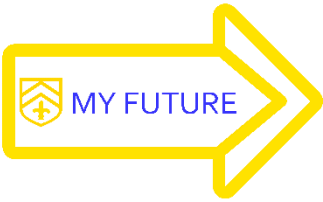
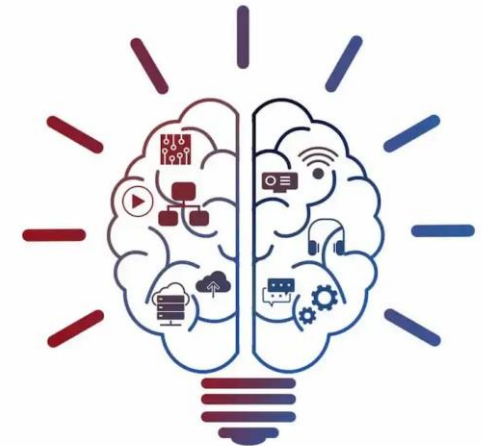


Parent/carer Information

Post-18 plans

Future Plans Week

26th June to 30th June 2023

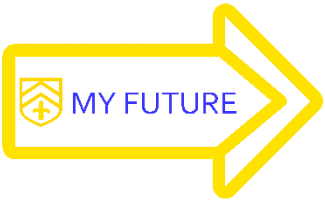


Parent/carer Information

Post-18 plans

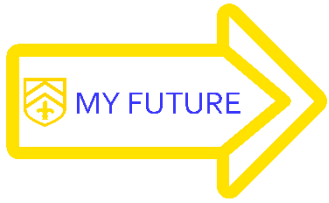
Key messages for this week

- Be open minded
- Have fun
- Be willing to work with new people
- Step outside your comfort zone – have a go!
- Be polite/respectful to everyone you work with
- Be on time!



Parent/carer Information

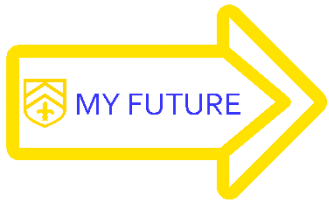
Post-18 plans



Future Plans

Parent/carer Information

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They don't know what to do!

- **Whatever decision they make is not final.** It may affect what they do for the next few years but if they change their mind later on that's ok. Shouldn't worry about making the wrong choice.
- For now, open their mind to all the options and apply for as many different options as possible.
- Research! Unifrog is an excellent resource and may highlight careers they hadn't considered.
- They don't need to be 'passionate' about something – just an idea they might enjoy it.



Parent/carer Information

Post-18 plans

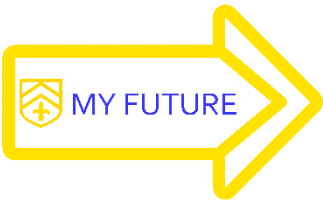


UNIVERSITY

GAP YEAR

**APPRENTICESHIPS
AND EMPLOYMENT**





Parent/carer Information

Post-18 plans

Available to students on FROG

6th Form
Information and notices


Home page 6th Form Handbook tutor team email/office 365 y12 key dates and contacts y13 key dates and contacts subjects well-being

rock paper scissors the year 13 debate university challenge 6th form paarlauf suggestion box a-z of information Year 13 Leaving Info tutor page

6th form curriculum information EPQ Employability Award **Future Plans and Application Support** Super-Curricular Activities Future Skills Week 2023


INFORMATION ON POST-18 CHOICES


Click on the Post-18 Choices link below for Info on University, Gap Years and Apprenticeships, including the UCAS Guide and Personal Statement Advice. Scroll down for the weekly careers bulletin and a sample CV and Covering Letter you can edit for yourself.

