



Gildredge
House



Post-16 Information for Year 11 students and parents/carers

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Visit
Careers
East Sussex



For further information or queries, email the Careers Department:
s.bray@gildredgehouse.org.uk

Post-16 Open Events

Bexhill College

Wed 21 Oct 2026
6.00-8.30pm

Thu 22 Oct 2026
4.00-6.30pm

No booking
needed. Arrive at
any time.

Some free parking
on-site.

When parking in
the
neighbourhood,
please consider
neighbours'
driveways.

BHASVIC

Wed 11 Nov 2026
5.00-8.00pm

Thu 12 Nov 2026
5.00-8.00pm

SEND students
welcome for a
quieter
experience on
both evenings
from
4.00-5.00pm

No booking
needed - please
visit their website
to register your
interest.

East Sussex College Group

Eastbourne
Wed 14 Oct 2026
Thu 19 Nov 2026
Thu 18 Mar 2027

Lewes
Thu 15 Oct 2026
Thu 19 Nov 2026
Thu 18 Mar 2027

Hastings
Tue 13 Oct 2026
Thu 19 Nov 2026
Thu 18 Mar 2027

All events
3.45-6.45pm

Post-16 Open Events

Eastbourne College Independent Sixth Form

Thu 17 Sep 2026
5.30pm onwards

Seaford Head

Thu 8 Oct 2026
6.00-8.00pm

Sat 10 Oct 2026
10.00am-12.00pm

Varndean Sixth Form College

Sat 3 Oct 2026
11.00am-2.00pm

Wed 4 Nov 2026
4.00-8.00pm

Cardinal Newman College

Sat 10 Oct 2026
10.00am-1.00pm

Sat 14 Nov 2026
10.00am-1.00pm

Sat 6 Feb 2027
10.00am-1.00pm

BN1 Arts Music and Performing Arts College

Sat 26 Sep 2026
10.00am-12.00pm

Sat 24 Oct 2026
10.00am-12.00pm

Fri 13 Nov 2026
6.00-8.00pm

Brighton Met College

Wed 14 Oct 2026
11.00am-2.00pm

Sat 21 Oct 2026
10.00am-1.00pm

Post-16 Open Events

Northbrook College

Thu 8 Oct 2026
4.30-7.00pm

DV8

Brighton
Wed 7 Oct 2026
5.00-7.00pm

Bexhill
Wed 7 Oct 2026
5.00-7.00pm

Plumpton College

Sat 21 Nov 2026
9.00am-2.00pm

Sat 16 Jan 2027
9.00am-2.00pm

Sat 13 Mar 2027
9.00am-2.00pm

Sat 16 Jun 2027
9.00am-2.00pm

Roedean Independent Sixth Form College

Sat 12 Sep 2026
10.00am-1.00pm

Sat 28 Feb 2027
10.00am-1.00pm

Bede's Independent Sixth Form College

Sat 16 Oct 2026

Open morning -
check website for
timings.

Hailsham Sixth Form

Now closed

Gildredge House Events

Learning to Learn Day: Fri 4 Sep 2026

On their first day back at school, Year 11 students spend a session learning about their Post-16 options and hear from Josh Babrinde MP.

Students are ready for their year ahead, and have all the support they need to achieve grades above and beyond their benchmark grades.

Post-16 Transition and Revision Strategies: Thu 1 Oct 2026, 5.30-7.00pm

Gildredge House is hosting a Post-16 Transition and Revision Strategies event and all Year 11 students and their parents/carers are invited to attend.

Post-16 providers will be in attendance and this will give students an opportunity to explore their options. East Sussex College Group will be joining us to talk about their apprenticeship offer.

All applications to Post-16 providers in East Sussex need to be completed on [Careers East Sussex](#)

Applications to BHASVIC and other colleges in Brighton must be made directly to the institution and are not available to apply to on Careers East Sussex. BHASVIC will not accept applications after their closing date which is Fri 4 Dec 2026, 5.00pm. Please check their [website](#) for further information.

