

# Plumpton College



**Plumpton College**

**Spend a day  
experiencing  
the subject of  
your choice.  
FREE to those  
in Years 10 & 11  
at school**



## Plumpton College Taster Days for those at School 2011-2012

Further details from  
Plumpton College  
01273 890454  
[enquiries@plumpton.ac.uk](mailto:enquiries@plumpton.ac.uk)  
[www.plumpton.ac.uk](http://www.plumpton.ac.uk)

**Autumn Term 2011**  
Monday 24th October  
to Thursday 27th  
October

**Spring Term 2012**  
Monday 13th February  
to Thursday 16th  
February

**Summer Term 2012**  
Monday 25th June to  
Thursday 28th June

## **Plumpton College at Flimwell**

Plumpton College at Flimwell is a new training centre specialising in woodland skills, wood crafts and forestry and countryside. The centre is near the A21 at Flimwell, East Sussex on the border with Kent.

The centre comprises a new purpose built workshop and training centre in a woodland setting. It forms part of the Woodland Enterprise Centre where the award winning building provides additional training facilities and an exhibition hall. All buildings are constructed of local wood – Sweet Chestnut and Douglas Fir.  
Contact the College for details.

## **Plumpton College at Stanmer Park**

The College's horticultural facilities at Stanmer include classrooms, workshops, glasshouses and poly tunnels and provides an ideal environment in which to experience the world of horticulture.  
Taster Courses will be held at Stanmer subject to demand.  
Contact the College for details.

# Introduction

Plumpton College provides a wide range of exciting courses for those wishing to work in either the rural industries, or the great outdoors.

Our taster days are designed to give pupils in Years 10 and 11 an insight into the large variety of courses available at the College. Taster days provide you with an opportunity to spend a day experiencing a subject of your choice and will make it easier for you to make a decision about your future study and career. Although taster courses are predominantly for those in years 10 & 11 who will have priority, students in year 9 are also eligible.

The individual subject taster courses are designed for students who aim to undertake a level 2 or 3 course and are expected to achieve at least 2 good GCSEs before leaving school. Students who are unlikely to get two good GCSEs and might need some time to work at level 2 would find the more general Foundation Level taster course more suitable.

Taster courses are held at the College main site but also at:

- Netherfield (near Battle) – Agriculture & Foundation Level
- Flimwell (near Wadhurst) – Forestry
- Stanmer Park (Brighton) – Horticulture.

At the end of the taster day, there will be an opportunity for you to ask a member of staff any questions you may have and to discuss a possible career in the subject that interests you.

Do come along to meet our friendly and helpful staff and see what the College has to offer you.

We look forward to meeting you soon.

Des Lambert,  
Principal

# How to apply for a free Taster Day

You will need to do the following:

1. Remove the application form at the centre of this booklet and complete each section.
2. Ask both a school Careers Adviser or teacher to sign it and your parent/guardian.
3. If you have a carer at school who is going to accompany you then their details **MUST** be shown on the application form.
4. Return the application form to:

## **For taster courses at Plumpton College, Flimwell or Stanmer Park, Brighton:**

Karen Hayes  
Admissions Administrator  
Plumpton College  
Ditchling Road  
Plumpton  
Nr. Lewes  
East Sussex BN7 3AE  
Tel: 01273 892082  
Fax Number: 01273 890071

## **For taster courses at the Netherfield Centre:**

Debbie Hopkins  
Head of Centre  
Plumpton College at Netherfield  
Ivyland Farm, Netherfield  
Nr. Battle, East Sussex  
TN33 9QB  
Tel Number: 01424 838873

Please note that you may only attend a taster day for each vocational area once.

Although we endeavour to accept all applications, to make administration easier the deadlines for applications for all centres are Friday 21st October 2011 for October Taster Days, Friday 10th February 2012 for February Taster Days and Friday 22nd June 2012 for June and July Taster Days.

If you would like any further information before completing your application form, please telephone Karen Hayes on 01273 892082 (Plumpton College, Plumpton College at Flimwell and Plumpton College at Stanmer Park) or Debbie Hopkins, Head of Centre, Plumpton College at Netherfield on 01424 838873 (Plumpton College at Netherfield).

