

Sixth Form Bulletin

Monday

30 September to

Friday 4 October 2024



HECKMONDWIKE
GRAMMAR SIXTH FORM

It's
week

b

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Bursary information – URGENT ATTENTION NEEDED

- We're assessing all the bursary applications and should hopefully be able to confirm acceptance (via email) and payment schedules by 4 October
- We have declined some applications where income has exceeded the £35k threshold or where we've had insufficient documentation to support the application, the relevant students have been emailed individually. **There is an appeals process, students have 7 days to appeal the decision.**
- **For any students who are eligible for Free School Meals (FSM) who have not yet applied for Bursary assistance we would encourage them to apply.**
- Applications can be submitted throughout the year, however, please note there will be delays with reviewing late applications and payments will also be delayed. **Students are encouraged to apply early as bursary funds are limited.**

[Bursary Application Form](#)

Year 13

- For students who have recently attended University Open days or plan to attend Open Days in the coming weeks, please retain :-
 - Proof of purchase for any travel tickets including a copy of the ticket
 - Proof of purchase and itemised receipt for food/ meal deals etc purchased whilst attending the open day
- For all Students approved for Bursary Assistance please ensure you email **all receipts** for travel, books, equipment to Bursary@heckgrammar.co.uk



Joining Pathways teams 2024-2025

By computer

Go to the sixth form pathway programme
Select hidden channels and a drop down
of the different teams will appear

Choose the one you want

Go to ... (it will appear to the right of that
channel if you hover the mouse over it)

Select show

You should then be able to see the posts

Do this for EACH channel you want to
see.

By mobile

Go to the sixth form pathway programme

Select hidden channels

Go to ... (top right)

Tick the boxes of the teams you want to be a
part of

You should then be able to see the posts



Drop-In Day/Weekly Reminder

Arts & Humanities Pathway: *Wednesday, F110 (12:20 – 13:15)*

STEM Pathway: *Wednesday, S024 (12.20 - 13.15)*

Oxbridge Pathway: *Tuesday, Thursday Friday, M002 (12:20 – 13:15)*

Apprenticeship Pathway: *Thursday, B103 (12:20 – 13:15)*

Business, Economics & Finance Pathway: *Wednesday, F005 (8.30-8.40)*

Medicine Pathway:

- *Drop in – Wednesday C104 (12:20 – 13:15)*
- *Medical society – Wednesday C104 (12:20 – 13:15)*



Year 12



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NEW

Please complete this form ASAP



<https://forms.office.com/e/qJHakxkchC>

To help you in applying for the access courses (like Realising Opportunities, Access to Sheffield etc) and university we need to provide information about you.

Therefore, can you please complete the form about ASAP

Thank you,

Mrs Jervis

Deadline **Sunday 6 October**



Realising Opportunities

Realising Opportunities is a unique collaboration of leading, research intensive universities, working together to promote fair access and social mobility of students from groups underrepresented in higher education. It offers students a wide range of activities and information in order for them to have the space and support to make informed decisions and also offers the opportunity to potentially **receive a lower grade offer** when applying to a partner university.

Recruited RO students would be required to attend a **minimum of two Realising Opportunities events** on campus at the University of Leeds (one on Saturday 1st February 2025 and one in the Spring bank holiday in May 2025), although there is also the opportunity for students to attend a variety of additional on campus activity offered across our outreach teams throughout school holidays in Year 12.

Find out more [here](#)

Deadline Friday 1st November 2024

Realising Opportunities

info@realisingopportunities.ac.uk

www.realisingopportunities.ac.uk

HGJERVISM01 - Code for application



11 research
intensive
universities



Over 6000
university
courses



Access to Sheffield programme

[ATS Post 16 Programmes - UPDATED 2024.pdf](#)



Interested in Sheffield University?

These are now open for students in Y12 who meet our access and entry criteria.

Access to Sheffield (Y12-13) is made up of 5 programmes split into different subject and career areas, therefore students can apply based on their interest and qualifications. Students who are successful in their application will take part in: a welcome event; introduction/team building day; multiple degree level subject taster sessions; a residential summer school; have access to UpLearn tutoring & mentoring; UCAS and personal statement support and student finance information sessions - plus other bespoke support, for example UCAT & interview help.

