



*Equity, Excellence, Evolution*

*The Five Islands Academy is an all-age, multi-site, Church of England Academy, serving the island communities of Bryher, St Agnes, St Martin's, St Mary's and Tresco. It is part of the Leading Edge Academies Partnership.*

Friday 12th September 2026

### **Y10 Key Information and Guidance**

Dear Parents,

As your child is setting off on their GCSE journey, we wish to provide you with important information for the next two years and beyond.

To support you and your child, we have drawn together the information below as a checklist and guide. We've included a few things that have already happened to remind you of the whole process we have in place.

We are working towards confirming the exact dates so those outlined below are subject to change if needed. We will inform you of any changes as quickly as possible. All the events below are fully inclusive and appropriate adjustments will be made accordingly by liaising with students and parents.

What	When and Where	Responsibility	Outcome
999 / Ripple Effect Week (Complete)	May and July 2025	Mrs Lewin, with support from RJ Working and Devon and Cornwall Police	Students covered key topics such as respectful relationships, identity, social responsibility, personal safety, e-safety, drug and alcohol abuse, gambling, healthy relationships and the criminal justice system.
D of E Bronze (complete)	July 2025	Ms Stromberg	Participating students developed a portfolio of skills, service and sporting commitment, including participation in the July expedition, gaining experience for college applications and CVs.
College and Careers Convention 2025 workshops	FIA St Mary's base Thursday 9th - Friday 10th October 2025	Mr Garratt, FIA staff and delegates	Students experience a full two days of workshops and meetings to prepare for post-16 choices and beyond including support with CV writing and college applications.

*All aboard! Navigating together*

[www.fiveislands.scilly.sch.uk](http://www.fiveislands.scilly.sch.uk)

College and Careers Convention 2025 Delegate Fair	FIA St Mary's base. Thursday 9th October 2025	Mr Garratt, FIA staff and delegates	Students and parents are invited to a Careers exhibition to meet post-16 providers and representatives from the world of work and higher education.
Year 10 Parents' Evening	FIA St Mary's Base / online 12th March 2027	Parents, Students and Teachers	Parents meet with teachers and tutors to discuss their child's progress in all subjects. Data reports will be shared each quadmester.
College Trip: Preparing for Post-16 Life	May 2026 Proposed week commencing 5th May	Mr Garratt, FIA staff plus support from education provider staff	College taster visits based on broad areas of interest. Students will see college life in action and understand the shape of a range of post-16 learning options. Visits to campuses of Truro and Penwith College, Falmouth University and Falmouth Marine School
Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award training	May 2026 Proposed week commencing 5th May	Ms Stromberg	Students who participate will develop independent living skills including cooking, planning their time and preparing for the trips. Proposed dates to align with the College trip for cost efficiency.
Summer Exams	29th June-10th July	Students	Students will sit summer exams in all subjects, answering a limited number of GCSE papers.
Work Experience: local or mainland	13th-17th July 2026	Mr Garratt, Cornwall Council, students and parents, SENCO, SEND Case Worker (IOSSC)	Students will experience the world of work which will support their maturity, confidence, communication skills and employability. Work experience packages will be adapted for children with additional needs in consultation with the SEND team.
Year 10 written reports	Week commencing 20th July 2026	All teachers	Parents will receive a written update from all teachers on their progress throughout the year and next steps for Year 11.
Feedback / Feedforward Week	Week commencing 20th July 2026	Students and teachers	Year 10 will have three days before the House Cup for academic workshops reflecting on their summer exams and prepare for GCSE study in Year 11.
Ongoing research	Ongoing - at school in the careers library, online using college websites and resources on the <a href="#">school website</a> .	Students and parents	Students consider and choose their post-16 pathways.
College and Careers Convention 2026 workshops	FIA St Mary's base First week in October 2026	Mr Garratt and delegates	Students experience a full two days of workshops and meetings to prepare for post-16 choices and beyond.
College and Careers Convention 2026	FIA St Mary's base October 2026	Mr Garratt and delegates	Students and parents are invited to a Careers exhibition to meet post-16 providers and representatives from the world of work

Delegate Fair			and higher education.
College visits and course selection	Between May 2026 and December 2026 as a guideline	Students and parents	Students make applications to appropriate providers for courses they wish to pursue, linked to potential career aspirations.
Independent careers interviews with Lindsay Masters	In school between July 2026 and December 2026	Mr Garratt to set up interviews. Students are responsible for attending.	Students are able to make appropriate and personal choices based on independent advice and guidance.
College application forms, CVs and personal statements	Colleges open applications from October 2026	Students and parents	To secure an appropriate course.
Applications for bursaries and scholarships	From October 2026 onwards via direct contact with each school or college	Students and parents	To support with financial considerations.
Apprenticeship applications	Ongoing from September 2026	Students and parents	To secure employment with training.
Book lodgings / boarding	Once place has been offered	Parents	Students and parents are confident that students will be able to manage an independent life on the mainland, attend their chosen course regularly and make good progress in their education and training.
GCSE examinations	May - June 2027	Students, teaching staff	Students complete exam papers in exam conditions. Access arrangements will be made where appropriate.
Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award Expedition	June 2027	Ms Stromberg	Students who participate will develop independent living skills including cooking, planning their time and preparing for the trips. This will be an aspirational end of school trip with cultural opportunities built into the Silver D of E experience.
KS4 Results Day	August 2027 (tbc)	Hosted at Five Islands Academy	Students will share results with the intended FE provider to confirm their place or to secure an alternative. Staff and careers advisers will be present to support discussions with post-16 providers.

We are really proud of our ongoing developments in our programme of support for our students in KS4 and believe that the changes and improvements made will be of genuine benefit to all. Your feedback throughout the process will also be gathered so that we can continue to improve. Thank you in advance for your support with this programme of study and student development.

Yours faithfully,

Tim Garratt  
Assistant Head Behaviour and Aspirations