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# Welcome to Year 12 Higher Education Evening



[www.malmesbury.wilts.sch.uk](http://www.malmesbury.wilts.sch.uk)



# Objectives for tonight:

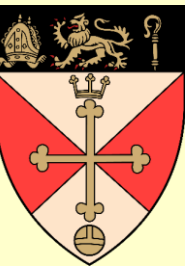
- Discuss different options after Year 13
- Share key dates
- Q and A



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# Updates and Reminders

Louise Stanton – Assistant Head teacher | Head of Sixth Form



Jon Brown – Head of Year 12 and EPQ lead (Oxbridge/ Vet Med lead)



Emma Hall – Head of Year 13 (Oxbridge/ Vet Med lead)



Ziska Dodd – Academic Leader for Yr 12 and 13

Wider team:

Tom Saunderson – Personal Development: Advocacy Programme, Apprenticeships, WEX

Rachel Bird- Drop in support sessions/ ELSA for 6<sup>th</sup> form

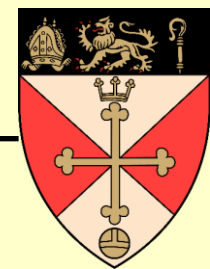
Sarah Griffin- Careers Advisor



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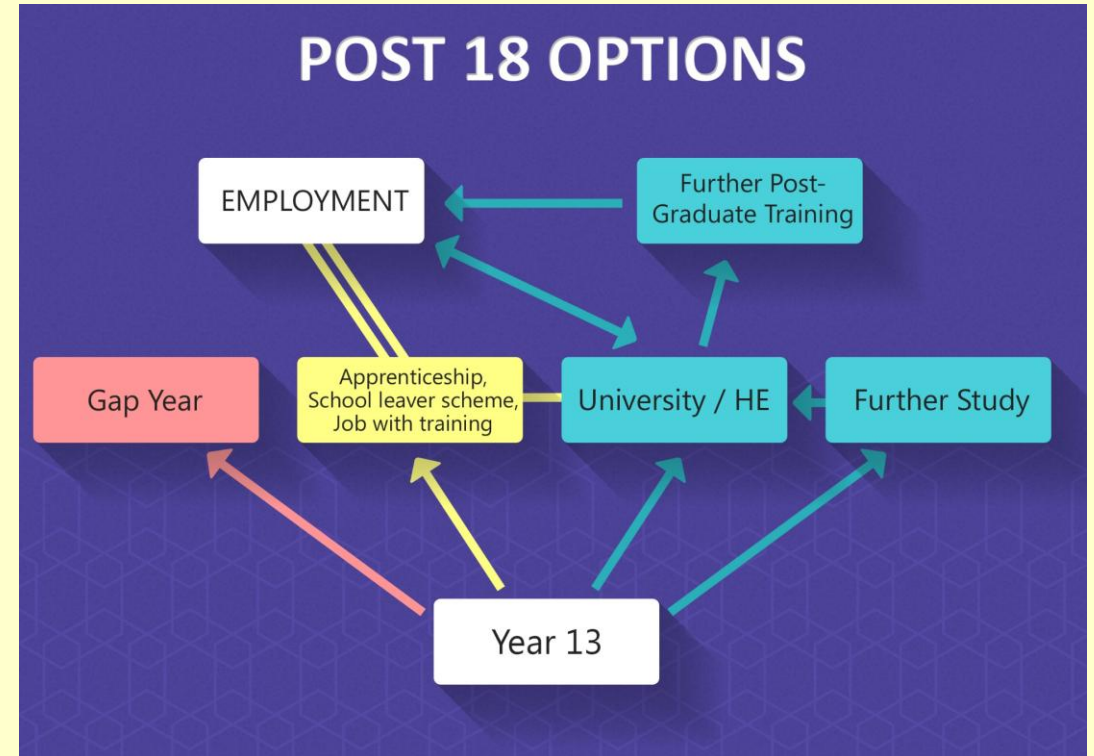
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# Current Year 13 Destinations

- University (+ conservatoire)
- Art foundation course
- Apprenticeship
- Gap Year
- Work



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# UCAS event in Worcester

## Over 460 Universities and Colleges

exhibited at our 2023/24 UCAS Discovery events, showcasing their course portfolio.

## Over 30 Employers and Industry Organisations

exhibited at our 2023/24 UCAS Discovery events, promoting their apprenticeships, career options, brands and products.

