

Going to College

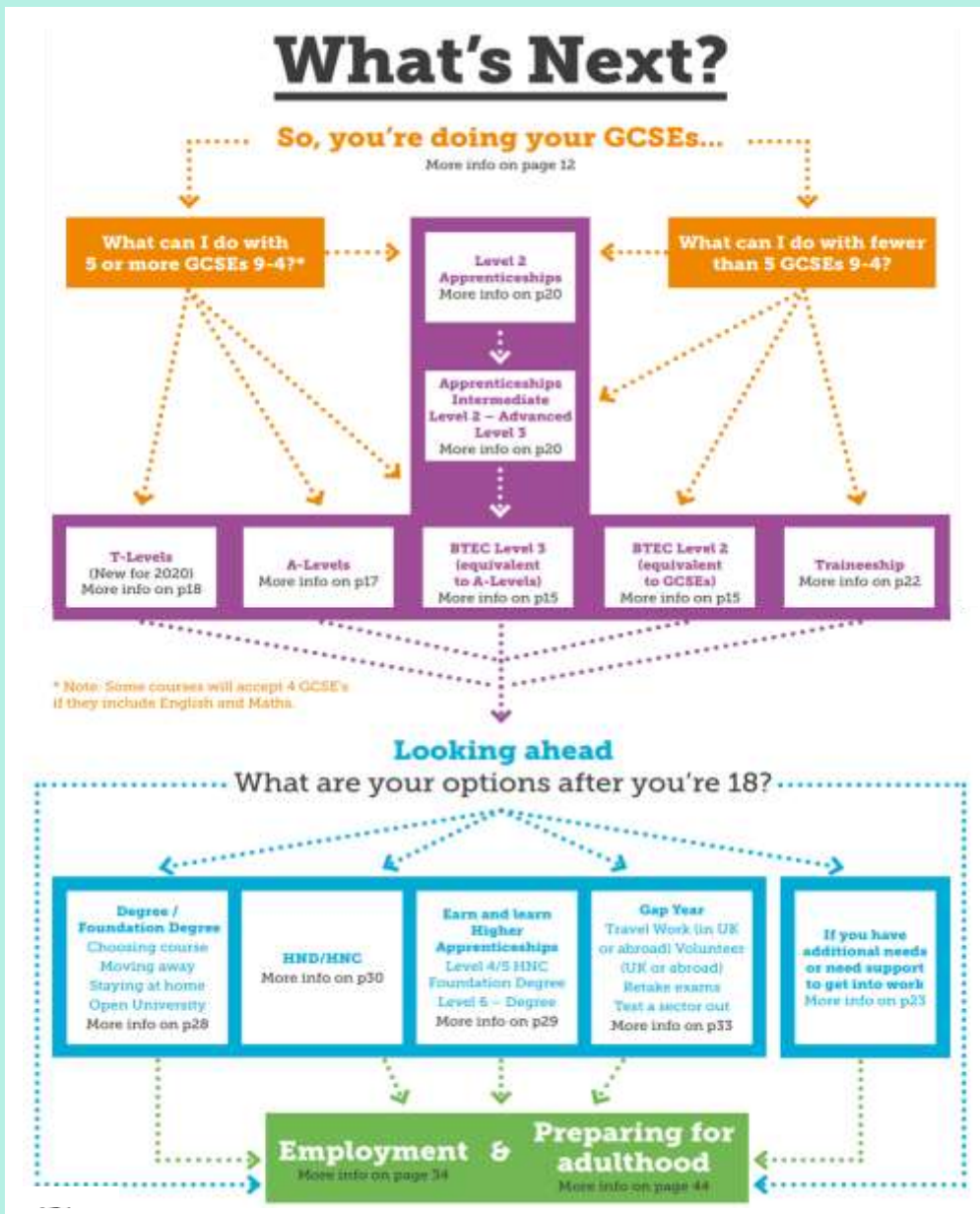
Your next steps- Information guide for Year 11 students and parents

This booklet has been created to help Year 11/ KS4 students and parents understand their next steps at the local colleges:

Cirencester College, Gloucestershire College, Hartpury College and South Gloucestershire & Stroud College (SGS).

