



**WORK HARD
BE RESPECTFUL
TAKE RESPONSIBILITY**

BEDFORD HIGH SCHOOL
A Specialist Business and Enterprise College
with Applied Learning
Headteacher: Mr P McCaffery

Dear Parent/Carer,

Our Path to Post-16 Programme is now underway in Year 11 and provides a comprehensive package of careers education, information, advice and guidance for all pupils. The programme is designed to support pupils in making informed decisions about their future and to help them successfully transition to their chosen Post-16 pathway.

Throughout Year 11, every pupil will have a one-to-one Careers Appointment with myself. These appointments provide personalised advice, guidance and support as students begin to explore their options and consider potential career pathways. During these appointments, we will work towards creating an Action Plan to guide the pupils next steps. Please see the attached document for further information about what to expect from the Careers Appointment.

I will be meeting with pupils for one-to-one guidance appointments throughout the year, but if you would like your son/daughter to have an earlier careers appointment please the school careers email inbox careers@bedford.wigan.sch.uk or email t.oleiski@bedford.wigan.sch.uk or T.OLeiski@wigan.gov.uk my Wigan Council email.

College Open Events

A number of college open events will take place throughout the Autumn Term. We encourage parents/carers to attend these events with their child and book places directly through the relevant college websites. These open evenings build on the college taster days students attended with school during the Summer Term and provide valuable insight into courses, application processes and entry requirements. A list of local college open events is attached. Please be aware that places can fill quickly, so early booking is recommended.

Colleges offer a wide range of Post-16 opportunities, including:

- A Levels
- T Levels
- Vocational Qualifications
- Apprenticeships

Each pathway has its own entry requirements and progression routes. These events provide an excellent opportunity for students and families to learn more about the available options.

Bedford High School, Manchester Road, Leigh, WN7 2LU. Tel: 01942 909 009
enquiries@bedford.wigan.sch.uk www.bedfordhighschool.co.uk [@BedfordHighSch](https://twitter.com/BedfordHighSch) [@Bedford High School Live](https://www.facebook.com/BedfordHighSchoolLive)





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College Applications

Year 11 pupils are encouraged to complete their college applications by the end of December to ensure all deadlines are met. Application forms can be accessed through individual college websites. We strongly advise students to apply to at least two colleges, even if they intend to pursue an apprenticeship, as this provides a suitable back-up option should their plans change.

Apprenticeships

For those Yr 11 pupils who are looking for apprenticeship to start July 2027 onwards these pupils are encouraged to register on the National Apprenticeship website / download the app so they can start to look for suitable opportunities. Careers appointments can support pupils to identify suitable job openings with job-searching activities.

Post-16 Participation

It is important to note that all young people aged 16 to 18 must continue in education or training. The main Post-16 pathways include:

- Full-time education at a school sixth form, college or training provider
- An apprenticeship
- Part-time education or training alongside at least 20 hours per week of employment or volunteering

Please find attached a guide from Wigan Council which provides further information about Post-16 pathways.

I look forward to working in partnership with you throughout Year 11 to support your child in making informed decisions about their future and achieving a successful transition into Post-16 education, employment or training.

Yours sincerely,

Theresa O'Leiski

Careers Adviser
Aspiring Futures

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