



3rd November 2020

Dear Year 11 Parents/Carers

Year 11 Post 16 Options

We thought it would be helpful for you to know how we intend to support Year 11 students with their Post 16 Options at school as well as upcoming events which are designed to provide further guidance on making important decisions at this crucial stage in their education.

On Thursday 12th November, your son/daughter will take part in the Year 11 Pathways Conference at school during registration, lessons 1 and 2. The aim of this conference is to make students aware of the range of education and career options available to them after they complete their GCSEs. Students should wear business dress for the conference, but they do not need to go out and buy a suit for the event; school uniform, with a different coloured shirt and tie is completely appropriate, similar to what they wore for MUNGA last year.

The conference will open with an overview of the options available to students including apprenticeships, the range of qualifications available at College and in Sixth Forms. Older students will offer advice to the Year 11 students about researching and choosing their options.

After this overview, students will hear about Waddesdon Sixth Form, including our entry requirements, how their GCSE target grades translate into Waddesdon Points (our entry point system) and the subjects on offer in Sixth Form.

The key message we will deliver to students throughout the Conference is the need to work hard over the next few months to achieve the best possible GCSE results. This will ensure that students have the most opportunities available to them after GCSEs and will not limit their options. Another important message will be the need to carefully consider a back-up plan, particularly if students are on the borderline for their chosen option.

We hope the students will enjoy the conference and benefit from the experience, both in terms of being able to make informed choices about their post 16 options and as motivational. Students will hear further presentations in their CP lessons from local colleges and apprenticeship providers, as well as how to put together CVs and letters of application.

Dates for your diary:

Waddesdon Sixth Form Virtual Open Evening – Thursday 26th November 2020

Due to current restrictions, our Sixth Form Open Evening will happen virtually this year via the school website. The online event will enable you to take a tour of the school, ‘meet’ current students and staff, find out about the subjects and opportunities we offer, as well as how to apply. You will gain an insight into our unique ethos and how we challenge and support all of our students to flourish. The Sixth Form prospectus and e-application form will also be available online then. Even though you are familiar with Waddesdon, we strongly

recommend participating in this online event to learn about the Sixth Form, especially in terms of subject choices. It will also be possible for students to talk to teachers in lessons about their subject at A level as well as at Year 11 Parents' Evening. The deadline for e-applications is 12th February 2021.

For local college Open Day events, see here:

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

<https://www.activatelearning.ac.uk/events>

Waddesdon Sixth Form Consultations – from January to May 2021

Once students have applied to Sixth Form, Ms Mclver will organise a consultation with your son/daughter for personalised advice about the number and combination of subjects he/she should take, particularly in light of post 18 options, if appropriate.

Waddesdon Sixth Form Foundation Days – 5th and 8th July 2021

These are two timetabled days of lessons for students after their GCSE examinations to bridge the gap between GCSE and A level. This gives students a taste of the subjects they wish to take at A level as well as some preparatory work for the summer holidays so they can make a strong start to subjects in September.

GCSE Results Day – Friday 27th August 2021

Students may collect their GCSE results from 9am. The Pathways Co-ordinator, the Head of Year 12 and the Head of Sixth Form will be available to support students with advice about their results and future options.

Waddesdon Sixth Form Enrolment – Friday 27th August 2021

Students with 80+ Waddesdon Points enrol for Sixth Form on GCSE Results Day and confirm their subject choices.

Full details about applying to college or other Sixth Forms will be available on their school websites. There are apprenticeship support materials available at www.apprenticeships.gov.uk

We are very keen to support students with their post 16 options at school. Please do not hesitate to contact one of us if you would like to discuss any aspect of your son/daughter's post 16 options or the application processes.

Yours sincerely

Ms Mclver
Head of Sixth Form

Mrs Bridges
Pathways Coordinator

Mr Dipple
Head of Year 11