

Year 11 Parents - Careers Information

What decisions will my son/daughter have to make in year 11?

They will need to decide what they want to do when they leave school.

- They could stay in full-time education. This may include a school Sixth Form, Further Education College or a Specialist College.
- They could go into work or training. This might include an apprenticeship, a job with training, a job without training, a programme that prepares them for work, or self-employment.

Whatever they choose they will need to research their ideas by consulting with people, attending open evenings and listening to the support and advice available to them. Most of all they will need to think about their interests, how they learn and work best and what they are aiming for in the future.

Qualifications are key:

To gain more choice in the world of work good qualifications are essential. Higher level qualifications are more likely to result in a well-paid job. They demonstrate to employers, colleges, and universities the skills and qualities they are looking for. Getting qualifications is also a great way to boost confidence and raise aspirations.

Labour Market Information:

The world of work has changed so much over the last 30 years. Increasingly, jobs that require few or no qualifications are disappearing. Employers are looking for better qualified employees who are able to work as part of a team and have good transferable skills especially in problem solving, Maths, English and ICT and Science subjects

Raising the Participation Age (RPA) requires all students to remain in Education until their 18th birthday: <https://www.gov.uk/know-when-you-can-leave-school>

Staying in Education:

Sixth forms or colleges can offer:

- A wide range of courses to meet different needs and interests
- Vocational courses
- Academic routes
- Qualifications at a variety of different levels

If choosing to stay on in full-time education, decisions need to be made about:

- Subject(s)
- Type of qualification
- Qualification level
- Where to study

For most students under the age of 19, full or part-time study at sixth form or local college is free.

Apprenticeships:

Apprenticeships have long been recognised as a good work based learning route to employment. Students can gain qualifications while also earning a wage and getting hands on experience of work.

Timescale:

Applications for sixth form and local college need to be made by the end of January. Competition for apprenticeship placements with employers is fierce, so the earlier you apply in Year 11, the better.

What help is available?

Wendy Watson - Independent Careers Adviser - available to see students in school. Enquiries from parents are welcome either by telephone or e-mail. Your son/daughter will be invited for a careers meeting in school to discuss their options.

Career Pilot – an on-line careers programme that is available for students to access on the web. They should have created a log in for this in school PSHCE sessions.

Open Days – the sixth form and local colleges will be holding open days. You are advised to attend these with your son/daughter to explore the full range of options available.

Work experience - Encourage your son/daughter to talk to employers and get their thoughts on career paths/skills/qualifications.

Useful Websites:

<https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/parent-zone/all-questions/useful-links-to-career-related-sites-for-parents>

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/parents-resources/>

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>

<https://www.informedchoices.ac.uk/>

www.ucas.com

<https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk>