.

[Council] notes that T Levels play an important role in aligning the education and training system with the skills British businesses and students need for the future.

T Levels are supporting the next generation of the workforce to acquire important knowledge and skills and practical industry experience, which are in demand by employers and the wider economy, as well as providing students with universal skills such as a qualification demonstrating English, maths and digital skills proficiency.

As part of wider reforms for technical education, T Levels are based on the same employer-developed occupational standards as apprenticeships, so that the content meets the needs of industry and prepares students for work, further training or study.

T Levels will become one of the main choices for students after GCSE study, alongside apprenticeships and academic programmes.

[Council] notes many young people in [local authority area] are already benefiting from this new qualification at [INSERT PROVIDER/PROVIDERS]

[Council] celebrates that this September represents one year of T Levels and also their expansion to a whole new range of topics including building services engineering for construction, digital business services, digital support services, health, healthcare science, onsite construction, and science, widening career opportunities for more young people.

[Council] resolves to do everything in its power to support T Levels, providers and students by:

- 1. Promoting T Levels on [Council]'s website and social media.
- 2. Promoting T Levels in [Council]'s newsletters and [Council's magazine/publications]
- 3. Writing to teachers and staff at [insert names of providers in local authority] to thank them for their work delivering this new qualification.
- 4. Encouraging more schools, colleges and further education providers in [local authority area] to consider providing T Levels.
- 5. Congratulating all students who have undertaken their first year of T Levels.



DRAFT PRESS RELEASE

[Council] celebrates T Level Week

Today, [NAME OF COUNCIL LEADER/CABINET MEMBER] visited [INSERT PROVIDER] to celebrate the first ever 'T Level Week', which is being coordinated by the All-Party Parliamentary Group on T Levels.

This September to mark 'One Year In' of T Levels, [INSERT NAME OF COUNCIL LEADER/PROVIDER] visited [INSERT PROVIDER] to meet with students and staff and learn more about this new qualification.

T Levels seek to widen the opportunities available to post-16 year olds by putting technical and academic qualifications on an equal footing.

T Levels offer a blend of classroom learning alongside an 'on-the-job' industry placement, which not only makes them highly desirable as a qualification but directly relevant to employers.

T Levels will become one of the main choices for students after GCSE study, alongside apprenticeships and academic programmes.

[NAME OF COUNCIL LEADER/CABINET MEMBER] said:

"T Levels are widening the opportunities available to more young people in [local authority area] and giving them skills that are in high demand by employers as well as the wider economy.

I would like to congratulate all the students who have undertaken their first year of T Levels at [INSERT PROVIDER] and the staff who have worked so hard to deliver this new qualification so successfully. I am delighted that the expansion of T Levels into a whole new range of subjects this week will mean that these opportunities are available to even more young people."

NOTES TO EDITOR

- T Level Week is being coordinated by the All-Party Parliamentary Group on T Levels. Further
 information about the campaign can be found on its website: <u>All-Party Parliamentary Group on T Level's website</u>
- This September represents 'One Year In' of T Levels and also their expansion to a whole new range
 of topics including building services engineering for construction, digital business services, digital
 support services, health, healthcare science, onsite construction, and science, widening career
 opportunities for more young people.
- T Levels are supporting the next generation of the workforce to acquire important knowledge and skills and practical industry experience, which are in demand by employers and the wider economy, as well as providing students with universal skills such as a qualification demonstrating English, maths and digital skills proficiency.
- As part of wider reforms for technical education, T Levels are based on the same employerdeveloped occupational standards as apprenticeships, so that the content meets the needs of industry and prepares students for work, further training or study.
- For more information on T Levels please visit the <u>All-Party Parliamentary Group on T Level's website</u> and <u>Introduction of T Levels GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</u>



SAMPLE TWEETS

[Council] is proud to support #TLevels and celebrate #TLevelWeek with @TLevelAPPG

Congratulations to all the students and staff in [LOCAL AUTHORITY AREA] studying & delivering #TLevels #TLevelWeek @TLevelAPPG @TLevels_govuk.

This week, we celebrate #TLevels 'one year in'. Congratulations to all the students at [COLLEGE/SCHOOL] who have completed their first year of T Levels and those about to study them. #TLevelWeek @TLevelAPPG @TLevels_govuk.

ABOUT THE ALL-PARTY PARLIAMENTARY GROUP ON T LEVELS

The APPG on T Levels aims to:

- 1. Increase cross-party parliamentarian awareness and understanding of T Levels;
- 2. Spread awareness and understanding of T Levels more broadly;
- 3. Provide a forum for discussion of the public policy issues around T Levels, involving all the key groups, including employers, young people, the education sector and parliamentarians.

The following MPs and Peers are officers of the APPG:

- Conservative member of the Education Select Committee, Christian Wakeford MP (Chair)
- Former Labour Education Secretary, The Rt. Hon. Lord David Blunkett (Vice Chair)
- Former Labour Education Secretary, The Rt. Hon. Baroness Estelle Morris
- Conservative member of the Education Select Committee, Jonathan Gullis MP
- Labour member of the Education Select Committee, Ian Mearns MP
- Conservative Member of Parliament, James Daly MP
- Conservative Member of Parliament, Jane Hunt MP
- Conservative Member of Parliament, Lia Nici MP
- Conservative Member of Parliament, Jane Stevenson MP
- Labour Member of Parliament, Christina Rees MP
- Conservative Peer, Baroness Hooper
- Conservative Peer, Lord Lucas
- · Crossbench Peer, Lord Aberdare
- Liberal Democrat Peer, Baroness Garden

The APPG on T Levels is sponsored by The Gatsby Charitable Foundation, The Education and Training Foundation and AECOM.

CONTACT DETAILS

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