## Event Statistics

*"95% of student attendees found a university, college or employer they'd like to apply to."*

## The power of UCAS Events

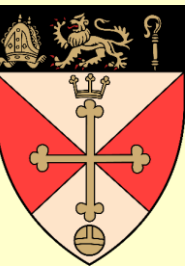
Young people crave the chance to communicate face-to-face. UCAS events allow you to do just that. Our Discovery days bring together HE providers, employers and industry/commercial brands and organisations to provide students with a wealth of knowledge and opportunities to assist with their future decision-making. Students can find out about traditional degrees, apprenticeships, careers, and much more.

Start new conversations, answer their burning questions and generate more leads.

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# Apprenticeships

What are degree apprenticeships?

A degree apprenticeship enables you to gain a full undergraduate or master's degree while you work. Degree apprenticeships take three to six years to complete, depending on the course level.

You'll spend most of your time working and you'll also study part-time at university. For example, you might go to university one or two days per week, or in short blocks, such as a week at a time. Overall, you spend about 20% of your time studying vs. 80% of your time working.

Applying for a degree apprenticeship:

You apply for a degree apprenticeship in the same way you apply for a normal job. You'll need to submit an application, which usually includes a CV and cover letter. If you're also applying for university, you could use your personal statement as a starting point for your application.

Employers advertise degree apprenticeships throughout the year and there is no application cycle like there is with university. The vacancy will state when the application deadline is, and when the apprenticeship is due to start.

[Find an apprenticeship - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)



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# Art Foundation



What's an Art Foundation Diploma?

An Arts Foundation Diploma is a qualification that helps you develop your creative practice and progress to study art and design at degree level. It's a one-year intensive course that will give you specialist knowledge and skill that's not taught at secondary level.

Why take the Art Foundation Diploma course?

An Art foundation course gives you a chance to explore different specialisms like drawing, painting, fashion, textiles, installation art, printmaking, graphic illustration, 3D design and fine art. You'll build up a portfolio of work to show at interview and can make an informed decision on what you might study at a degree level. Many universities prefer you to complete an Art Foundation Diploma before applying for a degree.

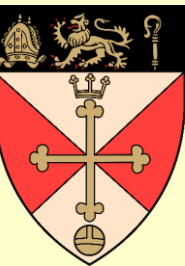
**Some of the most common courses of study that students pursue after completing a foundation degree in art are:**

Architecture, Animation, Fashion, Film, Fine Art, Illustration, Interior Design, Product Design

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# Conservatoire

Conservatoires provide performance-based higher education, including music, drama, screen and production courses – both at undergraduate and postgraduate levels.

Courses are based around individual tuition, practical training, and frequent opportunities to perform. For example, although all conservatoires offer music courses, only two offer drama courses, and some offer subjects like film and production. The conservatoires in the UCAS Conservatoires scheme are:

Royal Birmingham Conservatoire

Leeds Conservatoire

Royal Academy of Music

Royal College of Music

Royal Conservatoire of Scotland

Royal Northern College of Music

Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama

Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance

Other conservatoires may operate outside the UCAS Conservatoire scheme. and you may have to apply to them direct or through the UCAS Undergraduate scheme. If the conservatoire is not listed above, check with them to find out more about their admissions process.



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# Gap Years

A gap year offers you the opportunity to gain skills and experiences, save and earn money, while giving you time to reflect and focus on what you want to do next.

A productive gap year can be valuable on your CV – many employers value the experiences students have gained if they've actively managed their time, set themselves goals, and stretched themselves.

A gap year can also enhance your higher education studies – if you decide to apply for Uni, you could tailor your gap year to relate it to the subject area you plan to study.

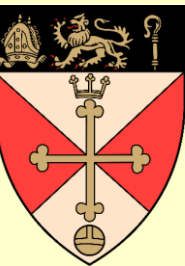
Going to Uni? check about deferring or are you going into Law or VetMed- still some stigma around gap years.



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# Work



## Things to think about...

Are suitable jobs available locally? Make sure you research the local job market. (LMI)

How will you find the adjustment to working life? It may take a while to get used to the hours and shorter holidays.

Are you sure about your career plans?

If you want to get straight into work you may want to consider the following.

