



The HENRY BEAUFORT *School*

Transition Information

The transition from Secondary school to the next steps can seem completely overwhelming.

You might have a child that knows exactly what they want to do and exactly where they want to do it, or as many other parents, you might have a child who has absolutely no idea. As a SEND parent in particular, you might have lots of questions about what is out there, and the kind of support available.

This booklet aims to give you some information of the next steps, so at least you have somewhere to start!

Contained in this booklet is a brief overview of colleges in the local area, the kinds of courses they offer, and the kind of support available there. This booklet also addresses some more general frequently asked questions about transition, and gives you some suggestions about the kind of questions you might ask when choosing a college.

Top Tips

There are so many things to think about when choosing a pathway for post-16 education.

Many parents have shared with us that they have no idea where to start, and their child has no idea what they want to do. If this is true for you, here are some things you might want to think about and discuss with your child.

- How does my child learn best? Do they prefer being in the classroom or do they prefer hands-on learning
- Does my child have a particular career in mind?
- Does my child want to go to university?
- Are there any particular subjects/areas that my child is interested in?
- How would my child get to college? are they capable of independently using public transport?
- What are my child's predicted grades for GCSEs?
- What kind of support do they need to meet their needs?

If you are still unsure, the best advice is to visit as many local college open days as you can and feel them out. Speak to the learning support teams, speak to course leaders, and you will likely start to get an idea of what feels right for your child.

Choosing a college is one of the first steps in independence for a young person, which can be overwhelming for a young person with additional needs. Get them involved in the process as early as possible. You can attend college open days in year 10. Year 11 is already quite an overwhelming time, so starting to have these conversations earlier can ease some of that pressure.

What Kind of Course?

There are various different types of course available in colleges. It is worth thinking about what kind of course is right for your child - as this will likely have an influence on what college you will choose.

A levels:

- Typically a student would choose 3/4 A level subjects.
- Usually more traditional subjects but there will be options that aren't available at GCSE such as media studies, law, and psychology.
- Tends to be more theoretical and academic.
- Not necessarily a route into one specific career.
- Might be a mixture of coursework and exams
- Some subjects have specific grade entry requirement

T Levels:

- A student will study one subject
- Related to a specific job or industry, such as
- More "hands-on" learning though there is still a classroom element
- A mixture of coursework and exams, but student will complete an industry placement.
- Usually require 5 GCSEs.

BTEC:

- A student will study one subject
- Often related to a specific job or industry
- "Hands on" learning
- There are level 1, level 2, and level 3 courses - which have different entry requirements.

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What Kind of Course?

Apprenticeships:

- Related to one specific job or career
- Working alongside studying (typically 1 or 2 days in college)
- Path to a specific career
- Can be quite work intensive





BCOT

Basingstoke College of Technology (BCoT) is a leading further education college that offers full-time and part-time advanced technical and vocational qualifications together with apprenticeships, higher education and professional courses.

It is a relatively small campus which some students might prefer.

Students can study a T-level course, Vocational courses (BTEC courses) or apprenticeships.

<https://www.bcot.ac.uk/>

Where:

BASINGSTOKE

Transportation:

BUSES AND TRAINS
AVAILABLE TO
BASINGSTOKE

VERY CLOSE TO TOWN
CENTRE

Contact:

HELEN.KEY@BCOT.AC.UK
(TRANSITION MANAGER)

Open Days:

12TH OCTOBER 2026
21ST NOVEMBER 2026



Barton Peveril

Barton Peveril is a sixth form college located in Eastleigh.

Students can do A Levels, BTECS, and specialised courses such as Aspire and Oxbridge programme.

From their website:

Barton Peveril is a fully inclusive college where students with additional needs thrive, achieving outcomes that surpass those of their peers. Our supportive environment fosters a strong sense of belonging for all members of our college community. We provide personalised scaffolded support to students with EHCPs and SEND with the aim of reducing learning, personal and social barriers and instil resilience and independence.

<https://barton-peveril.ac.uk/>

Where:

EASTLEIGH

Transportation:

- SHORT WALK FROM EASTLEIGH TRAIN STATION.
- BUSES AVAILABLE TO EASTLEIGH.

Contact:

LEARNINGSUPPORT@BARTON.AC.UK

EHCP@BARTON.AC.UK

Open Days:

SEPTEMBER 2026 -
CHECK BACK FOR DATE



Eastleigh College (SHCG)

Eastleigh College is now part of a group called South Hampshire College Group that contains Eastleigh, Fareham, and Southampton Colleges.

Eastleigh College offers various Tlevel Courses including lots of vocational subjects such as bricklaying, hairdressing, and plumbing.

