

Futures Talk

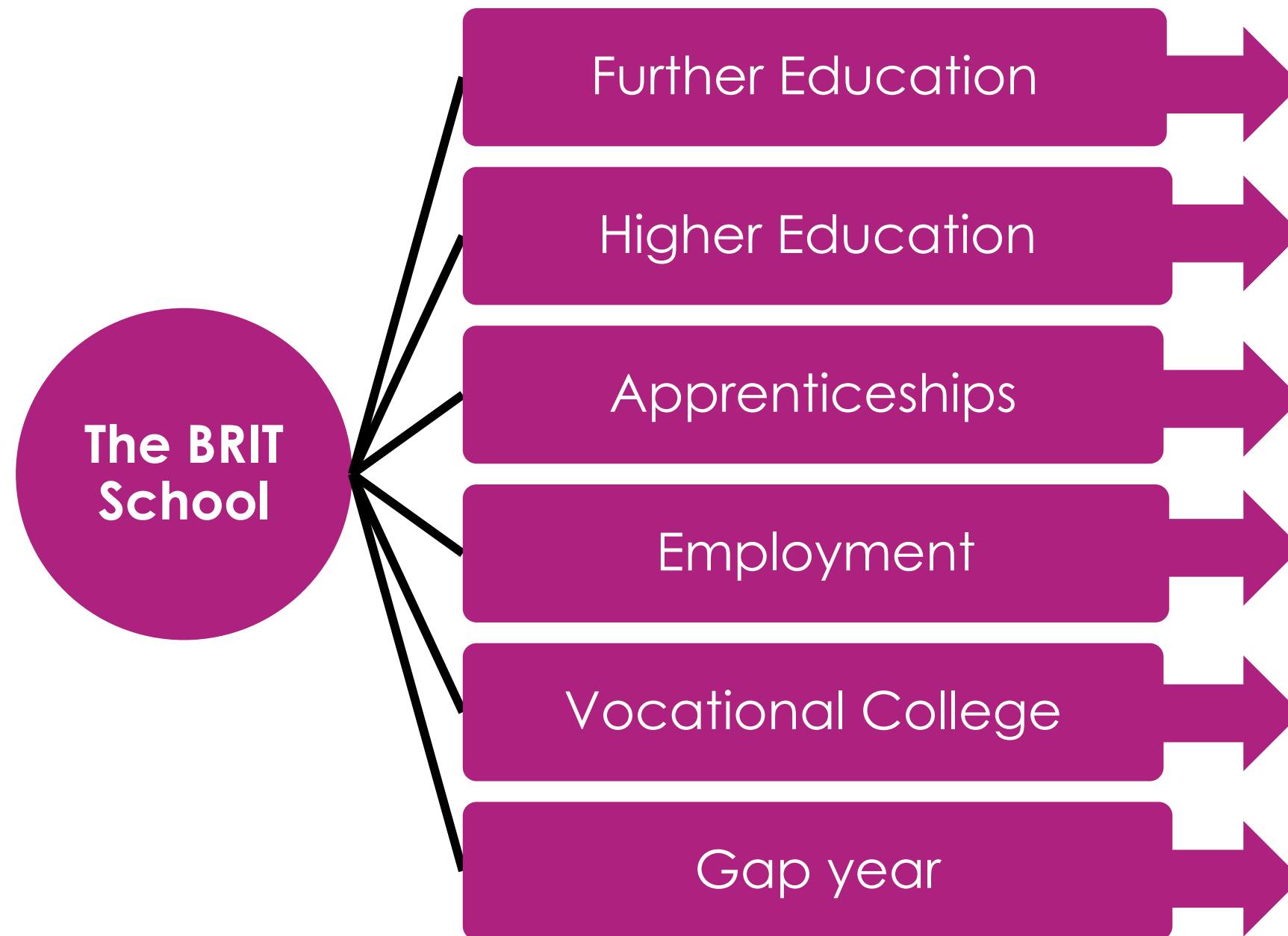
Jo Evans, Rosa Murdoch,
Rachael Kingsley

28 January 2026





YOUR FUTURE



YOUR FUTURE | YOUR CHOICE

HIGHER EDUCATION

University, Conservatoire or
Vocational School

56.6 % BRIT Leavers 2025

@thebritschool #theplacetobeyou



Higher Education | Research



Why are you interested in HE?

Do you need a degree?

What Subject do you want to study?

How is your degree assessed ?

