

Budget 2021: Rishi Sunak to pledge funding for T-levels

Vocabulary Match

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|--------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| 1. a budget | 4. chancellor | ___ significant | ___ to promise |
| 2. to pledge | 5. substantial | ___ disclose | ___ senior official |
| 3. to unveil | 6. controversial | ___ allocation | ___ contentious |

Article

The government will reconfirm its commitment to a "skills revolution" with a spending package to be unveiled by the chancellor on Wednesday.

At the heart of the government's plan for 16 to 19-year-olds in England is a qualification that few have yet heard of, the Technical or T-Level.

One T-level is designed to be equivalent to three A-levels, or up to 3 BTecs.

T-Levels, developed with businesses to meet the needs of industry, are meant to be substantial and quite demanding courses, which include at least 45 days of work placement.

At the moment, only around 6,000 students across England are enrolled to study the first T-levels, which they will complete next summer.

The government hopes to scale up the numbers rapidly as more T-levels are introduced, partly through a controversial decision to remove funding from popular BTecs in similar subjects.

Rishi Sunak will announce £1.6bn to roll out new T-levels in his autumn statement.

College principals said the funding was welcome but would not go far enough. Sixth form colleges and 16-19 education finances have been struggling for many years.

Based on an Oct 24th, 2021 article from BBC News (All Rights Reserved) [www.bbc.com/news]

Quiz

1. Why have T-levels been introduced?
2. Why is the introduction of T-levels considered contentious?

Conversation

A: Mum, what's the difference between a BTec and a T-level?

B: Good question. Let's check on Google. All right, it says they're the same.

A: They can't be the same, mum! What else does it say?

B: Ahh, here. "The only difference is the industry placement and work experience you get."

Discussion

1. Google a list of T-levels. What subject would you like to study the most?
2. Why do you think a student would choose to study a T-level instead of A-levels?
3. Did you ever get work experience during your own education? If so, what kind?