



24th October 2024

Dear Year 11 Parents/Carers

Year 11 Post 16 Options Support

This letter outlines how we support Year 11 students with their Post 16 Options at school, as well as upcoming events which are designed to provide further guidance on making important decisions at this crucial stage in their education.

Waddesdon Sixth Form Conference

On Wednesday 6th November, your son/daughter will take part in the Sixth Form Conference at school during lessons 1 and 2. The aim of this conference is to remind students of the range of pathways open to them after Year 11 (building on recently delivered presentations in their CP lessons) and what we offer in Sixth Form at Waddesdon. Students should wear their normal school uniform.

The conference will open with an overview of the options available including apprenticeships, the range of qualifications available at College and in Sixth Forms. Older students will offer advice to the Year 11 students about researching and choosing their options. Students will then hear about Waddesdon Sixth Form, including our entry requirements, how their GCSE target grades translate into Waddesdon Points (our entry point system) and the subjects on offer in Sixth Form.

The key message we will deliver to students is the need to work hard to achieve the best possible GCSE results. This will ensure that students have the most opportunities available to them after GCSEs and so not limit their options. Another important message will be the need to carefully consider a back-up plan, particularly if students are on the borderline for their chosen option. Students will hear further presentations in their CP lessons from local colleges and apprenticeship providers, as well as how to put together CVs and letters of application later in the year.

Waddesdon Sixth Form Open Evening – Thursday 28th November 2024

We look forward to welcoming you to our Sixth Form Open Evening on Thursday 28th November. Please use the Manor Overflow Car Park for parking for the event. At the event, you will be able to:

- meet current Sixth Form students and teachers at our **subject fair from 6pm**
- attend a **presentation** led by our Year 13 Heads of School at **7pm**

Following Open Evening, we strongly recommend students complete a short e-form via the school website to give us an indication of their subject choice preferences; the deadline for this is 12th December 2024. We use these to construct our option blocks giving as many students as possible their preferred combination of subjects. We then publish our option blocks on the school website in January and invite students to complete an e-application form via the school website. The deadline for Sixth Form applications is 24th February 2025.

For local **college Open Day events**, see here:

<https://www.buckscollegelgroup.ac.uk/enrol/open-days> or <https://www.activatelearning.ac.uk/events>

For **apprenticeship support** resources and **apprenticeship vacancies**, see here:

www.apprenticeships.gov.uk.

Waddesdon Sixth Form Consultations – from February to June 2025

Once students have applied to Sixth Form, the Sixth Form Team will organise a consultation with your son/daughter for personalised advice about the number and combination of subjects he/she should take, particularly in light of post 18 options, if appropriate.

Waddesdon Sixth Form Foundation Day – 25th June 2025

This is a timetabled day of lessons for students after their GCSE examinations to bridge the gap between GCSE and A level. It gives students a taste of the subjects they wish to take in Sixth Form as well as some preparatory work for the summer holidays so they can make a strong start to subjects in September.

GCSE Results Day

Students may collect their GCSE results from 9am. The Pathways Co-ordinator, the Sixth Form Student Support Officer, the Head of Year 12 and the Head of Sixth Form will be available to support students with advice about their results and future options.

Waddesdon Sixth Form Enrolment

Students with 80+ Waddesdon Points enrol for Sixth Form on GCSE Results Day and confirm their subject choices.

All Year 11 students have access to Unifrog for personalised and impartial careers research. Mrs Bridges will meet all Year 11 students at least once to support them with their choices and applications. Full details about applying to college or other Sixth Forms will be available on their school websites.

We are very keen to support students with their post 16 options at school. Please do not hesitate to contact one of us if you would like to discuss any aspect of your son/daughter's post 16 options or the application processes.

Yours sincerely

Ms McIver
Head of Sixth Form

Mrs Bridges
Pathways Coordinator

Mr Dipple
Head of Year 11