

# College Transition



## Next Steps

**This session aims to address the following in terms of where to go next:**

Options

Process

Apply

Timeframe

# Options

- To find a college or sixth form you would like to apply for, investigate the websites of the colleges you are interested in.
- Read a college prospectus. Mostly the course material is online.
- Is it the course? Or is it the college?

# Options

What colleges have other pupils gone to when leaving Woodlane High School?



Ealing, Hammersmith  
& West London College

*More than a college...*





Ealing, Hammersmith  
& West London College

*More than a college...*

<https://www.wlc.ac.uk/events>



Westminster  
Kingsway College

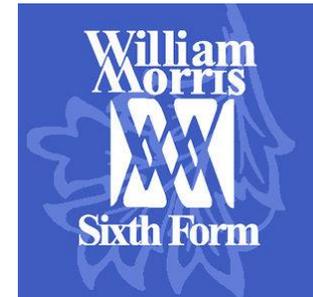
<https://www.westking.ac.uk/student-life/open-days/>



<https://www.capel.ac.uk/open-days/>



<https://www.west-thames.ac.uk/events/open-days>



<https://www.wmsf.ac.uk/open-evenings/82.html>



<https://www.cwc.ac.uk/about-us/open-days>



<https://www.stcharles.ac.uk/>

# Options

- Remember: It is okay to be aspirational when selecting a course for next year, but ensure you are realistic too.
- Ask the teachers what your predicted grade is in that subject area, as well as English and Maths as this will aid you in making a decision.
- Formal predicted grades from school will be complete in early November.

**Levels 4-6:** Professional/management qualifications, Degree (BA/BSc), Masters (MA/MSc) and Doctorate (Phd).



**Level 3 (Advanced):** Int. Baccalaureate, AS & A2 Levels, BTEC Level 3.  
Entry = 5/6 GCSEs at 4-9, or a relevant BTEC - Level 2 + Mat/Eng.



**Level 2 (Intermediate):** GCSEs A\*-C/4-9, BTEC Level 2.  
Entry requirements = 4 GCSEs at 3 or Level 1 qualification.



**Level 1 (Foundation):** GCSEs D-G/1-3, BTEC Level 1.  
Entry requirements = usually an interview or assessment.



**Entry Level:** Certificate in Lifeskills, Supported Learning.  
No Entry Requirements.

# Options

- Remember: although this is a guide, entry requirements can vary, so check with the schools and colleges first!
- Ensure you use all the resources to understand the range of options that are out there.

# Options

Entry Level:

Level 1 (Foundation):

Level 2 (Intermediate):

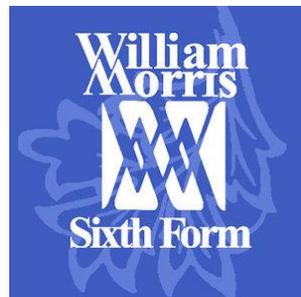
Level 3 (Advanced):

## What colleges run these courses?



Ealing, Hammersmith  
& West London College

*More than a college...*



# Options

## What other options exist?

- Schools often offer a 6<sup>th</sup> form, but these are usually quite inaccessible to our pupils.
- Apprenticeships can be an excellent way to learn a trade/skill and earn while working and learning. At 16 these are aimed more at FastTrack pupils. At 18 there are some fantastic opportunities to explore. SEARCH / TFL
- Internships are usually unpaid short term jobs but can be a great experience for pupils. They would still need to stay in an education setting alongside this.
- Traineeships are usually pre-employment courses. You work and learn (usually unpaid) but you gain skills and experience to move directly in to a job role.

# Process

There are two parts to the process.

- **Your application** to the college/sixth form. This is done through the college/sixth form website.
- For the college to start the process, this needs to be started as soon as possible.
- Your **local authority consultation** will take place in the next weeks and months. The LA will look at your preferences (in the AR or they may ask you directly) and will send the EHCP and any relevant info to your preferred placement. The SENDCo of the provision will usually be the one to make a decision based on the paperwork.

# Process

The **EHCP annual review** is a really important point for all of us.

- Make your preference for next year very clear as this will be shared with the local authority.
- Working with staff we must ensure the EHCP considers the skills needed for the preferred course and references the pupil's interests so there is a clear link between the pupil's preference and the course.
- Ensure you engage in the process to help remove any 'old' information, particularly things that pupils can now do/cannot do.

You can request support from a parent support network. They are specific to your borough.

# Apply

- The best form of application is through the individual college website.
- By applying this way, your information goes straight in to the database.
- You can also apply using a paper copy, which are usually in each prospectus.
- If you have any questions please contact us.
- Students **can** do it in school with support.

