



THE AVON VALLEY SCHOOL
AND PERFORMING ARTS COLLEGE

Year 11 Launch

**HIGH ACHIEVEMENT
ALWAYS TAKES PLACE
IN THE FRAMEWORK
OF HIGH EXPECTATION.**

~ Charles Kettering ~

purehappylife.com

Believe you CAN
and you're
halfway THERE.

- Theodore Roosevelt



22 September 2026

"Success is the sum
of small efforts,
repeated day in
and day out."

Robert Collier

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Exam boards

AQA

Biology
Chemistry
Combined Science
Drama
English Language
French
Further Maths
Geography
German
GCSE PE
Physics
Spanish

Edexcel

Computer Science
History
Maths
Psychology
Statistics

WJEC

Hospitality and Catering
Music GCSE
Design and Technology

OCR National

Creative iMedia
Health and Social Care
Sport Studies

OCR

Business GCSE

BTEC Edexcel

Technical Award in
Performing Arts- Dance
Technical Award in
Performing Arts- Drama

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Key Exam Dates

Pre-Public Exams 1 (PPE 1) - Week commencing Monday 23rd November - Monday 7th December 2026. A full set of exams.

Pre-Public Exams 2 (PPE 2) - Early-March 2027

GCSE Summer Exams - Monday 10th May - Wednesday 22nd June.
Thursday 23rd June is 'Contingency Day, to be kept free in the event of national or significant local disruption to examinations in the UK.

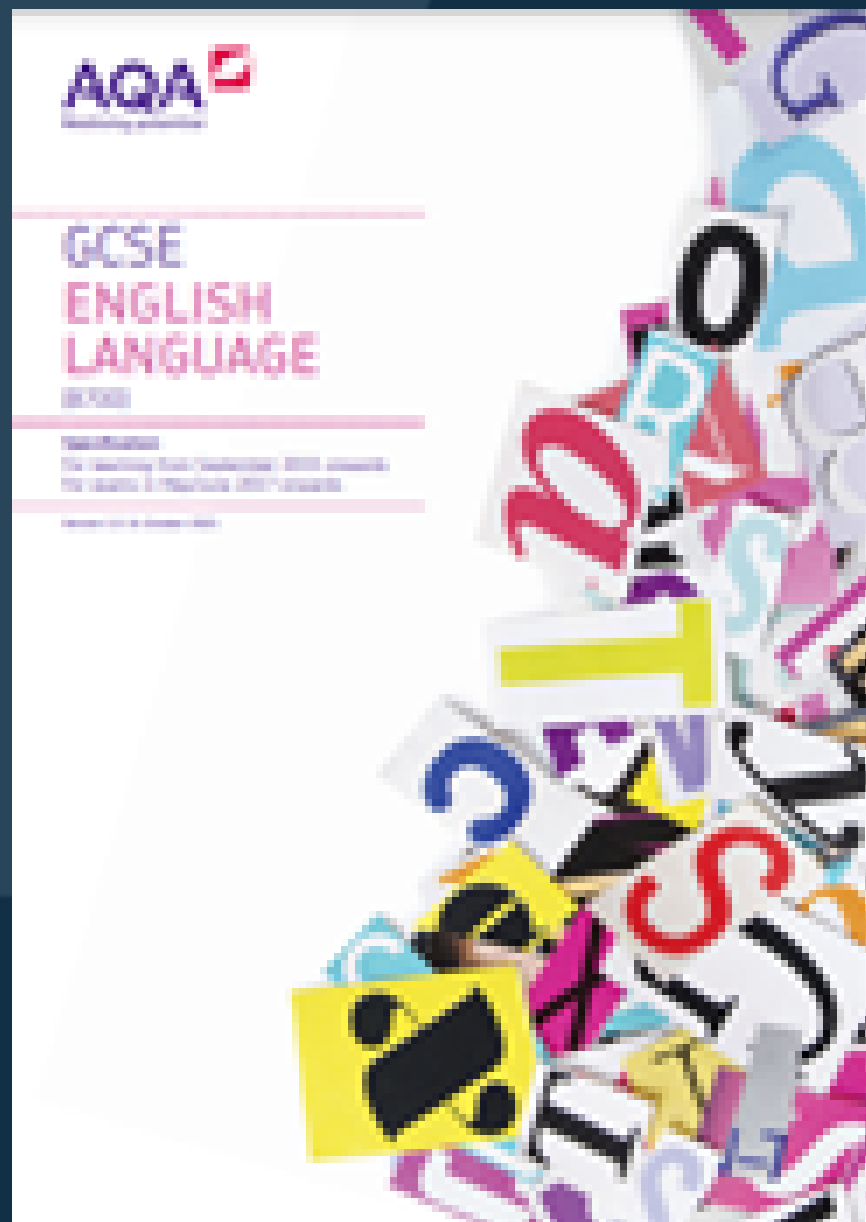
GCSE Results Day - Thursday 19th August 2027

