

Welcome to Higher Education Evening Tuesday 5th February



Higher Education Evening

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- 'Welcome' by Catherine Godyn, Assistant Head, Director of Sixth Form
- 'The UCAS process' by Julian Robertson , Leicester University
- 'WHSG process' by Vicky Watson, Head of Year 12 and Higher Education Co-ordinator

WHSG Process:

Given you an important document:

- The Higher Education/ 'Life after school' Checklist
- The 'UCAS Process'

- Help for students is available from Form Tutors, Mrs Watson, Subject staff and Final Reference Editors.
- UCAS administrator, Mrs McCormack

The UCAS application process

Started today!

Students attended a variety of sessions delivered by University Advisers in order to help them make decisions about what they would like to do with their lives beyond school. The sessions included:

- Choose your course/University
- The UCAS application process
- Understanding Student Finance
- Preparation for a successful personal statement
- Alternatives to Higher Education
- Information, Advice and Guidance

Students also had time with their Tutor thinking about their own knowledge and what else they need to know. The last session of the day involved reflecting on the information received and planning what additional research or actions need to be taken in order to make a successful application.

The UCAS application process

- Students were given a pack that details specific activities they will do during tutor/PSHCE time. All are designed to ensure your daughter is fully informed and can make the best decision for her as a individual.
- The pack details actions for every week until the end of the summer term.
- Work on personal statements will begin in earnest on 20th May – Personal Statement Day
- The majority of students should complete most of their personal statement before the end of the summer term.

Welcome to your Life Beyond School/Higher Education

PLEASE KEEP THIS DOCUMENT IN A SAFE PLACE – YOU WILL NEED IT TO IT.

IT INCLUDES INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO BE CONFIDENT ABOUT IT AND HOW IT COVERS THE PROCESS TO COMPLETE YOUR UCAS APPLICATION.

COPIES OF ALL DOCUMENTS CAN BE FOUND IN [W:\Key Stage 5\Life beyond school](#)

We have put together some information and worksheets to help you with your choices. The majority of you will be considering University much of our advice will be directed towards this however the thought processes and things you need to consider are the same whether you are comparing Universities or types of employers. If you feel the activities discussed in the pack do not suit you then please speak to your Tutor who will help adapt them to fit your individual needs. You will also find that some of the information that you have put into ULAS replaces the information on the worksheets – that's fine, use whichever works best for you but please make your choices through the thought process.

One of the main purposes of this information is to help you make an informed choice about what you want to do when you leave school – the more questions you ask and the more you think about your choices the more likely it is that you will be happy with the outcome.

Please talk to your tutor if you need any help as they will be leading the session.

The UCAS application process: What should happen from now onwards?

- Students investigate their choices – Tutor time and the pack will help enable this. Organise visits to Universities and ask those critical questions.
- Attend the Personal Statement Day on Monday 20th May and focus on producing an impressive personal statement
- Attend Higher Education Convention – Wednesday 19th June.
- Tutor will work on the reference in the summer term (same limitations as the personal statement).
- Student seeks advice from Tutor, Mrs Watson, Subject staff..... and then Final Reference Editor – when ready to progress.
- Your daughter needs to ‘own’ the process and be proactive.

Check the
additional
testing
deadlines

UCAS/Further Education Applications

Deadlines:

- Students need a strong draft of their personal statement ready for before they go on work experience and to have got advice from their tutor.
- UCAS Predicated grades will be delivered to students on the first day of the autumn term when they discuss their final choices with their tutors.
- UCAS Early Entry – Thursday 26th September 2019
- All other UCAS – Tuesday 12th November 2019
- Some Art and Design applications have a later deadline.

Useful resources:

- UCAS website
- Log onto www.moneysavingexpert.com and look at *You can afford to go to Uni* for information on student finance.

Most competitive subjects

- For Oxbridge entrance candidates typically score over 90% in at least two A level subjects.
- Interviews designed to challenge students until they hit the buffers!
- Extra tests are most likely required – each student needs to investigate for their chosen course
- Candidates must research extensively
- Need to be attending all events coordinated by Mrs Khan starting Wednesday 6th Feb. in E8

Medicine, Dentistry and Vet Science....and Law

- For Medicine, Universities receive from 5 to 15 students per place
- Dentistry usually more applicants per place
- BMAT or UCAT for most universities
- Academically challenging interviews
- High expectations of relevant work experience and community service.
- Students must be attending Medical/Dental Society and making the most of it.

Why apply early ?

- University of Sussex

‘an admissions tutor may receive around 50 applications per day in October and 500 per day in December’

Alternatives?

- www.notgoingtouni.com
- Higher apprenticeships v one year schemes
- Gap Year
- Study abroad
- www.prospects.ac.uk
- Different types of offer – just be aware

Key Advice

- Students need to show their love for their subject – don't shy away from academic reading. Make use of time now and during the summer.
- Taking too long to do the UCAS process – need to get on with A level studies and get those important grades.
- Show their personal statement to too many people, means they get conflicting advice. In school only show to 2 plus final reference editor.
- Complete the UCAS form accurately particularly exam results – saves it having to be returned.
- Make sure your daughters pick a range of courses – they need to be realistic.
- Please talk to us.