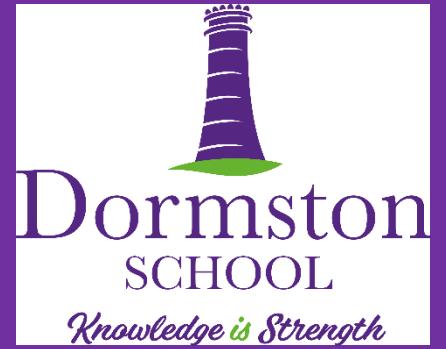
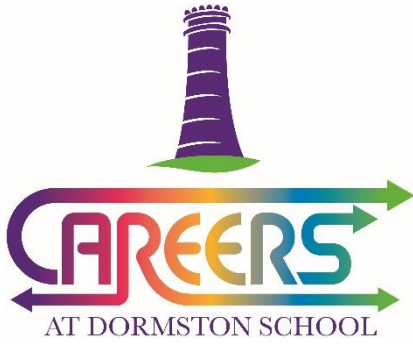


Post 16 Evening – Tuesday 19 October 2021



Careers Advice and Guidance Year 11 Information Pack 2021-2022



Respect, Commit, Achieve

What are the choices available to you Post 16?

Careers support and guidance available in school

16-18 Education and the Law

In the past, you had the option to leave school when you were 16. However, in 2013, the participation age was raised so you were required to stay in some form of education or training until at least their 18th birthday – and most will stay until the end of that college or school year anyway. This is to give you more skills and options for your future.

Mrs Bassan – Assistant Head Teacher – Responsibility for Year 11 GCSE Strategy.

ibassan@dormston.dudley.sch.uk

Mrs Dawes – Careers Leader. Based in Careers Office (D2)

ldawes@dormston.dudley.sch.uk

Mr Small - Independent Careers Advisor, Youth Education & Training Initiative (YETI).

Based in Careers Hub (PLC) by appointment only on selected dates.

Pete@theyetiltd.com

The staff named above are here to provide support, advice and guidance in helping you make your Post 16 choices – i.e. what you will do when you have left Dormston. We will deliver a programme to inform you of the different options available to you. We advise that you take advantage of all the school events/after-school sessions/activities to help you make the right choice for you.

There is a dedicated careers noticeboard in the Atrium. Please make sure you check this regularly as this will be updated weekly with details of college open events, course information, after school sessions and apprenticeship vacancies.

We also have a Careers Hub in the PLC. This is a quiet space where you can do research, look at careers resources and get support and advice. You will need to see Mrs Dawes in D2 if you wish to access this area.

Parents, relatives and your subject teachers will also be able to guide and support you but ultimately it will be your responsibility to research the different options available to you and your decision on your future pathway.

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➤ **Sixth Form – A Levels**

Sixth Forms can be attached to a secondary school or they can be a college. You choose to study A Levels for a two year period. Usually you opt to study 3-4 academic subjects. For example: English Language, English Literature, Maths, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Law, Sociology, Psychology, Business, Economics, Computing, Languages, Drama, Music, Art, and many more. These are excellent qualifications that are valued by employers and universities. A Levels offer a great route to degree level study.

If you want to study A Levels the requirement is usually at least 5 (or more) GCSEs including English and Maths at level 5 or higher. Different colleges/courses may vary so you would need to check what entry requirements are needed. If you are unsure you can meet the grades required, speak to your subject teacher for advice.

Local Sixth Forms attached to schools include Bishop Milner, Ounsdale, Wolverhampton Girl's High, Wolverhampton Grammar School, Oldswinford Hospital School (OSH), Royal School, Central Saint Michaels Sixth Form and Thomas Telford.

Local Sixth Form colleges include King Edwards Stourbridge, Dudley Sixth, Halesowen and Wolverhampton.

➤ **College – BTEC and Vocational Courses**

These types of courses are usually related to a broad employment area such as business, engineering, IT, health and social care. They often lead to specific jobs such as hairdressing, accounting, professional cookery or plumbing. These qualifications are ideal if you have a particular career in mind. Again these courses usually studied for two years.

If you want to go down the BTEC/Vocational route the requirement is usually at least 5 (or more) GCSEs at level 4 or higher. Different colleges/courses may vary so you would need to check what entry requirements are needed. If you are unsure you can meet the grades required, speak to your subject teacher for advice.

