



Year 11 Careers Newsletter: Friday 19th September 2025

Happy end of the week, Year 11

How have you settled into your final year? Are you coping with the increased workload?

If you are struggling, it is important that you speak to your Tutor or your subject teacher as soon as possible.

The longer you leave it, the more likely the 'snowball effect' will happen. One piece of overdue work then impacts on another and then another, until you have little chance of catching up and the quality of your work is affected.

I will look at how to manage your time most effectively in later newsletters. You will also receive guidance through your subject lessons and tutor time.

Career Appointments

Career appointments began last week, and I was delighted with the research that many of you have undertaken - from Agriculture to Musical Theatre and Modern History to the Armed Forces.

When you have your appointment, you will leave with notes of what has been discussed, and your tutor will also receive a copy. These notes will include an Action Plan with a timeline.

Open Events

A calendar of Open Events should be pinned up on all Y11 Tutor noticeboards, with events beginning in the first week of October.

These are a great opportunity to ask questions about:

- College
- Courses
- Clubs
- Possibility of work experience
- What happens if you do not achieve entry requirements

It is vital that you attend Open Events — and not just at one college.

To make the best decision, you need to compare what is on offer at different colleges, including travel time and costs. Contact the college directly to enquire about financial support as soon as possible, as securing funding can take time.

If you don't attend an Open Event before Christmas, it is unlikely you'll be able to attend another until late in the Spring term - which is really too late. Courses do get booked up, especially the most popular vocational ones. A former student found themselves in this situation a couple of years ago.

It is expected that students apply for courses by Christmas.

Some colleges offer a Virtual Open Event, but you will need to book to receive a link.

Apprenticeship providers are also included in the Open Events calendar. However, as opportunities are continually becoming available, providers tend not to offer Open Events.

Instead, check websites and platforms like Indeed for new posts. Employers often send me details, and I will include these in my newsletters, as well as on TFTD, FB, and via email to your parents and carers.

Vocational Courses

If you're interested in applying for vocational courses, it helps to show some experience — for example, a Saturday job in a hair salon if applying for Hair and Beauty.

You can apply for:

- More than one course
- More than one college

I've posted a list of exam boards on the career's noticeboard in the C-Block corridor.

You'll need these for your application forms, along with your GCSE target grades.

If applying for an Arts-based course, you may need to:

- Put together a portfolio of your work
- Audition for a place

Entry requirements vary depending on the course and the college.

Post-16 Pathway Assemblies

The first of a suite of post-16 pathway assemblies begins on Friday 26th October with Ludlow College.

Other colleges from Shropshire and Herefordshire, along with the Army and an awareness and information session regarding apprenticeships, are also planned this term.

Enjoy your weekend

Mrs Griffiths-Jones