



# Year 11 Parents' Information Evening 2023





# Key dates and information for Year 11

Pastoral support

Next steps post-16

This presentation will be available on  
the school website tomorrow





# Planning for success





**Term 1- Assessment 1, Report**

**Term 2 – TRIAL EXAM WEEK**  
**13- 18 November**

**Term 3 – Assessment 3, Report,**  
**Exam information evening**

**Term 4- Assessment 4, Parents**  
**evening**

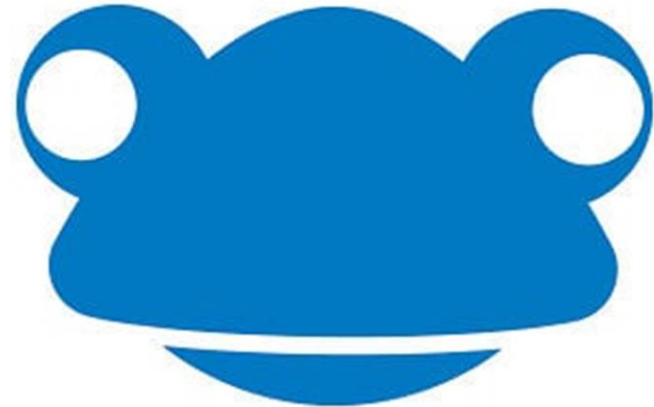
**Term 5- SUMMER EXAM SEASON**  
**9 May- 22 June**



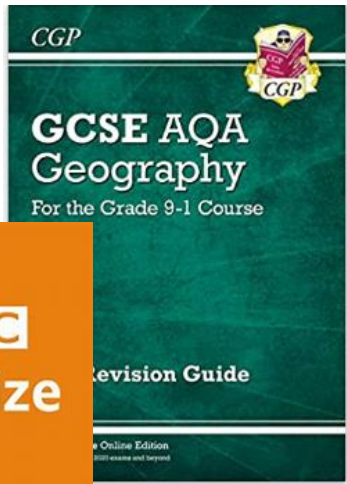
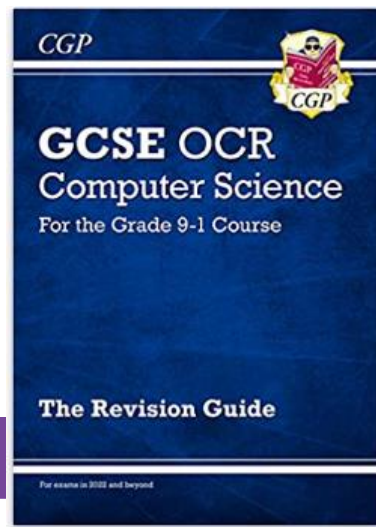
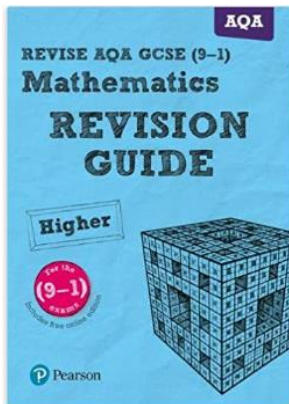


# Home Learning

- Every subject will set a piece of home learning once a week
- All tasks will be set on Frog
- ...which means you can check!
- Space and time to work at home



Check the exam board for each subject before you buy!



**Bitesize**

Home | Learn & revise | Support | Careers | My Bitesize | All Bitesize

Change language -

**GCSE**

**History**

Exam board content from BBC Bitesize for students in England, Northern Ireland or Wales. Choose the exam specification that matches the one you study.

Part of **Learn & revise**





Alongside Sparx home learning students will receive fortnightly past papers

Year 11 past paper schedule will begin in October.

Students will have two practice papers ahead of trial exams as revision.

Whilst it is not compulsory to have a physical copy, in our opinion it does increase the effectiveness of the exam preparation, particularly where graphical diagrams are included.

We are therefore asking for a contribution of £6 per student to go towards printing costs.

Please see letter via parent pay for more details.

# Maths kit

Bring this equipment to all your maths lessons.



- 2 Pens
- Pencil
- Eraser
- Ruler
- Sharpener
- Protractor
- Compass
- Scientific calculator

Note on scientific calculator:

Students need to be familiar with their calculator before using it in an exam. If you are looking to purchase one, the Casio fx-85GT CW is the most common calculator used by Yr11 students.








