



## Sixth Form ASPIRE Programme and The Society



### Roles and Responsibilities

#### Raising Aspirations in Bedfordshire Project

Overall Lead: Professor Hubbard – SLT  
Secondment Project.

#### Identification of Student Groups using GCSE APS data (HPA, MPA, LPA) to focus aspiration initiatives

Overall Lead: Mr Huckle  
Assistance from: Professor Hubbard (HPA) and Miss Corbishley (MPA and LPA)

#### Personal Statement advice and guidance (Oxbridge, Medicine, Vet, Dentist)

Initial Lead: Miss Corbishley (Draft 1 and 2)  
Assistance from and transfer to: Professor Hubbard and Mr Huckle (Draft 3 and 4)

#### Reference writing (Oxbridge, Medicine, Vet, Dentist)

Initial Lead: Miss Corbishley (Draft 1)  
Assistance from and transfer to: Professor Hubbard and Mr Huckle (Draft 2 and 3)

#### Interview Practice (Oxbridge, Medicine, Vet, Dentist)

Overall Lead: Professor Hubbard  
Assistance from: Mr Huckle

#### Entrance exams (Oxbridge, Medicine, Vet, Dentist)

Overall Lead: Professor Hubbard  
Assistance from: Miss Corbishley

#### Oscar Project – Aspiration building, advice, and guidance

Overall Lead: Miss Corbishley  
Assistance from: Mr Huckle

#### Subject Tutorials

Overall Lead: Professor Hubbard  
Assistance from: Mr Huckle

#### Aspiration building through visits and trips (Future Options and Opportunities)

Overall Lead: Miss Corbishley  
Assistance from: Professor Hubbard and Mr Huckle

#### Wadham College

Overall Lead: Professor Hubbard  
Assistance from: Mr Graves

#### Lectures and Conferences – (Internal and External)

Overall Lead: Professor Hubbard  
Assistance from: The Society Student Leadership Group

#### Group 4 Project

Overall Lead: Professor Hubbard  
Assistance from: Mr Huckle

#### Alumni Course Seminars

Overall Lead: Mrs Hoad (Assistant Head of Sixth Form)  
Assistance from: The Alumni Network Student Committee

#### Connolly Foundation Student Awards Scheme

Overall Lead: Miss Corbishley  
Assistance from: Mr Huckle

#### Raising Awareness - PR

Overall Lead: Mr Tonking (Assistant Head of Sixth Form)  
Assistance from: The Public Relations Student Committee team

## Raising Aspirations in Bedfordshire Project

Overall Lead: Professor Hubbard – SLT Secondment Project.

The Raising Aspirations in Bedfordshire project is a collaboration between SWA (Lead School Academic), Kimberly College, (Lead School Degree Apprenticeship) and eleven other 6<sup>th</sup> forms in Bedfordshire:

- Wootton
- Van Dyke
- Harlington
- Biddenham
- Redborne
- Stratton
- Queensbury
- Sharnbrook
- Mark Rutherford
- Cedars
- Sandy

Funding for this project is from the Connolly Foundation and composes of 1 day per week for Prof Hubbard and 1 day a week for Mrs Ashby. The aim of the project is three-fold. Firstly, to raise the academic aspirations of students in Bedfordshire by supporting their development and applications to Oxbridge and Russel Group universities. Prof Hubbard will head the academic support, visiting schools once a half term and supporting personal statement development and applications.

Secondly raising awareness and support for Degree Apprenticeships across Bedfordshire though application support and partner events. Mrs Ashby will head the support for Degree Apprenticeships and visit schools once a half term to develop the support and resources they need.

The project also aims to develop teaching skills and knowledge within Bedfordshire by supporting the development of ITT teachers and extend their knowledge into the support for HA students.

The project has a natural connection to the Wadham project for years 9 and 10 PP students. All students on this project will automatically be enrolled into the RAB project should they enrol in a supported project for the 6<sup>th</sup> form.

## Identification of Student Groups using GCSE APS data (HPA, MPA, LPA) to focus aspiration initiatives

Overall Lead: Mr Huckle

Assistance from: Professor Hubbard (HPA) and Miss Corbishley (MPA and LPA)

At the beginning of Year 12, the ALPS data analysis system will be used to identify the following students' groups based on GCSE Average Point Scores:

- 1) High Prior Attaining (HPA) students
- 2) Mid Prior Attaining (MPA) students
- 3) Low Prior Attaining (LPA) students

Target aspirational support and challenge can then be implemented in all other aspects of the high attainers and aspiring high attainers programme.

