



Year 13 Parents' & Carers' Information Evening

Rose Haywood (Head of Sixth Form)

Mike Feven (Deputy Head of Sixth Form)



The Sixth Form Team

- **Miss R Haywood** Head of Sixth Form
- **Mr M Feven** Deputy Head of Sixth Form
- **Mrs I Hobbs** Student Advisor: Careers and wellbeing
- **Mrs J Farr** Careers Advisor
- **Mrs Y Belcher** Sixth Form Administration
- **Mrs E Cogan** SENCO

13-1 S Oxley	13-2 J Leighton	13-3 N Blundell L Cowles-Brooks
13-4 R Lavelle N Rae	13-5 B Langford	13-6 H Fuller R Jackson

Email contact: Please email
mailbox@backwellschool.net
FAO (name of staff member)

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The 16-19 Bursary Scheme: Apply ASAP

Up to £1,200 per year for:

- young people in care
- care leavers
- young people receiving income support (because they are financially supporting themselves)
- disabled young people receiving both Employment Support Allowance and Disability Living Allowance.

Discretionary bursary (e.g. to cover books/equipment/field trips/cost of attending open days) for:

- young people in receipt of free school meals
- young people whose household income is £19,995 or less
- young people whose parents/carers are registered as recipients of Child Tax Credit/Universal Credit
- **KEEP RECEIPTS as these are claimed retrospectively.**

Students must meet eligibility criteria for attendance, behaviour and academic standards.

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Changes to the school day

We will be writing to you about changes to
The timings for home study based on
Feedback from students who have no
Lessons or very few lessons in a day

Movement Bell	8.40 am
Start of Tutor Time	8.45 am
Movement Bell	9.10 am
Start of Period 1	9.15 am
Movement Bell	10.10 am
Start of Period 2	10.15 am
Break	11.10 am
Movement Bell	11.30 am
Start of Period 3	11.35 am
Movement Bell	12.30 pm
Start of Period 4	12.35 pm
Lunch	1.30 pm
Movement Bell	2.10 pm
Start of Period 5	2.15 pm
School ends	3.10 pm

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Life in the Sixth Form

Free periods are study periods!

- Home learning
- Review notes
- Pre-lesson learning
- Wider reading
- Researching future plans + completing applications
- Working peer to peer
- Use FROG for ideas for Independent Study
- Home study is not an opportunity to have a part-time job (15 hours max. per week)

Most frequent advice given by year 13 leavers?

“ Make good use of your study periods.” “Revise and consolidate *from the beginning of Year 12*” Not too late!

Home study

Students in Year 13 are entitled to Home Study ONLY if their record of attendance & punctuality and their academic progress meets expectations

Supervised study

For any student struggling to organise their time/manage workload (self-identified or identified by SF team/teachers)

Individual activities

Students need to re-apply for individual activities during the school day. WEX should be rare but can be approved

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Home Study



As part of the Home Study Agreement, we expect all students to be in school for the following *(the only exceptions being for any pre-approved absences)*:

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday:

AM Registration (8:40am) and Periods 1-3

Regardless of the timing of any study periods

Monday & Friday:

AM registration Morning if they have a taught lesson period 1
Period 3

Regardless of the timing of any study periods

Students who do not have any lessons in a day and who have approval for Home Study can study at home with parental permission regardless of the day of the week. They should attend specific meetings or assemblies as requested

This privilege can be removed if attendance, punctuality and progress are not as expected.

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Tutor time programme

Year 13 Personal Development (Tutor time/assemblies/lecture)

- UCAS and Future Plans
- Living in the Wider World
- Health and wellbeing
- Relationships

Visit www.lspcareers.org.uk for more information on Careers at Backwell

Tutor time schedule

Day	Activity
Mon	Bulletins Headteacher's address
Tues	Tutor meetings/Admin/ Student voice/Reading
Weds	Personal Development
Thurs	Assembly
Friday	News Quiz/Discussion/ Debates

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Expectations of Year 13 students

- **To be punctual to school and lessons** (*school starts at 8:45am, bell at 8.40*).
- To meet all deadlines.
- To be active learners (*In class & independent study*).
- To take pride in their work and in the school.
- To adhere to the sixth form dress code.
- To show respect to peers and staff.
- To be role models (*Representing the whole school community*).
- **To wear their lanyards at all times.**
- To only use electronic devices in Sixth Form areas



The school behaviour and home learning policy applies to every student

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In the case of absence

A student's record is their own responsibility – parental support is needed. Records will be used for employment and UCAS references.

