

# Supporting T Level Learners Progress on to Higher Education

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**Andrew Jones - Director**



University of  
East London



SOAS  
University of London

unionlearn  
with the TUC



POINT BLANK  
MUSIC SCHOOL



The London Institute  
of Banking & Finance

LONDON  
SOUTH EAST  
COLLEGES



New College  
of the Humanities



Harrow  
COLLEGE



UNIVERSITY  
of GREENWICH



The College of  
Haringey, Enfield  
and North East London



London  
South Bank  
University



Brunel  
University  
London

London's  
International  
Drama School



Westminster Kingsway  
central London's College



KING'S  
College  
LONDON



St Mary's  
University  
Twickenham  
London



UXBRIDGE  
COLLEGE



ROYAL CENTRAL  
SCHOOL OF SPEECH & DRAMA

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON



# Outline

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- Overview of Progression Pathways
- Key Challenges
- The London picture
- Partner Perspectives
- Linking London's work in this area and plans going forward

# Next Steps After T Levels

## A shift in focus?

T levels will be designed primarily to support entry to skilled employment. Successful completion of a T level will provide students with the knowledge, skills and behaviours necessary to start skilled employment in an occupation related to their field of study.

*Post-16 technical education reforms T level action plan October 2017*



### AWARDED UCAS POINTS

Your T Level will be worth UCAS points – a T Level Distinction\* is worth the same as 3 A levels at A\* – and will be recognised by universities and other education providers so you can choose to continue studying if you wish.

### THE NEXT LEVEL QUALIFICATION

T Levels are a qualification after GCSE that will take your future to the next level.

I'm a student

### YOUR FUTURE WORKFORCE

T Levels include a 45-day industry placement that can help you find and develop new talent.

I'm an employer

### ↑ EQUIVALENT TO 3 A LEVELS

T Levels are an alternative to A levels, apprenticeships and other 16 to 19 courses. Equivalent to 3 A levels, a T Level focuses on vocational skills and can help students into skilled employment, higher study or apprenticeships.

### ↑ A 45-DAY INDUSTRY PLACEMENT

Each T Level includes an in-depth industry placement that lasts at least 45 days. Students get valuable experience in the workplace; employers get early sight of the new talent in their industry.

### ↑ 80% CLASSROOM, 20% WORK

T Level students spend 80% of the course in the classroom, learning the skills that employers need. The other 20% is a meaningful industry placement, where they put these skills into action.

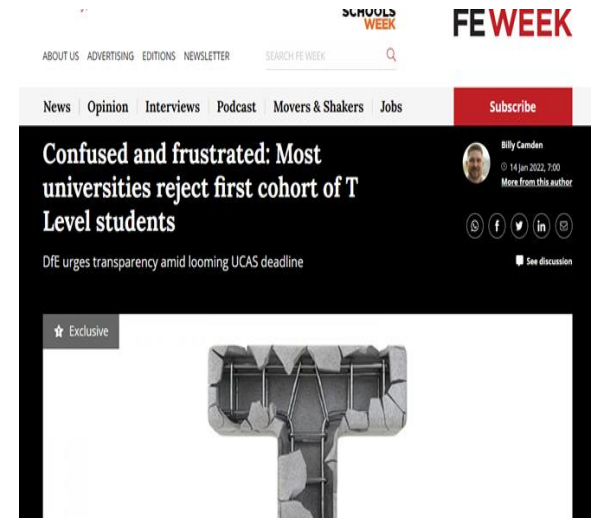
# Progression Pathways from T Levels

- Employment
- Apprenticeship
- HE:
  - Level 4 and 5 Higher Technical Qualifications
  - Undergraduate Degree
- Other: eg Year in Industry, Gap Year



# Progression to HE from T Levels: A slow start

Guidance  
**Providers that have confirmed T Levels  
suitable for entry on one course**