 **Post-18 Choices**
Information and guidance for students

QUICK LINKS

STUDENT FINANCE EXPLAINED FOR THOSE STARTING UNI IN 2023

 **Finding Work Experience**


 **Choosing a Uni**

Find An Apprenticeship
Apprenticeship search engine


Not Going to Uni
Information and Advice on Non-Uni options

Gap Year Advice
From a recommended website

CAREERS BULLETIN

 **Careers Bulletin 23 June**
Updated every Friday

1 of 8 Automatic Zoom

 **BACKWELL SCHOOL CAREERS BULLETIN**
23 June 2023

Parent/carer Information

Post-18 plans



Available to students on FROG

Post-18 Choices

Information and guidance for students



Post-18 Options

University

Uni courses with early deadlines

Apprenticeship

Gap Year

Employment

Register for UCAS

UCAS Application Guide

UCAS Personal Statement

Student Finance

Post-18 Options

- University
- Apprenticeship
- Gap Year
- Employment

Research **these options** via your student account on [Unifrog](#). You can input your A Level/CTEC subjects to generate some ideas.

You could also use on-line **questionnaires** such as [Prospects Planner](#) to generate career ideas based on your interests and skills.

Bear in mind these are a guide only, they are not telling you what to do!

To discuss further, book an appointment with Backwell School careers adviser, Mrs Ball
(cball@backwellschool.net)

Parent/carer Information

Post-18 plans

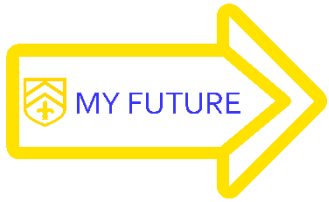


KEY DATES IN YEAR 13 SEPT-DEC

Oxbridge, Medicine, Dentistry, Vet Science, Conservatoire (music/drama) - finished applications to be handed in to school	25 Sept
Register with Exams Office for any University Entrance Tests which need to take place in school* (LNAT/UCAT elsewhere)	early Sept
Applications for Conservatoires / Drama Schools <u>deadline</u>	2 Oct
Apprenticeships with larger firms and organisations are advertised	early Oct
Oxbridge, Medicine, Dentistry, Vet Science, Conservatoire (music/drama) - <u>final deadline</u>	16 Oct
All other UCAS finished applications due to school	3 Nov
University Entrance Tests which need to take place in school	Nov
Interviews for Oxford/Cambridge/Medecine	Nov/Dec

Parent/carer Information

Post-18 plans

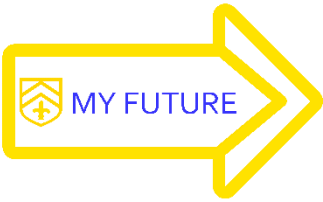


KEY DATES IN YEAR 13 JAN-AUG

All university applications <u>deadline</u> for 1 st round of decisions. You can apply after this but the courses may be full.	31 Jan
Interviews/assessments take place for apprenticeships with larger firms	Jan/Feb
Most other apprenticeship vacancies are advertised	Jan onwards
Deadline to make 1 st and 2 nd choice university places	June

Parent/carer Information

Post-18 plans



Sixth Form Bulletin

For your information, please see below some of the things that are happening for Sixth Form students ...



A selection of virtual and physical university events and open days coming up – find them all at <https://www.opendays.com/calendar/>

Saturday 24 June

Birmingham
Birmingham City
Bournemouth
Brighton
Buckingham
City (London)
Derby
Goldsmiths
Greenwich
Huddersfield

Kent
Liverpool
Manchester
Oxford Brookes
Sheffield
Sheffield Hallam
Southampton
Staffordshire
Surrey
Warwick

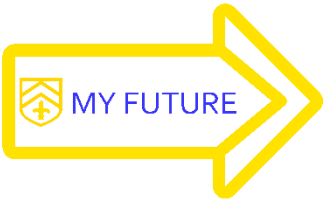
Wednesday 28 June

Bournemouth
Cumbria

Oxford
Portsmouth

Parent/carer Information

Post-18 plans



GAP YEAR



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Post-18 plans

WHAT STUDENTS DO ON GAP YEARS

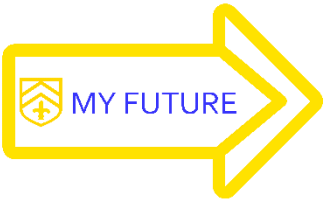
Taking a gap year should be an informed choice

- Part-time Work
- Independent Travel
- Gap Year 'Scheme'
- Volunteering
- Work Experience
- Study part-time to gain a qualification (e.g. at college)
- A combination of all of these.
- Paid Gap Year scheme e.g. 'Year In Industry'
- 1 Year college course/Art Foundation course



Parent/carer Information

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- Can be a brilliant time to explore the world, develop skills, and have a break from study but...
- ...don't use 'gap year' as a default option choice unless you have planned what you are going to do and why you are taking a gap year....
- ...In other words, don't use it as an excuse to put off the decision of what to do next.
- It's a good idea to apply for university/apprenticeships as well as consider a gap year, so all your options are open.
- If university is a definite for you but you want a gap year, you could apply this year for a 'deferred' place. You would then have an offer for a place to start in 2024. Not all universities offer this.