School Address and Telephone Number

Backwell School, Backwell, Bristol BS48 3BX

Telephone number: (01275) 463371

Alternatively, email: absence@backwellschool.net

Contact your child's tutor in the first instance if you think further communication regarding absence is required. Further queries can be directed to Miss Haywood/Mr Feven. **Students cannot self-authorise absence.**

For regular activities to take place within school time such as driving lessons or extra tuition, there is a form for your child to complete and for you to sign. Students should provide evidence of bookings for other approved activities such as open days etc. and need to inform their teachers using the correct form and also get you to sign it.

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Home support

- Encourage good attendance and punctuality
- Keep asking “what did you do in school today?”!
- Help with time management
- Discuss future plans
- Listen to worries/anxieties

...and please pass these onto us

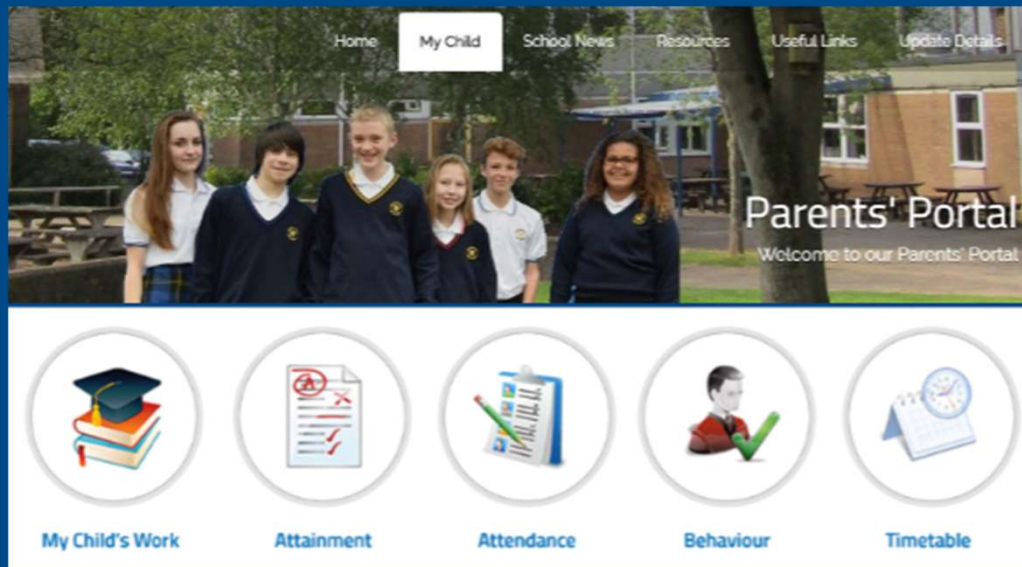


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Key communication tools

Instructions on how to access these apps were sent home in the weekly bulletin last week

Frog parents' portal



My child at school



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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

well-being

rock paper scissors

university challenge

6th form paarlauf

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

WEX

Future Plans Week 2026



KS5 Revision and exams

A FROG page to support Sixth Form students with revision for trial and external ex...