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AQA English Language 8700



Paper One: Explorations in creative reading and writing

FICTION

1 hour and 45 mins 50%

Paper Two: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives

NON-FICTION

1 hour and 45 mins 50%

Spoken Language NEA - Fail/Pass/Merit/Distinction (already taken)

Revision
on a
Wednesday

UNTIERED 1-9

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AQA English Literature 8702

Paper One: Shakespeare and 'A Christmas Carol'

1 hour and 45 mins

64 marks

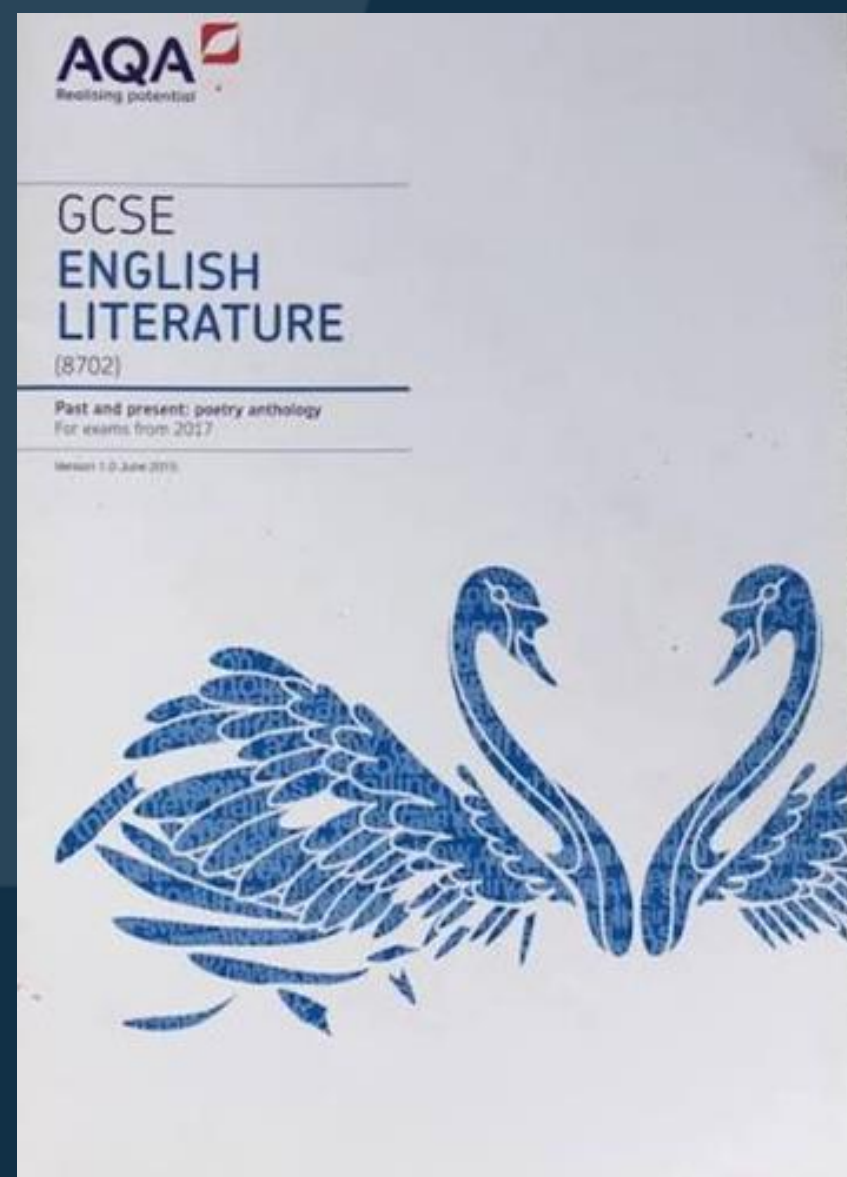
Paper Two:

