**Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**



**Year 11 Getting a Headstart**

**for September 2021**

The next few weeks are important ones in your life. Whether you choose to stay at Bishop Stopford School, move to another school for A Levels or move onto college for a BTEC or an apprenticeship, you need to make sure you are ‘match fit’ for the next challenge.

The move from Key Stage 4 to 5 is a big step, and one where you should be confident to make informed choices about your future. You will receive a huge amount of support to help you to adjust to your new courses and environment, but there are many pathways available, and you need to make sure you choose the one that is right for you.

Our plan is to prepare you in a number of ways for the next step:

1. We want to make up some learning you missed out on because of the pandemic;
2. We want to challenge you to build up your independence – a crucial learning skill for the next course/s you do;
3. We want to prepare you socially, so you are well-equipped for a new stage where everything will change – wherever you choose to continue to study;
4. We want to challenge you to push yourself – by trying some really great online courses from the Open University in areas which interest you;
5. We want to give you the confidence in your decision making regarding the next steps in your chosen pathway – or to consider the options still open to you, if you haven’t yet made a final decision.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Week Beginning** | **Activity** |
| 24th May | **Reading Week** |
| 31st May | **Half Term Week** |
| 7th June | **Bridging Week** |
| 14th June | **Looking Ahead Week** |
| 21st June | **BSS Sixth Form Induction Week** |

We have designed each week to be varied in focus, but with activities which can continue throughout the time available to you. This booklet is your essential guide, and you are expected to complete it as a reflection of the learning you have undertaken. There is a list of activities for you to complete, with links to the appropriate pages on Firefly and boxes must be ticked once you have completed them. At the end of each week, you will need to reflect on what you have learnt, what you still need to find out and what questions to ask in order to start well in September.

**Week 1: Reading Week**

What’s the point? As you move to post-16 study, you will be expected to undertake a significant range of wider reading: it’s part of the learning required. This is your first big opportunity to practise that skill independently, and to find out where the challenges lie. Be honest about yourself at this point. Is this something you need to work out how to organise, and do you need to think through how you structure your time?

| **Week Beginning** | **Activity** | **Complete** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 24th May | **Reading Week**   * [Read about Post 16 provision on Firefly](https://bishopstopford.fireflycloud.net/sixth-form/year-11---looking-ahead) * [Consider all you Post 16 options](https://bishopstopford.fireflycloud.net/departments/careers/post-16-options) * [Employability and Virtual Work Experience](https://bishopstopford.fireflycloud.net/departments/careers/year-11-virtual-work-experience-and-employability-opportunities) * [Start an Open University free course](https://www.open.edu/openlearn/free-courses/full-catalogue) (excellent preparation for EPQ) |  |
| Thinking about the activities you have completed this week – what have you learned that will help you progress to the next stage of your education? | | |
| What else do you need to know/ skills to develop to get you to the next stage (i.e. choice of institute, choice of subject or choice of work experience) | | |
| What questions do you need to ask? | | |
| 7th June | **Bridging Week**   * Subject Microsoft TEAMS sessions to bridge the gap between GCSE and A Level/Post 16 * 8th, 9th & 10th June – 1:1 Personal Guidance sessions with Mrs Castle via TEAMS (book these via the parents evening system) * [Employability and Virtual Work Experience](https://bishopstopford.fireflycloud.net/departments/careers/year-11-virtual-work-experience-and-employability-opportunities) * [Continue your Open University free course](https://www.open.edu/openlearn/free-courses/full-catalogue) |  |
| Thinking about the activities you have completed this week – what have you learned that will help you progress to the next stage of your education? | | |
| What else do you need to know/ skills to develop to get you to the next stage (i.e. choice of institute, choice of subject or choice of work experience) | | |
| What questions do you need to ask? | | |
| 14th June | **Looking Ahead Week**   * [Looking ahead week resources on Firefly](https://bishopstopford.fireflycloud.net/sixth-form/year-11---looking-ahead) * 15th,16th & 17th June - Personal Guidance sessions with Mrs Castle via TEAMS (book these via the parents evening system) * Health & well-being sessions – Thursday 17th June 9.30-12.00 via Teams * [Employability and Virtual Work Experience](https://bishopstopford.fireflycloud.net/departments/careers/year-11-virtual-work-experience-and-employability-opportunities) * [Continue your Open University free course](https://www.open.edu/openlearn/free-courses/full-catalogue) |  |
| Thinking about the activities you have completed this week – what have you learned that will help you progress to the next stage of your education? | | |
| What else do you need to know/ skills to develop to get you to the next stage (i.e. choice of institute, choice of subject or choice of work experience) | | |
| What questions do you need to ask? | | |
| 21st June | **BSS Sixth Form Induction Week**   * Attend specific Induction Day. * [Start Year 11 to 12 Induction material on Firefly](https://bishopstopford.fireflycloud.net/sixth-form/year-11-into-12-induction-summer-2021) * [Employability and Virtual Work Experience](https://bishopstopford.fireflycloud.net/departments/careers/year-11-virtual-work-experience-and-employability-opportunities) * [Continue your Open University free course](https://www.open.edu/openlearn/free-courses/full-catalogue) |  |
| Thinking about the activities you have completed this week – what have you learned that will help you progress to the next stage of your education? | | |
| What else do you need to know/ skills to develop to get you to the next stage (i.e. choice of institute, choice of subject or choice of work experience) | | |
| What questions do you need to ask? | | |

