

24 January 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

Year 12 Post 18 Planning – Destinations Day

We are writing to you to let you know that our annual Destinations Day careers fair will take place on Tuesday 8 February. Attendance at this event is compulsory for all Year 12 students and forms part of the transition into Year 13. Choosing a career path to take can be a major challenge and we hope that this event will help our students to gain some fresh insights into the areas that might interest them and provide advice and guidance to support their decision making. It is now time to start making plans for the future, and in the current economic climate this is an ideal opportunity for your son or daughter to gather relevant information from a range of experts which will help them to make the right choices.

Talks and Exhibitors:

On Destinations Day there will be representatives from a wide range of universities, employers and apprenticeship providers who will have information stands available and who will be able to offer advice and to answer questions. There are also a large number of talks for students to opt in to, ranging from 'Why University?' to 'All about Apprenticeships' as well as specific subject-focused presentations by university academics and employers.

Students will be sent an email to their college address with a link to where they must select their preferred three talks. They can also scan the QR code displayed around college which will take them to the sign-up form. They will then be assigned two of these to attend on the day.

During the day, in addition to attending their two talks, students will have time in a computer room where they can research their post-18 options on Unifrog and continue adding to their action plan on their Careers Planning app. They will also have the opportunity to meet the exhibitors, ask questions and collect information. On the day all students will be issued with an information booklet with a list of exhibitors and speakers.

Arrival and Timetable:

Registration will be at 09.00am on the day and the event will finish at 12.45pm. If students wish to stay for lunch then this will be running as normal in the canteen, from 12.45pm. The times of the college minibuses have been altered to take into account the structure of the day.

Unfortunately we will not be able to accommodate any parents or carers at the event.

We anticipate that students will make the most of this chance to speak to professionals about their organisations and the possible entry routes into a number of different career options.

Yours faithfully

Miss Clare Lucas
Assistant Principal and Careers Leader

Useful Information

Guidance and Support:

Every student has a weekly meeting with their Guidance Tutor who offers advice on career options after college. Students can also see a Careers Adviser by emailing careers@elliottthudsoncollege.ac.uk. As part of the NCOP (National Collaborative Outreach Programme), we also have a Higher Education Progression Officer who works with a specific group of students to help them access opportunities that prepare them for and assist them with accessing university education.

Student Bulletin:

To ensure that all of our students know what opportunities are available, our Careers Team create a Student Bulletin that is emailed to each student's Elliott Hudson email account each week. They must check this regularly to find opportunities such as apprenticeships, work experience and summer schools.

Unifrog:

All students have access to Unifrog, an online careers system that helps students to find and apply for apprenticeships, employment and university. This website will allow students to collate information, research, write personal statements, create a CV, access available apprenticeships and much more. Students in Year 12 are encouraged to work on their personal statements and CV writing before the end of Year 12. To help students make informed decisions about their post-college destinations, our annual college visit to the UCAS convention will also take place in June 2022, where all year 12 students will have the opportunity to look at many more universities, gap year opportunities, employers and apprenticeship providers

Apprenticeship/Employment route:

Students taking this option must start building on their work experience so they can develop their employability skills. They can meet with their Guidance Tutor and/or a Careers Adviser to discuss this. They must also check the Student Bulletin and attend the Apprenticeship Fairs that Careers advertise. Students seeking an apprenticeship or employment in Year 13 follow our bespoke World of Work tutorial programme designed to provide specialist advice and guidance.

University route:

Students wishing to apply for university next year will do so via the UCAS system application. Our college internal deadlines for submission of the applications are as follows:

Early entry – Oxbridge, Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary – early October 2022

All other entries – late October 2022

University open days and summer schools:

During the academic year (although mainly in September and June), universities will host open days where students can attend mini lectures, speak with current students, visit university accommodation and look around other facilities. Dates for these can be found on individual university websites or via <https://www.ucas.com/ucas/events/find/type/open-day>. From June to August, universities also run summer schools. They are similar to open days but students also get the chance to live in university accommodation for a few days and meet new people who are also considering that university. Many summer schools are funded so accommodation, travel and food are often provided.