Weekly Careers Bulletin

WB: 11th Oct

Applying to College





- Now is the time to start thinking about applying to colleges.
- Remember you need to apply to at least two colleges before Christmas.
- The Wigan council website has some really useful information and links about this process https://www.wigan.gov.uk/LINC2/Survival-Guide/Education-and-work/Applying-for-College.aspx
- Take a look at this PPT for more information.



Your application

- You can apply for college courses through the college's website and fill out an online application form. They are simple and easy to do, but if you are struggling ask your Form tutor or Careers Advisor (Mrs O'Hara-Moore) for help.
- College applications usually have to be submitted by January at the latest, but each college is different. Make sure you know when your colleges deadline is and make a note of it. At Lowton C of E High School you are required to apply to at least 2 colleges before Christmas.
- Once your application has been accepted, the college will invite you to go to an interview where they will ask you a few questions about yourself, why you would like to go to their college and tell you a bit more about the college and the course you want to join.
- From there, they may make you an offer to join the course depending on the grades you get in your GCSE's.
- Remember: Don't panic about your college application, you will be given lots of help and guidance in your Careers sessions in school and your Careers Advisor is also available each Monday in the library.

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Here are 4 steps to help you apply for college:



1. Choose two Colleges that appeal to you

- To choose your college, make a list of all colleges that offer courses in an area that interests you and research their course structure and modules, visit open days, look at prospectuses etc.
- From there you can filter out a shorter list of colleges that would match your interests and needs.
- Remember we are submitting at least TWO college applications before Christmas.
- You need to start this process now before application deadlines begin in January.



2. Check that you are able to meet the entry requirements

- After you have decided on the college and program you want to study, you must now see what the requirements are to apply for a place at that college.
- To do this, you must visit their website and check their application requirements section.
- Most colleges ask you to submit your 'predicted grades' for each subject. At Lowton C of E High School we do not issue predicted grades. Instead you should use a combination of your FFT20 target grades and your Current Working Grades (which are reported home).
- Mr Larkin will write to parents/carers regarding this process shortly.
- All College Assemblies that have been shared with you over recent weeks will soon be available to view under the 'Careers and Enrichment' section of the school website.



3. Apply

- We will spend some time on Enrichment day 1 (23rd November) completing an application workshop with the help of our school careers advisor.
- Some of you have already started (and in some cases, completed) this process at home.
- Before clicking that 'submit' button, you must proof read your application paperwork to see if there is something accidentally missing or wrong with your form.
- You could ask an older brother or sister, parent/carer, form tutor or our schools careers advisor to help you with this step of the process.
- When all of the above is done you're ready to submit your application.

4. Wait for the Acknowledgement email or letter

- Usually, when your chosen college receives your application they will send you an email or letter to confirm it.
- If your application is successful at this stage, you will probably be invited into college for an interview or discussion with a member from the admissions team.
- If your interview goes well, the admissions team may make you a provisional offer of a place at the college dependant on you meeting the entry requirements necessary for the course.

Useful links

- Wigan Council: https://www.wigan.gov.uk/LINC2/Survival-Guide/Education-and-work/Applying-for-College.aspx
- Travel: https://ourpass.co.uk/
- <u>Disability support: https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Resident/Education/Special-Educational-Needs-and-Disability/Local-Offer/Young-Person/Post-16-transition/Colleges-and-sixth-forms.aspx</u>
- Financial support for students with a disability:

 https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Resident/Education/Special-Educational-Needs-and-Disability/Local-Offer/Parent/Finance/index.aspx



If interested, you MUST register for this event by clicking this

link https://wiganleigh.onlineopendays.com/schedule/