YEAR 11 ASSEMBLY

MOVING ON

Five students. Five Results Days.

And the choices that are now yours.

HOW MANY HOURS DOES THE AVERAGE PERSON WORK IN A LIFETIME?

90,000

Who do you want to spend that time with?

What do you want to spend that time doing?

What qualifications do you need to get there?

LAST YEAR'S YEAR 11

SAME SCHOOL. SAME EXAMS. FIVE VERY DIFFERENT RESULTS DAYS.

Student A	Student B	Student C	Student D	Student E
"My brother did it."	"Only my subjects matter."	"I just need 4s."	"It's down to me."	"I'll decide later."

STUDENT

A

“That’s what my brother did.”

THE BUILD-UP

Did his homework – but didn’t revise for his mocks: he “wanted to see what happened”. Always meant to go to intervention sessions. Something always came up.

APPLYING FOR POST-16

Applied for A levels at Sixth Form – never considered anything else. After disastrous mocks, his SLT interview warned him: **apply to college as a back-up.** He didn’t.

STUDENT A · RESULTS DAY

HE DIDN’T GET INTO SIXTH FORM.

His grades were nowhere near his targets – but the bigger shock was missing the general entry APS of 4.0. No back-up. No leniency.

THE LESSON

Entry requirements are not negotiable. Always have a back-up you’d be happy with.

STUDENT

B

“Only my subjects matter.”

THE BUILD-UP

Bright, articulate, worked hard. Revised for his mocks – but only in the subjects he wanted to take next. French and DT? He couldn’t be bothered.

APPLYING FOR POST-16

Secured his place. What he didn’t know: universities and employers look at your **whole** GCSE record – including your average point score.

STUDENT B · RESULTS DAY

6.8

his average point score – dragged down by two grade 3s

Eight GCSEs at 7–8, plus 3s in French and DT:

68 ÷ 10 = 6.8

Two 7s instead of two 3s:

76 ÷ 10 = 7.6

Application screening – including automated and AI filters – often uses GCSE results and APS as a first cut.

THE LESSON

Every subject counts – now, and when you apply for university or jobs.

STUDENT

C

“I just need 4s.”

THE BUILD-UP

Focused only on maths, English and science. Other subjects didn’t get a look in. Teachers kept warning him how close he was to the grade 4 boundary.

APPLYING FOR POST-16

Knew exactly what he wanted: a fresh start at college on a practical electrician or mechanic course. Offer secured – grade 4 in maths, English and science.

STUDENT C · RESULTS DAY

HE WENT TO COLLEGE – BUT NOT ON HIS COURSE.

No grade 4 in English and maths, and an APS below 3. Instead of the electrician's course: a foundation transition year, resitting GCSE level courses while friends start Level 3.

THE LESSON

Aiming for the minimum isn't a plan. If you aim for the line, you can fall below it.

STUDENT

D

“It’s down to me.”

THE BUILD-UP

Listened in lessons, did his homework, went to interventions. Built Quizlets and flashcards. Revised little and often – spread across **all** his subjects.

THE MOCKS

Really tried, to see what revision could do. The grades weren’t fantastic – so he studied the gaps, errors and mistakes, and fixed them.

STUDENT D · RESULTS DAY

HE BEAT HIS TARGET GRADES.

Not top set. Not the highest targets. Yet his average point score was **higher than Student B's** – the student who ditched his least favourite subjects.

THE LESSON

Your set and your target don't decide your result. Your habits do.

STUDENT

E

“I’ll decide later.”

THE BUILD-UP

Wanted to do well, but procrastinated. Didn’t revise for his mocks. With no idea what came next, he felt no pressure. Days came and went.

APPLYING FOR POST-16

Applied to Sixth Form **and** college because he couldn’t decide. Then a talk finally made it click: Sixth Form. He picked his subjects – and started revising.

STUDENT E · RESULTS DAY

HE'D LEFT IT TOO LATE.

Maths – needed 7

7

Met

Physics – needed 6

6

Met

Chemistry – needed 6

5

Missed

No other grade 6 to fall back on. He started Sixth Form **on a contract**.

THE LESSON

Decide early. Once you know what you need, you know what you're working for.

SO WHAT SEPARATED THEM?

NONE OF THEM LACKED ABILITY.

They lacked research, a back-up, effort in every subject – or time.

Every one of those is in your hands right now.

YOUR OPTIONS

EDUCATION OR TRAINING UNTIL 18 – THREE MAIN ROUTES



SIXTH FORM

A levels, BTECs or a mix. A school setting, with routes to university, apprenticeships and work.



COLLEGE

Technical, vocational and creative courses, T Levels and A levels – from Level 1 to Level 3.



APPRENTICESHIP

A paid job with training. You earn a qualification while you work.

There is no “best” route – only the route that’s right for you. That means doing your research.

RHS SIXTH FORM

THREE ROUTES, THREE ENTRY POINTS

ACADEMIC A levels	**APS 5.0**	English and maths at grade 5+. Grade 6 in each A level subject (or a related one). Maths needs a 7, Further Maths an 8.
COMBINED A levels + BTECs	**APS 4.5**	A mix of academic and vocational. Each A level you choose still has its own subject requirement.
VOCATIONAL BTECs only	**APS 4.0**	English and maths at grade 4+. Practical, coursework-based learning.