Beyond subject specific content, we have worked with the Skills Builder Partnership to embed their universal framework into our activities, building a sequential and skills based curriculum across all of our programmes, allowing students to practise, demonstrate and build on their essential skills. We are proud that all of our widening access provision has been accredited by Skills Builder with all sustained engagement programmes achieving Impact Level 4.

Access to Sheffield will address common barriers and misconceptions that underrepresented students face when considering higher education through tasters and workshops and through opportunities to ask questions with current undergraduate students. The programmes are an excellent way for your students to explore future degree options available to them at a local, world-leading, Russell Group University.

Students who complete the programme can benefit from up to a 2 grade adjusted offer at the University of Sheffield and benefit from transitional support in Y13 in the lead up to university study.

More information on the five programmes can be found on our web pages, including a new Access to Sheffield (Y12-Y13) video you can use to promote this opportunity to your students: www.sheffield.ac.uk/schools/programmes/years12-13

Students who are successful in their application, will attend activities on the University of Sheffield campus on a regular basis - please note we do not provide travel or reimburse travel costs (unless students are in receipt of the college bursary/in financial hardship and it is agreed by ATS staff), and students often have to be on campus for 9am/9.30am start times. **Please ask students to be mindful of this when applying - we would expect students to attend all activities and be committed to the programmes.**

The accesstosheffield.shef.ac.uk portal is now open for your Y12s to start their applications for the Access to Sheffield Programme, and will **close on Friday 1st November.**

[application link](#). Is here



Reach for Excellence – Leeds university

Recruitment for our flagship widening participation scheme, Reach for Excellence (RfE), has now opened for the 2024/25 academic year. Since its inception in 2007, RfE has built a successful track record in supporting and stretching students who have the potential to gain a place at a research-intensive university, but who may not have considered it, or who may perceive barriers to entry.

Successful RfE applicants are invited to engage with a varied programme of subject-specific academic tasters, personal development workshops, and intensive research and study skills sessions. We also offer a variety of enrichment experiences, and our broad range of advice and guidance sessions will leave students feeling more confident when navigating their university choices and UCAS applications, and more informed about student finance and their post-graduate career options.

More information about Reach for Excellence, including the eligibility criteria, can be found on our [website](#).

How to apply

The deadline for all applications is **23:59 on Thursday 14th November 2024**.

Entry to the scheme is competitive. We strongly encourage all applicants to read the guidance notes thoroughly and to pay particular attention to the Supporting Statements portion of the application form. Places will be allocated to students based on information provided in their application.



Lancaster Access Programme

The programme involves a series of points-based activities which will help students to build their profiles and prepare for university, including an overnight residential on our campus, subject fairs, sports tasters, and more. Students who complete the programme will receive an offer from Lancaster three grades lower than their course's entry requirements, and a £1,000 per year bursary.

Find out more [here](#)

*Applications will close on **Friday 29th November 2024**. Decisions will be released by Friday 20th December 2024.*



Interested in Bradford University?

Progression Scheme – check if you qualify for a reduced offer!

The University of Bradford Progression Scheme is designed to benefit undergraduate applicants whose personal and educational circumstances mean You could be less likely to receive an offer based on our standard entry criteria.

If eligible you could receive an offer that is up to 16points (2 grades) lower!

To see if you meet the criteria head to our website [HERE](#) or drop our team an email progressionscheme@bradford.ac.uk.



LUDUS: Loughborough University's – Discover University Scheme

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Loughborough University's – Discover University Scheme

LUDUS Gold is our free programme of support for targeted groups of students during their post-16 studies. It is designed to help with their transition between school or college and university.

Whilst being on the programme students have the opportunity to develop both transferable and academic skills, create a strong application to university, and build their confidence in a university environment.

There's a series of events to attend and activities to complete which incorporates both online and on-campus elements.

On successful completion students will be considered for a reduced grade offer for courses they apply to at Loughborough University. Students could also be eligible for a scholarship of up to £3,000 per year of study*.

More information including eligibility criteria and student application form can be found on our website below

[Find out more here](#)



University of Nottingham

We are very excited to share that we will once again be opening applications for our Ambition 16-18 programme in September.