We will explore the steps that are available for both those who have already applied and what to do if you have yet to apply to college. The last page will also provide a variety of useful links, for both the colleges and impartial websites to help with your research. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with any of the institutions using the details provided on the final page. You can also click the logos at the top of this page to go to each website.

We have also included more information about the routes after college, looking at the Higher Education / University options at **Gloucestershire College, Hartpury University, SGS Higher Education & University Centre and University of Gloucestershire.**



This helpful infographic* helps to illustrate your options after each step of the student journey.

Different schools, colleges and universities will be able to provide not only different courses, but also different types of qualification to suit your needs.

Different qualifications will suit different people- for example, for those who prefer to be hands on with their learning, **BTEC** qualifications, **T-Levels** or **Apprenticeships** may suit you best. However, if you prefer a more traditional, classroom-based style of learning, **A-Levels** may be your chosen route.



*This infographic and corresponding information can be found here:
https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/media/2093743/gcc_2782-whats-next-booklet-202021_dev2.pdf



Haven't applied yet?

Don't worry – we are still accepting applications across all of our courses – just go onto our website [Application Form : Full-Time Study – Cirencester College](#) and complete your details – you will need to have your predicted grades and choose what you would like to study. Once you have submitted your application you will receive a confirmation email and within a few days one of our Admissions team will call you and confirm your choices so that we can offer you a place to start with us in September.

Not sure what you want to study?

Take a look at our Courses Pages on our website – each one will tell you all about the course, what and how you will learn and what you can go on to do after college – you can even search for relevant careers using the Pathfinder software. You can choose a combination of vocational and academic subjects and we have plenty of options for courses which you may not have studied before like Criminology, Media Production and Environmental Science.

Want to visit before you decide?

We have an Open Evening planned for 30th June and you can book your place on that here: [June Open Evening – Cirencester College](#)
Or please contact schools.liaison@cirencester.ac.uk if you would like to make an appointment to visit the college and meet with one of our advisors.



Got your offer from Cirencester – now what?

After your call from the Admissions team, you will be emailed your offer, then go onto the Applicant Portal and accept it (don't worry – you can still change your mind about your courses)

Communications: We will send you regular updates both by email and by post.

Transport: All our bus services are run by Stagecoach and you can check your bus options and start saving for your season ticket
[Travelling To College – Cirencester College](#)

Enrolment at College: You will need to book your face to face enrolment appointment at the College – the appointments are available now and you can book one on your Applicant Portal. This is your chance to confirm your subject choices and ask questions about coming to college.

Flying Start/Summer Work: On the Applicant Portal you will find some Summer work for your courses. Doing this work will give you a great insight into the course you have chosen and will form part of your first grades when you start with us.

Results Day: Once you receive your results you will need to upload them onto the Applicant Portal as soon as possible. If you haven't met the course requirements - don't worry – come to your arranged enrolment appointment other course options then.

Monday 5th September 2022
Induction Day

Tuesday 6th September 2022
Lessons Start



Support at Cirencester College – what do I need to know?

Financial Support: We offer a very generous bursary scheme – see if you are eligible and apply here: [Financial Support – Cirencester College](#)

Learning Support: If you have been receiving some extra support at school or if you feel you would benefit from some additional support then please let us know as soon as possible. If you have already let us know about any support requirements then our academic support department will be in touch over the summer.

Pastoral Support: We have an experienced pastoral team available to offer you any additional support you would benefit from. You will also have a Tutor assigned to you who will be your first point of contact if you have any questions.





Haven't applied yet? Don't worry, feeling uncertain about all the possibilities is natural. We have many tips to help you make the best choice for you, speak with our Schools & Events Coordinator or our Careers Department to reflect on your choices.

Already applied? It's really important that you check your email for regular updates and advise us of any changes. As soon as we receive your application, we will confirm what we have received from you and tell you where to find more information about your applicant journey. Next, you will receive an offer for the course(s) you have applied for. Just follow any instructions included so you know exactly what you need to do to join your first choice. Following GCSE results, we will confirm what you need to do to enrol, including links to important information, key dates and everything you need so you are prepared for our online enrolment process.

What if I don't get the grades I need?
Don't panic and don't decline your course offer. We can change your course, but not your place in queue!

Still come to your enrolment date
We have lots of different levels and courses to offer you and will discuss your options at this stage.