Careers Bulletin May 2026



The Croak

Toadally fascinating



Unifrog

Careers Platform

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Sixth Form Bulletin

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

... during summer:

Thursday 13 August	AS Level and A Level Results Day – collect from A Levels from 8.00 am and AS Levels from 9.00 am (students will also receive them via school email at 2.00 pm)
Thursday 20 August	GCSE Results Day – collect from 10.00 am (students will also receive them via school email at 2.00 pm)

... and for the start of Term 1 2026/27:

Thursday 3 September	INSET Day: Students do not attend
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Key dates

- Short Report 1: October 2026
- Tiral exams: 30 Nov to 3 Dec 2026
- Parents/Carers Evenings: 4 Feb 2027
- Short Report 2: March 2027
- Exam season: 10 May to 23 June
- Full Study Leave: TBC
- Leavers Ball: Friday 18 June 2027
- Results Day: 12 August 2027

Please see Year 13 Key Dates for more



School support

- Tutor
- Head of Year
- Head of Sixth Form
- Peer to peer support
- Sixth form student advisor
- Careers advisor
- SENCO (EEAA)
- Exams officer

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Trial exams: w/c Monday 30 November

- Exact schedule TBC
- Certain subjects have different arrangements (CTEC/Arts)
- Students will have study leave for these days
- Students will be given explicit revision advice in lessons by the end of this term
- Advice will be given in tutor time/assemblies on revision and organisation
- Dedicated KS5 Revision page on FROG
- Students are expected to complete termly assessments so plenty of practice/feedback etc is happening. Trial exams are not the only evidence being used to inform grades.

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Why do trial exams matter?

- Early revision practice – what works, what doesn't work
- The exam “experience” – longer papers
- Check Access arrangements are appropriate (EEAA)
- Feedback – next steps (SMART targets)

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Exam equipment

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 

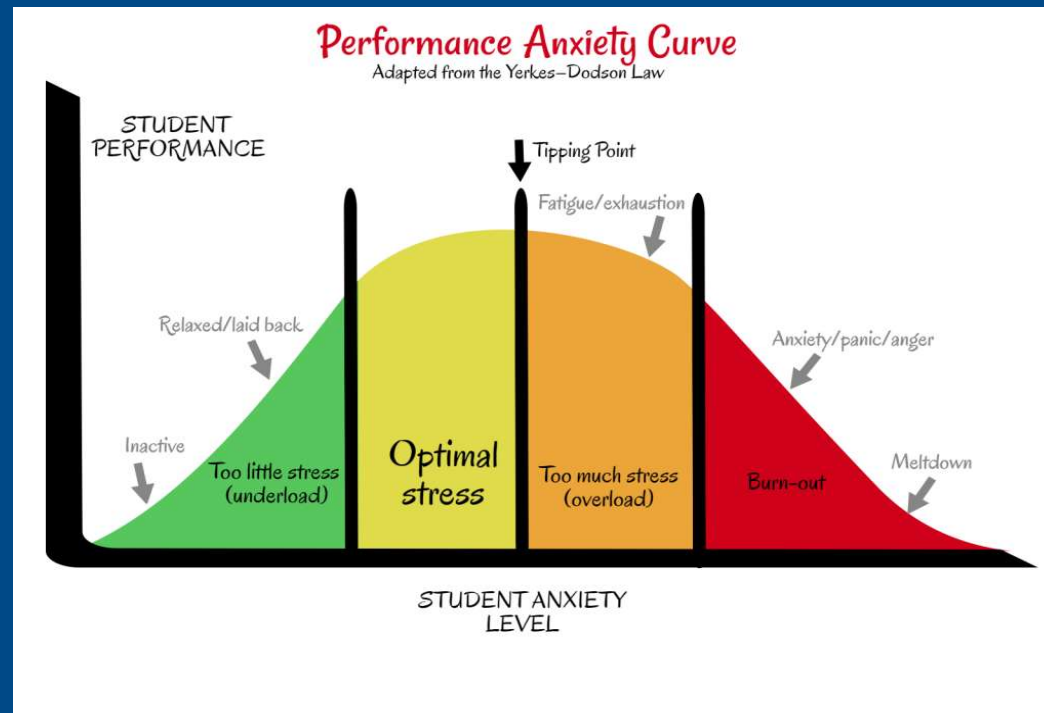
What you cannot take into exams:

- ☐ any type of phone 
- ☐ revision notes 
- ☐ any type of watch (this includes analogue, digital and smart watches) 

