



SIXTH FORM

TRANSITION BULLETIN

EDITION:8

Dear Year, 11,

These last 4 months have seen so many changes to the way we live our lives. Moving into complete lockdown at the end of March involved lots of personal sacrifices where we had to restrict our movements and become very socially isolated to contain the virus and protect our NHS. Since early May, we have had in small mini steps, slowly eased ourselves back to this new normal with last weekend bringing about the biggest transformation to date to our daily routines and schedules. Managing big changes like this can be very difficult and you over this extended 6-month period have to consider this extra additional set of changes: the move to a Sixth form education. It will entail changing your whole academic approach to your studies, your time management skills, your outlook on and preparation for what the next 57 years will bring you. I hope that this, the final one in a set of 8 transition bulletins will have given you some insight into what you can expect to be different about the most transformative, demanding and ultimately most rewarding part of your 13 years of compulsory education. Over the course of the two years of Sixth Form, it is my intention to despatch 70 such weekly bulletins to you (38 in Year 12 and 32 in Year 13) to help guide and support you to adulthood and offer you a foothold in what will be a very challenging economic and employment landscape still in 2022. As the great Greek philosopher once said, *'The secret of change is to focus all your energy not on fighting the old but on **building the new**'*. And you have my assurances we will do everything we can to help you in this regard.

You will find lots of useful information in this bulletin and throughout the [Transition website area](#) that we hope you will regularly access and utilise over the proper Summer Holiday period that is about to start in earnest in a week's time. I want to at this juncture give you a personal guarantee that by choosing to join Barking Abbey Sixth Form this September you will be getting the following:

- A half century of Pastoral experience and expertise from the 6th form team
- A dynamic set of tutors who are all ranked 'outstanding' in terms of their teaching delivery and pastoral support
- Opportunities to push your potential and career trajectory to its fullest
- Subject departments with caring and highly motivated staff who will challenge and extend your abilities to their maximum;
- Unprecedented expertise and connections to secure the highest university, apprenticeship and school leaver offers and placements.
- Skilled academy coaches that will nurture your sporting talents and skills to a national/international standard

Can I impress upon you that now that I disconnect for the next 5 weeks this weekly exchange we have had over the last 8 weeks.....that more than ever if you have the slightest query no matter how silly or small it may seem to you that I am literally no more than an email away. Don't hesitate in contacting me on : moloneya@barkingabbeysschool.co.uk should you have any queries or concerns no matter how insignificant regarding this key transition to Key Stage 5.

Thanking you

Mr. Anthony Moloney
Head of Sixth Form



As you will be very aware, we are living in unprecedented, historical times with many uncertainties fuelling anxieties in every walk of life. Many of you have had 15 weeks now to dwell on your GCSE grade outcomes this Summer and with 6 more weeks until Results Day on Thursday, 20th August, the school is very aware that any worries you might have may be heightened as this date in late August looms. In the light of the upheaval of your exams being cancelled and many unknowns regarding how exam boards will adjust your school's grade submissions, the Senior Leadership team at Barking Abbey have recently decided to re-evaluate the grade entries for a large number of the subject entries for September 2020. You will see below in the table a significant 'lightening and reducing' of the grade entries across a wide number of subjects has now been proposed compared to those originally set when you applied at the start of the year. It is hoped that this set of changes will ease some of the concerns and worries that you might have as Results Day approaches.

Changes to Grade Entry Requirements

Subject	Original Entry Requirements	New Entry Requirements
A Level General Subject Options	5 Grade 4+'s including either a 5+ in Maths/ 4+ in English Language/Literature or a 5+ in English Language/ Literature and a 4+ in Maths	No Change 5 Grade 4+'s including either a 5+ in Maths/ 4+ in English Language /Literature or a 5+ in English Language/ Literature and a 4+ in Maths
English Literature	6+ in English Literature and Language	5+ in English Literature or Language
Mathematics	7+ required in GCSE Maths	6+ required in GCSE Maths
Biology	66 in Combined Science or 776 in Separate Sciences with the need for 776 in Combined Science and Maths if Choosing a combination of Science and Maths options. 7776 will be needed in Separate Sciences and Maths if Choosing a combination of Science and Maths options	66 required in Combined Science or with Separate Sciences a 6 in Biology and one other Science
Chemistry	66 in Combined Science or 776 in Separate Sciences with the need for 776 in Combined Science and Maths if Choosing a combination of Science and Maths options. 7776 will be needed in Separate Sciences and Maths if Choosing a combination of Science and Maths options	66 required in Combined Science or with Separate Sciences a 6 in Chemistry and one other Science

Physics	66 in Combined Science or 776 in Separate Sciences with the need for 776 in Combined Science and Maths if Choosing a combination of Science and Maths options. 7776 will be needed in Separate Sciences and Maths if Choosing a combination of Science and Maths options	66 required in Combined Science or with Separate Sciences a 6 in Physics and one other Science
Art & Design	4+ in GCSE Art	No Change: 4+ in GCSE Art
Computer Science	6+ in Maths; 7 + in GCSE Computer Science or ICT	5+ in GCSE Computer Science or IT
Design & Technology	6+ in GCSE Design & Technology	5+ in GCSE Design & Technology
Economics	6+ in English Language/Literature; 6+ in Maths	5+ in Maths
Geography	5+ in English Language/Literature; 5+ in Maths 6+ in GCSE Geography	5+ in GCSE Geography
History	6+ in English Language/Literature 6+ in GCSE History	5+ in GCSE History
Physical Education	5+ in English Language/Literature; a 5+ in a GCSE Science; a 5+ in GCSE PE	5+ in GCSE PE
Psychology	5+ in English Language/Literature; 6+ in Maths	4+ in English Language/Literature; 6+ in Maths for <u>AQA A Level Course</u> 4+ in English Language/Literature; 4+ in Maths for <u>New BTEC (Level 3) in Applied Psychology</u>
Religious Studies	4+ in GCSE RE if studied	4+ in GCSE RE if studied
Sociology	4+ in GCSE Sociology if studied	4+ in GCSE Sociology if studied
BTEC General Subject Options	5 Grade 4+'s including either a 5+ in Maths/ 4+ in English Language/Literature or a 5+ in English Language/ Literature and a 4+ in Maths	5 Grade 4+'s including a 4+ in Maths and a 4+ in English Language/Literature
Business; IT; Sport; Performing Arts (Dance)	Must have a Grade 4 (GCSE) or Merit (BTEC Level 2) in subject (Business/ IT/ Sport (PE)/ Dance)	No Change

If in the light of these changes to subject entries, you would after careful reflection and research like to reconsider one of your initial subject options, please by **3pm this Friday, 10th July** can you make sure you inform the school. If you are a current Barking Abbey Year 11 student can you please email Mrs Matthews (MatthewsC@barkingabbeysschool.co.uk); If you are a new prospective Year 12 applicant can you please email Mr Moloney (MoloneyA@barkingabbeysschool.co.uk). Regretfully any further option change requests after this date will not be accepted.

ENROLMENT AND START OF TERM UPDATE

As the government last Thursday announced the return of all students to schools in September, Barking Abbey has started to make some initial decisions about both our Sixth Form Enrolment and September start in less than two months. Here are the initial proposals below but these are very much subject to change and will be updated by Mr Falzon (6th Form Assistant Headteacher) by letter/email to you in mid -August. I will clarify this further in a new bulletin on Monday, 17th August.

- **Current Year 11 Barking Abbey Students** on Thursday, 20th August will be able to collect their GCSE results in person by making their way to the Dining Room at 8.30am observing social distancing and appropriate hygiene measures
- They will be able to enroll in the Sixth Form Centre from 9am-1.00pm on that Thursday only, having received their enrolment packs by post from Monday, 17th August onwards.
- Thursday, 20th will be the only day where enrolment will occur to minimize cross contamination during this ongoing pandemic
- **New Year 12 Barking Abbey Students** will receive an email in early August from Mr Falzon with a link to an online enrolment form which they will need to be filled in and submitted with a screenshot/copy of their GCSEs on Thursday, 20th August. This is to again minimize the prospect of contamination and limit large numbers on the premises to preserve social distancing.
- Any issues with **new Year 12 students'** enrolments will be coordinated through email and phone calls by Senior teachers with confirmations made provisionally via email by Friday, 21st August at the latest.

According to the current school calendar for the academic year 2020-21 we are still working on the following schedule:

Tuesday, 1st September: Teaching Staff return from their Summer Holidays

Wednesday 2nd -Friday, 4th September: Suggested dates for Years 7-11 to return (Provisional)

Monday, 7th September: Provisional Induction Day for Year 12 to return

Tuesday, 8th September: Year 13 return and Year 12 subject timetables start (Provisional)

From the government's general guidance to Schools these are some of the changes you can expect in September:

- A need for regular washing of hands and sanitizing regularly at the start, specific movement points and the end of the school day- very strict hygiene levels will need to be upheld by all students and staff.
- Social distancing will need to be practiced where feasible in both learning and communal settings
- As the new Year 12 you will be put into a large bubble and will be kept apart from Year 13 and Years 8-11 who are also on the Sandringham campus
- This may involve staggering starting points to the school day, different break, lunch and lesson times for each Year group/Bubble with a different end point to the day (Details on this will be made available at the end of August)
- It is still the school's intention to have normal class sizes for A Level/BTEC lessons and for the time you would expect to spend on each subject to remain the same as a 'normal Year 12 student'
- There will be a focus on full attendance for all students in this new academic year
- Your examinations at the end of 2022 are unlikely to be affected/delayed (unlike the outgoing and incoming Year 13)

All the above proposals are based on an initial set of guidelines released by the Department of Education last Thursday and are subject to change and updating as the school plans for next year



The school is very aware how popular Psychology is as a Post 16 Option and want to offer as wide a range of pathways to as many students as possible to explore this fascinating and relevant subject. A number of students have raised concern due to the focus on statistics in the A Level course that a Grade 6 entry requirement in GCSE Maths to study it may be beyond their capabilities. The school has responded by putting alongside the existing A level, a new Level 3 BTEC qualification: An Extended Certificate in Applied Psychology where only a Grade 4+ in Maths is required to pursue it. We have set out below these two different options in a comparison table which are now both accessible for September in Block C.

