

TAMESIDE

September	Cnx2 your Future – looks at the choices, options and routes open to young people at the end of Year 11. It is available to download from the Connexions Tameside website at http://www.connexions-Tameside.com/publications/
September – December	College Open Events – Choosing the right college and course is very important. Encourage your son or daughter to go to open days/ evenings to have a look around and see what’s on offer. Details of these events are on the Connexions website: www.connexions-Tameside.com . For details of all training and learning opportunities in Tameside, please visit www.mycoursemyfuture.co.uk . You can find out about these from your son or daughter’s Connexions Personal Adviser. There will also be notices in the school about these events.
September Onwards	Personal Adviser – Throughout the year your son or daughter will have the opportunity to talk to their school’s Connexions Personal Adviser, to get impartial information, advice and guidance on what to do when they leave school and to help them make a successful transition into adult and working life. Your son or daughter should receive an action plan after their interview with Connexions, so you can look at this to see what has been discussed and what needs to be done to reach their goal. School Parents/Carers Events – Talk to your son or daughter’s Connexions Personal Adviser at these events so we can work together to ensure your son/daughter gets the best possible start on the path to a rewarding career. (Ask school staff for details of where we will be located).
October Onwards	College Applications – The deadlines for college applications vary so encourage your son/daughter to speak to their school’s Connexions Personal Adviser to find out when they are, and to start looking at suitable courses. They will be invited in for an interview and often an assessment test, usually from February onwards. (Please note that often the assessment tests form the basis of an offer of a college place, and missed or failed tests may result in a place not being offered. Speak to Connexions for practice tests or further information).
December – January	Mock GCSE Exams – These exam results will decide which exams/ levels your son or daughter will be entered for in the summer. This is a great practice run for the real thing and should be revised for in the same way. There are lots of revision aides available through school and on the internet. See http://www.connexions-Tameside.com/education/choicesat13/revision-skills.cfm for further details.

January Onwards	Applying for Jobs/Apprenticeships - Opportunities will be displayed in school on notice boards, form rooms, or the resource area and will be updated weekly. Jobs are also advertised on www.cnx2jobs.com and include areas across Greater Manchester as well as Tameside. Encourage your son/daughter to see their school's Connexions Personal Adviser to get advice and guidance on jobs and apprenticeships and for help in applying for these opportunities, including CVs and application forms. Your son or daughter can also register for apprenticeships with the National Apprenticeship Service (NAS) http://www.apprenticeships.org.uk .
January - June	Exam Revision Timetable – Make sure your son or daughter has their timetable and uses it. Now is the time to start revision. Speak to school staff or the school's Connexions Personal Adviser for more information.
March – April	Go to Skills Northwest with your son or daughter http://www.skillsnw.co.uk .
May – June	GCSEs and other Exams – Check when all of your son or daughter's exams are, and encourage them to prepare thoroughly for these.
June Onwards	Ongoing Connexions Support – Once your son or daughter leaves school they can continue to get advice, guidance and support from their Connexions Personal Adviser by visiting the local Connexions Centre. Contact 0161 330 1528 or visit: www.connexions-Tameside.com . It's important that they keep in contact with Connexions over the summer, especially if they are still looking for work or training. Your son or daughter's Connexions Personal Adviser will be in contact over the summer to check if they require further advice or support. Official School Leaving Date – This is always the last Friday in June.
July Onwards	Jobs and Apprenticeships – Your son or daughter can now start a full time job, apprenticeship or a Foundation Learning programme.
August	Exam Results – GCSE results are published in August and can be collected from school, in the post or even on-line in some cases. Your son or daughter's Connexions Personal Adviser will be available to advise them if they need further help following on from their results.
August - September	College Enrolments – These are always on or after GCSE results so that your son/daughter can be enrolled on the most appropriate level course. Connexions Personal Advisers are available for advice if your son/daughter isn't offered their first choice. Financial support – The government is introducing an enhanced learner support fund from September 2011 to help young people from households with a low income.

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