Where next after Copthorne!



Guests

- Mr Stuart McPherson – Head of Worth School
- Mrs Debbie Doran – ex-Copthorne teacher & parent of 3 children
- Mrs Rachel Renshaw – ex-Copthorne parent of 2 children
- Mr Nathan Close – Deputy Head at Copthorne

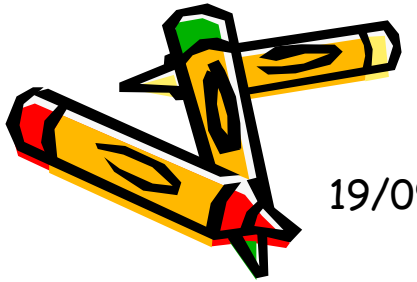


The history of Common Entrance tests



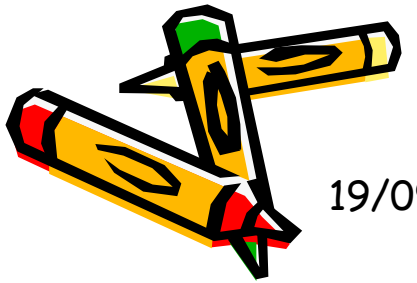
- From 1904 – 2014 children sat Common Entrance exams in Year 8 for 13+ transfer
- CE at 11+ for Year 7 transfer

Papers sat at child's Prep School but marked by the Senior school



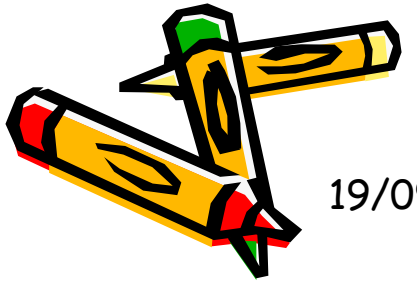
Since 2014

- More schools started moving towards testing earlier in Years 7
- Pen & paper CE exam being phased out and replaced with computerised assessments – sat either at child's Prep School or on an assessment visit to the Senior school



Since 2017

- Majority of schools that traditionally used CE are now using the ISEB Common Pre-Test at 11+ (Year 6) even for 13+ (Year 9) transfer
- Computerised test usually taken only once (at Copthorne) and all other schools can access the results

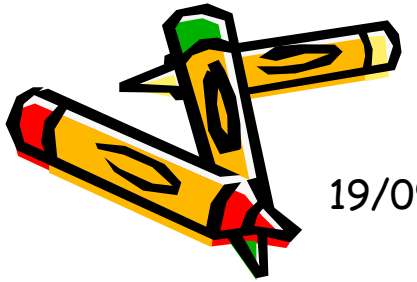


What does this mean for parents?



- **<u>Your children will be assessed in Year 6</u>**, even if you are committed to staying at Copthorne and joining a Senior school in Year 9.

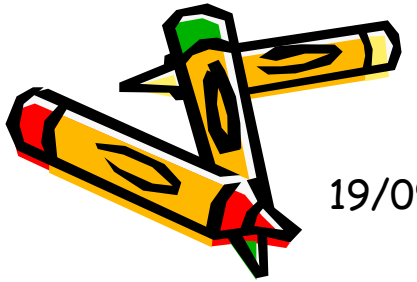
- You need to be looking at schools much earlier – in Year 5 not Year 7!



What does this mean for Copthorne?



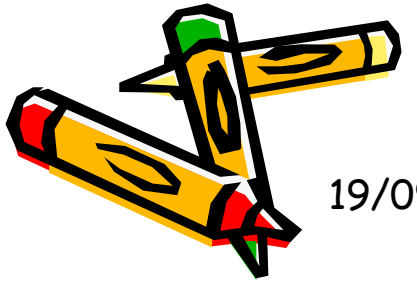
- We have to prepare children for 11+ assessments not 13+ assessments.
- We have to teach VR/NVR in Year 5 & 6 not Year 7/8
- We have to advise parents on suitable schools much earlier – Year 5 not Year 7



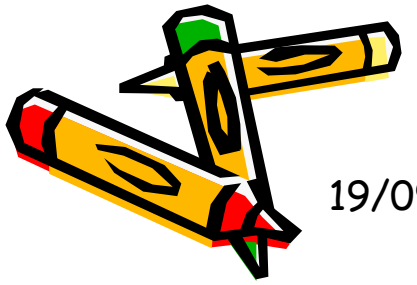
What does this mean for your children?



