

2024-2025 POST-16 INFORMATION BOOKLET

YOUR GUIDE TO LIFE AFTER OATHALL

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April 2024

Dear Students,

We've put together this guide to help you locate all the information you need as you consider what you will do when you leave Oathall in 2025.

You must continue in education or training until the end of the school year in which you turn 18. This can be at a school, college, with a specialist provider or in a workplace. We are fortunate to be in an area that has a huge number of colleges, sixth forms and apprenticeship providers, so there really is something for everyone.

This booklet contains information about qualifications and colleges, and explains the application process. There is also a section on apprenticeships and work-based learning. Please refer to individual college websites for full details of the courses they offer, entry requirements, open days and events and application deadlines.

We recommend that you attend as many open days and events as you can, to help you make an informed decision about where you will go next. Applications are done online via the colleges' websites.

Please contact Ms Lazell via email (mlazell@oathall.org) or pop in to see her in the careers office if you need any assistance with completing application forms, discussing course choices or anything college/career related. She will be carrying out careers meetings with all Y11 students during the Autumn term. She also posts all information about colleges, work experience, careers talks etc in the Work Related google classroom so keep an eye out there, too.

Choosing where you want to go when you leave school is an exciting time, but can also feel daunting. If you have any worries you can talk to your tutor, Mrs Powell, Mrs Staplehurst or any of your subject teachers, and Ms Lazell is always available in the careers office.

Yours sincerely

Ms L Griffiths Mrs D Isley Ms M Lazell
Assistant Headteacher Careers Lead & Vocational Manager Careers Advisor

UNDERSTANDING QUALIFICATIONS

The level of a qualification determines how demanding the course will be - the higher the level, the more difficult the qualification.

LEVEL	QUALIFICATION				
8		DOCTORATE/PhD			
7	LEVEL 7 NVQ	MASTER'S/POST-GRADUATE DIPLOMA			
6		HONOURS DEGREE			
5	HIGHER , DEGREE APPRENTICESHIP	FOUNDATION DEGREE, HND	DipHE		
4		HNC	CertHE		
3	ADVANCED APPRENTICESHIP	LEVEL 3 NVQ, BTEC or CAMTEC	A LEVELS, T LEVELS, EPQ, INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE		
2	INTERMEDIATE APPRENTICESHIP	LEVEL 2 NVQ, BTEC Level 2 Pass, Merit or Distinction	GCSE - grade 4-9		
1	TRAINEESHIP	BTEC Level 1 Pass, Merit or Distinction	GCSE - grade 1-3		

UCAS Tariff Points

A Level grade	BTEC grade	UCAS tariff points
A *	DISTINCTION*	56
А	DISTINCTION	48
В		40
С	MERIT	32
D		24
E	PASS	16

Going on to University

Most universities will offer a place conditional on the grades you achieve for three A Levels, BTecs, a T Level or a certain score in the International Baccalureate.

Music, dance and drama exams at grade 6 and above carry a UCAS Tariff, and are a fantastic achievement to put on your application forms and talk about at interview. But you shouldn't rely on this to 'make up' points unless the university has explicitly said it will accept this.

Similarly, universities will not offer a place conditional on four A Levels - if they ask for A*AA, then they may not give you a place if you get AAAA. Generally speaking quality of learning matters more than quantity, especially if combined with an EPQ, extra-curricular hobbies, volunteering or other interests.



OPTIONS AT 16+

A Levels

Subject-based qualifications, usually assessed by exams at the end of the second year. Can be taken in conjunction with BTECs; most students choose 3 subjects in total. If you achieve mainly 8s and 9s in your GCSES you may consider taking a 4th A Level.

Typical entry requirement: five GCSES at grades 4-9 including English Language and Maths, plus subject-specific requirements, eg: a grade 6 in Maths if you want to do Maths or Physics A Level.

T Levels

Equivalent to three A Levels. T Levels have a mix of classroom and 'on the job' experience, with an industry placement of at least 315 hours (approximated 45 days) over the two years. Some colleges offer transitional T Levels for students who do not achieve the entry requirements in Y11.

Typical entry requirement: five GCSES at grades 4-9 including English Language and Maths.

Level 3 BTECs, CAMTECs and WJEC Diplomas

Specialist vocational qualifications, which combine practical and classroom-based learning. Assessed by coursework and exams. There are single, double and triple options in some subjects, which are equivalent to one, two or three A Levels respectively. These qualifications meet the entry requirements for many, though not all university courses, especially if studied in combination with A Levels. See www.ucas.com and individual university websites for more details.

