



Warden Park

'The Best From All'

Post-16 Opportunities Evening

Thursday 20 September 2018

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20 September 2018

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our annual Post-16 Opportunities Evening. Making a decision about future educational opportunities is never easy and the purpose of this evening is to assist you in this important process. Our booklet contains further advice about making your choices and some useful tips about choosing the right A Levels for university entrance. Open evening, admission and interview arrangements for local further education colleges and schools are also outlined in this booklet. We have also included a short section on student finance.

Please take time to visit a range of further education establishments and other organisations represented here this evening. There will be plenty of opportunity to talk with representatives and to pick up relevant brochures and literature.

Please apply directly to the school 6th form or college that you are interested in before their deadline. Check your application with an adult or friend to make sure nothing has been missed out. Colleges and schools contact us directly for references.

After this evening, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Targett in the Student Futures office or the LRC if you have any queries about colleges, choices or applications. Students are welcome at any time to visit our Student Futures office.

Independent advice and guidance is available from the National Careers Service <https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk> or phone free between 8am and 10pm (7 days a week) on 0800 100 900.

I hope you find the evening useful.

Yours sincerely

Dominic Kenrick
Head Teacher

Colleges and organisations attending

ARDINGLY COLLEGE	M03
BHASVIC	E7
BRIGHTON ALDRIDGE COMMUNITY ACADEMY	E8
PORTSLADE ALDRIDGE COMMUNITY ACADEMY	E8
BRIGHTON COLLEGE	E3
BRIGHTON AND HOVE HIGH SCHOOL	E9
MET: GREATER BRIGHTON METROPOLITAN COLLEGE	M12
BURGESS HILL GIRLS	E12
CHRIST'S HOSPITAL	M15
COLLYER'S	M05
CRAWLEY COLLEGE	E1
DV8 SUSSEX	E10
HAZELWICK SCHOOL	M14
HURSTPIERPOINT COLLEGE	E6
LANCING COLLEGE	M11
PLUMPTON COLLEGE	M10
REEDS SCHOOL	M01
ROEDEAN SCHOOL	M02
ST PAUL'S SIXTH FORM COLLEGE	M13
SUSSEX DOWNS COLLEGE (Lewes and Eastbourne campuses)	E5
VARNDEAN	M04
WORTH SCHOOL	E4

ALBION IN THE COMMUNITY	LRC
COAST TO CAPITAL – JACQUI FABIAN	LRC
KFC	LRC
MRS W GRIGG (Director of Warden Park Additional Learning)	LRC
NCS (National Citizen Service)	LRC
NHS	E2
REWARDS TRAINING	LRC
STEVE WILLIS TRAINING CENTRE	LRC
THALES GROUP (AEROSPACE)	E2
WSSC POST 16 COMPLIANCE (APPRENTICESHIPS)	LRC

Outline information on Post-16 courses

The Post-16 qualifications framework encourages young people to choose a broad curriculum and consists of:

- Academic qualifications e.g. AS/A Levels, International Baccalaureate (IB), Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)
- Applied qualifications e.g. BTECs
- Technical qualifications e.g. NVQs
- Functional skills qualifications e.g. English and maths

Academic Level 3 qualifications

It is usual for students to take three or four A Levels and some colleges may also offer AS qualifications as well.

The International Baccalaureate is a rigorous and challenging alternative to A Levels. It is taught worldwide. It is internationally recognised and understood by universities and employers as an excellent preparation for further study and employment. The IB takes two years and is broadly equivalent to four A Levels.

To gain this qualification you must:

- Complete course in the six study areas of language and literature, language acquisition, individuals and societies, mathematics, sciences, the arts.
- Complete an extended essay, having researched and investigated a topic of special interest.
- Complete a “theory of knowledge” course.
- Participate in creativity, action and service projects.

As with all qualifications, we advise you to check carefully with individual institutions for exact entry requirements.

The HPQ is usually taken alongside A levels and involves an independent study in an area of the student's choosing.