# Why do trial exams matter?

Early revision practice – what works,  
what doesn't work

The exam “experience”

Next steps – feedback

## What you will need:

- a clear pencil case 
- at least two black ink pens – blue pens are not acceptable 
- an approved calculator for relevant exams 
- appropriate apparatus such as a ruler or protractor for relevant exams 
- a clear water bottle if you wish to take one in – it must not have a label 



# Subjects with non-examined elements:

Art

Textiles

Child Development

Design Technology

Drama

Food preparation and nutrition

Music

Music technology

Performing Arts

Photography

PE

Sports Studies



- **Good attendance**
- The right equipment- every lesson, every day
- **Stay positive- it's a step up**
- Communication with school- tutor
- Encourage your child to ask for help
- Talk to them about their learning





# Pastoral Provision

including mental health & wellbeing

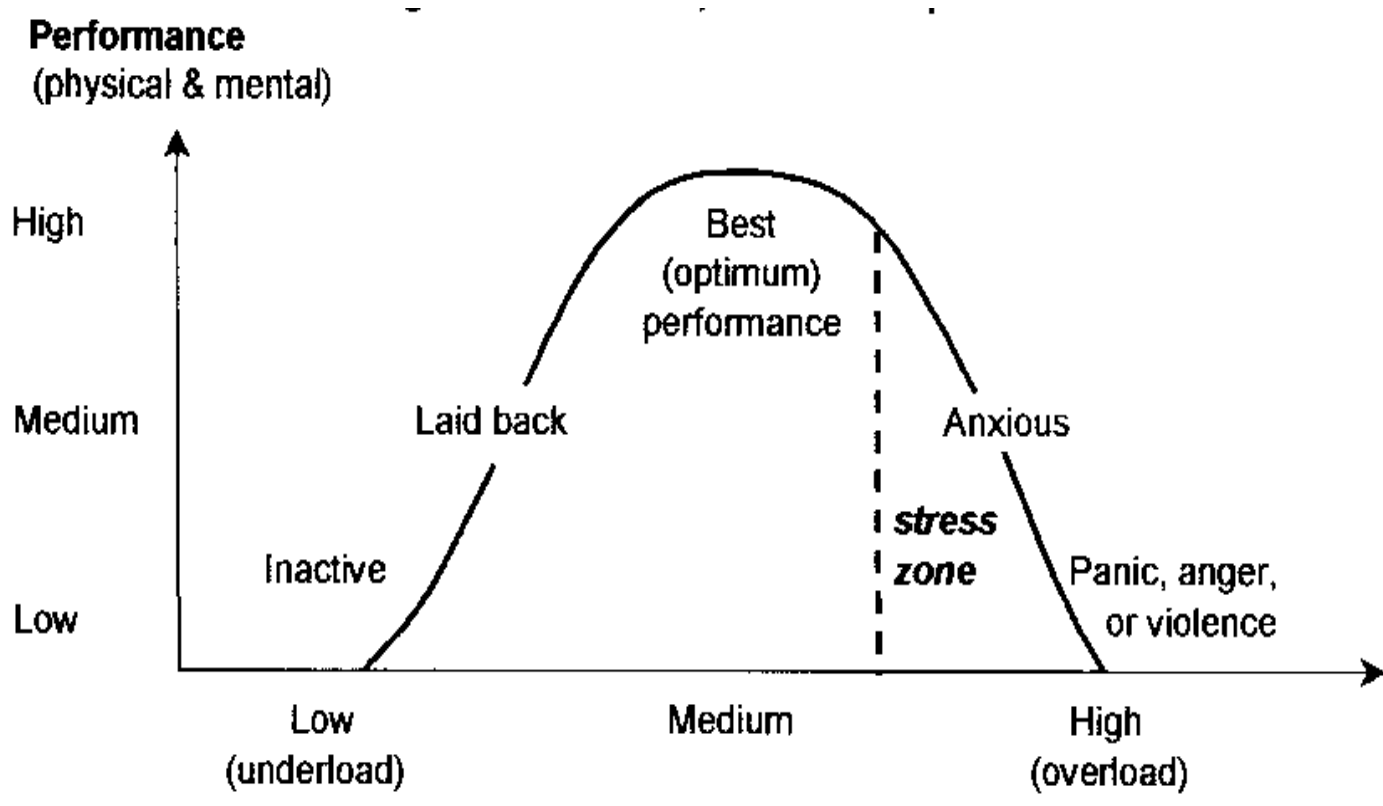


- ✓ Making an effort will make a difference
- ✓ It's never too late to improve
- ✓ Not getting things first time is an important part of learning
- ✓ "What do you need to do differently next time to get more marks?"

