Qualification Levels

Types of qualification

7	Masters					Higher Apprenticeship	Degree Apprenticeship
6	Degree (BA/BSc)	Top-up Degree (BA/BSc)		Professional Qualifications	Professional Graduate in Education (PgCE)		
5		Foundation Degree	Higher National Diploma (HND)		Certificate in Education (CertEd)		
4		(FdA/FdSc)	Higher National Certificate (HNC)				
3	A-Levels	Level 3 Diploma	T-Levels	Access to HE Diploma		Advanced Apprenticeship	
2	GCSE Grades 9-4	Level 2 Diploma				Intermediate Apprenticeship	
1	GCSE Grades 3-1	Level 1 Diploma					



Higher National Certificate/Diploma (HNC/HND) These are work-related, practical qualifications that give you

skills you can use in a particular job. They can help you enter chosen career or progress in your current role.

Foundation degrees

A foundation degree offers a combination of technical skills and academic study. It is a qualification in its own right or can be topped up to an honour's degree.

Honours degrees

Degrees give you a thorough understanding of one or more subjects. They help you develop your analytical, intellectual and writing skills. You can use your degree to move into employment or you could go on to a postgraduate course.

■ Top-up degree

This study programme allows you to convert your foundation degree or HND into a full honours degree.

Master's degree

A master's degree is undertaken by degree graduates and covers a precise area of study.

Degree & higher apprenticeships

These apprenticeships give you the chance to gain practical work experience and study a university level qualification.

Professional qualifications

Professional qualifications are vocational training courses that relate to a specific industry or career path. They are designed to ensure that everyone employed in a particular job meets the minimum required standards of professional expertise.