Applied qualifications

BTEC qualifications are related to an employment sector. They combine practical learning with developing knowledge and skills. BTECs can be studied in a range of subjects including art and design, business, healthcare engineering, IT, performing arts, service industries, land-based, sport, and science. They are available in a range of sizes which are equivalent to one, two, or three A levels. They can also be taken in combination with other qualifications.

Functional skills

These are foundation level courses in English, maths and ICT which have a particular focus on problem solving and being able to apply these skills effectively in real situations.

Options at 16+ - general considerations

Not all courses are available in every college and you should research what each college has on offer. In deciding which subjects to take, think carefully about what you want to do afterwards. Most university courses and employment opportunities require you to have particular qualifications, studied at particular levels.

As a general guideline, most colleges require five GCSEs at grades 9-4 for a three A Level course. To take certain subjects at A Level e.g. maths, languages, sciences, music, art, history or geography, you may be expected to gain at least a 5 or 6 grade at GCSE in that subject. Colleges will expect you to have at least a 4 grade in GCSE maths and English. You will need to retake these subjects if you don't achieve a grade 4 so it is important to focus on achieving well in these subjects particularly.

Factors to consider when choosing a college

Courses

Look carefully at the modules within a course. These can vary considerably at different colleges. Also check what clubs and extra-curricular activities are available. Could you work towards a Duke of Edinburgh Award or try a new sport such as fencing? Are educational visits arranged overseas and within the UK?

Progression

Is this the right course or combination of courses for the university entrance requirements in your favourite subject?

Support

Some colleges will provide good support for your learning and progress. Tutors will help you to stay organised, chase you if assignments are late and help with university applications. Other colleges may offer more independence. Decide the approach that will be of greatest benefit for you.

Quality

Results - look at the individual subject pass rates for at least the last two years.

Travelling

Can you get there in a reasonable time? Try the journey and imagine how it might be different on a dark, cold winter morning.

'Feel'/ethos

Do you like it? Are people friendly and positive?

Guidance

Is there a careers office or library? Do they give help/advice with university applications?

Moving on to university

With university in mind, remember that GCSE results are important. Most of the top ranking universities will expect you to have a good number of GCSEs at higher grades. The A/AS Level subject choices you make when in Year 11 can have a significant impact on the course options available to you at university.

Universities generally prefer applicants to have taken certain subjects or combinations of subjects because they believe that such subjects provide a good foundation for study. It is certainly worth thinking ahead to the possibility of university when choosing A levels as the examples below indicate.

If you may be inclined towards the sciences at university, then you should take two, and ideally three of the following subjects: biology, chemistry, maths, further maths and physics. Check with universities for the combinations that may be most suitable for particular courses. For example, if you are planning to study biological or medical sciences, it is vital for you to take an A Level in chemistry. If you are planning to study the physical sciences or engineering, you should take A Levels in maths, further maths and physics. Other possible A Level choices such as: computing, design and technology, electronics and psychology are useful for particular science courses.

If you are likely to be interested in arts or social science courses but are not sure which one and want to keep your options open, then English, history, a modern language and maths are seen as good "keystone" subjects. You might add some of the following: ancient history, classical civilisation, geography, philosophy, RE and sciences. If you can narrow your choices down a bit at this stage, the following A Level subjects can be useful for particular courses: archaeology, citizenship, environmental science, government and politics, history of art, law, music, sociology and psychology.

University entrance normally requires three A Level qualifications. Level 3 vocational courses such as BTECs, can also lead to higher education.

Research the university courses you may be interested in before deciding what subject to take at college. Most courses have specific entrance requirements and so you will need to take these subjects at college.

Further information about university entrance requirements and courses can be obtained from the excellent UCAS website at www.ucas.com or from Warden Park Careers Department in the LRC.

