

Careers

As you transition from Year 11 to the Sixth Form it is important to start thinking about your options for the future. In 18 months time you will be making decisions about whether you want to apply to university, for an apprenticeship or for a job. During the course of Year 12 you will be supported in making these decisions by the Sixth Form Team.

You will no doubt be considering your options for 12 and beyond. Don't worry if you have not decided what subjects or qualifications you want to take yet, alongside completing some of the bridging work in this booklet we have attached some activities that will help you inform your immediate decision making and to start thinking about your future after sixth form.

Thinking about yourself

Start with some self-reflection. On a piece of paper, write the following headings and then complete them.

1. My skills
2. Skills I want to improve/ learn
3. Hobbies
4. My interest
5. Future aspirations
6. Words that describe me
7. What I am good at
8. Problems I would like to solve in the world.

Once you have done that draw and complete the following table:

	What is your next step?	What do YOU need to decide?	What help/support/info do you need now?
What do you plan to do post-16? Is Uni/HE an option?			
How do GCSEs link to YOUR future?			
How would going to Uni/HE help your career and earning potential?			
What do you know about the opportunities after your University course?			
What do your next steps look like? What do you need to do now?			

Useful websites

Job Profiles

<https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk/job-profiles/home>

Apprenticeships

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>

Eunicas – European Universities

www.eunicas.com

UCAS – UK Universities

www.ucas.com

Health Careers

<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/Explore-roles?>

Community service

During year 12 and year 13 you will also be given the option of taking part in community service. This will take place during the games period, every Wednesday afternoon. We have built up a number of firm relationships with the local primary schools, charity shops and care homes and every year students have given their time to volunteer.

Whilst there are a number of different reasons that students volunteer, it is particularly important to get this type of work experience if you are thinking of taking up a career in medicine, nursing, teaching, social work etc.

These are the thoughts of a student who has recently completed community service:

Volunteering at an old people's home for a year through the community service programme has allowed me to build relationships with the residents, particularly those who receive few visitors. It has given me the opportunity to develop my communications skills and made me sure I want to go into a healthcare profession, while also providing a great example of work experience on my midwifery personal statement!