



A 2025/26 GUIDE TO POST 16
EDUCATION IN SHROPSHIRE IN
SCHOOLS WITH SIXTH FORMS
FOR PARENTS & YOUNG PEOPLE

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This booklet contains information required for publication in accordance with the School Information (England) Regulations 2008 and the School Admissions Code. Shropshire Council is required to publish this composite prospectus in relation to admissions to school sixth forms only. In Shropshire, most post 16 students attend colleges, details of which can be found on pages 5 and 6 of this booklet. Parents may wish to refer to the college's own websites and prospectuses for further information about the admission process for colleges.

Introduction

IS EDUCATION COMPULSORY AFTER AGE 16?

Young people must stay in education or training until their 18th birthday if they were born on or after 1 September 1997.

Education/ training after 16 doesn't just mean staying at school full-time: a young person can stay at school, go to college, or take up an apprenticeship or a part-time training course.

WHAT OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE AFTER 16?

The options are:

- Full-time education – e.g. at school or college;
- Apprenticeship or traineeship;
- Part-time education or training – as well as being employed, self-employed or volunteering for 20 hours or more a week.

Young people continuing with education in Shropshire, after the age of 16, will attend either a 11-18 school, sixth form or further education colleges.

This booklet is produced to inform parents of the schools and colleges available in Shropshire for those wishing to continue with education. For more information about the courses offered and how to apply, enquiries should be made directly to the relevant school or college.

HOW MANY PLACES ARE AVAILABLE?

There are no admission limits at school for pupils who are progressing from Year 11 to Year 12 at the same school. But there may be admission limits on external pupils entering the school for the first time as a sixth form pupil in certain schools.

The schools listed below offer post 16 education in their sixth form. Students wishing to enter the sixth form of a school that they are already attending, have an automatic right to do so as long as they meet the minimum entry criteria. However, the published admission numbers (PANs) or admission limits on external pupils entering the school for the first time in Year 12 are as follows:

ACADEMIES:

Grove School, Market Drayton	35
Idsall School, Shifnal	25
The Marches, Oswestry	35
Sir John Talbot's, Whitchurch	35
Thomas Adams School, Wem	60

Schools

WHO DECIDES WHETHER A PLACE WILL BE OFFERED?

Academies are admission authorities and they determine their own admissions policy. Local authorities are usually the admissions authority for community and voluntary controlled schools. However, the governing bodies of Shropshire community and voluntary controlled schools have agreed to the local authority's delegation of responsibility to them for determining admission arrangements to their sixth form.

This means that all publicly-funded schools in Shropshire are responsible for the admission to sixth forms in their schools.

Details of how to apply to each school and the academic attainment required to gain entry to sixth form or to access a particular course, can be found from the school's website, in the school's prospectus, and/or by contacting the school direct. Contact details for each school are given below.

Academic criteria for entry to sixth form are the same for both external and internal places. Schools may offer a meeting to discuss options and academic requirements for courses, but this will not form part of the decision process on whether to offer a place.

School Name and Contact	Address and Website	Email Address and Tel. No.
Grove School Andrew Raynor	Newcastle Rd, Market Drayton , TF9 1HF www.groveschool.net	office@gro.mmat.co.uk 01630 652121
Idsall School Lorna Smith	Coppice Green Lane, Shifnal TF11 8PD www.idsall.shropshire.sch.uk	info@idsall.shropshire.sch.uk 01952 468400
The Marches School Vicki Boy	Morda Road, Oswestry SY11 2AR www.marchesschool.co.uk	admin@mar.mmat.co.uk 01691 664400
Sir John Talbot's Technology College Chelsea Lyons	Heath Road, Whitchurch SY13 2BY www.sirjohntalbots.co.uk	admin@sjt.mmat.co.uk 01948 660600
Thomas Adams School Liam Allen	Lowe Hill, Wem SY4 5UB www.thomasadams.org.uk	enquiries@thomasadams.net 01939 237000

Where applicants are not offered a place at a school sixth form, this will be because either:

- There are more children eligible for places than places available and the oversubscription criteria have been applied to determine which new applicants are eligible for the places; or
- An applicant has not reached the specified entry requirement.

