

11 October 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

Parent/Carer Information, Resources, and Support about Post-16 Options

With sixth form and further education college deadlines beginning this term, I am writing to remind parents and carers of our Year 11 students about the careers information, resources, and support available to you as you help your child(ren) with making their post-16 decision.

The Weald's Careers Site has a dedicated section for parents and carers, which can be accessed by [clicking here](#). It is also accessible through the [main school website](#) (*Our Curriculum* → *Careers* → *Parents*). This includes the following information and links to webpages:

- **Talking Futures:** a parent toolkit for careers conversations
- **What Next at 14, 16, and 18?:** a booklet that contains information about the various pathways available to young persons when completing their Year 11 studies
- **Further education:** including information about the differences between A Levels, vocational and technical courses, and work-based study routes (such as apprenticeships), a map of local further education providers, and links to college and sixth form open days
- **Apprenticeships:** specific information about apprenticeships, including parent packs and the 'Parent Perspective' podcast from Amazing Apprenticeships, a parent's guide to apprenticeships, and information about how apprenticeship study can impact on receipt of child benefits
- **Higher education:** information about university-level study options and student finance tailored for parents and carers

As always, if you feel there is something missing from the parent section of The Weald's careers site, please let me know via careers@theweald.org.uk so that I can investigate this for you.



I have also recorded a 'What Are Their Post-16 Options?' video for Year 11 parents, where I outline the different types and levels of education and training options available to young persons after completing their secondary school studies and some strategies and resources available to help you navigate this with your child(ren). Please [click here](#) to watch this.

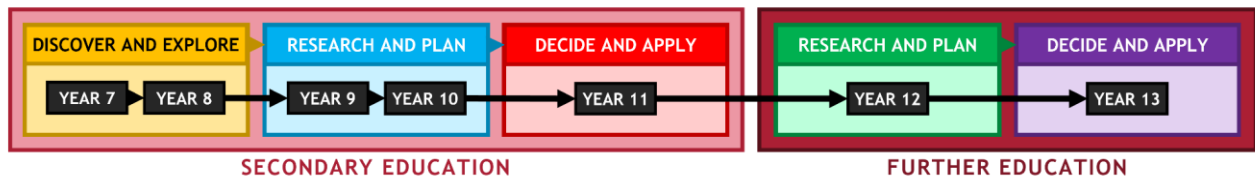
During Thursday 10th November's Year 11 Parents' Evening, I will be available from 18:00 until 20:00 via video call to provide parents and carers with careers support and answer any questions you may have about post-16 options. If you would like to book a slot during this time, please email careers@theweald.org.uk with your preferred time(s). I am also most happy to provide support across the school year via this email address.

I would also like to use this opportunity to remind parents and careers that, according to the [Government's education participation age rules](#), young people must do one of the following after completing their Year 11 studies and until they are aged 18:

- stay in full-time education, for example at a sixth form or college
- start an apprenticeship or traineeship
- spend 20 hours or more a week working or volunteering, while in part-time education or training

Year 11 students will be asked shortly before the Easter holidays to report their intended post-16 destination via their Unifrog profile; they will be provided time during registration to do this. The School then sends this data to West Sussex County Council as part of our reporting duties associated with the Government's education participation age.

THE WEALD COMMUNITY SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM'S CAREERS THEMES



As part of our '**Decide and Apply**' careers programme theme, Year 11 students are:

- Receiving support with making their post-16 decisions via a dedicated timetable of careers activities delivered during form time
- Taking part in careers lessons about application making and recruitment processes as part of our Relationships, Health, and Personal Development (*RHPD*) curriculum
- Hearing from a range of different types of further education providers in their weekly assemblies
- Being reminded of the careers and labour market information and resources available to them via The Weald's careers site ([click here](#)) and their Unifrog profile
- Invited to attend my lunchtime and afterschool careers drop-ins, which take place in the careers section of the LRC on Wednesdays during term time (*or email me via careers@theweald.org.uk outside of these times*)

Lastly, a reminder that The Weald Sixth Form is holding a student-led open event tomorrow (Wednesday 12th October), delivered on-site from 17:00 until 18:30. This is for prospective students and their parents to find out more about what studying with The Weald Sixth Form is like from the perspectives of our students. [Click here](#) for further information about this event (please note that advanced registration is not required), and contact sixthformoffice@theweald.org.uk with any questions.

Yours faithfully,



Ms E Morris
Careers Manager