



November 2021

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 Tuesday 23rd November, your son/daughter will take part in the Year 11 Pathways Conference at school during 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 their normal school uniform.

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. 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 Open Evening – Thursday 25th November 2021

We are looking forward to welcoming you to our Sixth Form Open Evening on Thursday 25th November. At the event, you will be able to:

- meet current Sixth Form students and teachers at our **subject fair**
- attend one of the **presentations** led by our Year 13 Heads of School

Timings on the evening are dependent on your arrival time and capacity in the Hall.

Option 1: for the first 120 arrivals, you will attend the **first presentation in the Hall which begins at 5.45pm**. Once the presentation ends, you will attend the **subject fair from 6.30-7pm**.

Option 2: if you arrive after 5.45pm or once the Hall reaches capacity, you will attend the **subject fair first from your arrival time until 6.20pm**. You will then attend the **second presentation which will take place in the Hall from 6.30-7pm**.

To keep everyone as safe as possible, all students, teachers and visitors will need to wear a face mask, unless exempt. We will ensure good ventilation in all areas and make hand sanitiser available. We request that only Year 11 students attend the event, with ideally one accompanying adult (two maximum).

Following Open Evening, we strongly recommend students complete a short e-form via the school website to give us an indication of their subject choice preferences; the deadline for this is 6th December 2021. We use these to construct our option blocks giving as many students as possible their preferred combination of subjects. We then publish our option blocks on the school website and invite students to complete an e-application form via the school website. The deadline for Sixth Form applications is 7th February 2022.

For local college Open Day events, see here: <https://www.buckscollegegroup.ac.uk/enrol/open-days> or <https://www.activatelearning.ac.uk/events>

Waddesdon Sixth Form Consultations – from February to June 2022

Once students have applied to Sixth Form, Ms McIver 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 – 30th June and 1st July 2022

These are 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 – Thursday 25th August 2022

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 – Thursday 25th August 2022

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 McIver
Head of Sixth Form

Mrs Bridges
Pathways Coordinator

Miss Turner
Head of Year 11