

October 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

### Year 11 post-16 applications and pathways

I enclose information about our local post-16 providers, their entry requirements and their application deadlines, where available. In many cases, applications will be open longer for external applicants (i.e. Goldington students). The exception is Kimberley College which is very popular and over-subscribed, so I would recommend students wishing to apply do so online as soon as possible by their November deadline.

Students will be given their GCSE target grade information on 10 November – these are the grades they should include on their post-16 application forms.

All applicants will be asked to provide a standard reference from the school. Students' form tutors will be writing the references, using information gathered from all aspects of school life (punctuality, attendance, extra-curricular activities, attainment) and students will be completing a form outlining further information about their interests and post-16 pathways during Life Skills lessons to help with the reference process.

Students will usually be required to write a personal statement as part of their application. These skills were covered during the summer term of Year 10 during the Life Skills module, together with interview techniques, personal branding and writing a CV. There is also valuable information and guidance available for students and parents via the Careers section of our school website, and for students on the Unifrog careers platform and the Barclays Life Skills website.

It should be noted that students do not need to finalise their choice of place for September 2022 until their GCSE results day and can therefore apply for as many places as they would like to.

Upcoming virtual open days/evenings will continue to be shared via our social media sites, Show My Homework, and the daily tutor time bulletin.

Our careers advisor, Faye Gadsby, is in school every Thursday and students can request an appointment or lunchtime drop-in session via their form tutor or myself.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you require further information ([sacren@goldington.beds.sch.uk](mailto:sacren@goldington.beds.sch.uk))

Yours sincerely

*N Sacre*

**Mrs N Sacre**  
Careers Leader and Leader of Life Skills  
[www.goldington.beds.sch.uk/careers](http://www.goldington.beds.sch.uk/careers)

## Class of 2022

You have to be in some form of recognised study or training until your 18th birthday – you can do Apprenticeships and Traineeships, for example, but couldn't go straight into a full-time job.

You will have plenty of options to choose from when it comes to education, training or entering the world of work after you get your GCSE results.

- Vocational qualifications
  - GCSEs don't have to lead to A Levels. You might find that vocational qualifications like BTECs and T-levels are a better option because they're a practical springboard into a career that involves hands-on learning.
- A Levels
  - You can check with your several local sixth forms and colleges to find out what's involved in studying A Levels.
- Apprenticeships
  - Apprenticeships are a way to combine earning a salary, building experience and learning to gain a qualification.

Provider	Address	Phone number	Website	Entry Requirements
Bedford Academy	Mile Road Bedford MK42 9TR	01234 301500	<a href="https://www.bedfordacademy.co.uk/sixth-form/6.html">https://www.bedfordacademy.co.uk/sixth-form/6.html</a>	<b>Open evening – Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2021</b>  Five level 2 qualifications at a grade 4 or above. This must include at least 3 GCSE qualifications and English or Maths. For A Level subjects, a grade 6 is required in that subject (or a facilitating subject) at GCSE. For BTEC subjects, a Merit in that subject (or a facilitating subject) is required at Level 2.
Biddenham International School and Sports College	Biddenham Turn, Biddenham. MK40 4AZ	01234 342521	<a href="https://www.biddenham.beds.sch.uk/sixth-form/">https://www.biddenham.beds.sch.uk/sixth-form/</a>	Level 3 courses – 5 GCSEs inc. Eng Language & Maths Level 2 courses – 6 GCSEs at Grade 3 or above inc. English & Maths Higher grade requirements for specific subjects
Kimberley Sixth Form College	Green Lane, Stewartby, Beds. MK43 9LY	01234 762890	<a href="https://www.kimberleycollege.co.uk/">https://www.kimberleycollege.co.uk/</a>	<b>Open evening – Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2021</b>  7 GCSEs at Grade 4 or above (ideally including English Language & Maths) Higher grade requirements for specific subjects
Mark Rutherford School	Wentworth Drive, Bedford. MK41 8PX	01234 290200	<a href="http://www.markrutherford.beds.sch.uk/information_6thform.asp">http://www.markrutherford.beds.sch.uk/information_6thform.asp</a>	7 GCSEs at Grade 4 or above including English & Maths Higher grade requirements for specific subjects
Sharnbrook Academy Sixth Form	Odell Road, Sharnbrook, Bedford. MK44 1LE	01234 782191	<a href="https://www.sharnbrook.beds.sch.uk/sixth-form/">https://www.sharnbrook.beds.sch.uk/sixth-form/</a>	5 GCSEs at Grade 4 or above inc. English Language & Maths Higher grade requirements for specific subjects (only 2 BTECs can be counted for those wishing to study A Levels)