## Developing the right mentality



- X Avoid making mistakes of 'failing' at a task/question
- X Success in exams is down to being lucky
- X What I get in my exams is pre-destined
- X "I'm no good at xxx subject so there's no point in revising"



# MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING SERVICES AVAILABLE AT BACKWELL



**Safe space (ML2):**  
 Quiet and safe room with a designated member of staff present every break and lunch. Opportunity to have some quiet time or talk to a teacher.



**Tutor:**  
 Your first port of call for any questions, concerns or worries you may have. Parents can also get in touch with your tutor if needed.



**School nurse:**  
 For any health related concerns, you can drop into the library on Wednesday lunchtimes



**Mindfulness Club (ML2):**  
 A calm drop in space where mindful activities including meditation take place. Helpful for those who find managing stress or emotions difficult. Thursday lunch, open to all.



**Counsellors:**  
 There are trained counsellors at school you can book an appointment with, based in the science corridor. You can self-refer by filling out a form, which can be accessed from Mr Sills or your pastoral leader



**Pastoral Leaders:**  
 Heads and deputy heads of house oversee your wellbeing and overall progress. They will talk to you and get in touch with home if they think you need extra help. You can contact pastoral leaders via your tutor or speak to them directly. Parents can get in touch too if needed.



**Further support:**  
 (available through Pastoral Leaders)

- Drawing and talking therapy
- Learning mentors
- Peer mentors
- Emotional/Social support
- Signposts to support services outside of school

"Everyone you meet is fighting a battle you know nothing about. Be kind. Always."



### **Tutor:**

Your first port of call for any questions, concerns or worries you may have. Parents can also get in touch with your tutor if needed.

### **Class Teachers:**

Class teachers can reduce your worries by helping you with subject knowledge.  
All most all class teachers are tutors as well!

### **Assistant Pastoral Leaders:**

New last year!  
Each house has a non-teaching aPl that is available to support the pastoral team

# Keep communicating



### **Pastoral Leaders:**

Heads and deputy heads of house oversee your wellbeing and overall progress. They will talk to you and get in touch with home if they think you need extra help. You can contact pastoral leaders via your tutor or speak to them directly. Parents can get in touch too if needed.

+ smaller houses





# Give yourself space



## **Mindfulness Club (ML2):**

A calm drop in space where mindful activities including meditation take place. Helpful for those who find managing stress or emotions difficult. Thursday lunch, open to all.



## **Safe space (ML2):**

Quiet and safe room with a designated member of staff present every break and lunch. Opportunity to have some quiet time or talk to a teacher.

## **Regulation Room:**

*New last year!*

*Pupils who have identified difficulties managing their emotions will be provided with access to the Regulation Room if it is requested and approved on a Pastoral Support Plan.*



# Talk to professionals

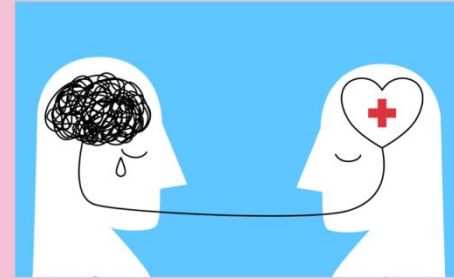
Use the self-referral tool below if you feel that you need additional help with your wellbeing.



Self referral



**School nurse:**  
For any health related concerns, you can drop into the library on Thursday lunchtimes



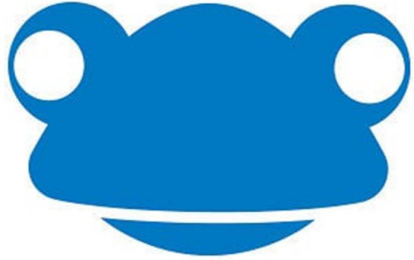
## Counsellors:

There are trained counsellors at school you can book an appointment with, based in the science corridor. You can self-refer by filling out a form, which can be accessed from Mr Sills or your pastoral leader