Typical entry requirement: five GCSES at grades 4-9 including English Language and Maths.

Level 2 BTECs

For some vocational subjects, eg: barbering, you will need to complete the relevant one-year Level 2 course at college before progressing on to the Level 3 course, even if you have straight 9s at GCSE. For many vocational subjects, eg: Creative Media, you can use a Level 2 course as a stepping stone to Level 3 if you don't meet the entry requirements to go straight to the Level 3 course.

International Baccalaureate

The IB is only offered at Varndean, and some independent sixth forms. It is a rigorous and challenging course, broadly equivalent to four A Levels, and is an internationally recognised qualification. Students taking the IB study six subjects which cover humanities, science, Maths, English and a modern foreign language. They also do a 'theory of knowledge' course, and participate in creativity, action and service projects.

Typical entry requirement: seven GCSEs at grades 6-9 including English Language, Maths, and Science.

Extended Project Qualification

If you are aiming to study at a top university you should seriously consider taking the EPQ. It involves independently researching and writing a 6,000-word dissertation, and is equivalent to half and A Level. Universities value the EPQ as preparation for higher level study.

Typical entry requirement: six GCSEs at grades 6-9 including English Language, Maths, and Science

It is a statutory requirement that all students retake Maths and English Language GCSE if they do not get at least a grade 4 pass in Y11. These retakes can be taken alongside A Levels and BTECs if other entry requirements are met, or alongside a Level 2 study programme for a year. Students can then progress to Level 3 courses the following year.



COLLEGES

BACA

Lewes Road, Brighton BN1 9PW www.baca-uk.org.uk

- A Levels
- BTEC/CAMTEC Diplomas
- Level 2 Progression
- Level 1, 2 & 3 vocational courses



BHASVIC

205 Dyke Road, Hove BN3 6EG www.bhasvic.ac.uk

- A Levels
- BTEC/CAMTEC Diplomas
- ESOL courses



BN1 ARTS

Vantage Point, New England Road, Brighton, BN1 4GW www.bn1arts.ac.uk

 Level 2 & 3 RSL performing arts vocational courses



BRIGHTON MET

Pelham Street, Brighton, BN1 4FA www.brightonmet.ac.uk

- T Levels
- BTEC/CAMTEC Diplomas
- Level 1, 2 & 3 vocational courses



BRINSBURY COLLEGE

North Heath, Brinsbury, RH20 1DL www.brinsbury.ac.uk

- Level 1, 2 & 3 vocational courses
- T Levels



COLLYER'S SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

Hurst Road, Horsham, RH12 2EJ www.collyers.ac.uk

- A Levels
- T Levels
- BTEC/CAMTEC Diplomas
- Level 2 Progression



CRAWLEY COLLEGE

College Road, Crawley, RH10 1NR www.crawley.ac.uk

- T Levels
- Level 2 Progression
- Level 1, 2 & 3 vocational courses
- SEND and Foundation courses



DV8 SUSSEX

12 Queen Suare, Brighton BN1 3FD www.dv8sussex.com

• Level 2 & 3 creative digital, music and media vocational courses



ESCG - LEWES COLLEGE

1 Mountfield Road, Lewes, BN7 2XH www.escg.ac.uk/explore/lewes/

- A Levels
- T Levels
- BTEC/CAMTEC Diplomas
- Level 2 & 3 vocational courses
- Level 2 Progression



HAYWARDS HEATH COLLEGE

Harlands Road, Haywards Heath, RH16 1LT www.haywardsheath.ac.uk

- A Levels
- T Levels
- BTEC/CAMTEC Diplomas
- Level 2 Progression
- ESOL courses





NEWMAN COLLEGE

The Upper Drive, Hove, BN3 6ND www.newmancollege.co.uk

- A Levels
- T Levels
- BTEC Diplomas



NORTHBROOK

Littlehampton Road, Goring-by-Sea, BN12 6NU www.northbrook.ac.uk

- T Levels
- BTEC/CAMTEC Diplomas
- Level 1, 2 & 3 vocational courses
- SEND and Foundation courses



PLUMPTON COLLEGE

Ditchling Road, Plumpton, BN7 3AE www.plumpton.ac.uk

- BTEC/NCFE Diplomas
- City and Guilds
- Level 2 Progression
- Level 1, 2, & 3 vocational courses



