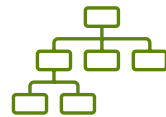


## What are the benefits of going into HE?



Academic and personal support are offered by higher educational institutions, especially for those who are returning to studying at a later age.



Potential for higher salaried jobs and access to a wider range of careers.



You become more attractive to employers with your HE qualifications and the transferrable skills gained from your studies.



On average, graduates earn more money over a lifetime than non-graduates - £10,000 per year on average\*



Children can benefit from the educational success of their parents.



Some HE courses offer practical work experience and training.



Graduates have lower unemployment rates.



Broaden your horizons.



Make new friends on your course and chances to get involved in different social clubs and societies.

\* Universities UK statistics 2018



As a young dad,  
is higher education for you?

Leeds Trinity University  
Horsforth  
Leeds LS18 5HD

[leedstrinity.ac.uk](http://leedstrinity.ac.uk)

Information correct at time of printing, October 2018.  
The information in this booklet can be supplied in alternative formats upon request.  
Please call 0113 283 7186 or email [hello@leedstrinity.ac.uk](mailto:hello@leedstrinity.ac.uk)  
Contact Dr Carmen Lau Clayton for more information on the collaborative study  
[C.clayton@leedstrinity.ac.uk](mailto:C.clayton@leedstrinity.ac.uk)

# Introduction

Leeds Trinity University and the Young Dads Collective North have worked in collaboration to find out more about young fathers' views on higher education (HE) and how fathers can be better supported in this process. The collaborative study was funded by Leeds Acts (2018).

This booklet is a starting point for young fathers interested in returning to education and who may not have the right qualifications or have questions about the process.

# What is HE and where do you study

You can study at universities, colleges and specialist institutions. HE can include:

Vocational courses provide job-focused training for specific roles or careers (e.g. nursing, medicine, dentistry).

Academic courses focus on developing deep knowledge of specific subjects, skills in independent learning and research. It also leads to other transferable skills such as intellectual, communication and organisational skills.

Higher Apprenticeships offer a work-based learning programme.

Degree Apprenticeships includes university study and on-the-job training typical of an Apprenticeship.

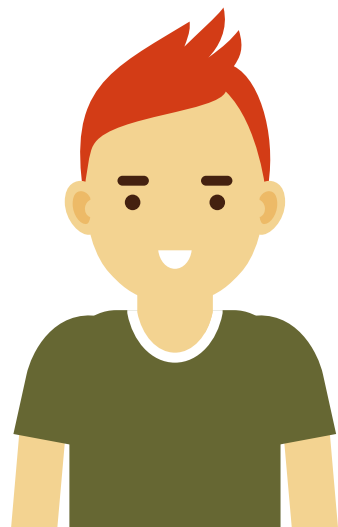
I left school at an early age, with no qualifications

I can't go back to studying, I need a job to maintain my family

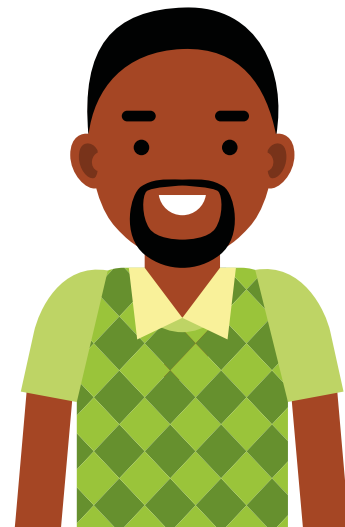
I'm worried about getting into debt

I don't have the time to study with a young family and I don't want to move away

I'm too old to go to university, everyone will be younger than me and I will stand out



SIMON



JAMAL



GARETH



SANTIAGO



AHMAD

I don't think I can afford to study on a HE course. Don't worry there are many options available!

The best place to find government services and information is [www.gov.uk/browse/education/student-finance](http://www.gov.uk/browse/education/student-finance)

**Student Finance** (tuition fees, living and study costs)

**Childcare Grants** (covers up to 85% of your child care costs)

**Parents Learning Allowance** (up to £1669 per year)

**Disabled Students Allowance** (help with any additional costs and specialist equipment)

**Scholarships, bursaries and travel grants** (vary depending on the higher educational institution)

- Access to Higher Education courses provide an alternative route for adults aged 19+ who would like to go on to study in higher education, but left school without any formal qualifications.
- If you're aged 19-23, then you may not have to pay fees for an Access to HE Diploma.
- If you are 24+, you may be able to get help with the cost of your Access to HE course fees through a 19+ Advanced Learner Loan. You won't pay anything back until your income is over £25000 per year.
- Leeds Trinity's access course is 'Foundation Year' and can be found here: [www.leedstrinity.ac.uk/foundation-year](http://www.leedstrinity.ac.uk/foundation-year)

- There are over 40 different subjects for Higher Apprenticeships, representing hundreds of job roles and you get paid at the same time as studying.
- Higher Apprenticeships offers an alternative route to highly-skilled roles in exciting organisations and sectors.
- Higher Apprenticeships lead to a nationally recognised qualification, equivalent to the first stages of higher education. Find out more by visiting [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) or [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com).

- Degree apprenticeships are a new type of programme offered by some universities. You are employed full-time (giving you job experience) whilst studying for a Bachelor's or Master's degree at a partner university. The fees from degree apprenticeships are subsidised by employers and the government- which can leave you debt-free.
- If you apply for a traditional Student Finance loan, you will be eligible for the full tuition fees. The amount of maintenance loan is dependent on household income, however everyone is entitled to £4,054, as a minimum.
- You only begin to repay your loan when you are earning over £25,000 a year. You will repay a fixed rate of 9% of everything over this amount. After 30 years, anything you still owe will be wiped.
- Student loans are not marked on your credit file and they cannot prevent you from getting a mortgage.

- Higher Education courses offer part and full time study options.
- There are distance and online learning opportunities available.
- Some courses can be as short as one year (Access to HE routes).
- There are many courses on your doorstep!

- Many universities recognise and accept mature students, including those who have attained an 'Access to HE Diploma' and welcome such applications.
- Many universities offer additional support for mature students, those with caring responsibilities, and those who have been out of education for a while.
- Some universities offer socials for you to meet other students like yourself.