Internship- An internship or work placement can give you the opportunity to work at a company with the intention of learning new skills and gaining experience in a particular industry. More and more companies are offering these types of positions to school leavers, as well as to graduates.\*

Start a business- Becoming an entrepreneur can be exciting, but think carefully about your ideas and make a solid business plan.

The Princes Trust can help you with advice on setting up a business if you are aged 18-30 years old

The governments working for yourself website is a good place to start for a person of any age.

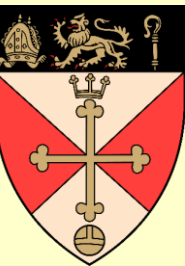
Searching for a Job- You will need a CV that stands out and a cover letter.

<https://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk/>

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# University

To gain qualifications for a specific career.

Improve employment prospects – graduates are 50% more likely to get a good job.

To build on current level of understanding / knowledge.

Personal development.

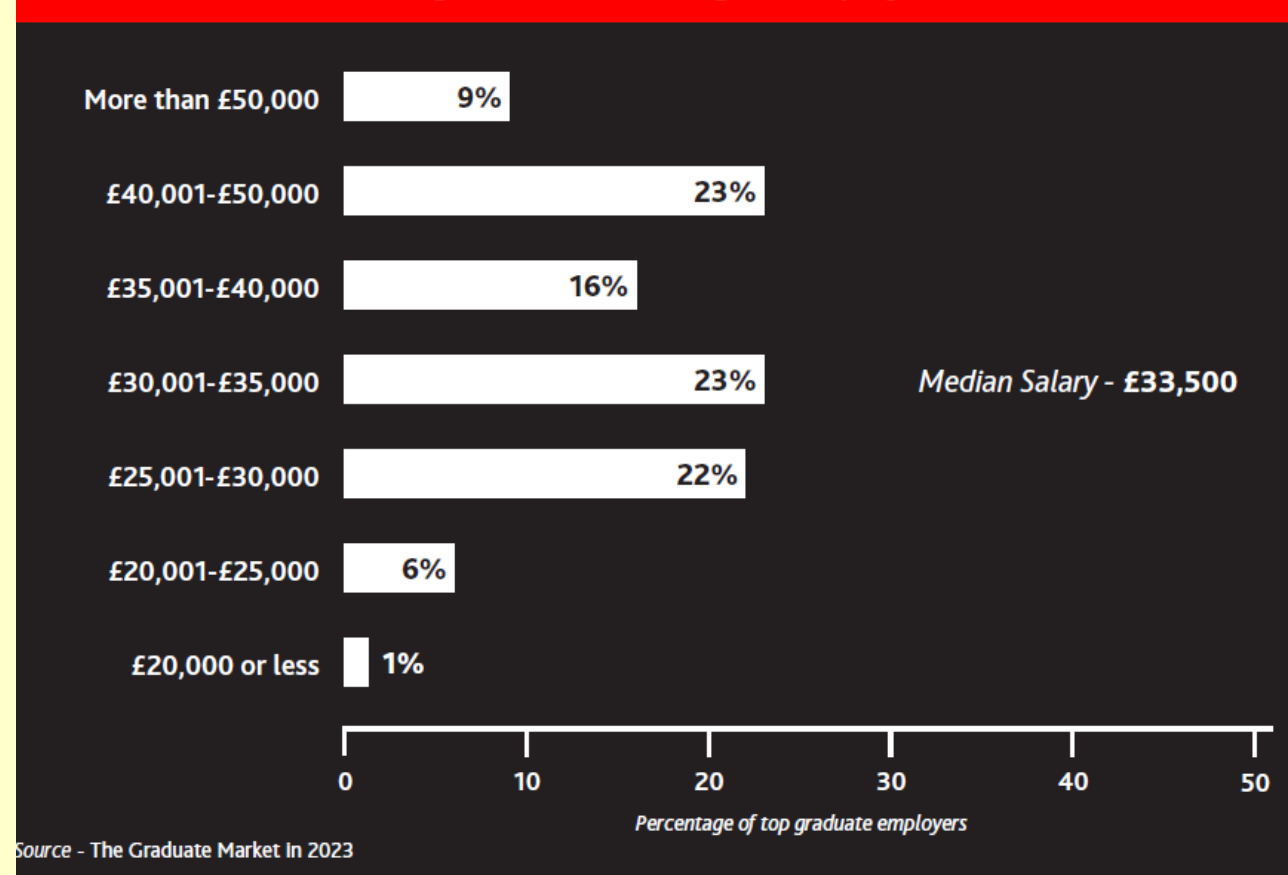
Freedom and the good life.

