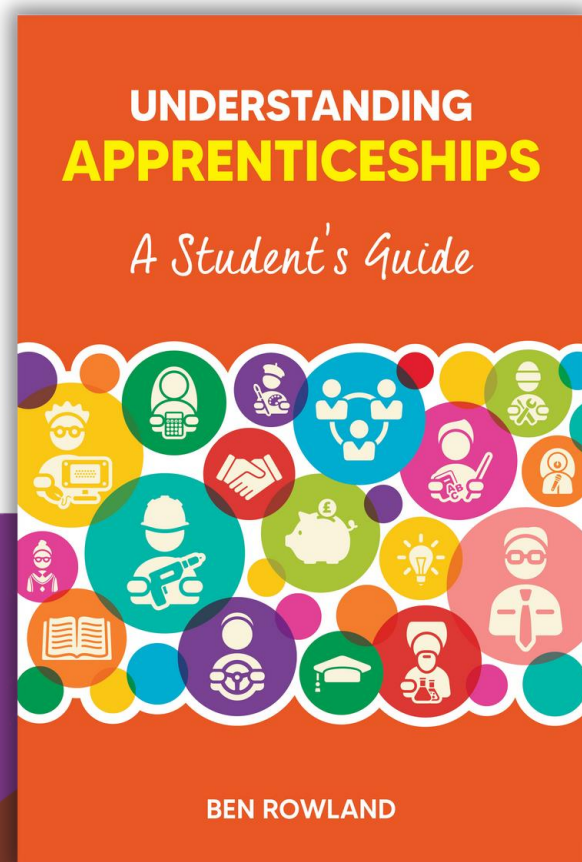




**Supplementary materials**  
for students

**UNDERSTANDING APPRENTICESHIPS**  
**A Student's Guide**

**Lesson 4: Weighing Up Your Options**



# WEIGHING UP YOUR OPTIONS – OBJECTIVES

- **Help you understand what your main options are**
- **What you could be including in your deliberations**
- **How to go about evaluating and comparing your options**

**QUESTION FOR DISCUSSION:**

**WHAT ARE YOUR  
MAIN POST-SCHOOL  
OPTIONS?**

# WHAT ARE YOUR MAIN OPTIONS?

- **Going to university**
- **Doing an apprenticeship**
- **Taking a year (or two) out**
- **Getting a regular job**
- **Doing further education (other courses, not an apprenticeship or degree)**

# ACTIVITY!

**QUESTION: WHAT ARE THE PROS AND CONS OF EACH?**

## **1. DISCUSS IN SMALL GROUPS**

**LOOK AT ONE OF THE OPTIONS FROM THE PREVIOUS SLIDE  
AND IDENTIFY THE PROS AND CONS FOR THAT OPTION**

## **2. SHARE BACK WITH THE GROUP**

# HOW CAN YOU COMPARE THESE OPTIONS?

**WITH SO MANY OPTIONS – AND WITH EACH ONE HAVING MANY COMBINATIONS AND VARIATIONS – IT IS NOT EASY TO COMPARE OPTIONS**

**How do you go about it?**

# ACTIVITY!

## HOW CAN YOU COMPARE THESE OPTIONS?

1. NOTE DOWN YOUR INITIAL THOUGHTS ON WHAT YOU THINK YOU WANT TO DO AFTER SCHOOL

Explore your reasons, separating out those which are about what other people think (like your parents or teachers) from those which are what you think.

2. LOOK AT THE FINANCES: WHAT IS THE TRUE COST OF EACH OF YOUR OPTIONS? HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT DEBT?

3. LOOK AT THE TIMING: HOW READY ARE YOU FOR EACH OPTION? HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE LENGTH OF EACH OPTION?

# ACTIVITY!

## AFTER THE LESSON...

4. DO YOUR RESEARCH: ONLINE, GUIDANCE BOOKS (E.G. *UNDERSTANDING APPRENTICESHIPS: A STUDENT'S GUIDE*, WRITTEN BY BEN ROWLAND)

5. GET ADVICE: FROM YOUR CAREERS ADVISORS, FRIENDS OF THE FAMILY, OLDER SIBLINGS/COUSINS AND PEOPLE IN YOUR COMMUNITY

6. HAVING DONE ALL THE ABOVE – BUT ONLY WHEN YOU HAVE DONE ALL OF THE ABOVE – TRUST YOUR INSTINCT!