Personal Statement advice and guidance (Oxbridge, Medicine, Vet, Dentist)

Initial Lead: Miss Corbishley (Draft 1 and 2)

Assistance and transfer to: Professor Hubbard and Mr Huckle (Draft 3 and 4)

At the end of the autumn term of Year 12, students will be surveyed as to who is considering applying for courses at Oxford, Cambridge and/or for Medicine, Veterinary Medicine or Dentistry. These students will form a group to liaise with the Post 16 Aspirations Lead initially to draft personal statements during the spring term. These drafts will be complete and on draft 3 by Easter of Year 12. The Head of Academia and Head of Sixth Form will then take forward with these students in further drafts up until completion of the personal statement by the end of the year 12 summer term.

The following will aid support and challenge for the personal statement writing:

- 1) The Society Workbook
- 2) Oscar programme
- 3) Zero Mentoring
- 4) The Society google classroom
- 5) UCAS survival guide

Reference writing (Oxbridge, Medicine, Vet, Dentist)

Initial Lead: Miss Corbishley (Draft 1)

Assistance and transfer to: Professor Hubbard and Mr Huckle (Draft 2 and 3)

The Post 16 Aspirations Lead will liaise with the Head of Academia to support reference writing guidance to staff in departments to ensure high quality and detailed subject references in prep for the early writing of the Oxbridge, Medicine, Vet and Dentistry references.

Draft one reference will be completed by the Post 16 Aspirations Lead in prep for September of Year 13. In September of Year 13, the Head of Academia and Head of Sixth Form will take forward in further drafts ready for completion at the start of October of Year 13.

Support and guidance for staff subject references:

- 1) UCAS Survival Guide
- 2) Guidance to UCAS subject references guide along with examples
- 3) Staff meeting with guidance to model outstanding reference writing
- 4) Oscar Project platform

### **Interview Practice (Oxbridge, Medicine, Vet, Dentist)**

Overall Lead: Professor Hubbard

Assistance from: Mr Huckle

Oxbridge interview practice, including medics, dentists and Vets will take place in the Autumn term of year 13. This will take the form of a number of internal interviews with Professor Hubbard and Mr Huckle to go over aspects of the personal statement, subject knowledge and wider knowledge.

A number of external interviews will also take place with project partner schools and academic partners. At the final stages of interview. Interviews will be recorded and stored in the bank of Oxbridge interviews for future students to use as resources.

Any student who is also aiming for degree level apprenticeships can access interview advice and guidance.

### **Entrance exams (Oxbridge, Medicine, Vet, Dentist)**

Overall Lead: Professor Hubbard

Assistance from: Miss Corbishley

Entrance testing will be coordinated by Professor Hubbard in association with Wadham College Oxford and Pembroke College Cambridge. Students requiring testing will be identified at course selection and registered within the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of the September term of year 13 to fulfil the new testing requirements of 30<sup>th</sup> September deadline.

Liaising with the Examination office Professor Hubbard will provide a list of students requiring testing and select suitable venues.

It will be the student responsibility to ultimately book external tests and confirm with Professor Hubbard that this has been done.

Oscar Project – Aspiration building, advice, and guidance (<https://youtu.be/PXjirN3Y3vs>)

Overall Lead: Miss Corbishley

Assistance from: Mr Huckle

**OSCAR (Online System for Completing Applications & References) is our online platform which has been designed with outstanding university applications in mind. This can also be used to support personal statement writing for apprenticeships and jobs.**

OSCAR supports and allows:

- students to develop competitive, subject-focused personal statements
- teachers to produce effective references
- students to submit drafts of their personal statement for review
- teachers or mentors to submit line-by-line feedback and comments

| <b>Students - Personal Statements</b>   | <b>Teachers - Reference Tool</b>  |
|---|---|
| <p>Once a school or college is set up on OSCAR, selected students will gain access to an activity-based process which helps them to:</p> <p>Display their academic personality and potential</p> <p>Provide evidence about key motivations for wanting to study a subject</p> <p>Showcase a piece of independent research (said to enhance the chances of receiving an offer)</p> <p>Analyse relevant academic activities and work experience effectively</p> <p>Report on a selection of extra-curricular activities</p> | <p>Outstanding university applications require outstanding school references. Our priority is for school references to be produced which provide clear evidence of the applicant's skill set, experiences and undergraduate potential.</p> <p>OSCAR's reference tool provides a clear breakdown of advice for both form tutors and subject teachers.</p> <p>Explore message categories that are sought after by admissions tutors</p> <p>Use the guidance to identify course related examples of applicants' academic skills and commitment to the subject area that they are pursuing</p> <p>Use the tool to complement and feed into any existing system for collecting references at your school</p> |