Access higher earnings:

For the second year running graduate starting salaries at the UK's leading graduate employers are set to increase in 2023-4, to a new median starting salary of £33,500. The most generous salaries in 2023 are those on offer from the investment bank (median of £55,000), law firms (median of £50,000) and consulting firms (median of £47,500). The highest published graduate starting salaries for 2023 include law firms

White & Case (£52,000) and Allen & Overy, Baker McKenzie, Clifford Chance, Freshfields, Herbert Smith Freehills, Latham Watkins, Linklaters and Slaughter

Chart 3.2 Graduate Starting Salaries at leading UK Employers in 2023



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# University

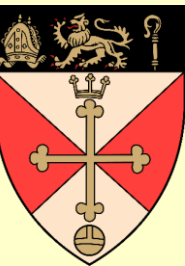


1. Start research early – there are a lot of higher education options to choose from!
2. Register in the UCAS Hub and browse through courses
3. Know the deadlines – for some courses, the application deadline is almost a year in advance of when the course starts.
4. Go to UCAS events and course provider open days – speak to UCAS and higher education staff to get answers to questions.
5. Check entry requirements – make sure they can get the grades they need to get a place on a course. (SUPER CURRICULA/ WEX)
6. Draft and redraft the personal statement – get plenty of feedback and refine it
7. Understand student finance – so they can make the best arrangements to fund their studies.
8. Be prepared for results day – make sure they're prepared for all the possible outcomes.
9. Understand how Extra and Clearing work – different ways to apply for more courses.
10. Visit UCAS Facebook and Twitter regularly to get advice and ask questions.

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# Applying to University

# UCAS

## UCAS Tariff

UCAS

Qualification and grade	Tariff points
A level grade A*	56
A level grade A	48
A level grade B	40
A level grade C	32
A level grade D	24
A level grade E	16

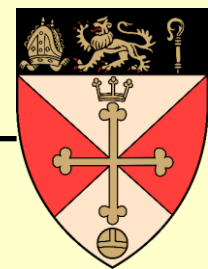
[www.ucas.com/tariff-calculator](http://www.ucas.com/tariff-calculator)



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# Applying to University



## English Literature Aberystwyth University



### Entry requirements

### Qualification requirements

UCAS Tariff	120 - 128 points	With B in any English-related A level.
A level	B B B - A B B	With B in any English-related A level.
Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma	DMM - DDM	With specified subject.
Access to HE Diploma		Pass in Access qualification in a relevant subject with Merit in 50% of units at level 3.
Advanced Welsh Baccalaureate Skills Challenge Certificate		Aberystwyth University welcomes the Welsh Baccalaureate as a valuable qualification in its own right and considers completion of the Welsh Baccalaureate Advanced Skills Challenge Certificate to be equivalent to an A level grade.
International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme	30 points	With 6 points in any English-related subject at Higher Level.

Russell Group Universities

Good University guide

City V Campus

Career Aspirations

Accommodation

Additional features of the course

Apply to universities that fit your academic profile.

Be realistic

Build in an insurance choice.

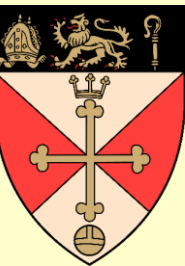
So maybe 2 Aspirational : 2 Safe : 1 Insurance

\* Unconditional offer

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# Applying to University- 2026 applications

Oxbridge and VetMed

These have their own application requirements and separate deadlines

Mrs Hall and Mr Brown lead on this.

Students will need a high grade profile at A Level (and GCSE)

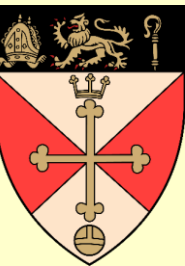
Additional tests/ interviews and assessments

Research entrance exams e.g. BMAT, UKCAT, LNAT, ELAT, HAT, MAT and PAT, Cambridge SAQ – Supplementary Application Questionnaire

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# Applying to University- 2026 applications

29  
APR

**UCAS' search tool displays 2026 entry courses**

13  
MAY

**Undergraduate applications open for 2026 entry**

You can register and start your application in your UCAS Hub.

02  
SEP

**Completed undergraduate applications can be submitted to UCAS**

You will need a reference before you can send your application.