APPEALS

Any student who is refused admission to a school sixth form has a statutory right of appeal to an independent appeal panel. Both the individual student and the parent have separate and joint rights of appeal. All appeals must be made in writing.

Application can be made electronically via the Shropshire Council website www.shropshire.gov.uk/schooladmissions or a paper application can be printed and completed. If you have any additional information which you wish to submit, such as confirmation of a house move or medical evidence pertaining to attendance at school, this should be attached to your appeal form.

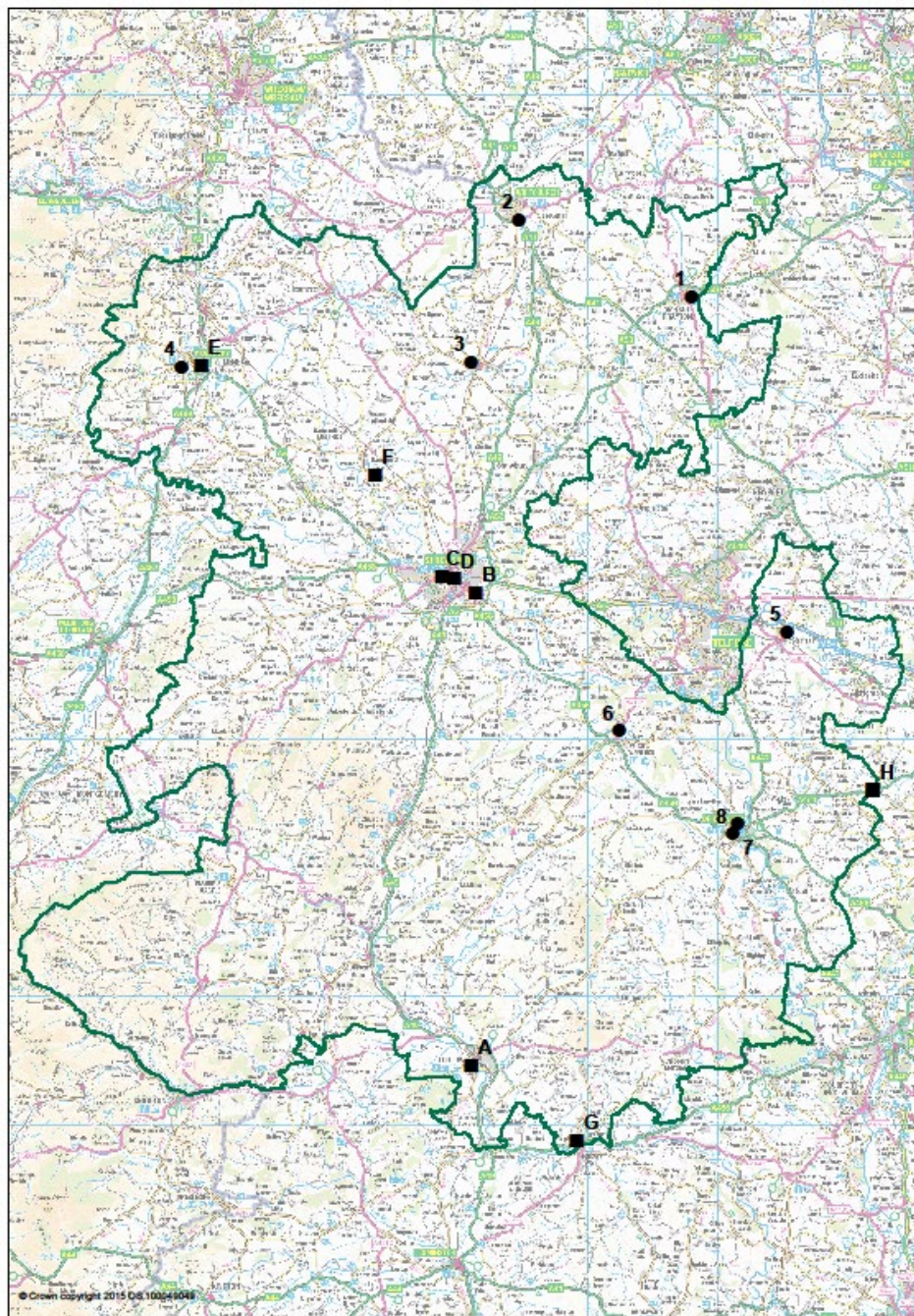
Once the appeal application has been received, either the school or Legal and Democratic Services, whichever is applicable, will arrange for an independent appeal hearing. You will be informed of the date, time and venue for your appeal, and invited to attend. You will also receive further information about the way in which the appeal is conducted.