No calculator lids

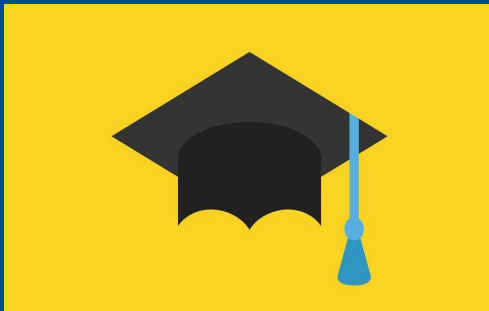
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Supporting students to get the right balance



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Future plans



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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



Click here to download the UCAS Guide for 2027 entry



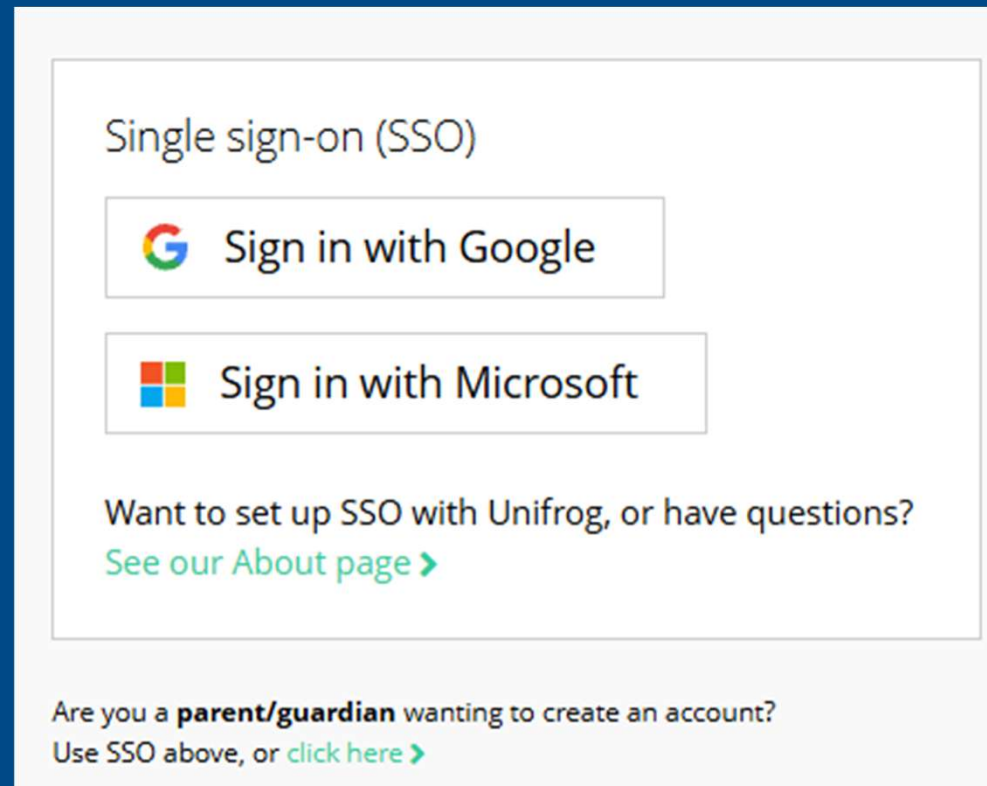
Click here to download the UCAS Application summary sheet

UNIFROG



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Every parent/carer automatically has access to a Unifrog account. Go to www.unifrog.org



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In a nutshell

This special sort of Unifrog account allows a parent to:

- **Stay up to date:** See their child's next tasks, unfinished actions, upcoming events, placements, and the interactions added by their teachers
- **Try out:** Try all our student tools, from the quizzes to the libraries and university and apprenticeships search tools
- **Learn:** Find events (like webinars and fairs) and guides aimed at parents and caregivers
- **Stay in touch:** Sign up to our monthly parent newsletter (which tells parents and caregivers about news and opportunities to do with careers and progression).