15  
OCT

**(18:00 UK time) Deadline for applications to the universities of Oxford and Cambridge, and for most courses in medicine, dentistry, and veterinary medicine/science**

You can add choices with a different deadline later, but don't forget you can only have five choices in total.

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14  
JAN

**(18:00 UK time) Equal consideration date for applications for most undergraduate courses**

26  
FEB

**Extra opens**

If you've used all five choices and are not holding any offers, you may be able to add another choice in your application. For more information, [visit our Extra page](#).

30  
JUN

**(18:00 UK time) Applications received by this deadline will be sent to universities and colleges**

After this time, applications are automatically entered into [Clearing](#).

04  
JUL

**Last day to add an Extra choice in your application**

05  
JUL

**Clearing opens**

Clearing opens for eligible applicants, and vacancies are displayed in UCAS' search tool. Applicants can release themselves into Clearing. Discover information and advice on our [Clearing and results day](#) pages.

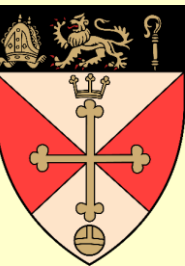
19  
OCT

**Last date to add a Clearing choice**

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# Applying to University

What needs to be done by these dates?

You'll need to leave enough time to complete your application, resolve any queries and make sure it reaches us by the deadline.

After you find courses and you're ready to apply, we'll explain everything in more detail, but here's a brief overview:

Fill in your details, qualifications and course choices.

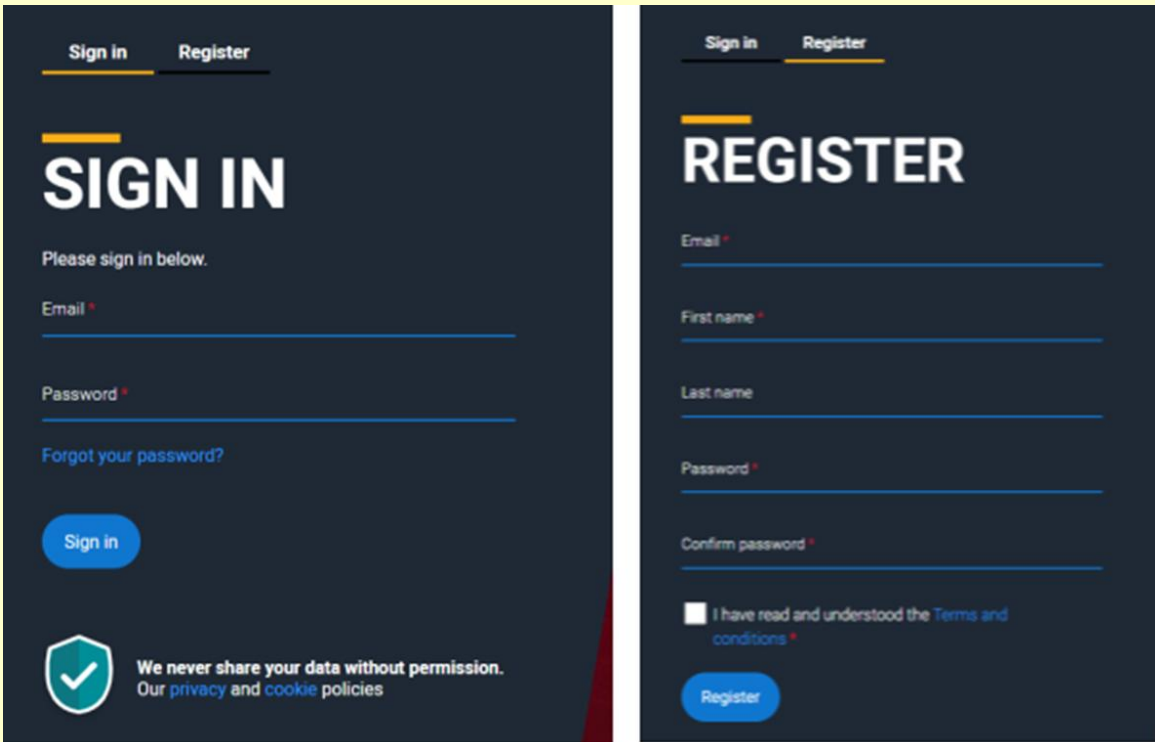
Write a personal statement to demonstrate you'll be a good student.