Want to talk to someone?
Speak to our Admissions Team- we're here to help. If you have any questions, please do get in touch with our Admissions Team- 0345 155 2020 (option 3) - applications@gloscol.ac.uk

Let's do this- here's what to expect on your application journey!

3-5 days after application	Welcome to Gloucestershire College Once you have submitted your application we will send you an email and text message welcoming you to your application journey, as well as some information to dive right into!
10 days after application	We've got your application As soon as we receive your application, we will confirm what we have received from you and tell you where to find more information about your applicant journey.
2-4 weeks after application	Application Assessment We will complete a quick assessment of your application to make sure you have applied for something you are suitable to study. <i>We may need to contact you, so keep an eye out for any email or phone updates.</i>
2-4 weeks after offer	<p>Applicant Offers The important bit- we will send you an offer for the course(s) you have applied for. Once you receive your offer, read it carefully and follow any instructions included so you know exactly what you need to do to join your first choice course. All the terms, conditions and fine print you need to be aware of before joining GC.</p> <p>Advice and Guidance Information Overwhelmed by all the possibilities? We understand it is an important decision, so will send you some useful hints and tips to help you make the course choice that is right for you. You do not have to make the decision just yet but it is worth thinking about now!</p> <p>Course Fees and Financial Support Information Money matters- after your offer we will send you information about any course fees, including event and material costs. Depending on your course, you may also receive further information about kits and uniforms. Money worries? <i>Whatever your circumstances – we will do all that we can to support you through your studies</i> we will send information about whatever financial support is available and how to get in touch with our Student Support Team.</p>
6-8 weeks	Why GC? Want to know more about GC and why you will get a learning experience like no other? We will send you more information about campus life, our first class facilities and student success stories.
Dependant on application date	Learning Support Information Need some support? Have you had any additional support at school and want to know how we can support you on your course? We will send you information on how to get in touch with our Learning Support Team so you have made your decision.
Sent from June 2022	<p>First Choice Course Decision and Acceptance Time to confirm your first choice course- we will ask you to confirm your first choice course to us ready for enrolment. By accepting your first choice course, you confirm you understand the offer conditions and have made your decision.</p> <p>Online Enrolment Information You're nearly there- we will confirm what you need to do to enrol, including links to important information, key dates and everything you need so you are prepared for our online enrolment process.</p> <p>Online Enrolment Access and Reminders One last step ... you will receive all the information you need to access our online enrolment portal, as well as reminders as we approach enrolment to make sure you have completed everything required of you.</p> <p>Enrolment Its official- you are a student with GC! We will confirm your enrolment and give you your start date, timetable and joining information.</p>
Throughout the process	Keeping in touch Its really important that you let us know if anything has changed since making your application- especially your contact details, as we will be sending you communications all the time.

Please note that the applicant journey is a guide to what an applicant at GC can expect when applying to a full-time course and is subject to change. Application journeys may vary dependant on the date of the application submission, course type, as well as an applicant's personal circumstances.



Haven't applied yet?

If you haven't applied for a course at Hartpury, contact our admissions team as soon as possible and we will be happy to help with any questions you have about the application process.

Applied?

If you have applied, please keep an eye out on your emails for updates on your application and interview. All interviews will be completed over the phone. We aim to provide the results of the interview within two weeks, however for some of our courses, this may take a little longer, but you will be advised of this at interview stage. If you change any of your personal details at any stage, please get in touch with us as soon as possible.

Interested in playing sports?

You don't have to be a sports student to get involved with sports at Hartpury. You can play for fun with our Hartpury Active Project. If you're training at a high level and want to play competitively, you can apply to join one of our Sports Academies.

Learning and wellbeing support at Hartpury

At Hartpury, there's a network of support staff to ensure you make a smooth transition from school to college. Our Student Services and Wellbeing Teams are on hand to help with guidance and advice on everything from finance and accommodation, to health and wellbeing.

You may also need additional learning support to achieve your best. By working with you and your school, we can find out how best to support you and help your move from school to Hartpury College to be as smooth and easy as possible. You can find out more in our [Support Guide](#).



You will also have the opportunity to provide more information once you've received your offer- this will ensure that you are fully supported to start your course.

