

Holmes Chapel 6th Form College

Post 18 Options Information Evening



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Welcome and Introductions

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Ms Camm
Director of
Sixth Form

Mrs Greeney
Student Support
Manager



Mrs Jackson
Careers Adviser



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Tutor Team

Mr Thomas

Mr Lawson

Mrs Edmonstone

Mr Muirhead

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Purpose of this presentation is to introduce:

- Post 18 options available to students
- Preparation and application process

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Possible Options Post 18

Higher Education (University)

Further Education (Colleges)

Apprenticeships
(Degree L6-7/ Higher L4-5)



Gap Year

Employment
(with training)

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Timeline - Post-18 Options

May - June 2023

PDC and Tutor Activities

- Personal Statement & Application Letter writing guidance

August 2023

Begin finalising ideas and drafting personal statement/letters

May - July 2023

Explore Open Days & Options

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Timeline - Post-18 Options

15 October 2023

UCAS Early Entry deadline
(Medics, Vets & Oxbridge)

24th November 2023

HC6F UCAS Entry Deadline

30th October 2023

Final Drafts for Personal
Statement/Application Letter

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Timeline - Post-18 Options

November onwards 2023

Apprenticeship
applications open

May 2024

Finalise UCAS options
& Student Finance

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Common pathways - University

- Most common destination for students at HC6F with around 75% applying to Uni each year.
- Year 12 have made a good start with 55% started so far.
- National figures: 30-40% of 18 year olds will go to university.
- + Become a specialist in your chosen field
- + Essential for some professions; Doctor, Vet, Teacher, Architect...



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Choosing a University

1. The Course
2. Resources
3. The Type of University
4. Location
5. Student Life
6. Assessment structure
7. Employment rates
8. Student satisfaction rates



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Preparation and research: University - do now...

- Research your interests (speak with Mrs Jackson if unsure)
- Get to know the options available to you
- Use the **UCAS** website and the student **HUB**
- Useful apps include Uni Compare and WhatUni
- Start thinking/planning a personal statement
- Possible volunteering opportunities / work experience
- Super-curricular opportunities: competitions, online courses

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Thinking about entry requirements: The UCAS tariff system

A level and Advanced VCE

Official title: Advanced GCE and Advanced VCE

Grade	Tariff points
A*	56
A	48
B	40
C	32
D	24
E	16

Pearson
BTEC Level 3
National
Extended
Certificate

D* 56

D 48

M 32

P 16

Applying to UCAS

Predicted grades:

Predicted grades are **optimistic** but **realistic**.

University choices should reflect these grades

Predicted grades will, in part, be informed by progress exams.

Progress exams will take place in June the W/C 19th June.

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Applying to UCAS

- Applications are online
- Five choices (£27.50 admin fee)
- Medicine, veterinary and dentistry have 4 choices & 1 other
- Oxbridge applications can choose only one or the other
- Other Universities are unable to see what else you have applied for

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Offer types:

- **Unconditional** (increasing number of these offers - grades still checked by employers so must still try)
- **Conditional** (must meet certain grades)
- **Dependent of interview** (might have to show portfolio or do admissions tests)

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Offer acceptance choices:

- Online system called **The HUB** allows you to follow progress of application
- Choose a **Firm choice** (where you'll be placed if meet entry requirements)
- **Insurance** (lower conditions incase firm choice not met)

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Admission Tests

Please research and inform us should you require to do an admissions test, no later than 8th September.

Admission tests usually take place in October.

BMAT
Bio Medical
Admissions Test



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Student Finance England

Tuition fees & Maintenance Loan = Student Debt

- All student debt is paid back through tax
- **9% of earnings over £22,000**
- For example: if someone earns £25K then they pay 9% of £3K so would pay back around £23 a month.
- Not paid after 40 years then it is cleared.

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Student Finance England

Tuition fees are a maximum **£9250** per year
These are paid upfront - not means tested - paid
directly to University

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Student Finance England

Maintenance loan: depends on personal circumstances as well as where and when studying takes place.

Paid directly to student.

For 2023-4 - Can borrow up to:

- **£8400** if living at home with parents
- **£9978** if away from home but not London

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Student Finance England

- **Scholarships & bursaries:** don't need to be paid back. Apply directly to Uni for this, dependent on circumstances & abilities.
- Apply early!! Window usually open from January-May

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Apprenticeships



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What is an Apprenticeship?