# Key Challenges

The screenshot shows the UK Parliament Hansard website. At the top left is the UK Parliament logo. Below it, the word 'Hansard' is displayed. To the right of 'Hansard' is a red button with a white crown icon and the text 'HOUSE OF LORDS'. Below this is a breadcrumb trail: [UK Parliament](#) > [Hansard](#) > [Lords: 24 February 2022](#) > [Lords Chamber](#) > [Higher Education: T-Levels](#). The main title 'Higher Education: T-Levels' is in large white text. Below it, in smaller white text, is 'Volume 819: debated on Thursday 24 February 2022'. To the right of this text is a calendar icon showing 'FEB 24 2022'. At the bottom left is a 'Download text' link with a document icon. At the bottom right are 'Previous debate' and 'Next debate' links with circular arrows.

UK Parliament

Hansard

HOUSE OF LORDS

[UK Parliament](#) > [Hansard](#) > [Lords: 24 February 2022](#) > [Lords Chamber](#) > [Higher Education: T-Levels](#)

**Higher Education: T-Levels**

Volume 819: debated on Thursday 24 February 2022

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My Lords, if T-levels are to be a success—there are two issues. One is the question of placements. The other is the question of recognition by universities.

Baroness Barran (Con)

# It's Complicated

HE providers are autonomous institutions

Numbers on T Levels low

The U-turn on maths and English

Its not always a good fit

It's a risk



# The London Picture



T-level providers London				
	Digital sector	Construction sector	Education & Childcare sector	Health & Science sector
<b>Provider Phase 1 2020/21</b>				
Cranford Community College	X		X	
Harrow College & Uxbridge College	X		X	
La Retraite RC Girls School	X		X	
Ursuline High School	X			
<b>Provider Phase 2 2021/22</b>				
Barking & Dagenham College	X	X	X	
Mulberry UTC				X
New City College			X	
Newham College	X			X
Newham Sixth Form College		X	X	
Richmond upon Thames College	X	X	X	X
Stanmore College			X	X
Capital City Colleges (WKCIC)	X		X	X
United Colleges Group	X	X		



*Welcome to Linking London*

*Working in Partnership to Create Opportunities*

# Linking London

- T Level Events & Practitioner Group
- Entry Requirement Mapping
- Resource development
- Plans going forward

# College Perspectives on HE Progression

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*A lot of parents are concerned that learners that want to progress onto university would not be able to as they felt universities don't recognise T Levels. Vice Principal FE*

*You've taken lots of our BTEC students what is it about T Levels you don't like? Head of Student Services and IAG FE*

*Students are asked to ring universities and speak to admissions departments to find out what courses accept T Levels. There are 2 problems here. One is its difficult to get to the right person and get a definitive answer. Two, most of my students lack the confidence to ring up and argue the case almost Careers Manager FE*

*Some of my students have been offered a FY which shows a total lack of understanding on their part Careers Adviser FE*

# Is the T Level Good Preparation for HE?

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*Absolutely. Yes. If they are going for a vocational HE course. Its an academic and practical course and students are able to apply knowledge gained. It's a tough challenging course and it includes exams. Careers Manager FE*

*T levels are rigorous in content in content and curriculum and can absolutely meet the requirements of an undergraduate programme. Curriculum lead FE*

*Many degree programmes are a combination of academic and vocational, so they are a good fit for many courses. Lots of practical experience and skills development and an awful lot of knowledge and understanding embedded in the qualification. Awarding Body HE lead*

*We are taking the best of our A Level and BTEC students on to this very demanding course. Universities need to be aware of this as many would like to go on to HE VP FE*

# What about Outreach Support?

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- *Most of the IAG support we have provided is similar to other level 3 learners, but evidencing skills and knowledge gained on the T Level in the personal statement is vital.*
- *Tutors need to make sure that the UCAS reference highlights the depth of skills, practical experience and applied knowledge, as well as academic rigour gained on the course*
- *We have had some support from HEIs which has been great. What really works is when it is subject and sector focussed and links up to their offer.*
- *We'd love unis to engage with our students early on and start to build relationships*
- *For next year we really want to be able to bring back students that have made it into HE to share their experiences*

