



Year 11 Careers Newsletter: Friday 17th October 2025

Happy Friday, Year 11

How was your PTCE last week? I trust that you attended too and listened with great care to what your teachers advised. I flagged up in an earlier issue of this newsletter that you should take time to reflect. Your subject teachers will have given you a highly personalised update on your current and predicted attainment. What you need to do in order to make expected progress and a reminder of NEA deadlines. It is extremely important that you stick to deadlines as failure to do so will mean that you fall behind, the quality of your work is negatively impacted on and stress levels rise. Early communication with staff is key. Last week, I liaised with staff on behalf of a student who had fallen behind in 3 subject areas. After speaking to subject teachers, a plan is in place with SMART targets. I will leave that to you to Google if you aren't sure what that acronym means! It was important that the student was involved in the whole process of agreeing the plan in order to increase the likelihood of the targets being met. If this is you, don't worry alone, speak out today!

How are the Open events going? Here are a couple of dates for next week. Those of you who are interested in agriculture, animal-focused studies and / or an apprenticeship, these are events not to be missed. Applications for all post-16 courses and training are now open. If you are required to provide a personal statement, I would strongly advise you to send a draft to me or your tutor first. The statement won't expect you to include what GCSE subjects you are studying and what your predicted grades are; there is a dedicated section for this information. You should focus on why you have chosen the course(s) that you are applying for, what makes you a good candidate and whether you have any related experience. For example, if applying for an agricultural course, it would be ideal if you could say that you work on a farm during your free time. Or, if applying for an apprenticeship in Hairdressing, it would improve your chances of being accepted onto the course if you could say that you have a part-time job in a salon or that you intend to job shadow a hairdresser. This means that you spend some time observing a stylist. If you don't have a part-time position, job shadowing is the next best thing. The main thing is that you clearly demonstrate that you are keen, interested and motivated.

Herefordshire and Ludlow College	Walford Campus (Vocational, apprenticeships: Land-based, agriculture, animal welfare)	18 th October 2025		10.00am - 12.00pm
Herefordshire and Worcestershire Group Training Association, Holmer Rd, Hereford	Apprenticeships	23 rd Oct 2025		4.00pm – 6.00pm

Enjoy a lovely weekend,

Mrs Griffiths-Jones