This is a fantastic opportunity for your Year 12 students, to receive 2 years of online advice and guidance sessions to support them throughout their journey to Higher Education, typically including:

- Subject tasters with University Academics
- Insights with current students
- Information on how to choose your course and university, student finance and accommodation
- Advice and guidance on university selection processes
- Revision and academic skills
- Attend our open days as a VIP with extra activities and support

Programme benefits may also include an **Enhanced Contextual Offer** (getting offered a lower grade for UCAS than you are predicted) and bursaries at **UoN** for those who meet additional criteria. Find out more by visiting [this page](#)



Year 13



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NEW

NEW

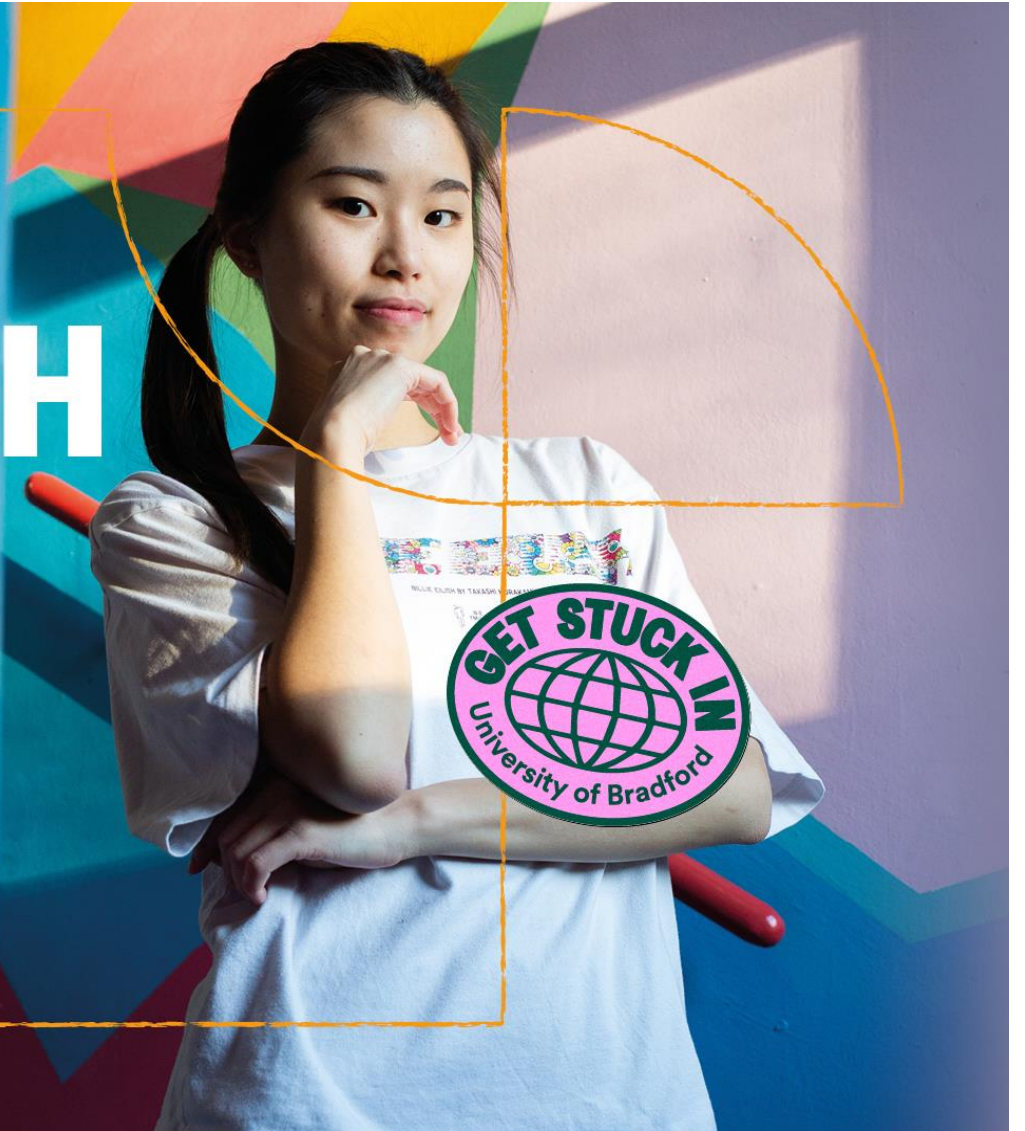
Saturday 28th September

GET READY FOR LAUNCH

Open Days. Book your place.



