



YEAR 12
NEXT STEPS EVENING
Thursday 19th January 2023

This presentation and all links and emails will be available through the website and google classroom after this evening

Please do stay behind at the end if you have a question to ask us

Welcome

Mr Huckle
(Associate Principal - Head of
Sixth Form)

SPEAKERS:

Mr Huckle (Head of Sixth Form) – Welcome and the range of Options available

Mrs Hoad (Head of Year 12) – UCAS, student finance

OPTIONS AFTER Sixth Form

There are many options available to you

- University – including Foundation degrees
- Higher & Advanced Apprenticeships
- Sponsored degrees
- School leaver programmes (*works along the same lines as H&A apprenticeships/Sponsored Degrees*)
- Gap Year
- Work

Although it feels early it is worth starting research now



Options other than university

Higher & Degree Level Apprenticeships



- Higher & Degree Level apprenticeships are available at levels 4-7. They combine work with study and may include a work-based, academic or combined qualification; or a professional qualification relevant to the industry.
- You can apply for many of these apprenticeships and a place at university at the same time, and make a decision later in Year 13 depending on how applications go

National Apprenticeship service:

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>

Apprenticeships through UCAS:

<https://www.ucas.com/apprenticeships>

National apprenticeship week: 6-12th Feb 2023

<https://nationalapprenticeshipweek.co.uk/>

WORK PLACEMENTS



The benefits

- Soft skills
- Differentiate yourself & make yourself more employable
- Enhance your application forms & interviews
- Road test a company/sector/role
- Placement to be undertaken in your own time.
- Look for sponsored programmes like Nuffield Research

Placements: <http://www.nuffieldfoundation.org/nuffield-research-placements>

NCS/VOLUNTEERING



- Another way of developing skills that will put you at an advantage when applying for apprenticeships / work / university etc.
- Universities don't just look at your school grades, but what else you do outside of school – what makes you interesting?





INDEPENDENT CAREERS ADVICE & GUIDANCE

Independent Career Advice and Guidance appointments are available with Rose Birmingham from 4YP

Rose is able to give advice and guidance on:

- Career path exploration
- Information, Advice and Guidance
- Options, next steps, future plans, alternatives etc.

Students can make an appointment by emailing lfreeman@bestacademies.org.uk or visiting room 902

Work experience



- July 10th-14th 2023
- You should have already given consent for this week (this was due December) – we do still need these forms in. Next stage of this process is finding a placement.
- If you need any help finding a placement please ask in room 902, or email lfreeman@bestacademies.org.uk or rjackman@bestacademies.org.uk
- We have a 'bank' of previous providers who are happy to have SWA students so please do ask

How can the Society support University and Degree Apprenticeship applications?

Are you considering Russell Group, Oxbridge, Veterinary science, Medicine, or Conservatoire (e.g. music) applications?

THE RUSSELL GROUP OF UNIVERSITIES



The Russell group consists of 24 universities who consider themselves to be the 'top' universities in the UK. They have specific requirements for both GCSE and 'A' Levels. They are a self-appointed group.

The universities that are in the Russell Group are:

University of Birmingham, University of Bristol, University of Cambridge, Cardiff University, Durham University, University of Edinburgh, University of Exeter, University of Glasgow, Imperial College London, King's College London, University of Leeds, University of Liverpool, London School of Economics & Political Science, University of Manchester, Newcastle University, University of Nottingham, University of Oxford, Queen Mary - University of London, Queen's University Belfast, University of Sheffield, University of Southampton, University College London, University of Warwick, University of York



The Society

The Society is here to help you achieve your goals

It is run by students for the students across the school and departments

Everyone Can Join

Everyone can Benefit





Year 12 Training



Year 1

Start of Year 12:

Student identification - Student becomes part of the The Society

Analysis Interview

Student interviews to assess their subject choices and academic development needs for entry into the programme

Subject Tutor Allocation

Subject tutor is assigned to a student
Each student receives individual development tasks from their subject tutor where they can develop their subject knowledge and discussion skills
Student build a portfolio of enrichment tasks and outcomes

