

Year 11's What happens next?

Post 16 information

As you begin your final year at school, we continue to prepare you for the next stage of your education. The focus now is ensuring your successful applications for post 16 study and work.

Our aim is that you are as prepared as possible and are aware of all the options and opportunities available to you and which is likely to be the best suited to you as individuals.

POST 16 OPTIONS WILL BE EITHER:

1. College for vocational courses (job specific)
2. A-Levels at Sixth Forms or Harlow College which also has a sixth form A-Level option
3. Apprenticeships/or employment with eligible training

1. COLLEGE

- Examples: Harlow, Hertford Regional, Chelmsford, Epping, Writtle, Cambridge
- Vocational Courses are Job specific so one subject only studied
- Choose your first choice plus consider at least one BACK UP
- We strongly suggest you attend Sixth Form and College open evenings which will be in September, October and November.

2. A-LEVELS AT SIXTH FORM

- Examples: St Marks, Birchwood, Herts and Essex, Leventhorpe
- Harlow College also has a Sixth Form for A-Level study
- These are substantial exams - normally 3 subjects taken
- They can keep options open if you are not certain of a specific career path
- You should apply to multiple Sixth Forms as many become oversubscribed
- We strongly recommend to also apply for a separate college course as back up

3. APPRENTICESHIPS

- Earn while you learn
- Available in many varied careers
- However, not to be seen as an easy option!
- If preference is an apprenticeship - still apply also for a college vocational course as back up
- We can support with your apprenticeship search process

REMEMBER - EDUCATIONAL PROVIDERS WILL WANT TO KNOW:

- Attendance record
- All predicted GCSE grades
- Attitude to learning
- Current performance
- Suitability for course/career choice

IMPORTANT

- If you do not get Grade 4 in both Maths and English, you will have to study and resit them at College/Sixth Form.
- Providers have their own entry requirements - all GCSE grades make a difference
- Requirements for A-Levels are usually higher than college courses
- Applications must be made promptly by the deadline date
- Deadline dates for A-Levels are usually by end November/mid-December
- Deadlines for college - aim to apply by Christmas!!

How will we help and support you prepare, research and make decisions?

- Assemblies for updates and education provider visits - these will include presentations from a range of post-16 providers.
- Personal Statement preparation - and workshops focusing on successful CV and letters of application.

- Tutorial information
- Open Days and deadlines schedules – Mrs C Keys-Kidd will keep you updated with dates
- Applications support
- Drop ins to the Careers Adviser – Mrs Hurst (Available on Wednesday's and Thursdays)
- Online tools like Unifrog

Support on offer also includes Individual careers guidance interviews. All pupils are invited to attend a meeting with our fully qualified Independent Careers Adviser – Mrs Hurst.

What can you expect from a Guidance meeting?

- A careers guidance meeting offers information, advice and guidance, is confidential and can be used to discuss future plans in any way.
- Common subjects in guidance meetings are. 'How can I start to make some plans?', 'I'm not sure what jobs I'd be good at' and 'Should I look at A-Levels or BTECS?'
- A guidance meeting will give 'time out' to explore options, look at things objectively and think about the implications of any decision.
- Students are requested to come along with any questions and to talk about the things that may be concerning them.
- The aim is to make the picture clearer and to enable planning for the next steps.

REMEMBER

- We are here to support pupils
- You are free to drop into myself, Mrs C Keys-Kidd any lunch or break time in Student Services
- Don't leave anything to chance – ASK

Please do also look at the school website Careers page for updates to the events calendar.

Mrs C Keys-Kidd