[https://apps2.wlc.ac.uk/PSWebApplication/webenrolment.aspx?page=~/webcontrols/checkout\\_enquiries.ascx&OfferingID=32768](https://apps2.wlc.ac.uk/PSWebApplication/webenrolment.aspx?page=~/webcontrols/checkout_enquiries.ascx&OfferingID=32768)

<https://www.wmsf.ac.uk/application-form/5850.html>

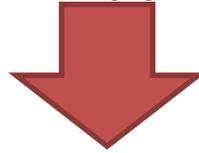
# Timeframe

- **Visit!** In the next few weeks and months.
- **Apply!** The sooner the better!
- Apply to as many colleges as you want, you can always turn some offers down later.
- Make sure you tell school/LA about your applications and ask if you require any support with this process. We are happy to support/complete applications in school.
- References should be the form tutor or Mr Heapy.

**Now: Start Attending Open Days**



**November & December: Apply for 1<sup>st</sup> Choice College**



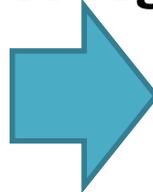
**January & February: 1<sup>st</sup> College Interview and Assessment**



**February, March & April: Apply for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Choice Colleges**



**April, May & June: 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> College Interviews & Assessments**



**May & June:** Begin GCSEs or other exams & official leaving date

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June

Note – this may change



**July:** Have received a range of conditional offers



**August 19<sup>th</sup> 2021:** Results Day!



**August:** Receive confirmation of place in post – did I make it?



**September:** Begin enrolment at college for my new course and start the new term!



# Useful Links

- **Woodlane** | Lots of information about Year 11 choices - <http://www.woodlane.lbhf.sch.uk>
- **H&F or your borough** | Provide good links and information - <http://www.lbhf.gov.uk/>
- **William Morris Sixth Form** | Pupils will be attending one day per week - <https://www.wmsf.ac.uk>
- **West London College** | So many options at all different levels with a range of campuses - <https://www.wlc.ac.uk>
- **City of Westminster College** | Offering a wide range of vocational and academic options - <https://www.cwc.ac.uk>
- **South Thames College** | Located in Wandsworth with a good reputation for sports/IT - <https://www.south-thames.ac.uk>

# Key Points

- Visit placements as soon as possible.
- Pick a course that is suitable. It is okay to be aspirational but be realistic too.
- Don't wait to apply, send application forms in as soon as you're happy.
- Attend interviews, assessments.
- Don't worry if a college says no, another college might say yes, or a different course may be more appropriate.
- Ensure you are happy with the EHCP this year, it is important in getting you on to the right course.
- **Ask any questions you have. We are here for you.**

# College Experience

- Each year, we prepare the pupils for leaving Woodlane by taking the pupils to a college for 1 day per week in the Autumn and Spring terms.
- The last 4 years this has been William Morris Sixth Form but this year things are a little different.
- We have a number of pupils who are wheelchair users and require different access arrangements.
- We also have a number of pupils who are already considering West London College.
- We will split our cohort between these two placements, with at least one chance to swap over and visit the other.
- We cannot start until the colleges are confident they can make our time Covid-secure. Until then we are using our Thursdays for catchup.

# Work Experience



work experience

Usually takes place in February.

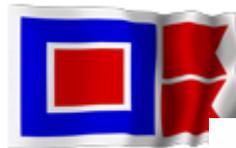
We work with H&F to find suitable placements based on pupil interests.

We welcome parents organising 'own find' placements too.

Work experience is a 'watch this space' event right now.

# Woodlane students have taken part in work experience at...

MARKS &  
SPENCER



WESTMINSTER  
BOATING BASE



**h&f**  
hammersmith & fulham

Special Eyes



**KITE**  
**STUDIOS**  
CREATIVE OASIS FOR ALL



Peter Jones



# Supporting with Qualifications

## Supporting all subjects:

- Practise past exam papers. This will greatly benefit students. Find the correct exam board on the following information sheets and include that in a Google search for GCSE Past Papers.
- The BBC Bitesize website contains a wide range of information on all GCSE subjects. Students can complete practice quizzes and use the study guides.
- Plan, prepare and discuss the exams with your child. Exam anxiety is normal and there are many ways to help with this. Have a look at some of the attached information packs to get some ideas about preparing and revising.
- Most students will receive 25% extra time for each of their GCSE exams. Students are tested by the examinations boards and anyone who qualifies for further support, i.e. a reader, a scribe, etc, will have that support applied for and if appropriate supplied.
- Create a homework and revision schedule with your child. Plan for time each night to do set homework or work through any of the exam support listed on the following pages.

# Supporting with Qualifications

## **Supporting Entry Level/Equivalency Qualifications:**

- These are not the same as GCSEs but are a recognised qualification that tests pupil's ability at a lower level across all subjects. Where students do not meet the entry-requirements for a GCSE they will have the opportunity to complete an Entry Level or an Equivalency. They may also take them as a backup qualification in case things go wrong.
- Students should ensure they understand the correct words, terms and phrases that are commonly used in each subject to enable them to answer questions independently.
- The Step Up to English course replaced the Entry Level and focuses on a range of topics designed to develop skills in reading, writing and spoken language. Students will achieve a silver or gold award.
- In French and DT subjects, an Entry Level equivalency course is now running alongside a GCSE.
- All Entry Level examinations are internally-set. Students will receive suitable prior notice, and the school website will be updated to highlight these dates.