Where would you like to study?

Will you meet the entry requirements?

Higher Education | Research



Where to start...

- *Course searches – Unifrog, UCAS*
- *Institution Websites*
- *Open Days / Campus Tours*
- *Graduate Shows and Exhibitions*
- *Careers Day 1st July 2026*

Higher Education | Application Process



UCAS

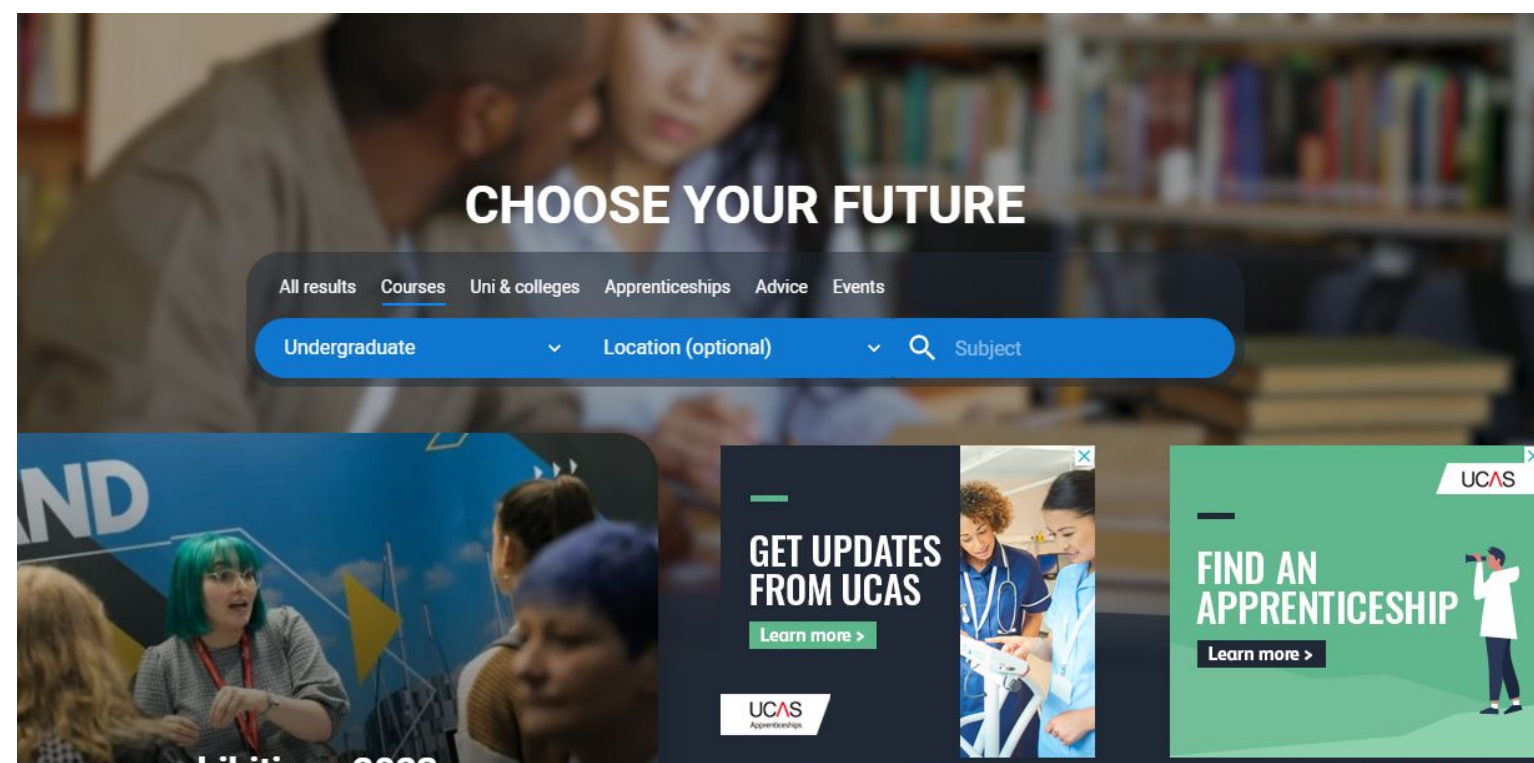
UCAS
Conservatoires

Direct

Higher Education | UCAS



www.Ucas.com



The BRIT School Deadline: 6th November 2026

Online application
linked to the BRIT School
using Buzzword

Up to 5 Choices

Payment at the time of
submission (audition
fees later)

Assistance with
registering, completion,
approval and reference

UCAS Parent
Newsletters – Sign up

@thebritschool #theplacetobeyou

Higher Education | UCAS Conservatoires

www.ucas.com

CONSERVATOIRES
Conservatoires provide performance-based higher education, including music, drama, screen and production courses – both at undergraduate and postgraduate levels

Studying at a conservatoire
What are conservatoires like? How do conservatoires differ from a university or college?