Once you've received an offer at Hartpury College, this is what happens next:

- Coming to Hartpury booklets-**
You'll receive two booklets in the post. The first includes important information about joining Hartpury. The second shows you exciting opportunities inside and outside your course.
- Accept your offer -**
It's important to accept your offer as soon as possible.
- Book your transport -**
If you live in the local area, make sure you book as soon as you can, so we can ensure you have a space. Visit www.hartpury.ac.uk/college-transport
- Apply for financial support -**
Check if you're eligible for our bursaries and scholarships and apply. Visit www.hartpury.ac.uk/college-finance
- June- Induction webinar -**
Once you have an offer, you'll be invited to a webinar for your course. You'll meet lecturers and classmates and find out more about your course.
- Mid-June- Your enrolment guide -**
You'll receive your guide in the post, which will include important information about your enrolment; what to do when you get your GCSE results, what happens at enrolment, kit lists and details of additional fees.
- Mid-July 2022 Enrolment details -**
We'll be in touch with more details about your enrolment, including the date and time for your course.
- 25 August 2022-**
GCSE results day. Once you have your results, you must let us know as soon as possible.
- 5-8 September 2022-**
Your enrolment on campus We'll send you updates in July and August.

What if I don't get the grades I need for my course?

If you don't think you have met the entry requirements, do get in touch with us and if we can offer you your course, or an alternative, we will let you know as soon as possible: admissions@hartpury.ac.uk





There is still time to apply at SGS College

SGS College offers a huge range of subjects at our purpose-built Stroud Campus, from Construction to Art, Healthcare to Hairdressing and Animal Science to Forensic and Criminal Investigation. See www.sgscol.ac.uk/study

Late applicants' advice and guidance post-GCSE results

For those students who have already applied and been accepted - enrolment forms will have been sent directly to students - there is no need for you to do anything more.

For those students who want to make a late application to SGS College - Stroud, you may do so online until Thursday 18 August, after this date **you must** book a face-to-face interview via the website.

Thursday 25 August – GCSE results day. Late applicant interviews begin.
(Results day phone line support: **0800 0567 253**).

The Application Process

Find out which course is right for you

- Look at the vocational, academic and apprenticeship options on our website prospectus www.sgscol.ac.uk/study

- Talk to a career's adviser, teachers, parents, apprenticeship experts, employers and friends

1. Complete your application form

- You can apply online – it is really easy, and you will get an immediate acknowledgement email
- You can also complete the application form and send it back to us – you can download this form online at www.sgscol.ac.uk/digital-resources#forms

2. Results Day (Thursday 25 August)

Congratulations! on GCSE results day you will receive a call from the department you applied to study with to confirm your place at SGS. If your grades are not what you expected, **please don't worry**. We will discuss options with you and ensure a suitable course is found.

3. Enrolment & Induction from 5 September

Welcome to SGS. All that is needed now is to complete your online enrolment and then follow an induction to introduce you to college life. Your first classes will start from this date. You are now part of our learning community at SGS. Good luck!



Going to University

Thinking about your options post-18



After finishing your Level 3 qualification(s), there are a variety of different routes you could take.

Depending on the type of employment you would like, you may have to take a specific route (for example, roles in medicine, veterinary and law will almost always require a university degree qualification).

It is worth looking at different employment options to ensure that you know which qualifications you will need.

At university, there is not just one route or one type of degree available. In fact, there are various different types, lengths and levels to choose from depending on your style of learning and the level of qualification needed for your chosen profession. Below, we have listed the main types of degrees available at UK Universities. On the following page you can find out more about the provisions in place after you are 18 at each of the listed establishments.

Bachelors Degrees
Bachelor of Science (BSc) or Bachelor of Arts (BA)
LEVEL 6 Qualification

- The most popular degree choice, normally taking three years to complete. The degrees are awarded as a BSc or BA, which simply denote the type of degree you have done (a BSc for example would be in a science related field of study, such as Biology, Chemistry and Physics)- it does not denote quality or level.
- Some Bachelor degrees will come with 'Honours'- although not a grade, it is a mark of quality, usually meaning that a student has completed a research project or a longer piece of academic work (such as a dissertation).