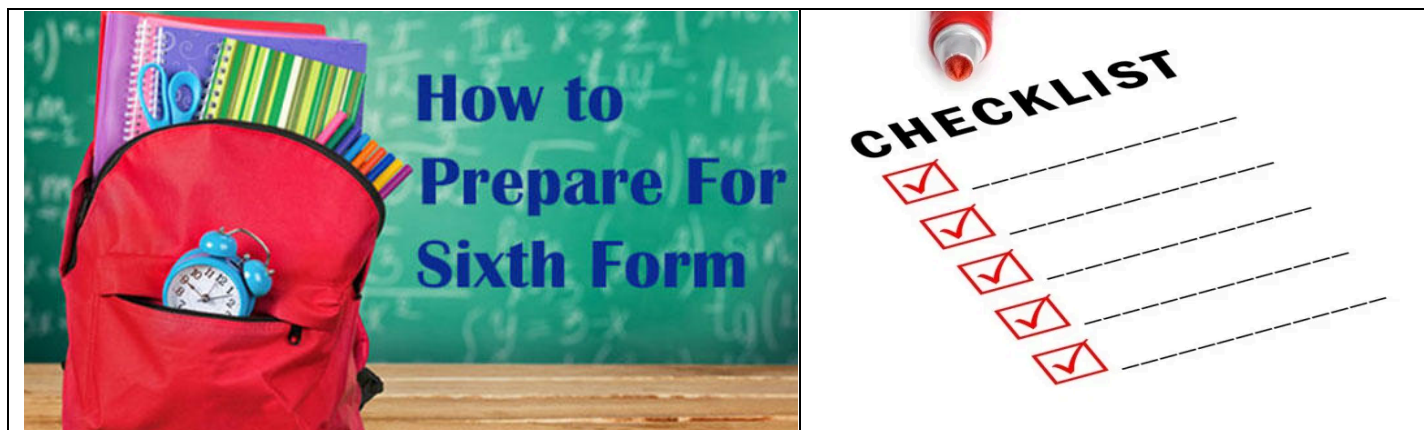
Qualification	GCE A Level Psychology	Extended Certificate in BTEC Applied Psychology (Level 3)
Exam Board	AQA	Pearson Edexcel
Syllabus Link	A Level Syllabus	BTEC Syllabus
Barking Abbey Entry Requirements	Mathematics: 6+ English Language: 4+ Must have 5 Grade 4s	Mathematics: 4 + English Language: 4+ Must have 5 Grade 4s
Topics Covered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Memory • Psychopathology, • Gender, • Stress, • Forensic Psychology, 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Psychological approaches and applications 2. Conducting psychological research 3. Health Psychology 4. Criminal and Forensic psychology
How the qualification is assessed	Three Terminal Exam Papers taken at the end of Year 13 (each worth 33% of qualification)	4 Units must be completed of which 3 are Mandatory and one Optional. 58% of the qualification is externally assessed by tests/set tasks over the course of the two years. 42% will be internally assessed with assignments.
Grade Awards	A* - E	D*; D; Merit; Pass
Post 18 Pathways	A subject that can be used to apply to a wide range of degree programmes at University. Very Useful for a range of Healthcare, Education and Neuroscience courses. Psychology A level is desirable, but not essential for a BSc Psychology degree.	Can form part of a wide range of degree applications with other BTEC/ A levels. Useful for Mental Health Nursing, Early Child Development, Occupational Therapy, Sports Coaching and Primary Education.

REMINDER: Your Scheduled Tasks for 1st September 2020

Unfortunately, we will not be able to put you on our Year 12 registers and issue with you with a Sixth Form ID if the following hasn't been completed by Tuesday, 1st September.

Dates	Summary	Details
Ongoing (Completed by Tuesday 1 st September)	Completing the A Level Subject/ BTEC Course Transition Documents set by different departments : Transition Tasks	These can be found on our website and can be completed and saved on a word/ other format ready to submit to the relevant subject teachers in early September
June 1 st – June 7 th	Completing the VESPA Home Study Programme and save the pdf ready for September.	To help you complete this set of exercises – Please register and follow this online course: VESPA Mindset Course
June 8 th -June 14 th	Complete in pdf form and save safely the following Personal profile task.	If you are unsure how to answer Q.10 (your Preferred Learning Style) and Q.14 (16-19 Bursary) there is a short document on each of these in the General Preparation for 6th Form area
June 15 th - June 21 st	Future Plans Activity Sheet Memory Maker 2020	Complete the Future Plans Activity that can be found here : and save as a pdf document for September. Please use the vast array of Career weblinks and Success for School Career Zone areas highlighted in Bulletin 5 to help you fill this in. You also have a Summer holiday project that we would like you to complete for September: a Memory Maker 2020 where you can start to reflect and log/record the dramatic changes you have experienced since mid-March in these historical times we live in. Your answers can be recorded on a word document ready to share in September during tutor time when hopefully a new normality has dawned for us all.
June 22 nd – June 28 th	Linked In Profile and CV Draft to complete	You will find advice on how to create a good Linked In Profile as well as start your CV draft here and in the middle of Bulletin 6. You will see two files : Applications and CV Brochure as well as the ultimate Linked In Profile Cheat sheet in the General Preparation for 6th Form area
June 29 th - July 3 rd	Watching a talk or online lecture	How do you improve your communication skills by watching the very best in the business. Pick any talk advertised in a bulletin to watch, noting the guest speakers' oral skills and body language. Browse through this guide which offer you tips on how to become a skilled communicator.
July 6 th -July 10 th	Passport to Sixth Form needs to be completed and can be downloaded from here	This is your final task to complete and have ready for early September. We would also like to make sure you have completed your research thoroughly on possible careers by looking through the Informed Choices booklet which can also be found here
Ongoing	Explore in this area : General Preparation for 6th Form area a range of resources to help you 'Bridge the gap' to Sixth Form	Find a book in the large Reading List Find a course in one of the many MOOCS or the newly added Lots More MOOCS also found here Try out a Cultural Experience from this large list of 100 Challenges

YOUR ULTIMATE CHECKLIST FOR SEPTEMBER



- I have thoroughly **researched** the subjects I plan to study at Post 16 and feel confident they fit my skill set and my future career ambitions having browsed in this section of the [website](#).
- I have thought through not only where these options will take me in **September 2020** but **September 2022** and if going into further education **September 2025**!!
- These are mainly subject(s) I expect to see in the 'top half' of my GCSE results page (in terms of **performance**) . These are my **best performing subjects**!
- These are subject(s) that I really **enjoy**, and I am willing to 'put in the hours'on average 1050 hours per subject over the course of the Sixth Form years...44 whole days!!
- I feel I can **handle** the **demands** and rigour of these subjects and have browsed the subject syllabus details of the relevant exam boards to look at the content, final exam structure and some sample exam papers.
- I am familiar with the Sixth Form **uniform** requirements from [Bulletin 7](#) and know where to purchase the special tie
- From [Bulletin 7](#), I am also aware of the stationary/ equipment I will need and what outlays/ expenditure in terms of subject resources I will need.
- I have completed all the relevant subject transition tasks for my A Level/ BTEC selections which can be found [here](#)
- I have done some initial exploration (through the opportunities offered in the bulletins) of university , apprenticeship, school leaver, job and gap year opportunities.
- I have also managed to get all the General Preparation for 6th Form exercises as outlined on the previous page completed
- I am aware of the Enrolment arrangements and expect to receive either a letter/enrolment pack (if I am a current Barking Abbey student) or an email and an online enrolment form if I will be new to Barking Abbey in September 2020.
- I have completed a free [MOOC](#) (Massive Open Online Course) from the selections on offer
- I have completed a Virtual Work Experience from the list offered in the Bulletins or got myself involved in volunteering as detailed in Bulletin [4](#)
- I have read a [book](#) related to a subject I hope to study or career area I hope to pursue
- I have watched an **Online talk or lecture** in an area of interest
- I am keeping myself alert of Current affairs by watching either a quality TV news programme or surfing a reliable news website ([Bulletin 3](#) has a wide range of current affair links)
- I have either explored online a [Cultural experience](#) or visited a gallery, museum or place of educational interest in London this Summer.

• **Welcome to Sixth Form**

Your future starts here...



In two short months you'll be starting sixth-form. But what can you expect? Certainly, the days of being drip-fed your curriculum are over, now 'reading around the syllabus' is an activity you'll have to give serious thought to.

You'll most likely be handed an independence never before experienced in education; free periods, lunches outside school, and the ability to choose your next direction in life.

But take it from one who has just spent a year navigating the system, it isn't all roses.

Here's what else you can expect from sixth form.

1. It passes VERY quickly

After six years of primary school and another five of secondary school, lessons can seem like quite a drag. After all, you've been in education for the best part of your life. However, it's a different story when you start sixth form. The two years speed by faster than you'd expect, probably because of the sudden change.

If you like things to move fast, then this won't be a problem, but if you would prefer to feel like you're actually making the most of sixth form, try to create as many memories as possible within the two years. Just don't let your revision suffer.

2. Sleep will be your new best friend

Most of us had bedtimes of around 10.30pm in secondary school and, probably, a few sleepless nights towards the end of Year 11 during exams that never happened. But sixth form is a different story, mainly due to the workload and your work life balance.

Going out with your friends on Saturday and then coming back home to revise or do some coursework is very tiring. 'Taking a nap' may well become a daily occurrence; just make sure you don't sleep through to the next day, wake up at 7am and realise you've done nothing.

In sixth form, sleep is what keeps you going, even if you get no work done. Of course, this isn't ideal, so try your hardest to limit the time you spend out and about, to make sure you have time to revise and get work done.

3. You and your new best friend will spend no time together (sleep, that is)

Contradictory to the previous point, you and your new best friend (sleep) may spend less and less time together as the months progress; mostly down to the all-nighters and early rising just to meet deadlines.