It also offers a programme called Kickstart, which is for learners that have not met the entry requirements for their chosen study programme or have had significant difficulties in full time education. This offers study skills, employment skills as well as being a stepping stone for further courses.

<https://shcg.ac.uk/>

Where:

EASTLEIGH

Transportation:

SHORT WALK FROM
EASTLEIGH TRAIN
STATION.
BUSES AVAILABLE TO
EASTLEIGH.

Contact:

ALS@EASTLEIGH.AC.UK

Open Days:

13TH JUNE 2026

Sparsholt College

Sparsholt offers a huge range of practical based and vocational subjects. This includes but is not limited to: agriculture, fishery management, animal management, horticulture, sports, and vehicle maintenance.

It is a university as well as a college so you can study for degree here too.

Sparsholt offers T level Courses and BTEC courses.

Students can also access apprenticeships through the college.

It is a large campus, as there is a working farm, stables, and even a registered zoo! However, students will typically spend their time in one area that is related to their course subject.

Sparsholt also has a rolling application deadline.

<https://www.sparsholt.ac.uk/>

Where:

SPARSHOLT VILLAGE NR
WINCHESTER

Transportation:

- NUMBER 7 BUS FROM WINCHESTER CITY CENTRE
- PRIVATE BUSES AVAILABLE FROM SOME LOCATIONS
- RAIL CARD AVAILABLE FROM SOME LOCATIONS

Contacts:

ALS@SPARSHOLT.AC.UK
EHCP@SPARSHOLT.AC.UK
APPRENTICESHIPS@SPARSHOLT.AC.UK

Open Days:

11TH JUNE 2026



Peter Symonds College

Peter Symonds college is situated in Winchester.

It offers a wide range of courses, including A Levels, T Levels and other vocational courses such as BTECs. It also has a varied enrichment programme.

From their website:

“We do everything we can to support our students on their learning journey with highly specialised staff e.g. specialist (SpLD) teachers / assessors and medical caseworkers. They work collaboratively to support students with more complex needs and liaise with other College departments to ensure an holistic approach. Support is bespoke and may take the form of specialist teaching, in-class support, 1:1 casework, adaptations, equipment loans and/or exam access arrangements.”

<https://psc.ac.uk/>

Where:

IN WINCHESTER

Transportation:

BUS STOP OUTSIDE COLLEGE
SHORT WALK FROM TRAINSTATION
BUS AND TRAIN PASSES AVAILABLE

Contacts:

PSC@PSC.AC.UK

Open Days:

1ST AN 2ND JULY 2026



Queen Mary's College

Queen Mary's College is situated in Basingstoke.

It offers a wide range of courses including A levels and vocational courses.

It is well known for its sports facilities.

QMC has been highly praised for its approach to support, by students, parents, visitors and Ofsted. "Care, guidance and support are outstanding. Students rightly place high value on the academic and pastoral support they receive from their teachers and tutors. Support is prompt and meets students' needs extremely well." (Ofsted)

<https://www.qmc.ac.uk/>

Where:

BASINGSTOKE

Transportation:

BUS STOP OUTSIDE COLLEGE - SPECIFIC COLLEGE BUS FROM SOME LOCATIONS WALKABLE FROM BASINGSTOKE TRAIN STATION BUSES TO BASINGSTOKE

Contacts:

LIANNE.WRIGHT@QMC.AC.UK

Open Days:

CHECK WEBSITE FOR DATES

What happens if my child does not get the entry grade requirements?

This varies from college to college but most will have an alternative option available. If your child does not get a grade 4 in English and Maths (please note it can be either English literature OR English Language) they will need to retake it at college. If the entry grades are not met, there will be something available it just might not be your child's first choice. If this is a concern, it is worth asking this question to the support team at college. It may be that they will need to start on a different course, and build up to their first choice course. You also might want to consider alternative pathways - there are so many things available!

My Child has an EHCP, What happens if the college says they cannot meet need?

You have the right to appeal with the local authority. It is worth having a back up plan and contacting the colleges to discuss your child's needs as early as possible. Your child can apply to multiple colleges.

Is my child entitled to travel?

There is support available particularly if your child has an EHCP but there is certain criteria that needs to be met. For more information please look here <https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/schooltransport/post-16-send-transport> or feel free to reach out and discuss.

FAQs

My child has an EHCP, do we have to pick a college earlier than everyone else?

Not necessarily, the application deadlines are the same. However. The transition Annual Review takes place at the end of year 10. It is helpful if you have some ideas about which college or colleges your child might be interested because we can start the consult process as soon as possible.

The SEND team at Henry Beaufort are here to support you and your child through the transition to college. If you have any further questions or would like some support, please reach out to us!

SEND@staff.beaufort.hants.sch.uk