



CAREERS

@Paignton Academy

Newsletter

2025 / Edition 20

Welcome to the New School Year at Paignton Academy!

As we begin another exciting academic year, we'd like to extend a warm welcome to all our students, especially our new Year 7s who are joining the Paignton Academy community for the first time. We hope you settle in quickly, make new friends, and enjoy all the opportunities that lie ahead.

Starting secondary school is a big step, and it's perfectly normal to feel a little nervous. If you ever feel anxious or unsure, please remember that our staff are always here to support you.

To our returning students, welcome back! We're looking forward to seeing all the fantastic things you'll achieve this year. A special mention goes to our new Year 10s, who are beginning their GCSE journey. This is an important time to build strong foundations and develop good study habits. And to our Year 11s, this is your final year before your exams. It's time to stay focused, work hard, and make the most of every opportunity.

Whether you're new to the school or returning, we hope this year brings growth, success, and memorable experiences. Let's make it a great one together!

Mrs Hay
Careers Lead
The Careers Team

Have a question
or feedback?
Email careers@paigntonacademy.tsat.uk
or drop in the library and
have a chat with us!

careers@paigntonacademy.tsat.uk



Welcome to the Library!



8.00am - 8.20am
Free toast and squash!

Chromebooks are available during Breakfast Club, Break & Lunch and Homework Club



Comedy, Horror, Mystery, Sci-Fi, Adventure, Romance and History... we have them all!

Homework Club
3-4pm Mon-Thurs
3-3.30pm Fri



THINKING SCHOOLS
ACADEMY TRUST

TERM DATES 25/26

Dec-25									
01	08	15	22	29					
02	09	16	23	30					
03	10	17	24	31					
04	11	18	25						
05	12	19	26						

Nov-25									
03	10	17	24						
04	11	18	25						
05	12	19	26						
06	13	20	27						
07	14	21	28						

Oct-25									
06	13	20	27						
07	14	21	28						
01	08	15	22	29					
02	09	16	23	30					
03	10	17	24	31					

Sep-25									
Monday	01	08	15	22	29				
Tuesday	02	09	16	23	30				
Wednesday	03	10	17	24					
Thursday	04	11	18	25					
Friday	05	12	19	26					

Apr-26									
06	13	20	27						
07	14	21	28						
01	08	15	22	29					
02	09	16	23	30					
03	10	17	24						

Mar-26									
02	09	16	23	30					
03	10	17	24	31					
04	11	18	25						
05	12	19	26						
06	13	20	27						

Feb-26									
02	09	16	23						
03	10	17	24						
04	11	18	25						
05	12	19	26						
06	13	20	27						

Jan-26									
Monday	05	12	19	26					
Tuesday	06	13	20	27					
Wednesday	07	14	21	28					
Thursday	01	08	15	22	29				
Friday	02	09	16	23	30				