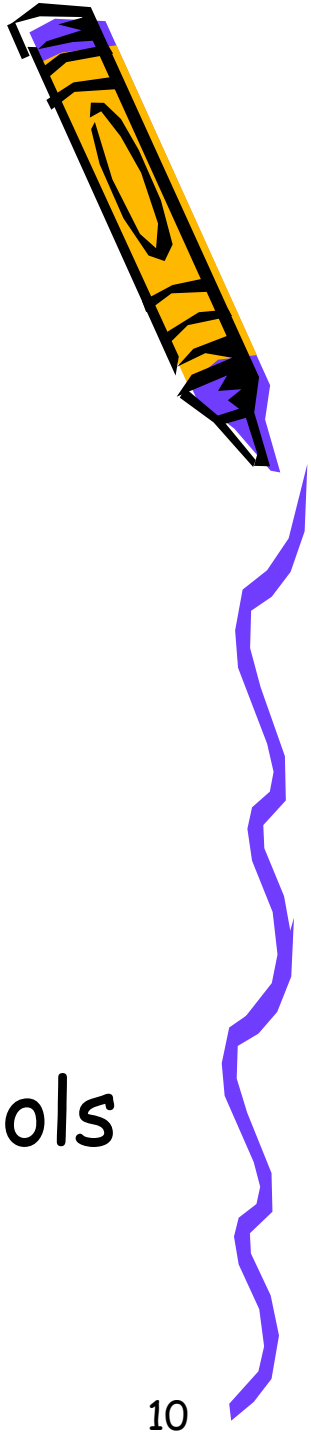
- A series of computerised assessments (ISEB Common Pre-Test or the schools own tests) usually taken in Nov/Jan of Year 6
- English, Maths, VR/NVR
- Interview at the Senior school
- Scholarship still usually done in Year 8



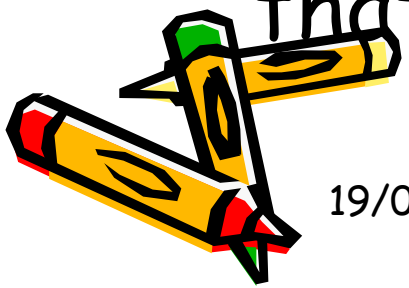
Senior School entry exams differ by school



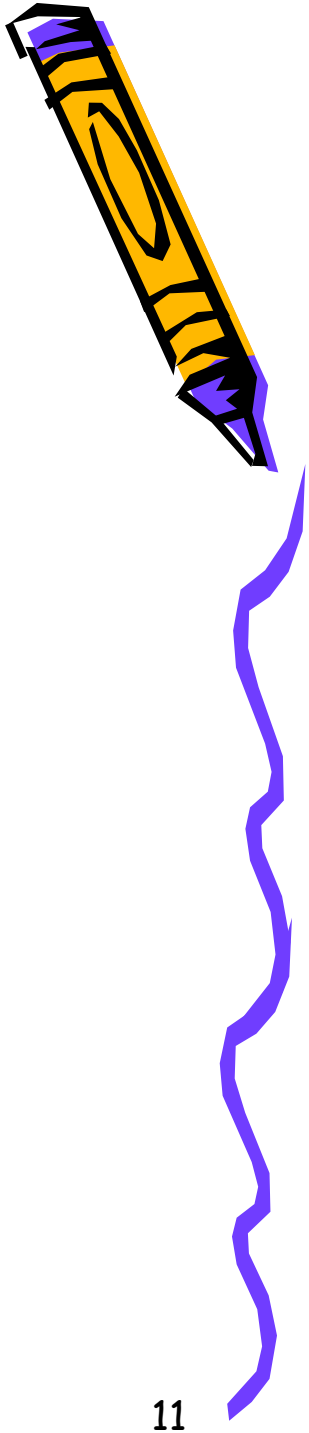
ISEB Common 11+ Pre-Test



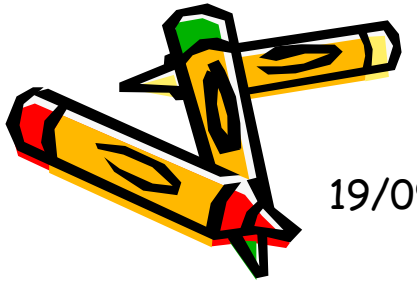
- Worth
- Ardingly
- Hurstpierpoint College
- Brighton College
- Caterham
- most other traditional Senior schools that used CE at 13+ previously