**Educational Mental Health Practitioners**



- Further support:  
(available through Pastoral Leaders)
- Drawing and talking therapy
  - Learning mentors
  - Peer mentors
  - Emotional/Social support
  - Signposts to support services outside of school



### Useful websites, apps and local counselling services

-  **Off The Record**  
Support online, in groups and 1:1
-  **Young minds**  
[www.youngminds.org.uk](http://www.youngminds.org.uk)
-  **Wellspring Counselling - Serving the Community of North Somerset**  
[www.wellspringcounselling.org.uk](http://www.wellspringcounselling.org.uk)
-  **Kooth - Free, safe and anonymous online support for young people**  
[www.kooth.com](http://www.kooth.com)
-  **Beat - The UK's Eating disorder charity**  
[www.b-eat.co.uk](http://www.b-eat.co.uk)
-  **Clearfear - overcoming anxiety app**  
[www.clearfear.co.uk](http://www.clearfear.co.uk)

# Student Dashboard









Backwell School



- Student Notices**
- My Timetable
- My Home Learning
- Email / Office 365
- Subjects
- Careers
- Rewards
- Twitter
- Letters Home
- Catering
- Suggestions
- Useful links
- Wellbeing

Week beginning: 11 Sep

HOLIDAY

-  **Transition to year 12 at Backwell Sixth ...**  
Preparation for the start of Year 12
-  **Well-being**  
Information
-  **Anti-Racism at Backwell**
-  **Kooth.com**  
Free, safe and anonymous online support for young p...
-  **Student Council**  
Information and news from the student council
-  **Clubs + Courses**  
Spring/Summer 2023
-  **The Croak**  
Toadally fascinating
-  **6th Form**  
Information and notices

## Top tips to get to sleep and sleep better



### Keep regular sleep hours

Going to bed when you feel tired and getting up at roughly the same time helps teach your body to sleep better. Try to avoid napping where possible.



### Confront sleeplessness

If you are lying awake unable to sleep, do not force it. Get up and do something relaxing for a bit, and return to bed when you feel sleepier.



### Create a restful environment

Dark, quiet and cool environments generally make it easier to fall asleep and stay asleep. Watch our video for tips on how to sleep better.

[Video: Tips for sleeping better](#)



### Write down your worries

If you often lie awake worrying about tomorrow, set aside time before bed to make a list for the next day. This can help put your mind at rest.

[Video: Tackle your worries](#)



### Move more, sleep better

Being active can help you sleep better. These videos can get you going, but remember to avoid vigorous activity near bedtime if it affects your sleep.

[Better Health: Home workout videos](#)



### Put down the pick-me-ups

Caffeine and alcohol can stop you falling asleep and prevent deep sleep. Try to cut down on alcohol and avoid caffeine close to bedtime.

- Avoid using devices at least 1 hr before bedtime this includes, mobile phones, tablets and TVs as devices can give off 'blue light' which keeps us awake by disrupting Melatonin in the brain.

# DEALING WITH EXAM STRESS

If stress affects you, try to find ways to maintain a positive attitude and cultivate a positive approach during your revision.



## KEEP FIT

by taking some exercise you enjoy



## RELAX

perhaps by sitting quietly or meditating



## EAT WELL

but healthily



## PLANNED TIME AWAY

take some planned time away from study, rather than avoiding revision



## RECOGNISE ACHIEVEMENTS

be pleased with your achievements as you revise



## SLEEP

get sufficient sleep

## REWARD YOURSELF

reward yourself with an occasional treat





# Y11 POST 16 OPTIONS



## **POST-16 OPTIONS**

As you know, until they're 18, students legally need to be in:

- 1) education or**
- 2) employment with training towards a recognised qualification.**

However, they do have options of what and where to study/work.

If a student is not following either of these pathways then they are classed as NEET and the Local Authority will work with you and them to ensure that they have an appropriate plan. We have a duty to refer students at risk of becoming NEET.