ST PAUL'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE

Jane Murray Way, Burgess Hill, RH15 8GA www.stpaulssixthform.co.uk

- A Levels
- BTEC Diplomas
- Level 2 Progression



SUPAJAM

47 Cromwell Road, Hove, BN3 3ER www.semmuk.com/brighton

- Level 1 & 2 RSL Music Practitioner courses
- English and Maths



VARNDEAN

Surrenden Road, Brighton, BN1 6WQ www.varndean.ac.uk

- A Levels
- International Baccalaureate
- BTEC/CTEC Diplomas
- Level 2 Progression





SCHOOL SIXTH FORMS

HAZELWICK COLLEGE

Hazelwick School Close, Three Bridges, Crawley,

RH10 1SX

Tel: 01293 403344

www.hazelwick.org/sixth-form

HOLY TRINITY CE SCHOOL SIXTH FORM

Buckswood Drive, Gossops Green, Crawley,

RH11 8JE

Tel: 01293 423690

www.holytrinitycrawley.org.uk/Sixth-form/

IFIELD COMMUNITY COLLEGE SIXTH FORM

Crawley Avenue, Crawley, RH11 0DB

Tel: 01293 420500

www.ifieldcc.w-sussex.sch.uk

ORIEL HIGH SCHOOL SIXTH FORM

Maidenbower Lane, Crawley RH10 7XW

Tel: 01293 880350

www.oriel.w-sussex.sch.uk

ST WILFRID'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL SIXTH FORM

St Wilfrid's Way, Old Horsham Road, Crawley

RH11 8PG

Tel: 01293 421421

www.stwilfrids.com

THOMAS BENNETT COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Ashdown Drive, Crawley RH10 5AD

