



Year 11 Careers Newsletter: Friday 7th October 2022

Hello, Year 11

Ludlow College Open event:

Monday this week felt a little strange as I realised that it was the first Week 1 Monday in school of the academic year. The very first Monday was a PD Day and the following Week 1 was the funeral of the Queen.

I hope that many of you attended the Open event last night, Thursday, at Ludlow College. It was the first of many, many events, which all our local colleges will organise.

If you did go, what were your thoughts? Is Ludlow College somewhere you might attend next year? Did you speak to Tutors and current students?

Focus on vocational courses and Apprenticeships:

Having completed 3-4 rounds of career appointments since the beginning of the academic year, it is clear that vocational courses and apprenticeships are the most popular choice of post-16 pathway to date.

The interest shown has ranged from agriculture to vehicle maintenance, both of which are offered by local colleges.

Each week, I shall focus on a different post-16 pathway, in order to give you a taste of what they have to offer.

Vocational courses and Apprenticeships:

Both give students actual 'working' skills, with limited time in the classroom. Vocational courses, such as BTEC diplomas at Levels 1-3, depending on your GCSE grades, and/or experience, give students more time in the classroom than apprenticeships. Vocational courses involve a work placement, found by the college, or by the student. The work placement might be 1 day a week, or as a block of weeks.

Apprenticeships are led by the employer and the student needs to find an employer willing to take them on. A business will advertise for an apprentice and train students on the job. Students will either attend college 1 day a week, or the college tutor will visit the workplace, in order to provide the more formal side of the apprenticeship. Apprenticeships are 'earn while you learn', while BTEC diplomas are not.

www.ladderforshropshire.org

This is a local website, advertising apprenticeship opportunities. It is very regularly updated and apprenticeships come available all year round, not just for a September start. Even if you see a vacancy advertised that suits you, I would advise you to make contact with that employer, just in case they are prepared to take on the 'ideal' apprentice after GCSE results are issued. You could also use the website to research local companies, to see what they have to offer and what the apprenticeship training entails. If you like the look of what is on offer, why not contact the employer anyway, to register your interest and to bear you in mind if any other apprenticeship opportunities come up.

Next week, I shall focus on A-Levels.

Enjoy your weekend, all.

Mrs Griffiths-Jones