Where the offer of a place is dependent upon exam results, the appeal must be heard within 30 school days of confirmation of those results. Where the offer is not conditional upon exam results, the appeal must be heard within 40 school days of the deadline for lodging appeals.

An appeal would be heard by a Panel of three people, who are independent of the named school and of the Council. They will wish to hear about the applicant and the reasons for wanting a place, all of which should be outlined on the appeal application form. A presenting officer and/or a representative of the school are present at appeals to explain why it has not been possible to offer a place, but they play no part in the final decision made by the Appeal Panel.

The Panel's decision is final and binding on all parties – the Admission Authority (either the school governing body or Shropshire Council), the school and parents and can only be challenged in the High Court. However, if you feel that the appeal process was flawed (in other words, maladministration occurred in the way the appeal was handled) you have the right to put your case to the Local Government Ombudsman or the Education Funding Agency in the case of academies. They will not overturn a decision made by an Independent Appeal Panel, but if the way in which the appeal hearing was held is found to be incorrect, they may order a fresh appeal.

Map showing location of schools with sixth forms and colleges



KEY:

1. Grove School, Market Drayton
2. Sir John Talbot's Technology College, Whitchurch
3. Thomas Adams School, Wem
4. The Marches School, Oswestry
5. Idsall School, Shifnal

B. Shrewsbury Colleges Group - Shrewsbury College of Arts and Technology
Shrewsbury Colleges Group - Shrewsbury Sixth Form College:

- C. Welsh Bridge campus
D. English Bridge Campus

A. Herefordshire & Ludlow North Shropshire College

- A. Ludlow Campus
E. Oswestry Campus
F. Walford Campus
G. The Aspire Centre, Burford
H. Shipley Campus

Colleges

School sixth forms are usually 'attached' or part of a secondary school. There are other post 16 providers (such as sixth form colleges and FE colleges). Sixth form colleges generally offer a range of academic subjects and some offer vocational courses. FE colleges can offer both academic and vocational courses as well as apprenticeships.

SIXTH FORM COLLEGES

Students have the option to take a core offer of A levels together with additional studies/activities traditionally over a two year period. Some offer a range of vocational courses such as BTEC Nationals.

FE Colleges

FE colleges may specialise in subjects which closely link to the needs of the local economy, commerce or industry. These could include

subjects such as art, agriculture or technology, many of which can lead to university entry.

Some FE colleges have more than one site and have part-time and adult students.

FIND OUT MORE

All colleges publish a free prospectus which includes information about their facilities and the courses on offer and how to apply. For more details, contact the colleges using the information below.

For more general information about post 16 options (including education, training or apprenticeships), please email shropshireyouth.iag@shropshire.gov.uk.

College Name	Website	Address	Tel. No.
Herefordshire, Ludlow and North Shropshire Colleges Group	www.hlnsc.ac.uk		
Ludlow College		Castle Square, Ludlow , SY8 1GD	01584 872846
North Shropshire College		Shrewsbury Road, Oswestry SY11 4QB	01691 688000
Shrewsbury Colleges Group	www.scg.ac.uk/		
Shrewsbury College		London Road, Shrewsbury SY2 6PR	01743 342342
Shrewsbury Sixth Form College		Welsh Bridge campus: Priory Road, Shrewsbury SY1 1RX	01743 235491
		English Bridge Campus: Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury , SY2 6AA	01743 235491
Telford College	www.telfordcollege.ac.uk	Haybridge Road, Wellington, Telford , TF1 2NP	01952 642200

Transport

The criteria for assistance with transport for post 16 students are different from those aged 11-16 in years 7-11.

In some cases, students attending college are eligible for transport assistance. You can either apply online via www.shropshire.gov.uk, complete a paper form or alternatively telephone the Council's Customer Service Centre on 0345 6789006. Please make sure you read the guidance notes below before completing the form.

