



## Year 11 Careers Newsletter

28<sup>th</sup> February 2025

Welcome. Year 11

I hope that you all enjoyed a productive break. Those March mocks are almost here, and your results will be the most accurate picture of what you will achieve in your final GCSE exams. Listen carefully to your subject teachers and take on board the revision techniques and exam skills they advise you to adopt. Time management is a key skill that many of us underestimate the importance of. Dedicating your time effectively to revision, e.g., daily revision timetable and managing your time when you are in the exam. Mock exams and past papers will help you with this last point, but putting together an effective revision timetable is something that you may undervalue.

A number of you have asked me what you should do because you have not heard from the colleges to which you have applied. I have advised that you need to contact them, preferably phone them, as an email can sometimes get 'lost' among many other enquiries. The school day ends at 3.25pm, so you have plenty of time to make a call. The colleges will be in contact with you, but you need to be aware that processing applications can take time. If you are still worried, don't hesitate to speak to me and I can make contact.

Regarding applications and interviews, Ludlow College have their second round of appointments scheduled to take place in the next few weeks. As before, I will put names and times on TFTD. If you are waiting for an interview, I would strongly advise looking back to your Careers newsletter dated 6<sup>th</sup> February. I relayed the advice and feedback from the interviewing staff at Ludlow College who conducted the first round of interviews. They were very positive about how students 'performed' and their level of preparation. However, the point was raised that few of the interviewed students asked any questions. This is so important in many ways; it demonstrates that you are motivated and are keen to ensure that the course is the best choice. If you have yet to be interviewed, please start thinking about the questions you will ask.

Now that you have all applied for your post-16 pathway, I have seen more of you applying for T-Levels than in previous years. T-Levels are similar to apprenticeships, but students spend 80% of the course in the classroom and 20% out in industry. This is the reverse for apprenticeships. T-Levels are available at Herefordshire and Ludlow College and Shrewsbury College. I have seen applications made for Hospital and Catering, Business and Engineering, but you can also take T-Levels in Computing, Health, Law, to name but a small number available at these local colleges. T-Levels have taken a while to get off the ground, but it looks like they are increasing in popularity. With the Hereford campus offering an Open event on Tuesday March 4<sup>th</sup>, 5-7pm, why not go along and see what T-Levels are on offer? It will also be an opportunity to ask any questions you may have about the courses for which you have applied.

Year 11, heads down and revise effectively for what will be your last GCSE mocks before the final Summer exams. I would also encourage you to reflect on the Tutor activities this week. Taking time to relax and do something that helps you to unwind is also important.

Mrs Griffiths-Jones