

Is 14 the new 16?

Chris Morecroft
AoC President

7 June 2011

How good are GCSEs?

- Around 50% of young people feel they have failed at 16
- Not good predictors of future performance
- Insufficient careers education undertaken in secondary schools
- Should we externally examine when young people are ready?

I'm for routes at 14

- Technical/vocational
- Arts/humanities/vocational
- General FT route –subjects from a list of valued qualifications that produce effective progression routes
- Small core of English, Maths, Science contextualised to personal options

Young people should decide in consultation with parents/guardians.



- Employed routes and full-time study routes with the ability to interchange at appropriate times.
- A system based on good careers education which is informed by local and national opportunities.
- All routes are ultimately vocational!