Student predicted a B+ grade

Students who are not targeted A* or A grade but are predicted B+ will be invited to attend The Society ILP programme



Year 13 Training



Year 2

Extension Activities

Students experience lectures and visits to a wide range of places and subjects
Group 4 further builds confidence and leadership skills
Subject mentoring expands vocabulary and skills
Step Mathematics
Subject senior challenge competitions

University and Apprenticeship Preparation

Personal statement guidance
References prepared by subject tutors
Interview preparation classes

Interviews

Important Dates



Early deadlines for UCAS application

Conservatoire (e.g. music) early deadline: **1st October 2023**

Oxford or Cambridge, or medicine, veterinary science, dentistry:

15th October 2023

Other courses: UCAS deadline is January 2024

Some courses e.g. law, maths, sciences, medicine require entrance tests –
read university entry requirements carefully.

The exams office (SWA) will help with entry deadlines and tests.

Test entry deadline could be September 2023!

**Do your research early – and certainly before the end of the
summer term July 2023**



BEGINNER'S GUIDE
TO THE UNIVERSITY
APPLICATION PROCESS (UCAS)

Mrs Hoad – Head of Year 12

www.ucas.com

What is UCAS?



- Central organisation through which applications are processed for entry to higher education (HE) courses in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.
- Electronic application form – at SWA we will start this process in June 2023, for 2024 entry
- Universities pay UCAS to process applications, and some universities/colleges manage applications separately e.g. private universities, art colleges, overseas universities e.g. USA
- Students pay UCAS to manage their applications – under £30 for 5 courses. The application is ‘blind’ (e.g. Nottingham does not know you have also applied to Sheffield)

THE UCAS JOURNEY



1. Potential applicant researches and finds a course, goes to Open Days, Spring-Summer 2023
2. Registers – starting the application online with UCAS.com for 2024 entry – **in school** during June 2023
3. Student works on application including personal statement with staff/family/other adults June-October 2023
4. Student completes form and processes payment (under £30) – e.g. October 2023
5. Tutor completes academic reference in form time Autumn term 2023
6. Academic reference and UCAS predicts added by school staff during final checking meeting (sixth form team) – sends electronically to UCAS – deadline Oct 2023 or Jan 2024
7. UCAS processes form and forwards to chosen universities, and universities submit decisions (make offer or decline - unsuccessful). **Some courses require interviews/portfolios/auditions.**
8. Applicant views decisions on UCAS and Applicant replies to offers (one Firm one Insurance) e.g. April 2024
9. Student and parents apply for **Student Finance** e.g. May 2024
10. Universities confirm places when results are released August 2024; if necessary – use Clearing on results day.

Attending registration, communication with tutor, checking emails regularly, and using resources on the year group Google Classroom – are all vital parts of the process

What can we do now?

As much research as you can.....



- Look out for our trip - Higher education and Apprenticeships fair – **March 28th**
- **Open Days** www.opendays.com
- **Read the website/prospectus carefully – do you like the course description?**

Can you visualise completing that list of modules?

- Visit the town/city – **Can you picture yourself living there? Campus or city?**
- Taster Courses/masterclasses/virtual lectures/MOOCs
- Subject specific events at universities
- Career Fairs, visit apprenticeships providers – ask for a day to have a work experience visit

Foundation degrees



- Not just for art and design courses
- Many subject degrees now offer a foundation year
- 'Year 0' rather than Year 1
- Extra year to prepare you for undergraduate study
- Different entry requirements to the degree – ideal if you have lower A level grades
- Can apply for a mixture of courses in your five choices e.g. two Year 0 and three Year 1 – remember the application is blind
- Universities are quite savvy at offering foundation degrees if your grades/results are not where they need to be for Year 1 entry

UCAS Tariffs (points)



UCAS points	A level (2 years)	AS level (one year)	EPQ	BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate (single)
56	A*			Distinction*
48	A			Distinction
40	B			
32	C			Merit
28			A*	
24	D		A	
20		A	B	
16	E	B	C	Pass
12		C	D	
10		D		
8			E	
6		E		

e.g. 120 points would be
BBB (A levels)
Or
Dist Dist Merit
(BTECs: 128 points)

e.g. 96 points would be
CCC (A levels)
Mer Mer Mer (BTECs)

Other qualifications also count e.g. Dance grade 8 distinction = 20 points; Music Grade 8 distinction = 30 points!