# Transport Arrangements

- **For Plumpton College:**  
A free bus service is provided which runs between Lewes Railway Station and the College. It leaves the station at 8.30 am and returns at 5.25 pm. The bus is clearly marked.
- **For Plumpton College at Netherfield:**  
A minibus is available to take attendees from Battle Railway Station to Netherfield and return them to the station after the taster day. Places on either the Lewes bus or Battle minibus services must be requested when you apply. Please indicate on the application form in the centre of the leaflet if you would like to use the bus service or whether you plan to make your own travel arrangements. If travelling by public transport, we would advise you

to check bus/train times in advance, as timetables sometimes change at short notice. Travel information is available from the Travel line – telephone 0871 200 2233 [www.traveline.info](http://www.traveline.info).

- **For Plumpton College at Flimwell and Plumpton College at Stanmer Park:** please contact Karen Hayes (01273 892082) for further information. If you think you may have a problem in getting to the College, please contact Karen Hayes (01273 892082) and she will try to help you find a solution. If a parent/guardian/friend is collecting you at the end of the day, please ask him/her to collect you from the main reception area at Plumpton College or the offices at the College Centres at Netherfield, Flimwell or Stanmer Park.

# Catering Arrangements

A free hot lunch is provided in the dining hall at Plumpton College for all those attending taster days. Please indicate on application form. You may, however, prefer to bring your own packed lunch and eat this in the Student Common Room or in the College grounds. There is a snack bar in the Common Room that sells sandwiches, rolls, hot and cold drinks, cakes and biscuits.

**Please note that there are limited catering facilities at the College centres at Netherfield, Flimwell and Stanmer Park so you must take a packed lunch and drink.** Please contact Karen Hayes (01273 892082) for further information.

# Clothing

Most taster days are practically based and you will spend some time outside. It is important, therefore, that you bring the following suitable clothing:

**Compulsory** for those attending taster days:

- Overalls or old clothes which you don't mind getting dirty.
- Sturdy boots, preferably Wellington boots or boots with steel toecaps. These are essential for Agriculture/Forestry & Arboriculture/Horticulture/Plant Machinery.
- A pair of clean shoes or trainers to wear when re-entering the College buildings.
- A suitable outdoor coat in case of cold/wet weather.

**Equine taster day:** includes a ride on a mechanical teaching horse not a real horse, so there is no need to bring riding boots, etc.

**Failure to bring the correct clothing or footwear will result in you being excluded from practical activities.**

# Plumpton College Taster Days

9.00 am to 4.30 pm

Please arrive by 8.45 am for a prompt 9.00 am start

## HORTICULTURE

Monday 24th October 2011, 13th February 2012  
or 25th June 2012

**Note the clothing list on page 4.**

Are you interested in maintaining, designing or building gardens? Would you like to work in glasshouses? Do you want to experience the use of horticultural machinery or design and build paving and fencing? The horticulture taster course will allow you to find out more about these subjects and the job prospects in the very varied world of horticulture. This is an exciting industry where there are jobs in the UK and elsewhere in the world and many of our students start their own business.



## COUNTRYSIDE & CONSERVATION

Monday 24th October 2011, 13th February 2012  
or 25th June 2012

Did you know that we have a large estate just waiting for you to explore? Woods, streams, farmland and downland, which are habitats for most of the wildlife in Sussex. Come and see for yourself what a career as a ranger might involve and learn some of the traditional countryside skills.

## FLORISTRY

Monday 24th October 2011, 13th February 2012  
or 25th June 2012

Do you have a flair for art and design? Do you love flowers, plants, colour and like creating things? Not afraid to get your hands dirty? So join us and find out what it is like to work in a florist's shop for a day.

You will be able to make a wide range of fun designs, from a rose buttonhole, a wrist corsage for your prom night to a beautiful flower display. Learn gift wrapping skills and some intricate bead and wire work. Lots of goodies to go home with!

Find out about the exciting job opportunities and career routes. Meet the tutors and find out about the great courses available. This could be the ideal career choice for you!