Schools own tests – still Maths, English VR/NVR based



- Reigate
- Dunottar
- Lingfield College
- Christs' Hospital
- Whitgift



11+ ISEB Pre-Test

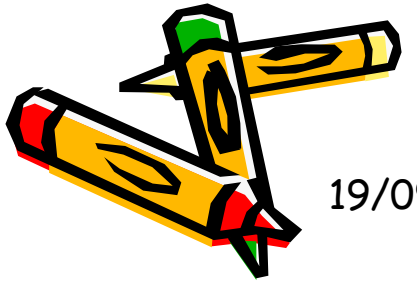
- Children usually sit tests in November/January of Year 6
- Reference from school requested
- The senior school (not us or parents) get results reasonably quickly
- Place offered and parents pay deposit (+/- £1000 - £2000) to accept the place

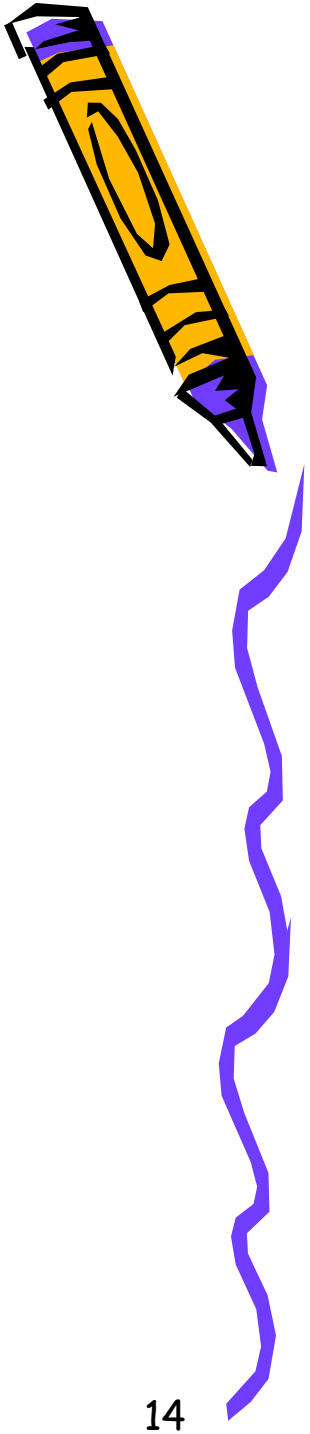


How does the process work?

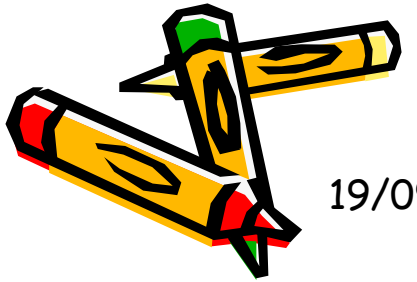


- Deferred entry means children stay at Copthorne in Year 7 & 8 and join senior school in Year 9
- Once you have paid the deposit the school will assume the child is joining
- If you don't subsequently join the school you may lose your deposit
- Senior School will monitor academic progress in Year 7 & 8 and many will want to see CE results from Year 8
- Scholarships are usually taken in Year 8

