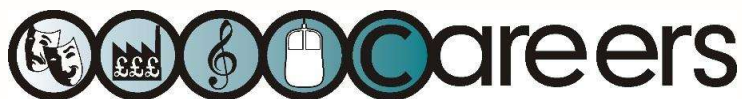




Boroughbridge High School



Year 11 Autumn Term Careers Newsletter for parents Boroughbridge High School

Welcome to the new school year! We are here to help prepare and inspire your child for the fast-changing world of work. The information below will help you to see what will happen within the Careers programme this term (and later in the year). It will also remind you of the help and support available to your child in school through the curriculum, personal guidance, special events and career resources (both online and in the careers area).

Careers Provision in Year 11

Careers Education, Information Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) is a vital, dynamic and ever-changing part of the curriculum, helping students to aim high and make choices that will help them to achieve their full potential. Here are some examples of the support they will receive this term.

Careers Education – Students will receive Careers support during the PSHE curriculum which will help them understand their future education, training and employment routes (including Higher Education, Further Education, Apprenticeships and employment). They will also receive support in assemblies, visiting speakers and organisations.

Post 16 Options Programme - Local colleges including York College, Harrogate College and Askham Bryan College will deliver information sessions to Year 11 students as part of our Post 16 options programme. Students interested in Sixth form will also get the opportunity to experience A-Level taster sessions at King James's School – they have their taster day in February (date to be confirmed). There will be a KJS Sixth Form Open Evening for students and parents which is open to interested BHS students and parents

Higher Education - Aiming High

York St John University talked to students at an assembly on Monday 22nd September to help them to aim high and understand about university pathways and degree apprenticeships.

External Providers and Employers – we will be involving visiting speakers in bespoke assemblies. We will have input from Ask Apprenticeships explaining the opportunities available (the full range from traineeships to degree apprenticeships). Students really enjoyed the "Interview the Employers" event we held at the end of Yr. 10, and we will be building on that experience - working with our local employers to help students further with their application and interview skills.

Guidance Interviews – all Year 11 students will receive an invitation to attend a one-to-one guidance interview between now and the end of February. Parent/Carers will receive a copy of the student's Career Action Plan. All Year 11 students have already had an assembly about the role of the careers advisor and what happens in a guidance interview (at the end of Year 10).

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Careers planning – Students can use the careers section of the school website to research their Post 16 pathway options in preparation for their interview with Ms Mannion. **You will find this section under the curriculum tab.**

Virtual Careers Library – eCLIPS. All students and parent/carers at Boroughbridge High School have access to **eCLIPS** our online resource which can help with career planning. Go to www.eclips-online.co.uk, click on 'Login to eCLIPS' and enter the password **BHS24**

This information is up to date and will save you hours! It will also recommend other relevant websites should you want more in-depth information but will not overwhelm with too many suggestions from elsewhere in the world as Google can. You will find eCLIPS also has up to date labour market information.

Post 16 Options Choices and beyond

Now your child is in Year 11 it is time for them to consider all their post 16 option choices, and to begin to make choices that will support their future plans. Remember it's not essential for students to have a career in mind when making their decisions, students may be planning their next step based on their study interests or their career interests. Students need to understand why they are making their choices. Students need to research the options available and not to assume they know what is involved in a subject or course (it may be quite different from GCSE so they need to look at the content to be sure it's for them). If they are not sure they can decide later – it's important they choose subjects they like and enjoy as they are then more likely to do well in these areas. Get them to take the time to explore where these subjects/courses could lead. Students will make their decision from the following:-

Sixth form, at King James's School. Offer Level 3 courses - A Levels, BTEC Diplomas and certificates.

Entry requirements are a minimum of 5 GCSEs grade 9-4 which include both Maths and English. However, please be aware that some of the subjects on offer will ask for a minimum grade of 5/6 - so always look at the prospectus for confirmation of subject requirements for the subjects the student is interested in. The current 2025 prospectus is on the King James's School website – the 2026 edition will go live after autumn half term

Open Day:

Thursday 15th January 2026 between 6:30-8pm - no need to book!

The new prospectus for 2026-7 will be on our Sixth Form website page from early December here.

<https://www.king-james.co.uk/joining-our-sixth-form/>

Other events:

<https://www.king-james.co.uk/calendar-upcoming-events/>

Sixth form - another school

Entry requirements and courses will vary, it is best to contact the school direct re entry requirements and to request a prospectus. Details of open evenings and entry requirements will be on the school websites (usually under the Sixth form button).

St Aidan's Church of England High School - links to the sixth form prospectus and admissions forms are here -

<https://www.staidans.co.uk/sixth-form/welcome-and-about-our-sixth-form>

If your child is interested in this option, and did not attend the recent open event, do let Mrs Town know your names. St Aidan's will put on a tour of Sixth Form for a small number of students/parents who have not already visited and wish to.