Include your reference and pay your application fee.

**£28.50.** (students in receipt of the bursary can be reimbursed their costs)

**Password-** TBC

# UCAS

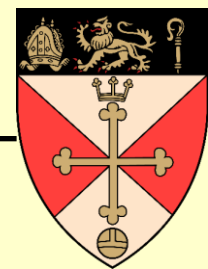


The image displays two side-by-side screenshots of the UCAS application portal. The left screenshot is the 'SIGN IN' page, featuring a dark blue background with white text. It includes a 'Sign in' button, a 'Forgot your password?' link, and a privacy statement at the bottom. The right screenshot is the 'REGISTER' page, also with a dark blue background and white text. It includes fields for Email, First name, Last name, Password, and Confirm password, along with a checkbox for terms and conditions and a 'Register' button.

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# Applying to University-Personal statement

**The new personal statement for 2026 entry**

**For students applying to start their studies in 2026, personal statements are changing from one longer piece of text to three separate sections, each with a different question to help shape the focus for students' answers. Each section will have a minimum character count of 350 characters, which is clearly labelled on the question boxes, along with an overall character counter, to ensure students know if they're on track. The new web page for submitting the personal statement will also feature helpful on-page guidance for each question.**

**The new questions are as follows:**

- 1. Why do you want to study this course or subject?**
- 2. How have your qualifications and studies helped you to prepare for this course or subject?**
- 3. What else have you done to prepare outside of education, and why are these experiences useful?**

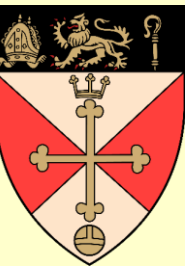
**The personal statement will still be 4000 characters in total; this includes spaces.**

**The content of the personal statement will remain broadly the same - it will just be split across three sections rather than one longer piece of text.**

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# Applying to University-Personal statement

## Motivations for studying this course(s):

- Have you been inspired by a key role model or moment in your life?
- Is it a subject you love and want to pursue further?
- What is your drive?
- How has your path led you to this course or subject area?

## Knowledge of this subject area and interests:

- Is there a particular subject area you've researched?
- Something you can't wait to learn more about?
- What about a book or subject expert doing great things that's sparked your interest?

## Future plans; demonstrate why this course/subject is a good fit:

- Do you already have a particular profession in mind?
- How might you use your studies to launch your career?
- What's important to you and your future, and how might the knowledge gained from this course(s) help you achieve this?

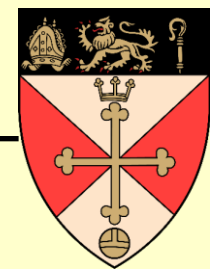


**Remember** these are just some examples, you don't need to include it all. The key is to research the course(s) to find out what might be most relevant.

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# Applying to University-Personal statement

## How your studies or training relate to chosen course(s) or subject area:

- This could be your current or previous studies.
- This could be from any form of formal education – think school, college, training, or short online courses.

## What relevant or transferable skills have you got that make you a great candidate:

- Are there a couple of subjects that helped you develop a core set of relevant skills required for your chosen course(s).
- Maybe a particular module or project helped you understand where your interests and strengths lie.

## Any relevant educational achievements

- Universities and colleges will see your grades on your application - don't waste space talking about these.
- Focus on your other accomplishments like a competition, holding a position of responsibility or representing the school/college.

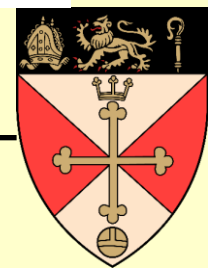


**Remember** these are just some examples, you don't need to include it all.  
The key is to research the course(s) to find out what might be most relevant.

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# Applying to University-Personal statement

## Work experience, employment, or volunteering

- In-person or virtual work experience.
- Paid for work or volunteering.
- The key thing is reflection on the experiences and the skills gained relevant to your chosen course(s).

## Personal life experiences or responsibilities

- Is there a situation you've personally overcome that has influenced your decision?
- Are there personal experiences that have helped you develop essential qualities for the course?

## Hobbies and any extracurricular or outreach activities:

- Think sports, reading, community work, summer schools.
- Any activities outside of core studies that help further showcase why you'd make a great student.

## Achievements outside of school or college

- This could be a position of responsibility for local clubs or groups, competitions, or qualifications you've attained outside of the classroom.

