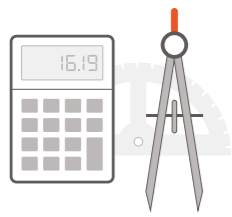


# Life after school: Confronting the crisis



Young people who fail their English and maths GCSEs first time around deserve a second chance to succeed but are not getting it, irrespective of their background or where they study. This is the crisis facing 16-19 education and urgent action is needed to address it.

## Our recommendations

1

That the government retain its ambition for everyone to attain a Level 2 (GCSE or equivalent) in English and maths by 19.

2

That the government create an 'Excellence in English and maths fund' committing an extra £935 per pupil retaking English and maths, with half of the payment awarded to providers up front and the other half conditional on attainment, to drive innovation.

3

That the government and all relevant stakeholders commit to developing Functional Skills into a high quality and valued qualification, measured on progression rates and employment outcomes.

4

That the government test ways to increase the supply of qualified English and maths teachers in the FE sector.

5

That the Institute of Apprenticeships and Technical Education monitors and reports on key 'social mobility indicators' such as the gap in access, completion and progression between disadvantaged young people and their peers entering technical routes and apprenticeships.

