



14 April 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Year 10 Open Events and Taster Days

Further to my letter sent out in February about post-16 choices, I can now share details of the local college and sixth form open events and taster days. This schedule will be available and updated when necessary on the school's careers webpage. I have spoken to the whole year group in a recent assembly to formally introduce these events and highlight what post-16 support is available going forward.

Open events are useful in helping you and your child prepare for the autumn applications, so I strongly encourage you to attend the ones held by colleges your child is considering. These events take place in the evenings and at weekends. Attending these open events with your child will allow you both to understand more about courses available and the differences between post-16 settings.

Open event details are available on each college website, and most require pre-registration so please be aware of this. Registration processes vary by college.

In addition, some post-16 settings offer taster days. These take place during the school day across June and July. This will involve missing a whole day of lessons and students will be required to catch up on any work missed. Students should only consider a specific taster day if they are very seriously considering applying to that college. Students who attend taster days will need to make their own transport arrangements, and will receive authorised absence from school on the day provided the usual absence procedure is followed. Depending on the specific rules issued by the post-16 centre, school uniform may be required as well as a packed lunch.

IMPORTANT TO NOTE

Year 10 mock exams take place during the week commencing 15 June. Exams will take priority over taster days. In the event of your child registering for a taster day on a day they have an exam, they will be informed of this and their registration cancelled.

West Suffolk College have revised their taster day plans for this year compared to previous years. They are offering specific subjects on set dates, for which there are unfortunate clashes with exams and a Year 10 Geography trip which take priority over taster days. One of the days also clashes with the Cambridge Regional College taster day. Please see the detail in the attached schedule. Students should be very certain of where there are clashes, and which taster days they are able to attend.

Bespoke Careers Guidance Meetings

All students are aware that they are able to book their own one-to-one guidance meeting with our Careers Adviser (Mrs Howe) This is not a compulsory activity and students require guidance at different times.



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However, all students benefit enormously from this guidance and come out of it with an action plan and a clearer vision of what to do next. Mrs Howe is extremely skilled in making sure it is a stress-free experience and so please do encourage your child to arrange one. She does get booked up very quickly in the summer term once students realise time is progressing, so the sooner they can book one the better.

A meeting can be arranged by either emailing Mrs Howe directly (nhowe@sohamvc.org) or coming to speak to her in the Careers Office in the library.

Yours faithfully,

Nick Oakhill

Mr Nick Oakhill

Trust Manager for Careers Education, Information, Advice & Guidance


SVC Careers

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Post 16 Centres - 2027 entry

COLLEGE	TASTER DAYS	OPEN DAY/EVENING
Abbeygate Sixth Form	29 th June 10.45am-1.35pm	TBC https://www.abbeygatesfc.ac.uk/news-dates/open-events
Bishop Laney Sixth Form	7 th June	TBC https://www.elycollege.com/page/?title=Sixth+Form&pid=10
Cambridge Regional College (Cambridge Campus)	16th June 9.15am-2pm	30th June 4.30-7.30pm Other dates TBC https://www.camre.ac.uk/about/events/open-days-2/
CAST	No Taster Day held	1 st July 5-7.30pm https://www.cambridgeast.org.uk/sixth-form
Chesterton College Sixth form	23rd June 9.30am-12pm	TBC
College of West Anglia (Milton campus)	25th June 10am-2pm	21st Apr 4.30-7.30pm 22 nd Oct 4.30-7.30pm 28 th Nov 9am-12.30pm SEND Quiet Time tickets available https://cwa.ac.uk/about/open-days
Hills Road Sixth Form College	No Taster Day held	4th July 10am-4pm 6th July 5-8pm (registration from May 2026, can register interest on via link) https://www.hillsroad.ac.uk/sixthform/how-to-apply/open-events
Impington	9 th July	TBC https://www.impingtoninternational.org.uk/
Long Road Sixth Form College	No Taster Day held	1st July 4-9pm (TBC) 2nd July 4-9pm (TBC) (registration in Spring 2026, can register interest on via link) www.longroad.ac.uk/open-evenings
The Cambridge Maths School	No Taster Day held	TBC https://cms.tela.org.uk/
The Oakes	25th June 9.45am - 2pm	TBC https://oakescc.org/
West Suffolk College	Various dates – see below	TBC https://www.wsc.ac.uk/about-the-college/open-events

(updated 13/4/26)

PLEASE CONTINUE TO CHECK EACH COLLEGE'S WEBSITE FOR UPDATES

MOST OPEN DAYS REQUIRE REGISTRATION VIA WEBSITE OR LINK

SPECIFIC TASTER DAY DETAILS TO BE SENT OUT WHEN DETAILS RECEIVED FROM COLLEGES

West Suffolk College Taster Day sessions		
Date	Curriculum Area	Clash? Students to check whether they are able to attend taster day based on other activities scheduled
Monday 1 st June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art, Design and Digital Creative 	None
Thursday 4 th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health and Social Sciences 	None
Monday 15 th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building and Construction 	Compulsory Geography Field Trip to Sheringham
Tuesday 16 th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Studies and Travel & Tourism • Engineering • Policing and Public Services 	Cambridge Regional College Taster Day Sports Leaders event at The Shade
Wednesday 17 th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education and Childcare • Sport 	None
Thursday 18 th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Animal Studies • Automotive • Digital Technologies • Electrotechnical • Music and Performing Arts 	Maths & Biology mock exam – no student to attend taster day
Tuesday 23 rd June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hair and Beauty Studies • Culinary Arts 	English Literature exam -- no student to attend taster day