Local colleges offering these courses include Dudley, Halesowen, Wolverhampton and Sandwell. There are also a number of UTC (University Technical Colleges) in the area.

➤ **T Levels**

T Levels are new courses which started in September 2020, and are equivalent to 3 A Levels. These 2-year courses have been developed in collaboration with employers and businesses so that the content meets the needs of industry and prepares you for work. T Levels will offer you a mixture of classroom learning and 'on-the-job' experience during an industry placement of at least 315 hours (approximately 45 days). They will provide the knowledge and experience needed to open the door into skilled employment, further study or a higher apprenticeship.

Courses currently on offer at local providers include Childcare and Education; Construction Design, Surveying and Planning; Science and Health Care and Digital. Please see individual college websites for full course details.

Local colleges offering these courses include, Dudley, Halesowen and Thomas Telford UTC (Wolverhampton) and Health Futures UTC (West Bromwich)

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➤ Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships give you the chance to learn - and gain nationally recognised qualifications - while getting a weekly wage.

Apprenticeships take 1 to 4 years to complete depending on the level. Some apprenticeships take students from the age of 16. Apprenticeships are graded in levels. There are some higher level apprenticeships available in: science, engineering, technology, retail, construction, business, administration, environmental services, etc. However there is a lot of competition for these placements and companies will look to take the best of the best and this is reflected in their entry requirements. Some colleges provide apprenticeship routes and will provide education but they will require you to secure your own work placement and this route does not guarantee a salary.

Entry requirements will depend on the Apprenticeship you want to do. Depending on your grades in GCSE Maths and English, you may also need to take a literacy and/or numeracy test.

GCSEs achieved (in school)	Title	Level	Final qualification achieved
Fewer than 5 GCSEs at level 4 or higher	Intermediate	2	5 GCSE passes at levels 8 to 4
5 or more GCSE passes at level 4 to 8	Advanced	3	2 A level passes

You could then go on to:

Title of qualification	Level	Final qualification achieved
Higher	4,5,6 and 7	Foundation degree and above
Degree	6 and 7	Bachelor's or Master's degree

We will be offering after school sessions/workshops later in the term to support with apprenticeships. We will cover how and where to register with the national apprenticeship website, set alerts for vacancies, support with applications and CVs. Please check the careers noticeboard in the Atrium for details of these sessions – we will also use your school e-mail to keep you updated.

➤ Traineeships

You can enrol with a training Provider who will:

Provide high quality work placements – where you can learn what's expected of you in the workplace, and develop links with local employers.

Provide flexible training - in other relevant areas to help you get ready for work, such as job search and interview skills, time-keeping and team working.

Provide study in English and Maths (if appropriate) – employers value these essential skills very highly.

Traineeships are unpaid. At the end of your traineeship, if there is a job or apprenticeship vacancy with the work placement host, you should receive an interview. If there isn't a job or apprenticeship opportunity at that time, you will receive an exit interview with the employer who provided the work placement. In this interview you can discuss what you've learned, and how it might help you with things like updating your CV and getting into a job or an apprenticeship.

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➤ Getting A Job

You can consider leaving school and getting a job. At 16 years of age you can legally start work either full time or part time. If you are considering working full time you will need to have a clear idea of what it is you want to do and you will still have to be flexible in order to give yourself the best chance of getting employment.

Your employer **must** provide accredited training for you up until you are 18 years of age.

➤ Armed Forces

The 4 main branches of the armed forces open to school leavers are The Army, The Royal Navy, The Royal Marines and The Royal Air Force. There are a vast range of jobs available in all services including technicians, chefs, musicians and engineers.

Whatever pathway you are looking at, you need to ensure that you will achieve the entry grades required by the college/provider. As a school we will have to write a reference for you so your attendance, punctuality, behaviour and effort will all be reported.

Important Dates

There will be many assemblies/careers sessions/college open days during Year 11. Below are the dates that have been set so far. We will keep you informed of any other important dates as and when they are confirmed. We will keep you updated by your school e-mail, assemblies and hand-outs. There is also a noticeboard in the Atrium and the Careers Office (D2) is open during break and lunch times.