Gildredge House Events

iCan Careers Fair: Mon 9 Nov 2026

Hosted by East Sussex County Council, the iCan Careers Fair is designed to support young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities from Year 9 upwards, and their parents/carers, who have barriers to accessing mainstream careers events.

iCan brings together employers, training providers, educational establishments and many more to support young people in both raising aspirations and become prepared for their next steps in life.

If your child has SEND, please take a look at this [short video](#) which offers further advice and support.

Mock Interviews and Apprenticeship Day: Thu 14 Jan 2027

A student/employee mock interview event will take place on Thu 14 Jan 2027.

If you, or anyone you know, has had experience of employing young people and would like to join our interview panel, please get in touch with the Careers Department on s.bray@gildredgehouse.org.uk and join our team of interviewers.

Concerned about your Post-16 choices?

Contact our Careers Department and book a lunch-time appointment:
s.bray@gildredgehouse.org.uk

Additional Careers Interviews

Careers Interviews

Year 11 students will have had the opportunity to meet with the Careers and Enterprise Co-ordinator to discuss their career options, and visit the Careers Library for a one-to-one interview.

If your child is still unsure about their options, please ask that they email the Careers Department on s.bray@gildredgehouse.org.uk for an appointment, or visit the Careers Department during their Personal Development lesson.

If your child has SEND and you would like to discuss their next steps, please make contact with the Careers Department on s.bray@gildredgehouse.org.uk or the Secondary SEND Department on secondarySEND@gildredgehouse.org.uk

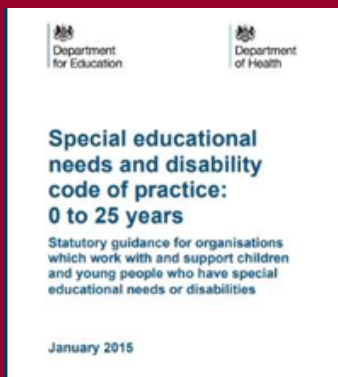
Advice for parents/carers

We strongly encourage you to engage with your child's career choices. Useful links can be found on the Gildredge House [website](#)

The Careers East Sussex [website](#) also offers useful information on career choices.

If you have any queries regarding your child's academic progress and you are concerned about how this might affect their next steps, please contact Mr J Castaño Lara on: j.castanolara@gildredgehouse.org.uk.

Support for Students with SEND



Leaving school in year 11 and starting something new can be a time of excitement and nerves. We have produced this resource and put information, advice and guidance in place to help families and young people plan for their future employment and their onward journey after school, and to be as prepared as possible for the transition.

What is transition; Transition means change, moving from one stage to another. When we talk about transition in to post 16, we are thinking about the change/move from school, into something else, as an example this could be college or an apprenticeship.

The SEND Code of Practice states '***Preparing for adulthood means preparing for: higher education and/or employment – this includes exploring different employment options, such as support for becoming self-employed and help from supported employment agencies.***'



Support for Students with SEND

iCan Careers Fair: Mon 9 Nov 2026

iCan is an annual careers event for Secondary schools and colleges in East Sussex. The event provides students with additional needs with the opportunity to meet and hear from local employers and education and training providers. Topics include pathways and opportunities that will be available to students Post-16. Find out more on the Careers East Sussex [events webpage](#).

If you would like the Careers Department to support with transition, please get in touch on:

s.bray@gildredgehouse.org.uk

We can facilitate a meeting with the SEND Department at your college or Sixth Form, which can help answer any questions you may have, and put your mind at rest.

A guide has been produced by East Sussex County Council for young people with SEND to help them prepare for the next steps after school and for adulthood.

Access the guide on their [website](#).

Find out if you qualify and apply for travel assistance for young people with SEND and an EHC plan on the East Sussex County Council [website](#).

We are committed to ensuring that all our students secure places at their first choice Post-16 provider. Post-16 providers are keen to support prospective students and will want to meet your needs.

Getting in touch early with the Post-16 providers ensures a smooth transition and is essential for many in settling onto their new course. Get in touch with the Careers Department for support.