BE INSPIRED, WITH ALL THE FACTS.
Opt in to get the full picture >

GET UPDATES FROM UCAS
Learn more >

Official Conservatoires Deadline (Music) Oct
Official Conservatoires Deadline (Drama/Dance) Jan 14th

**Online application
(independent)**

Up to 6 Choices

**Payment at the time of
submission
(including audition
fees)**

**Must obtain and send
own references**

**Different Deadlines for
Different Courses**

**Some Conservatoires
are NOT on UCAS
Conservatoires**

@thebritschool #theplacetobeyou



Higher Education | Vocational



**GUILD
HALL**
SCHOOL



**LONDON
STUDIO
CENTRE**

THE PLACE LONDON
CONTEMPORARY
DANCE SCHOOL

MOUNTVIEW

RADA

ROYAL
ACADEMY OF
DRAMATIC ART

Laine
Theatre Arts

Application methods vary!

Early Applications get Early Auditions!

Audition Fees payable to the institution

May have 1/2/3 rounds of auditions!

Must obtain and send own references

Different Deadlines for Different Courses

@thebritschool #theplacetobeyou

Higher Education | Audition & Interview



Performing Arts

- University – Audition & Interview
- Vocational – Audition & Payment required

Creative Arts

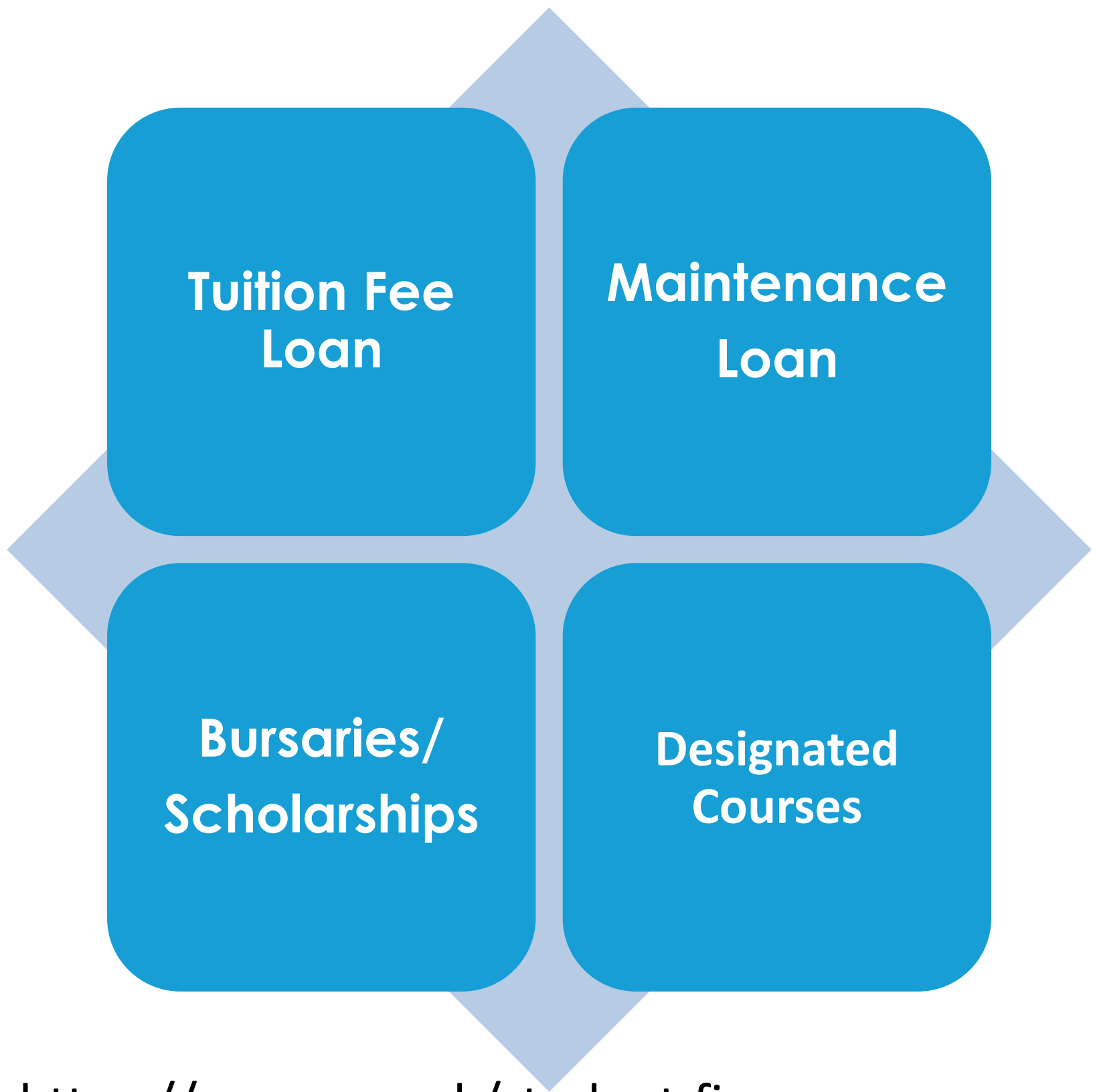
- Portfolio / Showreel Submission – e-portfolios & Interview