St Thomas More Sixth Form	Tyne Crescent, Bedford. MK41 7UL	01234 400222	<a href="https://www.st-thomasmore.org.uk/6thform">https://www.st-thomasmore.org.uk/6thform</a>	3 GCSEs at Grade 6 for A Levels or 3 BTECs at Merit for BTEC Level 3 Min. Grade 4 in English for subjects not previously studied Higher grade requirements for specific subjects
The Bedford Sixth Form	Bromham Road, Bedford. MK40 2BS	01234 291291	<a href="https://www.bedfordsixthform.ac.uk/">https://www.bedfordsixthform.ac.uk/</a>	<b>Open evening – Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> October (more dates to follow)</b>  5 GCSEs at Grade 4 or above including English Language Higher grade requirements for specific subjects Grade 3 or above in Maths Only 1 BTEC can be counted which must be at Merit or above
Samuel Whitbread Academy	Samuel Whitbread Academy, Shefford Road, Clifton, Shefford, Bedfordshire, SG17 5QS	01462 629900	<a href="http://www.samuelwhitbread.org.uk">www.samuelwhitbread.org.uk</a>	Five grade 5 minimum to study all A level courses. Five grade 5 minimum to study a combination of A level courses and vocational courses (BTEC's and applied L3 courses). Six Grade 4 to study all Level 3 BTEC/applied courses. Each subject has their own entry requirement and Average Point Score (APS) linked to them for guidance (see handbook).
Bedford College	Cauldwell Street, Bedford. MK42 9AH	01234 291000	<a href="https://www.bedford.ac.uk/">https://www.bedford.ac.uk/</a> <a href="https://bedfordcollegegroupopendays.co.uk/">https://bedfordcollegegroupopendays.co.uk/</a>	<b>Open events – Bedford College Campus 9<sup>th</sup> November, Tresham College Campus Corby – 16<sup>th</sup> November, Tresham College Wellingborough 23<sup>rd</sup> November and Tresham College Kettering 24<sup>th</sup> November.</b> Level 1 – normally 3 GCSEs at Grade 1 or above. Level 2 – normally 3 GCSEs at Grade 3 or above. Level 3 – normally 4/5 GCSEs at Grade 4 or above including English (and sometimes Maths)  Foundation Learning – This programme is designed to support young people with identified learning difficulties and / or disabilities. There are no minimum grade requirements.
Moulton College	West Street, Moulton, Northampton. NN3 7RR	01604 491131	<a href="https://www.moulton.ac.uk/">https://www.moulton.ac.uk/</a>	<b>Open event - Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> October</b>  Please see website for specific course requirements
Milton Keynes College	Woughton Campus West, Chaffron Way, Leadenhall, Milton Keynes. MK6 5LP	01908 684551	<a href="https://www.mkcollege.ac.uk/">https://www.mkcollege.ac.uk/</a>	Please see website for specific course requirements
Shuttleworth College	Old Warden Park, Biggleswade. SG18 9DX	01767 626222	<a href="https://www.shuttleworth.ac.uk/">https://www.shuttleworth.ac.uk/</a>	<b>Open event - 13<sup>th</sup> November 9.30 – 12pm.</b>  Level 1 – normally 3 GCSEs at Grade 1 or above Level 2 – normally 3 GCSEs at Grade 3 or above Level 3 – normally 4/5 GCSEs at Grade 4 or above including English (and sometimes Maths)

SSG training	SSG Services Alexander Sports Centre, Sidney Rd, Bedford MK40 2BQ	01234 340782	<a href="https://ssgservices.co.uk/education-and-training/ssg-post-16-4d-teaching-learning/">https://ssgservices.co.uk/education-and-training/ssg-post-16-4d-teaching-learning/</a>	<b>Open evening – Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021</b> Various courses including apprenticeships. Check website for specific courses and requirements
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*Note – correct at the time of writing, but requirements may change. Always check the provider’s website or contact them directly for up-to-date information in the autumn term*

*If none of the above appeal to you in any way, don’t worry. Here are some phone numbers and websites you can use to speak to a professional careers adviser who will help and support your situation as best they can.*

Provider	Phone number	Website
National Careers Service	0800 100 900	<a href="https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/webchat/chat">https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/webchat/chat</a> <a href="https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/">https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/</a>  Text your name and the word ADVICE to 07766 413219 and an adviser will call you back for free. You can also use this text number to ask for information like telephone numbers and addresses.
Bedford Borough Council	01234 223510	<a href="https://www.bedford.gov.uk/jobs-and-careers/jobs-hub/careers-advice-and-guidance/">https://www.bedford.gov.uk/jobs-and-careers/jobs-hub/careers-advice-and-guidance/</a> <b>Faye Gadsby – Careers Advisor for Goldington Academy – 01234 276107</b>
Bedford College	01234 291943	<a href="https://www.bedford.ac.uk/student-support/careers-advice">https://www.bedford.ac.uk/student-support/careers-advice</a>