



Year 11 Careers Newsletter: Friday 30th January 2026

Happy end of January, Year 11

What a busy start of the week for many of you. An early start on Monday morning for the English trip to Birmingham and then for the artists, a visit to Wolverhampton Art Gallery. I am sure that you made the very most from these educational experiences this week.

Did you manage to attend the College Open event last Saturday at Ludlow College. It was the final Open Event at the college and I did see a number of you there. Below, I have added the next Open events.

I have managed to get my hands on a few prospectuses from Hartpury College. If you would like your own copy, it is first come, first served. I will also give one to each Y11 Tutor. The prospectus provides details about the post-18 courses Hartpury offers. Even if you do not intend to study at Hartpury, whether at 16 or 18, it would be a good idea to have a look at the prospectus, to give you an idea about undergraduate degrees, including living away from home, finances and entry requirements, in general.

College	Location/Courses	Date	Time
Shrewsbury College	English and Welsh Bridge campuses (A Levels and Vocational Art)	3rd February, 2026	5.00pm - 7.00pm
Hereford Sixth Form College	Folly Lane , Hereford, HR1 1LU. (A-Levels)	5 th February, 2026	5.00pm - 7.00pm
Herefordshire and Ludlow College	Walford Campus, Baschurch, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY4 2HL. (Vocational, apprenticeships: Land-based, agriculture, animal welfare)	7 th February, 2026	10.00am - 12.00pm
Shrewsbury College	London Road campus (Vocational courses)	12 th Feb, 2026	5.00pm - 7.00pm

The Ludlow College interviews will take place on Monday February 2nd. You should know by now whether you are on the schedule to be interviewed. It is vital that you make a strong first impression by attending punctually. Your appointment may be at 10am, but I would advise you to present yourself at Student Reception by 9.55am. You will then be told to make your way over to the Bungalow, checking that you are wearing your uniform correctly. Punctuality and dressed in a presentable manner, will get you off to the best start. Last week, I gave you a list of potential interview questions you could be asked. I also said that I would provide some examples of questions you could ask the interviewer:

- What is the typical number of students in each lesson?
- How long are lessons?
- Will I have a tutor?
- Will there be any opportunities to take part in any trips / visits which are part of my course(s)?
- I am interested in....., are there any clubs that I can join?
- What was last year's pass rate for each of my courses?

Ask at least 2 questions; It will show that you are keen and interested. Start with a strong first impression and leave a lasting, positive impact.

Have a great weekend everybody,

Mrs Griffiths-Jones.

There is also an Open event for those of you interested in an apprenticeships. HWGTA are based in Hereford, Holmer Rd and they advertise apprenticeships in engineering, business administration, accountancy and customer service. HWGTA is different from the way that colleges run their apprenticeship courses, in that the company **find the students for the employer**, so the work is all done for you. Still interested? 4-6.30pm, Thursday 19th Feb, HWGTA, Holmer Rd. We have had a number of past students who have successfully applied for an apprenticeship with the company and have gone on to secure full-time work.

Ludlow College interviews scheduled for January 26th are postponed due to the English department trip. They have now been pencilled in for February 2nd. You will all be interviewed for your post-16 courses and I strongly advise you to turn your thoughts to preparing for your own interview. Have you considered the following questions that may be asked of you? Think about how you would respond. There is no need to memorise what you wish to say, but it's important that you have at least thought about each question in depth. There is nothing to stop you taking written responses into your interview.

- What do you know about the course you're applying to study?
- What particular aspects of the course interest you and why?
- What skills have you been developing that will prepare you to study on this course?
- Why do you want to attend this college in particular?
- What are your long-term goals? Is there a certain career you wish to pursue? How do you think your chosen course will help you to reach those goals?
- What do you like to do in your spare time? Do you participate in any extra-curricular activities (Football, drama productions...)?
- What do you think will be your biggest challenge whilst at college?

Next week, I shall focus on some example questions to ask. It is a very important part of any interview process, as it demonstrates that you are genuinely interested and helps you to stand out from other candidates, by turning the interview into a two-way conversation. Failing to ask questions can easily indicate that you appear uninterested, as well as losing out on the opportunity to find out the finer details, which will help you to make one of the most important decisions you have had to make.

Mrs Griffiths-Jones