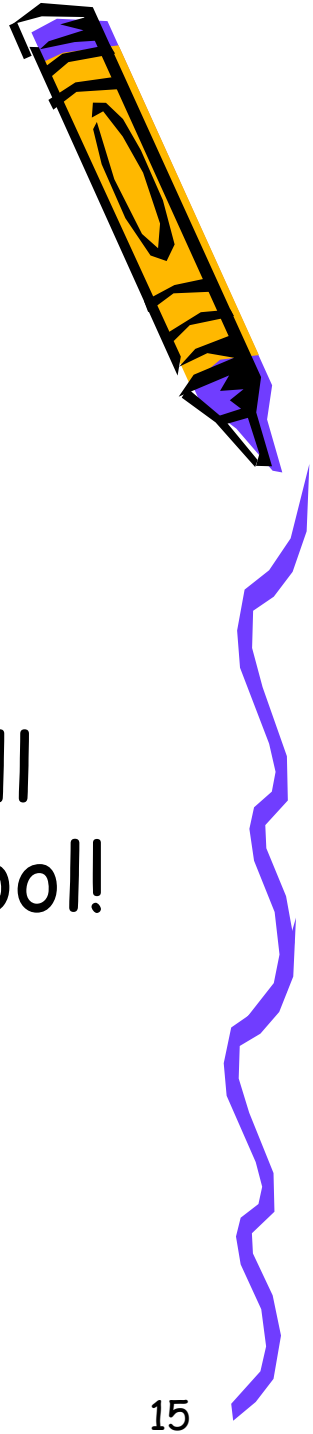




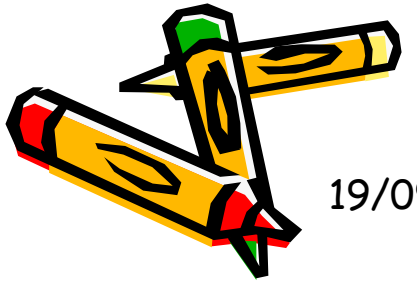
- When to move?



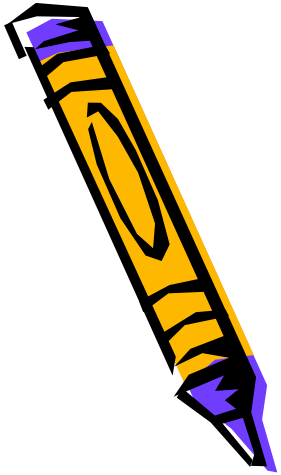
When to move – 11+ (end of Year 6) or 13+ (end of Year 8) ?



- Year 7 & 8 (in my view) are the still most important years at Prep School!

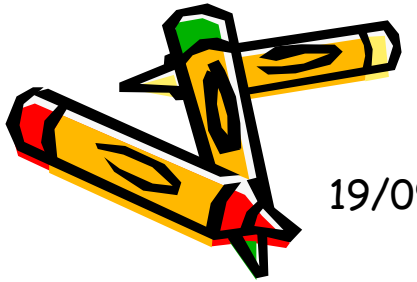


When to move 11+ or 13+



- State system transfers at 11+

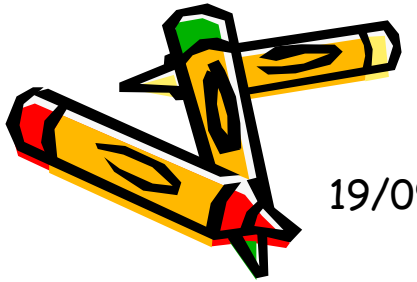
- Independent system has transferred at 13+ for hundreds of years because children are better prepared at age 13



When to move 11+ or 13+

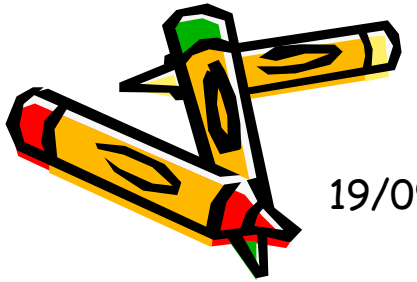


- If you know you are likely to return to the State System then it is easier to do this at 11+ when all children from local Primary Schools join
- It is possible to join at 13+, but is more difficult to guarantee a place at the right time



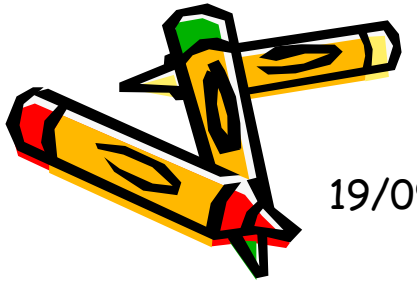
Advantages of 13+ transfer

- They are more responsible citizens – socially more mature
- They have maintained their innocence rather than been subjected to the behaviour/attitudes of hormonal adolescent teenagers
- Children are academically stretched by subject specialists
- Far more scholarships/awards are available at 13+
- Leavers Enrichment programme – French water sports trip, first aid, drugs awareness, Leavers walk etc. Community Service, Life skills - to develop the whole child



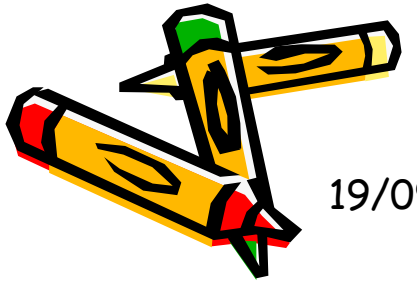
Why stay to 13

- Copthorne provides an 11 year journey from 2 to 13
- If you leave after Year 6 you have not yet reached the destination



Why stay to 13?