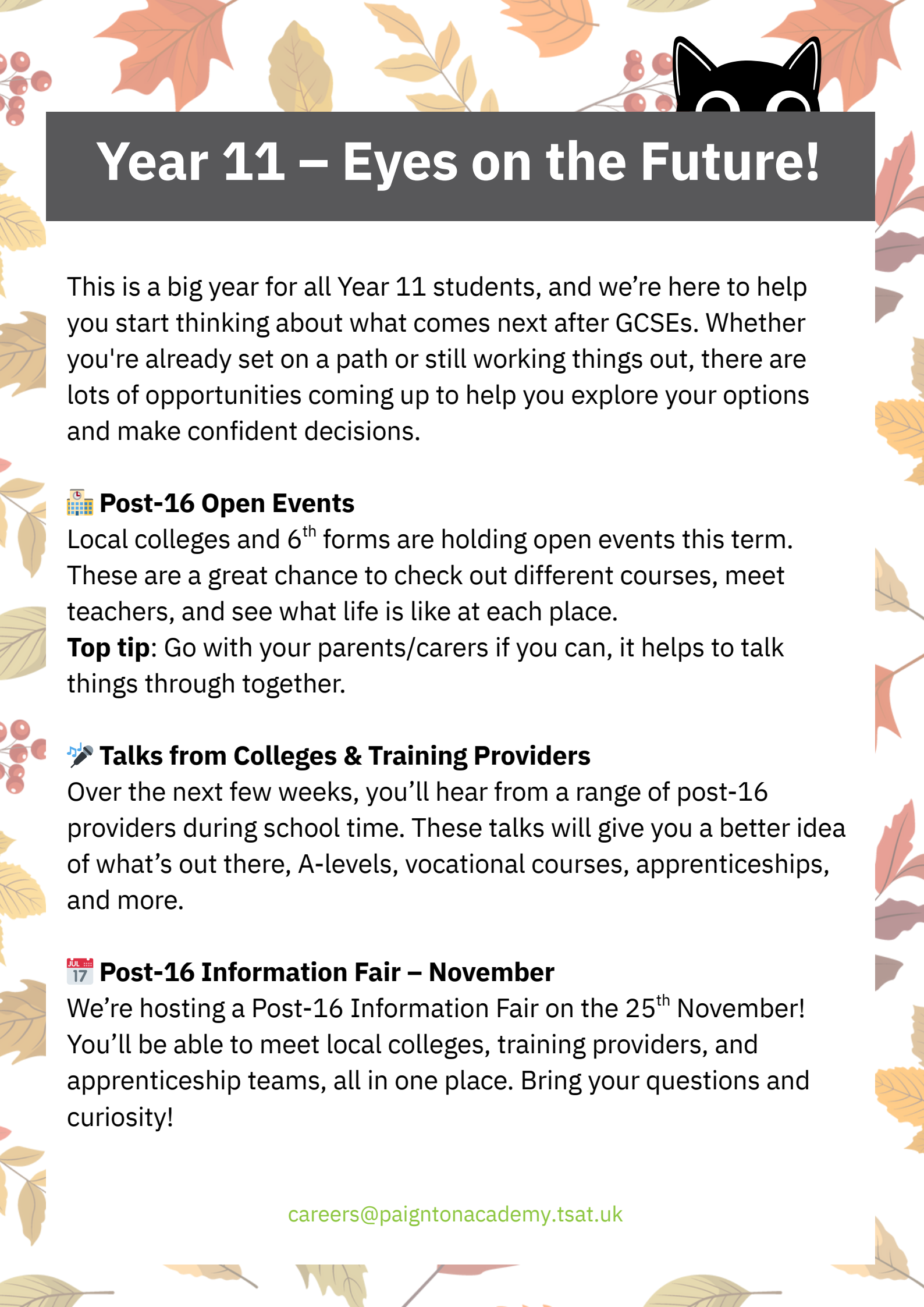
Aug-26									
03	10	17	24						
04	11	18	25						
05	12	19	26						
06	13	20	27						
07	14	21	28						

Jul-26									
06	13	20	27						
07	14	21	28						
01	08	15	22	29					
02	09	16	23	30					
03	10	17	24	31					

Jun-26									
01	08	15	22	29					
02	09	16	23	30					
03	10	17	24						
04	11	18	25						
05	12	19	26						

May-26									
Monday	04	11	18	25					
Tuesday	05	12	19	26					
Wednesday	06	13	20	27					
Thursday	07	14	21	28					
Friday	01	08	15	22	29				

COLOUR KEY									
  									
School Holidays and Bank Holidays First Day of Term Non Pupil Days									
Teaching Days Per Half Term									
Autumn	32	Autumn	34						
Spring	30	Spring	29						
Summer	24	Summer	35						
Total	184								



Year 11 – Eyes on the Future!

This is a big year for all Year 11 students, and we're here to help you start thinking about what comes next after GCSEs. Whether you're already set on a path or still working things out, there are lots of opportunities coming up to help you explore your options and make confident decisions.

Post-16 Open Events

Local colleges and 6th forms are holding open events this term. These are a great chance to check out different courses, meet teachers, and see what life is like at each place.

Top tip: Go with your parents/carers if you can, it helps to talk things through together.

Talks from Colleges & Training Providers

Over the next few weeks, you'll hear from a range of post-16 providers during school time. These talks will give you a better idea of what's out there, A-levels, vocational courses, apprenticeships, and more.

Post-16 Information Fair – November

We're hosting a Post-16 Information Fair on the 25th November! You'll be able to meet local colleges, training providers, and apprenticeship teams, all in one place. Bring your questions and curiosity!



Year 11 – Eyes on the Future!

Careers Guidance & Taster Days

Every one of you will get a one-to-one careers guidance meeting to talk about your interests, goals, and next steps. You'll also have the chance to attend a taster day at South Devon College on Thursday 9th December, so you can try out a course and see what it's really like.

What You Have to Do After Year 11

Just a reminder: in England, you must stay in education or training until you're 18. That could be:

- Full-time education (like College or 6th form)
- An apprenticeship
- Part-time education/training alongside a job or volunteering

Got Questions?

If you're unsure about anything or want to chat more about your options, the Careers Team is here for you.

 careers@paigntonacademy.tsat.uk

 01803 403003

This is your time to explore, ask questions, and start shaping your future. We're excited to support you every step of the way!