Tel: 01293 526255

www.thomasbennett-tkat.org

UCKFIELD COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE SIXTH FORM

Downsview Crescent, Uckfield TN22 3DJ

Tel: 01825 764844

www.uckfield.college

ARDINGLY COLLEGE*

Ardingly, Haywards Heath RH17 6SQ

Tel: 01444 893320

www.ardingly.com

BRIGHTON COLLEGE*

Eastern Road, Brighton BN2 0AL

Tel: 01273 704200

www.brightoncollege.org.uk

BURGESS HILL SCHOOL FOR GIRLS*

Keymer Road, Burgess Hill RH15 0EG

Tel: 01444 241050

www.burgesshillgirls.com

CHRIST'S HOSPITAL*

Horsham RH13 0YP

Tel: 01403 246555

www.christs-hospital.org.uk

HURSTPIERPOINT COLLEGE*

College Lane, Hurstpierpoint BN6 9JS

Tel: 01273 833636

www.hppc.co.uk

ROEDEAN SCHOOL*

Roedean Way, Brighton BN2 5RQ

Tel: 01273 667500

www.roedean.co.uk

WORTH SCHOOL*

Paddockhurst Road, Turners Hill RH10 4SD

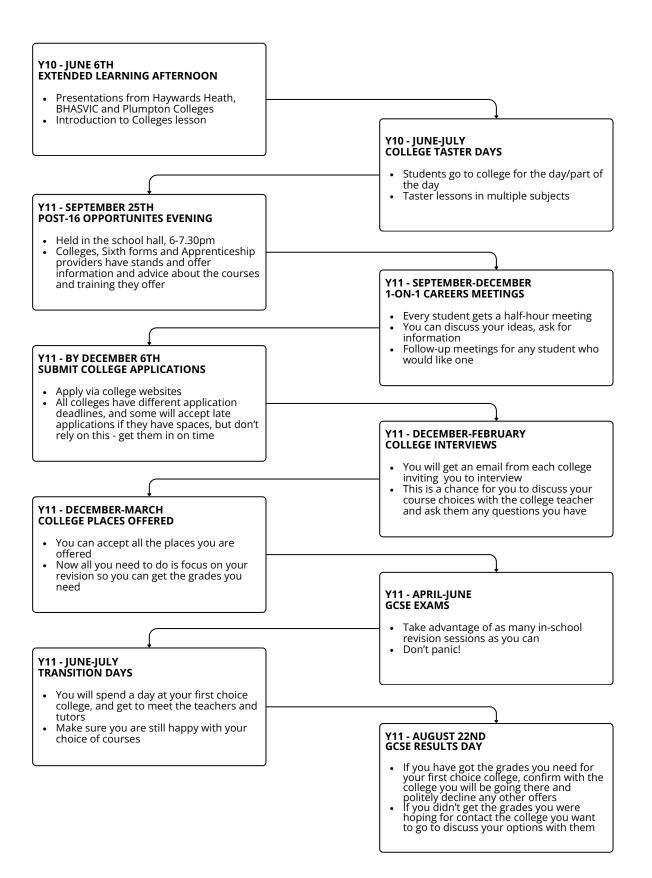
Tel: 01342 710200

www.worthschool.org.uk/sixth-16-18/

*Independent, fee-paying schools



COLLEGE APPLICATION TIME LINE





BEFORE YOU APPLY

Before you make you applications, you need to do some research. Go to as many open days as you can, and talk to your parents, carers and teachers about what you're thinking of applying for. If you have an older sibling who has been to college, or is currently there, you could ask them, too.

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

Courses Not all courses are available at all colleges so make sure you check what each college has to offer.

Entry requirements For Level 3 courses (eg: A Levels, Level 3 BTecs) most colleges will have general entry requirements, normally five GCSEs at grade 4 or above including Maths and English Language. On top of this, some courses have specific entry requirements, which can vary between colleges, e.g. to study Psychology you may need GCSE science at grade 6 and English at grade 6.

Course content Look carefully at the modules within a course. These can vary considerably at different colleges as they use different exam boards.

Assessment Look at how the course is assessed, e.g. most A levels are 100% examination, whereas Vocational Qualifications including BTECs, Cambridge Nationals etc include a practical element and coursework.

Progression Is this the right course or combination of courses to meet the entrance requirements for the subject you wish to study at university? E.g. to study medicine you must have A level Chemistry. The UCAS website is very useful for researching this www.ucas.com

Facilities What else does the college offer to support learning?

Extra-curricular activities What clubs and societies does the college offer?

Results Look at the individual subject pass rates for the subjects you are interested in studying, not just the overall results for the whole college.

Travel Can you get there? Consider the time and cost. Think about making that journey on a cold, wet February morning, not just a sunny June afternoon. Be realistic.

Guidance Do they offer careers support and guidance for university applications or your chosen next step?

'Feel'/ethos Do you like it?

You are more likely to succeed if your choices fit your interests and abilities.



THE APPLICATION PROCESS

Applying for college

There is no set number of colleges you have to apply for, but we recommend applying to three different places. You can apply for the same subjects, or completely different ones for each college.

Applications are made via the colleges' websites. When you apply, **use your home email address**, not your school one - you will need to access this after you leave Oathall, by which time your @oathall.org email address will be deactivated. Use a sensible, professional email address, eg: jsmith@gmail.com, not ilovecheese@gmail.com. Create a new one if necessary.

Once you have submitted your application you should get an automatic acknowledgement email - check your spam folder in case it goes in there. You will then get an email inviting you for interview. This can take a few weeks, so be patient!

Please note: You <u>cannot</u> apply to both Varndean and BHASVIC. This is so the two colleges can effectively plan their curriculums. If you apply to both the colleges will contact you to ask you to withdraw one application before the other one offers you an interview.

The application deadline is Friday 6th December 2024. You may be able to apply after this date, but priority will be given to applications received by the deadline.

References

Please put **Ms Lazell** down as your school reference - her email is mlazell@oathall.org and her phone number is 01444 883220. The colleges will then contact her to ask for your predicted grades, and also for information on your attendance, punctuality and behaviour during Y10 and 11.

College interviews

If your interview time is during the school day your parents/carers should email Mrs MacDiarmid (tmacdiarmid@oathall.org) so she can mark you in the register as authorised absent, as she would do for an orthodontist appointment.

Even if your interview is after school **we recommend wearing your school uniform** (shirt tucked in, no rolled skirts!) - you will look smart and not have to worry about choosing an outfit.

If you are applying for an art or creative course you may be asked to provide a portfolio of your work, which can be your GCSE coursework and/or art you have done outside school. If you are applying for a music, dance, drama or performance course you may be asked to audition.

Remember, the interview is as much for you to find out about the college as for them to find out about you. You can discuss course choices and alternative options, which is particularly important if you are applying for a subject you haven't studied before such as Sociology or Law. **Ask lots of questions** - how many people will be in each class? What out of class support do you offer? Where do students go in between classes? What's the best deal in the canteen?