Employment-related options at post-16

Jobs linked to training are becoming more popular and worthwhile choices for young people. Such jobs will almost always be part of an approved Apprenticeship Scheme or be linked to suitable National Vocational Qualifications (NVQs). Following recent changes to national legislation, it is no longer possible to leave Warden Park and get a job unless it has an official training package attached to it.

National Vocational Qualifications (NVQs) (Levels 1, 2 and 3)

Practical, skills based courses usually taken once in a job in areas such as hairdressing, catering and motor vehicle engineering although some colleges make it possible for students to work towards NVQs while based in full time education. Students should refer directly to college prospectuses for more information.

Apprenticeships

- Apprenticeships are an increasingly popular option for 16-18 year old young people, providing opportunities to earn whilst developing skills through a properly accredited framework.
- Apprenticeships are available in a huge variety of occupational areas e.g. accountancy, business, administration, animal care, construction, engineering, hairdressing, health and social care, equine industry, IT, motor industry, retail, telecommunications and many more.
- For more details of how apprenticeship schemes work and for up to the minute news of local opportunities, log onto www.apprenticeship.org.uk. Young people can register on the site and apply for vacancies.

Apprenticeship (Level 2)

- Entry requirements vary. Some require specific qualifications such as GCSE in maths and English at Grade 4 or above. Others require you to pass an initial assessment.
- Trainees will be paid a training wage and work towards qualifications in NVQs, Functional Skills and Technical Certificates.
- Usually takes one year to gain a Level 2 (equivalent to five GCSEs grades 9-4) after which it should be possible to progress to Level 3.
- Training may take place solely in the workplace or on day release courses at college.

Advanced Apprenticeship (Level 3)

- A Level 3 qualification (equivalent to at least two A Levels) taking two years to complete.
- For 16+ year olds who have gained a minimum of five GCSEs at grades 9 – 4.
- Trainees will be paid a training wage and work towards qualifications in NVQs, Functional Skills and Technical Certificates.
- Training may take place solely in the workplace or on day release courses at college.
- Possible to progress to a Foundation Degree at university.

How to Apply

Apply online at www.apprenticeships.org.uk or contact local businesses or public sector organisations to see what they have on offer. You will need to be proactive in arranging an apprenticeship place but further information and support can be obtained from the **National Careers Service** <https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk> or phone free between 8am and 10pm on 0800 100 900.

Financial support for students

College

- If you qualify for free school meals, a bursary (grant) will be available from your college to help with travel, resources and equipment (ask the colleges for details).
- Students in care or who are disabled can get special “vulnerable bursaries” (ask the colleges for details).
- Private 6th forms such as at Hurst or Ardingly offer **bursaries** to students from families on average or below average incomes. This means that fees are more manageable. Many students at local private 6th forms receive bursaries. **Scholarships** are also available. Scholarships enable the college to attract the most talented students in areas such as sport, drama, IT, art and a whole range of academic subjects. Scholars are entitled to a range of substantial discounts on their fees (ask the colleges for details).

University

- Most people find their time at university to be enriching and great fun.
- Tuition fees, which vary depending on the university, (currently £9250.00 per year as a maximum) plus accommodation and other living expenses, the annual cost of going to university can be considerable.
- Research suggests that university graduates are likely to earn substantially more in their lifetime.
- No fees need to be paid in advance.
- Government loans are available to all students. These are paid back from your salary once you are earning over £21,000 per year, in review to be raised to £25,000 per year. The loan is cancelled anyway after 30 years.
- Students from families with average or below average incomes also qualify for bursaries (grants).
- Sponsorship is available from the armed forces and some businesses