- Scholarship children are close to GCSE standard when they leave us
- Common Entrance standard is somewhere between year 9 and 10 standard.
- Copthorne children who leave at 13+ do very well at GCSE level.



Options at 13+
schools we have sent children to in the last 5 years

- Ardingly
- Bede's
- Box Hill
- Brighton College
- Burgess Hill
- Caterham
- Christ's Hospital
- Cranleigh
- Dunottar
- Eastbourne
- Epsom College
- Hurst
- King's Canterbury
- Lancing College
- Lingfield Notre Dame
- Reigate Grammar
- Seaford
- Sevenoaks
- Stowe
- Tonbridge
- Worth
- Whitgift





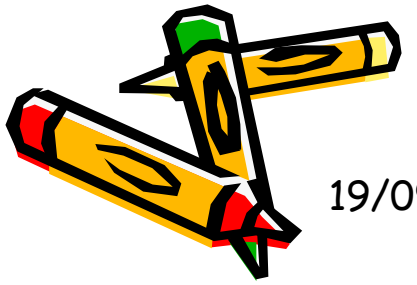
Why stay to 13

"Prep School Education is like a 10 year savings plan. All the real bonuses and benefits are built up in the last two years.

Leaving at the end of year 6 is like taking your money out before the policy has matured. You will get back what you have put in, but all the real benefits come in the last two years."



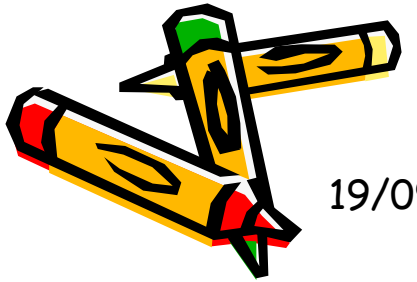
Conclusions and homework!



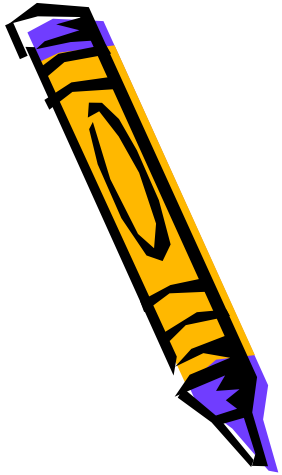
Crucial Decisions
WHERE TO MOVE?



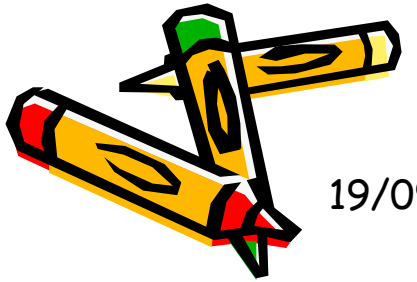
- Single sex/coeducational
- Day/boarding/flexi-boarding
- Geographical limits
- Economic limits
- Academic standards/SEN needs
- Sibling considerations



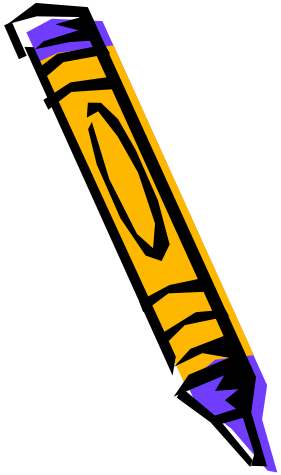
Crucial Decisions
WHERE TO MOVE?



- Strengths of child v strengths of school
- Rugby/soccer/hockey/lacrosse
- Art/music/sport/drama
- Scholarships/Awards



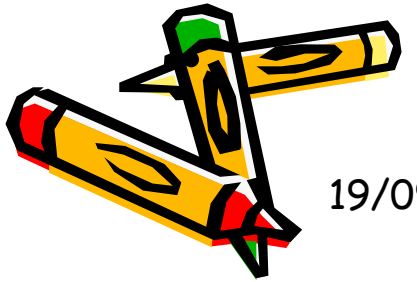
What are the key factors?