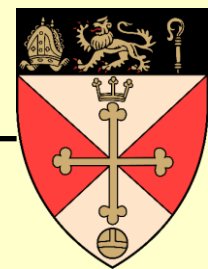
**Remember** these are just some examples, you don't need to include it all. The key is to research the course(s) to find out what might be most relevant.



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# Applying to University-Student Finance

Two main costs:

- **Tuition fees - £9,535**
- **Living costs**



How to pay for it all?

Tuition fee loan

Maintenance loan

University Bursaries

University Scholarships

Part time work

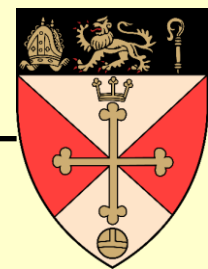
Family help!

Gap year savings

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# Applying to University-Student Finance

[Parents and partners - How to support a student finance application – YouTube](#)

## Maintenance Loan for living costs

You have to give details of your [household income](#) and your course start date.

The loan is paid directly into your bank account at the start of each term. You have to pay the loan back.

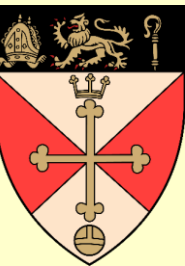
<https://www.thestudentroom.co.uk/student-finance/understanding-undergraduate-student-loans>

	2022 to 2023 academic year	2023 to 2024 academic year
Living with your parents	Up to £8,171	Up to £8,400
Living away from your parents, outside London	Up to £9,706	Up to £9,978
Living away from your parents, in London	Up to £12,667	Up to £13,022
You spend a year of a UK course studying abroad	Up to £11,116	Up to £11,427
If you're 60 or over on the first day of the first academic year of your course	Up to £4,106	Up to £4,221

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# Applying to University-Student Finance

How much you repay

How much you repay depends on your income. You'll repay a percentage of your income over the 'threshold' for your type of loan, depending on how often you get paid.

The thresholds are different for each plan type.

Plan type	Yearly threshold	Monthly threshold	Weekly threshold
Plan 1	£22,015	£1,834	£423
Plan 2	£27,295	£2,274	£524
Plan 4	£27,660	£2,305	£531
Plan 5	£25,000	£2,083	£480
Postgraduate Loan	£21,000	£1,750	£403

You'll repay either:

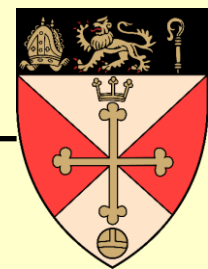
9% of your income over the threshold if you're on Plan 1, 2, 4 or 5

6% of your income over the threshold if you're on a Postgraduate Loan plan

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# Applying to University-Student Finance

## Example

You're on Plan 1 and have an income of £33,000 a year, meaning you get paid £2,750 each month.

Calculation:

$£2,750 - £1,834$  (your income minus the Plan 1 threshold) = £916

9% of £916 = £82

This means the amount you'd repay each month would be £82.

## Example

You're on Plan 4 and have an income of £30,000 a year, meaning you get paid £2,500 each month.

Calculation:

$£2,500 - £2,305$  (your income minus the Plan 4 threshold) = £195

9% of £195 = £18

This means the amount you'd repay each month would be £18.

## Interest

How much interest you're charged depends which plan type you're on. You're currently charged:

5.25% if you're on Plan 1

6.9% if you're on Plan 2

5.25% if you're on Plan 4

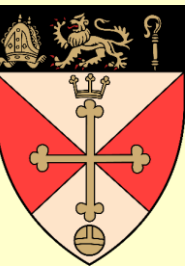
6.9% if you're on a Postgraduate Loan plan

The interest rate for Plan 5 will be based on the Retail Price Index.