Accepting offers

We strongly advise you to accept all the offers you are made. When you get your results in August you can then make your final decision about which college to go to, and can email the ones you don't want to go to and politely decline the place. Please don't worry about appearing rude, this is completely standard practice and the colleges expect this.



WORK-BASED LEARNING

This option suits students who know what they want to do for a living. You can leave school and start work-based training with an apprenticeship. Typically this will mean four days a week in the work place, and one day a week in college or at a training centre. Apprentices are paid, usually the national minimum wage, which for a 16 year old is currently £6.40 per hour.

Apprenticeships take between one and five years to complete. They are available in a wide range of industries, eg: accountancy, business administration, animal care, catering, construction, customer service, engineering, hairdressing, health & social care, IT, law, motor industry, retail, telecommunications and many more. Apprenticeships are now available up to degree level and beyond.

Intermediate Apprenticeship (Level 2)

- Entry requirements vary. Some require specific qualifications such as GCSEs in Maths and English at grade 4 or above. Others require you to pass an initial assessment.
- Trainees will be paid a training wage and work towards qualifications in NVQs, Functional Skills and Technical Certificates.
- Usually takes one year to gain a level 2 (equivalent to five GCSEs grades 9-4) after which it should be possible to progress to level 3.
- Training may take place solely in the workplace or on day release courses at college.

Advanced Apprenticeship (Level 3)

- Equivalent to at least two A levels.
- For 16+ year olds who have gained a minimum of five GCSEs at grades 9-4.
- Trainees will be paid a training wage and work towards qualifications in NVQs, Functional Skills and Technical Certificates.
- Training may take place solely in the workplace or on day release courses at college.
- Usually takes two years to complete and it is possible to progress to a Foundation Degree at university.

Higher Apprenticeships (Level 4 and above)

Higher Apprenticeships offer ambitious existing apprentices and employees, as well as A-Level school leavers, a different route to traditional university study. There are more than 40 Higher Apprenticeships to choose from and apprenticeships at degree level are now available. Occupational areas include Accounting, Advertising & Marketing, Banking, Business, Construction, Engineering, Fashion & Textiles, Hospitality, IT & Web Professionals, Legal Services, Life Sciences; with many more in development.



How to Apply for Apprenticeships

To do an apprenticeship you will need to find an employer, much the same as looking for a job. Visit www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship to register, search and apply for apprenticeship positions nationwide.

You can also look at local apprenticeship providers' websites to find apprenticeship opportunities in our area. These websites may be useful:

www.apprenticeships-in-sussex.com/
www.rewardstraining.co.uk
www.jace-training.co.uk
www.sigta.co.uk
www.stevewillis.com
https://talentview.org/vacancy?opportunity_type=apprenticeships
https://apprenticeshipguide.co.uk/

https://www.getmyfirstjob.co.uk/

apprenticeship opportunities.

You can also approach local employers in your chosen sector to enquire about possible

If you are considering an apprenticeship you should also, as a back-up measure, make a college application for a full-time course in the area you are interested in. If you do not find a job before the start of the college year you should start on the full-time course. If at any time during the full-time course you manage to find a suitable job, you can be transferred on

to the apprenticeship programme subject to various conditions being met by your employer.

Traineeships

A traineeship is a course with work experience that gets you ready for an apprenticeship. It can last up to six months, and you will get help with Maths and English if you need it. You won't be paid, but you may be given expenses for things like travel and meals. You can apply if you're:

- eligible to work in England
- unemployed and have little or no work experience
- aged 16-24 and qualified below Level 3

visit **www.gov.uk/find-traineeship** to register and apply for traineeships, or contact colleges and training providers to see if they are offering traineeship opportunities.