DATE	EVENT	
Tuesday 21 September 2021	GCSE EVENING: PREPARING FOR THE YEAR AHEAD 7pm Theatre	This is an opportunity for all parents to know what the year ahead entails. We will also share some strategies on how you can support your child through the year.
Tuesday 19 October 2021	POST 16 EVENING 6pm onwards Theatre & Stands	Compulsory evening for Year 11 students. This is an opportunity for all parents & students to meet a range of Post 16 providers in order to help make informed choices about your child's next steps.
October Half Term		
Wednesday 10 November 2021	Progress Data available for parents/carers	Parents can see the most recent progress data via Go4Schools. This should include predicted grades and effort data.
Thursday 11 November 2021	Year 11 Parents' Consultation Evening	This is an opportunity for all parents/carers to meet teachers for all subjects to discuss their child' progress.
W/C 6 December 2021	Mock Exams	This is the first set of mock exams this year.
Christmas Holidays		
Wednesday 26 January 2022	Year 11 Reports	This is accessible via Go4Schools.
February Half Term		
W/C 7 March 2022	Mock Exams	This is the second and final set of mock exams this year.
Tuesday 5 April 2022	Progress Data available for parents/carers	Parents can see the most recent progress data via Go4Schools. This should include predicted grades and effort data.
Wednesday 6 April 2022	Year 11 Parents' Consultation Evening	This is an opportunity for all parents/carers to meet teachers for all subjects to discuss their child' progress.
Easter Holiday		
May 2022	GCSE WRITTEN EXAMS BEGIN	

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Local College, Sixth Form & UTC Addresses.

PLEASE NOTE SOME OF THE DATES AND TIMES OF THE OPEN EVENTS MAY CHANGE AND AT THE TIME OF PRINTING THIS PACK, SOME OF THE OPEN DAYS HAD NOT BEEN PUBLISHED. PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU CHECK COLLEGE WEBSITES FREQUENTLY.

If you are applying to a sixth form make sure you check the closing dates for applications. Most sixth form closing dates are usually earlier than college closing dates (December/early January).

Wolverhampton Grammar School

Compton Road, Wolverhampton WV3 9RB

Admissions contact number; 01902 422939

- ❖ Open Day- Saturday 9th October 2021, from 11am-3pm

King Edward V1 College

Lower High Street, Stourbridge DY8 1TD

Admissions contact number; 01384 398100 email; admissions@kedst.ac.uk

- ❖ Open Evening- Thursday 14th October from 6pm
- ❖ Open Day – Saturday 16th October, from 9am – 2pm

Oldswinford Hospital School (Sixth Form)

Heath Lane, Stourbridge DY8 1QX

Admissions contact number; 01384 817325

- ❖ Open Evening- Tuesday 19th October 2021 from 7.00pm

Dudley College

The Broadway- The Broadway, Dudley DY1 4AS

Dudley Evolve- Tower Street, Dudley DY1 1AF

Dudley Aspire- The Broadway, Dudley, DY1 4AR

Priory Villa- 3 Ednam Road, Dudley, DY1 1HL

Dudley Enhance- Priory Road, Dudley, DY1 4AD

Dudley Advance- Priory Road, Dudley, DY1 4AD

Dudley Advance II- Priory Road, Dudley, DY1 4AD

Motor Vehicle Centre- Wolverhampton Street, Dudley, DY1 3AH

CAT (Construction Apprenticeship Training) Centre- Waterfront Business Park, Brierley Hill, DY5 1LX

Admissions contact telephone number- 01384 363363

Dudley Sixth- 3A, Ednam Road, Dudley DY1 1HL- 0800 783 6095

Black Country & Marches Institute of Technology- Zoological Way, Dudley DY1 4AE- 01384 363363

- ❖ Open Day- Saturday 16 October 2021, 10am- 2pm

Halesowen College

Whittingham Road, Halesowen, B63 3NA

Admissions contact telephone number; 0121 602 7777 e-mail; info@halesowen.ac.uk

- ❖ Open Day- Saturday 16th October 2021, 10am-2pm

Wolverhampton College

Paget Road Campus – Paget Road, Wolverhampton WV1 0DU, telephone number; 01902 836000

Metro One campus – Bilston Street, Wolverhampton WV1 3AH, telephone number; 01902 821300