Parent/carer Information

Post-18 plans

RESEARCH









www.independantgapyearadvice.org

Independent Gap Advice

Independent Gap Year Advice For Young People

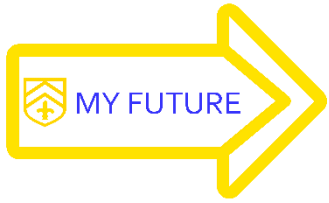
www.prospects.ac.uk/jobs-and-work-experience/gap-year

PROSPECTS

-  Gap year ideas >
-  Teach English abroad >
-  7 steps to the ultimate gap year >
-  Volunteer projects in South America >
-  Summer camp jobs in the USA >
-  Working abroad >
-  10 opportunities to volunteer with children >
-  Volunteering with animals >

Parent/carer Information

Post-18 plans



EMPLOYMENT WITHOUT FORMAL TRAINING

- There is no legal requirement to remain in learning after 18.
- If you do not want to achieve a higher level qualification, then it is totally reasonable to pause your formal learning and just work.
- **However**, your career journey is likely to benefit from gaining the highest level qualifications (academic or vocational) you can. So if further qualifications are on offer, at least consider them. You may find it harder to gain them later in life.
- You may not know what you want to do but you will have **more options** in your career the higher the qualifications you have.

Parent/carer Information Post-18 plans

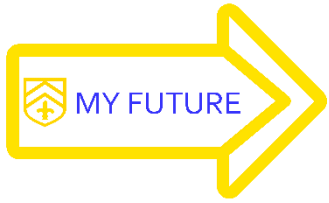


Apprenticeships



Parent/carer Information

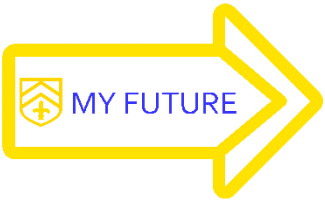
Post-18 plans



- You earn a salary whilst working towards a qualification.
- Your qualification is paid for. No student loan!
- You are working on real projects, making a difference to the world and gaining valuable work experience, as well as contacts in your chosen sector. This can give you an advantage over the graduates looking for jobs after their degrees.

Parent/carer Information

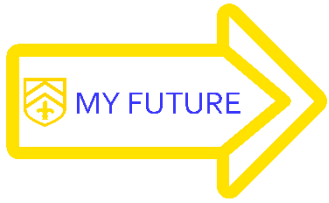
Post-18 plans



- You can do an apprenticeship at degree level (Level 6). For this you generally need A Levels at A/B grades.
- You could also do an apprenticeship at higher level (Level 4/5). For this you need A Levels at lower grades.
- You could also do an apprenticeship at advanced level (Level 3). Although you only need GCSEs for this, your A levels will put you at an advantage. People also choose this route if the employer requires a certain A Level which they don't have. After Level 3 you would then move up to a higher level.

Parent/carer Information

Post-18 plans

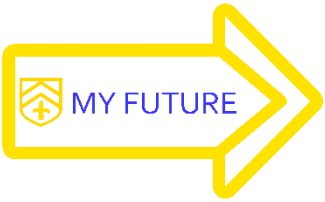


OTHER BACKWELL APPRENTICESHIP DESTINATIONS

- Heat (recruitment)
- Airbus (engineering)
- Anthony Smith (accountant)
- Sweet (carpentry, construction)
- Dick Lovett Mini (sales)
- Willis Tower Watson (accountant)
- Leonardo (cyber security)
- Unilever (project manager)
- PWC (accountant)
- GKN (engineer)
- KPMG (accountant)
- Atkins (engineer)
- Teaching Assistant
- Debbie Fortune (estate agent)
- NHS (healthcare assistant)
- Babcocks (accountant)
- Smith and Williamson (accountant)
- BBC (production)
- Dental Nurse