Work placement year

- Some courses may offer you the option to extend your course by a year by completing a year in industry (normally after your first or second year of the course). This means you can put what you have learnt into practice and will look great on your CV. Some courses may also have placements integrated throughout the course (for example, nursing or education courses), so it is worth reading course outlines when thinking about your next steps.

Foundation Degrees and top-ups
LEVEL 5 and LEVEL 6 Qualifications

- If you prefer a hands on approach and are looking for a vocational qualification to enter your chosen professions, a foundation degree may be the best course for you. These qualifications will normally see an increase in practical assessments and work placements.
- On completion of a foundation degree, you may have the option of completing a Level 6 top-up degree- this additional year will top up your degree to a full Bachelor's degree.

Foundation Years

- Foundation years are DIFFERENT to a Foundation degree. A Foundation year is for those who may not have the right qualifications to enter straight into a Bachelors degree or need this additional year to build upon any knowledge gaps. On successful completion, students can continue onto a Bachelors Degree.

HNC/HND
LEVEL 4 and LEVEL 5 Qualifications

- Higher National Certificates (HNCs) and Higher National Diplomas (HNDs) are vocational qualifications that are Level 4 and Level 5 qualifications respectively.

Higher and Degree Apprenticeships
LEVEL 4-7 Qualification

- Apprenticeships provide the opportunity to learn while working (and earning). For many Apprenticeships, you will be in college/ university for one day a week. Apprenticeship qualifications can be broken down as follows*:

Name	Level	Equivalent educational level
Intermediate	2	5 GCSE passes at grades 9-4
Advanced	3	2 A-Level passes
Higher	4,5,6 and 7	Foundation degree and above
Degree	6 and 7	Bachelors or Masters degree



Going to University

Thinking about your options post-18

UCAS – What are Tariff Points?

UCAS supports students with the admissions process for university and are the service that most students will use to apply to universities.

From: www.ucas.com - UCAS Tariff points provide a way for universities and colleges to draw comparisons between the wide range of qualifications they see on their applications. Being able to compare qualifications they are less familiar with against more common ones such as A levels encourages a fairer decision-making process when it comes to making offers.

Some universities and colleges also use UCAS points in their entry requirements and offers, so you may need to know how many points your qualifications are worth.

You can do this by using UCAS's tariff calculator:
www.ucas.com/ucas/tariff-calculator

UCAS

The following boxes highlight some of the post-18 options that are available to you locally. If you have any questions, please do contact any of the following establishments, or talk to your school/ college careers adviser.



Gloucestershire College

With a wide range of part-time and full-time professional courses, HNCs, HNDs, foundation degrees, degrees, and postgraduate qualifications at Gloucestershire College (GC), you can choose a pace of study to suit your lifestyle and career goals. You can still earn a degree-level course while you work, but if you're new to the workplace you'll gain that all important work experience at GC too.

For more information on our Higher Education course options, visit our website by clicking [here](#)

Alternatively attend one of our upcoming **University Level Open Events** in July. To sign up or for more information on the event, visit our website [here](#)



SGS Higher Education & University Centre

At **SGS Higher Education & University Centre** we offer a wide range of 2-year Foundation degrees and Bachelor degrees with honours. A full list is available here www.he.sgscol.ac.uk

Our [Student Support Services Team](#) offer tailored support to inform, assist and empower every student at our Centre.

For a second year in a row we are number one in Bristol and also placed third in the South West of England for student satisfaction (National Student Survey 2021).

Click www.he.sgscol.ac.uk/open-events for our next open event in June 2022



Hartpury University

At **Hartpury University**, we offer degrees under our five different subject areas- **Agriculture, Animal, Equine, Sport and Veterinary Nursing.**

Animal- Hartpury is home to over 70 species of animals including rodents, rabbits, meerkats and prairie dogs, wallabies, llamas, emus and rare bagot goats.

Agriculture- Our agriculture students have the opportunity to study on our onsite commercial farm which sells produce to Muller and M&S. We also home to cows, calves, sheep and arable land.

Equine- We have our equine centre and student livery, home to over 200 horses- you can bring your own horse with you or you can loan one out. Our facilities, include water treadmills, international indoor and outdoor arenas and rider performance centres.

Sport- sports students will benefit from our multi-million-pound sports academies, which include our biomechanics and human performance labs, a rehabilitation suite, medical and physiotherapy rooms.