The terms on which the Post 16 contribution scheme is offered to Post 16 students have been the subject of consultations with different stakeholders on the proposed arrangements and has been considered by the Shropshire Post 16 Transport Partnership, which includes representatives from the Local Authority. The following criteria is used to assess each application and where this doesn't meet the criteria below, each case will then be considered on its own merits.

GENERAL CRITERIA

- The student will be ordinarily resident in Shropshire
- The student will be over 16 and under 19 years of age at the start of the course (normally 1 September) concerned.
- The student will be attending the designated post 16 provider for the home address as determined by the Authority. Where the student is not

attending the designated post 16 provider for the home address the student may still qualify if the qualification or a comparable qualification resulting from the course selected is not able to be gained at the designated post 16 provider. In this respect, parents and students are advised to identify carefully the qualification resulting from the course: if, in the view of the Authority, the qualification or a comparable qualification is available at a nearer post 16 provider, assistance will not normally be granted. Transport will not normally be considered for an A Level Course other than at the designated post 16 provider **even if the student is taking A Level subjects that are not available at the designated post 16 provider.**

Notes

- For vocational courses, where the designated post 16 provider is outside the County of Shropshire, transport assistance will alternatively be provided to the nearest appropriate Shropshire post 16 provider offering a course.
- Where joint admissions procedures exist in Shrewsbury, Shrewsbury College will be recognized by the Authority as jointly serving the same attendance areas as Shrewsbury Sixth Form College.

- The designated Post 16 providers for the villages of Church Stretton, All Stretton and Little Stretton will be either Shrewsbury Sixth Form College/Shrewsbury College or Ludlow College.
- The distance between the home and the school/college will be three miles or more measured over the nearest route (ie shortest walking distance)
- Applications for Post 16 contribution scheme will not be approved where the total single journey time normally exceeds two hours.
- Exceptions to attendance at the designated post 16 provider for 'A' level courses or equivalent will only be considered where students can demonstrate **that their choice of subject is an essential (i.e. not simply desirable) prerequisite to their future higher education course or career plans.** Such exceptions are few and far between because the course provision at the designated post 16 provider is considered satisfactory to meet any future course or career needs (NB: Higher Education establishments do not normally impose specific subject only requirements).
- No transport assistance is available to students on Higher Education courses
- Qualification onto this scheme is dependant on a contribution from the applicant.

2025/6 Post 16 Charges *

For the 2025/26 academic year, the annual contribution levels for Post 16 transport is £1,140. This can be made in termly instalments.

A contribution of £330 will be required for entitled students whose families are in receipt of **Income Based Job Seekers Allowance**, or **Income Support**, or **Free School Meals** (as authorised by the Authority, not the school that your child is attending) or **Child Tax Credit** with annual income, as assessed by HM Revenue & Customs, of less than £16,190, on 1 September 2025 or subsequently on the date of application or **Universal Credit** – Provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods or The **guaranteed element of pension credit.**

The Council are not recommending that students apply and purchase a ticket via the Post 16 contribution scheme as students may wish to contact commercial operators who may offer alternative transport solutions. It is the responsibility of the parent and students to determine the travel arrangements they so wish, whether they be the Council scheme where entitlement is granted, a commercial or private or other solution.

For further information, please refer to the Councils website at www.shropshire.gov.uk

*SUBJECT TO REVIEW

Contact Information

Admissions Team

Correspondence Address:

Learning and Skills

Shirehall,

Abbey Foregate,

Shrewsbury

SY2 6ND

Tel: 0345 678 9008

Email: school-admissions@shropshire.gov.uk

Web: www.shropshire.gov.uk/schooladmissions

Passenger Transport Commissioning Group

Correspondence Address:

Shropshire Council,

Shirehall,

Abbey Foregate,

Shrewsbury

SY2 6ND

Tel: 0345 678 9006

Email: schooltransport@shropshire.gov.uk

Web: www.shropshire.gov.uk

Post 16 team for IAG suport

Email: Joanne.Brown@shropshire.gov.uk

Details in this booklet are correct at the time of publication, but may be changed subsequently as a result of new legislation, by direction from the Schools Adjudicator or as a result of school re-organisation.

“Working in Partnership to Support Learning for All throughout Life”

If you can read this but know someone who can't, please contact us on 0345 678 9008 so we can provide this information in a more suitable format