# What are the Options Post-16?

Level	Academic	Technical
Level 3 A Levels or similar	<b>VOCATIONAL COURSES</b> (BTEC, CTEC etc)  Subject-based vocational qualification a range of courses content different schedules	<b>A LEVELS and AS LEVELS</b>  Subject-based qualifications
Level 2 (GCSE grades 4+ or similar)		<b>T LEVELS</b>  Classroom-based course delivered
Level 1 (GCSE grades 1-3 or similar)		<b>APPRENTICESHIPS</b>  Work-based training for a minimum of 12 months  Usually 80% working, time in college

**English and Maths GCSE**

**It is compulsory to continue studying these subjects if you have not achieved a Grade 4**



## Understanding technical pathways

- Personal Development in tutor time this term is focused on Post-16 options and decision making
- Next term students will have a Post-16 options assembly from an independent provider (ASK)
- Next term students will attend a bespoke Vocational options fair within their SMSC lessons; number of local colleges and apprenticeship providers
- At our Careers Fair on March 5<sup>th</sup> , a number of vocational/technical providers will be available and we will have talks on Apprenticeships and T Levels for students and parents/carers to attend



# College or Sixth Form?

- **Students can apply for more than one place**
- **We encourage students to have a back-up plan**

## Support in school:

- Tutor, Pastoral Leaders, Subject teachers , Miss Haywood and the wider Sixth Form Team
- Every Year 11 will have had a careers appointment with Mrs Ball before the end of Term 4 – make an appointment now if they're worried
- Unifrog, Weekly Careers Bulletin



## College options

### What to take into account:

Course choice and qualification (vocational/technical training)

Travel

Expectations and support

Results and destinations

Subject specialist teachers for A levels?

### Information on colleges:

Discuss with Mrs Ball (impartial advice)

Do your research online (open evenings, courses etc)

### Local to us:

Weston, City of Bristol, SGS, Bath, Boom Satsuma, Access Creative, BIMM, Robin's Foundation

# Why choose Backwell?

- Subject specialist teachers; enthusiasm and knowledge
- Excellent relationships between staff and students; safe and purposeful environment
- Smaller class sizes
- Pastoral support – students know they will be listened to
- Supportive structure to develop good study habits
- Successful Post-18 destinations and lots of careers support
- Inclusive intake for Level 3 study ; support for students with individual needs and in challenging circumstances



## A Level Results 2023

99% overall pass rate

56% of exam entries grade A\* to B

26% of exam entries grade A\* to A



# Key dates for Backwell Sixth Form

<b>Open Evening:</b>	Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November
<b>Application deadline:</b>	January 2024
<b>Application meetings:</b>	February/March 2024
<b>Induction Day:</b>	Friday 7 July 2024
<b>GCSE Results Day:</b>	Thursday 22 August 2024
<b>Start of Year 12:</b>	September 2024

## Student Dashboard

Backwell School

Student Notices | My Timetable | My Home Learning | Email / Office 365 | Subjects | Careers | Rewards

Twitter | Letters Home | Catering | Suggestions | Useful links | Wellbeing

Week beginning: 21 Nov

Clubs + Courses  
Autumn/Winter 2022-3

**Application to Join Backwell Sixth Form**

# unifrog

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An introduction/reminder of  
how our Careers Platform can  
support students and  
parents/carers

# The Unifrog tools

Access all tools on Unifrog to learn what options are available, access good quality information, and search for opportunities to support your child.

Exploring pathways	Recording what you've done	Searching for opportunities	Drafting application	Making applications
Careers library	Activities	UK universities	UK Personal Statement	Post 18 Intentions
Subjects library	Competencies	US universities	Classes	Locker
Know-how library	Interactions	European universities	Subject References	Applications list
MOOC		Oxbridge	CV / Resumé	
Personality profile		Canadian universities	Writing tool	
Interests profile		Asian universities	Common App Essay	
Read, Watch, Listen		Australasian universities	US recommenders	
Webinars		ME and African universities	Notes for Reference writers	
		Irish universities		
		Special Opportunities		
		Events		



# Careers Library

- Over 1000 career profiles
- Presents information from a range of sources, including local and national LMI
- Includes qualifications and skills needed, interviews with industry professionals and labour market information
- Explores progression opportunities and what a working week really looks like

## Architect


Architects design new buildings and the spaces around them, and work on the restoration and conservation of existing buildings.



# UK Universities

## English Literature - 3FT/6PT BA (Hons)

Oxford Brookes University  
Safe - YEF Silver



English Literature offers the opportunity to study an exciting range of modules, blending the study of classic texts and literary traditions with current theoretical models for understanding literature as a dynamic, global phenomenon. Our course is renowned for its inspirational teaching and research excellence. In the 2013 National Student Survey (Course Unitary), 93 per cent of students agreed that staff had made the subject interesting.