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Applying for university

Early applicants should have submitted their draft personal statement

Research Course/University



Visit universities during open days
(we authorise two days off, so use weekends too)



Write personal statement in Unifrog
(get checked by at least two members of staff)



Submit application "summary" sheet to the Sixth Form office

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UCAS Application Summary:

Name: _____ Tutor Group: _____

Results & predicted grades:	Name of subject	Result or predicted grade	Number of UCAS points	Teacher's signature
Subject 1				
Subject 2				
Subject 3				
Subject 4 (if taken)				
AS-level Subject (if taken)				
EPQ Title (if taken)				
Employability Award (if taken)				

University Choices:		Entry Requirements	
Full Name of University	Course Title and Code	Grades/Points (e.g. BBC or 88-104)	Extra Information (e.g. must have B in Maths)
1).			
2).			
3).			
4).			
Ensure at least ONE choice is an insurance choice, meaning the entry requirements are LOWER than your predicted grades/ total number of UCAS points.			
5).			

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UCAS predicted grades

Predicted UCAS grades by teachers are ***aspirational*** but should be attainable.
These may be higher than what our internal report says.
Internal forecast grades are what teachers think students are ***most likely*** to achieve.

How are they calculated?

- Teachers will use a body of evidence (termly assessment/trial exams) to decide.
- Students *can* talk to their teachers about demonstrating attainment at a higher grade.
- HOWEVER – It is NOT in their interest to be given unrealistic predicted grades.

Students MUST have a conversation with their teachers about predicted grades this term.

(Immediately if they are an Early Bird)

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UCAS tariff points

A Level	
A*	56
A	48
B	40
C	32
D	24
E	16

AS Level / Core Maths	
A	20
B	16
C	12
D	10
E	6

Extended Project	
A*	28
A	24
B	20
C	16
D	12
E	8

OCR Level 3 Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate		Business
OCR Level 3 Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate		Health and Social Care
D*	56	
D	48	
M	32	
P	16	

Music Performance	Grade 8	Grade 7	Grade 6
D	30	16	12
M	24	14	10
P	18	12	8

Music Theory	Grade 8	Grade 7	Grade 6
D	10	8	6
M	9	7	5
P	8	6	4

Tariff points are also available for [a number of other qualifications](#), such as dance and lifeguarding. Please see the UCAS Hub for a full up to date list. However, you should note that some universities only recognise tariff points gained from [particular qualifications](#), such as A Levels. It is therefore important to check carefully on individual university websites for conditions of the offer.

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EPQ Results



Students receive a provisional mark in October which can be used for predicted grades. Final marks are awarded in January

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Course entry requirements

Making informed choices:

Use the five choices wisely!

- Aspirational choices (one or two)
- Realistic choices (two or three).
- Insurance choices (at least one).

Points v Grades:

- Some course require specific grades.
- Some course require UCAS points.
- Courses that ask for AAB has no back-up.
- Courses that ask points give flexibility.

Example:

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------|
| • Predicted grades | = BBB |
| • Aspirational | = AAB & ABB |
| • Realistic | = BBB & BBC |
| • Insurance | = BCC |

Example:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| • Entry Requirement | = AAB |
| • Grades | = AAB (128 points) |
| • Points | = A*BC (128 points) |
| • EPQ/AS-levels also add points | |

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UCAS application checklist



UCAS Application Checklist:

BEFORE submitting your completed UCAS application, ensure that you can tick all of the following statements:

