CAREER PATHWAY

POLICE

LEVEL 2

GCSE OPTIONS AT THORNLEIGH

Good Grades in core subjects
Social Sciences

LEVEL 3

COURSE OPTIONS AT THORNLEIGH

Law
Government and Politics
Philosophy and Ethics
Social Sciences
Criminology L3 Applied Diploma

A-LEVEL EQUIVALENT ALTERNATIVE COURSES

Uniformed Public Services
Policing NCFE Diploma
Forensic and Criminal Investigation (L3)

SCHOOL LEAVERS APPRENTICESHIPS

Not applicable

LEVEL 4-6

HIGHER APPRENTICESHIP COURSES

Digital Forensics Apprenticship (L4)
Various Civil Service Apprenticeships (L4 National Crime Agency)

UNI / APPRENTICESHIP DEGREES

Police Constable Degree Apprenticeship (L6)
Serious and Complex Crime Investigator Apprenticeship (L6)
Professional Policing Degree
Criminal Investigation / Forensic Science Degrees

POLICE

A career as a Police Officer (Police Constable) in the UK involves preventing crime, protecting the public, responding to emergencies, investigating incidents, and supporting vulnerable people.

Requirements & Skills

- Basic Criteria: Aged 18 or older (can apply from 17 in some forces), UK work eligibility, passing enhanced background/vetting checks, and completing fitness and medical assessments.
- Key Skills: Strong communication, calm decision-making under pressure, problem-solving, resilience, and empathy.
- Career Progression: After your initial probationary period, you can branch out into specialist departments (such as CID/detective units, dog handling, cybercrime, firearms, or roads policing) or apply for promotion to Sergeant, Inspector, and higher ranks.