Other UCAS Courses

- Interview for unusual choices, changes of subject, competitive course
- Mock Interviews with Careers Team
- Personal Statement is VITAL!

Higher Education | Funding & Finance





<https://www.gov.uk/student-finance>

Useful Resources

Student Finance <https://studentfinance.campaign.gov.uk/>

Student finance calculator

<https://www.gov.uk/student-finance-calculator>

Money Saving Expert

<https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/students/>



YOUR FUTURE | YOUR CHOICE

APPRENTICESHIPS/EMPLOYMENT

Your Journey to Work

11 % BRIT Leavers 2025



[@thebritschool](#) [#theplacetobeyou](#)



Apprenticeships

- For many students this is a really viable alternative to University
- Apprenticeships are available in a diverse range of industry sectors



Employer



Learning Provider



Types of Apprenticeship



Apprenticeships have equivalent educational levels.

Name	Level	Equivalent educational level
Intermediate	2	5 GCSE passes at grades A* to C
Advanced	3	2 A level passes
Higher	4, 5, 6 and 7	Foundation degree and above
Degree	6 and 7	Bachelor's or master's degree

Apprenticeships | Recruitment

- Can be very competitive
- Students need to be pro-active
- Vacancies can be found at:
 - National apprenticeship website
www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk
 - Individual organisation websites
 - Careers Bulletin
 - Careers Instagram



<https://www.gov.uk/student-finance>

@thebritschool #theplacetobeyou

Routes to Employment



- Self Promotion – connecting and social networking
- CVs – examples, templates and skills sessions
- Interview Techniques and Mock Interviews
- Vacancies/Internships published on LinkedIn, The DOTS, Post 16 Careers Bulletin, Social Media