## Connolly Foundation Student Awards Scheme

Overall Lead: Miss Corbishley

Assistance from: Mr Huckle

The Aspirational Connolly Foundation Students Awards Scheme gives students the following opportunities:

- 1) Aspire to achieved the top grades in their three courses due to point two
- 2) Apply for a monetary student award if they are applying to University and are placed after their year 13 results. The criteria for applications is as below:

<https://www.connollyfoundation.org.uk/education/student-awards/>

The student award scheme is available to students attending our thirteen partner secondary schools in the county. This is an award for academic excellence open to students who are going on to university to study a range of academic subjects mainly drawn from the core subjects looked for by the Russell Group of universities.

Students who are in their final year in the sixth form are encouraged to apply for a Scholarship up to £1,000.

Students have to be studying two or more subjects from the following list: English Language, English Literature, Maths, Chemistry, Biology, Physics, History, Geography, Economics, French, German, Spanish, Italian and Russian, Physical Education/Sports Science, Law, Psychology and BTEC P.E. All students have to achieve A\*- B across their three A level subjects.

In addition, each of the Foundation's partner schools are invited to put forward up to six students for the Foundation's Discretionary Award. This award is at the discretion of the Foundation's seven partner schools and is available to students in full time education at the partner schools and who are aged 19 or under on 31 August at the beginning of their final year at school.

## Aspiration building through visits and trips (Future Options and Opportunities)

Overall Lead: Miss Corbishley

Assistance from: Mrs Hoad, Mr Tonking, Mrs Bonham and Miss Collins (Assistant Heads of Sixth Form, PASO, Sixth Form Administration)

This is to ensure all Year 12 and 13 students have access to a wide range of degree and apprenticeship providers every term. The following outreach trips will be organised:

- 1) Autumn term: UK University Search Fair – organised by **Miss Corbishley: Leicester Autumn 2022 Fair – Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2022 – Leicester King Power Stadium – in affiliation with the University of Leicester. 9.30am – 2.30pm: <https://www.ukuniversitysearch.com/fair-signup/leicester-autumn-2022>**

OR

Autumn term: UK University Search Fair: **Tottenham Stadium – Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2022. . 9.30am – 2.30pm: <https://www.ukuniversitysearch.com/fair-signup/london-autumn-2022>**

Both of these events offer the perfect way for students to choose which university or apprenticeship is right for them. This exciting and informative event will provide attendees with the opportunity to speak to a multitude of exhibiting universities and apprenticeship providers. These will include; Russell Group, red brick and modern institutions, as well as apprenticeship providers and local colleges.

The fairs will feature a wide range of vital **seminars** including: UCAS Personal Statement & Application Advice, Why take an Apprenticeship, Choosing a University Course, Higher and Degree Apprenticeships and Student Finance.

The event is perfectly timed to help students in Year 13 as they prepare their UCAS and apprenticeship applications. It is also ideal for Year 12s who are starting to make decisions about their post-18 education and career choices. This fair is also a great way to motivate and inspire Year 11s.

- 2) Autumn term: **UCAS Create Your Future London 2022** organised by **the performing arts department in liaison with Miss Corbishley: 3-4<sup>th</sup> October 2022 – ExCel Centre, London** – A unique face-to-face experience with hundreds of creative courses, apprenticeships, and careers in design, music, and the performing arts: <https://www.ucas.com/events/create-your-future-london-2022-416806>

- 3) Spring Term: **UCAS Higher Education Exhibition** organised by **Mrs Hoad and Miss Collins: [https://www.ucas.com/explore/search/events?refinementList%5Bevent\\_type%5D%5B0%5D=exhibition](https://www.ucas.com/explore/search/events?refinementList%5Bevent_type%5D%5B0%5D=exhibition)** Hundreds of universities, colleges, apprenticeship providers and employers ready to help you discover your future. Whatever you're planning, we've got you covered with:

- Live application clinics and personal statement workshops
- Course and careers taster sessions
- Student talks and Q&As
- Expert advice on how to research and choose what's right for you
- The chance to explore and meet universities, colleges and employers face-to-face

## Wadham College

Overall Lead: Professor Hubbard

Assistance from: Mr Graves

This project begins before the Sixth Form and aims at supporting and challenging students to aspire and join the Sixth Form to meet the students aspirations.

