

Beyond Carrington School - What's Next?

Post 16 Research Self Help Guide

In the autumn term of Year 11 you will be making your choices for what you would like to move on to when you leave Carrington School at the end of the school year. There are lots of choices to consider from a list of options including sixth form colleges, further education colleges, school sixth form and apprenticeships. In my presentations to you in the Summer Term of Year 10 and Autumn Term of Year 11, I have covered all the options available and explained the differences. You now need to think about which of these would be right for you and what courses/apprenticeships you should apply for. You will be provided with lots of information over the coming weeks, and I am available to answer any questions and help with decision making. To give you a start with this, I have put together this post 16 research self-help guide. It gives you points to consider, and over the page gives you useful websites that you could visit.

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Points to consider:

1. What are you good at, what do you enjoy?
2. Are you likely to meet the entry requirements for the courses you are looking at?
3. What can you do with this in the longer term? Find out more about the areas these courses might lead you towards.
4. Are there any subjects or subject combinations that give you more options in the future/make you more marketable/more useful together than on their own/ or will restrict your options if you haven't considered them?
5. If you have a particular job or area in mind at this stage, ensure that you can move in that direction but give yourself enough flexibility to do something else with your subjects if you change your mind. Most young people do not have a career or job plan at age 15 or 16 and those that do can sometimes get tunnel vision so the research is less about deciding on a job or career area and more about informing decisions at each stage and keeping your options open.

Useful websites:

Careers Advice in Surrey: <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/people-and-community/families/education-and-learning-advice-for-families/education-and-training-options-for-16-year-olds>

Local Surrey County Council website with useful information on all the different options.

National Careers Service: <https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk/>

Lots of useful information including job profiles, points to consider when choosing your subjects to study, and available options including apprenticeships.

Start: <https://guest.startprofile.com/>

An online careers platform with lots of useful information about what and where to study along with details of the world of work and how to build employability skills.

University choices - UCAS: <http://www.ucas.com/>

If you are thinking that after you are 18, university might be something you would consider, you can find out what A level and BTEC subjects are required to gain entry onto specific courses on the UCAS (University College Admission System) website. Look on the 'undergraduate' tab, then 'find a course'. This will allow you to search for specific courses at specific universities and will let you know what the entry requirements are.

icould : <https://icould.com/> Video stories about lots of different jobs themed in all sorts of ways. Good to get an idea of the range of jobs out there.

BBC Bitsize: [Careers - BBC Bitesize](#)

Lots of useful information on different career pathways and the qualifications you need to follow them.

NHS Careers: <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/>

The NHS is one the largest employers both locally in Redhill and Nationally. Find out about the wide range of careers available using this website.

Apprenticeships: <http://www.apprenticeships.org.uk/> [The Apprenticeship Guide](#)

An apprenticeship offers a mixture of on and off the job training that gives you the skills needed to get ahead in your chosen career. Apprenticeships can be a wide range of employment areas. It is the responsibility of the student to find an employer willing to offer an apprenticeship, but school and college careers departments can provide assistance with this. Opportunities often do not become available until after April, so it is a good idea to apply for a place at college as well to make sure that you have a back-up option.

Further education colleges often offer Traineeships which are designed to provide further qualifications, confidence and work-related skills for those wishing to start an apprenticeship. They offer this programme at East Surrey College and it is a really good starting point.