YOUR FUTURE | YOUR CHOICE

FURTHER EDUCATION

Year 14, FE College,
Foundation Course

17% BRIT School Leavers 2025



@thebritschool #theplacetobeyou

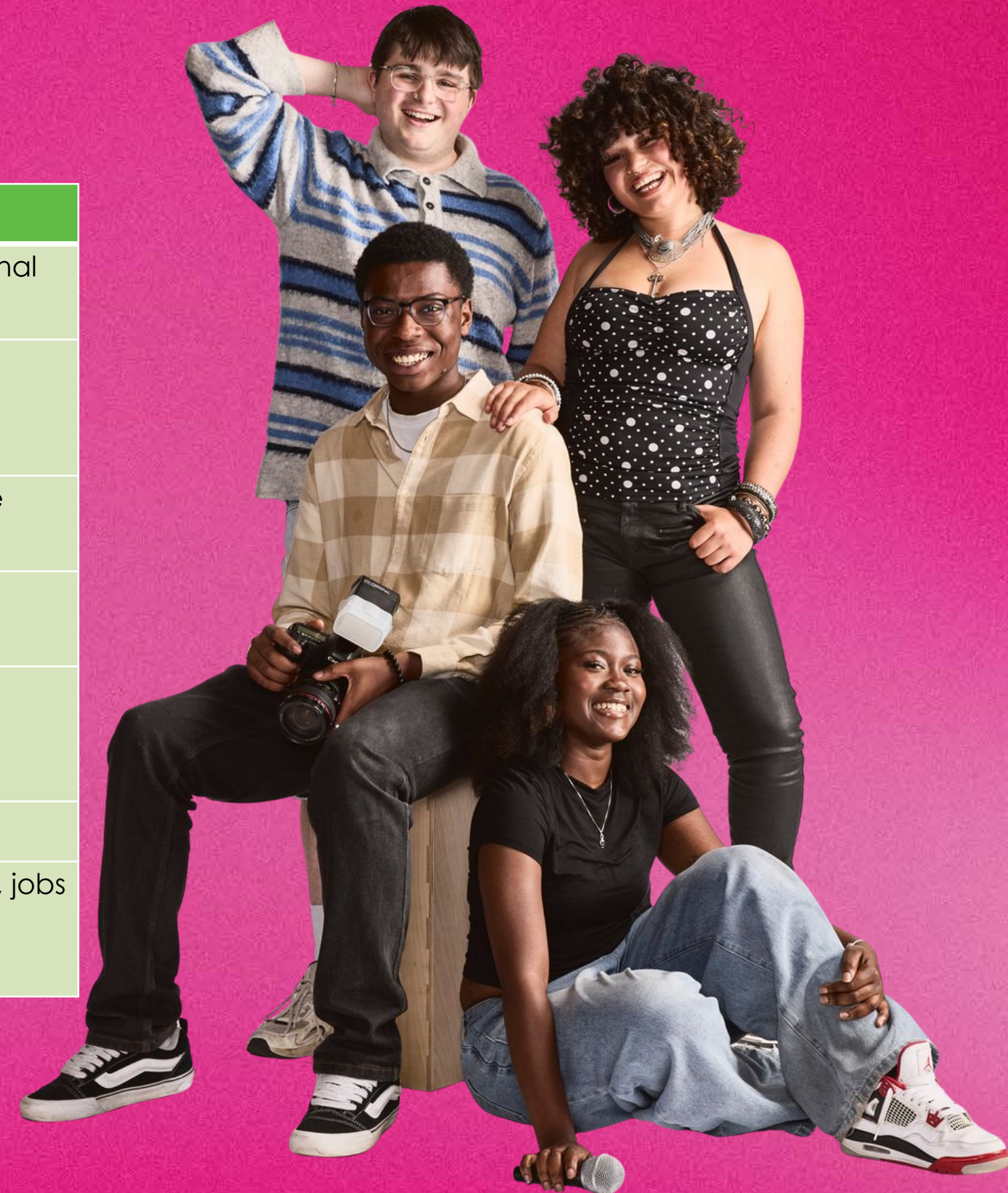
Further Education



- **Foundation Courses in Art & Design**
- **Alternative Qualifications**
- **Most FE courses free to Under 19s (this is not the case for some Performance Foundation Years)**
- **All FE courses are Direct Applications**

What and when...

YEAR 12 & Summer Holidays	YEAR 13
Research course options	September - finalise course choices, submit personal statement,
Visit schools, colleges, universities	Early October – deadline for UCAS Conservatoire (Music), Oxbridge, and some Vocational Schools
Attend graduate shows/showcases	End October – finish UCAS applications, complete Vocational Applications
Research gap year options	November 6 2026 – BRIT School UCAS Deadline
Compile CV, Letter of Application Online blog, website	January 2027 – Official Deadlines, UCAS, UCAS Conservatoires, Foundation Courses
Look at finances and viable options	Update all CVs
Register for UCAS and/or UCAS Conservatoires Complete all relevant sections	Spring 2027 Apply for Internships, apprenticeships, jobs



Getting it Right...

- Keep your Options Open
- Think about what YOU want to do!
- Unsure about whether you want to go to HE?
- Apply anyway – can always withdraw
- Foundation Course /Degree??
- Apply to all and decide nearer the time.
- Talk to careers team, tutors and teachers
- Research online, careers resources, careers day
- Think about Plan B
- Be Realistic
- Get Experience – taster courses, work placements, visits



BRIT School Support...

Book a Careers Appointment

Careers@brit.croydon.sch.uk

School Website

<https://www.brit.croydon.sch.uk/careers>

Careers Site

<https://sites.google.com/brit.croydon.sch.uk/careersbrit>

We are committed to providing the best possible advice and guidance to our students