<https://www.wadham.ox.ac.uk/schools-and-outreach/the-wadham-project>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kpuXb2w-VDQ>

The Wadham Project is our sustained contact programme working with pre-16 pupils in Luton and Bedfordshire

- Curriculum-enrichment scheme from Year 10 to Year 11
- Students take part in a seminar series
- Thinking about university sessions
- Students visit Wadham and the university
- Support in Year 11
- Face-to-face where possible
- To improve knowledge of the benefits of university
- To improve super-curricular understanding
- To improve supra-curricular understanding
- To increase understanding of how university learning differs from school learning
- To improve the academic skills, particularly in ways that would support them at university and school
- To develop pupil confidence



## Subject Tutorials

Overall Lead: Professor Hubbard

Assistance from: Mr Huckle

Subject specific tutorials are a chance for a student individually or in a small group set up, to delve deeper into themes linked to a course area of their choice. Each fortnight, the student will attend a 30-minute tutorial with a subject expert in school who will plan a series of tutorial style sessions that will require planning and preparation. The tutorials are discussion based aimed at developing a student's verbal explanations and critical thinking of the content. The tutorial system is still the core of the Society offerings for 2022-2023 and will be maintained through interactions with heads of society, Professor Hubbard and Mr Huckle

Current year groups operating the tutorial system:

Year 10 (Society year 12 Subject leads)

Year 11 (Society year 13 subject leads)

Year 12 (Oxbridge LHH to conduct one to one tutorials at registration)

Year 12 (Subject enhancement through staff subject leads)

Year 13 (Oxbridge / Apprenticeship tutorials pre-interview)

Tutorials for year 12 Oxbridge to follow the Oxbridge scheme of work (LHH) and use the enhanced society work book. Any other student who is part of The Society group, but who doesn't want to apply for Oxbridge, but is aiming for Russell Group and/or degree level apprenticeships, can also be part of the tutorial system.

### Group 4 Project

Overall Lead: Professor Hubbard

Assistance from: Mr Huckle

Critical thinking exercise through an all-day event that enhances independent thinking, team work and decision making. This is compulsory for all Society members including students aiming for apprenticeships to enhance their skill set.

Two Group 4 projects to be undertaken per year at SWA. 1) Junior group 4 (summer term year 12 work experience week)

2) Senior Year 12 group 4 (summer term final week of term)

Professor Hubbard will organise with science department, completing staffing and logistical considerations.

### Alumni Course Seminars

Overall Lead: Mrs Hoad (Assistant Head of Sixth Form)

As part of the Alumni Network committee overseen by Mrs Hoad and the student leadership of this committee for the benefit of all students in the Sixth Form. Their aim is to work with departments and liaise with Sixth Form alumni to widen experiences and access to the alumni in terms of presenting their pathway and journey to where they are today. Enriching the curriculum with future options information and possible pathways to enhance students future research and destination decision making.

Alumni will be paired with certain KS5 courses to arrange for these in lesson seminars to be delivered and these will be publicised to all students who take the course and outside of the course to ensure all have access.

### Lecture Series – course lectures linked to Universities (Internal and External Lectures)

Overall Lead: Dr Haynes

Assistance from: The Society Student Leadership Group and Professor Hubbard

A suite of in school lunchtime lecturers will be organised and delivered for all students in the Sixth Form:

- 1) Internal lecturers from staff at SWA on topics of their choice – the timetable of lecturers for the academic year will be constructed by **The Society student leadership group and Professor Hubbard**. **Dr Haynes** will then publicise these and send reminders.
- 2) External lecturers from University lecture staff on a variety of topics linked to course areas. Allowing course leaders and teachers to offer a supra-curricular academic opportunity to enrich and extend the taught curriculum and to offer a flavour of University style lectures. **Dr Haynes** will liaise with course leaders and teachers to create links and offer these lectures.
- 3) Autumn term apprenticeship conference at SWA delivered by University of Bedfordshire staff. Compulsory for all year 12 students and offered as optional to year 13s. The conference September of the Autumn term is organised by **Professor Hubbard** and includes:
  - a. Apprenticeships – an overview and how do they work
  - b. Dispelling the myths around apprenticeships – an interactive application
  - c. Local apprenticeship opportunities
  - d. Employer talks
  - e. How to apply for an apprenticeship

### Raising Awareness - PR

Overall Lead: Mr Tonking (Assistant Head of Sixth Form)

Assistance from: The Public Relations Student Committee team

The Public Relations Student Committee, overseen by **Mr Tonking**, will work with The Society and the HA team to advertise through media what is on offer and the benefits of joining. Assistance will be given with social media platforms alongside the creation of videos and visual materials.