Learner journey IN A NUTSHELL

A clear view to the future

When it comes to thinking about options, parents have a big influence on what our children choose to do. So, that means we need to know what we are talking about. It's up to us to take the long view because that's harder for young people to do: it's not just about now; it's also about what's up ahead and makes most sense based on the future job market.

Young people have all sorts of options aboutwhat and where they learn as they move from S2 to S6 and beyond. They get the chance to learn in different ways and in different places.

There's a lot of flexibility in order to appeal to each young person. That's because staying in learning after 16 is likely to give them the best chance of secure and rewarding work.

You can do a lot to support your child to stay on track by:

- Finding out, for yourself, about the options open to young people now
- Keeping an open mind and remembering that the world of education and of work has changed a lot since you were at school
- Encouraging your child to talk to you and others about their hopes and plans
- Looking together with them at what's out there and what might best suit them

Starting out

As your child moves through school, they need time to try things out, find out what they like and don't like, and also change their minds. You can help them by encouraging them to think about their skills, interests and strengths, the subjects/qualifications and awards they want to do now, and what they might do in the future.
Their school will be doing the same: helping your child to explore the options, and to come up with a plan which gets them to where they want to go.
If you know about the different qualifications and awards which your child can do, this will help you and them when it comes to choosing the direction of travel.

Next steps

There are some practical things you can do to support your child right now:

Help them set up an account on myworldofwork.co.uk/my-career-options so they (and you) can see what's on offer.

Encourage them to speak to the school about work experience and college taster courses so they can have a go at doing different things.

Suggest they speak to the school careers adviser who can give them career information, advice and guidance.

Tell the school if you can offer work experience to a pupil or give a talk about your work and how you arrived at it: schools are keen to hear about how school subjects relate to the world of work.
Help your child work out their next steps.

Reassure them that there are always options for learning new skills and retraining if they decide to do something different in the future.

Help them get any support they need whether they want to get a job straight from school; earn and learn in an apprenticeship; study at college and/or university; or some combination of these.

There's no right way, wrong way or dead ends on the learner journey.

Planning

A good place for young people to plan their learner journey is on My World of Work at:
myworldofwork.co.uk/my-career-options

They can set up their own account here.

This site:

- Prompts them to think about what they're good at, and what they like and don't like doing
- Shows the many opportunities there are, whether it's teaching windsurfing; being a music instructor, lawyer, health professional, accountant, actor; working in theatre tech, motor mechanics, audio production, photography,
programming, design, cyber security; or something else that you or they have never even heard of Take a look yourself.

