

# Destinations and key dates for the final year

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## Support to date

- Full careers day in July 2025
- Assemblies from Nescot, Chessington Sixth Form, Hollyfield Sixth Form and Esher College
- Network South Rail assembly on apprenticeships
- Took part in a virtual work experience for a career of their choice in July 2025
- Deadlines for open events have been shared with the students by Mr Davey
- Careers interviews began in Year 10 with careers advisor

# Support upcoming

- Assemblies from Kingston College (October) and Hawk Training Apprentices (November)
- Careers interviews continue in Year 11
- Destinations information collected at **tutor level**, and one to one discussions about chosen pathway
- Tutor sessions/PDW sessions on writing personal statements and application form completion

# Overview of post-GCSE options

Young people aged 16 to 18 must stay in education or training:

- A Levels
- Vocational Qualifications (BTECs, NVQs)
- Apprenticeships
- Employment

# A Levels vs. vocational qualifications

**A Levels:** Academic focus, university preparation.

**Vocational qualifications:** Practical skills, career readiness.

Each option will suit different student strengths and career aspirations.

# Understanding apprenticeships

An apprenticeship is a practical training program that combines on-the-job experience with classroom learning.

## Benefits of apprenticeships:

- **Real-world experience:** Apprentices gain hands-on experience, making them job-ready
- **Earning while learning:** Apprentices receive a salary, reducing the financial burden of further education
- **Career progression:** Many apprentices go on to secure full-time positions with their employers
- **Industry recognition:** Apprenticeships are recognised qualifications that employers value

# Understanding apprenticeships

## Levels of apprenticeships:

- **Level 2 Apprenticeships:**
  - Equivalent to GCSEs.
  - Suitable for those entering the workforce or looking to gain basic skills in a trade.
- **Level 3 Apprenticeships:**
  - Equivalent to A-levels.
  - Designed for those wanting to deepen their expertise or take on supervisory roles.
- **Higher and Degree Apprenticeships:**
  - Level 4 and above, including university-level qualifications.

# College and Sixth Form applications

It is important to have an aspirational choice, and a realistic choice.

Attend open events and get a feel of the college and Sixth Form.

Speak to course leaders - what will the course entail? What grades are needed at GCSE to get a place on the course?

Write a professional application - sell yourself, give detail.

# College and Sixth Form Open Evenings

College/Sixth form	Date & time
Chessington Sixth Form	Thursday 6th November, 6.00-7.30pm
Hollyfield Sixth Form	Thursday 13th November, 6.00-8.00pm, apply by 15th January
Kingston College	Saturday 4th October, 10.00am-1.00pm
Nescot College (Epsom)	Saturday 11th October 10am-1pm & Wednesday 19th November 4.30-7.30pm
Richmond upon Thames College (Twickenham)	Saturday 11th October 10.00am-2.00pm & Tuesday 18th November 4.00-7.00pm
Esher Sixth Form College	Open day was in June, however contact them directly if you still wish to apply or book on a tour

## Key dates and timelines

Deadlines for Sixth Form and college applications vary. You will need to check the providers websites for further information.

Deadlines will also be shared with you at the providers open events.

Do not leave applications to the last minute. Most applications will require a school reference.

Applications should be proof-read before submitting.

# Key dates and timelines

Date	Event
After school intervention starts	w/c 13th October
Parents Evening (in person)	Thursday 16th October 2025
4-5th Nov (inset days)	Year 11 in school. Science mocks and revision sessions
Mock exams fortnight	w/c 17th November (all other subjects)
Mock results morning	Monday 6th January 2025
Reports home	Monday 6th January 2025
Invite only Parents Evening	Thursday 26th January 2026
Mock exams fortnight	w/c 9th February (week before and after half term)
Reports home	Monday 16th March 2025
GCSE exams begin	w/c 4th May - w/c 22nd June
Results Day	Friday 20th August

## Approaching the real thing...

- After the Easter holidays revision timetables commence.
- Normal school day timings.
- Regular timetable stops, subject specific double revision sessions begin
- Not “study leave”
- Attendance is still compulsory

# Support for students

Booster sessions begin next week. Please encourage your child to attend these small group sessions.

Careers interviews for all students in Year 11 with a trained careers advisor.

Half term, and Easter holiday interventions will be offered.

# Summary

- Sixth Form and college open evenings have now started
- Application deadlines can be found at the open events or on the providers website
- Ensure an aspirational choice and a realistic choice
- Revision is key to ensure you get the grades
- Open communication between parents, students and school staff is essential so we can support your child

Contact information for further questions:

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