

Great Careers! - Alternatives to University

For those who are not aiming at university, the following video clips provide career stories of people who decided to enter the workplace after GCSEs or A Levels (or equivalent). They highlight the range of opportunities available and provide inspiration.



Barristers' Clerk *(left school with GCSEs)*

Luke joined a leading chamber of barristers straight after leaving school. He now has his own assistant and the potential of high earnings.



Commercial Underwriter *(left school with GCSEs)*

Lois knew she wanted to work in the City. She trained as a secretary and looked out for an employer who would help her switch from an administration role into a professional



Inventor *(left school with A levels)*

Gilo began researching and designing aircraft while at school. He now designs and builds aircraft ranging from flying cars to drones.



Business Systems Analyst *(left school with GCSEs)*

Natalie works in fashion footwear. She started in customer services and is doing a course in business analysis and is aiming for a managerial role.



Business Owner *(left school with A levels)*

Aden had planned to study ICT at university but he was offered a job after doing some work-based training, and now runs his own ICT support company.



HR Manager *(left school with GCSEs)*

Kirsty started working for Tesco while she was still at school and nine years later she is a manager responsible for recruiting staff to work in the store.



Wildlife Warden *(Diploma in Animal Studies)*

James has always been passionate about wildlife. He works for WWT and is based at Slimbridge. His work involves travelling around the world.



Legal Management PA *(left school with GCSEs)*

After training as a legal secretary, Gemma joined a large legal firm in her home town and has worked her way up by stages into a management role.



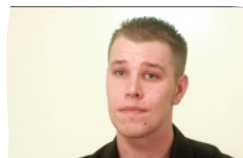
Reception Supervisor *(left school with GCSEs)*

Lee began in telesales and has been promoted several times. He now leads the reception team at a prestigious hair and beauty salon. He plans to open his own salon eventually.



Hotel Operations Manager *(left school with A levels)*

Lauren joined a large hotel chain straight after leaving school. Her hard work and dedication was rewarded and four years later she became a manager.



Retail Merchandising Trainer *(Level 3 qualification in IT)*

Adam works for Panasonic and is responsible for retail staff training and for setting up displays in stores across his region. He needs to be self-motivated as he works from home.



Stylist *(Level 2 qualification in Business Studies, City & Guilds: Hairdressing and Make-up)*

Sam divides her time between working in the salon and looking after clients in the music and fashion industries both in the UK and overseas.