An apprenticeship is a position offered by a company that includes **a salaried job** and an opportunity to gain **qualifications** alongside.

E.G. **Degree Apprenticeships** mean that you **work for A company, get paid and gain a degree** at the end of your apprenticeship. The company pays for your training and your degree/ education costs but they also get a fully trained and skilled employee who fits their company.

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Apprenticeship Levels

Name	Level	Eq. education
Intermediate	2	GCSE
Advanced	3	A -level
Higher	4,5	Professional/foundation
Degree	6,7	Bachelors/ Masters

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Why Apprenticeships?

Apprenticeships offer a **credible alternative** to traditional university study

Opportunity to advance your career, gain professional **skills, status** and **accreditation** – all while earning a salary

Provide a **clear pathway** to reach your career ambition in the **workplace**

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Higher/Degree Apprenticeships

- Can result in **higher earning capacity**, recognition and professional status
- An increasing number of apprenticeships available
- These cover more than 100 different job roles, ranging from legal services to engineering
- Many with guaranteed permanent employment
- **Leave with a degree and no debt**

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An example of a Higher Apprenticeship



- Minimum of 80 UCAS points required
- Evidence of work experience required
- Audit, Finance, compliance, business leader
- Professional Qualifications
- A range of work placements to give you the broadest skills and experience possible before specialising
- Earning capacity can reach around £30K before the course is complete

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An example of a Higher/Degree Apprenticeship

B B C

- TV & Radio Production
- Level 3 qualifications as a minimum
- Demonstrate active interest in the media
- 12.5k starting salary
- Opportunity for further qualifications

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An example of a Degree Apprenticeship



- Minimum 5 GCSEs at grade 4 or above
- 3 A level passes - person/job fit recruitment
- Business and Finance/Audit
- Rotation work placement before specialising
- Professional & Bachelors Degree qualifications
- circa 21.5k starting salary

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An example of a Degree Apprenticeship

- Minimum entry 5 GCSEs at grade 4 or above
- 2 or 3 A level passes B grade (subject specific dependant on role)
- Business, technology, Science, IT
- Rotation work placements before specialising
- Full bachelors Degree
- 15k starting Salary

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Studying a Degree Apprenticeship:

The Course Structure

- One day at University and four at work
- Three assignments per term
- Assignments tailored to projects at work
- Usual starting salary of approximately £18k+ per year
- Funded degree



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Recruitment & Applications

During Y13 anytime

Be ready! Be proactive!

- Job search
- Online application form/CV
- aptitude and ability testing common
- Interviews - in person,online,recorded
- Assessment Centre: group &/or individual interview

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The Recruitment Process

- The process is competitive
- Applicants need to use their initiative and autonomy when applying
- Employers are looking for variety of skills and qualities as well as qualifications inc: team player, communication skills, flexibility and time management etc.
- Work experience is highly regarded

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Gap Year



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What is a Gap Year?

A gap year offers you the **opportunity to develop skills** and gain **life experiences**, while giving you time to reflect and focus on what you want to do next.

Many students choose to take a gap year **before going into the next stage of higher education or entering the world of work.**

You can choose to **volunteer, get valuable work experience or choose to travel.**

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Benefits of a Gap Year

A gap year can **add value to a CV** -learn new skills, gain new experiences -develop **confidence, independence & people skills**.

You could **relate the experience and activities to the subject area you plan to study**.

You can **earn and save money** towards your higher education costs or future plans if you choose to do paid work experience.

You will **develop maturity** if you don't yet feel ready for higher education or work life. For some careers, it can be a real advantage.

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Possible risks of a Gap Year?

- An **unstructured year out may not add value to your future** – careful thought and planning is essential.
- It can be **harder to return to study or work** after a year-long break for some - out of routine/mode.
- It can be **expensive** and you could find yourself in a worse financial position at the end - plan the cost - airlines, visas, petrol - travel.
- Some people find a year out becomes a **distraction** from their longer term plans - a way of putting things off - right reasons for doing it.
- A year of “nothing” looks bad on your CV to employers & universities.

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How parents can support their children at this time:

- Access information, resources & guidance for the UCAS application process. (See guidance already shared)
- Discuss and explore all options over the summer.
- Encourage them to complete their draft personal statements/ application letters within the deadline.
- Prompt them to include experiences and strengths that we may not know about.
- Apprenticeship pathways- keep searching each week.

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Contact Us:▪

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