Your relationship with sleep will meet some rocky roads and you'll have to fight the urge to nap in class if you didn't sleep the night before. However, the solution to this is, once again, organisation, and completing work as soon as it is set. Believe me, it will be better in the long run.

4. It will probably be the craziest two years of your life

Now this point can be good for some and bad for others. University will be stressful, there's no doubt about that; but sixth form is another story. Not only do you have to make sure you've picked the right subjects (which is tricky enough), you have to ensure that these subjects will lead you down the right path and get you on the right career later on in life.

Then you have personal statements, UCAS applications, community service, and maybe even a job. This is the definition of crazy. So many things happen at the same time and they all have to be done and dusted in the space of two years.

It may sound like a long time, but we've already established that it will fly by. The best way to deal with this craziness is to keep on top of your deadlines, take time to relax and plan your next steps thoroughly.

5. Your first E will make you or break you

At some point, you've probably heard someone say, "the jump between GCSE and A-level/the IB/BTEC is huge". They weren't lying. At A-level specifically, an E grade is a pass. This demonstrates just how hard it will be.

If we're being honest here, at some point during the two years there will be a test that you take, probably after a night of socialising, and you may just get that E.

While it might be a pass, most people don't like the sound of it. So, you have two options: you could use this grade as a reason to give up, or you could use it as motivation to work harder and get a C/ B or A next time, which will be a huge achievement. I'd choose the latter.

6. Past papers really are the best way to prepare for exams

There are loads of revision materials on the internet and available to buy online, but one method in particular stands out, especially when you're preparing for your final exams.

Every sixth form student should get into the habit of answering practice questions, from textbooks and from websites online. However, you shouldn't leave past papers until the last week or two before the exam. Regular development of exam skills and techniques over the whole two years is an essential part of your Sixth Form studies. This will help you see where you are still going wrong in certain topics before it's too late.

7. You're all in the same boat

Finally, you have to keep in mind that everyone in your year group is in the same boat as you.

You're all getting the same lessons and you're all sitting the same exam. This is quite comforting, as knowing you're not alone may encourage you to start revising with friends.

In fact, setting up group chats for each subject is a great idea. You can share notes, help out with work and therefore revise more efficiently. This will ensure you survive the madness of sixth form and move onto the next stepping-stone of your life with energy still in the tank.

Top Advice for New Sixth Formers: 13 Ways to Make the Most of Year 12

You have the step up in academic difficulty level to negotiate for a start, and a workload that will require diligent time management to keep on top of. You might be settling into a new school for Sixth Form or getting used to having different people around you in your existing school. And then there's the not insignificant matter of applying to university or other career pathways, and all the build-up that precedes submitting your application. As a hard-working student, you'll probably take all this in your stride; but to make it easier for you to deal with, this article gives you some advice to bear in mind as you enter Sixth Form for the first time.

1. Don't bite off more than you can chew

You might think that doing four or five A-levels will look really impressive on your university application but biting off more than you can chew is bound to do you more harm than good. You might find that your school doesn't actually let you take on this many, for timetabling reasons as much as because they think you're taking on too much. If they do let you, you might find you get worse grades, because you'll struggle to stay on top of the workload. Since universities only ask for three A-levels when making offers, it's better to have three and do exceedingly well at all of them than it is to take on more and do a worse job at them. Quality is better than quantity when it comes to A-levels, and you certainly won't be thought less of by universities just because you've only done three.

2. Managing the leap from GCSEs to A-levels

The start of Sixth Form is the ideal time to get into some good study habits, as these will help you get the best possible A-level grades, as well as standing you in good stead for university. Get into a routine that incorporates plenty of study time, and use 'To Do' lists to help maximise your productivity and prioritise homework tasks. One of the best things you can do when you start A-levels is to revise as you go along, as this will reduce your revision workload nearer to exam time by ensuring that you learn it properly first-time round. After a class, read up on what you learned to consolidate your new knowledge, and make flashcards with short snippets of useful information on each topic. These will be useful when you revise, both days and months down the line.

3. Start as you mean to go on

The start of Sixth Form is the ideal time to get into some good study habits, as these will help you get the best possible A-level grades, as well as standing you in good stead for university. Get into a routine that incorporates plenty of study time, and use 'To Do' lists to help maximise your productivity and prioritise homework tasks. One of the best things you can do when you start A-levels is to revise as you go along, as this will reduce your revision workload nearer to exam time by ensuring that you learn it properly first-time round. After a class, read up on what you learned to consolidate your new knowledge, and make flashcards with short snippets of useful information on each topic. These will be useful when you revise, both days and months down the line.

4. Make use of all available resources

When it comes to A-level study, you don't just have to rely on textbooks to get you through your course material. Try to utilise as many different resources as you can, as this will give you different ways of looking at the syllabus that will help you absorb information more easily. For example, YouTube is full of videos explaining A-level concepts. Paj Holden, for instance, produces useful videos for A-level Economics students. Other kinds of resources you could use might include revision guides, webinars, the library and museums, to name but a few.

5. Make the most of free periods

Free periods in your school timetable will probably be a novelty for you, but you shouldn't waste them. Use them productively to write up your notes from class and get homework done, as this reduces the amount of homework you need to do when you get home and frees up time to spend on reading more widely and developing new knowledge and skills in preparation for university. You can use lunch breaks productively as well, by going to the library to do some work after a short break to eat. Not only does this give you extra study time, but it also stops you spending money going to the shops or sitting in a cafe during your free time.

6. Applying to university

Your first year of A-levels is when you start thinking seriously about applying to university or alternative career routes. You probably already have an idea of what you want to study, but now's the time to firm up your decision and start thinking about where you might want to study this course. Order some university prospectuses (or look through the ones at your school) and attend open days for any you like the look of. Talk to your teachers too, as they'll likely have some thoughts on what sort of universities you should be aiming for based on your academic progress.

Also with your university application in mind, your first year of A-levels is a good time to start building

up some more relevant experience and knowledge to talk about in your personal statement. Reading widely around your chosen subject is a must, but there are additional things you can be doing to showcase a diverse set of skills. The following are a few of the things you can take on in your first year of A-levels with a view to strengthening your forthcoming university application:

Take an extra qualification to boost your UCAS points

Gain relevant work experience in an area related to your chosen subject

Take up a new hobby, or pursue an existing one to a higher level; ideally one that demonstrates qualities such as teamwork and communication

Tutor a GCSE student in your chosen subject

Do some voluntary work

Get a part-time job (more on this below)

Embark on a project or challenge, such as the Duke of Edinburgh Award

Think of your AS year as laying the foundations for your university application. Do as much as you reasonably can now, and you'll find it pays off next year when you come to write your personal statement.

7. AS-level/ BTEC Core Unit material is 50% of your final grade

Don't be fooled into thinking that AS-level/BTEC Core Content don't matter, or that you can relax this forthcoming year and make up for it next year. Year 12 material constitute 50% of your entire grade, so if you do well in them, you have a good head start towards your final grade, and it takes the pressure off slightly in your second year. If you don't work hard enough for your AS-level Mocks /Core exams, you'll make your A2 (Year 13) extremely stressful, because you'll have to work even harder to get the grades you want. What's more, you'll need to work extra hard in your first year of A-levels, because your AS grades will determine your predicted grades – and these are all universities have to go on when assessing your current level of academic ability. If you have poor predicted grades because you haven't worked hard enough in your AS year, this will have a big impact on the success with which you'll be able to apply to top universities.

8. Don't leave past papers to the last minute

Past papers are a really useful way of gauging what level you're working at, and they get you used to the style of questions you can expect in the real exam. They're going to be tougher than GCSE exam questions, so it's a good idea to start getting used to them as early as you can. They also give you practice at working out timings for questions. Try to start taking past papers early on, whenever you reach the end of each module; this forces you to revise what you've done for that module. Ask your teacher to mark it for you and take on board any feedback you get back to help you understand where you need to improve.

9. Build a good relationship with your teachers

Your teachers at A-level may be the same as your secondary school teachers if you've stayed at the same school, but if you're moving schools, you'll have a whole new set of teachers to try to impress. If you're staying at the same school and you previously had a reputation as someone who doesn't work hard enough, or who has the wrong attitude, now's the time to change your teachers' view of you. If you're at a new school, show the teachers from the word go that you're a model student who's determined to get top grades.

In a year's time, your teachers will be writing your university reference for you, and it's vital that you

give them a good impression, with an admirable attitude and making a real effort to produce outstanding work. Ask them for extra work, speak out in class with intelligent opinions, and hand homework in early. You might annoy some of your classmates in the process, but it's worth it if you're rewarded with an exemplary reference.

10. Get a strong backpack and locker

You're going to be carrying around a lot of books and folders, so you'll make life easier if you have a backpack rather than a bag that has a shoulder strap (you're likely to suffer a bruised shoulder and bad back if you opt for such a bag). If you can get hold of a locker in a handy location, even better, as this means that at any given time, you only need to carry what you need for a particular lesson.

11. Try to make time for a part-time/Summer job or organise volunteering/vocational experience

A Saturday job while you're in Sixth Form doesn't just give you some extra pocket money: it allows you to develop non-academic skills that will be useful for university and your future career. This might include customer service and sales skills, as well as working well within a team. Such skills are essential in business, whatever level you operate at, and the teamwork element will be particularly useful for group work at university. But don't let your job take over your spare time; if you find your grades are suffering, it's preferable to give up your part-time work, as good grades will benefit you more at this stage in your life.

12. There's no need to worry about making friends

If you're starting a new school for Sixth Form, or many of your friends are leaving to do their A-levels elsewhere, you may be worrying about your ability to make new friends. There's no need to be concerned! The great thing about Sixth Form is that everyone's there because they want to be, not because they have to be. This means that those taking A-levels are generally more committed to their studies, and you'll therefore be among more like-minded people. There are plenty of opportunities for making new friends at Sixth Form, the most obvious place being in class: there will be lots of group work at A-level, so you'll naturally mix with others. Once you've got chatting in class, you can develop new friendships from there, perhaps by suggesting meeting up in free periods or at lunchtime, whether to study together or to have a coffee.