# HE Perspectives

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*We have tried to be forward thinking to say we actively accept T levels we don't want a new qualification to be a barrier to students joining our university.*


*The vast majority of our academics are fully on board. The few that aren't need to realise that they will be losing out on a growing pipeline of potential students in the future.*

*Its been quite a challenging journey for us as most of our courses are academic in nature.*

*The first T Level subjects aren't a good fit with what we offer. We are however expecting to accept students on other subjects as they roll out.*

*While numbers of T Level learners in London are relatively small, we have started putting together a bespoke outreach offer with schools and colleges, highlighting progression pathways at our university.*

*We are putting in place, working closely with colleges, placement pilots for business and management and digital courses with a view to opening this up to other routes in the future.*

A hand with a grey sleeve cuff points at a specific station on a London Underground map. The map is a complex network of colored lines (blue, yellow, red, green, purple) representing different tube lines. The background is slightly blurred, focusing attention on the hand and the map.

# How are London universities responding? Linking London T Level Entry Requirement Mapping



Mapping: 2022 Entry

27 London Universities

Overall information on T Levels + by related subject area

-Information Accept

-Information Reject

-No information Found

# Mapping Results

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Accept 10

Reject 1

No information 16

*2 HEIs have dedicated T Level Page*

# University of Greenwich



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*The University of Greenwich welcomes T Levels at their UCAS tariff point allocation as a new progression pathway to university.*

*- Professor Jane Harrington, Vice-Chancellor, University of Greenwich*



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## T Levels

We will be accepting the new T-Level qualifications to enter our undergraduate courses and Degree Apprenticeship programmes.

### What are T Levels?

T Levels are a new award that are equivalent to three A Levels. They come with UCAS tariff points and can be used for entry to Higher Education courses.

[ABOUT T LEVELS](#)

[ABOUT UCAS TARIFF](#)



If you are a current student please contact the Student Centre or IT Service Desk for further assistance



# Brunel University



[Home](#) / [Study](#) / [Admissions](#) / [T Levels](#)

**Along with A-levels, BTECs and apprenticeships, students can now choose to study T Levels at selected schools, colleges and other providers across England. We welcome students applying to Brunel with T Level qualifications and expect the first students to be applying for entry in September 2022.**

## What are T Levels?

Introduced in September 2020, **T Levels** are a new two-year course available to students following on from GCSEs, as an alternative to A-levels. Similar to BTEC National Extended Diplomas, they're equivalent to three A-levels.

The qualification is split into 80 per cent classroom-based learning and the remaining 20 per cent is spent on a 45-day placement with an employer. The T Level programme is intended to help you develop the knowledge and technical skills required for skilled

[Policy](#) >

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# St Marys

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## UK qualification requirements

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### – 120 UCAS points

#### A Levels

Minimum of 120 points of which 80 must include at least two B grades including any specific subjects mentioned on the course pages. Remaining points can be made up of A Level and AS Grades including General Studies.

#### Equivalent qualifications

- BTEC Extended Diploma: DMM
- T Levels: M
- OCR National Extended Diploma: M1
- Access Courses: PASS

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### + 112 UCAS points

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### + 104 UCAS points

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# City University

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## **Children's Nursing BSc (Hons)**

T-Level in any of the following.  
Must have a grade of Merit, or above:

Health and Science:  
Healthcare Science.

Education and Childcare.

Laboratory science.

Medical and healthcare science.