Parent/carer Information

Post-18 plans



UNIVERSITY



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Post-18 plans

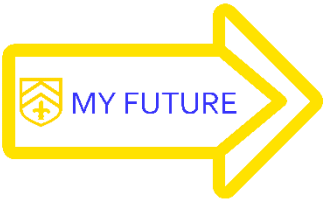


Reasons students give for going to University

- Necessary for my career ideas
- More freedom and independence
- Passion for the subject
- Future earnings
- Spend time deciding what to do with my life
- I'm expected to go
- More freedom and independence
- Intellectual challenge
- Everyone else I know is going
- To experience student life and have a good time
- Help find a better job
- To meet new people from different backgrounds
- It's a natural progression from school

Parent/carer Information

Post-18 plans



1. Consider Subject Area

- What has caught your interest in your studies so far? Start looking broadly (e.g. 'business') before narrowing it down (e.g. 'marketing').
- You might want to try a new subject.
- You may want a course with a link to a potential career
- If you are unsure see Careers Bulletin for details on virtual academic lectures and taster days

**NON
VOCATIONAL**

Maths
Chemistry
History

**SEMI-
VOCATIONAL**

Business
Law
Psychology

VOCATIONAL

Physiotherapy
Medicine
Accountancy

Parent/carer Information

Post-18 plans



2. Consider Course Level

- Most students take an **Honours Degree** (BA, BSc, BEng, LLB, etc.). This is a Level 6 qualification.
- If you did not get the grades or relevant A levels you might consider a **Foundation Year**. This is an extra year before Honours Degree.
- A few students may take a **Masters Degree** (MA, MSc, MEng). This is a Level 7 qualification and takes 4 years. However, most do this as an extra year after the Honours Degree.
- You may consider a **Foundation Degree** which is a combined academic/vocational degree involving a placement. Takes 1 year (Level 4) or 2 year (Level 5).
- You may consider a vocational **Higher National Diploma** (HND). This is a 2 year Level 5 qualification which you take at college.

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Post-18 plans

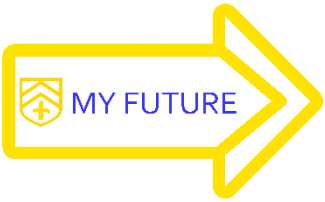


3. Consider Type of Course

- Single Subject
- Joint Honours e.g. “Maths **and** Chemistry”
- Major/Minor (e.g. 75% of one, 25% of other) e.g. “Maths **with** Chemistry”
- Sponsored Degree (e.g. Army, employer funded or part-funded)
- Degree at a private college or university e.g. ‘drama school’
- Year in Industry (workplace)
- Year Abroad (working or studying)
- Two year accelerated degree (intensive)
- Four year part-time degree (for those with other commitments)
- Online degree!

Parent/carer Information

Post-18 plans



4. Consider Entry Requirements

- Courses may ask for specific grades.
 - They may also ask for specific subjects..
-
- BA History (Bristol University): AAA, including History
- They may ask for UCAS tariff points
-
- BA Business and Management (UWE): 112 UCAS Tariff points
- Most will accept CTEC subjects as tariff points or instead of an A Level (including Oxbridge) but safest to check first.
 - When making your 5 choices, go for a variety of offers, i.e. ambitious / realistic / insurance. Your teachers will give you predicted grades for UCAS applications (they will be optimistic but also realistic).