13. Enjoy it

Sixth Form is a time when you've finally left behind the subjects you disliked at GCSE and you're now able to concentrate on subjects that genuinely interest you. What's more, you're working towards studying your favourite subject at university or the skills you are good at in a career/ training programme. Although A-levels/BTECs are harder work than GCSEs, you'll probably find that you really enjoy Sixth Form and the new challenges it brings. It's also a time to make the most of home comforts and spending time with your parents and friends before you go to university/ go into the world of work. Enjoy it and remember that all this hard work will pay off, even if it doesn't always feel like it at the time.

So what are the Key differences between GCSE and Sixth Form?

The way you work at A-level/BTEC will be different; one example is that class sizes will probably be smaller. Representing as it does a fairly significant lifestyle change, the transition from GCSEs to Sixth Form brings with it a few new things to which you will need to adjust. These are nothing to be concerned about; they're just moving you towards the type of studying you'll be doing at university/ further training or the world of work, preparing you for the time when you will experience a very different style of teaching and living to what you've had before.

Grade requirements

While anybody can enrol on GCSE courses, A-levels are a bit more academically selective. You can expect to have to meet minimum GCSE grade requirements in order to enrol on A-level courses or BTEC.

Number of subjects

You'll have been used to studying ten or more GCSE subjects up to now, but at A-level, that number is drastically cut down. You'll usually select three full A-level subjects, and in some instances one AS (though a few choose to carry on their fourth AS-level to A2). This narrower selection of subjects allows you to focus more on the subjects that interest you, so you can drop the ones you hated at GCSE. This should mean that you find it easier to motivate yourself to study. However, when it comes to choosing your subjects, it's worth bearing in mind what university course or career you are likely to want to apply for. Unlike at GCSE, when you're required to study certain subjects (such as English and Maths), you'll have a greater degree of choice at A-level.

Difficulty level

Think back to when you first started your GCSE courses; they were difficult, right? But I bet they seem easy now. As you might expect, the difficulty level of A-level work is a step up from GCSE, and they will inevitably seem difficult at first. I remember one of the sixth form teachers telling me that most students, when they first start the A-level English Literature course having done well at GCSE, are working at about Grade D standard at A-level. However, as you start to develop the right skills, your grades should rise again. A-level courses start to develop your academic skills, such as critical and analytical thinking, which you won't have been used to at GCSE.

Expectations

A-level/BTEC work is more focused on analysis than rote learning. Prepare to be pushed harder by your teachers, who will expect more from you now that you're that bit older and more mature. Original thinking is increasingly valued, preparing you for the fact that this will be expected of you at university. They won't expect an overnight transformation and will encourage you to develop the academic skills they want to see. You're likely to develop these skills without consciously thinking about them, so don't worry about this. Note that you may also have the added pressure of needing to succeed at AS level in order to carry on to A2 level.

Amount of freedom

In contrast to your GCSE timetable, your A-level timetable will include a generous helping of “free periods” during which you’re at liberty... Because of the increase in your free time, that oft-cited issue of “time-management” will start to rear its ugly head. Although you’ll still be given a timetable, you’ll have to get used to taking a bit more responsibility for your own study time. It’s good preparation for university or further training!

What happens at Sixth Form (other than A-levels/BTEC)

As you’ll soon find, A-levels aren’t the only thing that will dominate your Sixth Form years (to a greater or lesser degree).

Applying for university

It’s during sixth form that you’ll start the slightly daunting process of applying for university. This happens in the first term of your second (A2) year, so you’ll have Year 12 to think in more depth about what courses and universities you might like to apply to. If you’re applying to Oxford or Cambridge, the deadline is mid-October, so it’s likely that your teachers will encourage you to start writing your personal statement over the holidays. You should be given plenty of guidance with this, and your Sixth Form or college should also organise trips to university open days, or fairs at which the country’s universities exhibit. These fairs are a good opportunity to pick up university prospectuses and chat to admissions staff.

Part-time jobs

If you feel you can handle your workload, you may want to consider getting a part-time job while you’re in Sixth Form, at least for the first year. As well as giving you some pocket money that you can put towards university or spend on yourself, a part-time job is also a valuable asset to your CV and university application, and it develops your maturity and life experience.

Extra-curricular activities

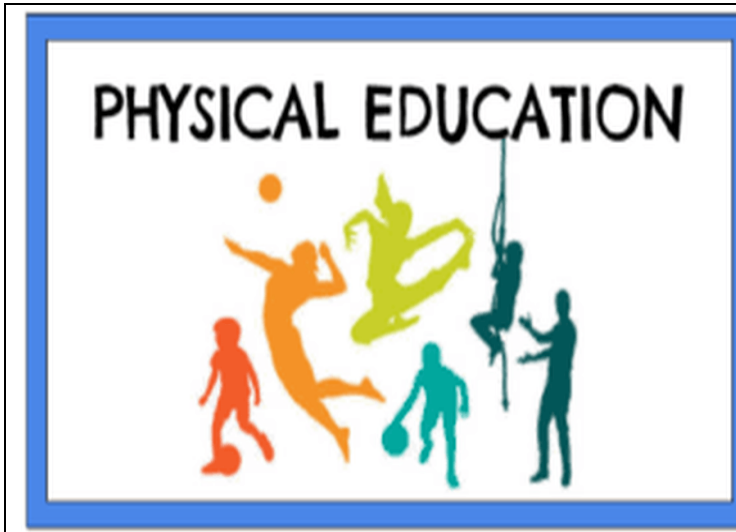
Sixth form is a good time to take up some new hobbies or continue old ones. Not only do these help you relax and switch off from the pressure of your studies, but they’ll also benefit you in that they teach valuable life skills that you can talk about on your university application. If you’ve had no hobbies or other interests so far, Sixth Form is the time to acquire them so that you can include them on your UCAS personal statement. Taking on some extra-curricular activities is also good for honing those time management skills that we mentioned earlier. So, if you’re worrying about the transition from GCSEs to Sixth Form, there’s no need to! You’ll have plenty of guidance, and you’ll almost certainly find that you relish the new-found freedoms offered by Sixth Form life. This is a big step towards adult life, so enjoy it.

OUR EXTRA CURRICULAR OFFER

Art & Graphic Design	The art room is open every lunch time and after school for 6thformers to work in and use our equipment as long as they clear up after themselves We have trips out to galleries and exhibitions which are often free they may need to pay for their own travel, but again, we would not allow any pupil to miss an opportunity because of a lack of funds.
Biology	We have a Medic Club set up by Medicine Applicants in Year 12/13.

	<p>6th form students contribute to our STEM club</p> <p>Francis Crick Institute and In2Science work placements offer students a lab/vocational research opportunity</p> <p>Lectures at the Royal Institution and Royal Society are regularly attended.</p>
Business (BTEC & GCE) & Economics	<p>Business and Economics Sixth Form students are asked to organise and run the Year 11 Open Afternoon for our subject.</p> <p>They are also encouraged to achieve their 'community service' hours by supporting KS4 lessons.</p> <p>The department are continuously looking for new opportunities/competitions for students to engage in e.g. Micro-Tyco challenge (run by Wildhearts Charity and Deloitte), Student Investor Challenge, fundraising for Great Ormond Street Hospital.</p>
Chemistry	<p>All students are encouraged to read articles that have been published in the magazine: The Mole which links to the syllabus, but the concepts are put into the context of the working world and how techniques are implemented. There are also competitions they can enter and many other scientific discoveries for them to learn about. https://edu.rsc.org/eic/section/the-mole</p> <p>Below is a link to the Royal Society of chemistry website, student are encouraged to sign up and use all the resources available to them. (competitions, seminars, journals, books, screen experiments, career advice and much much more)</p> <p>https://edu.rsc.org/student</p> <p>In addition to this some year 13 students are paired up with year 12 students to aid their peers with their chemistry learning. Year 12 and 13 Students are able to volunteer their time to share their knowledge with their younger peers in the classroom. Students are also allowed to take part in running the science club for year 7-8.</p>
Dance	<p>Students have an incredible amount of opportunities to extend their learning and experience beyond the curriculum as part of their Level 3 Dance courses which make for impressive personal statements and CV's.</p> <p>Students will have the opportunity to engage in workshops and projects with professional dance companies, conservatories and artists through our partnerships with Boy Blue, The Royal Academy of Dance, Trinity Laban and The Place.</p> <p>This will provide students with first-hand experience of professional dance training and performance opportunities with Europe's most renowned institutions. There are sixth form focused extracurricular clubs to extend their understanding of performance, creative and appreciation skills within a variety of dance genres.</p> <p>At the end of each term, students will perform in showcases for staff and parents to attend and at the end of the year perform at the Broadway Theatre in Barking.</p> <p>Students are provided with the opportunity to develop their teaching practice and share their knowledge and skill with younger year groups through shadowing and leading dance lessons and extracurricular clubs. Students are also provided with work experience opportunities in dance organisations such as The Royal Academy of Dance, Boy Blue, Trinity Laban and The Place to discover the breadth of careers available such as dance journalism, dance science, dance administration and business management, production and design. Finally, students are provided with audition opportunities to gain further professional experience through programmes such as The Laban Youth Dance Company, Dance Ambassador's Programme, Shift Dance Company, The National Youth Dance Company, IMD Legion and Boy Blue Youth</p>
Design & Technology	<p><i>We usually aim to incorporate industrial visits as part of the course to enhance students' learning.</i></p>

