



Tuesday 15 September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

Year 11 Careers Advice, One-to-One Meetings, and Key Autumn Events

As we begin this important academic year, I am writing to let you know that I will be starting one-to-one careers meetings with all Year 11 students this term. These individual sessions are designed to help your child confidently navigate their next steps and make informed decisions about their future. During our meeting, we will discuss a range of post-16 pathways, including Sixth Form and College options, apprenticeships, technical training, and any other careers-related topics or ambitions they wish to explore.

Careers One-to-One Meetings

- **Scheduling:** The specific days and times for these appointments will be given directly to your child's Form Tutor, who will inform them when their session is scheduled.
- **Benefits:** These sessions offer a safe space for students to take control of their future, voice their ideas, and actively manage their upcoming career and education decisions.
- **Follow-up:** After our meeting, I will send your child a written summary and a personalised action plan outlining the next steps discussed.

Upcoming Local Open Days

To support your child's decision-making process, we highly encourage students to attend upcoming Open Days at local colleges and sixth forms.

Benefits of attending Open Days include:

- **Exploring the environment:** Getting a physical feel for the campus, facilities, and the commute layout before applying.
- **Meeting the experts:** Speaking directly to tutors and subject teachers about course content, entry requirements, and exam boards.
- **Informed decision-making:** Comparing different environments (such as a vocational college environment vs. a traditional sixth form) to see what fits their learning style best.



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Please see below a list of upcoming open days for your information:

- **National College for Motorsport October** [The Bedford College Group](#): Tuesday 6 October 2026 (17:00 – 20:00)
- **Shuttleworth College** The Bedford College Group: Saturday 17 October 2026 (10:00 – 13:00)
- **Bedford College November** The Bedford College Group: Saturday 14 November 2026 (10:00 – 13:00)
- **The Bedford Sixth Form** [Eventbrite Listing](#): Tuesday 24 November 2026 (17:00 – 19:00)
- **Moulton College** Saturday 10th October
- **Samuel Whitbread** Thursday 12th November
- **Sharnbrook Sixth Form** Thursday 5th November
- **Kimberley Sixth form College** 10th & 12th November

Please check on websites for timings in case of changes and to register your place.

Post-16 Fair: Thursday 1st October

Additionally, there will be a strong careers and options presence at our upcoming Post-16 Fair on Thursday 1st October. This is a great opportunity for you to visit the provider stands alongside your child, ask questions together, and gather prospectuses. More information will be sent to you shortly.

We highly encourage you to speak with your child about their thoughts and ideas ahead of their scheduled one-to-one meeting and these autumn events. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

Kind regards

Joanne Ripley



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