- ❖ Open Evening – Wednesday 6 October 2021, 4.00 – 7.00pm

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SWB6th

Ormiston SWB Academy, Dudley Street, Bilston, WV14 0LN

Admissions contact telephone number; 01902 493797 e-mail; enquiries@oswba.co.uk

- ❖ TBC

Sandwell College & Saint Michaels Sixth Form

1 Spon Ln, West Bromwich B70 6AW

Admissions contact telephone number; 0121 667 5000 email; enquiries@sandwell.ac.uk

- ❖ Open Evening – Thursday 30th September 2021, 4.00pm – 7.00pm
- ❖ Open Day - Saturday 2nd October 2021, 11.00am – 3.00pm
- ❖ Open Evening – Thursday 11th November 2021, 4.00pm – 7.00pm
- ❖ Open Day - Saturday 13th November 2021, 11.00am – 3.00pm

Bishop Milner Catholic College (Sixth Form)

Burton Road, Dudley DY1 3BY

Admissions contact telephone number; 01384 889422

- ❖ Thursday 21 October 2021, from 6pm – 8.00pm

Ounsdale (Invictus) Sixth Form

Ounsdale Road, Wombourne, WV5 8BJ

Admissions contact telephone number; 01902 504940

- ❖ Please check with college for dates

Wolverhampton Girls' High School (Sixth Form)

Tettenhall Road, Wolverhampton WV6 0BY

Admissions contact telephone number; 01902 551515 e-mail; enquiries@wghs.org.uk

- ❖ Please check with college for dates

The Royal School

Penn Road, Wolverhampton WV3 0EG

Admissions contact telephone number; 01902 341230

- ❖ Open Day, Saturday 13 November 2021 – times TBC

Thomas Telford School (Sixth Form)

Old Park, Telford TF3 4NW

Admissions contact telephone number; 01952 200000 e-mail; admissions@ttsonline.net

- ❖ Applications open 1 October 2021 – please refer to website for further information
<https://www.ttsonline.net/page/admissions-6th-form>

Thomas Telford University Technical College:

Cambridge St, Wolverhampton WV10 0JR

Contact telephone number; 01902 872180 e-mail; info@wmcutc.co.uk

- ❖ Virtual Tours only – dates TBC

Health Futures University Technical College - 350 High St, West Bromwich B70 8DJ

Contact telephone number; 0121 794 2888 e-mail; admin@healthfuturesutc.co.uk

- ❖ Open Day, Saturday 25 September 2021. PLEASE BOOK TIMESLOT VIA WEBSITE

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Juniper Training (Training Provider) – Water Front, Merry Hill DY5 1XG and Cleveland Street, Wolverhampton WV1 3HR. Telephone 01384 573783 / 01902 570111

Nova Training (Training Provider) – Halesowen Road, Netherton, Dudley, DY2 9PY
Telephone number; 01384 235383

LEMA (Engineering and Manufacturing Academy) – Cinder Bank, Dudley DY2 9AP
Telephone number; 01384 256113

College Applications

You should ensure that you attend as many college open days as you can because you need to make sure you find the right one for you and your career path – not just where your friends are going!

Check what courses are available at each establishment and what GCSE entry grades are required - if you are unsure about anything ask college staff to explain.

You will need to apply direct to each college – usually you can do this at the open days or at home on-line. You can apply to more than one college and for more than one course. **Check the closing date for applications** – sixth form deadlines are usually earlier than the main colleges.

When completing the application form make sure that your writing is legible and that someone checks it before submitting it to the college. Sixth Forms may require a personal statement to accompany the application. Your personal statement is your golden opportunity to sell yourself/make you stand out from the crowd, so make sure that it makes an impact. Personal statements that create a first good impression are well-constructed, don't contain any spelling mistakes or bad grammar, and support what you are saying in your application form. Further help and guidance with personal statements will be given in school at careers drop-in sessions. We will keep you informed of the dates of the sessions.

Once your application to a college/Sixth Form has been received, you will be invited to an interview. You will need to take your latest predicted grades, attendance and punctuality information to the interview. Before the interview day, make sure you have the correct time and know where to go. This may mean that you do a 'dummy run' prior to the interview so you can arrive there on time. Make sure that you are smart and presentable too.

The college may not let you know at the interview if you have been accepted onto the course – they will usually write to you. We advise that you initially accept **all** offers made to you at this stage and then later decline any offers that you do not want.

