



# Aylsham High School

*Part of the Aylsham Learning Federation  
It takes a Whole Community to Educate a Child*

November 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

## Applications to college and sixth form

I am writing to remind you all about college applications for your child in year 11. It's great that many of our students have now applied, and have even had interviews, and received conditional offers.

However, if your child has **not** yet applied to college and/or sixth form, or would like to make further applications, it is vital that these applications be made as quickly as possible, ideally in the next week or so, and by the Christmas holidays (20 December) at the absolute latest. Some colleges will close their applications quite soon (e.g. Reepham on 8 December and Notre Dame on 18 December). At City College, courses fill on a first-come, first-served basis and popular courses will be nearing capacity, or even full, by now.

We recommend that, in most cases, applications be made using Help You Choose – [www.helpyouchoose.org](http://www.helpyouchoose.org) – as we have pre-populated this with a lot of information required for applications, including target grades. It also enables us to check and track applications. Notre Dame is an exception as they request all applications be made via their own website.

## Other key reminders are:

- All students must apply to college, even if an apprenticeship is their preferred route. An apprenticeship cannot usually be guaranteed so all students need a college place, even if this is just a fall back option. We will have an apprenticeship evening for students and parents/carers, in school, on Tuesday 6 February 2024, at 6pm. Please save the date if this is of interest.
- Students should be aspirational but realistic about their choices, based on the target grades, and college entrance requirements. It is a good idea to have a 'Plan B' option at a different college, if there is any possibility of missing entry requirements for their first choice.
- City College, Paston and Easton interview for all courses. However, they will only interview and make a conditional offer for **ONE** course (or a programme of A Level study), unless instructed otherwise. So, if a student has applied for multiple courses at the same college, they need to make sure that they have specified on their application the correct order of preference so that they are interviewed for their first choice course. If in doubt, students should contact the college admissions team on 01603 773311, or see me.

Executive Headteacher: Mr D Spalding B.A. (Hons) M.Ed. (Cantab)

Deputy Headteachers: Mr C Bridge B.Sc. (Hons), Mr P Brockington B.Sc. (Hons) M.A., Mrs K Garnham B.A. (Hons) M.A.

Director of Business and Community Strategy: Mrs J Tuttle



Business & Enterprise



LEADERSHIP IN LEARNING  
The Cambridge Network

## Survey

I have asked students to complete a short survey to confirm their plans. This is particularly important if they applied directly to the college, and not via Help You Choose, as I will have no information about their application. I would be grateful if you could encourage your child to complete this survey – the link can be found here ([Y11 College Survey](#)) and is also available via their email, SIMS and Google Classroom. Alternatively, you may be able to complete it on their behalf. Thank you.

I am available in school to offer support and guidance for students who may need help in completing their college applications. Please contact me on 01263 733270 x167 or by email [edurand@aylshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:edurand@aylshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk).

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "E V Durand". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large 'E' and 'V'.

Emma Durand  
Careers Adviser