



Rye College

The Grove, Rye, East Sussex TN31 7NQ

T: 01797 222545 E: office@ryecollege.co.uk

www.ryecollege.co.uk

Head Teacher: Mr. D. Downes

25th April 2024

Dear families,

RE: Year 10 College Taster days

Taster days at post 16 institution have become increasingly popular and are aimed at Year 10 students, who will be considering their options following their GCSEs.

Taster days provide an opportunity for students to familiarise themselves with the college location, meet staff and attend subject tasters that they may be interested in studying post-16. College may seem a long way off. However, once students begin Year 11, there is a real focus on post-16 options: so the sooner ideas can be explored, the better.

East Sussex College Group

As a school, we have been allocated a full taster day for **Hastings** as we are in their catchment area. Our allocated date is **Friday 21st June 2024** for the **Hastings campus**. This is during our Year 10 PPE week but there will be no exams on this day. This is the only date that students can book for this taster day. They can sign up by visiting [Taster days | East Sussex College \(\[escg.ac.uk\]\(http://escg.ac.uk\)\)](#)

Unfortunately, the dates for the Eastbourne and Lewes Campus taster days fall either in the PPE week or the work experience week. There was no consultation around these dates. ESCG have said that students and families are more than welcome to book themselves a tour of Eastbourne or Lewes by visiting [College tours | East Sussex College \(\[escg.ac.uk\]\(http://escg.ac.uk\)\)](#) They also informed us that the content of taster days for each of the establishments is very similar for each subject, so the experience at Hastings will replicate that of Eastbourne or Lewes.

For the Hastings campus, students will either be able to sign up to a **Station Plaza** Taster Day or **Ore Valley** Taster Day. Although different campuses, the taster sessions will run on the same day. The courses offered at each campus will be clear when registering.

- Station Plaza is home to A-Level courses and a whole range of vocational diplomas including Art and Design, Beauty, Business, Hair, Health and Social Care, Hospitality and Catering, Public Services, Sport, and Travel.
- Ore Valley is home to Construction, Engineering, IT and Computing, and Music subjects.

The deadline for registration is MONDAY 3rd JUNE 2024.



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Bexhill College

We have also been allocated a full taster day for **Bexhill College**. This is **Thursday 11th July 2024**. Once again students will have to book to attend. This can be done by visiting <https://www.bexhillcollege.ac.uk/taster-days/> where you can also view the prospectus and register. Alternatively, students can register by visiting the Bexhill College website, under the 'About' drop down and selecting Year 10 Taster Days. The **deadline for registration is FRIDAY 24th MAY 2024**.

Students registering for these taster days should select the subject areas they would like to shortlist for individual timetables to be created. There will be a mix of traditional subjects as well as new subjects such as Psychology, Media, Law, and Hospitality etc. for students to choose from. These may be a combination of A-Levels, BTECs and new T-Levels. To get the most out of the taster experience, it is important that students reflect carefully on their subject choices bearing in mind their personal educational aspirations.

Please note: students are responsible for registering for the taster days and making any associated travel arrangements. Rye College is not responsible for any travel costs incurred for these visits.

If your child will be attending a taster day, please complete the online [Taster Day Form](#) to record their absence from school. Attendance at taster days will be recorded as authorised absence being an educational visit. A member of Rye College staff will be attending both taster days to support students and deal with any queries.

We will keep families updated on any further information we receive about taster day arrangements.

Please do not hesitate to contact me via office@ryecollege.co.uk if you have any queries.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. D. Starkey
Director of Learning KS4