CALENDAR OF OPEN EVENINGS

Please check the website of each college to check the exact times for their Open Days/Evenings	Open Days/Evenings 2018
ARDINGLY COLLEGE Haywards Heath, West Sussex, RH17 6SQ Tel: 01444 893000	Sat 15th September
BRIGHTON, HOVE AND SUSSEX SIXTH FORM COLLEGE (BHASVIC) Dyke Road, Hove, East Sussex, BN3 6EG Tel: 01273 552200	Weds 14th November 6.30-9.00pm Thurs 15th November 6.30-9.00pm
BRIGHTON COLLEGE Eastern Road, Brighton, East Sussex, BN2 0AL Tel: 01273 704200	Saturday 29th September 9.30-12.00pm
BRIGHTON AND HOVE HIGH SCHOOL Montpelier Road, Brighton, East Sussex, BN1 3AT Tel: 01273 280280	Saturday 10th November - Sixth Form Open Morning
BURGESS HILL GIRLS Keymer Road, Burgess Hill, West Sussex, RH15 0EG Tel: 01444 241050	Wednesday 10th October 6.30-9.00pm
CRAWLEY COLLEGE College Road, Crawley, West Sussex. RH10 1NR Tel: 0845 155 0043	Thurs 18th October 4.30 - 7.00pm Sat 10th November 10.00 - 1.00pm
CHICHESTER COLLEGE, BRINSBURY CAMPUS CHICHESTER COLLEGE, CHICHESTER CAMPUS Tel: 01243 786321	Sat 6th October 10.00 - 1.00pm Tues 16th October 4.30 - 7.00pm and Sat 3rd November 10.00 - 1.00pm
HOLY TRINITY 6TH FORM Buckwood Drive, Crawley. RH11 8JE 01293 423690	Thurs 1st Nov 6.00-8.00pm
<p>MET: BRIGHTON METROPOLITAN COLLEGE Pelham Street, Brighton, East Sussex, BN1 4FA Tel: 01273 667788</p>	<p>October Open Evenings Wednesday 10 – Brighton MET Wednesday 17 – Northbrook MET Wednesday 31 – Brighton MET November Open Evenings Wednesday 14 – Northbrook MET December Open Evenings Wednesday 5 – Brighton MET Wednesday 12 – Northbrook MET March Open Evening Wednesday 13 – Brighton MET Wednesday 20 – Northbrook MET Details of all of these can also be found on their website: https://www.gbmc.ac.uk/brighton/new-s-events/open-events</p>
COLLYER'S Hurst Road, Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 2EJ Tel: 01403 210822	Wednesday 7th November 5.00 - 7.00pm Thursday 8th November 5.00- 7.00pm

DV8 Sussex 12 Queen Square, Brighton, East Sussex, BN1 3FD Tel: 01273 550432	Wednesday 17 th Oct 6.00 – 8.00pm Tuesday 13 th Nov 6.00 – 8.00pm
EASTBOURNE COLLEGE Old Wish Road, Eastbourne, East Sussex, BN21 4JY Tel: 01323 452300	Saturday 15 th Sept - 9.30 – 12.00pm
HOLY TRINITY C OF E SCHOOL SIXTH FORM Buckswood Drive, Gossops Green, Crawley, West Sussex, RH11 8JE, Tel: 01293 423690	Thursday 27 th Sept – 5.00 – 9.00pm
HURSTPIERPOINT COLLEGE Malthouse Lane, Hurstpierpoint, BN6 9JS Tel: 01273 833686	Saturday 6 th Oct – Open Morning for Sixth Form.
LANCING COLLEGE Lancing, West Sussex, BN15 0RW Tel: 01273 452213	Thursday 27 th Sept – 6.00pm Thursday 4 th Oct – 6.00pm
HAZELWICK SCHOOL Three Bridges, Crawley, W. Sussex RH10 1SX 01293 403344	Saturday 18 th Sept
BRIGHTON ALDRIDGE COMMUNITY ACADEMY Lewes Rd, Brighton, BN1 9PW 01273 691191 PORTSLADE ALDRIDGE COMMUNITY ACADEMY Chalky Road, Portslade, Brighton, BN41 2WS Tel: 01273 416300	Tuesday 13 th Nov 6.00 – 7.30pm Tuesday 6 th Nov 6.00 – 7.30pm
PLUMPTON COLLEGE Ditchling Road, Nr Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 3AE Tel: 01273 890454	Various taster days and Course information days – see website for details. www.plumpton.ac.uk
REED'S SCHOOL Sandy Lane, Cobham, Surrey, KT11 2ES Tel: 01932 869001	Saturday 10 th Nov – 10.00am
ROEDEAN SCHOOL Roedean Way, Brighton, East Sussex, BN2 5RQ 01273 667500	Saturday 6 th Oct – 10.00am
SUSSEX DOWNS COLLEGE, LEWES CAMPUS Mountfield Road, Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 2XH Tel: 01273 483188	Friday 5 th Oct 4.30 – 7.00pm Saturday 6 th Oct 10.00 – 12.30pm Thursday 29 th Nov 4.30 – 7.30pm
ST PAUL'S SIXTH FORM COLLEGE Jane Murray Way, Burgess Hill, RH15 8GA Tel: 01444 873898	Thursday 15 th Nov 6.00 – 8.00pm
VARNDEAN Surrenden Road, Brighton, East Sussex, BN1 6WQ Tel: 01273 508011	Thursday 20 th Sept 5.30 – 8.30pm
WORTH SCHOOL Paddockhurst Road, Turners Hill, RH10 4SD Tel: 01342 710200	Saturday 6 th Oct 10.15 – 1.30pm Saturday 3 rd Nov 10.15 – 1.30pm