	<i>We urge students to follow live designs during their course and to watch webinar from influential designers. We aim to visit at least one design-based exhibition, as a school trip, over the course.</i>
English Literature	If possible, trips to see performances of texts; access to English and Media centre competitions; Penguin Random House partnership for work experience opportunities and careers programmes. Ms Khan also started a context and reading club last year. Reading scheme with Manor may still run if Covid restrictions ease
Geography	<i>We recommend extra reading materials to encourage a greater understanding of both the course and the world we live in. Throughout the course, students will have opportunities to attend Revision Conferences and/or Specialist Subject Talks. We welcome and actively encourage Year 12 students to support younger students either through in class support or after school clubs.</i>
History	At present the only trip we organise is a visit to the National Archives in the summer term of Year 12 in preparation for the coursework unit. This is free of charge if students travel with staff. We also offer the opportunity for students to attend a conference on 1-2 of their examined units in the Spring term of Year 13 and these are usually approx. £24 per conference.
Mathematics	STEP preparation inhouse and externally SMC, BMO opportunities Cambridge, Imperial Russell group subject days, maths inspiration shows and the chance to be a yr11 maths mentor/buddy
Sociology	a) There will be opportunities for Year 12 students to participate in a 'buddy system' whereby acting as student support during GCSE lessons, and there will be various open evenings that students will be encouraged to participate in to showcase their work and experiences of success within the subject b) National A-Level Sociology Competition for students, run by the British Sociological Association; invites essays and short videos from sociology students allowing them to win an Apple iPad Mini and £500 for their school: https://www.britsoc.co.uk/opportunities/national-a-level-sociology-competition/ c) Skills Seminar with chief examiner in Spring term of Year 13; exam skills booster workshop d) Various Social Science outreach events organised by Goldsmiths University
PE/ Sport BTEC	Fitness suite use following an induction. Induction costs a one off fee of £20 then the fitness suite can be accessed after school until 5pm and lunchtimes. Students are able to support PE lessons at KS3 We are looking at organising inter house competitions which would benefit from VI form support.
Computer Science	Students are encouraged to enter on-line coding competitions which provides a platform for aspiring Computer Scientists to not only enhance their problem solving and team working skills, but also provides a significant technical edge for future endeavours. Students can also support KS3 and KS4 students in our Robotics after-school clubs.
BTEC IT	Students are encouraged to use the skills they acquire in lessons to create a working database for their day to day use. There are after-school catch sessions for those students who fall behind in lessons



WHAT PE & COMPUTER SCIENCE RESOURCES WILL I NEED?

PE

A Level PE: We provide the textbooks for students who have to pay a deposit of £30 .
BTEC Sport students have access to an online version of both textbooks and revision books.

Computer Science

In year 12, most of the resources required for this course can be accessed electronically. Students will be given user access rights at the start of the course.

In year 13, the recommended Computer Science book and Revision Guides are loaned to students. These must be returned at the end of the course. Failure to return these will result in students incurring a £40 fine which would need to be paid before they can collect their A 'Level results.

Students are also encouraged to sign up with Code academy, a free online interactive platform for learning programming languages.

Btec ICT

Resources required for this course can be accessed electronically. Students will be given user access rights at the start of the course.

Students are encouraged to download Microsoft Access on their home PC's. This Software will be required during the first phase of the course to create their Database Applications.

They will also be given hardcopy handouts of the resources they will be requiring for the second phase of the course

UNIVERSITY/POST 18 OPPORTUNITIES:

UniTaster Tuesdays - Online weekly university guidance webinars #UTDIAG

Uni Taster Days in collaboration with HELOA are delivering impartial university guidance webinars online every Tuesday to support students considering university.

Featuring different subjects and universities each week

These events provide a one-stop opportunity to ensure students and schools are up to date with all aspects of university guidance.

Events are free to attend. They'll include presentations from different universities and Q&A opportunities.

Event topics and the universities attending will change each week - but you can expect to hear from universities UK wide on topics including why higher education, student finance, choosing a course, UCAS, and a range of events introducing studying particular subject areas at university.

Events are delivered as webinars and to support safeguarding procedures, only the UniTasterDays host and university event speakers will be visible to participants during the event.

The live events are for post-16 audiences, which students can also book direct. Pre-16 audiences will have full access to the recordings and event information after the event as well.

Book your place and browse previous events

To book your place, please select the event of interest from the schedule below and click the **Book Now** button.

You can also search through previous events using the **Previous Webinars** tab, or the supporting **drop-down** subject area search. Previous Event details include event recordings, Q&A transcripts, and additional event information.

Upcoming webinars

07 July 2020 at 09:30

Subject Specific Event

An introduction to studying Biology and Biosciences courses with Edge Hill University and the University of Gloucestershire. Including reasons to study Biology and Biosciences courses, application tips and careers.

[Book Now](#)

07 July 2020 at 12:00

General HE Event

The Transition to University, Student Life and Preparing for a Virtual Open Day with Newman University, Plymouth Marjon University and the University of Keele.

[Book Now](#)

07 July 2020 at 15:00

Subject Specific Event

So you want to be a Doctor? Applying to study Medicine at University with St George's, University of London and the University of Aberdeen – including preparing work experience, application tips, interview preparation and a student perspective.

[Book Now](#)

14 July 2020 at 09:30

Subject Specific Event

An introduction to studying History and Religion, Philosophy and Ethics (RPE) Courses with Edge Hill University and the University of Gloucestershire

[Book Now](#)

14 July 2020 at 12:00

General HE Event

What happens on results day, studying at a campus university and how to choose a university. With Liverpool Hope University, the University of Hertfordshire and the University of Winchester.

[Book Now](#)

14 July 2020 at 15:00

Subject Specific Event

An introduction to studying Accounting and Finance Courses with City, University of London and Teesside University.

[Book Now](#)

21 July 2020 at 09:30

Subject Specific Event

An introduction to studying Business Courses with Edge Hill University and the University of Gloucestershire.

[Book Now](#)

21 July 2020 at 12:00

General HE Event

Personal statement tips, exploring career decisions and tips when applying to Russell Group universities with Durham University, Middlesex University and the University of Leicester.

[Book Now](#)

21 July 2020 at 15:00

Subject Specific Event

An introduction to studying Mathematics at University. Featuring Coventry University.

[Book Now](#)

28 July 2020 at 09:30

Subject Specific Event

Routes into teaching and university courses in Education. Featuring Bishop Grosseteste University and Plymouth Marjon University

[Book Now](#)

28 July 2020 at 12:00

General HE Event

A guide to university accommodation, studying in Scotland and how the Extended Project Qualification can support your university application. With Edge Hill University, the University of Aberdeen and the University of East Anglia.

[Book Now](#)

28 July 2020 at 15:00

Subject Specific Event

An introduction to studying Politics at university with the University of Bournemouth. Including courses, careers and application tips.

[Book Now](#)

04 August 2020 at 09:30

Subject Specific Event

An introduction to studying university courses in Travel and Tourism with Teesside University.

[Book Now](#)

04 August 2020 at 12:00

General HE Event

Everything you need to know about student loans! A Student Finance Special with the Student Loans Company.

[Book Now](#)

04 August 2020 at 15:00

Subject Specific Event

An introduction to studying university courses in Physiotherapy with the University of Winchester.

[Book Now](#)

11 August 2020 at 09:30

Subject Specific Event

An introduction to studying Art and Design at University. With Teesside University and Portfolio Advice from the University for the Creative Arts.

[Book Now](#)

11 August 2020 at 12:00

General HE Event

Everything you need to know about clearing! Featuring sessions from a number of universities UK-wide, on what to expect on the day of clearing, how to prepare in advance for clearing and how to make the most of all of your clearing opportunities!

[Book Now](#)

11 August 2020 at 15:00

Subject Specific Event

An introduction to studying Criminology and Policing at University. Including courses, careers and application tips with the University of Law.

[Book Now](#)

18 August 2020 at 09:30

Subject Specific Event

An introduction to studying Marketing at University. With the University of Hull. Including courses, careers and application tips.

[Book Now](#)

18 August 2020 at 12:00

General HE Event

Everything you need to know about degree apprenticeships! Featuring sessions from Teesside University and the University of South Wales.

[Book Now](#)

18 August 2020 at 15:00

Subject Specific Event

An introduction to studying Drama and Theatre at University. With Higher Horizons +. Including courses, careers and application tips.

[Book Now](#)

25 August 2020 at 09:30

Subject Specific Event

An introduction to studying Logistics and Supply Chain Management at University. With the University of Hull. Including courses, careers and application tips.

[Book Now](#)

25 August 2020 at 12:00

General HE Event

A personal statements masterclass! Featuring Swansea University, the University of Greenwich and University of Birmingham.

[Book Now](#)

University Taster Courses over the Summer Holidays : Click on any part of each taster event to book a place...Further updates can be found [here](#):

Psychology and Language Sciences: UCL Taster Day - UC19091

This taster session will introduce you to UCL's multi-disciplinary degree in Psychology and Language Sciences.

Course date: 15 Jul, 2020

Institution: UCL

Building with Biology: Introduction to Biochemical Engineering - UC18261

In this course we'll explore the fundamentals of building with biology: using case studies and practical examples

Course date: 16 Jul, 2020

Institution: UCL

Manufacturing Biofuels: Introduction to Biochemical Engineering - UC18248

In this course we'll explore the fundamentals of manufacturing with biology: using case studies and practical examples

Course date: 17 Jul, 2020

Institution: UCL

Global Humanitarian Studies BSc taster day - UC19235

Are you interested in working in the humanitarian sector, in a career that makes a real difference to people and communities around the world?

Course date: 17 Jul, 2020

Institution: UCL

Manufacturing new Medicines: Introduction to Biochemical Engineering - UC18256

In this course we'll explore the fundamentals of manufacturing with biology

Course date: 20 Jul, 2020

Institution: UCL

BEng/MEng Biomedical Engineering Taster Day - KC18539

Our Biomedical Engineering BEng course has been designed to train the next generation of biomedical engineers working in healthcare research and development.

Course date: 22 Jul, 2020

Institution: King's College London

Courtauld Virtual Open Day: Studying Art History for the first time - CT19563

Are you interested in studying BA (Hons) History of Art? Our second Virtual Open Day is for students who have not studied Art History at school or college.

Course date: 22 Jul, 2020

Institution: Courtauld Institute of Art

Master Classes at the University of Cumbria (London)

During w/c 13th July we have a further 4 Masterclasses, delivered by lecturers from our health and social sciences courses. They are all completely free, interactive and excellent opportunities for your students to learn what study at HE could involve:

Home-based injury screening and prevention for runners (Monday 13th July, 3pm – 4pm)

- Learn about the common types of injuries in runners and how to practically screen yourself at home for related injury risk factors.
- Practical demonstrations of screening as well as related injury prevention exercises are included for you to try out on yourself!