Personal statement



What can you do to help?

- Encourage participation – e.g. helping at scouts; sports teams; hobbies and spare time activities
- Part-time jobs
- Work experience
- Extra reading in interesting topic areas
- MOOCs – Massive Open Online Courses
- Research and visiting universities for open days, day trips

CONFIRMING YOUR PLACE – AUGUST 2024

1. Exam results are issued to applicant
2. Admissions staff check if you have matched the conditions of their offer
3. If yes, you will be sent an official confirmation of your place on UCAS and via email. Well done!
4. **If no – speak to the sixth form team straight away**



Unconditional Offers – a cautionary tale....



- Several institutions are making unconditional offers. Some have decided not to.
- Some will promise to change a grade offer to unconditional if the student chooses them as their firm choice.
- Poor/failed A levels can cause problems in the future with employment – e.g. competition for jobs or further qualifications.
- Many unconditional offers are not ‘unconditional’ – and may require you to pass the A levels that are on your application.

Other incentives



Some universities are also offering:-

- Free laptop
- Cash
- Cash for EPQ A grades
- First choice of accommodation for early firm choice
- Reduced grade offers
- Scholarships
- Bursaries

It is important to choose a university on the basis of the quality of the degree and teaching, and future employment prospects.

STUDENT FINANCE



- Tuition Fees loan – direct to university
- Maintenance loan – means tested (household)

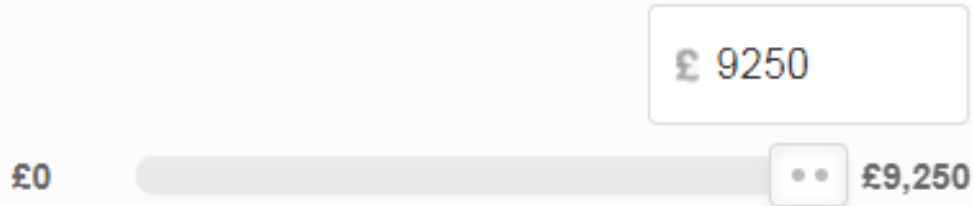
<https://www.gov.uk/student-finance>

<https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/students/student-finance-calculator>

<https://university.which.co.uk/advice/advice-for-parents/parents-what-you-need-to-know-about-student-finance>

Worried about borrowing so much money?

Tuition fees loan (per year) ?



Maintenance loan (per year) ?



Likely starting salary ?



£14,420

What you
repay? ?

£7,270

Converted to
today's money ?

Remember, this is based on your salary
increasing to **£103,730** by the time your debts
clear (in **30** years).

For lower salaries, the amount you repay
won't change as you vary the fees or loan -
this is because the debt disappears after 30
years

Pay 9% over £25,000 e.g.
if you earn £30,000 – you
pay 9% of £5,000 which is
£450 = £38 per month,
taken from your payslip.

Annual income	Amount of income that repayments (9%) will be deducted from ie threshold (£25,725) minus annual income	Annual repayment
Up to £25,725	£0	£0
£30,000	£4,275	£385
£35,000	£9,275	£835
£45,000	£19,275	£1,735
£55,000	£29,275	£2,635

GAP YEAR



a period, typically an academic year, taken by a student as a break between school and university or college education.

- Experience a different culture
- Learn a new language
- Develop new life skills
- Discover a hidden passion
- Prep for college/University/Life
- Improve yourself
- Live life to the fullest
- Boost your job prospects
- Breakdown classroom walls
- Have fun and make long lasting friendships.
- **NOTE: Mention your intentions on your UCAS application and discuss with your chosen university – some courses may not be suitable for doing this – talk to the University Tutors.**
- **Apply while you are still at Samuel Whitbread – and choose to defer later on, or when you apply select the next year as your admission date (i.e. September 2025)**

What is best for me?