# Royal Central School of Speech and Drama

SET CONSTRUCTION FOR STAGE AND  
SCREEN & COSTUME CONSTRUCTION &  
DESIGN FOR PERFORMANCE

- Qualification requirements
- UCAS Tariff - 64 - 120 points
- A level - CC
- Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma (first teaching from September 2016) - MPP
- T Level - P
- **An overall Pass (D or E) is acceptable for admission. Grades alone will not determine whether an applicant may be offered a place. Offers are only made following successful interview.**



It's a fast-  
moving  
Picture

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# DfE List of HE Providers Accepting T Levels

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Guidance

## **Providers that have confirmed T Levels suitable for entry on one course**

Updated 4 March 2022

### **1. List of higher education providers that have confirmed T Levels will be suitable for entry onto a minimum of one course**

To support students, schools and colleges with understanding options for progression into higher education from T Levels, we have produced a list of higher education providers that have confirmed that they will consider T Levels for entry onto at least one course at their institution. This list is not exhaustive, and there are likely to be differing entry requirements for different providers and courses. We would encourage students to look at UCAS and at their preferred higher education provider's website for more information on entry requirements. Admissions offices can be contacted directly should students require further information on entry requirements. This list will be updated on a regular basis as more providers confirm that they will accept T Levels.

# Linking London T Level Resources



# Supporting T Level Learners to make Informed Choices

## WHERE CAN A T LEVEL IN CONSTRUCTION: DESIGN, SURVEYING AND PLANNING TAKE ME?

Use this guide to get an idea of your possible next steps

**Included in this guide**

What next?

UCAS Tariff Table

Higher education

Tips on making choices

Higher & degree apprenticeships

Related careers

Resources

## WHERE CAN A T LEVEL IN EDUCATION & CHILDCARE TAKE ME?

Use this guide to get an idea of your possible next steps

**Included in this guide**

What next?

UCAS Tariff Table

Higher education

Tips on making choices

Higher & degree apprenticeships

Related careers

Resources

## WHERE CAN A T LEVEL IN DIGITAL: DIGITAL PRODUCTION, DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT TAKE ME?

Use this guide to get an idea of your possible next steps

**Included in this guide**

What next?

UCAS Tariff Table

Higher education

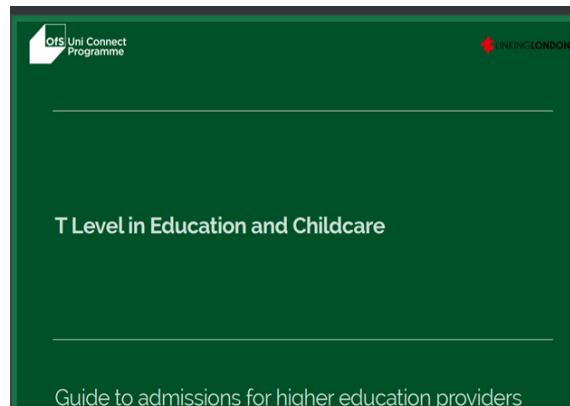
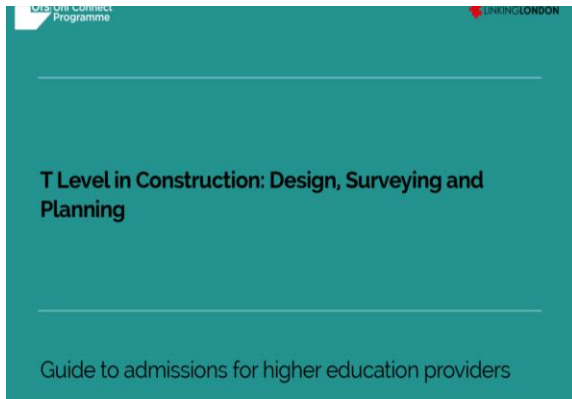
Tips on making choices

Higher & degree apprenticeships

Related careers

Resources

# Supporting HE Admissions staff to set fair and meaningful entry requirements



# In the pipeline

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- Further mapping of entry requirements for 2023 entry
- London Progression Routes Database
- Further resource guides
- HE/FE/Awarding body Curriculum Forums
- Progression Agreements
- Collaborative Outreach Offer / Alumni network

# Closing Thoughts

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- Learning from the past
- Collaboration between providers vital
- Clearly articulated pathways to HE key to the success of T Levels
- There are encouraging signs
- Its all about the learners!

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Thanks for listening!

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