In Cold Blood? An Exploration of the Psychology of Violent Behaviour (Tuesday 14th July, 2pm – 3pm)

- In this masterclass session, you will explore the psychology of violent behaviour using case studies of serial murder, violent crime, and domestic abuse.
- You will discuss and consider how psychological theory and research can help us understand why people commit violent crime, how it impacts on victims of crime, and how we can use research to try and tackle this serious social issue.

The Therapeutic Role of Nature in Everyday Living (Wednesday 15th July, 11am – 12pm)

- In this masterclass session, we will explore the therapeutic use of nature in everyday life.
- We will discuss and consider how psychological theory and research can help us understand the relationship between engaging with nature and health and well-being.
- This session will involve some taught content and workshop activities.

Eyewitness Testimony (Wednesday 15th July, 2pm – 3pm)

- This session will discuss the importance of eyewitness testimony within the criminal justice system. When a crime is witnessed, eyewitnesses play an important role in obtaining a conviction.
- They may help with providing an account of the event, the identification of a suspect, or testify in court to provide evidence. But, how reliable are our memories? What might affect our memories and our accuracy? What might the impact of this be?

To book onto these sessions, students and yourselves can head over to www.cumbria.ac.uk/masterclasses and select the ones you're interested in.

**UCAS VIRTUAL
EXHIBITION –
15 OCTOBER
DEADLINE**

**Veterinary, medicine,
and dentistry**



We're delighted to announce the first in a series of UCAS virtual exhibitions, designed to help your students explore their options from home.

[UCAS virtual exhibition – 15 October Veterinary, medicine, and dentistry](#)

23 July 2020

7:00 - 23:00

Students can register here: ucas.com/vet-med

This online event means your students can explore courses at up to 40 universities and colleges around the UK. It's perfect for anyone considering applying to medicine, veterinary, or dentistry courses.

Students will have chance to speak directly to subject and admissions specialists via 1-2-1 or group chat, listen in on topical seminars, and pick up digital prospectus' and other information.

Tell your students to register early to make sure they don't miss out. We'll then send them reminders and top tips to get the most out of the experience. After the event, they'll have on-demand access to the exhibition for two weeks, allowing them to go back in and contact uni reps, collect more resources, and re-watch seminars.



Meet the inspirational scientists, healthcare professionals, engineers, technicians and students doing incredible things during lockdown.

Big Bang Digital 2020 – science, engineering & Covid-19 is a free, online event on **Tuesday 14 July** that celebrates the amazing work of scientists and engineers in a pandemic. The 1-day event celebrates their achievements, hears about challenges, innovation and collaboration, and explores some upsides to lockdown.

Aimed at students aged 11+ [#BigBangDigital](#) gives young people a front row view of the incredible contribution of people working in science and engineering.

[For more details and the latest confirmed line-up visit the website](#)

Announced line-up

- **The worldwide race to develop a vaccine** (GSK)
- **The environmental impact of staying at home** (Plastic Oceans)
- **Keeping the water flowing** (Thames Water)
- **Designing a social distancing lanyard** (RS Components)
- **Feeding the nation** (Harper Adams)

An inspiring day of upbeat sessions, [Big Bang Digital 2020](#) suits students with an interest in the people, or the STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths)

behind the news stories. Get involved with interactive polls, live Q&A sessions, and Big Bang activities – there's also a follow-up competition for summer inspiration.

Whether it's through a live stream at school/college or on a tablet at home, join online for an uplifting look at the essential role of science and engineering.

[For more details and the latest confirmed line-up visit the website](#)

City University's Famous Business School has a number of Online events:

Wednesday 8th July

Introduction to courses at our Business School (year 12) – 10:30-11:00 BST

Business Management session (year 12) – 11:00-12:00 BST

Applying to university: Ask an expert (year 12) – 11:00-12:00 BST

Actuarial Science session (year 12) – 12:00-13:00 BST

Finance, Banking and Investment session (year 12) – 14:00-15:00 BST

Accounting and Finance session (year 12) – 15:00-16:00 BST

Royal Veterinary College

Animal Academy

Royal Veterinary College launches exclusive Animal Academy online programme The Animal Academy which launches today. The Programme is part of a national strategy to eliminate the gaps between the most and least represented groups at university, and ensure everyone has equal access to higher education. RVC's Animal Academy is an online programme which supports young people from under-represented backgrounds to reach their goals of studying and working with animals. By signing up to be a member, users have access to exclusive support, advice and events about animal careers, going to university, and of course learning from the RVC's student and animal experts! To join the Animal Academy you must be aged 13 or above, and attend a state school in the UK. You will also need to meet some additional criteria such as being the first in your family to go to university, being eligible for Free School Meals, or living in an area with low progression rates to higher education– Follow this link to find out more and see if you might be eligible to sign up. Any questions? Contact the RVC at outreach@rvc.ac.uk

STEM Learning

Just Eat STEM Career Webinars

Webinar 3 : Being a Smart Cookie (Being decisive and confident)

Date: 9th July 4-5pm UK time

Each webinar will have a group of different STEM Ambassadors and will cover a different topic, so we encourage attendees to consider booking onto more than one webinar

[Book here](#)

Ravensbourne University

Since the arrival of COVID-19, Ravensbourne's Team of tutors and student ambassadors have been working to produce a series of **'at home' creative workshops and tutorials** for young people to continue to stay engaged and creative in lockdown. These workshops can be accessed [here](#). They have been written for young people aged 14+, so please feel free to share this link with your students

If students would like to sign up to our outreach offer they can register [here](#). Anyone can join, the more the merrier! When they register they will be sent a programme of events/workshops and art pack (if eligible).

Summer School

We've written a series of online portfolio + showreel building summer schools to enable participants to make work for university portfolios over the summer. They start on Monday 22nd June 2020 and will run for 5 weeks.

There are 6 different projects:

[Fashion](#) (Design, Business + Styling)

[Character Design](#) (Illustration, Animation + Games Design)

[Graphics + Brand Design](#)

[Architecture + 3D Design](#)

[Photography](#)

[Showreel](#) (Film, Post Production + TV)

Please book [here](#).

Getting Involved in Health Research with the University of Cambridge

Join this information session to learn more about their research and how we work with our partners across the Cambridge Biomedical Campus to turn our scientific discoveries into new ways to diagnose, treat and prevent health care conditions.

[Read more](#)

WORK EXPERIENCE OPPORTUNITIES

VWEX – An insight into careers in the construction industry

BAM Construction

Work experience - Online

Curated by BAM Construct UK

Aged 14 – 19? Interested in finding out about a wide range of careers? Discover the behind the scenes world of a large construction company. Meet professionals from a range of careers and learn about the construction industry.

13/07/2020

[VIEW OPPORTUNITY](#)

Make the world cleaner and healthier with Johnson Matthey

Johnson Matthey

Work experience - Online

Learn how you can protect people and the planet through innovative science and technology solutions.

At Johnson Matthey, our vision is for a world that's cleaner and healthier, today and for future generations. We're passionate about people and the planet, and we use science to create green technology ...

13/07/2020

[VIEW OPPORTUNITY](#)

VWEX: Join DIY music magazine for a week-long placement

DIY Magazine

Work experience - Online

Join the team behind DIY music magazine for a week-long placement learning the writing, interviewing and marketing skills required to build your own music media platform. Spend the week creating exciting content for your own magazine or website.

20/07/2020

[VIEW OPPORTUNITY](#)

Design and Engineering placement

Tideway West - BMB JV

Work experience - London

Calling at all future Engineers and Designers!

London relies on a 150-year-old sewer system built for a population less than half its current size. As a result, millions of tonnes of raw sewage spills, untreated, into the River Thames each year.

That`s where we come in.

27/07/2020

[VIEW OPPORTUNITY](#)

BP Work Insights

Work experience - Sunbury-on-Thames

BP is running their first ever virtual work experience! (Note: this experience takes place fully online and NOT at our office).

bp`s purpose is: "to re-imagine energy for people and our planet".

20/07/2020

[VIEW OPPORTUNITY](#)

Want to gain meaningful work experience this summer? Want to work on live project briefs from Microsoft? If this is you then join the I Accelerator this summer.

This programme is open to Students from African, Caribbean, Asian or Mixed Heritage Sixth Form Students. We have **30** Places on our work experience programme. During your work experience you will:

- Work on a live project brief delivered by including Microsoft BAME Network
- Deliver a presentation to senior members of staff
- Develop valuable skills including project management, presentation skills, collaborative working

- Earn digital badges for skills developed during the programme
- Workshops delivered by our partner companies on current business topics
- Opportunities to network and learn more about industry

Everything D&I owner Frances Trought, aims to provide sixth form students from African, Caribbean, Asian and Mixed Heritage opportunities to gain meaningful work experience to increase social mobility. Gain work experience in our virtual offices for this summer. Duration one week

Criteria:

You must be:

- A sixth form student this September 2020
- Available from 20 July – 24th July 2020 (**You must be available for all five days**)
- Must be from African, Caribbean, Asian or Mixed Heritage
- Be committed

Link to Apply: <https://edi.careers/i-accelerator/>

Email questions to: melodie@edi.careers

Deadline to Apply: Midnight on 10th July 2020

WORK EXPERIENCE INSIGHTS IN THE

The image shows the NHS logo in a large, bold, blue font. The letters are thick and stylized, with the 'N' and 'H' being particularly prominent. The 'S' is also large and rounded. The logo is centered on the page.

[Register for a place on 28 July](#)

How much do you know about the incredible feats of the NHS? Find [the answers here...](#)

Incredible feats in the NHS.



