

Post 16 - Making College & Course Applications - Advice

- **Ensure you complete any applications prior to the deadline date** which is normally detailed on the providers website. If the deadline date has expired providers do not normally make exceptions.
- **All applications need to be made online** and the application form for most of the colleges is normally very straightforward, but each will have a specific application form for themselves.

What Information is usually asked for? -

- **Name:**
- **Date of Birth:**
- **Address including Postcode:**
- **Subject(s)/Course(s) You are Selecting:**
- **Your personal Email address:**
(Ensure you use your personal one and **not** your school one as this will not be valid after June 2025 when the college will start to send out important enrolment information and start dates etc.)
- **Parents/Carers Email addresses and contact numbers:**
- **Predicted Grades:** This is the only grades that providers are interested in at this stage as these are what are predicted for your actual GCSE grades, and is all they have to base any offers on as well as your interview.
Please make sure these are accurately input as when you attend any interviews you will need to take in a copy of your last report to confirm your application details.
On the application Form please ensure the Predicted Grades are put in the correct column and not in the Actual Grades part. You might be thinking 'that's obvious' but has been done so many times!
- Colleges often ask if they are allowed to share any correspondence they have with you, with a parent/carer. Would recommend this, as you do not want to be missing any instructions from them, but just like when you are at college, they treat you as an adult and expect you to take the responsibility of your application and subsequent enrolment with them.
- Some colleges may ask why you wish to study with them and your plans for after college. Just answer these honestly, but complete them with positive remarks about your potential Post 18 next steps, as this can be used as part of their selection process.

Application Process –

Once again, each college has its own system, but often will be a case of setting up an account when you apply, so that you can track the process and correspondence from the provider.

- **Complete the Application**
- **Receive Confirmation Email.**
- **Keep a regular lookout for Correspondence by email and/or text**
- **Act on instructions**
- **Receive details of your Interview or Guidance Meeting or follow instructions as to how to make the appointment.**
- **Attend Interview/Guidance Meeting.** Opportunity for both them to ask questions about you and just as importantly for you to ask questions about the courses and what the college offers. **If you do not attend you will not receive an offer!**

- **You will normally then receive what is called a Conditional Offer and it is recommended that you accept all offers**, even if you are uncertain as to whether at that stage you are definitely going to study there. It is all about keeping your options open. Offers will be sent to you via the email you provide with your online application. The offer will be conditional based on predicted GCSE grades and will normally require you to accept the offer within 14 days to secure your place. Should you not achieve the grades stated in the Conditional offer they can or will withdraw the offer.
- **Confirming Results** - Following GCSE results day in August 2024, Providers will normally ask you to inform them of your grades using an online system.
- **Enrolment Events** - You are not committed to starting at any college until after you receive your GCSE results and you attend an enrolment event with that provider and sign up.

Other Important information.

- When selecting A Level courses, (these equate to a Level 3 course) you normally have to study a minimum of 3 subjects or 4 if that is your preferred option. Each provider will have its own guidelines on this.
- Ensure that your grades match or are close to the minimum required for the course/subjects you have selected. The Providers website will detail the requirements.
- Some providers will enable you to change your subject choice after the application or even offer, but the sooner you do this the better. Just email or contact them.
- If you are selecting to study a Vocational course, which are practical qualifications that often relate to a specific job or career. you would normally study just one of these types of courses.
- Most A Level, T Levels & level 3 courses require a minimum of Grade 4 in both Maths & English Language
- There is no limit to the number of individual applications you can make and it is recommended that you have a number of options open to you. ***The only exception to this is BHASVIC & Varndean Colleges where you are not able to apply to both or you will be declined by both.***
- Please ensure you attend as many Open events that you are able to as this will provide you with a clear idea of whether that provider will work for you.
- Don't be influenced by friends and their choices. Once you begin at college you will often not see the same people even if they are studying the same subjects.
- Ensure you know how to travel to and from your chosen provider, but also bear in mind that from the age of 17 you may be able to drive.

Where Can I get Help/Support?

- Mr Fisher is based in the Careers Office in B1b and is always really keen to help you with your Post 16 options and will have a 1:1 meeting with each of you during Year 11. You can have any number of meetings to help you and are more than welcome to drop in during Break or Lunchtimes to ask a question. If you would like a meeting please just ask or email mfisher@worthinghigh.net
- Our website also has lots of really useful information to support you with your next steps.

<https://www.worthinghigh.net/page/?title=Year+10%2F11%2DPost+16+Information&pid=184>