## GAME MANAGEMENT

Tuesday 25th October 2011, 14th February 2012  
or 26th June 2012

See the clothing list on page 2.

In the woods on our estate you will get a chance to see how birds are reared and cared for. You will be shown the practical skills you will need to learn to take advantage of the opportunities there are for you in a career in game keeping and estate work.

## AGRICULTURAL & PLANT MACHINERY

Tuesday 25th October 2011, 13th February 2012 or 25th June 2012

See the clothing list on page 2.

So you like the idea of working with tractors, agricultural or plant machinery? Why not get some first hand experience? Test your skills on our machinery. Find out if you have got what it takes for a career in agricultural or plant machinery and what to do next.



## ANIMAL CARE

Tuesday 25th October 2011, 14th February 2012  
or 26th June 2012

Do you like animals and care about them? Do you think you would enjoy working with them? Do you know the difference between a 'leopard gecko' and a 'viper gecko'?

Do you prefer rabbits, guinea pigs, cats and dogs? Come along to see the many animals we have. Join in the many activities planned for the day! Whether you want to go to university, work in a zoo, work in a pet shop or become a veterinary nurse, let us tell you all you need to know!

## BLACKSMITHING OR SILVERSMITHING

Tuesday 25th October 2011, 14th February 2012,  
or 26th June 2012

Want to try your metal working skills in our own extensive forge? Feel the heat and have a go at creating and shaping something useful. Come and see how creative you can be at blacksmithing or silversmithing. Find out which courses and careers are available.



## EQUINE

Wednesday 26th October 2011, 15th February 2012 or 27th June 2012

Do you like horses and being part of a team? Have you ever wondered what it could be like working with and looking after them? Come and join us on a taster day and have fun helping us do a range of practical activities... from health checks to loose schooling! Let us tell you all about the different things you can do from grooming, teaching, riding, taking BHS exams, running your own yard, to working in racing, or going to university!

**Note: A ride on a mechanical horse will form part of the day, applicants will need to bring sturdy footwear. Other safety equipment can be provided. Note the clothing list on page 2.**



## AGRICULTURE

Wednesday 26th October 2011, 15th February 2012, 27th June 2012.

Come and see if you can handle the calves, sheep and pigs on our own working farm. Learn about the countryside as a place of work. You can even get to drive a tractor and feed the animals. If you like the idea of working outdoors, then this could be just the career you've been looking for.

**Applicants will need to bring sturdy footwear. Please also bring a pair of Wellington boots. Note the clothing list on page 2.**

## SPORT (OUTDOOR EDUCATION)

Wednesday 26th October 2011, 15th February 2012 or 27th June 2012.

Do you have an interest in outdoor adventurous activities? If so, come and try an Outdoor Education course. Courses cover the theory and practical side of the challenging industry, with opportunities to take part in mountain biking, orienteering, climbing, mountaineering, expeditions, kayaking and open canoeing.

During the taster day you will complete some team building tasks, try climbing and mountain biking. At the end of the day there will be an opportunity for you to talk with a member of the Outdoor Education team and discuss which course might best meet your needs.



## FORESTRY & ABORICULTURE

Thursday 27th October 2011, 16th February 2012 or 28th June 2012

There's more to trees than you think! Come and climb a tree using professional equipment. Have a go at some woodland maintenance. Use our mobile sawmill to make planks from raw timber. If you think you might enjoy working 'in the woods', come along and find out about the great careers with trees and woodlands.

**Note: Please bring steel toe cap boots. Subject to demand. This course may also take place at Flimwell, subject to demand.**



## FOUNDATION LEVEL

Thursday 27th October 2011, 16th  
February 2012 or 28th June 2012

A taster course for those at entry level or Level 1. You will take part in a range of plant, animal and countryside activities which will give you an idea of what we do on this course. You will also be able to see what it is like to be a student in a land based college.

You will have the opportunity to discuss various career options.



# Taster Days at Plumpton College at Netherfield

9.30 am to 4.00 pm

A minibus is available to take pupils from Battle Railway Station to Netherfield Centre and return them to the station after the taster course. Pupils must reserve their place on the minibus prior to their chosen taster day.