St John Fisher – link to the admissions form - <https://www.sjfchs.org.uk/Admissions/Join-6th-Form/>
Link to the sixth form prospectus 2026

https://www.sjfchs.org.uk/Prospectus_Course_Outlines/

(If your child is interested in this school and has not already attended the open event then inform Mrs Town.

Harrogate Grammar School – Sixth form open evening event - **date to be confirmed.**

<https://www.harrogategrammar.co.uk/the-sixth-form/>

Ripon Grammar School – Sixth form open evening event - Thursday 6th November from 6 pm to 8.45 pm.

Application closing date in February 2026 (precise date still to notify).

<https://www.ripongrammar.co.uk/admissions/sixth-form-admissions/>

Further Education Colleges

- **A Levels** - Some colleges offer a range of A Level subjects such as York College and Leeds City College, but not all. York College ask for 5 grade 5s at GCSE plus English Language at grade 4 or above. Individual subjects may ask for higher grades.
- **Vocational courses** – All Colleges offer vocational and practical courses.
- **Diplomas** - These are related to a broad employment area such as business, engineering, IT and health and social care and provide the opportunity to gain relevant qualifications and train for a specific career later. L2 Diplomas are 1 year and equivalent to 4 GCSEs at grade 4 or above, L3 Extended Diplomas are equivalent to 3 A Levels and take 2 years to study for. The prospectuses and open events will help you to learn and understand more about these options.
- **T Levels are a new vocational qualification** – also vocationally based and equivalent to A levels. The main difference to L3 Diplomas and A Levels is that T levels have a significant work experience placement element.
- **NVQs** - Many colleges also offer NVQ courses (which train you in one job)– i.e. electrical installation.

If students are considering making an application to college it is important to research courses and entry requirements on individual college websites and sign up to attend open/taster days which will take place in Autumn and beyond. These give an opportunity for students and parents/carers to view facilities and discuss courses with admissions tutors. Students can explore their options before their careers interview and we can discuss which courses appealed and which didn't. So if students are interested in certain courses or career areas do not delay exploring. See list below for College open events.

College Open Events/Information Events 2024-25

Harrogate College

Weds 16th Oct – 5.30 – 7 pm

Weds 12th Nov – 5.30– 7 pm

Thurs 12th Feb – 5.30 – 7 pm

Weds 29th April 5.30 – 7 pm

Weds 1st July – 5.30 – 7 pm

Book for the above events online – link to event information and booking below

<https://harrogate-college.ac.uk/contact/events/>

York College

Tues 7th Oct – 5.30 – 8.00 pm

Sat 8th Nov – 10.00 - 12.30 pm

Book online – link to event information and booking

<https://www.yorkcollege.ac.uk/events-and-news/events/openevents>

Taster Days

13th Jan or 15th Jan – booking in advance is required. The closing date for booking the taster day is 23th November – see the college website – www.yorkcollege.ac.uk or call 01904 770239 for further information

Askham Bryan College (ABC)

Mon 13th Oct 5 pm to 7 pm (Sport and Uniformed Public Services)

Sat 18th Oct am – starts at 9.30

Sat 29th Nov am – starts at 9.30

See website for time slots – prebooking required for open events

www.askham-bryan.ac.uk/open-days/

<https://www.askham-bryan.ac.uk/events/sport-ups-open-evening-13-october-2025-2/>

<https://www.askham-bryan.ac.uk/events/open-morning-18-october-2025/>

<https://www.askham-bryan.ac.uk/events/open-morning-29-november-2025/>

Foundation Learning Taster Events at ABC- *These events are aimed at students thinking of following a Foundation Learning study programme at the College. (no GCSEs or grades 1-2).*

Tues 21st Oct – 10.00 am – 12.00 pm

Tues 16th Dec – 10.00 am – 12.00 pm

Students need to select the area they are interested in – animal care, agriculture, equine, and conservation.

<https://www.askham-bryan.ac.uk/open-days/>

Leeds College of Building

A great opportunity for prospective students and parents to see the college, have a look around workshops and our facilities and speak to tutors and students. There will be 'have a go' areas available. You can talk to the Apprenticeship Team, the Learning Support Team and members of the finance dept.

Wed 15th Oct 4 pm – 7.30 pm North Street and South Bank Campuses

Sat 15th Nov 10 am – 1 pm South Bank Campus

Sat 28th March 10 am – 1 pm North Street and South Street Campuses

Places on the open events can be booked through this link on their website:

<https://www.lcb.ac.uk/open-days/>

Leeds City College - <https://leedscitycollege.ac.uk/events/>

The link above will take you automatically to the next open event and then show others as they are added.