The Careers Team



Mrs Hay



Mrs Vere



Mrs Deane



Mrs Barter

careers@paigntonacademy.tsat.uk

Torbay Sixth Form Open Evenings 2025-2026

Torquay Girls' Grammar School (TGGS)

https://www.tggsacademy.org/sixthform_tours

admin@tggsacademy.org

Date & Time: Tuesday 11th November 2025, 6:30–8:30pm

Notes: Evening includes welcome speech at 6:30pm, site tours, subject area visits, and meetings with subject leads. Presentations for Oxbridge applicants at 6:00pm and Medicine applicants at 6:15pm.

Torquay Boys' Grammar School (TBGS)

<https://www.tbgs.co.uk/open-evening/>

enquiries@tbgs.torbay.sch.uk

Date & Time: Wednesday 26th November 2025, 4:00–7:00pm

Churston Grammar School

<https://churstongrammar.com/sixth-form/open-evening/>

secretary@churston.torbay.sch.uk

Wednesday 12th November 2025 6:00 -8:00pm

Torquay Academy

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/torquayacademy>

Date & Time: Thursday 20th November 2025

Brixham College

office@brixham-college.org.uk

Date & Time: Thursday 20th November 2025

St Cuthbert Mayne School

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeG23I0ZcMNGPPNcn3by6rxEli3J1LHZHcgj1knITOU8sR_GA/viewform

Date & Time: Thursday 23rd October 2025, 6:00–8:00pm

Torbay Sixth Form Open Evenings 2025-2026

South Devon UTC

[Southdevonutc.org.uk](https://southdevonutc.org.uk) Studentrecruitment@southdevonutc.org.uk

Date & Time: Thursday 16th October 2025, 5.00-7.00pm

Date & Time: Wednesday 22nd October 2025, 2.15-3.00pm

Date & Time: Thursday 6th November 2025, 2.15-3.00pm

South Devon College

<https://www.southdevon.ac.uk/event/open-evening-3-2>

enquiries@southdevon.ac.uk

Date & Time: Tuesday 7th October 2025 4.00-6.30pm

Date & Time: Wednesday 26th November 2025 4.00-6.30pm

Exeter College

<https://exe-coll.ac.uk/open-events/>

Use contact form on website

Date & Time: Tuesday 7th October 2025, 4:00–8:00pm

Date & Time: Thursday 20th November 2025, 4:00–8:00pm

Date & Time: Wednesday 22nd April 2026, 4:00–7:00pm



Thinking About a Future in the Army?

For students considering a career in the Army, especially as an Officer, there are exciting opportunities and generous financial support available. The British Army offers a wide range of roles across sectors such as: Engineering & STEM, including roles in the Royal Engineers, Signals, and REME.

- Medical - from doctors and nurses to biomedical scientists and dentists (with bursaries up to £75,000).
- Logistics & Support; including HR, finance, and supply chain roles.
- Intelligence & Communications - e.g. linguists, analysts, and electronic warfare specialists.
- Combat & Leadership - for those interested in frontline leadership and tactical operations.
- Music - for talented musicians looking to combine performance with service.

Students can apply for bursaries and scholarships worth up to £42,750 for STEM degrees, £24,000 for leadership potential, and £10,000 for Year 13 Officer Scholarships. There are also fully funded degrees in Leadership and Strategic Studies, and internships that offer hands-on experience at Sandhurst.

Interested? Visit jobs.army.mod.uk to find out more.

Year 10

Exploring the World of Work

As Year 10 begins, it's a great time for students to start thinking about the kinds of careers they might be interested in. Work experience is a brilliant way to get a taste of real working life, build confidence, and discover what suits your skills and interests.

There are many different sectors to explore, including:

- **Healthcare:** from hospitals to care homes, roles range from nursing and physiotherapy to administration and lab work.
- **Education:** experience life in a school setting, supporting teachers or working behind the scenes in administration.
- **Hospitality & Tourism:** ideal for those interested in customer service, events, catering, or working in hotels and attractions.
- **Construction & Engineering:** hands-on roles in building, design, and technical problem-solving.
- **Retail & Business:** gain insight into sales, marketing, finance, and customer service.
- **Creative Industries:** explore opportunities in media, design, photography, or performing arts.
- **Public Services:** including placements with local councils, libraries, and emergency services.

Over the coming months, students will be encouraged to start researching opportunities and thinking about what kind of experience would be most valuable and enjoyable. Assemblies and guidance sessions will help you get started.