## AGRICULTURE

Tuesday 25th October 2011, 14th February 2012  
or 26th June 2012

Applicants will need to bring sturdy footwear.  
Please also bring a pair of Wellington boots. Note  
the clothing list on page 2.

Come and see if you can handle the calves, sheep and  
pigs on our own working farm. Learn about the  
countryside as a place of work. You may get to drive a  
tractor and feed the animals. If you like the idea of  
working outdoors, then this could be just the career  
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what we do on this course. You will also be able to  
see what it is like to be a student in a land based  
college.

You will have the opportunity to discuss various  
career options.

**Note: If you are applying for a taster day at Plumpton College at Netherfield, the application form must be sent direct to:**

Plumpton College at Netherfield: Debbie Hopkins, Head of Centre. Tel: 01424 838873

Email: [debbie.hopkins@plumpton.ac.uk](mailto:debbie.hopkins@plumpton.ac.uk)

***Please also remember to bring a packed lunch and suitable footwear and clothing***

# General Information

## Links with Schools

The College works extensively with schools in many ways. The College Schools Unit can provide bespoke courses and provision for both primary and secondary age children.

This provision can be in the form of either a general or specific focus, and can be in the form of a 'one off' visit or linked to a range of work being carried out in school.

Contact Louisa Devismes on 01273 529096 or via main College reception on 01273 890454.

## Careers and Course Mornings

**Saturday 5th November 2011 & Saturday 3rd March 2012, 9.00am to 12.30pm**

This is an ideal opportunity for a visit to the College and to have a friendly chat about our courses. Staff from each department will be available to give information and advice on courses and career progression. Please phone 01273 890454 for further details.

## College Open Day

**Saturday 12th May 2012, 10.00am to 5.00pm. Free entry for under 16s.**

Plumpton College annual Open Day provides an opportunity to come and have a look around the College and to enjoy the wide variety of activities and displays. Not only is this a wonderful way to spend a summer's day in the beautiful grounds, but it also offers the chance to speak to staff and students about the College and its courses.

## Plumpton Horse Show

**Saturday 19th May 2012**

A wide variety of show jumping, dressage, gymkhana, and horse showing events are organised by students on equine courses at the College. Please send an SAE to the "Show Secretary" at the College for more information or look for details on the College website.