1948



1978



1986



1994



2013

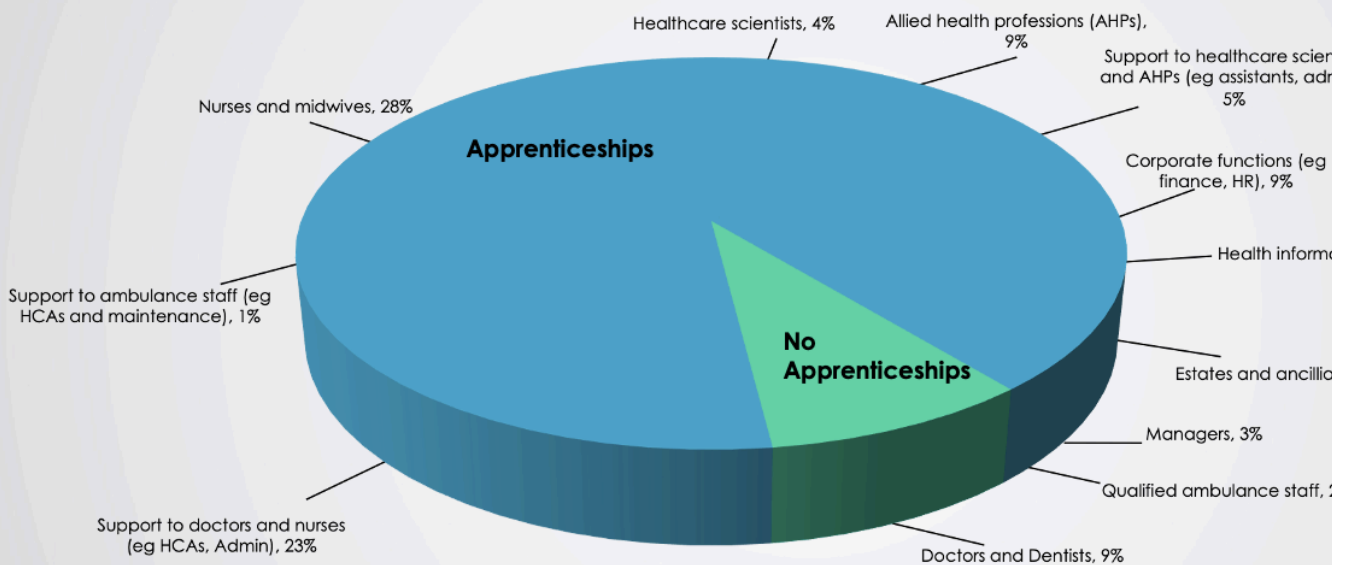
Which of these extraordinary achievements do you recognise?



Founded in 1948, today the [National Health Service](#) is one of the biggest employers in the world, with over [1.5 million employees](#) in more than 350 different job roles.

But did you know that **91%** of all NHS careers can be done through an apprenticeship?!

Staff in the NHS (approximately)



Take [the NHS quiz](#) to help you work out which careers suit you.

[Register for a place on 28 July](#)

Clinical work experience day.

This interactive online event focuses on the [clinical roles](#) within the NHS. These include roles in **healthcare science, health informatics, nurses and midwives, doctors, dentists and ambulance staff**.

If you are interested in apprenticeships and would like to learn more about the huge range of careers within the NHS, then come along and join us for this online session.

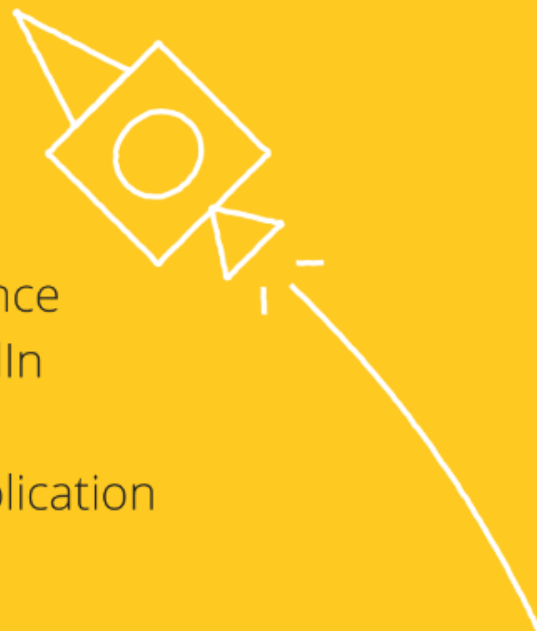
[Register: clinical roles event](#)

Uptree Summer Careers Course

Develop your employability skills & gain a certificate over a 6 week course!

Starting w/c 13 July:

- Week 1 - First Impressions
- Week 2 - Finding Work Experience
- Week 3 - Starting out on LinkedIn
- Week 4 - CV Development
- Week 5 - Writing a Winning Application
- Week 6 - Starting Work



Workshops are:

- every Tuesday & Wednesday 3pm - 4:15pm
- great experience for your CV and LinkedIn
- hosted on Zoom

Register for the Summer Careers Course here:

<https://uptree.co/uptree-workshops/>

July work experience opportunities (online).



Tideway

Engineering (21 July)

Meet the London Tideway team on this interactive workshop session and find out more about careers in engineering (civil & digital), business and boatmasters. [Register here.](#)

Ogilvy

Advertising, marketing & creatives (30 July)

Meet professionals from one of the world's largest creative advertising agencies. [Register here.](#)



Government Masterclass (30 July)

Meet GCHQ professionals as they give you insider advice & tips for applying for their roles. [Register here.](#)

**C L I F F O R D
C H A N C E**

Law Open Days (July & August)

Clifford Chance's Open Days provide an invaluable opportunity to develop the skills & knowledge you need to make the best application for a scheme or Training Contract. [Register here.](#)

uptree

Uptree one month internship - social media

3 placements available for students with a passion for

Instagram who can inspire & motivate others.

[Apply here.](#)

UCFB WORK EXPERIENCE FOR SPORT STUDENTS

A world first in higher education, **University Campus of Football Business (UCFB)** offers unique university degrees focused on a career in the football and sports industry.

UCFB are offering a '**Work Experience Week**' for all schools' students to help with their future prospects.

- Monday 6th July, 1pm- **How to write a successful CV**
 - Explore different CV styles and learn to grab employers attention. [Click here to access](#)
- Tuesday 7th July, 1pm- **Tips on how to complete a job application**
 - Tips to help you meet the job specification and secure an interview. [Click here to access](#)
- Wednesday 8th July, 1pm- **How to prepare for a job interview**
 - Explore different styles of job interviews and learn techniques on how to answer difficult questions. [Click here to access](#)
- Thursday 9th July, 1pm- **Careers in Sport**
 - Discover a wide range of career roles within the sports industry. [Click here to access](#)
- Friday 10th July, 1pm- **Researching jobs, online prospects**
 - Using online sources & networking to improve your chance of employment. [Click here to access](#)

NHS Insights (Non- Medicine) Webinar Videos:

Spotlight on - Management: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4F6mIU9J7Ug&t=146s>

Spotlight on - Tech and IT: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nVaQ1p8WfD0>

Spotlight on – Nursing & Midwifery: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uHtjzxqELxY&t=4s>

FREE ONLINE TALKS AND LECTURES

www.howtoacademy.com



July

13th **Three Women – Lisa Taddeo on Life, Love and Desire**

In Conversation with Hannah MacInnes tickets & info

14th **How to Write a Life-Story – a Two Part Advanced Course**

Frances Wilson tickets & info

14th **How Do We Know We're Doing It Right?**

Pandora Sykes In Conversation With Hadley Freeman

tickets & info

15th **The Divided Brain and the Search for Meaning**

Iain McGilchrist in conversation with David Malone

tickets & info

16th **The Mind Medic – How to Lead a Calmer, Happier Life**

Dr Sarah Vohra in conversation with Hannah MacInnes

tickets & info

16th **How Brands Can Help Mitigate the Climate Crisis**

A Contagious Communications Briefing tickets & info

17th **At Home With Henry “Blowers” Blofeld**

In conversation with Matthew Stadlen tickets & info

20th **An Evening with Emma Gannon In Conversation With Hannah**

MacInnes tickets & info

21st **How to Master the Art of Long Term Thinking**

Roman Krznaric tickets & info

21st **How to Sell Anything – An Interactive Digital Masterclass**

Gavin Presman tickets & info

22nd **How to Quell Anxiety and Manage Stress Owen O’Kane In**

Conversation With Matthew Stadlen tickets & info

23rd **CBD and Medical Cannabis: What You Need to Know**

Dr Dani Gordon. tickets & info

23rd **How Brands Can Think Long-Term** **A Contagious Communications Briefing.** tickets & info

24th **At Home With Victoria Hislop** **In Conversation With Matthew Stadlen** tickets & info

27th **The Twilight of Democracy** **Anne Applebaum in conversation with Matthew d'Ancona** tickets & info

28th **Why We Drive – On Freedom, Risk and Taking Back Control** **Matthew Crawford In Conversation With Bryan Appleyard** tickets & info

29th **How to Live a More Creative Life** **Will Self** tickets & info

30th **A World Beyond Greed** **Paul Collier and John Kay in conversation with Linda Yueh** tickets & info

31st **At Home With Professor Robert Winston** **In Conversation with Matthew Stadlen.** tickets & info

August 2020

2nd **The Virus in the Age of Madness** **Bernard-Henri Levy in conversation with Hannah MacInnes** tickets & info

3rd **Reasons to be an Optimist** **Jonathan Safran Foer and Lily Cole in Conversation with Hannah MacInnes** tickets & info

4th **How to Design Your Work Life** **Dave Evans and Bill Burnett** tickets & info

5th **How to Pay Attention, Take Control and Master the Odds** **Maria Konnikova in conversation with Hannah MacInnes** tickets & info

6th **An Evening With Slavoj Zizek** **In Conversation with Robert Rowland Smith** tickets & info

10th **Our Future on a Hot Earth** **Jelmer Mommers in Conversation with Matthew Stadlen** tickets & info

12th **How the Universe Ends.** **Katie Mack.** tickets & info

October 2020

of Dreams – the world's greatest anthropologist on his journey to the mythical heart of Colombia **Wade Davis.** tickets & info

1st **River**

8th Why Almost Everything We've Been Told About Food Is Wrong

Professor Tim Spector tickets & info

14th How To Succeed In Your Career (Without Betraying Your Values)

Viv Groskop tickets & info

WATCH PAST GRESHAM COLLEGE LECTURES

www.gresham.ac.uk

The lectures we're highlighting to you today are online and are some of their highlights of this academic year. We also have a couple of new **Lockdown Playlists**: a [Mental Health playlist](#), with some great lectures on happiness and wellbeing; one for those who are fascinated by [True Crime](#), and a long playlist of lectures about [The Mind](#).