Be curious, ask questions, and start exploring!

careers@paigntonacademy.tsat.uk

Year 10 Work Experience: A Week of Growth and Discovery

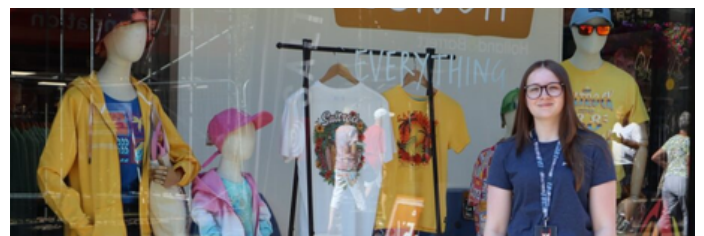
Year 10 students had a brilliant week exploring the world of work this July. From retail and healthcare to engineering and education, they gained valuable experience and built key skills like teamwork, communication, and problem-solving.

Some students chose to support the school by helping in the library, by giving it a fresh coat of paint, while others ventured into local businesses and organisations.

This experience helped students build confidence, develop workplace etiquette, and strengthen key transferable skills such as communication, teamwork, and problem-solving. While not every placement will lead to a future career, the exposure to real working environments is an important step in preparing for life after school.

For those who didn't secure a placement, a structured timetable at school ensured continued learning in Core Maths, English, and Science.

Well done to all Year 10s for making the most of this opportunity!





EXETER
MATHS
SCHOOL

FREEDOM FOR THINKERS

State-funded sixth form

for **able** mathematicians

from **South West England**

Bursary supported boarding

TASTER DAY

FOR YEAR 11 STUDENTS

Sign up to one of our free Saturday Taster Days to find out more about our school and to experience our **exciting** and **challenging** curriculum!

Choose from one of five events

4 October AM

4 October PM

18 October AM

18 October PM

29 November PM

Catchment area now including Bristol, Cornwall, Devon, Dorset, Gloucestershire, Somerset and Wiltshire

Find out more at bit.ly/EMSadmissions

SIGN UP HERE



admissions@exeterms.ac.uk | 01392 429020 | bit.ly/EMStaster25

careers@paigntonacademy.tsat.uk

DISCOVER EXETER COLLEGE OPEN EVENTS

7 October, 4-8pm

20 November, 4-8pm

22 April, 4-7pm (great for year 10's)

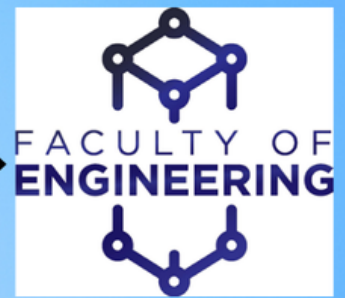
All city centre sites, plus the
Construction Centre and Technology Centre

- Attend a variety of talks throughout the evening
- Speak to our subject specialist lecturers
- See our facilities
- Find out about the support available
- Meet our students

exeter college



careers@paigntonacademy.tsat.uk



TO BOOK PLEASE SCAN QR CODE OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE

SEPT
17
WED

OPEN EVENT
2.15PM - 3PM
TASTER SESSIONS
3PM - 4.15PM

SEPT
25
THURS

OPEN EVENING
5PM - 7PM

OCT
16
THURS

OPEN EVENING
5PM - 7PM

OCT
22
THURS

OPEN EVENT
2.15PM - 3PM
TASTER SESSIONS
3PM - 4.15PM

NOV
6
THURS

OPEN EVENT
2.15PM - 3PM
TASTER SESSIONS
3PM - 4.15PM



YEAR 10 AND YEAR 12 SPACES AVAILABLE SEPT 2026

TEL: 01626 248982

EMAIL: STUDENTRECRUITMENT@SOUTHDEVONUTC.ORG.UK

KINGSTEIGNTON ROAD, NEWTON ABBOT TQ12 2QA



Open Days

Explore our campus, meet staff, and discover college life.

Saturday 4th October 2025 | 17th January 2026 | 25th April 2026

10:00am – 1:00pm

Taster Days

For students aged 14–16 to try a course and experience a typical college day.

Monday 27th October 2025 | 16th February 2026 | 27th May 2026

10:00am – 3:30pm

Experience Day

Year 10 students can try two courses in one exciting day.

Wednesday 17th June 2026

Speak to a member of the Careers Team if you are interested.



HALLOWEEN *party* IN THE LIBRARY

GET READY FOR SPOOKY
FUN BEFORE AUTUMN
HALF TERM!

WATCH THIS
SPACE!

CAREERS

@ Paignton Academy



Mrs Hay



Mrs Vere



Mrs Deane



Mrs Barter