



# Options after Year 11

*Don't worry if you don't know what you want to do in the future – you are not alone! There is plenty of help and advice available.*

Your main options are:

- to continue your education full time, either at school or college
- to start working, and continue your learning in the workplace, perhaps through an apprenticeship or other type of training programme.

## Sixth Form vs Further Education College

Whilst you can study A levels at Further Education College, the courses offered tend to be more vocational (job related); Sixth Form offers a very good range of more academic subjects. Look at websites of the local colleges and see the courses that are offered.

If you are a 'hands on' learner and know you want to follow a plumbing, childcare, catering career, college may be a good option for you.

If you know you want to keep your options open as you're not sure of your future career, Sixth Form may be a good option for you.

College tend to treat you more like an adult, whereas Sixth form in schools might give you more support.

### **To Do List for Sixth Form:**

- Attend the Sixth Form Open evening
- Talk to your subject teachers about your progress and suitability for the subject
- Check on specific A Level entry requirements needed for university courses – Engineering, Medicine, Veterinary practice, Nursing, anything science related.
- To find out about different jobs click on the following websites;
- <https://icould.com/watch-career-videos/by-job-type/>
- <https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk/job-profiles/home>
- Visit <https://digital.ucas.com/search> to look at different University courses and entry requirements.
- Attend the Careers Convention and talk to employers.
- Application forms are available online for The Cherwell Sixth Form usually after sixth form open evening. To apply to another school 6<sup>th</sup> form please check each schools website for 6<sup>th</sup> form information and how to apply. To apply to College 6<sup>th</sup> form look through a College prospectus and then complete an application form or alternatively look online and apply.

### **To Do List for College:**

- Visit college websites (see below)
- Look through College Prospectus
- Attend the college open days (usually take place 3 or 4 times a year)
- Attend taster sessions
- Attend the Careers Convention since Colleges should be there to talk too.
- Attend Countdown to College (an event in school during the school day, usually takes place between January and March)
- To apply go online or complete an application form at the back of the prospectus.
- You can apply to more than one course (first choice, second choice).
- Get support, you can arrange to meet Jason the School Careers Adviser.

### **College websites:**

<http://www.cityofoxford.ac.uk/> (includes Blackbird Leys Campus and Oxford Campus)

<http://www.banbury-bicester.ac.uk/> (includes Banbury Campus and Bicester Campus,)

<http://www.abingdon-witney.ac.uk/> (includes Abingdon Campus, Witney Campus and Common Leys Campus)

<http://www.buckscollegegroup.ac.uk/>

<http://www.henleycol.ac.uk/>

### **Getting a job**

- Please refer to 'Finding a Job in Oxfordshire' document.
- Please note Government is raising the participation age which means you will have to continue with education or training (but this can be while you work) until you are 18, for further information please click on <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/raising-the-participation-age>
- If you are interested in Apprenticeship opportunities, follow this link

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>

### **Getting Advice**

If you want to enter the world of work, or want more advice then please contact Jason, the School Careers Adviser for an appointment.