

Year 11 Careers Newsletter

Post-16 Option Planning

We hope that you have settled into Year 11 and are ready for the challenges that lie ahead. The Careers Department are on hand to support you as begin to turn your thoughts to your post-16 plans through an individual 30-minute career guidance meeting which will be scheduled for you sometime between the October and February half terms. Before this takes place however we hope that the following information will help you to consider your options and make realistic and informed decisions about your future plans.

You are legally obliged to remain in education or training until you are 18. This means that you must be enrolled with one of the following:

- A Sixth Form School
- A College of Further Education
- Employment with Training such as an Apprenticeship or Traineeship

1. The Associated Sixth Form

Studying A Levels and Level 3 Applied Courses in the Associated Sixth Form enables you to continue your GCSE subjects in greater depth and/or discover new subjects that are only offered after Year 11. You will choose to study 3 subjects and it is important to consider subjects that:

- You enjoy
- You believe you can do well in
- You may need to enable you to access opportunities in the future

To ensure that each student has the best opportunity to succeed in his or her chosen curriculum the Associate Sixth Form has general entry criteria and individual subjects also have their own specific requirements for each course. Please refer to the Associated Sixth Form prospectus for more information.

Prospectus: https://www.staidans.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Associated-Sixth-Form-Prospectus-2021_FINAL.pdf

Sixth Form Induction Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ct275h3fBI>

OVERALL REQUIREMENTS FOR SIXTH FORM ENTRY	
A Level courses	A minimum of five GCSE subjects at grade 5 including Mathematics and English Language depending on individual course requirements.
Combination of A Level courses and Applied courses	From two GCSE subjects at grade 5 plus three subjects at grade 4, to five subjects at grade 4 including Mathematics and English Language depending on individual course requirements.
Applied courses	Four GCSE subjects at grade 4 including Mathematics and English Language.

2. Further Education Colleges

Some colleges offer a range of A Level subjects such as York College and Leeds City College, however all offer vocational and practical courses. These are related to a broad employment area such as business, engineering, IT and health and social care and provide the opportunity to gain relevant qualifications and train for a specific career. Most courses are either 1 or 2 years in length.

If you are considering making an application to college it is important to research courses and entry requirements on individual college websites and sign up to attend open/taster days.

Harrogate College	https://harrogate-college.ac.uk/
York College	https://www.yorkcollege.ac.uk/
Askham Bryan College	https://www.askham-bryan.ac.uk/
Leeds City College	https://www.leedscitycollege.ac.uk/
Leeds College of Building	https://www.lcb.ac.uk/
Leeds Arts University	https://www.leeds-art.ac.uk/
White Rose Beauty College	https://www.whiterosebeautycolleges.co.uk/

3. Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships provide the opportunity to:

- Gain an insight into the realities of working in a particular job/sector of industry
- Develop the skills required to work in that employment
- Study for nationally recognised qualifications such as NVQs
- Get paid at least the National Apprenticeship wage of £4.15 per hour

Apprenticeships are available across many different sectors of industry. Training can take between 1 and 2 years before you are fully qualified and as a rule you will spend 80% of your working week with your employer and 20% with your training provider.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/a-guide-to-apprenticeships>

<https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk/real-stories/apprentice>

<https://www.getmyfirstjob.co.uk/>

<https://www.ucas.com/further-education/apprenticeships-and-traineeships/post-16-apprenticeships>

4. Traineeships

If you do not feel ready for an apprenticeship you could consider a traineeship. This will enable you to further develop your skills and experience on a course which includes a work placement before you apply for your first apprenticeship or job. Traineeships can last from 6 weeks to 6 months.

<https://www.ucas.com/further-education/apprenticeships-and-traineeships/traineeships-and-school-leaver-programmes>

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/traineeship-information-for-trainees>

Work Experience

Work Experience is a vital part of our usual careers programme and enables students to better understand where and how their unique skills and talents might fit into the Future World of Work. In summer 2020 all work placements were cancelled due to the pandemic and current circumstances would predict that a comprehensive programme will not be reinstated by the Summer Term 2021. However, innovative companies and organisations have developed a number of diverse, good quality Virtual Work Experience opportunities. Please refer to the school website for further information. <https://www.staidans.co.uk/careers-st-aidans/work-experience/>

If you would like the opportunity to discuss virtual work experience opportunities in more detail, please email careersstaff@staidans.co.uk and we can book you in for an appointment with Mrs Farrar, our work experience coordinator.

Forthcoming Events

- **York College** Virtual Open Events

Wednesday 11th November 2020, 5.30pm - 8.00pm

Saturday 21st November 2020, 10.00am - 12.30pm

Visit this link to book your place: <https://www.yorkcollege.ac.uk/events-calendar/open-events.html>

- **Askham Bryan College** Virtual Open Events
Saturday 7th November 2020, 10.00am - 1.00pm
Saturday 30th January 2021, 10.00am - 1.00pm
Visit this link to book your place: <https://www.askham-bryan.ac.uk/whats-on>

- **Harrogate College** Virtual Open Event
Wednesday 18th November 2020, 4.00pm and 7.00pm

- **Leeds College of Building** Virtual Open Event
Saturday 21st November 2020, 6pm
Details of how to register will be released shortly on <https://www.lcb.ac.uk/>

- **Leeds Arts University** Virtual Open Event
Visit this link to register your interest: <https://www.leeds-art.ac.uk/apply/open-days/>

- **White Rose Beauty College** Virtual Open Event
Thursday 5th November 2020, 6pm
Email harrogate@whiterosebeautycolleges.co.uk to book your place

Further Reading

<https://www.informedchoices.ac.uk/> - information for students considering university on A Level course choice

<https://mc.successsatschool.org/parents-ebook> - a parents/carers guide to their child's career journey, covering work experience, gap years, university and apprenticeships

<https://www.eclips-online.co.uk/> - information on entry routes for 1400+ jobs together with links to other areas of research. Login with the school password **beachu02**

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles> - Profiles for 100's of different occupations including entry routes

Remember... you are very welcome to visit the Careers Department during break, lunchtimes and after school to ask any questions, book your own careers appointment and speak to someone about virtual work experience opportunities.

Please contact the Careers Department at careersstaff@staidans.co.uk if you would like individual information, advice and guidance.