

# College Open Events

**Colleges offer a range of full-time qualifications/courses. But don't forget that many colleges also offer Apprenticeships, so make the most of finding out as much as you can about ALL options open to you when you attend a college event.**

**You can apply to any college – it doesn't have to be in your local area.**

- **Picking your post year 11 options can be difficult** – one of the best ways to find out if a college is the right choice for you is to attend open events
- **Don't delay** – go along to an open event as soon as possible. Some colleges will offer more than one open event, but others may only offer one or two – **don't miss out!**
- **Keep checking college websites** for updates on dates/times and how to register for events
- **Visit as many colleges as possible** – even if they offer the same courses – comparing colleges will help you to make a more informed choice about your next steps
- **Do your research** – have a look at the college websites before you attend an open event. Look at the online prospectus - what courses do they offer? What grades will you need? What else do they offer their students? This will help you to prepare for your visit. Think of questions you may want to ask.
- **Get Involved!** When you are at the college, there may be activities, information sessions, talks and tours – get involved to find out as much as you can.
- **Talk to the staff.** Staff at the college will be happy to answer any questions you have. You may also get the opportunity to speak to current students at the college who can tell you what college life is like and how different it is to school
- **Applications.** Find out about the application process and the **application deadline**. These vary from college to college.
- **After the event.** Take the time to think about the visit and any information you've gathered. Discuss it at home, and at school with careers staff and your teachers. **Ask if you have any questions.**
- **Keep your options open.** Remember that you should be applying to more than one college to keep your options open. Accept all offers you receive. You can decide later in Year 11 which one you would like to attend in September 2023.