UNIVERSITY of
BRADFORD



Key deadlines - Internal deadlines

2 September – Draft 1 personal statement Early Entry (form teachers to check)
Everybody should have completed the admin section (everything except choices and the final draft of the personal statement)

20 September – Early entry applications submitted and paid

15 November - Draft 1 personal statement January entry students

6 December – January Entry applications submitted and paid

Cost of UCAS £28.50

Bursary students and individuals who received FSM in the last 6 years* need to select "Pay by centre" - you will not need to pay for your application

***you might be asked to provide evidence of this, so be prepared to contact your old school**

Key academic dates

4th November 2024 - Year 13 Mocks 1 start

27th November – Mock results day

28th November 2024 - Year 13 Parents Evening (in school)

20th December 2024 - DC1 Reports sent home

24th February 2025 - Year 13 Mocks 2 start

19th March 2025 – Mock results day.

20th March 2025 - Year 13 Parents Evening 2 (online)

4th April 2025 - DC2 Reports sent home

2nd May 2025 - Year 13 Leavers Day

26th June 2025 – Yr 13 prom (tbc).

14th August 2025- A-level results day

Do you know?

Do you know the difference between target grades and predicted grades?

Target grades are the goals the school sets for you to achieve in your A levels based on what you got in your GCSEs. This is what you are aiming for at the end of Year 13 in your final A levels (or above)

Predicted grades are what the school thinks you will achieve based on your current performance. If this is below your target grade, you probably need to work harder. If it is on or above, you are working well to being able to achieve your dreams.



University open days

It is now time for you to be looking at visiting university open days to find out where you want to study once you leave.

- 1. If you are going to be independently attending an open day, you need to let school know you are not going to be in with the reason why.**
- 2. Do not book open days during your mocks**



University access schemes



Context

- Many universities run **access schemes**, where students from backgrounds which make them statistically less likely to attend university are given support, which can include **reduced offers**.
- The main schemes used by HGS students are **Access to Leeds, York Access** and **Newcastle PARTNERS**, though other universities also have them.

Am I eligible?

- The short answer is, **'it depends'**; conditions do vary. Generally, you need to meet 1-2 or more of the following criteria:
 - Neither of your parents went to university;
 - You are from a low income household;
 - You live in a post code area with low rates of progression to university;
 - You attended an 11-16 school with below average GCSE results;
 - There are circumstances in your home or personal life that have disrupted your studies.

Check the terms for each scheme **carefully**. You do differ.

Access to Leeds

- To be eligible for [Access to Leeds](#), you need to meet two criteria.
- **Many** of you will be eligible.
- The reduced Access offer is two grades below the standard offer.



Newcastle PARTNERS

- Newcastle PARTNERS has changed considerably.
- You need to meet one eligibility criterion.
- **Most** (though not all) of you will be eligible.
- The reduced 'Partners' offer is now 3 grades below the standard offer.



- To be eligible for York Access scheme, you need to meet one of a small number of criteria.
- **Many** of you will be eligible.
- You may receive a reduced offer.



Bradford Progression scheme

The University of [Bradford Progression Scheme](#) is designed to benefit undergraduate applicants whose personal and educational circumstances mean You could be less likely to receive an offer based on standard entry criteria.

You offer a range of additional support and opportunities for students from currently underrepresented groups in HE including:

- [Undergraduate Bursary Scheme](#)
- [UK Academic Excellence Scholarship](#)
- [Sanctuary Scholarships](#)

You might also be able to apply for a scholarship.

<https://www.bradford.ac.uk/scholarships/>



Newcastle PARTNERS

- Add a 'P' in the further details section on Ucas.

Apply online after your Ucas form has been sent. Select Mrs Jervis from the drop-down menu.

- **School Deadlines:** Friday 7 October (Medicine and dentistry); Friday 13 January (other courses)

Access to Leeds

- Complete your section of the [application form](#) and e-mail to Mrs Jervis

Once it has been returned, upload onto Leeds' web portal.

School deadlines: Friday 7 October (medics and dentists), Friday 13 January (other courses)

York Access

- Download and complete the [application form](#).
- Ask Mrs Jervis to write a supporting reference.
- Return to York before or at the same time as your application is sent off. access-scheme@york.ac.uk

School deadlines: Friday 7 October (medics and dentists), Friday 13 January (other courses)

UCAS

All other programmes: All students need to let Mrs Jervis know of any requirements from the school and allow at least one full school week to turn around a reference/online verification.



YEAR 13/S6 CAMBRIDGE INTERVIEW WEBINARS

FREE

When?