Parent/carer Information

Post-18 plans

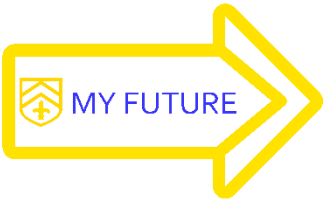


5. Other Factors

- **Course content.** Not all degrees with the same name are the same.
- **Assessment Style** (exam, practical, dissertation, etc.)
- **Teaching Style** (lectures, seminars, tutorials)
- **Contact Time** (find on 'Uni Guide' website)
- **Placement Opportunities**
- **Employer Contact and Graduate Destinations**
- **Location** (nearby/far away, urban, coastal, country, campus, overseas)
- **Clubs/Societies.** Some students make this their priority.
- **Living Costs**
- **Student Satisfaction Survey** (find on 'Discover Uni' website)
- **Professional Accreditation** (e.g. Psychology= BPS, Teaching= QTS)
- **Accommodation options**

Parent/carer Information

Post-18 plans



RUSSELL GROUP

The Russell Group are 24 universities with a long history of academic learning and research. However, they are not the only **traditional Universities**; those not part of this group include Bath, Lancaster, Loughborough, Surrey, St. Andrews and many more. **Do not make the assumption that The Russell Group are always the 'best' institutions or that they are the most difficult to get into.**



Newer Universities provide many courses linked directly to specific professions and generally develop close links with the local economy. They may put more emphasis on support for teaching undergraduates as they tend to have fewer research staff.



Over the years the lines between the traditional and newer universities have become blurred with both offering academic and vocational degrees. It's important to research a range of both types so you know what's on offer.

Parent/carer Information

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STUDY ABROAD OR ONLINE

You might be considering studying abroad. There is lots of info on UCAS and Unifrog.



For study in the USA the best source of info is the Fulbright Commission

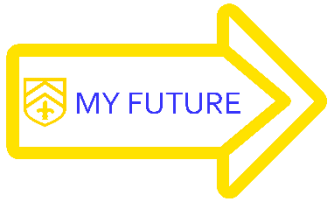


You might also consider an online / distance learning degree. A fulltime degree with t University is around £6k a year.



Parent/carer Information

Post-18 plans



OPEN DAYS

- Some Universities are still running virtual open days but most campus universities are now running physical open days.
- Even if you are not thinking of that particular university it may be worth visiting an open day just to get an idea of what a subject or university is like.
- 5 days max out of school!

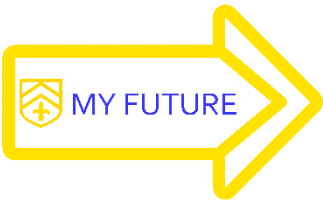
opendays.com
university and college open days

UCAS

Home / Undergraduate / What and where to study

EVENTS AND OPEN DAYS

Explore this section ▾



RESEARCH WEBSITES

Parent/carer Information

Post-18 plans



- www.ucas.com/explore/courses
- www.discoveruni.gov.uk
- www.unifrog.org (Parent/carer form code for registration is **BACKparentscarers**)
- League tables



Parent/carer Information

Post-18 plans

HELP IN SCHOOL



- If students prefer written info, there are some prospectuses on the shelves in the Library. They can also send off for these via the uni websites.
- Talk it through with their tutor or book an appointment with Mrs Ball



Parent/carer Information

Post-18 plans



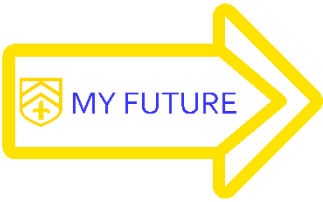
MAKING DECISIONS

1. Think about which factors are important to you.
2. Create a spreadsheet with courses against these factors.
3. Create a league table

Uni + course	Assessment: coursework vs exam	Course content / modules	Entry requirements	Travel time from home	Placement opportunity
Leeds, Maths BSc	50% of each	Four optional modules/year Can take 2 modules from other dept in Year 1	AAA/144 UCAS points	3 hrs 30 (by train)	Yes

Parent/carer Information

Post-18 plans



MONEY



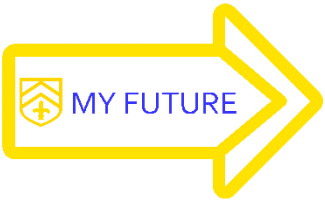
GOV.UK

www.gov.uk/student-finance

- Most degrees are capped at the max £9,250 per year until 2025/26. Foundation degrees are around £2,600 per year.
- Everyone is entitled to a tuition fee loan but additional maintenance loans are **means tested based on household income if you are under 25**.*
- Tuition fee loans are paid directly to the university at the beginning of each year. Maintenance loans are paid to you 3 times a year.
- You don't start repaying student loans until you are earning over **£25k**
- Repayment is based on **9%** of what you earn over this amount.
- All debt is written off after 40 years.
- To help you pay living costs, **scholarships, bursaries, paid placements, and part-time work** are all worth investigating. Research via www.thescholarship.org.uk/
- You need to apply for Student Finance in Feb 2024.