Frequently Asked Questions

When will I receive an invitation to interview?

All students will receive an offer to interview, regardless of their predicted grades. Interviews are usually offered from between one month and three months of submitting an application.

What do I need to take with me to my interview?

Students are expected to take their most recent Year 11 report with them to their interview. This report contains their mock grades, final predicted grades, and attendance percentage.

What do I wear to my interview?

In January, students will be participating in mock interviews where dress code expectations are discussed.

Gildredge House recommends that students dress smartly and wear their school uniform with pride. This is very well received from Post-16 providers who have commented on how smart our students are dressed.

How many offers can I accept?

Students can accept as many offers as they like, however, if the student is sure of where they want to go, they should decline their other offers so that the institution can free up places for other students.

I have submitted my application, but I want to add more courses.

Students can go back into their application and add more courses. They can apply for as many courses as they would like, including combinations such as BTECS and A-Levels, T-Levels, NVQs and an Apprenticeship.

Students can add as many courses as they like up until September 2026. Remember that places may fill up quickly, so be mindful not to leave this to the last minute, especially if you are applying to a Level 1 or a Level 2 course.



Frequently Asked Questions

I have submitted my application, but I want to apply to another college.

Students can go back into their application and apply to more colleges throughout the year.

Students can apply to as many colleges as they like up until September 2026. Remember that places may fill up quickly, so be mindful not to leave this to the last minute, especially if you are applying to a Level 1 or a Level 2 course.

A Post-16 provider in East Sussex asked me to apply through their website. Do I need to apply on the Careers East Sussex website too?

If a Post-16 provider encourages you to make an application for a place on their website, you **must** still complete an application on Careers East Sussex. Gildredge House is required to track and report all student Post-16 destinations to the Local Authority. If a student becomes unaccountable, the family may lose their Child Benefit; this is because it is compulsory for all students to go on to Post-16 education.

I have applied to a Post-16 provider in Brighton - do I need to inform my Tutor?

Gildredge House is required to track and report all student Post-16 destinations, therefore, you **must** inform your Tutor or Mrs Bray that you have applied to a Sixth Form or college in Brighton.

You must then add it to Careers East Sussex as an alternative application.

If I apply to a Post-16 provider in Brighton, how do I submit a reference?

You can use your Year 11 Mid-Year Report as proof of your predicted grades. You will be asked for this when you attend your interview anytime after December 2026.

If your interview is set before you receive your Mid-Year Report, please contact Mr J Castaño Lara on:

j.castanolara@gildredgehouse.org.uk

Frequently Asked Questions

I have heard that only students predicted to achieve high grades get into BHASVIC. Is this true?

BHASVIC is a popular college and has limited places available. It is not true that they are selective; BHASVIC is a non-selective college. The college is located in Brighton and therefore may be unable to offer places to students from Eastbourne, which is considered to be out of area. BHASVIC has to offer places to Brighton students in the first instance.

If you apply and are unable to secure a place, you can ask to be placed on their waiting list.

Your Year 11 report which contains your mock exam grades, predicted grades, and attendance must be taken to your interview. This report is acceptable as your reference.

What are the Post-16 providers' application deadlines?

Post-16 providers in East Sussex do not have specific deadlines, although Seaford Head and Bexhill College often have a priority deadline.

All providers are keen to fill up their courses as quickly as possible, to enable them to allocate staffing and arrange the timetable.

The downside to encouraging students to apply too early is that once students receive their mock exam results, they can change their minds on the courses they want to study. For this reason, Gildredge House encourages students to take the Christmas break to consider their options having received their mock exam results.

The BHASVIC deadline is the first Friday in December. Applications to BHASVIC will not be considered after this deadline.

Frequently Asked Questions

I want to apply to a subject that has a higher entry level than my predicted grade. Can I still apply?

Post-16 providers are always optimistic about the improvement that students can make during the year. If you are required to achieve a certain level and your predicted grade still falls short of this, you are still strongly encouraged to apply.

When you go to enrol with your Post-16 provider and you have not achieved the required entry level, they will ask you to choose another subject and/or course.

