

Orchard School – The GCSE journey and beyond

At Orchard School, we have the highest aspirations for our students. We know how important it is to understand the post-16 pathways available for students and their families. Having a broad range of providers available today will help open doors to the future, which will excite and challenge every student. I hope that every student and family enjoy the Post-16 fair, and feel more prepared for their futures with a clear understanding of what they need to do next to achieve success and happiness at Orchard and beyond.

Mr. D. Pitt

Assistant Headteacher

ORCHARD SCHOOL BRISTOL

Inspire today, Empower for life

Post 16 Options Fair – The providers

Post 16 providers attending at Orchard School Post 16 Options Fair 2018	
SGS College	Bristol City Football Club
V6 Sixth form (Colston's Girls and Fairfield School)	On site Bristol
North Bristol Post 16 Sixth form	Access to Music
City of Bristol College	Shared Apprenticeships SW
St Bedes	S and B Automotive
St Brendans	National Careers Service
St Mary Redcliffe and Temple	Boom satsuma
Colston's School	Bristol Rovers
Avon and Wildlife trust	3aaa Apprenticeships
Coachmakers	NHS
Princes trust	

Alumni top tips

- Take some time to research the different types of jobs out there. Build a bigger picture of the careers you could do.
- If you are not sure what you want to do, make a list of your skills and qualities. You could also take a free online careers test.
- Add work experience and volunteering to your CV. Volunteering and work experience are great ways to find out more about a job from the inside and find out if you like doing it.
- Find out about local apprenticeships. You can get an apprenticeship for almost any career you can think of.
- Don't neglect your extra-curricular activities. They are a great way to build skills and make you stand out from the crowd.
- Gather advice and opinions from various different sources. Teachers, parents and friends are all on hand to help!
- Do what makes you happy!
You have your whole life to work. The choice you have to make regarding what you do is important, but you should go with the decision that feels most right for you and your plans.

Questions to consider:

What GCSE grades are needed to get on to an A level course?

What GCSE grades are needed to get on to an Apprenticeship course?

How does a student go to University?

Which careers am I most interested in?

Which course do I need to do at college/Sixth form?

What grades do I need in my GCSEs?

Any questions or advice about your next steps, please contact Mrs. Thorne by email or pop into a drop in session:

r.thorne@osb.school

Drop in sessions: every lunchtime at the Aspirations Hub office or after school on Tuesdays.

Post 16 Opening evenings/events

College Open Days	Area / event	Date	Time
North Bristol Post 16 centre	Cotham School	Thursday 18th October	6.30pm-9.00pm
North Bristol Post 16 centre	Redland Green School	Thursday 25th October	6.30pm-9.00pm
St Brendan's 6th Form College	St Brendan's	Thursday 25th October	10am-2.30pm
Bristol Cathedral School	Bristol Cathedral School	Tuesday 16th October	5.30pm - 8.30pm
Bristol Free School	Bristol Free School	Thursday 18th October	6.00pm - 8.00pm
Bristol Grammar School	BGS	Tuesday 6th November	5pm - 7pm
Colston's School	Colston's School	Tuesday 16th October	Open evening
City of Bristol College	all centres	Tuesday 2th November	5.00pm - 7.30pm
St Bede's	St Bede's	Wednesday 7th November	6.30pm - 8.30pm
St Mary Redcliffe 6th Form	St Mary Redcliffe	Wednesday 14th November	6.30pm - 8.15 pm
SGS College	All campuses	Sat 6th Oct / Sat 24th Nov	10.00am - 1.00pm
Bristol Community Trust	Memorial Stadium	Thurs 27th Sept / Thurs 22nd Nov	7.00 pm
Access To Music	Access to Music centre, Hengrove	Tuesday 30th October	3.00pm, 4.30pm, 6.00pm
DBS Music	Pre- Degree Centre	Thursday 11th October	6.00 - 8.00 pm
Bristol City Community Trust	Ashton Gate	Monday 8th October	7.00pm

Revision skills

<p>Top tips</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take a 5-minute break every 30 minutes • Find a quiet space to revise • Keep returning to topics even if you think you are confident • Try each technique and find what works for you • After revising, test yourself 	
<p>Retrieval Practice</p> <p>Brain dump: without using your books, write everything you know about a topic. Take a different coloured pen and use your book to add any information that you have forgotten. This is the material you must focus on when revising and revisiting the topic.</p> <p>Flashcards: summarise one area using a maximum of 20 words. Ask yourself what the key words for success are and include them on the card.</p> <p>Exam papers: practise as much as you can and mark them yourself.</p>	<p>Dual Coding</p> <p>When revising, use both words and images to summarise the topics. Look at the images and explain them in your own words and vice versa.</p>
	<p>Interleaving</p> <p>When revising, switch between topics instead of focusing on one. For example, spend 30 minutes on topic A, 30 minutes on topic B and 30 minutes on topic C.</p>
	<p>Elaboration</p> <p>When you are revising, ask yourself questions about how things work and why. If you don't know the answers, find them in your book and add them to your brain dumps or flashcards.</p>
<p>Spaced practice</p> <p>Set aside some time every day. Review information from each lesson a couple of days after the lesson.</p>	<p>Concrete examples</p> <p>Compare ideas from your lessons to something in everyday life. Try and explain them to your friends.</p>

GCSE – 1-9 Grading

Students in Years 10 and 11 will now receive a number for each of their GCSE grades. If they are studying a vocational or technical award at Level 2 they will receive a grade from Pass, Merit, Distinction and Distinction*. In the table below you can see how the old letter grades link to the new grades.

students are set a minimum expected grade (MEG) to aim to achieve in Year 10 and Year 11. Achieving this would be good progress for them compared to other students in the school and nationally.

	New Number Grading Structure	Old Letter Grading Structure	Vocational and Technical Level 2 Courses
	9		
	8	A*	Distinction*
	7	A	Distinction
	6	B	Merit
Grade 5 is a Strong Pass	5	C	Pass
Grade 4 is a Standard Pass	4		
If a student does not gain at least a Grade 4 GCSE in English or Maths at school they must continue to study the subject to achieve a Grade 4 at college or whilst in training with employment.	3	D	
	2	E	
	1	F	
	U	G	