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Apprenticeship Applications and Traineeships

Apprenticeships combine practical training in a job with study. There are still entry requirements for apprenticeships and these will depend upon the individual apprenticeship but you will need to re-sit your Maths and English GCSE (and science if applicable) if you do not achieve at least a Level 4. It is no longer just construction and engineering that offer apprenticeships - now you can go into 170 industries with 1400 different job roles such as design assistant, cabin crew, dental nurse or trainee accountant.

We will be offering advice and guidance in school later in the term on how to apply for apprenticeships (and traineeships) but you can get invaluable advice at <https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk/youngpeople/Pages/apprenticeshipstraineeships/apprenticeships.aspx>

Traineeships: Whether you go for a traineeship or apprenticeship will usually depend on your GCSE qualifications. All traineeships are the same level and usually last up to 6 months. They provide high quality work placements where you can learn what's expected of you in the workplace, and develop links with local employers; flexible training - in other relevant areas to help you get ready for work, such as job search and interview skills, time-keeping and team working; study in English and Maths (if appropriate).

At the end of your traineeship, if there is a job or apprenticeship vacancy with the work placement host, you should receive an interview. If there isn't a job or apprenticeship opportunity at that time, you will receive an exit interview with the employer who provided the work placement. In this interview you can discuss what you've learned, and how it might help you with things like updating your CV and getting into a job or an apprenticeship. **You do not get paid whilst you are on a traineeship.**

You will still need to complete an application form and usually send an accompanying letter to apply for apprenticeships and traineeships and the same advice and guidance applies as if you were completing a college/sixth form application.

Apprenticeships advice; <https://www.gov.uk/topic/further-education-skills/apprenticeships>

There are numerous helpful and informative websites that offer support and guidance with you with Post 16 choices including the school website. Mr Pete Small (YETI) who you have had your careers interview with also offers webinars and live events through his website.

Apprenticeship Vacancies-	https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship
Black Country LEP	https://www.blackcountrylep.co.uk/our-strategy/people/support-for-school-leavers/
Barclays Life Skills	https://www.barclayslifeskills.com
Youth Employment UK	https://www.youthemployment.org.uk/
National Careers Service	https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk/
Labour Market Information (LMI)	http://www.lmiforall.org.uk/widget/
Prospects	https://www.prospects.ac.uk/jobs-and-work-experience/job-sectors
Pete Small (YETI)	Pete@theyetild.com
Dormston School Website	https://dormston.dudley.sch.uk/careers-education-guidance/

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Dormston School Post 16 Evening Tuesday 19th October 2021, 6.00pm – 8.00pm

All Year 11 students (and parents/carers) should attend our Post 16 Evening.

On the evening there will be representatives from local colleges, training providers, Armed Forces, apprenticeship providers, employers and universities. It is your unique opportunity to speak to all the exhibitors and get the information you need to make the right Post 16 choice for you. This is the only opportunity for you to speak to different providers all under one roof.

You may have an idea of where you want to study after leaving Dormston but it is important to look at ALL the options open to you and to find out about what else is on offer for you.

You will also need to make sure you can meet the entry requirements needed to access the course. If you are unsure, speak to the colleges to see what your options are.

We strongly recommend that you visit at least 3 different Post 16 providers to make sure you have all the information to make a positive and realistic decision about your future. Do not discount any of the pathways available to you without doing your research first. Please use the attached sheet to support you on Post 16 evening. Fill it in and bring it back into school with you on Wednesday 20th October as we will be asking you to complete a questionnaire on what your initial thoughts are about your future and this will help us to provide any support you may need.

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Name of College/Provider: _____
Date of Open Day/Evening: _____
Course(s) you are interested in: _____

Entry requirements for course: _____

How to apply: _____
Deadline for application: _____
Any other notes or key information: _____

Name of College/Provider: _____
Date of Open Day/Evening: _____
Course(s) you are interested in: _____

Entry requirements for course: _____

How to apply: _____
Deadline for application: _____
Any other notes or key information: _____

Name of College/Provider: _____
Date of Open Day/Evening: _____
Course(s) you are interested in: _____

Entry requirements for course: _____

How to apply: _____
Deadline for application: _____
Any other notes or key information: _____