'An Inspector Calls', Power and Conflict poetry and unseen poetry

2 hours and 15 mins

96 marks

UNTIERED 1-9



Revision
on a
Thursday

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The importance of English

Grade 4 - Ideally required to go to college/apprenticeships for ALL courses. Without a 4, a student will have to retake.

Grade 5 - English is a requirement to study any subject at Lawrence Sheriff/Rugby High and a 5 is required for certain subjects when it is a facilitating subject - e.g need a 5 to do French at Ashlawn/5 to do H&S care at RFSS

Grade 6 - is required to study certain A-Levels - e.g. history, psychology

But also... A step up when studying other subjects and in life beyond education.

Personal Best. Be aspirational. Don't settle for 'ok' **AMBITION | RESPECT | CARE**



4 steps to success in English:

UNDERSTAND the key skills required for every question

REVISE these key skills using revision guides and online videos

PRACTISE these key skills by completing TIMED questions and whole exam papers

IMPROVE through teacher feedback and applying these skills

How can you support?

1. Talk about PPE grades when reports are sent home - question and challenge - don't accept underperformance or settle for less than your child is capable of
2. Get involved with their revision - get them to teach you; test them on terminology; read their creative writing; keep asking questions
3. Liaise with your child's teacher - let's work together
4. Remind about Tassomai and other own learning



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Specification

Edexcel GCSE Maths specification.

Students study either...

Higher Tier (Grades 3 to 9)

Foundation Tier (Grades 1 to 5)

For both tiers...

Paper 1: Non-calculator (90 mins)

Paper 2 and 3: Calculator (90 mins each)

Any topic can be on any paper



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Revision and intervention

Mathematics is not about
numbers, equations,
computations, or algorithms:
it is about

UNDERSTANDING

-William Paul Thurston

Help available:

- Tuesdays after school - Topic based
- Thursdays after school - General revision

Stay in touch with us

jpatton@avonvalleyschool.uk

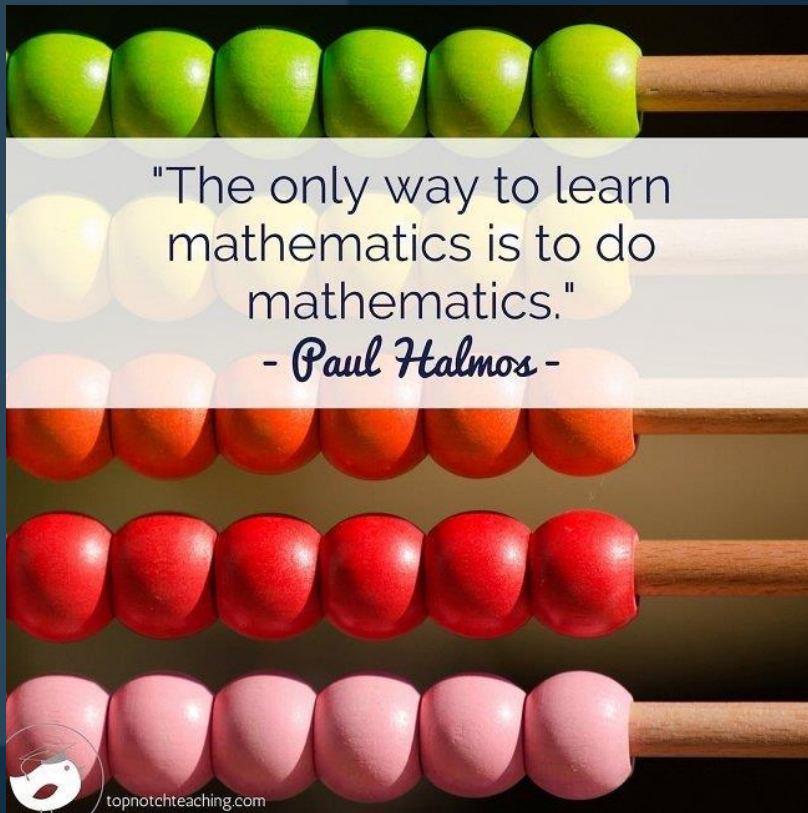
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Revision and Intervention