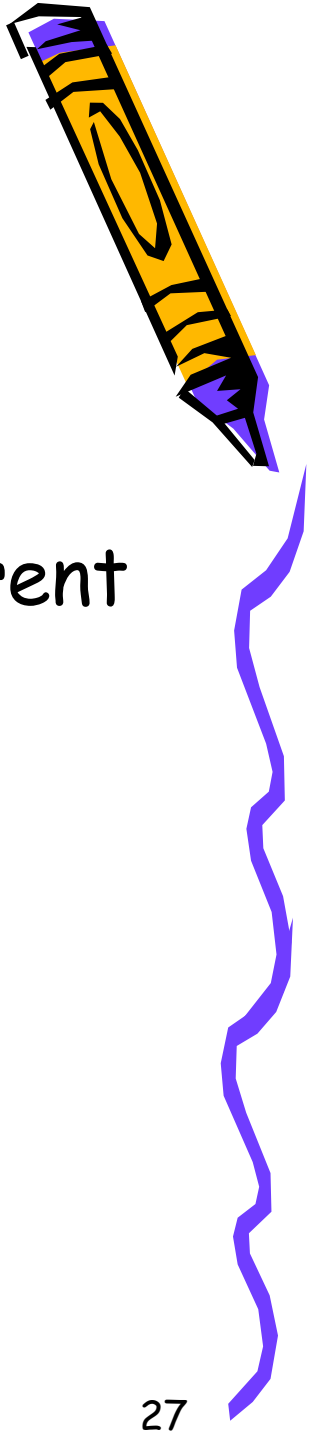
- Do you have unlimited choice?

Or is your choice:-

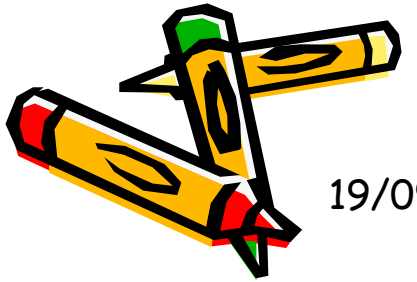
- Driven by cost?
- Driven by academic ability/SEN support?
- Driven by location?
- Driven by day/boarding?
- Driven by co-education/single sex?
- Driven by Scholarships?



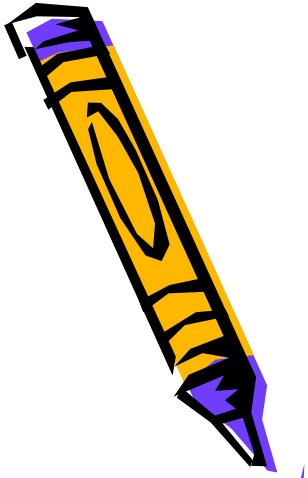
Next Steps



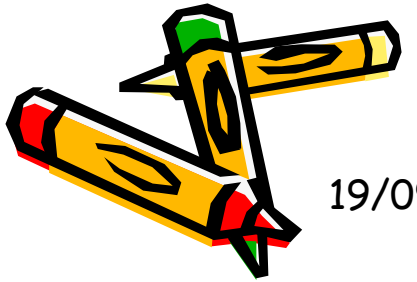
- Ask questions……tonight!
- Speak to me - I will be brutally honest!
- Do your research – every school is different
- Speak to other parents
- Go to Open Mornings
- Get a feel about several schools



Next steps

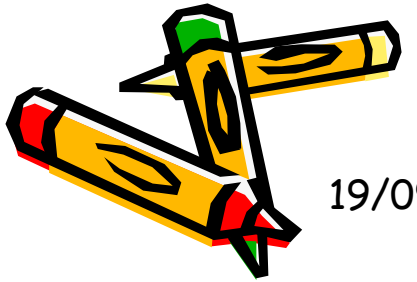


- View choosing schools like buying a house
- Decide on 2 or 3 based on your personal criteria and visit them
- Some feel right
- Always follow up Open Day visits with a one-to-one session with the Head



If you need help?

- Year 4 or 5 Parents – begin to think about options – come and see me after half term
- Go to Open Mornings
- Year 6 parents - come and see me soon!
- Year 7 parents – don't panic but …



COPTHORNE
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Where next after Copthorne?



Dunottar School
Eastbourne College
Epsom College
Farlington School
Hurstpierpoint College
Lancing College
Lingfield College
Mayfield
Reigate Grammar
Roedean
Seaford College
Sevenoaks School
Shoreham College
Tonbridge School
Whitgift School
Woldingham School
Worth School

Ardingly College
Bedes
Boxhill School
Brighton College
Brighton & Hove High School
Burgess Hill School
Caterham
Christ's Hospital
City of London Freemen's School
Cranleigh

Senior Schools' Exhibition

Tuesday, 9 October 2018
5.00pm – 7.00pm
Sports Hall

Questions?