University of Gloucestershire

There are more than 80 undergraduate courses for you to choose from, including foundation degrees, undergraduate honours degrees, sandwich degrees, fast-track degrees and Level 6 top-ups. All of our undergraduate degrees welcome applications from students with BTEC diploma qualifications and those with BTEC diploma qualifications held in combination with A-levels and other qualifications.

- **Explore our courses:** www.glos.ac.uk/study/undergraduate-degrees
- **Our digital prospectus:** www.glos.ac.uk/study/prospectus/undergraduate-prospectus

Undergraduate open days

Our open days will give you an opportunity to come onto campus and explore our facilities, teaching areas and accommodation. You'll get the chance to attend course talks and meet our lecturers, current students and support staff to find out more about us and answer any of your questions. If you're unable to make it to an Open Day, you're welcome to book a campus visit where we will have current students on hand to show you around the campus. Campus visits are smaller-scale events that last between 45 minutes and up to 2 hours; they always include a campus tour.

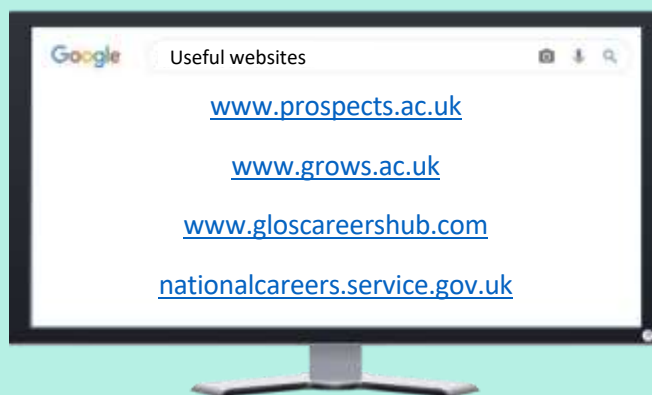
- **Book your place:** www.glos.ac.uk/visit-us/open-days/undergraduate-open-days
- **Virtual open day:** www.glos.ac.uk/virtual-open-days/undergraduate

Going to College

Your next steps and questions answered- useful websites

Going to college can feel like a big step, so it is important you look into all of your options and do your research. There are several websites where you can get brilliant and impartial information about college and your next steps, whether you are interested in academic or vocational qualifications.

Please see below for useful links from the individual colleges. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us or speak to your teachers/ career advisers at school.



Book onto our Open Day:

Our next open event is Thursday 30th June 5pm – 8pm

[June Open Evening – Cirencester College](#)

Guided Tours:

[Events | Cirencester College](#)

Guided tours are available after hours by appointment only

Contact Details:

Here are our contact details:

[Contact us – Cirencester College](#)

If you have any questions, please do get in touch with us: Schools.liaison@cirencester.ac.uk



Visit our website for more details, open events and campus tours: www.gloscol.ac.uk

Contact Details:

If you have any queries, please get in touch with our Student Support team:

info@gloscol.ac.uk or call 0345 155 2020

Schools Liaison:

Speak to our Schools & Events Coordinator- Georgina Merry

Email: Georgina.merry@gloscol.ac.uk



Book onto an open day:

www.hartpury.ac.uk/college/open-days

Our next open day for college will be Thursday 16th June.

Campus Tours:

www.hartpury.ac.uk/campus-tours

Campus tours will be running throughout summer please keep an eye out on this webpage for information on how to book.

Contact Details:

www.hartpury.ac.uk/contact-and-directions

If you have any questions, please do get in touch: admissions@hartpury.ac.uk (admissions enquiries) outreach@hartpury.ac.uk (general enquiries)



Campus tours

We can arrange short campus tours for you on a bespoke basis in June and July.

Please contact our schools engagement team directly on schools-engagement@sgscol.ac.uk

Higher Education Open event

Our University Centre will be holding its summer open event at our Bristol Campuses on Saturday 11th June, 10-12:30. Book at www.he.sgscol.ac.uk/open-events

Contact details

www.sgscol.ac.uk; Freephone: 0800 0567 253
South Gloucestershire and Stroud College
Stratford Road, Stroud, Gloucestershire, GL5 4AH.