



20th October 2025

Dear Year 11 Parents/Carers

Year 11 Post 16 Options Support

We want you to know how we are supporting 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.

At the heart of this, we want our Year 11 students to be ambitious and to make well-informed decisions. The key message to students is the need to work hard 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.

Informed Careers and Pathways

In Year 11 CP this month, the range of pathways open to students has been outlined in a presentation and they have been given time to complete research into their different options. Subject teachers will be talking to students in lessons about where their subject can take them in terms of careers for the future.

Waddesdon Sixth Form

On Tuesday 4th November, your son/daughter will hear about what we can offer at Waddesdon Sixth Form. Year 11 will hear from older students about Waddesdon Sixth Form, including our entry requirements and how their GCSE grades translate into Waddesdon Points (our entry point system) as well as the wide range of subjects and exciting opportunities we offer in our brand new Sixth Form Building.

Other Post 16 Providers

In subsequent CP sessions, students will hear further presentations from local colleges and apprenticeship providers, as well as how to put together CVs and letters of application later in the year. Please check other provider websites for details of their open events and application timescales.

Dates for your diary:

Waddesdon Sixth Form Open Evening – Thursday 27th November 2025

We look forward to welcoming you to our Sixth Form Open Evening on Thursday 27th November. **Please use the Manor Overflow Car Park for parking for the event.** 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 11th December 2025. 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 in January and invite students to complete an e-application form via the school website. The deadline for Sixth Form applications is 23rd February 2026.

Waddesdon CE School Carers Fair – 25th March 2026 from 6-9pm

There will be a range of college, employers and apprenticeship providers at this event which takes place in the school hall and library. You will be able to visit stalls, pick up information and ask questions.

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

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

For apprenticeship support resources and apprenticeship vacancies, see here:

<https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk/apprentices>

Waddesdon Sixth Form Consultations – from February to June 2026

Once students have applied to Sixth Form, the Sixth Form Team 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 – 24th June 2026

This is a timetabled day of lessons for students after their GCSE examinations to bridge the gap between GCSE and Sixth Form. 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.

Unifrog Career Platform and Careers Advice

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.

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

Mr Nilan
Head of Year 11

Mrs Bridges
Pathways Coordinator

Ms McIver
Head of Sixth Form