



Rye College

The Grove, Rye, East Sussex TN31 7NQ

T: 01797 222545 E: office@ryecollege.co.uk

www.ryecollege.co.uk

Head Teacher: Mr. D. Downes

September 2026

Dear families,

This is a particularly important and busy time for our Year 11 students. Between now and Christmas, they will be exploring and making decisions about their next steps after Rye College. To help you support your child through this process, we would like to highlight some key dates and events for your diary.

Rye College is fortunate to work in partnership with Thrive Careers, who provide specialist careers information, advice and guidance to complement our careers programme. Ryan Matthews from Thrive Careers recently launched our Post-16 programme and will begin a series of individual guidance interviews this week. Every Year 11 student will receive a one-to-one interview, followed by a personalised action plan, which will be emailed directly to them.

Assembly Programme

To help students explore the wide range of post-16 opportunities available, representatives from a number of local providers will be delivering assemblies to year 11 over the coming weeks. Some providers are still confirming their arrangements, and we hope to add further establishments, particularly Kent-based colleges, to the programme detailed below:

- **Friday 10 September – Thrive Careers post-16 progression launch**
- **Friday 6 November– Bexhill College**
- **Friday 13 November – Plumpton College**
- **Friday 20 November - ESCG**
- **Friday 27 November – Marsh Academy**
- **Friday 11 December - DV8**

These brief presentations will provide students with an introduction to each provider, including information about courses, enrichment opportunities and upcoming events.

Post-16 Providers Open Events

Attached to this letter is a guide containing contact details, along with the dates and times of many local college open evenings and events. Further information can be found on individual college websites and the [Careers East Sussex](#) website. Please note that dates and arrangements may be subject to change, so we recommend checking with providers directly before attending. We will also continue to share reminders and updates through our website and social media channels.

Post-16 Application Process

Applications for post-16 courses will be completed through the [Careers East Sussex](#) online system. Students will already be familiar with this platform and their logins, as it is the same system used to manage their work experience placements.



Rye College

The Grove, Rye, East Sussex TN31 7NQ

T: 01797 222545 E: office@ryecollege.co.uk

www.ryecollege.co.uk

Head Teacher: Mr. D. Downes

In most cases, applications to Kent providers can also be submitted through this system. Where this is not possible, students can create an account via [KentChoices: Home \(kentprospectus.co.uk\)](https://kentchoices.co.uk) and transfer the relevant information across.

The College will upload references and grade projections on students' behalf, so there is no need for students to complete these sections themselves. We will also be using Life Education lessons to guide students through the application process and provide support with completing applications, particularly personal statements.

Success at 16 Evening

I would also like to draw your attention to our Success at 16 Evening, which will take place on Wednesday 7 October 2026 from 4:00pm-7:00pm. This event provides an opportunity for families to meet representatives from a range of post-16 providers from across Kent and East Sussex in a careers fair-style setting. The first Year 11 Progress Evening this year will also take place on this date.

Year 11 Mock Interviews

In January, students will also have the opportunity to take part in our mock interview day. During this event, employers and post-16 providers will visit the College to conduct individual interviews with students, helping them gain valuable experience of a recruitment process.

As part of the preparation, students will be required to produce a CV and complete an application form for a job of their choice. This provides an excellent opportunity to develop employability skills, build confidence and receive constructive feedback ahead of future college, apprenticeship and employment applications.

Further resources

For further information and support with post-16 applications, careers planning and future pathways, families and students are encouraged to visit the [Careers Information & Guidance](#) page on our website and our [Careers Padlet](#)

We will continue to update these resources throughout the year to ensure students and families have access to the latest information and opportunities.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via office@ryecollege.co.uk

Yours sincerely

Mrs. D. Starkey
Director of Learning - Pathways



Rye College
The Grove, Rye, East Sussex TN31 7NQ
T: 01797 222545 E: office@ryecollege.co.uk
www.ryecollege.co.uk

Head Teacher: Mr. D. Downes

Details of Open days/evenings of local post-16 establishments

Post-16 Provider	Date	Time
Bexhill College Penland Rd Bexhill TEL: 01424 214545 www.bexhillcollege.ac.uk enquiries@bexhillcollege.ac.uk	21 October	6:00 - 8:30pm
	22 October	4:00 - 6:30pm
East Sussex College Hastings Station Approach Hastings TEL: 01424 442222 www.escg.ac.uk hastings.info@escg.ac.uk	13 October 29 November	3:45 - 6:45pm
	2027 18 March	
East Sussex College Eastbourne Cross Levels Way Eastbourne TEL: 01323 637637 www.escg.ac.uk eastbourne.info@escg.ac.uk	14 October 29 November	3:45 - 6:45pm
	2027 18 March	
East Sussex College Lewes Mountfield Road Lewes TEL: 01273 483188 www.escg.ac.uk lewes.info@escg.ac.uk	15 October 19 November	3:45 - 6:45pm
	2027 18 March	
Ashford College Elwick Road Road Ashford Kent TN23 1NN ashford@eastkent.ac.uk	19 November	4:00 – 7:00pm
Homewood School 6th Form Centre Ashford Road Tenterden Kent TN30 6LT TEL: 01580 764222 www.homewood-school.co.uk info@homewood.kent.sch.uk	30 November	4:00 -7:00pm
Norton Knatchbull Grammar School Sixth Form Hythe Road, Ashford, Kent TN24 0QJ Tel: 01233 620045 www.nks.kent.sch.uk	Open morning tours: 20 November and 10 December (Advanced booking for external students here)	
	14 January (no booking required)	4:00 – 7:00pm



Rye College
The Grove, Rye, East Sussex TN31 7NQ
T: 01797 222545 E: office@ryecollege.co.uk
www.ryecollege.co.uk

Head Teacher: Mr. D. Downes

Highworth Grammar School Sixth Form Maidstone Road Ashford Kent TN24 8UD Tel: 01233 624910 www.highworth.kent.sch.uk office@highworth.kent.sch.uk	26 November (booking required - check website for link)	9:00 - 10:30am
	7 January	6:00 – 8:00pm
DV8 Bexhill Hive 41 St Leonards Road Bexhill, TN40 1HS Tel: 01424 213 890 www.dv8sussex.com	7 October	5:00 - 7:00pm
	10 October	10:00am – 12:00pm
Marsh Academy Station Road, New Romney TN28 8BB 01797 364593 www.marshacademy.org.uk info@marshacademy.org.uk	4/9 December 12/21/30 January	6:00 - 8:00pm
	All 5pm – 6pm and bookable here	
Plumpton College Plumpton College Ditchling Road Plumpton East Sussex BN7 3AE 01273 890 454 https://www.plumpton.ac.uk/courses	10 October 21 November	All events: 9:00am – 2:00pm
	2027 16 January 13 March 16 June	
Hadlow College Hadlow Tonbridge Kent TN11 0AL 01732 850551 enquirieshadlow@northkent.ac.uk	7 November	9:30am – 1:30pm

Additional events and open days can also be found on the Careers East Sussex page [Here](#) and the Kent Choices website [Here](#)