

THE SIXTH FORM COLLEGE, COLCHESTER
KEY DATES AND ACTIVITIES FOR STUDENT PROGRESSION– 2025/26

| TIME | First Year students Activity | Second Year students Activity |
|-----------------------|--|---|
| September 2025 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to Morrisby – a programme which helps students to make decisions about their future careers and progression from college to employment/Apprenticeships or University. It also allows students to record activities and skills. • Careers department information. Introduction to MOODLE • Careers interviews available during term time • Sign up to Doctors, Vets and Dentists additional study • Sign up to Lawyers as an additional Study • Sign up to Teaching for Primary Teachers/Teaching for secondary • Students to consider Additional Studies on Enrolment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to Morrisby– a programme which helps students to make decisions about their future careers and progression from college to employment/Apprenticeships or University. It also allows students to record activities and skills. • Employability skills update – Personal statements and CV's • Discuss plans for next year with personal tutor. • Complete on-line UCAS application. Applications can be sent from 5th September • 19 September – <i>College deadline for Medicine, Dentists and Vets (ensures UCAS deadline of 15 October is met).</i> • 19 September <i>College deadline for Oxbridge (UCAS deadline of 15 October)</i> • Applicants for Teaching and other medically related courses are also advised to submit applications early. • 26 September – <i>College deadline for applications if they are to reach UCAS before half-term.</i> • Tutorial activity careers planning – University and Employment Tutorials • Start looking at Job/Apprenticeship opportunities (Moodle/Careers) -see employer list on 'MOODLE/Careers/Employment & Apprenticeships' • Seek help from Careers Department if experiencing problems. |
| October | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15 October – UCAS deadline for Oxbridge, Medicine, Veterinary and Dentistry. • 24 October - <i>Recommended College deadline for UCAS submission</i> • Some Apprenticeship vacancies are advertised • Tutorial -Progression |
| November | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employability Audit – Personal Statements/CV • Personal Tutor reviews | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Tutor reviews • Early applicants will start to have interviews and receive offers and rejections with or without interview. Check instructions carefully on how to accept interview times. • BMAT • 7 November – <i>College deadline for applications to reach UCAS before the end of December</i> • 14 November – <i>final College deadline for applications to meet the UCAS deadline of the 14 January. Applications submitted after this date may not reach UCAS by 14 January 2026.</i> |
| January 2026 | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14th January 6pm FINAL UCAS deadline • Applications submitted to UCAS after the 14 January are processed as 'Late Applicants' – Universities are only committed to considering these applicants if they have vacancies. (Always seek advice from the Careers Department if applying as a late applicant). |
| February | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to Career Management (tutorial) • Careers information to students and employability update • Tutorial – 'What happens at a Careers Fair' • Higher Education and Employment Briefing Evening. • College Employment & University Careers Fair (c.100 exhibitors). 'Options after College' • Oxbridge meetings/briefings | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to look for Jobs/Apprenticeships-see list of employers on 'MOODLE/Careers/Employment & Apprenticeships' or Careers Bulletin • College Employment & University Careers Fair (c.100 exhibitors). • UCAS Extra begins - This service is only open to students who applied by the 14 January deadline but are not holding any offers at this stage. |

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| March/April | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider Higher Education options/ other choices such as Apprenticeships. Talk to personal and subject tutors and careers staff. • Make arrangements to visit universities on their open days | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Financial support application for students going to University in 2026– register online and complete application. Student Finance England website • Year 2 Higher Education Parents' Evening. Final advice regarding Student Finance and information about College post-results counselling service. |
| May/ June | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begin detailed investigations. Make use of College resources, Careers library, internet, etc. • Undertake careers interview. • Tutorial – Progression Activities • Register for UCAS 'apply' (the online application process @ www.ucas.com/apply) Order prospectuses, undertake research and make some preliminary choices. • Start completing a CV and look for work experience/shadowing opportunities/Volunteering • Make arrangements to visit universities on their open days • UCAS Essex Higher Education Exhibition (same as our careers fair in February) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure decisions about which offers to hold. Main 'Firm' (first choice) and one 'Insurance' (lower grades) have been made. Watch for and comply with deadlines given by UCAS. • Complete any outstanding/late Financial Support applications. • Apprenticeship and Employment advice available from Careers – opportunities in Careers Bulletin • Year 2 Exam leave |
| July | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Career Progression event – 3rd and 4th July. Concentrated careers programme over 2 days (Higher Education subject talks, general careers and HE matters, also a range of employers and guidance on CVs etc Personal Statements/CVs/signing up to UCAS • Oxford and Cambridge students to complete draft application forms. • Oxbridge applicants parents' evening | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leavers Day |
| August | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue Higher Education research. • UCAT • 13th August – BTEC and Applied General results • 20th August - GCSE results | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13th August - A level results, BTEC and Applied General results. Do not be far from home. Offers are confirmed or not, 'Adjustment' and 'Clearing' begins. Make use of counselling service offered by College. Most courses will have started by October. |