



19<sup>th</sup> October 2023

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 9<sup>th</sup> 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 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023

We are looking forward to welcoming you to our Sixth Form Open Evening on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November. At the event, you will be able to:

- meet current Sixth Form students and teachers at our **subject fair from 6pm**
- attend a **presentation** led by our Year 13 Heads of School at **7pm**

**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 11<sup>th</sup> December 2023.** 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 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

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 2024

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 Day – 26th June 2024

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

GCSE Results Day

Students may collect their GCSE results from 9am. The Pathways Co-ordinator, the Sixth Form Student Support Officer, 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

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

All Year 11 students have access to Unifrog for personalised and impartial careers research. Mrs Bridges will meet all Year 11 students at least once to support them with their choices and applications. 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](http://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

Mr Maciejewski  
Head of Year 11