

PETROC

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We understand that you may be exploring options for your child's next stage of education. This is both an exciting and important time, as they begin making decisions that will help shape their future. Please be reassured that we are here to support you and your child every step of the way.

At Petroc, we offer a wide range of courses to suit every ability, with a focus on providing high quality education with modern facilities, a safe learning environment and excellent teaching. We aim to equip students not just with academic knowledge, but with confidence, essential skills and experiences that will prepare them for higher education, training, or employment.

With a choice of **A Levels**, **T Levels**, **Apprenticeships**, and **Vocational** courses, we offer a wide range of learning styles and opportunities, ensuring that every student can find the right pathway to achieve their goals. Here is some further information about each qualification, to help you and your child understand what they involve and where they can lead:

COURSE TYPE	
A LEVELS	A Levels suit students who enjoy academic learning, offering two years of study that build research, critical thinking, and independent learning skills for university, higher apprenticeships, or employment.
T LEVELS	A T Level is a two-year qualification, equivalent to three A Levels, combining both classroom study with a work placement to prepare students for jobs or further study.
APPRENTICESHIP	Apprenticeships involve both paid employment and studying for a formal qualification. They're the perfect combination of hands-on experience and a salary - whilst also studying at college.
VOCATIONAL	Vocational courses provide a blend of classroom tuition mixed with practical, hands-on learning and work experience. They are available in Levels 1 - 3, depending on GCSE results achieved.

As your child begins their Year 11 journey, they'll soon be thinking about their next steps after school. We recommend getting applications submitted by Christmas of Year 11 to help secure a place on their chosen course, as some courses do have limited spaces.

If your child isn't certain about just one course or college, that is fine - they can apply for more than one option, providing them with time to think about the best option for their future.

Our School Liaison team will also be running sessions within schools, to guide students through the application process and what may be the best fit for the student. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact our team.

Advice & Guidance Team: guidancecentre@petroc.ac.uk

School Liaison Team: schoolliaison@petroc.ac.uk

As you and your child begin to plan the next steps, here is a key timeline highlighting when each stage should be completed:

TERM	ACTION
AUTUMN TERM	Begin exploring your child's options by attending Open Events and finding out more about the different courses available. Aim to apply by Christmas to ensure your child receives a space on their chosen course.
SPRING/SUMMER TERM	Your child will attend an interview with the course lecturer to discuss their options and confirm they've applied for the right course. If offered a place, your child can confirm the course they would like to accept or discuss further options.
SUMMER TERM	Prepare for the start of term - enrol on your course in late August, plan travel, purchase any uniform or equipment required and apply for bursaries if applicable.
AUTUMN TERM	Begin college!



PETROC

OPEN

EVENT

Wednesday 15 October | 5:00-8:00pm

North Devon Campus

REGISTER TODAY! petroc.ac.uk/open-events

SPORT
@TARKA
LEISURE
CENTRE

Whether you've got a clear goal in mind or are still weighing up your options, our Open Event is the perfect chance to explore what life after Year 11 could look like.

We're opening our doors so you can experience everything Petroc has to offer!

Here's what you can look forward to at our next open event:

- **Explore a broad selection of courses:** From A Levels and T Levels to Apprenticeships and Vocational qualifications - no matter what your interests are, there's a pathway for you.
- **Meet our lecturers:** Chat with our approachable, knowledgeable staff about subjects, career opportunities, and where your course could take you.
- **Experience our outstanding facilities:** Tour our industry-standard environments - including dynamic media and art studios, commercial beauty and hair salons, and our state-of-the-art Animal Centre.
- **Hear from our current students:** Learn what student life is really like at Petroc - Find out what college life is really like by chatting with our current students, who can't wait to share their experiences with you.
- **Get involved outside the classroom:** Discover Petroc Plus - our exciting enrichment programme featuring Sports Academies, clubs, societies, and our Students' Union.
- **Access personalised support:** Our experienced Advice & Guidance Team will be on hand to answer any questions about courses, careers, finance, travel, or additional support.

No matter where you are on your journey, we're here to help you make informed choices and find the course that fits your future.

Your future starts here!

SCAN QR CODE TO REGISTER!



As we enter the Autumn Term, join us in attending our first Open Event of the year, to explore what Petroc has to offer!

Open Events 25/26

- 15 October 2025
- 4 December 2025
- 25 February 2026
- 28 March 2026

If your child requires Additional Learning Support - whether for a sensory or mobility impairment, a long-term medical condition, a specific learning difficulty or a mental health condition - the Additional Learning Support Team at Petroc is on hand to offer the best possible support. Please do get in touch and we will be happy to assist you further.

Best wishes,

Heather, Aimee & Maddy
School Liaison Team
schoolliaison@petroc.ac.uk