Full-time undergrads at the uni: 1,390s Domestic / Int'l undergrads at the uni: 84% / 16%

[Website](#) [Open Day](#) [Course page](#) [Finance page](#) [Virtualities](#)

### Getting in

**Overall Application success rate**  
21%

**UK Application success rate**  
22%

**Entry requirements A Level**

Full-time 3 Years: Grade B in A-level English Literature or English Language required.

**Entry requirements UCAS points**  
112 points

**IMPORTANT:** check the course page to see if your qualifications are accepted.


**Additional requirements**  
GCSE: GCSE English - Grade 5-2 x further GCSE - Grade 4, normally to include Maths.

**Last year's successful applicants**  
89.8% of successful applicants did the same qualification types as you, and of those a typical result was:  
**A Level: C**

### Unofficial overview

"Oxford Brookes is spread across three suburban campuses in Oxford and the small university city has a friendly feel. Oxford Brookes pioneered the modular system of study and the academic year is split into two semesters rather than three terms. The university has a strong reputation for sport, and there are also strong links with industry. Despite the fact that the city is tiny, nightlife is lively and students enjoy studying here."

**Campus or City: CAMPUS**



- Students can enter subject of interest and projected grades to see all relevant university courses available in the UK
- Rank and filter opportunities by factors like hours of lectures, price of accommodation and graduate job rates
- Get direct links to university information pages, with impartial information on courses and institutions
- Save unlimited shortlists to refer back to later

# Apprenticeships

## AAT Apprentice - Intermediate Level

Employer: Henson Motor Group  
Learning Provider: Delivered by Newcastle College

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### Key dates

Deadline	25 May
Interview	Check their site
Start	26 May

### Qualification required

English and maths at GCSE level - 5 grade (or equivalent) or above.

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### Skills and personal qualities required

The successful candidate will be proficient in using Microsoft Excel and managing spreadsheets. They will be confident with numbers and have a high level of attention to detail.

- A passion for accountancy
- Professional attitude
- Well organised

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### Quick facts

Weekly Wage	Hours a week	Employer Vacancies	Duration	Distance from home
Competitive	Working 9-5:30 Minutes breaks	1	12 months	1 miles

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### Job description

The apprentice will gain experience in a range of duties for which they will be responsible:

- Purchase Ledger
- Credit Control
- Invoice Processing
- Raising Invoices
- Allocation of Payments
- Statement reconciliation
- Processing Transactions

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### Employer description

Henson Motor Group is one of the UK's largest car supermarkets. Established in 1996 Henson Motor Group were the first to pioneer the new and used car supermarket concept, not only in Newcastle but in the North East.

- Students can find live apprenticeship vacancies
- Vacancies are updated daily
- Rank and filter opportunities by factors like distance from home, weekly wage and application deadlines
- Direct link to the 'apply' page
- Each apprenticeship vacancy includes practical information about the opportunity, employer and training
- Save unlimited shortlists to refer back to later

# Special Opportunities

- Includes £5 million-worth of grants, bursaries, scholarships, contextual offers and extracurricular activities
- These can be filtered by circumstances or characteristics, depending on the access requirements of the opportunity
- Includes direct links for applying
- Unlimited shortlists can be created and referred back to

Select special opportunities below

Pick the best opportunities for you by ranking, filtering and searching. Click next when you're done.

✓ Rank ▾ Filter ▾

Scholarships (690) <small>Money you don't have to pay back</small>	Activities (13) <small>Summer schools, mentoring, extracurricular</small>	Contextual offers (54) <small>Lower entry requirements</small>
<p> <a href="#">100 Year Anniversary Of The Great War Award</a>  University of Bolton Country: UK</p> <p> <a href="#">A Level Entrance Scholarship Competition</a>  Queen's University Belfast Country: UK</p> <p> <a href="#">AB InBev Scholarship</a>  University of Bath Country: UK</p>	<p> <a href="#">Action Tutoring</a>  Action Tutoring Country: UK</p> <p> <a href="#">BGU Open Days</a>  Bishop Grosseteste University Country: UK</p> <p> <a href="#">BGU Summer School</a>  Bishop Grosseteste University Country: UK</p> <p> <a href="#">Bishop Grosseteste University Next</a></p>	<p> <a href="#">Aberystwyth University Contextual Offers</a>  Aberystwyth University Country: UK</p> <p> <a href="#">Aston University Contextual Offer</a>  Aston University, Birmingham Country: UK</p> <p> <a href="#">Bangor University Beneficial Offers</a>  Bangor University Country: UK</p>