Applying for college

Please follow the advice below to make sure everything goes smoothly. We suggest that you apply to more than one college as a backup. Complete application forms and electronic applications neatly and accurately - practice first if necessary and show your draft to someone reliable for checking. Keep a copy.

If you are considering an apprenticeship, make a college application as a backup measure. It is easier to decline a place at college than apply later in the year.

1) Applications to **INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS and COLLEGES**

Please check independent school application deadlines carefully. Apply using the process specified by the schools or colleges to which you are applying. It is helpful to include your CV and personal statement with your application.

2) Applications to **ALL OTHER SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES**

A. Check the deadline. (Different places have different deadlines.)

B. Complete the application form carefully.

C. Ask someone reliable to check it.

Colleges will ask us for references which we will send to them on request.

Interviews

1) Interviews for **St Pauls VI Form College and Collyer's**.

These will be held at Warden Park in January/February 2019. More details will be available nearer the time. Parents are welcome to attend these interviews if they wish to do so.

2) Interviews for **all other Schools and Colleges**

Colleges will contact students direct with details of date and time of interview.

Possible ways to enhance your CV and college applications

National Citizen Service (NCS)

NCS is a youth empowerment programme available to all 15-17 year-olds in England and Northern Ireland, giving students a unique opportunity to do exciting outdoor activities, interact with young people from different backgrounds and develop the skills employers value: confidence, leadership and communication. UCAS recommends students include NCS on their personal statement.

During the last phase of the programme, NCS allows young people to connect with their local community by delivering a social action project in their area; thus, with the skills developed on NCS, students plan, fundraise and make a difference in their communities.

NCS takes place outside of term time, and we are currently engaging with young people who are interested in the next available programme in Summer 2019.

<http://www.ncsyes.co.uk/>

0800 197 8010



What next?

- Find out as much as you can at the Warden Park information evening in September
- Go to the college open evenings
- Consider travelling distance / costs, etc.
- Draw up a short list of courses / colleges
- Talk to your teachers and other young people studying the courses on your short list
- Obtain information about scholarships and bursaries as appropriate
- Check university entrance requirements

Independent advice and guidance is available from the National Careers Service <https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk> or phone free between 8am and 10pm (7 days a week) on 0800 100 900

What we do to help

- Organise the annual Post-16 Opportunities Evening
- Supply references
- Publicise open days and other opportunities
- Organise Interview Techniques event in October
- Coordinate interviews for St Paul's and Collyer's to be held at Warden Park.
- Mrs S Targett, Student Futures Manager is available to see students on a 1:1 basis