



## Year 11 Careers Newsletter: Friday 14th October 2022

Happy Friday, Year 11

### Open Events:

Shrewsbury Colleges Group held their first Open face-to-face Event yesterday. This focussed on A-Level courses and art-related qualifications. Events are really going to start in earnest from October until mid-late November. Some of the colleges will also offer virtual Open Events, as did Shrewsbury Colleges Group on Tuesday this week. However, as we all know very well, there is nothing like actually speaking to people face-to-face and experiencing opportunities 'in the flesh.' If you can't attend an event in person, does this mean that this might be the case from September?

See below for the next Open Events:

#### Shrewsbury Colleges Group

- Wednesday 19 October, 4.00pm - 8.00pm – London Road Campus

#### Open Events at the Walford Campus (Land-based) Ludlow and Herefordshire College

- Saturday 15 October 2022, 10:00am - 12:00pm

#### Open Event at Hereford Sixth Form

- Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2022, 5.00pm - 8.00pm

### Focus on A-Level courses:

As I stated in last week's newsletter, I intend to focus on a different post-16 pathway each week. This week it is A-Levels.

At A-Level, students select 3 subjects to study for 2 years, a 4<sup>th</sup> subject is an option in the first year of study, if you achieved strong GCSE grades. You will sit the AS exam at the end of the first year in nearly all subjects.

All A-Level courses require students to have achieved a minimum Grade 4 in English Language. Many A-Levels also require a minimum Grade 4 in Maths, too. However, it is highly recommended that a good grade in these 2 subjects at GCSE will better 'equip' you to study at A-Level.

If you did not achieve a grade in English or Maths at GCSE, you will need to study these subjects alongside your choice of A-Levels. Both are essential qualifications for all students, whether you are studying A-Levels or vocational courses. Secure literacy and numeracy skills are key in all aspects of life.

Local colleges offering A-Levels are Ludlow College and Hereford Sixth Form. You may also choose to look at going to Shrewsbury Sixth Form. Exam Boards differ and so does the content of the programmes and what you study. You may prefer to study Environmental Science instead of the more traditional ones of Physics, Biology and Chemistry. Criminology, Psychology, Sociology, Business Studies and English tend to be the most popular A-Level subjects. Last year, Ludlow School leavers choosing A-Levels showed a preference to study at Ludlow College and opted for Business Studies, Psychology and Criminology, the latter of which is a new subject to the local colleges.

Our local colleges offer a good range of 'facilitating' A-Level subjects, favoured by the most competitive universities. Although A-Levels don't necessarily provide students with the vocational skills that Diplomas and Apprenticeships do, they do open the door to university, higher level apprenticeships offered by national and international companies.

Enjoy your weekend, all.

Mrs Griffiths-Jones