Do, Do, Do:

- www.Drfrostmaths.com
- Corbettmaths 5-a-day: Available to buy for £5
- Past papers now a regular part of Y11 lessons.
Papers are also available any time from MA1 -
FEEDBACK IS KEY
- Tassomai
- Use tick sheets





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How can you help?

Monitor your child's homework:

- Ensure they are using the previous homework as a guide
- Make sure they are answering ALL questions
- Make sure they aren't cheating!

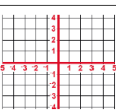
During PPEs, don't search for the papers

- We won't know what areas we need to work on
- We won't be able to use the PPE as a valid result and won't be able to generate predicted grades
- Make sure any private tutors don't present them

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 Name
Teacher
Show all working out and attempt all questions

1	$£13 \times 17$	11	Plot the line $y = 3x$
2	Find $2\frac{1}{2}\%$ of 300	12	Expand and simplify $5(a + 3b) - 2(a - 3b)$
3	$\frac{3}{10} + \frac{2}{5} =$	13	If $x = -4$ what is $3x^2$
4	$4^2 - 2^3$	14	Simplify $\frac{a^5 \times a^4}{a^5}$
5	4 light houses flash every 6 seconds another	15	



Please check the examination details below before entering your candidate information

Candidate surname Other names
Centre Number Candidate Number

Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9-1)
Monday 6 November 2023
Morning (Time: 1 hour 30 minutes) 1MA1/1H Paper reference
Mathematics PAPER 1 (Non-Calculator) Higher Tier Total Marks 48

You must have: Ruler graduated in centimetres and millimetres, protractor, pair of compasses, pen, HB pencil, eraser, Formulae Sheet (enclosed). Tracing paper may be used.

Instructions

- Use black ink or ball-point pen.
- Fill in the boxes at the top of this page with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- Answer all questions.
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided – there may be more space than you need.
- You must show all your working.
- Diagrams are NOT accurately drawn, unless otherwise indicated. Diagrams are NOT to be used.
- Calculators are NOT to be used.
- If your calculator does not have a π button, take the value of π to be 3.142 unless the question instructs otherwise.

Information

- The total mark for this paper is 80.
- The marks for each question are shown in brackets.
- Use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.

Advice

- Read each question carefully before you start to answer it.
- Try to answer every question.
- Check your answers if you have time at the end.

Turn over

Pearson

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2/1/13/1/1



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Science

“Science can be a great equalizer. It doesn’t matter where you come from or what your background is, if you have the curiosity and the passion to explore, you can make a contribution to science.”

Maggie Aderin-Pocock

Science as a snapshot:

Exam board: AQA

Exams 1hour 45mins each

Separate sciences : 6 exams

Combined sciences: 4 exams

Choice of tier is made on what will
produce the best outcome for the
student

GCSE COMBINED SCIENCE

DOUBLE AWARD GRADE COMBINATIONS



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How best to revise

- ❖ Little and often
- ❖ Use Tassomai DAILY
- ❖ Get past papers from 2SC4 or Maths Made Easy
- ❖ Use Youtube follow throughs for past exams questions
- ❖ Attend revision sessions
- ❖ Variety of revision strategies - try to teach someone at home or in school, Tassomai, revision guides, flash cards (do not make... buy or download - Key Cards on the app store)
- ❖ Use the revision Google classrooms



