



08 December 2022

Dear Year 11 Students, Parents & Carers,

RE: College Applications Reminder & Exams Update

With the end of term rapidly approaching I am writing to remind you about college application deadlines, where to find useful information to help with your applications, and to provide an update regarding Maths, Science & MFL exams in 2023.

Published College deadlines are:

- Queen Mary's College – 09 December 2022
- Peter Symonds College – 12 December 2022 at 4pm
- Andover College – recommended by 30 December 2022
- Sparsholt College – recommended by 30 December 2022
- BCoT – 31 December 2022
- Bishop Wordsworth – 06 February 2023 at 4pm

I recommend that students apply to more than one college so that they have a backup option. Students should attend all interviews, open events, and welcome days; talk to college tutors and admission teams and wait to make a final decision about accepting offers until when you have your GCSE results in August.

It is important that college applications are submitted on time. For those colleges that have application deadlines in 2023, we would still recommend that applications are completed before the end of December so that students can concentrate on GCSE preparation in the New Year.

In addition to the support students have been provided during tutor and Personal Development lessons, advice on how to write Personal Statements and other Careers related information can be found on Unifrog and within the careers section of SharePoint.

We are pleased to inform you that EBP South have now recruited additional staff and are able to recommence careers guidance interviews. The careers advisors will continue to work through interviews with all Year 11 students. Appointments will be issued in due course to those students who are yet to have had their careers guidance interview.

In October of this year, Ofqual held consultations regarding the examination of Maths, Science & MFL in 2023. The outcomes of both consultations have now been published by the Department for Education:

- **Maths & Science:** *In 2023, students are not required to memorise formulae for GCSE Mathematics and equations for GCSE Physics and Combined Science. This reflects their responsibility for GCSE subject content, and was a change that was also made for exams that took place in 2022.*
- **MFL:** *Ofqual will remove the specific requirement in place before the pandemic for the assessments to use vocabulary that is not on the vocabulary lists. The exam boards can now give the meaning of (gloss) unfamiliar vocabulary, if they consider this necessary.*

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Mr Jon Beck BSc (Hons), NPQH, Headteacher, Testbourne Community School
01256 892061 • admin@testbourne.school • www.testbourne.school





Thank you to all those who responded to the Ofqual consultations.

Exam dates for the summer 2023 examination series have now been confirmed by the exam boards. A copy of the overall exams timetable is included with this letter and has been uploaded to the school website. Students will receive individual exam timetables in the spring term. Please note that 28 June 2023 has been designated as a 'contingency day' for the summer examinations series; candidates must remain available on this date should an awarding body need to invoke its contingency plan.

If you have any queries regarding college applications or examinations, please do speak to your tutor or the Exams Officer, Mr Ryan.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Richard Wilson'.

Dr Richard Wilson
Assistant Headteacher

If, at any time, you should require special arrangements to be made when visiting the school and/or in order to participate fully in supporting your child at school (e.g. an accessible venue for meetings, if you are a wheelchair user, assistance with translation of documents or enlarged copies of communications etc.), please do not hesitate to let us know.