

# YEAR 12 SEMINAR ON APPLYING TO UNIVERSITY

**UCAS evening Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April** 7-8pm in Hall for students & parents/guardians.

If you decide to go to university you will start your application form in June of year 12 so you will need to do some research to decide the course you want to do and where you want to apply before then.

- Use the UCAS website ([www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com)) to research courses and universities.
- Arrange a careers interview with Mrs Montgomery if you are unsure of your career path.
- Other useful websites are on Calday web page under sixth form – UCAS eg. [www.whatuni.com](http://www.whatuni.com), [www.studyzones.com/Centigrade-questionnaire](http://www.studyzones.com/Centigrade-questionnaire), [www.cogentusuniversityguide.co.uk](http://www.cogentusuniversityguide.co.uk), [www.unionview.com](http://www.unionview.com), [unistats.direct.gov.uk/](http://unistats.direct.gov.uk/) & [amazingapprenticeships.com](http://amazingapprenticeships.com)

## Your University application

- Applications are made online through UCAS (Universities and Colleges admissions service) using UCAS website.
- When you send your application it goes to referee (the school) for your reference etc. to be added. Your application is then sent to UCAS by the school.
- UCAS send copies of your application form to each of your chosen universities. Each university will not know your other choices.
- **School deadlines** – Medics/vets/dent/Oxbridge Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September  
- All other applicants Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October
- **UCAS deadline** is 15<sup>th</sup> October for medicine, dentistry and veterinary science/medicine, Oxbridge.
- **If you fail to meet the school deadline we cannot guarantee that we will have time to complete the school's part of the application form and send to UCAS before the UCAS January deadline (nothing can be processed during the Christmas period).**
- You can choose up to five courses but only four for medicine, dentistry or veterinary science/medicine. The 5<sup>th</sup> choice would need to be selected from a different subject area.
- Go to open days but not in school time. There are plenty available at weekends and in the holidays so you do not need to take time off school.
- UCAS Conservatoires – 8 establishments (£16 admission fee – but also audition fees). 1st October deadline for Music & 15th January for Dance & Drama courses.
- Look at the grade/tariff requirements of the courses that interest you and be realistic about what you think you can achieve. You should know your target/predicted grades.
- Your predicted A level results will be included in the reference that the school writes for you.
- Decoupling of A level means no AS results for some so universities cannot take these into account. GCSEs, reference & personal statement will therefore be even more important.
- Some universities use a tariff but this will probably become rarer with disappearance of AS. Most university courses require 3 A level grades.
- Your personal statement (4000 characters) needs to make you stand out. Get it checked by staff & be prepared to redraft several times.
- Use UCAStrack to see if you are offered places & can hold one firm and one insurance offer.
- If you are rejected by all your choices or if you decline all offers, you are eligible for ucasextra and can apply for one more course at a time between March and June.
- Remember it is expensive to go to university due to course fees (£9250 per annum) and cost of accommodation so be sure that it is what you want to do. You apply for student loans in March.