## College Open Day

**Saturday 12th May 2012, 10.00am to 5.00pm**

**Entry: free for under 16s, Adults: £5, Senior Citizens £3**

**Advice on all courses and career opportunities**

**"A Great Family Day Out"**

***Visit Plumpton College website for further details:  
[www.plumpton.ac.uk](http://www.plumpton.ac.uk)***



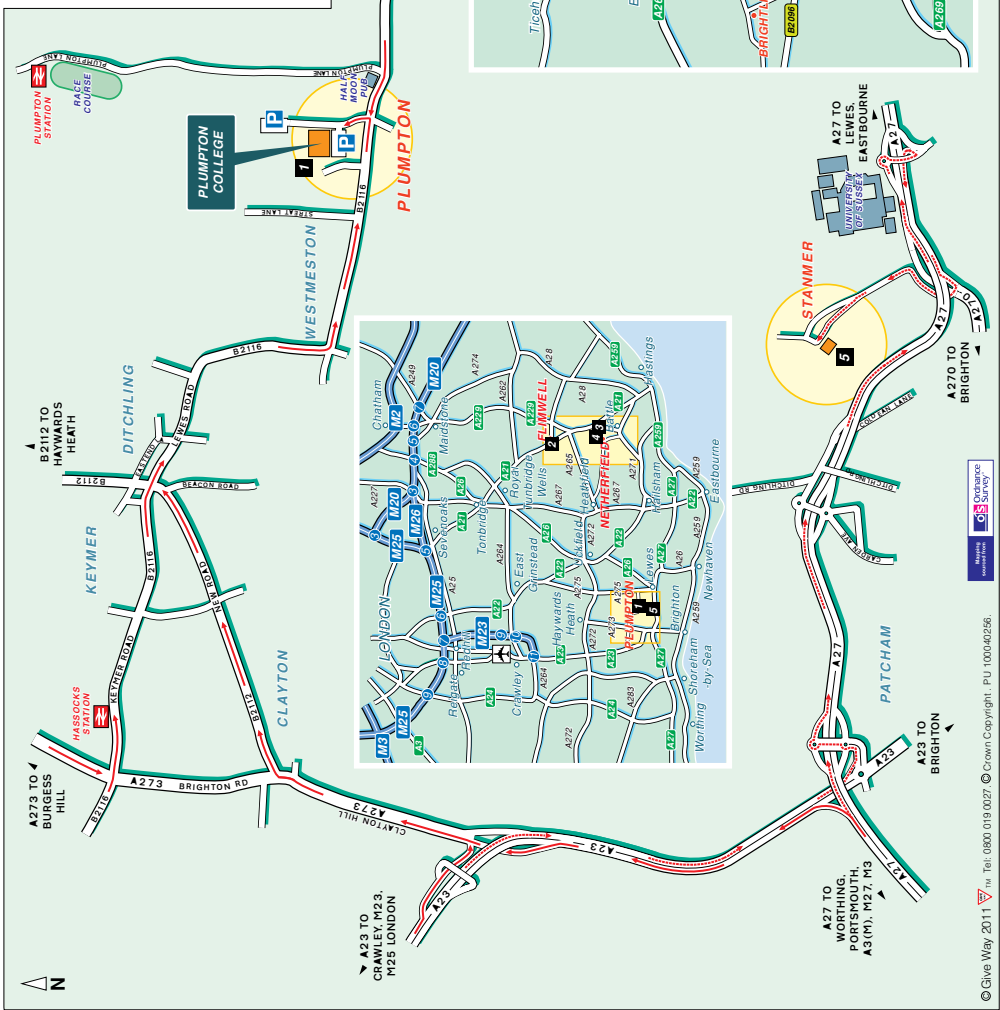
**1 Plumpton College**  
 Ditchling Road, Plumpton, East Sussex BN7 3AE  
 Tel: 01273 890 454 www.plumpton.ac.uk

**2 Centre for Sustainable Food, Farming and Forestry**  
 The Woodland Enterprise Centre, Fimwell, East Sussex TN5 7FR  
 Tel: 01580 879 547 or 01580 879 552 www.foodandfarmingforestry.co.uk

**3 Ivyland Farm**  
 Netherfield Centre, Netherfield, East Sussex, TN33 9QB  
 Tel: 01424 839 873

**4 Greenoak Farm**  
 Brightling, Nr Robertsbridge, East Sussex TN33 5HB

**5 Stammer Park**  
 Slammer Park, Lewes Road, Brighton, East Sussex BN1 9QA  
 Tel: 01273 879 363





# Plumpton College

Centres also at Netherfield,  
Flimwell, Robertsbridge & Brighton

**A SPECIALIST LANDBASED COLLEGE**  
Full or part time courses from school  
programmes through to Degree level

Agriculture · Agricultural and Construction Machinery  
Animal Management and Veterinary Nursing  
Countryside and Environment · Equine Studies  
Floristry and Horticultural Machinery  
Forestry and Arboriculture · Garden Design · Horticulture  
Landscape Construction · Metalsmithing and Silversmithing  
Rural Business Management · Sports Turf Management  
Sport (Outdoor Education) · Wine Business · Wine Production

## **Taster Days for School Students:**

**Monday 24th October – Thursday 27th October 2011**  
**Monday 13th February – Thursday 16th February 2012**  
**Monday 25th June – Thursday 28th June 2012**

## **Information Mornings:**

**Saturday 5th November 2011, 9.00am-12.30pm**

**Saturday 3rd March 2012, 9.00am-12.30pm**

Meet the staff, discuss your own course and career options.

Find out about careers in the landbased industries.

Meet current students. Department Tours.

**Saturday 12th May 2012 – Open Day, 10.00am-5.00pm**

Experience courses in action! Cost: £5 adult

Free entry: under 16s. Concessions.

In association with the Sussex Federation of  
Young Farmers' Clubs