Tick when complete

• You have linked your application to Backwell School by using the buzzword backwell27 .	
• You have entered the correct tutor-group or selected Early Applicant if applying for Oxbridge/Medicine/Vet/Dentistry	
• You have entered a Nominated Access person. This is usually a parent/carer who can contact UCAS on your behalf if you are unavailable.	
• You have put your NORTH SOMERSET as your 'area of permanent residence' – unless you live in Bristol, in which case it will be BRISTOL .	
• You have entered UK, ChI, IoM or EU Student Finance for your main source of funding (unless you are not taking out a loan in which case you select Private Finance)	
• You have put NORTH SOMERSET for 'student support arrangements' – unless you live in Bristol, when the local authority will be BRISTOL .	
• You have ticked the boxes of any special support you may need at university, checking with the Sixth Form Team if you need to.	
• You have included all of your GCSE subjects and the grades. You have checked that the boards are correct.	
• You have included your Year 12 subject (AS-level/EPQ/Core Maths) if applicable and the grade (Pending if not yet awarded). For the EPQ you have written a condensed yet descriptive version of the title.	
• You have included all of the subjects you are taking in Year 13 (with the grade marked as Pending). You have checked that the boards are correct.	
• Your personal statement has been uploaded to your application and checked for spelling and grammar.	
• Your choices of university courses have a range of entry requirements, from aspirational to insurance (below your predicted grades).	
• Your application is ready to be handed in to your tutor by the deadline of 21 September for Early Applicants and 6 November for everyone else	
• If your tutor has passed your application back to you, you have made any changes necessary and then handed it into the sixth form office.	
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Personal Statements:

Plagiarism:

- UCAS checks personal statements against a library of those already in the system.
- DO NOT copy someone else's!
- Don't exaggerate – you could get caught out at interview.

Social Media:

- UCAS and universities could look at social media.
- Be careful what you are posting and commenting on!

Email address:

- Make sure you have a professional email address.

Checking your Personal Statement:

- Never give your personal statement to more than one person at a time.
- Wait for feedback before continuing to working on it.
- Don't let spelling and grammar mistakes ruin it - proofread, draft and re-draft.

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UCAS application process (Early applicants may have extra steps)

- Register and complete online application. Take particular care with the qualifications section!
- Personal statement: seek feedback from **one person at a time** e.g. the teacher of the subject they're applying for, their tutor, Sixth Form team
- Ask their tutor to check their application for errors
- Hand their application in to the Sixth Form office with a **completed application summary**
- Applications will be dealt with in the order that they are received
- Each tutor group will be assigned an overall reference writer from the Sixth Form Team
- The overall reference writer will check the application and they will edit together the references from teachers and tutors. They may ask to meet with students to go over any errors in the application or to check everything is correct in the reference. **They will tell students when to pay and send** their application and they will send their application to UCAS once final checks are complete. **There is a fee waiver for FSM students only**

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Non-university post-18 options

- Complete a personal statement/CV on Unifrog
- Research gap year/Apprenticeships on Unifrog
 - Application process
- Check the Careers bulletin regularly
 - Enhance CV and skills
- We will meet with students in relevant groups slightly later in the year to give further advice
 - Apprenticeship workshop with Mrs Farr dates TBC (October)

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Key dates: September-December 2026

Oxbridge, Medicine, Dentistry, Vet Science, Conservatoire (music/drama) - finished applications to be handed in to school	21 Sept
Register for any University Entrance Tests There are no longer any entrance tests sat in school. Book early!	now -early Sept
Applications for Conservatoires / Drama Schools <u>deadline</u>	1 Oct
Apprenticeships with larger firms and organisations are advertised	early Oct
Oxbridge, Medicine, Dentistry, Vet Science, Conservatoire (music/drama) - <u>final deadline</u>	15 Oct
All other UCAS finished applications due to school	6 Nov
Interviews for Oxford/Cambridge/Medicine	Nov/Dec

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Key dates: January-August 2027

All university applications <u>deadline</u> for 1 st round of decisions. You can apply after this but the courses may be full.	13 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	May

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My young person doesn'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 with a potential future career link.

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Advice on post-18 options

- Seek advice about Post-18 plans sooner rather than later
- Talk to your tutor
- Drop in to see Mrs Farr any break or lunchtime in LB2 (Mon – Weds wk1, Mon/Tues Wk 2)
- Even better make an appointment with Mrs Farr via email
- Talk to/make an appointment with Mrs Hobbs
- The key to making informed choices is **completing research**

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Year 13 Parents' & Carers Information Presentation

Thank you for listening. There will now be time for Q+A or if you need to speak to Miss Haywood or Mr Feven, please feel free to stay behind.