Please consider which University, Apprenticeship or job that you are applying for based on your:

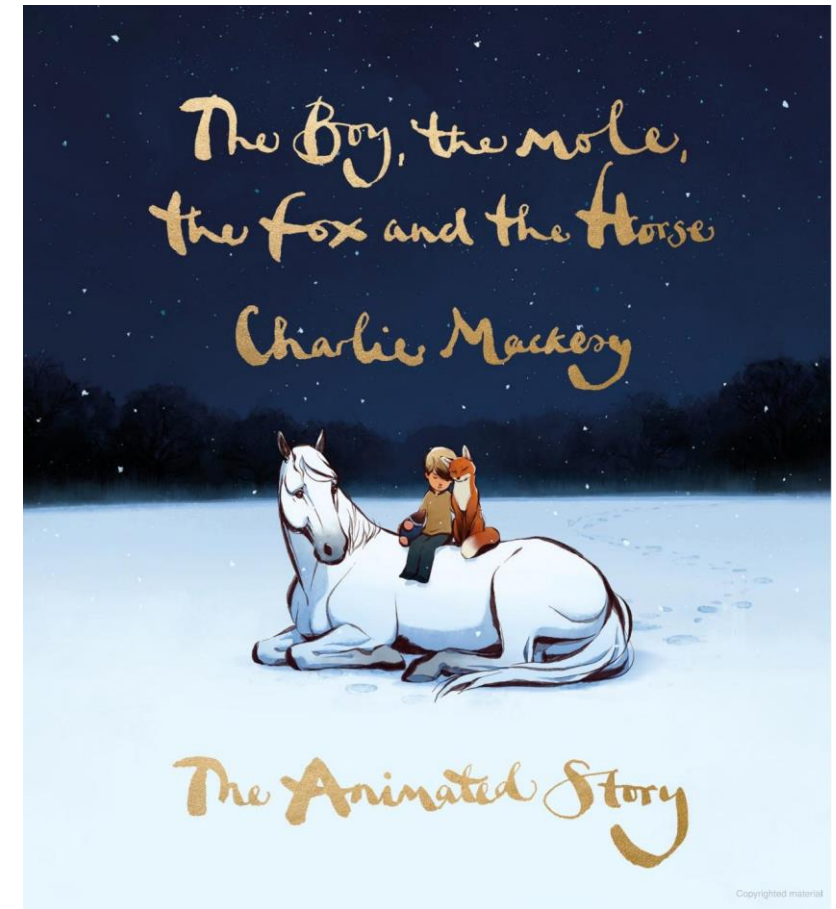
- Academic ability (Degree/Foundation Degree)
- Employability (post degree)

<https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/advice-and-guidance/student-information-and-data/discover-universities-and-unistats/>

Passion!

Just the next step....

- Anxiety, worry, and stress are all natural and useful human emotions. It is OK to be worried by the thought about having to make 'big' decisions.
- How do I get all the way through the forest?
- Just think about the next step. Just one step forward.....



COMMUNICATION



- Your student email account – check it regularly – you could be missing out on valuable information e.g. work experience emails, apprenticeship opportunities
- **Tutor – all have experience of applications and UCAS**

Head of Year – shoad@bestacademies.org.uk

Admissions and UCAS queries – lcollins@bestacademies.org.uk

Email addresses:

lhuckle

Careers: eforeman

Society: lhubbard

Followed by **@bestacademies.org.uk**

Questions?

Please do stay behind or email us directly

First point of contact is form tutor – emails below:

12A	srichards	12F	jphilbin
12B	kwest	12G	nsahai
12C	mbarber	12H	acorbishley
12D	dhardy	12J	dkelly
12E	minns	12K	jhaigh

Thank you very much for listening – the slides and all links will be posted soon on the website and Google Classroom