Destination board

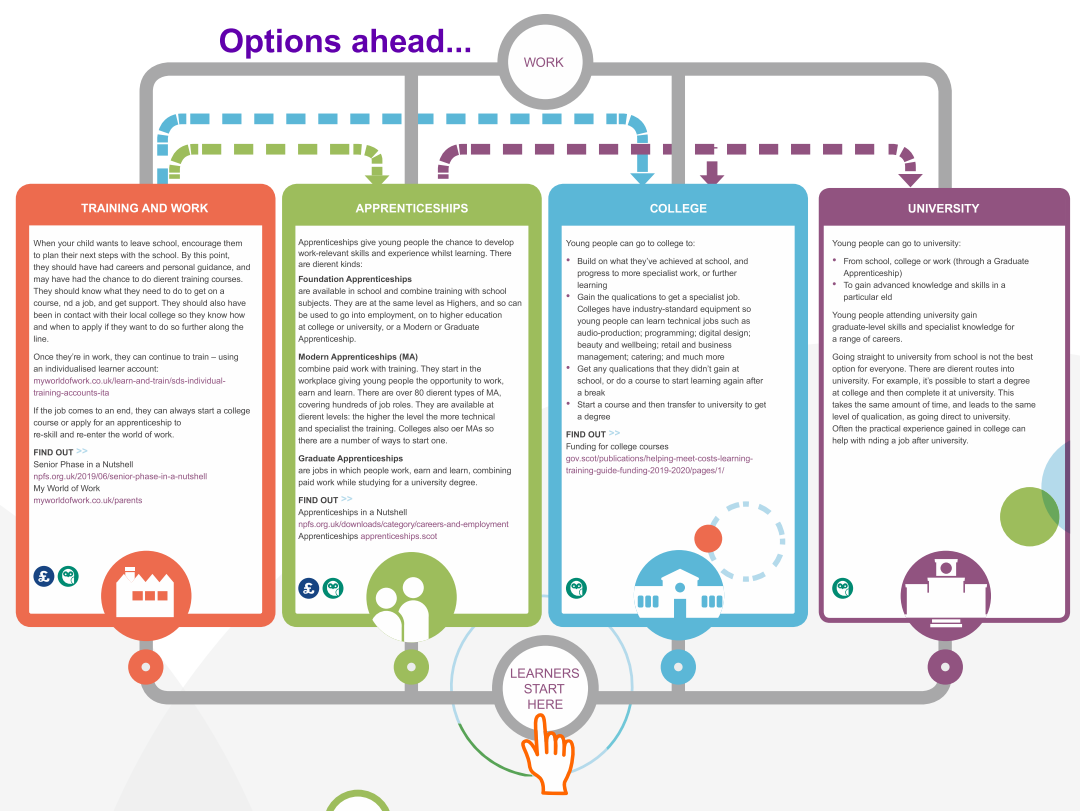
My World of Work
myworldofwork.co.uk

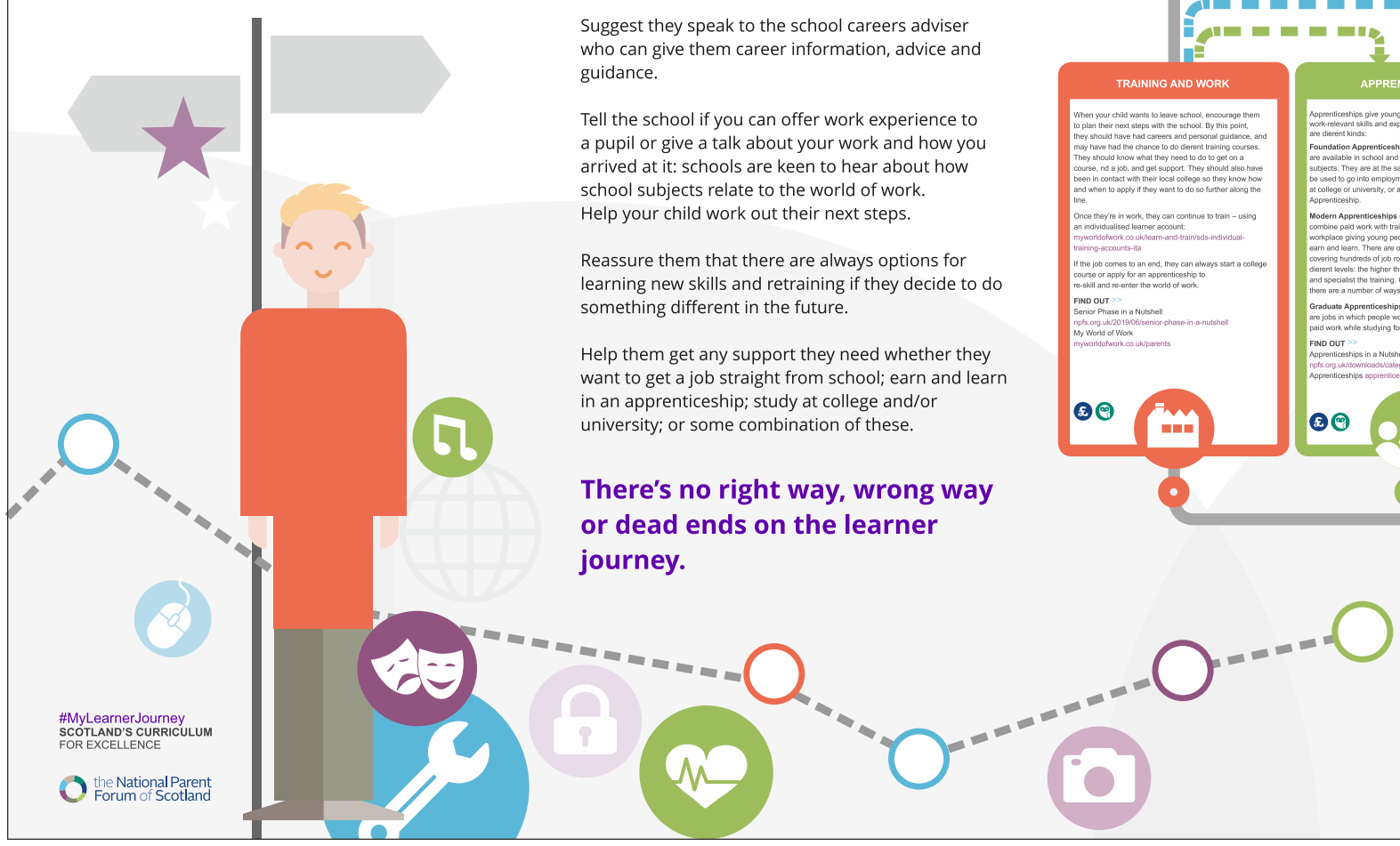
For parents
myworldofwork.co.uk/parents
mykidscareer.com

Parents as partners in their children's learning
education.gov.scot/parentzone/Documents/parents-as-partners-toolkit.pdf

National Parent Forum of Scotland
npfs.org.uk

Options ahead...





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SCOTLAND'S CURRICULUM FOR EXCELLENCE

the National Parent Forum of Scotland

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