Parent/carer Information

Post-18 plans



MONEY

New student loans to cost many 50% more: Martin Lewis' 6 need-to-knows about 'Plan 5' English student finance



Martin Lewis
19 June 2023

Share this guide 

<https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/students/student-loans-england-plan-5/>

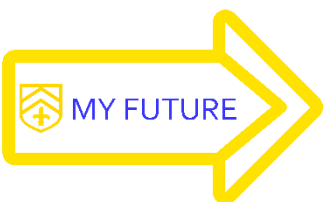
University Parental Contribution Calculator

How much the government expects you to contribute to your child's student maintenance loan. Child not at uni yet? Use our [How much should you save](#) calc.

Parent/carer Information

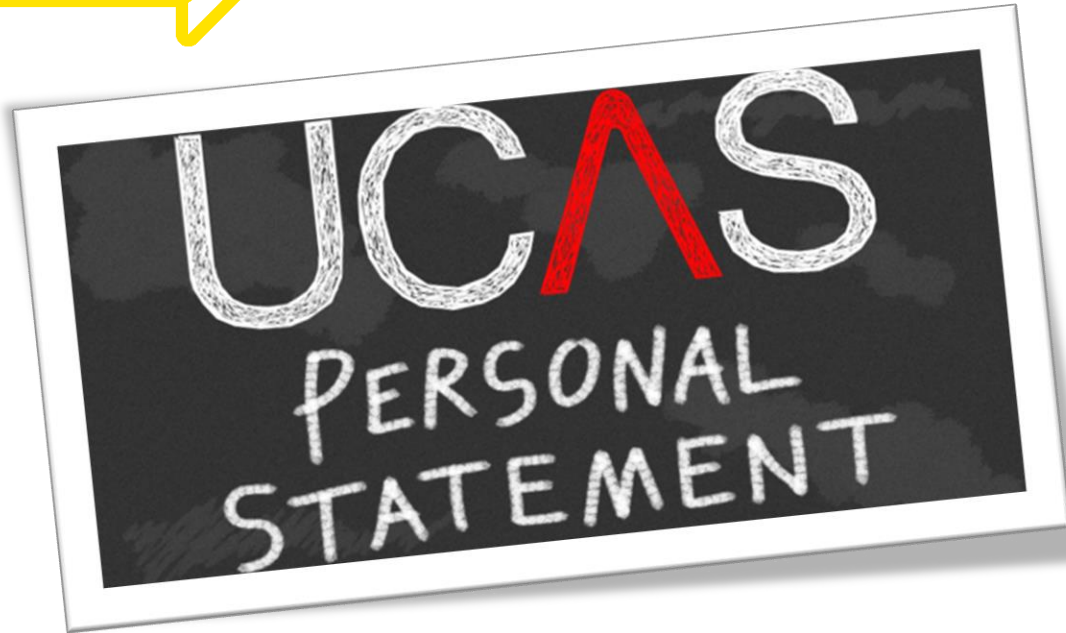
Post-18 plans

New Plan 5 Loan system



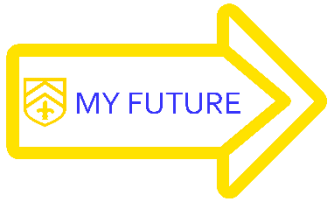
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Post-18 plans



UK university staff only read students' personal statements for two minutes

Huge increase in applications means officials are left with little time to read student statements



What are admission tutors looking for?

- **An understanding of what the course entails**
- **Enthusiasm and motivation**
- **Self awareness – an understanding of your transferable skills and how these can be applied to the course (time management/independent study/critical thinking etc)**
- **Relevant experience**
- **Specific examples**
- **Plain English!**

Parent/carer Information

Post-18 plans



Complete Personal Statements on Unifrog for easy feedback

Write

Add, edit and delete text

Preview

How it'll look to universities



Section 1

Why do you want to study this subject?