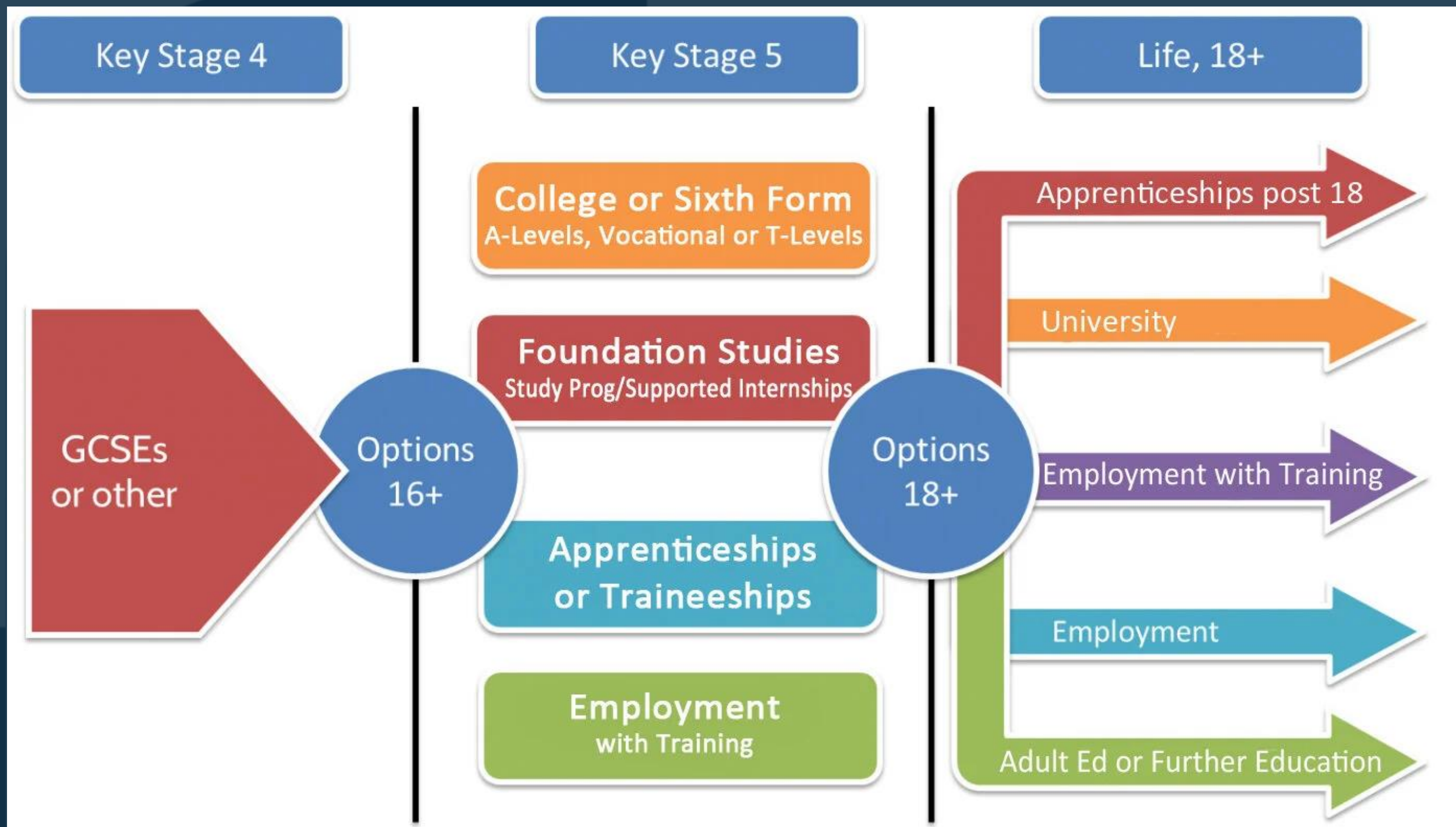


How you can help

- ❖ Check that students are completing all homework (completing four daily goals on Tassomai min)
- ❖ Encourage students to join and make use of the Revision google classrooms
- ❖ Access past papers (<https://mmerevise.co.uk/>)
- ❖ Use youtube to find a walk through of the past paper completed to get more immediate feedback
- ❖ Attend revision after school on a regular basis Purchase revision guides
- ❖ Encourage students to use a variety of revision strategies - practise maths based question using past paper questions, flashcards to learn keywords and equations, Tassomai to learn recall information etc.