**Sixth Form Induction**

Use the next few pages to make notes on each of your chosen subjects from the five subject taster sessions you attended.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Subject 1** |  |
|  | |
| **Subject 2** |  |
|  | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Subject 3** |  |
|  | |
| **Subject 4** |  |
|  | |
| **Subject 5** |  |
|  | |
| **General Notes / Mentor, study lessons etc..** |  |
|  | |

**Headstart for College**

We’ve been working closely with the colleges to make sure we support you as you leave us. All of the programme above – apart from the Induction Week to our Sixth Form – is relevant to you.

However, colleges do expect a little more from you too. Here’s the main information you need, and the dates too:

**Moulton College**

All students who have applied will be invited to visit the College during the week of 28th June 2021. Transition materials (introduction and subject videos) will be available on the website [www.moulton.ac.uk](https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=http%3a%2f%2fwww.moulton.ac.uk&c=E,1,y0OLlBYD1_ehhLycts8fX2KRY_dfLdPvrhbfr7r-HPJ5MYxea-9jJOs9a0NczxfO5WH8ZrSwmr409AZo10QshZWlWIHPU1a9K-1ZcGAjKe54rk-CKQ,,&typo=1) to access on demand.

**Tresham College**

The college is planning ‘In person’ Welcome Days (if Covid-19 restrictions allow) on the following dates:

* Tresham Corby – Monday 28th June
* Tresham Wellingborough – Tuesday 29th June
* Tresham Kettering – Wednesday 30th June

If you have applied, you will be sent further details, probably in the first week in June. The email will include information on the purpose of the welcome days, confirmation of the date and time, meetings points and a timetable for the day. On the day itself, you will be able to meet the teaching team, your personal tutor, receive information around bursaries and financial support available, as well as take part in ‘getting to know you’ activities. Further details can be found on the website: <https://www.tresham.ac.uk/>

**Northampton College**

If you have applied, you will receive a number of communications about life in college via email. On 12th August, you will receive an email to which you must reply to, to confirm your place. You will also be asked to upload Results Slips or request a call back from a tutor if you’ve not quite achieved your grades. Northampton College is hoping to invite students to the college before this date – but this will depend on Covid restrictions. Further details can be found on the website: <https://www.northamptoncollege.ac.uk/>

**Apprenticeships**

Apprenticeships offer a valid alternative to university, with the qualifications to match. If you choose a degree apprenticeship, you still get to graduate with your cap and gown, along with several years of work experience under your belt.

First and foremost, though, an apprenticeship is a job with substantial training and the development of transferable skills. It’s a way to earn and learn, gaining a real qualification, long-term career path and the possibility for higher earnings. Further details can be found on this Firefly page: <https://bishopstopford.fireflycloud.net/sixth-form/apprenticeships>