AVERAGE POINT SCORE (APS)

ADD UP YOUR GRADES. DIVIDE BY THE NUMBER OF GCSES.

6 6 5 5 5 5 4 4 = 5.0

40 points ÷ 8 GCSEs = **5.0 – just enough for the academic route.** Drop one 5 to a 3 and it falls to 4.75. One “ditched” subject can close a door.

RHS SIXTH FORM · SEPTEMBER 2027 ENTRY

DATES TO PUT IN YOUR CALENDAR NOW

What	When
Sixth Form Open Evening	Wed 11th November 2026, 6–8.30pm
Application deadline	Mon 23th November 2026
Guidance meetings for RHS students	First half of spring term 2027
Sixth Form Induction	22–23rd June 2027
GCSE Results Day	Thu 19th August 2027

No booking needed for the Open Evening. Questions: sixthform@richardhale.co.uk

LOCAL COLLEGES

GO AND SEE FOR YOURSELF

HERTFORD REGIONAL COLLEGE

Ware & Broxbourne · hrc.ac.uk

Tue 24th Nov 2026

5.30–8pm

Also Feb and April 2027. Construction, electrical, motor vehicle, media, games design and more.

OAKLANDS COLLEGE

Welwyn Garden City & St Albans · oaklands.ac.uk

Tue 2nd Feb 2027 (WGC)

Thu 4th Feb 2027 (St Albans)

Both 5–7.30pm. A levels plus a wide range of vocational courses.

NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE COLLEGE

Stevenage · nhc.ac.uk

Tue 10th & Wed 11th Nov 2026

Evening

More dates in March, April and June 2027.

Dates from college websites, October 2026 – always check and book on the college's own site.

FURTHER AFIELD · FILM, GAMES, MUSIC, SCREEN

HAVE YOU LOOKED BEYOND HERTFORD?

LONDON SCREEN ACADEMY

Highbury, N5 · lsa.ac.uk

Film and TV production – camera, editing, VFX, production design.

Taster: Tue 27th Oct

Open event: Thu 19th Nov, 6–8pm

ELAM

East London Arts & Music · Bow, E3 · elam.co.uk

Games, animation, film and TV, music – taught with industry.

Open evening: Thu 12th Nov, 5–7.30pm

ELSTREE SCREEN ARTS ACADEMY

Borehamwood · elstreescreenarts.com

Screen, performance and production crafts – lighting, sound, costume, make-up.

Autumn open evening has passed – check for spring dates

Closer to home: HRC offers media, music, performing arts, games design and art & design. Dates for 2026 – check and book online.

APPRENTICESHIPS

EARN WHILE YOU LEARN

A real job with a real wage – plus off-the-job training towards a nationally recognised qualification.

LEVEL 2 AND LEVEL 3

Level 2 is GCSE-equivalent; Level 3 is A level-equivalent.

GCSES STILL MATTER

Employers often ask for grade 4+ in English and maths – and shortlist on grades.

SEARCH EARLY

“Find an apprenticeship” on GOV.UK. Most September vacancies appear in spring and summer – apply for a college or Sixth Form place too.

BEFORE CHRISTMAS

YOUR NEXT-STEPS CHECKLIST

1. **Visit at least two open events** – Sixth Form and a college.
2. **Check the entry requirements** for the exact courses you want.
3. **Work out your current APS** from your targets and then your mocks. Where's the gap?
4. **Apply on time** – RHS deadline is Mon 23rd November.
5. **Have a back-up** you would genuinely be happy with.
6. **Talk it through** – careers adviser, tutor, teachers and home.

TAKING CHARGE · THE VESPA MINDSET

BE STUDENT D – ON PURPOSE

V

VISION

Know what you're aiming for – and the grades it needs.

Student E didn't

E

EFFORT

Time to study and revise beyond homework – every subject.

Student A didn't

S

SYSTEMS

A revision timetable, organised notes, deadlines tracked.

Student D did

P

PRACTICE

Test yourself and do exam questions – don't just re-read.

Student D did

A

ATTITUDE

Setbacks are feedback. No subject is "not worth it".

Students B and C didn't

RETRIEVAL PRACTICE

DON’T RE-READ IT. RECALL IT.

BRAIN DUMP

Blank page: write all you remember. Check your notes, fill gaps in another colour.

FLASHCARDS

Question on the front, answer on the back. Sort into “know it” and “not yet”.

EXAM QUESTIONS

Past papers, timed. Mark with the mark scheme, then fix what you got wrong.

SPACE IT OUT

Little and often, every subject. Revisit after a day, a week, a month.

Your mocks are retrieval practice too: use the gaps, like Student D.

WHERE TO REVISE ONLINE

USE TOOLS THAT MAKE YOU THINK

Quizlet
Make your own flashcard sets or use your teachers'.

Seneca Learning
Free GCSE courses by exam board, with built-in quizzing.

BBC Bitesize
GCSE revision and tests, organised by exam board.

Corbettmaths
5-a-day, videos, practice questions and papers.

Physics & Maths Tutor
Past papers and mark schemes – most subjects.

Oak National Academy
Free video lessons with quizzes to recap topics.

⚠ **Not TikTok. Not AI doing the work for you. If your brain doesn't do the recalling, it won't remember it in the exam.**

WHICH STUDENT WILL YOU BE?



A B C **D** E

Research your options. Have a back-up. Revise **every** subject. Start **now** – not in August.