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What are your options?

Level
4 - 6

Higher Education Qualification (University level)
e.g. Bachelors Degree, Foundation Degree, Degree Apprenticeships

Level
3

Traditional Learning
e.g. A Levels

Vocational Learning
e.g. BTECs, T Levels

**Advanced
Apprenticeship**

Level
2

Achieve 5 GCSEs grade 9-4
including English & maths

**Intermediate
Apprenticeship**

Take a level 1 or 2 course at
college and re-take English and
maths





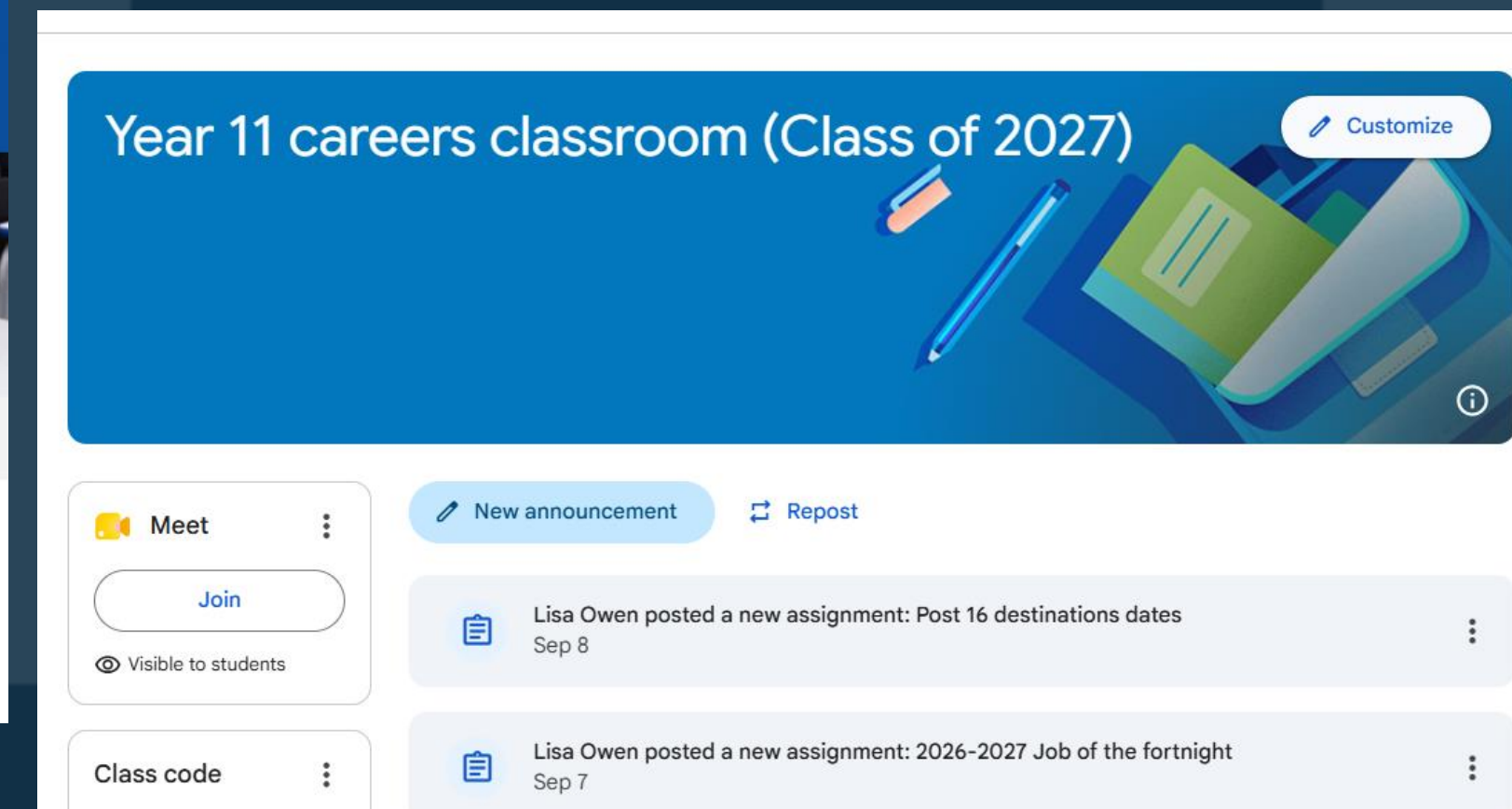
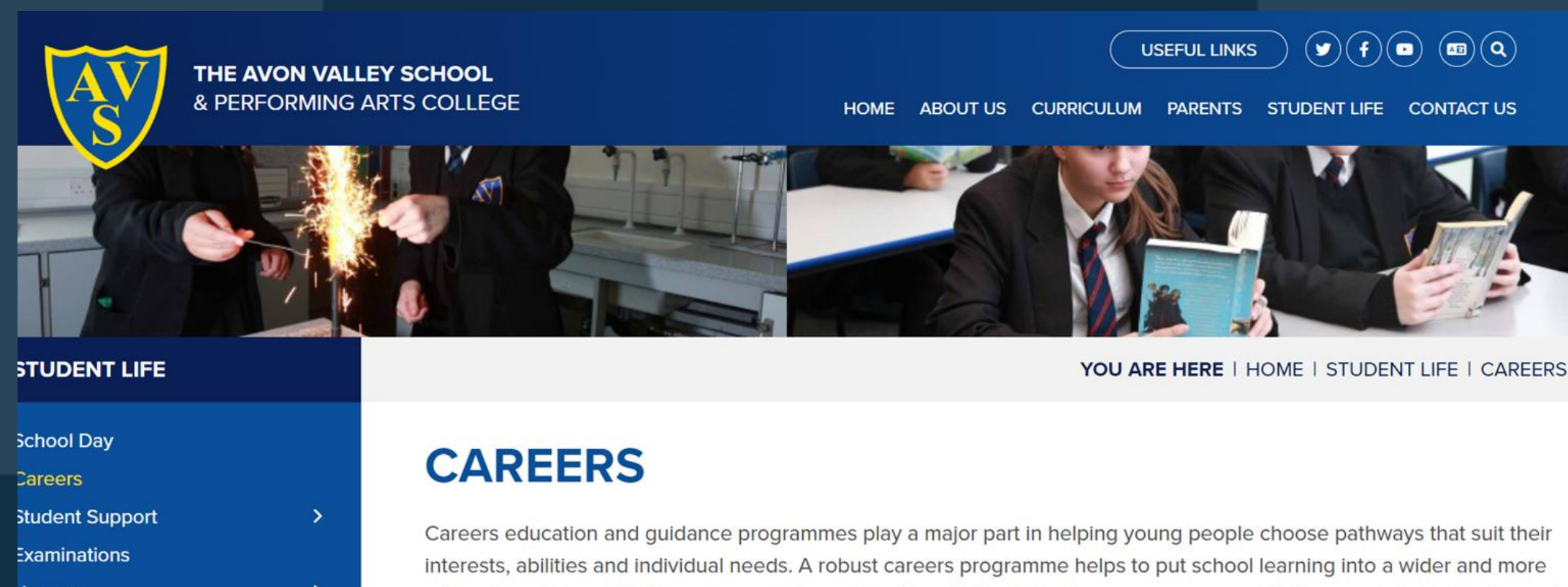
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Year 11 careers programme