# So many more useful tools!

## Subjects library

Find the best subjects for you, then save your favourites here:



Alison Campbell  
Fine Art School  
University of Glasgow

Adam Carter  
Electronic and Electrical Engineering  
University of Glasgow

Dr. Hannah  
Veterinary Medicine  
University of London Royal Veterinary College

**Fine art** ❤️  
The study and creation of drawings, paintings, prints, photography and sculpture.  
[Read the guide >](#)

**Electronic and Electrical engineering** ❤️  
The study, design, and application of equipment, devices, and systems which use electricity, electronics, and electromagnetism.  
[Read the guide >](#)

**Veterinary medicine** ❤️  
Develop a strong understanding of how animals' bodies work so you can diagnose, treat and manage medical conditions.  
[Read the guide >](#)



### Search by keyword

Search for university subjects using a keyword

Go >

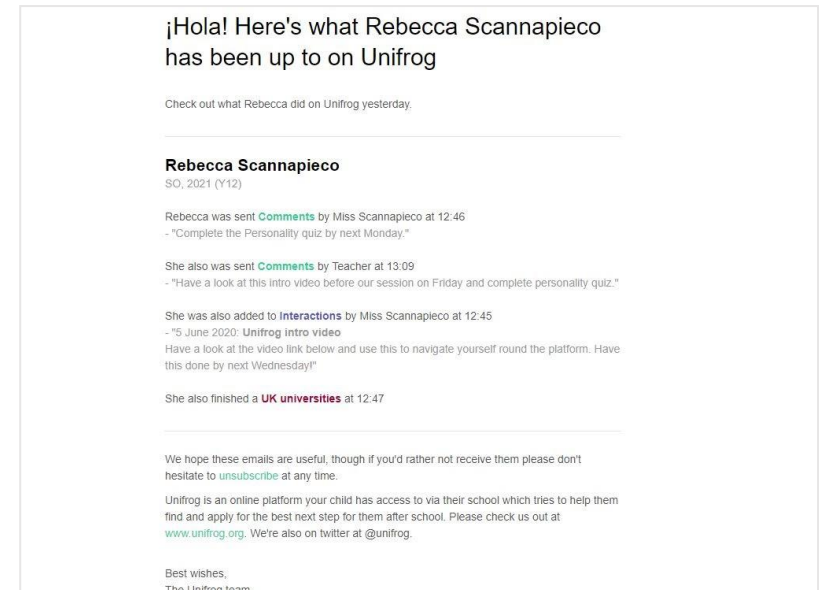
### Search by school subjects

Search for university subjects using the subjects you're studying at school that you like the most

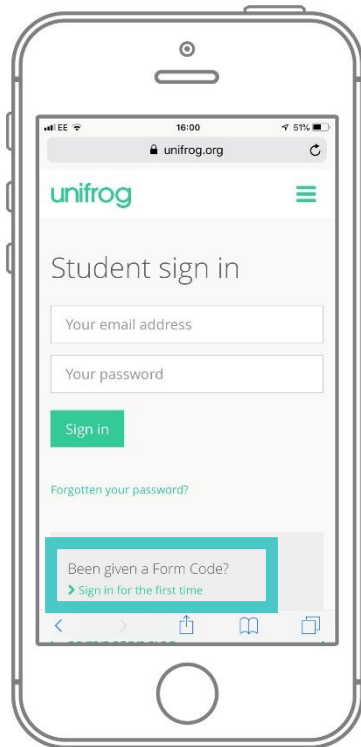
Go >

# Weekly summary emails

- Parents/carers can sign up to receive weekly summary emails
- This summary will show you any shortlists your child may have made on the Unifrog platform
- It will also detail any interactions logged against your child, such as Careers Fairs taking place or careers interviews coming up.
- Unifrog takes data security very seriously, and as such, has several features in place to protect school and student data.



# Parents/carers, get signed up!



Go to [www.unifrog.org/student](http://www.unifrog.org/student) and click 'Sign in for the first time'

You'll be asked for some details and a Sign up Code. This is what you need:

**<<BACKparentscarers>>**

After signing up, log into Unifrog using your email address and password via the student sign-in page!