**

CHOOSING WHERE TO STUDY AFTER YEAR 11

**Leaving School - The Rules**The government has brought in a policy called the RPA (raising the participation age). For most people this policy won't make a big difference. The only change is you now can not leave school age 16 and work full time. You can however, work if training is also provided. You can also continue to study at college or complete an apprenticeship. This sheet is aimed at those considering college.

**Different Places you can Study**FE College  
6th Form College  
School 6th Form  
Specialist Provision  
Technical College

**What Subjects Can You Study and Where?**  
Depending on the type of college you might be able to study a wide or more limited range of subjects.

**What Qualifications Can You Study and Where?**  
Again depending on the type of college you might be able to study vocational (related to work) subjects such as NVQs or more academic such as A Levels, or a combination of A Levels and BTECs (more course work based qualifications).

**Research, Research, Research**  
Start with looking at college prospectuses (their brochures) and online so you know what is available locally. Talk to friends and family, your careers advisor and teachers.

**Visit the College**  
You can't really get a feel for a place till you have visited and spoken to people. Attend open evenings and taster days for places that you are considering.

**Things to Consider**  
Location - how easy is it to get to? Do the journey.  
Class Sizes - do you prefer large or small classes? What do they offer?  
Facilities - what's the 6th form area like? Do they have facilities that interest you e.g. Sports  
Friends - friends are important but what is right for you is more important!  
Teachers/family - listen to their advice but again remember it is your decision  
Subject - will the college you like allow you to take the subjects that interest you?  
Size of Campus - big/small/spread out/part of the school? Which do you prefer?  
Overall Experience - are students given lots of independence?

**In Summary**  
Consider carefully what is important to you  
Do your research - Compare and contrast options by writing down positives and negatives  
Speak to your school career's advisor

**Where Can I study in Brighton and Chichester?**  
Here is a list of local colleges in Brighton and Chichester areas. See [www.elev8careers.org.uk/careers-blog/category/places-to-study](http://www.elev8careers.org.uk/careers-blog/category/places-to-study) for more info,

**Activity**  
Spend one hour looking online at the courses available and other things that are important to you at three colleges local to you. Make notes of courses that interest you and anything else that catches your eye (e.g. They have a TV studio and you are interested in media, they have a rugby team and it is your favourite sport etc)