CAREERS WEBSITES

Looking for career inspiration? These websites might help

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Amazing	Annra	antice	chine
AIIIULIIIS	Appiv		JIIIPJ

Provides an explanation of the various Apprenticeships available amazingapprenticeships.com

The Apprenticeship Guide

The definitive guide to apprenticeships in England apprenticeshipguide.co.uk

Apprenticeships in Sussex

Search for local apprenticeships vacancies apprenticeships-in-sussex.com

Find an Apprenticeship

Government website with information regarding finding an apprenticeship findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk

Autocity

Info and advice on careers in the retail motor industry, including apprenticeship vacancies **autocity.org.uk**

Barclays Life Skills

Online platform aiming to give skills, knowledge and confidence you need for work with tools, tips and learning resources barclayslifeskills.com

BBC Bitesize Careers

This website helps to explain the world of work, with advice from people who have found the right path for them

bbc.co.uk/bitesize/careers

Be Ready

Online learning platform and innovative programmes and courses for schools, universities and employers

bereadygroup.org

Careermap

Providing live opportunities for your dream career working for some of the UKs biggest and best organisations

careermap.co.uk

Careerpilot

Careers information and tools for 11-19 year olds careerpilot.org.uk

Careers Box

Careers Films on the web careersbox.co.uk

Careers in Construction

Find out which construction roles are most suited to your interests, skills and qualifications **goconstruct.org**

Careers in Health

Information on the 350 roles available in the NHS, real-life stories and videos, plus course finder listing more than 1000 courses leading to a career in health

healthcareers.nhs.uk

Careers in Law

Information and advice about legal careers lawsociety.org.uk/career-advice barcouncil.org.uk/becoming-a-barrister.html



Careers in Sport

News, jobs and career advice about roles in the sports industry

careers-in-sport.co.uk

Construction Industry Training Board

Information about the wide variety of careers in the construction industry, including all the building trades, engineering and management roles

citb.co.uk

Eduvate

The world's virtual careers fair **eduvate.biz**

Get Career Confident

Advice and guidance for young people, parents, carers and teachers **getcareerconfident.co.uk**

Get my First Job

Search for apprenticeships, degree apprenticeships, work experience and graduate opportunities **getmyfirstjob.co.uk**

icould

More than 1000 videos of real people talking about their career journeys. Search by subject, job type or life theme icould.com

Institute For Apprenticeships and Technical Training

Apprenticeship and T-Levels information and opportunities

instituteforapprenticeships.org

JobHelp

Government website with info about looking for a job or changing careers whatever your personal circumstances

jobhelp.campaign.gov.uk

Lantra

Courses, training and careers information for land-based and environmental industries lantra.co.uk

Learn Live UK

Live, interactive broadcasts and on demand programmes about careers

learnliveuk.com

National Careers Service

Job profiles, CV and job interview advice, course information. You can also get advice by phone, text, email or webchat

nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk

NHS Careers

NHS Careers information specifically aimed at young people

stepintothenhs.nhs.uk

Russell Group Informed Choices

A guide to the best subject combinations for a wide range of university courses as well as advice on the best choices if you want to keep your options open

informedchoices.ac.uk

School Leavers Jobs

Apprenticeships, school leaver jobs, programmes & sponsored degrees allaboutschoolleavers.co.uk



School Leavers Milkround Opportunities and Advice for School Leavers milkround.com/school-leavers	Screen Skills Information, resources and e-learning for careers in the UK's TV, film, VFX, animation and games industries https://www.screenskills.com/
Skills for Care Information about the broad range of careers in social care skillsforcare.org.uk	START Careers and courses information and inspiration, virtual work experience and skills building tools startprofile.com
STEM careers Highlights the huge range of opportunities to anyone who pursues science, technology, engineering and maths subjects https://www.stem.org.uk/post-16/careers	The Student Room The UK's biggest student community. Boost your grades, learn with free study tools, find your perfect uni place & get answers to any question on the forums thestudentroom.co.uk

/www.screenskills.com/ **START** nd courses information and irtual work experience and skills building tools startprofile.com The Student Room gest student community. Boost learn with free study tools, find uni place & get answers to any estion on the forums estudentroom.co.uk **Success at School Target Careers** Advice and info on careers, employers, Options for careers, university or universities, apprenticeships and access real apprenticeships plus application advice work experience opportunities targetcareers.co.uk successatschool.org **UCAS Tasty Careers** Further Education: Sixth Form, College & Careers, apprenticeships and jobs in the food Apprenticeships and drink sector https://www.ucas.com/further-education tastycareers.org.uk **World Skills UK University Technical Colleges (UTCs)** Schools for 14-19 year-olds delivering technical UK careers advice toolkit education and core curriculum subjects https://www.worldskillsuk.org/careersutcolleges.org advice/



Careers Advisor: Ms M Lazell mlazell@oathall.org

Careers Lead and Vocational Manager: Mrs D Isley disley@oathall.org

