

**ADVICE FOR YEAR 11
ABOUT APPLYING TO COLLEGE
&
ATTENDING COLLEGE INTERVIEWS
2011-2012**

FILLING IN APPLICATION FORMS

- Always read the college prospectus BEFORE filling in the application form.
- Read through the whole form BEFORE writing anything.
- If you're not sure what to put, leave that part blank and CHECK IT OUT with someone else.
- Make sure you've stated clearly which COURSE(S) you want to do.
- Have a Personal Statement completed that can be sent with the application form either copied and pasted into the online form or as a paper copy. This written document will be started during one of the sessions on the special event morning – Friday 7th October
 - Check you've filled in your DATE OF BIRTH correctly.
 - Remember a carelessly done application form reflects badly on you. The form is the college's FIRST IMPRESSION of you.
 - Ask someone to check the WHOLE FORM before handing it in.
 - If it is a paper copy it's best to use BLACK INK - your form is likely to be photocopied.
 - Also on paper copies Use BLOCK CAPITALS if they are asked for, and write as neatly as possible - no crossing out, Tippex etc, coffee stains!
 - Paper copies often have to be SIGNED and DATED by you and your parents.

Applying online to BARTON PEVERIL

The online form can be found by going to their website www.barton-peveril.ac.uk and following the links. The form does not need to be completed in one session and can be saved and added to at a later date.

Do read the instructions carefully.

There is a space for you to copy and paste your Personal Statement – so ensure you have it saved somewhere where you can access it when you are filling in the form.

It will give you details how your application can be monitored and I can also access a special area to see who has applied using this method.

If you prefer to apply in writing you are able to print off an application form from the website but I would encourage everyone to use the online method.

Applying online to PETER SYMONDS

The online form can be found by going to their website www.psc.ac.uk/apply

Their online application form is easy to use; you just need to register, then you can start filling in the form. You can save it as you go, so you don't need to complete the form all at once, and you will be able to check everything that you have entered before you submit it. You will also be able to print out a copy to keep.

Please do not complete a paper application form as well.

If you are unable to apply online, you can contact them and they will send you a paper copy by post. You will need to complete this and return it by post to the Admissions Department. If you have any specific requirements for an alternative version of the form, please also contact the Admissions Office on 01962 857555.

What information does the school give to the colleges?

Colleges often request the following information from us in response to your application

- Your CURRENT and PREDICTED GRADES based on Year 11 mocks in November/December.

- A reference which is usually completed by your tutor.

What do I do with my completed application forms?

- Send them direct to the college you are applying to. The address is usually on the form. They will request any further information from us as necessary.
- Barton Peveril and Peter Symonds are encouraging all students to apply online – see previous information on how to do this. Paper applications can be made if you do not have computer access, please come as see Mrs Illsley if you need help obtaining one.

FINAL DATE FOR BARTON PEVERIL APPLICATIONS IS 10th February 2012

Although they would encourage you to apply earlier and not leave it to the last minute. (Interviews in school w/b Tuesday 21st February)

FINAL DATE FOR PETER SYMONDS APPLICATIONS IS Friday 9th December 2012

Although they would also encourage you to apply earlier and not leave it to the last minute. (Interviews in school Wednesday 8th February – Friday 10th February)

FINAL DATE FOR EASTLEIGH COLLEGE APPLICATIONS IS 31ST MARCH 2012.

Interviews are held at Eastleigh College

ANSWERING SOME COMMON QUESTIONS

Q. What if I need another application form?

A. *A few spares are kept in the library or can be ordered on line via college websites or direct from the colleges.*

Q. How many colleges/courses can I apply for?

A. *As many as you like!*

Q. What if I don't know whether I want to go to college or not?

A. *Still apply to college sooner rather than later. The courses you'd like might be full.*

Q. What should I do if the course I want is very popular?

A. *Apply well before the deadlines. Also apply to more than one college and for your 'back-up plan' courses as well.*

Q. When do application forms need to be in?

A. *Peter Symonds 9th December, Barton Peveril 10th February, Eastleigh College 31st March. See prospectus for other colleges.*

Q. Will my application form be acknowledged?

A. *It depends on the college, but most will send you a note.*

Q. What if my friends have all heard from colleges inviting them for interview and I haven't?

A. *If you are concerned, phone the college. They're all friendly.*

Q. Will I get an interview?

A. *Yes - for all colleges. They take place AT THE COLLEGES, except for Barton Peveril and Peter Symonds. These take place in school.*

Q. What if I can't go to the interview on that day/time?

A. *Phone the college - they'll rearrange the interview for you.*

Q. Am I allowed time off school to go to the interview?

A. *Yes, of course. Bring the letter from the college to show your form tutor.*

Q. What do I wear?

A. *Something reasonably smart - doesn't need to be school uniform.*

Q. What do I need to take?

A. *A print out of your personal statement, plus anything else they ask for like an art portfolio. The letter inviting you for interview should tell you.*

Q. What do I do if a college offers me a place and I'm not 100% sure I want to go there?

A. *Accept any places you're offered. So much depends on your final grades that colleges know some people will change their minds after their G.C.S.E. results come out. When you do have your results, make sure you tell any colleges who have offered you a place you're not going to use that you don't need it - they may well have a waiting list of people wanting your place.*

COLLEGE**WEBSITE**

Barton Peveril College

www.barton-peveril.ac.uk

Eastleigh College

www.eastleigh.ac.uk

Fareham College

www.fareham.ac.uk

Highbury College

www.highbury.ac.uk

Itchen College

www.itchen.ac.uk

Peter Symonds Sixth Form College

www.psc.ac.uk

Southampton City College

www.southampton-city.ac.uk

South Downs College

www.southdowns.ac.uk

Sparsholt College

www.sparsholt.ac.uk

St Vincent College

www.stvincent.ac.uk

Taunton's College

www.tauntons.ac.uk