



Year 11 Careers Newsletter: Friday 19th November 2021

Hello, everyone

Open Events

It was good to see a number of you at the Open event at Holme Lacy College, Hereford on Saturday. Historically, it has been a popular college for our students. However, it does appear that there are more of you this year, who are keen to apply. If you are interested in agricultural, animal-based learning, then you should be giving serious consideration to looking at the website or the Herefordshire and Ludlow College prospectus.

Holme Lacy was the last of our local colleges to hold a face-to-face Open event this side of Christmas. There is now quite a break until the colleges resume these. The events will start again in January. However, this should not stop you from contacting the colleges to ask whether you can arrange a visit before then. Why not go along with some of your friends, if they are interested in applying for courses too? I spoke to a Year 11 this week and she was told by a Course Leader at one of the colleges, that the qualification she wanted to apply for, taught small groups of students, given the nature of the work. Therefore, she was encouraged to apply as soon as possible, as numbers would be limited. You have been 'warned'!

College applications

I have spoken to a significant number of you and it is great to hear that so many of you have already applied for college courses. Some of you have come to me with queries about how to complete the application form. I think it might be wise to complete a draft copy, come and see me with it, or your Tutor, and we can advise of any changes. If applying for an apprenticeship, you must tick the Full-Time studying option. Part-time applies to those who already tend to be working and are retraining, or are applying to attend the evening class option. Some students last year ticked the part-time box and the college contacted me to clarify what course they really wanted to apply for. Do not let this be you. Application forms are notoriously tricky to complete, but you want to give a positive first impression. Remember, your full address and post code, your home email address, one reference is all that is needed, even if the form states two. If you have a part-time job, some of the colleges ask that this is added to the form. If you work, ask your employer whether you can add them as a referee, before you send in the application. Showing that you have a part-time job will demonstrate responsibility and communication skills to the college. This will be particularly important for those of you intending to apply for apprenticeships. On that note, with your mock exams about to start, you really do need to be mindful of balancing paid and school work.

Year 11, enjoy your weekend, and make sure you keep to your revision routines ahead of the mock exams.

Mrs Griffiths-Jones