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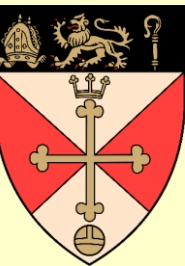
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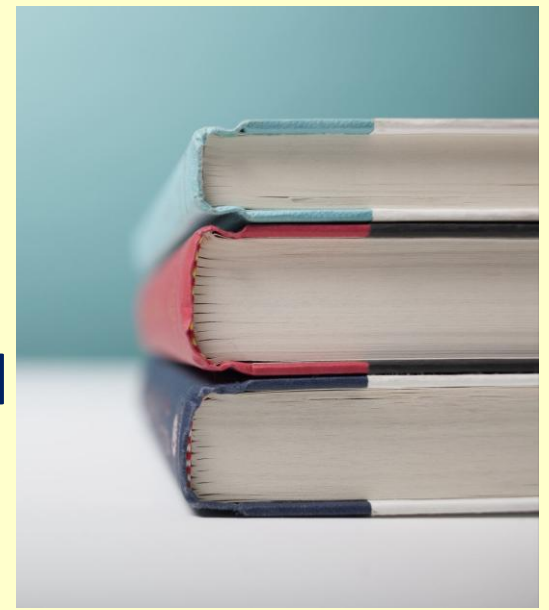
# Key dates

- UCAS trip –Thurs 27<sup>th</sup> March
- Year 12 Progress evening- Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May
- UCAS opens- April 2025- ongoing at home and tutor time
- Head student applications- Easter
- Mock exams- W/C Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> June
- WEX- Tues 1<sup>st</sup> July
- Uni summer schools and open days- sign up!



# Independent study

- 5 hours per subject taught/ matched with 5 hours of personal study
- 1 hour of supervised study per week
- Managing free time
- Study rooms available
- Study V Social time V Work
- Reading/ Pre reading/ Podcasts/ Revision/Documentaries/ Practice questions/ Improving work



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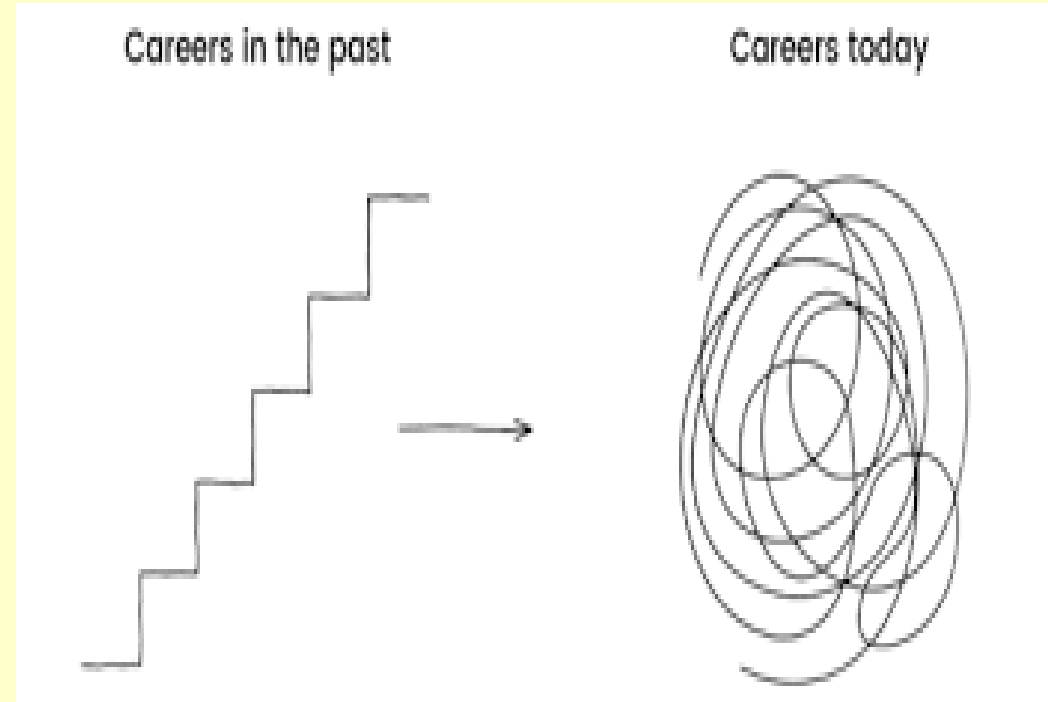
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# Finally:

- Lots to think about and discuss- Big decisions
- This power point with all the links will be on the website for you to reference
- Please do stay behind to ask any questions
- Do keep in touch- we are all here to help
- Squiggly careers path: “In squiggly careers, there's no one size fits all version of success. Success is as individual as you are.”

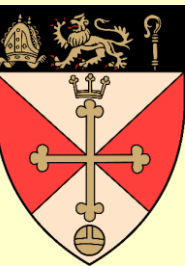


Thank you for coming

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