Weds 15th Oct – 4.30 pm – 7.30 pm

Weds 19th Nov – 4.30 – 7.00 pm (at various college buildings – when you register you will see the link with the list of subjects at each campus so you can choose the best place to visit. Campuses are Park Lane, Printworks, Quarry Hill and Somerville House.

Quieter Open Events are available:

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/leedscitycollege1/1786391>

Quieter Leeds City College open events provide the time and space for anyone to have detailed conversations about starting college.

UTC

University Technical Colleges (UTCs) have been designed to meet the needs of employers for up-and-coming young talent with the right skill sets and knowledge to fill the jobs of tomorrow. UTCs take students and offer a combination of technical qualifications alongside GCSEs and A Levels. This combination of academic and technical learning is unique, equipping students for professional careers through places at top universities, as well as through higher and advanced apprenticeships

Our nearest UTC is in Leeds City Centre. Click here to see details of their next open event - <https://utcleeds.applicaa.com/events/019900c4-003d-78c4-a11a-a0f83cd76a06>

If your family is moving out of the area this academic year, or after Year 11 do let Ms Mannion know so she can ensure she has relevant information to support you and your child with information about the area you are moving to.

Apprenticeships

As an apprentice student will work for an employer and earn as they learn (studying for nationally recognised qualifications which are relevant to their job, such as NVQs). Training can take between 1 and 2 years before students are fully qualified. Students will be earning typically £110-£300 per week. There are over 1,500 job roles across 170 industries. There is no upper age limit as to when students can complete an apprenticeship and so are also an option post 18. Visit www.apprenticeships.org.uk and www.apprenticeshipguide.co.uk for more details of apprenticeships.

PLEASE NOTE MOST OF OUR COLLEGES ALSO PROVIDE OFF THE JOB TRAINING FOR APPRENTICESHIPS – THEY USUALLY HAVE THEIR APPRENTICESHIP DEPARTMENTS REPRESENTED AT THEIR OPEN EVENTS SO DO MAKE SURE YOU GET YOUR STUDENT'S NAME ONTO THEIR MAILING LISTS.

How else can parents/carers help and support?

You are likely to be the single biggest influence on your child's thoughts and feelings about future careers. So, how can you help and support their decisions about career pathways?

You can

- Have a good general understanding of the options available
- Listen carefully to your child's views without being judgemental or critical
- Be open to new ideas and possibilities
- Encourage your child to explore all possible options

In what other ways can parents/carers help with their child's career planning?

- Talk about the possible careers they might be interested in and why they appeal to them.
- Ask what careers related activities they have done in school, either in lessons or in their own time.
- Have you used eCLIPS? Perhaps you can explore it together with your child and ensure they get round to using it.
- Investigate the careers section of the school website to develop your own knowledge and understanding of the post 16 pathway options.
- Help your child to explore the possible employers, apprenticeship providers and further education courses available in your local area and beyond.
- If possible, take your child to open events at Sixth forms, colleges and training organisations. Also visit careers fairs held locally.
- Take advantage of the opportunity to gather useful information and broaden your career thinking by speaking to the careers adviser (Karen Morgan) at parents and careers events at school.
- Encourage your child to participate in out of school activities. These are valuable in themselves, and will also help them to build their skills and develop personal qualities needed for their future career.

Useful Websites for research – help your child use these – look at them first to be one step ahead!

eCLIPS - Information on possibly every career you could ever think of. Go to www.eclips-online.co.uk , click on 'Login to eCLIPS' and enter the password **BHS24**.

National Careers Service - For careers advice and information on a wide range of jobs, training courses, resources and funding. <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk>

Career Pilot - Expert careers information and tools for 11-19 year olds, all in one place. <https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/job-sectors> They also have a parent zone - <https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/parent-zone>

Icould - Career videos to find out about a wide range of careers and opportunities. Take the Buzz Quiz – it's great fun! <https://icould.com>

UCAS - UCAS aims to inspire and empower students to make aspirational choices about higher education and learning. The site contains information on a range of topics including further and higher education, student finance, apprenticeships, employability and gap years. This website can be too soon for many students, but a small proportion may be ready to look now. <https://www.ucas.com>

Apprenticeships Apply – If students already know the job area they are interested in, and how far they wish to travel they may wish to set up their own account and search for vacancies. We will help students do this – vacancies start to come on from January for July school leavers 25 (with most being from April onwards). However, you might want a quick look first if your child wants to look at apprenticeships. <https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>

Can you support the Boroughbridge High School Careers Programme?

We are always looking for parents, alumni, employers and businesses to support our careers programme in a variety of ways. This could be through volunteering to talk to our students or to be on a stand at our careers fairs. Please contact Ms Mannion, Careers Adviser if you can help with our career programme. I'm looking forward to working with you all.

Ms Mannion
Careers Adviser
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Ms Mannion works on Careers at BHS one day a week. Please allow her time to reply to queries – she may not be able to reply straight away.