- ❑ Careers fair including apprenticeship - *October*
- ❑ Assemblies from all local post 16 providers - *Autumn term*
- ❑ Mock interviews - *November*
- ❑ Every student will have a personal guidance interview (*throughout year 11, parents may contact Mrs Demaj for further information*)
- ❑ Trips to some local post 16 providers *for some pupils*
- ❑ Careers speakers throughout the year during assemblies
- ❑ PSHE programme – *Aspire: My career*
- ❑ Join the Year 11 Google Careers Classroom- latest information updated here

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Where to go for information and advice



Contacts: Mrs Lisa Owen - lowen@avonvalleyschool.uk
Mrs Natalia Demaj - ndemaj@avonvalleyschool.uk

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Open evenings

Sixth Form Open Evenings 2026-27

	Lutterworth College Open Evening: Thursday 1st October 4:30pm - 7pm Please keep an eye on the website for a link to book a slot (talks by Head)
	Southam College Open Evening: 6th November 6pm - 8pm and 13th November 9am - 11am
	Princethorpe College Open Evening: Wednesday 14th October 6:30pm - 9pm
	Rugby High School Open Evening: Thursday 5th November
	Bilton School Open Evening: Wednesday 14th October 5pm - 7:30pm
	Lawrence Sheriff School Open Evening: Wednesday 30th September 5pm - 7pm
	Ashlawn School Open Evening: Thursday 15th October 2026
	Rugby Free School Open evening: Thursday 8th October 2026
	Houlton School Open evening: Thursday 1st October between 6:00 and 8:30pm.

PLEASE CHECK INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL WEBSITES FOR THE DATES FOR APPLICATION DEADLINES

College Open Evenings 2026-27

	WCG: Rugby College - Saturday 17th October 2026 10am to 2pm - Saturday 16th January 2027 10am to 2pm - Wednesday 17th March 2027 5:30pm to 7:30pm - Wednesday 23rd June 2027 5:30pm to 7:30pm
	WCG: Royal Leamington Spa College - Saturday 17th October 2026 10am to 2pm - Saturday 16th January 2027 10am to 2pm - Wednesday 17th March 2027 5:30pm to 7:30pm - Wednesday 23rd June 2027 5:30pm to 7:30pm
	WCG: Warwick Trident College - Saturday 17th October 2026 10am to 2pm - Saturday 16th January 2027 10am to 2pm - Wednesday 17th March 2027 5:30pm to 7:30pm - Wednesday 23rd June 2027 5:30pm to 7:30pm
	WCG: Morton Morrell College - Saturday 17th October 2026 10am to 2pm - Saturday 16th January 2027 10am to 2pm - Wednesday 17th March 2027 5:30pm to 7:30pm - Wednesday 23rd June 2027 5:30pm to 7:30pm
	Stratford-upon-Avon College Saturday 14th November 2026 10am to 2pm
	Access Creative College Saturday 16th October 2026 - Register on the website to attend
	Moulton College - Saturday 10th October 2026 9am - Saturday 14th November 2026 9am - Saturday 23rd January 2027 9am - Saturday 13th June 2027 9am
	Strachan Football - Tuesday 27th October 2026 - Register on website - Tuesday 16th February 2027 - Register on website - Tuesday 30th March 2027 - Register on website - Tuesday 6th April 2027 - Register on website - Tuesday 1st June 2027 - Register on website
	Rugby Town Football Thursday 29th October

PLEASE CHECK INDIVIDUAL COLLEGE WEBSITES FOR THE DATES FOR APPLICATION DEADLINES

- ❑ Visit as many open evenings as possible
- ❑ Ask lots of questions about course combinations
- ❑ Look at all available options
- Sheets available for collection

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Applying to post 16 courses

- ❑ Do NOT use your AVS email account. Use an email that you know and check regularly
- ❑ AVS has NO control over entry into post-16 providers.
- ❑ Post-16 applications are made before the deadlines and with an email that is checked regularly
- ❑ Sign up to the government apprenticeship database: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>.
- ❑ Address
- ❑ Liaise with Mrs Demaj (Careers Advisor) if necessary to get individual careers advice-

ndemaj@avonvalleyschool.uk

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