Future Steps

As a Year 10 student, now is an important time to start thinking about your next steps after your forthcoming final year at Harper Green School. This handout will provide an overview of what is available after Year 11 in relation to college, apprenticeships and training, what as students you need to start considering and how to do this, an associated timescale for it all together with “Career Planning” information and resources to be using.

Whilst we know that planning for what you would like to do in the future can and should be exciting, we also appreciate that for some students it can be a slightly daunting prospect. Therefore, we want to reassure you that there will be continued support with this throughout the remainder of school life and beyond from myself, Kathryn Garner, Connexions Careers Adviser at Harper Green School and Mrs. Halliwell, Careers Lead for the school.

What to do next

** Understand the options available after Year 11. This will include the following:**

* College or Sixth Form where you will continue your education. This will involve continuing to study subjects (called ‘A levels’) or a course that will link into a job or field of work (normally called ‘vocational pathway’).
* An apprenticeship. This is where you will combine a job with a recognised qualification and receive a wage for it.
* Employment with training. Full time work with relevant training for it.

More information on each of the above can be found on the school website under the tab “Students”, then “CEIAG”. Handouts relating to the above include:

**“Guide to Apprenticeships”, “What Can I Do Next?” and “Qualifications Guide”**

**When to do this: Now and September onwards**

** Research the Colleges, 6th Forms and Training Providers (who offer apprenticeships). Things to consider:**

* What subjects and courses do they offer? What am I interested in? Do my subject / course choice(s) link to my career ideas?
* What entry requirements are they asking for the subjects and courses?
* Location – can I travel there and back okay?
* Facilities – quiet study area, library, laptops?
* Support available if needed?

The Colleges, 6th Forms and Training Providers all have online “prospectuses” (Information booklets) which will give you most of the answers to the questions above. The handout below (which is now on school website under “Students”, then “CEIAG” tab), has the College, 6th Form and Training Provider websites which has the links for the prospectuses:

**“Further Education Bolton & Neighbouring Areas”**

**When to do this: Now and September onwards**

 **Visit the Colleges, 6th Forms and Training Providers**.

* You would not buy a new coat without trying it on? Moving on to College, 6th Form or a Training Provider is just the same. You need to know how it feels for YOU. It has to be the right place for the right reasons and only you can decide this.
* Each College, 6th Form and Training Provider will have open evenings / mornings whereby you and your parents / carers can go and have a look around, ask questions and find out as much as possible in order to help make an informed decision.
* All being well, the open evenings / mornings will still happen, potentially in a different way to meet the needs of the current situation. School and Connexions will circulate dates and times of them on school website as well as to students directly and via form teachers.

**When to do this: September onwards**

 **Once you have completed all of the above you should be ready to make your**

 **application to the College, 6th Form or Training Provider of your choice**

* You can apply to more than one College, 6th Form or Training Providerand we would actively encourage you to do this in order to have back up choices available.
* Your application will include your personal details, subject / course choice, predicted grades, any relevant work experience undertaken, hobbies and interests as well as additional information for example, Prefect Status, School Council etc.
* Once your application is made you will then be contacted by the College, 6th Form or Training Provider with a date and time for your interview.
* The interview is nothing to be worried about. It is a chance for the College, 6th Form or Training Providerto find out more about you (and vice versa), your future plans and for them to explain what they can offer you in relation to this.

**When to do this: Between October and December if possible**

Career Planning

**Running directly alongside all the choices above will be that of your career aspirations – what eventual job you would like to do**.

Some of you will have very specific ideas about the careers you want, others less so, which is perfectly normal. It is important to start generating, planning and researching ideas in order to see what could be right for you career wise. Also, by doing so, this will help in making the right choices for your studies at college or apprenticeship role as well as longer term career goals.

When career planning there will be different things to consider to help build your ideas. This might be:

* What subjects do you enjoy and are good at? What kind of careers can they link into?
* From looking at the courses and subjects at college and 6th form what kind of careers can they lead into?
* If work experience has been undertaken (or a Saturday job), what insight have you gained into the roles out there? Would they be something you might want to do? Why?
* What kind of jobs do family / family friends work as? Could you ask them about their job to find out more?
* What are you like as a person? What skills, qualities, likes, strengths do you have? How would your personal attributes link with different careers?

Some useful websites to help with the above are as follows:

[www.icould.com](http://www.icould.com) – complete the “Buzz” quiz to see what jobs you might be suited to

[www.careersbox.com](http://www.careersbox.com) – on here you will find career videos of people talking about and showing you their job

[www.nationalcareersservice.co.uk](http://www.nationalcareersservice.co.uk) – find out information on any job you might be interested in

These can be found on the school website under “Student” then “CEIAG” link

**When to do this: Now and September onwards**

**Additional Information**

With the current situation many Colleges, 6th Forms and Training Providershave been delivering online sessions aimed at Year 10’s. This may include virtual tours, lessons, activities and such like – all of which is really important to get involved with. Keep checking the school website / school Twitter for these.