

## Changing school for Sixth Form

It's quite common for young people to want a change of scene after GCSEs. Whether it's from a single sex school to co-ed, day to boarding or state to private, the final decision needs to be a joint effort between parents and children, based as much on personal preference as objective research.

### When to start your research

We'd advise getting the ball rolling with research towards the end of year 10 in time for sixth form open days and applications which generally take place the following autumn, early in the new academic year.

This is also a good time to start thinking about desired university subjects or destinations; A-Level choices can be made accordingly, as can provision for pupils who are interested in alternative post-18 options such as degree apprenticeships.

### Getting in

It can differ considerably, however five or six GCSEs including English and maths at grade 6 or above, with grade 7 or higher in subjects to be studied at A level (can be 8 or 9 for maths/further maths), is the minimum for most selective schools.

Many schools in the state and private sector however set the sixth form entry bar much higher and in addition to a full set of GCSEs at grades 9-7, also expect candidates to sit papers in their prospective A level subjects. Schools will usually interview prospective sixth formers too, so it pays to be prepared.

***Considering next steps for Sixth Form? Join The Good Schools Guide and a panel of Sixth Formers at Step Up Expo for help and advice on Sixth Form options and crucial deadlines to adhere to.***

### **16+ Timelines - what should I be doing, and when?**

#### **Step Up Expo 16+ Choices and Teen Choices Stage**

**12:30PM Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

**12:30PM Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023**

### **Leave school at 16 or stay put?**

#### **Step Up Expo**

**12:00PM and 3:00PM Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

**12:00PM and 3:30PM Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023**