

September 2025

Ref: VC/EL

Year 11 'Life After Thomas Keble' Day – Tuesday 30th September 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Now your child has entered Year 11 it is time to start thinking of their next step after Thomas Keble, with college and sixth form applications opening from mid-October. To support our students through this transitional stage we are holding an employability morning entitled **'Life after TK' on Tuesday 30th September**. This will include a range of sessions from external providers on topics such as apprenticeships, CV writing, cover letter writing, post-16 application guidance, university myth-busting and gap years. Students will be off timetable for periods 1-3 participating in the workshops and interviews.

Throughout the morning, all students will be given a mock interview with a local employer. This will last approximately 20 minutes, including immediate verbal feedback, and written feedback to follow. The employers have volunteered their time to support our students and we hope they will make the most of this opportunity to prepare them for real interviews they may have for their post-16 courses, apprenticeships or future jobs.

If possible, it would be very helpful if you could speak with your child about interviews you have had, practice their responses to common interview questions and encourage them to think about their body language, volume/tone and posture at home, to help them to feel confident about the interview on the day. We would also recommend students spend some time preparing responses to typical interview questions – Barclays LifeSkills offer useful tools on their website to support with this here: <https://barclayslifeskills.com/i-want-to-prepare-for-an-interview/sixth-form/virtual-interview/>
<https://barclayslifeskills.com/i-want-to-prepare-for-an-interview/sixth-form/5-tips-on-the-star-interview-technique/>

To make the interview process as realistic as possible, we are encouraging students to arrive in school on Tuesday 30th September dressed in suitable clothes for interview, such as a suit, smart shirt/blouse and trousers/skirt, or a formal dress. They will remain in their 'interview clothes' for the day. Students will receive guidance about appropriate clothing, such as avoiding stiletto heels, heavy make-up, short skirts and trainers. I would like to stress that clothes do not have to be bought purely for this purpose, however you may wish to consider supporting the national 'Second Hand September' initiative by purchasing from a charity shop, or purchase clothing which could be reused for other formal purposes such as future interviews or the Year 11 prom to maximise cost per wear. We understand that, especially in the current economic climate, students may not have smart or appropriate clothes available, in which case please either contact me confidentially in advance and we may be able to loan appropriate clothing, or ensure that their school uniform on the day is clean and smart.

I very much hope this day will be of great benefit to our students as they start to plan their future after Thomas Keble, and thank you for your support with this event.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "V Cannam", written in a cursive style.

Miss V Cannam

Careers Lead