Lockdown lessons:

What should we think about as lessons from lockdown? Gresham Business Professor Alex Edmans comments on [what individuals can learn here](#) and in this lecture he talked about [lessons for business](#).

Other Highlights:



[Is Populism A Threat to Democracy?](#)

Richard J Evans

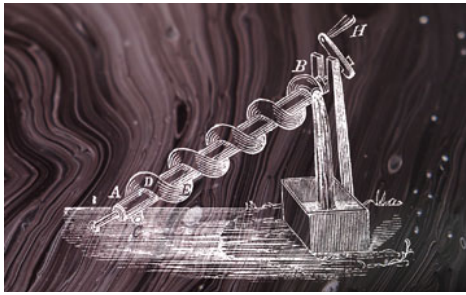
His final lecture as Provost

[Mental and Physical Wellness](#)

Alex Edmans

Very useful during lockdown - and beyond





[Science in Ancient Greece \(series\)](#)

Edith Hall

Hall is a superb lecturer



[Insider's Guide to Becoming a Barrister](#)

Jo Delahunty QC

The secrets revealed by our Emeritus Professor of Law



[Slavery and the City of London](#)

Richard Drayton

A brilliant lecture



[How To Avert A Climate Catastrophe](#)

Jacqueline McGlade, Vicky Pope, Damien

Short, Geoffrey Beattie

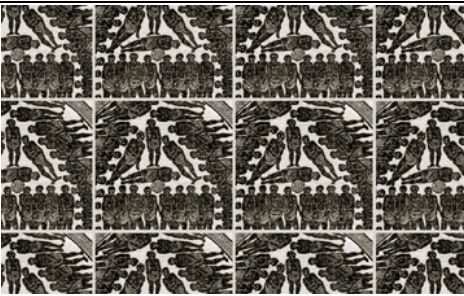
Four experts on different approaches to tackle climate change



[How the English Learned to Hate Catholics](#)

Alec Ryrie

A beautifully written lecture in an incredible series



[Slavery, Memory and Reparations](#)

Olivette Otele

A timely and powerful lecture



[Taming the Trolls of Social Media](#)

Richard Harvey

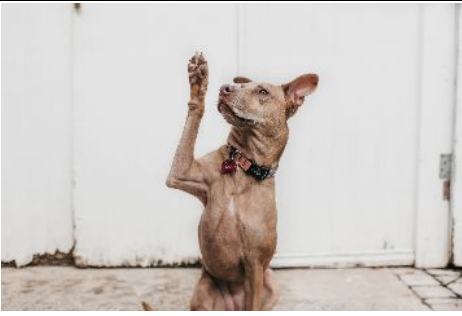
An urgent topic for our times



[Organ Transplants and Human Rights Abuses in China](#)

Geoffrey Nice and Martin Elliott

Disturbing but important



[Maths and Voting](#)

Chris Budd

How well do different voting systems work?



[Webb Vs Hubble: Battle of the Space Giants](#)

Maggie Aderin-Pocock

Engaging look at the great space telescopes

LSE EVENTS

[Thursday 09 Jul 2020 3:00pm to 4:30pm , Online public event](#)

Debt Relief and Africa During COVID-19: the global response *Mma Amara Ekeruche, Professor Anna Gelpern, Eric LeCompte, Dr Shirley Yu, Dr David Luke*

[Friday 10 Jul 2020 11:00am to 12:30pm , Online public event](#)

Prospects for the UK Economy and Public Spending After COVID-19: new austerity or a new economy? *Stephanie Flanders, Professor Stephen Machin, Dr Gemma Tetlow*

[Tuesday 14 Jul 2020 3:00pm to 4:30pm , Online public event](#)

Against the System: anger, belonging and the crisis of liberalism *Eric Lonergan, Martin Sandbu, Professor Lea Ypi*

[Wednesday 15 Jul 2020 9:00am to 10:00am , Online public event](#)

COVID-19 and the Economy: what are the lessons so far? *Professor Silvana Tenreyro*

[Wednesday 15 Jul 2020 3:00pm to 4:30pm , Online public event](#)

Journalism, Power and Pandemic *Anushka Asthana, Pippa Crerar, Annette Dittert, Richard Horton, Sir Craig Oliver*

[Tuesday 28 Jul 2020 1:00pm to 2:00pm , Online public event](#)

Twilight of Democracy: the failure of politics and the parting of friends *Anne Applebaum*

UPCOMING VIRTUAL TALKS

Speakers for Schools is an organisation that brings leading experts and academics to the attention of state school children, they are excited to present their weekly VTalks schedule below! **To view anonymously, click on the Vtalk link in the schedule below and select: (Watch on the web instead > Join anonymously).**

Tips on participating in the VTalk

To access the talks, links should be opened in a browser that is not Internet Explorer and students should join the live event anonymously, there is no need to create a login.

Further guidance on how to access talks can be [found here](#)

WEEK STARTING MONDAY 6TH JULY 2020 – FRIDAY, 10TH JULY

DATE	SPEAKER	INFO
Mon 6 th July 10am Add to calendar	Katy Sumption, Author & Creative Director	Interested in advertising and how to start your career? Tune in to listen to co-founder of a creative agency and author, Katy Sumption speak about her career journey and what lead her to write a book for young people about anxiety.
Tues 7 th July 10am Add to calendar	Cassie Chadderton CEO, World Book Day	Most of us have heard of World Book Day! Join SFS and World Book Day's CEO, Cassie Chadderton to discuss her varied career in the creative industries, the importance of the arts in society and more about World Book Day.
Tues 7 th July 2pm Add to calendar	Matt Brittin, President, EMEA Business & Operations, Google	Matt will be joining SFS to discuss his life lessons and advice, preparing for the world of work and the ever-changing tech industry - what could this look like in 2030 and how can students prepare themselves for a career in tech?
Wed 8 th July 10am Add to calendar	Adam Forbes, Head of Marketing, BP Launchpad	Join this Vtalk to learn more about business start-ups and delivering cleaner energy to the world - a must attend for those interested in entrepreneurship, business or the environment.
Wed 8 th July 2pm Add to calendar	Kanbar Hossein Bor, Deputy High Commissioner for Bangladesh	Join us as Kanbar Hossein Bor, formerly Deputy High Commissioner for Bangladesh is interviewed SFS. He will reflect on his personal journey from child refugee to British diplomat as he is asked questions by young people including on the meaning of British identity, British values and the challenges and opportunities of being a diplomat in the current climate.
Thurs 9 th July 2pm Add to calendar	In Collaboration with Penguin Talks: Simon Armstrong, Publicity Manager and Hannah Chukwu, Editorial, Penguin Random House	How to Get Into Publishing Penguin employees, Simon Armstrong and Hannah Chukwu, share how the industry works, how books are made and how to get into publishing.
Fri 10 th July 10am Add to calendar	Ben Saunders, Polar Explorer	Join us as polar explorer, Ben Saunders, talks to young people across the UK about his career and adventures. Ben will discuss with students the importance of goal setting, self-belief, resilience, teamwork, communication, and leadership. This exciting Vtalk is not to be missed!

IN THE LAST OF OUR CAREER PRESENTATIONS: CAREERS & FURTHER STUDY IN THE CREATIVE ARTS

- Many students complete a one-year art foundation course after Year 12/13 to help them progress to higher education. Applications are made direct to the college or university running the course.
- Art foundation courses are classified as further education so students taking the course are not eligible for a student loan, but no tuition fees are charged to students under 19 at courses run by a local authority.
- Fine Art degrees offer the studio skills associated with becoming an artist alongside an exploration of the theoretical, historical and critical foundations of the subject.
- On Design degrees students tend to follow a particular course to reflect future career option such as graphic design, illustration, textiles, interior design, fashion design, digital media, photography and many others.
- For most Art and Design courses, you will be asked to attend an interview or submit a portfolio of your work (sometimes electronic)

What should I be doing: Subject enrichment activities in Year 12 and beyond?

- Get as much experience in the different disciplines of art and design as you can.
- Visit as many exhibitions as you can in your local area and especially in London.
- Read the arts pages of national newspapers and use their websites.
- Visit the websites of the major galleries such as Tate Britain, Tate Modern, the National Portrait Gallery, the National Gallery, the Design Museum, the Saatchi Gallery.
- Visit the websites of contemporary artists such as Antony Gormley, Damien Hirst, David Hockney, Grayson Perry and others to find out more about their work.

What should I be reading?

Progression to Art and Design, UCAS Books

- *Real Life Guide: Creative Industries* by Karen Holmes
- *Getting Into Art & Design Courses* by James Burnett
- *Design: A Very Short Introduction* by John Heskett
- *Contemporary Art: A Very Short Introduction* by Julian Stallabrass
- *Photography: A Very Short Introduction* by Steve Edwards

- Read magazines such as the *Architectural Review*, *Art Monthly*, *Art Review*, *Blueprint*, *British Journal of Photography*, *Ceramic Review*, *Frieze*, *Photography Monthly* and *Portfolio*

Which websites will be useful?

- *Design Council* for publications , resources information about design, case studies.
- *British Arts* Information about arts competitions, arts events, art festivals and many other links
- *Your Creative Future* is a guide to educational and careers opportunities in the creative industries
- *Design Museum*
- The Tate *Learn Online* website and the *Tate Channel* which has video clips about contemporary artists and their work

- *Theatre Design* the website of the Royal Society of theatre designers
- *Arts Council*
- *Association of Photographers*,

- *British Film Institute*

- *Crafts Council*

YOUR NEXT BULLETIN AS WE BUILD UP TO GCSE RESULTS DAY & ENROLMENT WILL BE SENT ON MONDAY,17TH AUGUST 2020