For example, if a student applies for Maths A-Level with a mock exam grade of a Level 5 and their predicted final exam grade is a Level 5, a Post-16 provider will still make an offer to study Maths A-Level when the entry requirement is a Level 6. If the student achieves a Level 5 in Maths in the summer GCSE examination, the student will be declined a place to study Maths only, as the entry grade was not achieved. The student will not be asked to enrol at another Post-16 provider because they have not met the entry requirement for a single course; the student will simply be asked to choose another A-Level instead of Maths.

This is the case for most Post-16 providers. Students must ensure that predicted grades are roughly in line with college entry requirements.

Gildredge House invites students to apply by 10 Jan 2027. Students can still add courses and Post-16 providers onto their application well into the year if they change their minds. Post-16 providers may fill up some courses and if students are applying after Jan 2027, they should check with their chosen provider if they still have places on their chosen courses.

Frequently Asked Questions

I was offered a place to study on a Level 3 BTEC but I did not achieve a Level 4 in English and in Maths. What happens now?

Students must pass English and Maths before they are able to move onto a Level 3 course.

If the student applied to study a Level 3 BTEC, they are able to do the same course, but at Level 2 instead and re-take their English and Maths. As soon as they achieve a Level 4 in English and Maths, they can move on to a Level 3 course. This can happen at any time in the year.

It is important that students obtain a Level 4 in Maths and English whilst at Gildredge House; passing Maths and English gives students far more choice with their Post-16 options. We encourage all parents/carers to support their child in passing these subjects to ensure a less pressured Post-16 experience.

We are planning to move away from the area/outside East Sussex. What should we do?

Some families decide that, when their child completes Year 11, they want to move away from the area and accept a place at a Post-16 provider elsewhere. If this is the case, you **must** inform the Careers Department and your child's Tutor and provide both your forwarding address and the name of your child's Post-16 destination.

If a student becomes unaccountable, the family may lose their Child Benefit; this is because it is compulsory for all students to go on to Post-16 education.



Frequently Asked Questions

I would like the school to apply to a Post-16 provider for me. Is that possible?

The Careers Department are unable to apply to a Post-16 provider on a student's behalf. We can support a student to complete their application in the Careers Library.

If a student requires support, they can email Mrs Bray or pop into the Careers Library during lunch time. The student should be prepared and have their log-in ready to speed up the process.

How soon after submitting my application will I hear back from the Post-16 provider?

When a student will hear back from a Post-16 provider can vary.

Students should keep a close eye on their email account for an invitation to interview.

It is important that parents/carers also check their emails as Post-16 providers will email both the student and the designated parent.

I applied directly to BHASVIC and attended an interview. When will I know if I have managed to secure a place?

BHASVIC receive applications from all over Brighton and Category 3 areas. Applications from students living in Brighton are prioritised. Once BHASVIC have a fuller picture as to the availability of courses to the Category 3 areas, they begin to widen their offers.

For this reason, BHASVIC will not usually offer places until April. Please be patient. If you are unsuccessful in getting a place, please apply immediately for their waiting list and expect a wait. Places can become available at any time, even up to the start of the academic year.

Frequently Asked Questions

I am applying to another Post-16 provider in Brighton, and they have offered me a place, so I'm not making an application on Careers East Sussex. Is this okay?

We always advise our students to have back-up plans and, for this reason, all students must make at least two applications to two different Post-16 providers.

It is compulsory to make at least one of these applications on Careers East Sussex.

I have no idea which courses to apply for and I am getting concerned.

It is perfectly normal to be unsure as to which courses to apply for. It is always advisable to apply to more, rather than less, and you can decline any offers you receive at a later date.

You can book an appointment at any time with the Careers Department by emailing s.bray@gildredgehouse.org.uk

I am very worried about my next steps. What should I do?

It is okay to feel worried about your next steps; we are here to support you. If you would like to visit your chosen Post-16 provider again before making an application, please pop into the Careers Library for support to do this.

The Careers Department can liaise with any Post-16 provider to ensure a smooth transition.

