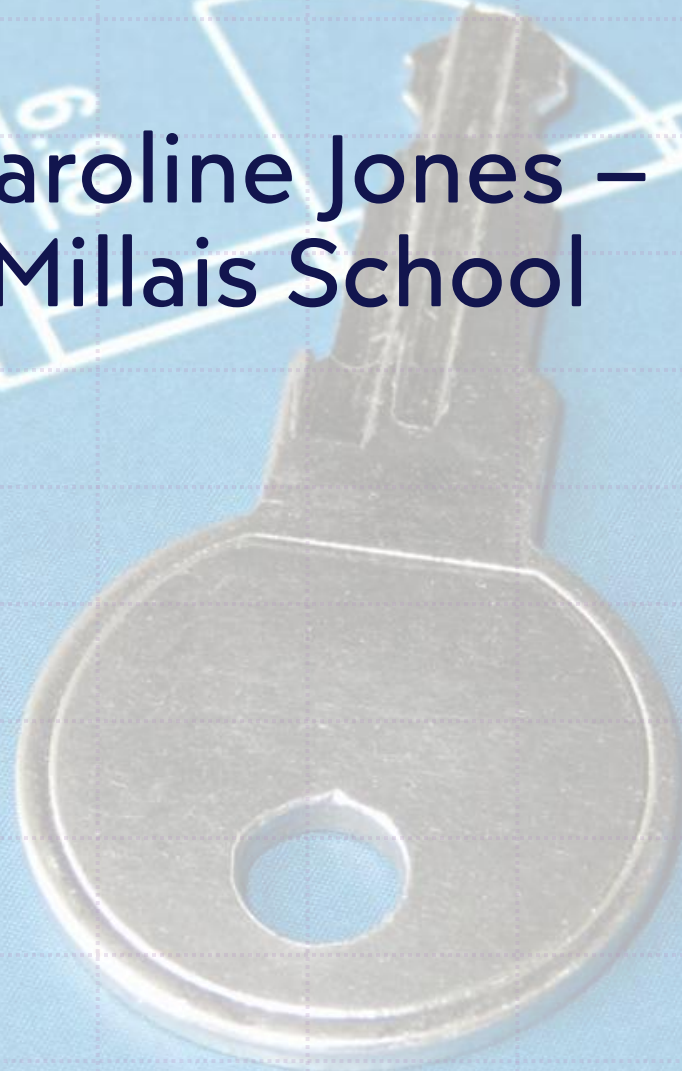


# Post 16 – Key Information

Caroline Jones –  
Millais School



# The Law – Applies to ALL students

It is compulsory for young people to be in education or training until the age of 18.

**Important Information:** Introduced in 2014, the government's resits policy forces students who have not achieved a grade 4 pass in English and/or Maths GCSE by age 16 to continue to work towards achieving these qualifications as a condition of their places being funded.

Students who achieve a grade 3 must retake their GCSE, while students with a grade 2 or below can either take a functional skills level 2 or resit their GCSE.

**By the September after Year 11**, young people **will need to be in official education or training**.

**These are your options:**

- stay in **full-time education**, e.g. at a college, doing A Levels, T Levels or other academic qualifications
- start an **apprenticeship**
- work or **volunteer for 20 hours** or more a week **while in part-time education or training**.

# Before we start.....

Year 11 courses (GCSES / Cambridge Nationals etc.) are Level 2 courses.

Post 16.....

Many students wish to study, and are ready for, Level 3 courses

Some students need more time to be ready for Level 3 courses and will take a Transition / Foundation Year

Some students will take a more vocational route

Apprenticeships / Diplomas / NVQs / BTECs

These may be Level 1 / 2 or 3 depending on course selection

# What should I do?

This really depends on your learner profile and life ambitions:

How do I learn best / what do I enjoy / what grades do I think I will achieve?

What do I really want to do Post 18? Further study? World of Work?

Please don't panic if you don't know the answers to these questions yet - but it is important to start asking yourself these questions!

Be ambitious for yourself - but also realistic.

If you are worried that you may not make the entry requirements for a specific course or college - you can still apply! Just make sure you have a Plan B you are happy with. This may mean applying to more than one establishment.

# What pathways are there?

Most Sixth Form Providers (Sixth Form Colleges / School Sixth Forms) will accept a student to study Level 3 courses if:

- they have a minimum 5 GCSES / an average point score of 4 or 5 (depending on the Post 16 Provider / Level 3 course).
- they have a grade 4 in English Language and Maths.
- they fulfil the specific entry requirements for the desired course.