0 of 1200 characters

Start >



Section 2

What have you done in the past that makes you particularly suitable to study the subject?

0 of 2400 characters

Start >



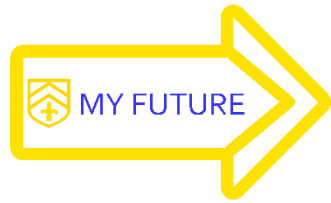
Section 3

What else have you done that would contribute to the university community?

0 of 400 characters

Start >

UCAS predicted grades

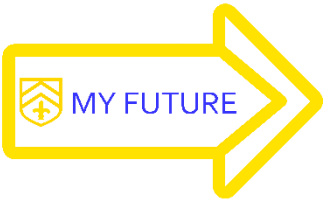


- Predicted UCAS grades by your teachers are often aspirational but should be attainable Your teacher won't be doing you any favours if they give you unrealistic predicted grades – this would be unprofessional
- UCAS predicted grades may be higher than what your internal report says – your internal forecast grades are what your teachers think you are most likely to achieve.
- Your teachers will use a body of evidence, such as termly assessment and trial exams to decide on these grades. You can talk to your teachers about them/ask to demonstrate attainment at a higher grade but ultimately you should respect their professional judgement.

Parent/carer Information

Post-18 plans

Make informed choices



Make use of your five choices:

- One/two aspirational, two/three realistic , one/two as insurance.
- After offers you will have to confirm firm and insurance choices.

Consider the value of a points offer:

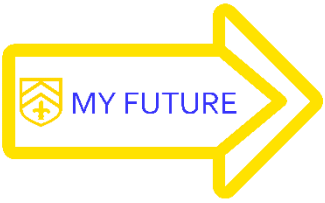
- Courses all with a likely offer of AAB or ABB has no back-up.
- A points offer of 128 points is equivalent to ABB, but more flexible:

*e.g. A*BC is also 128 points.*

You can include AS & EPQ points and some other qualifications.

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Post-18 plans



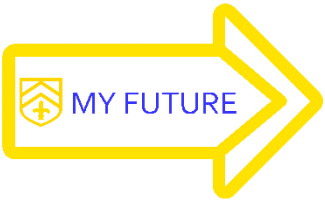
UCAS Tariff points

	AS	A	EPQ
A*	n/a	56	28
A	20	48	24
B	16	40	20
C	12	32	16
D	10	24	12
E	6	16	8

	CTEC/Extended Certificate
D*	56
D	48
M	32
P	16

Parent/carer Information

Post-18 plans

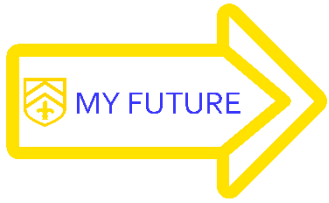


Write down 5 things you need to do by the end of Year 12 to help you in your planning. These need to be SMART:



Parent/carer Information

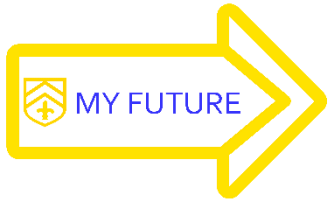
Post-18 plans



- Seek work experience, volunteering, part-time jobs
- Gain specific subject knowledge via an online course (eg. via Future-learn or a MOOC on Unifrog)
- Get involved in extra-curricular activities, e.g. :
 - Creative pursuits (music, drama, art)
 - Sport / Outside activities
 - Mentoring / Supporting Others
 - Sixth Form and Lower School Clubs/Societies. If there isn't one which interests you, start your own!
- Use your study periods constructively and in a way which will help you!
- Email Mrs Ball for a 1-1 chat about your ideas.

Parent/carer Information

Post-18 plans



How can you help?

- Talk to your young person
- Help them to be aspirational yet realistic
- Check their personal statements
- Support them to get to the right open days
- Keep an eye on upcoming deadlines
(internal/external, finance, accommodation)
- Help them to resist bribery and to make a considered decision!
- Help them to make an stick to SMART targets