



Applying for Post-16 Courses – some help

We recognise that many Year 11 parents have not been through the college application process before so we hope the following information and advice will be helpful.

Colleges

College open evenings start at the end of September and continue through this term and next. Reminders will be regularly updated on the School website under the Careers page.

Some colleges provide us with a prospectus for each Year 11 but in most cases we receive a limited number of copies. These are distributed to tutor groups if there are sufficient, and copies are always placed in the LRC for reference. We recommend collecting prospectuses when visiting colleges, or downloading them on-line.

Each college has its own application deadline and individual application form. The latter may be included in the prospectus or sometimes needs to be completed on-line. Please ask at the open evenings.

When choosing which course to follow students need to consider what their career step will be after college. If they want to go into higher education they must check what the university requirements are for their desired course. This can be done by looking at the university website or by talking with our Careers Guidance Adviser, Liz Dyer (appointments can be made in the LRC or by emailing Liz at l.dyer@brookfield.hants.sch.uk or careersadvisor@brookfield.hants.sch.uk or Mrs M Smith, Vocational Coordinator at m.smith@brookfield.hants.sch.uk). Tutors and relevant subject teachers can often give advice on the suitability of some course choices.

Colleges will invite students for interview from half-term onwards. Applications can be made to several different colleges and all offers can be held until the actual results are received in August 2018.

Students received a mock college interview, run by colleagues from St Vincent College, PETA Ltd and the Army last term and should draw on the feedback they received.

Early in the Spring term we collect probable student destinations from tutors and we target with our careers advisor any student who has not made plans for the coming September.

In the Summer term we are approached by colleges with lists of those students who have applied to them. They often ask for additional information including special educational needs, additional exam access and any necessary medical support. We ask colleges to ensure that they have parents' and students' agreement to this information being shared at the time a place is offered. This information is to help a successful transition to college and does not change whether a place is offered or not. If you do not wish us to share this information please let us know. As an additional measure, we would recommend you discuss with the college before accepting a place any specific needs your child may have so you can both make an informed choice that the college is the right place for your son/daughter.

Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships are becoming increasingly popular as a post-16 pathway. Information about apprenticeships and the application process is available on the careers page on the School website. This is also where we advertise local companies who have approached us looking for apprentices. We are arranging for Training Providers from various industries to come into school and speak more in depth with students about Apprenticeships and the application process together with the career opportunities they present. Liz Dyer, our Careers Adviser is more than happy to support students with advice and guidance regarding apprenticeships so please encourage your child to speak with her if they are interested in this route.

Contacts

If you have any questions about the post-16 transition process please do not hesitate to contact one of us:

Mrs Smith m.smith@brookfield.hants.sch.uk

Mrs Dyer l.dyer@brookfield.hants.sch.uk or careersadvisor@brookfield.hants.sch.uk