A- Levels  
(Level 3)

BTECs  
(Level 3)

T- Levels (equivalent  
to 3 level 3 courses)

A range of these Level 3 courses are offered at School Sixth Forms / Collyer's / Chichester College Group (Hayward's Heath / Crawley etc.)



# What pathways are there?

There are other routes available for those:

- who need more time to achieve a 4 or above in Maths and English
- who wish to choose a more vocational route Post 16

Transition / Foundation Year  
– a mix of GCSEs / BTECs  
(Level 2)

BTECs / NVQs /  
Diplomas  
(Level 1 and above)

Apprenticeships – level  
entry depending on  
experience / industry  
area

Both Collyer's and The Weald  
offer a Year 12 Transition /  
Foundation Year.  
This is to be chosen if a student  
wishes to progress to Level 3  
courses for Year 13 and 14.

A range of these Level 1-3 courses are offered more  
typically at colleges such as Plumpton and the  
Chichester College Group (Hayward's Heath / Crawley /  
Brinsbury / Brighton MET etc.)

# Examples of Entry Requirements

(2024)

## The Weald

The GCSE requirements for Level 3 study are:

- 6 GCSEs at Grade 4 or above (including at least one of Maths or English).

OR

- 5 GCSEs with an average point score of 4.5 (including at least one of Maths or English).

### OUR LEVEL 2 TRANSITION PATHWAY

This pathway will be considered for students who achieve an Average GCSE point score of 3 or more across a minimum of 5 subjects, and also for those who need to resit both Maths and English Language GCSE.

- The subjects studied on this pathway are Business (Level 2 Cambridge Technical Certificate)
- Travel and Tourism (Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award)
- Maths and/or English Language GCSE resit

Maths and/or English Language GCSE resit If completed successfully, this pathway could provide the opportunity for students to progress to a standard 2 year Level 3 program of study, subject to both the general and subject specific entry requirements. Our Level 2 courses are the same qualification level and/or difficulty level as GCSEs, and Further Education providers may welcome them in lieu of GCSEs.

## Collyer's

Study Type	Academic	Mixed	Vocational	Technical	Foundation
Qualification	A Levels	A Level(s) + single or double BTEC	BTEC(s)	T Level	BTECs (Level 2) + GCSE English and/or GCSE Maths + additional supporting content
Length	2 Years	2 Years	2 Years	2 Years	1 Year
*GCSE average needed for entry	5-9	4-9	4-9	4-9	3-4
Main assessment	Exams	Exams/ Coursework	Exams/ Coursework	Exams/ Coursework/Project	Exams/Coursework
Progression	Degree (University) Higher Level Apprenticeship Employment			Technical Degree (University) Degree Apprenticeship Technical Employment	Mixed, Vocational or Technical programme at Collyer's

Please note that for students to access the Foundation level at Collyer's – they must have an average of a grade 3 and at least one GCSE at a pass 4.

# Examples of Entry Requirements

## Haywards Heath

### **Who can apply?**

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You need a minimum of five GCSEs at 9-4, including grade 4 in English Language and Maths.

Politics A Level

### **Who can apply?**

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You need a minimum of five GCSEs at 9-4, including grade 5 in English Language and grade 4 in Maths.

History A Level



# Examples of Entry Requirements

## Introduction to Health, Social Care & Children's and Young People's Settings Diploma – CACHE – Level 1

Childcare and Early Years

- 📍 Crawley
- 🕒 1 Year
- 🎓 1
- 👤 Full Time

[VIEW COURSE](#)

## Support Work In Schools Award – CACHE – Level 2

Childcare and Early Years

- 📍 Crawley
- 🕒 22 Weeks
- 🎓 2
- 👤 Part Time

[VIEW COURSE](#)

## T Level in Education and Childcare

Childcare and Early Years

- 📍 Crawley
- 🕒 2 Years
- 🎓 3
- 👤 Full Time

[VIEW COURSE](#)

## T Level Foundation Year in Education and Childcare

Childcare and Early Years

- 📍 Crawley
- 🕒 1 Year
- 🎓 3
- 👤 Full Time

[VIEW COURSE](#)

## Health & Social Care & Childcare Introduction Certificate – Entry Level

Childcare and Early Years

- 📍 Crawley
- 🕒 1 Year
- 🎓 E
- 👤 Full Time

[VIEW COURSE](#)

### Who can apply?

You will need to show a keen interest in the subject of Health and Early years.

### Who can apply?

This course is suitable for those who are looking to take the first steps towards a career as a teaching assistant. It is an introduction to the knowledge and understanding needed to work in a school or college environment. You will need to have Functional Skills English at Level 1

### Who can apply?

Entry requirements are 5 GCSEs grade 4-9 (or A\*-C) including English Language and Mathematics. Previous work experience with children will support your application. A satisfactory reference and a clear DBS check

# A- Levels

## Post 16 Options: A Levels

You can choose subjects you took at GCSE to study in more depth, or pick subjects you may not have done before e.g. economics, law or psychology. You could take 3 very different subjects you are interested in to keep your career options open, or choose more closely related subjects if you need them for a specific career.

Duration: 2 years

Assessment: Mostly exams at the end of the course

Level of study: 3

Entry requirements: Typically, 5 GCSEs grade 9-4 (usually including English and maths)

Leads to: University or college courses, higher and degree apprenticeships, employment

# BTECs

## Post 16 Option : BTECs

These courses teach you the practical skills and knowledge for a particular area of employment.

They can prepare you for a broad employment sector, like engineering or travel and tourism, or for a specific job like a chef or a hairdresser.

Qualifications which teach you how to do tasks specifically related to the industry and role you want to be involved in.

Duration: 1 year or more

Assessment: Can include coursework, skills tests and exams

Level of Study: 1,2 or 3

Entry Requirements: Course dependent. If you do not get a place on a Level 3 course, you will be offered a place on the same course but at Level 2.



If a student does not achieve the grades needed to access Level 3 BTECs - there are some Level 2 BTECs available in most establishments

Leads to: Apprenticeship, employment, college or university

# T Levels

## Post 16 Option : T Levels



Designed in partnership with employers to give you the skills and knowledge to progress in the workplace.

You'll combine classroom learning with real work placements which will last at least 45 days. One T Level is the equivalent of 3 A levels.

Leads to: Employment, higher and degree apprenticeships, college and university courses

Duration: 2 years

Assessment: Exams, projects and practical assignments

Level of Study: 3

Entry Requirements: Course dependent

One T Level is equivalent to three Level 3 courses of study. It is a course designed to give work experience, whilst not being an apprenticeship.

# Apprenticeships

## Post 16 Option : Apprenticeships



Intermediate, advanced higher and degree apprenticeships combine practical on-the-job skills training with off-the-job learning.

You'll get training that is relevant to your job and be paid a salary. Start at a level to suit you, with support if you have special needs or a disability.

You'll spend 80% of your time in the workplace and 20% off-the-job with some study in a college, training centre or Institute of Technology (IoT).

**Duration:** A minimum of 1 year

**Assessment:** Can include coursework, skills tests and observations in the workplace

**Level of Study:** Will be dependent on the industry, job role and apprenticeship level

**Entry Requirements:** Typically, 5 GCSEs Grade 9-4 (usually including English and maths)

Apprenticeships need to be sought by the child with the support of the family. Millais has brought into an Apprenticeship awareness programme - please sign up if you wish to access the Apprenticeship webinars.

Leads to: Employment, next level of apprenticeship, further education, higher education, not university



Locally (and slightly further afield), we have a number of School Sixth Forms - both state funded and private.

The Weald  
St. Wilfrid's  
Hazelwick  
Holy Trinity  
St. Paul's

Burgess Hill  
Girls' School  
Farlington  
Christ's  
Hospital  
Worth  
Hurts  
Lancing

# Where can I study these courses?

Sixth Form



These are usually attached to your school or another local school in your area. They usually do A Level courses with a few BTEC courses.

College



There will be one or two local colleges in your area. They will offer A Levels, T Level and BTEC courses.

Apprenticeship Provider



Your local college is probably also your local apprenticeship training provider. You can find out more about apprenticeships on [www.amazingapprenticeships.com](http://www.amazingapprenticeships.com)

We have a number of colleges

Collyer's  
Plumpton  
Brinsbury  
Crawley  
Worthing  
Chichester  
Brighton Met  
Haywards  
Heath  
Northbrook

For Apprenticeships - it is worth popping into local work establishments to see if they offer apprenticeships / seek help at a college provider.

# What can I do to help myself now?

Where should I go?  What course should I do?

Start exploring the different Post 16 Providers:

Look at all Post 16 Providers' websites  
Prospectus - courses / entry requirements  
Talk to people who are attending already  
Attend Open Evenings

Can I see myself here?  
Can I get myself here?  
Do they offer the course/s I want?  
Do they offer the support I need?

# Open Event Dates:

These have been collated and sent to parents / posted on the Student TEAMS page / displayed during tutor time.

Open Event dates are on the following slides – but also sit separately on a tab in the Post 16 area on the website: [Careers and Life Beyond Millais | Millais School](#)

N.B. - always check against the provider website as dates are subject to change by the Provider.

# Open Evening Dates

<b>Brinsbury College</b>	<b>Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2025 10:00am-1pm</b>
<b>Burgess Hill School for girls</b>	<b>Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2025 6.00pm - 8.00pm</b>
<b>Chichester College</b>	<b>Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2025 4.30 - 7.00pm</b> <b>Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> November 10.00am - 1.00pm</b>
<b>Christ Hospital School</b>	<b>Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2025 (morning)</b>
<b>Collyer's Sixth Form</b>	<b>Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> &amp; Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2025</b> <b>5.00 - 6.30pm / 6.30 - 8.00pm slots</b>
<b>Crawley College</b>	<b>Next Open Event is:</b> <b>Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2024, 4.30 – 7 pm</b> <b>Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2025, 4.30 - 7pm</b>

# Open Evening Dates

Greater Brighton Metropolitan College	Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> October 4.30- 7.00pm Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November 10.00am - 1.00pm
Haywards Heath College	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> October 2025 4.30-7pm
Hazelwick School	Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> October 2025 5.30 - 7.30pm
Holy Trinity School	
Hurstpierpoint College	Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2025 Book Open Mornings / personal tours through website
Oriel School	Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2025, time tbc
Plumpton College	Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup> October 2025 9.00am - 12.00pm



# Open Evening Dates

St Wilfrid's School	Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> November from 6.30pm
Steyping Grammar	Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> November 5.30 - 8.00pm
The Weald School	Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> October 2025, time tbc
Worthing College	Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> October 2025 4.30 - 7.00pm Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> October 2025 4.30 - 7.00pm Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> March 2026 tbc
Apprenticeships	We are exploring options for an Apprenticeship Workshop in February, hosted at Millais.  Please sign up for our Apprenticeship Webinars programme.

# How to apply

Check application deadlines for establishments. For example:

The Weald - - not published on website yet - but was the last day of term in 2024.  
Collyer's - Jan 9<sup>th</sup> 2026

Online applications.

If asked for a reference request email - please use **office@millais.org.uk**

Students need to be consistent with the set of data they use for their predicted grades. Colleges will receive their most recent set of PCTL / predicted f/p received in Year 10. Students should use one of these sets of data.

Students must choose a course / s but note that these are open to change.

# Application Process

1

Use the college or sixth form website to research courses you are interested in

2

Book a place on their open day to go and see if you like it

3

Use the college or sixth form website to complete an online application

4

They will then arrange a phone call interview with you to discuss what courses you have selected and why – they just want to make sure you have applied to the best courses for you, this is nothing to worry about

5

After you finish Year 11, you will come back into school in August to pick up your GCSE results. Once you have your results, you call the college or sixth form to confirm your place



You can apply to as many places as you like, you can have multiple offers, and decide on GCSE results day which one you want to go to



You have to do your own research and apply where is best for you, don't just apply to where your friends are going!



Don't leave your applications to the last minute as it can become stressful!

# Millais Support

- Year 11 Aspiration Interviews
- External Careers Advisor
- PD lessons – process / application form help
- Individual help with Mrs Jones
- Tutor time and Assemblies
- Tutor Chats
- Information on TEAMs / Parent Information Letters

# Year 11 info (assembly info.)

## Oct. - Dec. 2025 -

Apply to Post 16 establishments.

You will be required to write a personal statement for most establishments you apply for.

## Feb. - March 2025 - Post 16 interviews

Post 16 Providers will ask for:

- Year 11 PCTLs (autumn and winter)
- Year 11 mock results
- Attendance % - lessons attended AND am and pm registration
- Reference from the school - detail depends on the Provider. This may include: your strengths and areas for development / community involvement / character traits / commitment and behaviour for learning / conduct with staff

A side note -

As of now EVERYTHING is reflected in your reference.

AND...

After you have left Millais, employment establishments will contact us for a reference.