16th - 26th September 2024
16:45-17:45, or 18:00-19:00

What?

Subject specific Zoom webinars to de-mystify Cambridge interviews, led by Cambridge academics

Who for?

State school students intending to apply to Cambridge in October

Apply:

<https://tinyurl.com/interviewwebinars2024>

Support with interviews at Cambridge

Please also note the following -

All the events will be held via Zoom, and:

- 1. Students will be unable to share their screen during the sessions;*
- 2. Students will be unable to unmute themselves (though the session leader/meeting host can - if requested - unmute a student so You can take part in a spoken discussion. However, there would be no expectation for attendees to have a microphone enabled during the Zoom session, and You would be able to submit any questions or comments in writing instead via the chat/Q&A boxes);*
- 3. Students will be able to submit questions and comments anonymously should You choose to do so;*
- 4. Expressions of interest will be collected via an online Qualtrics form, so no personal data is collected via the Zoom platform;*
- 5. It will be possible for attendees to join without downloading Zoom, by making use of the log-in link instead;*
- 6. The zoom sessions will be password protected.*

Cambridge Interview Workshops

Subject-specific Zoom Webinar sessions in September for state school students applying to Cambridge this year

These sessions are designed for Year 13 students intending to apply to Cambridge by the October UCAS deadline this year and would like to find out more about interviews. The workshops will be delivered by Cambridge University academics and will be interactive group sessions. You aim to provide a better idea of what to expect at interview, and how best to prepare. The sessions will last 1 hour and start at either 4.45pm or 6pm between 16th and 25th September. A general interviews overview video will also be circulated in advance of these subject-specific Zoom workshops.

Interested students can see the schedule of sessions, and register to attend, here: <https://tinyurl.com/interviewwebinars2024>

Top tips for university interviews

From November you can expect to be called to university interviews.

These can be daunting, please find [attached](#) this helpful information sheet from Mr. Haigh giving some top tips



Cambridge events for 2025 applicants

St John's Taster Day for Medicine and Veterinary Medicine applicants - Monday 23rd September

We are delighted to be holding this event for students at UK state schools who will be submitting their Cambridge applications for Medicine or Veterinary Medicine by the 2024 October UCAS deadline (for 2025 entry or for 2026 entry if applying for a deferred place). During the Taster Day, participants will attend sample lectures and small-group discussion sessions delivered by academics. There will be student-led tours of College, a Q&A panel session with current students and Directors of Studies, and a presentation on making a competitive application from the College's Senior Tutor. Refreshments and lunch will be provided. [For more information and to register your attendance, please click here.](#)

September Open Day - Friday 13th September

The Cambridge Open Day in September aims to support students who are applying this October to finalise their College choice ahead of the application deadline. Colleges will be open for activities such as student-led tours, example accommodation viewings, application talks and drop-in sessions. For more information, and to book a place on the September Open Day, please see [this webpage](#). At St John's we will be open for drop-in advice and guidance in the Buttery between 10am and 3pm on Friday 13th September. Student-led tours of College - including examples of accommodation - will set off from the Buttery between 10am and 3pm on Friday. St John's are also delivering Admissions Talks and Q&As in the Palmerston Room (Fisher Building) on Friday - at 11am and 2pm.

We also have some Bed and Breakfast accommodation available for individual student attendees to stay in St John's College for the night of Thursday 12th September. [Please click here for the St John's College September Open Day accommodation booking form and more information.](#)










Super-curricular



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Ever questioned what sustainability truly entails, and the steps being taken to make it a reality? Starting this September, brace yourself for a series of ground-breaking videos that will leave you informed and inspired! The University of Manchester has assembled a powerhouse of scientists, engineers and fashion academics who are actively changing the way we build and sustain our planet. In this exciting online masterclass series, you'll get the answers to some of the biggest questions around sustainability and learn how you can become the kind of changemaker our world needs.

-  **How is climate change reshaping our water systems?**
-  **Can we rethink plastics beyond bans?**
-  **How do we transform rocks into resources?**
-  **How can physics drive a greener future?**
-  **From leaf to lab: Can chemistry pave the way for sustainability?**
-  **From modern slavery to ethical fashion - how can we make a difference?**
-  **How can smart grids and robots power the UK's Net Zero journey?**













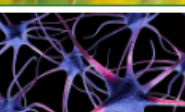





Why join?

- Premiering on YouTube, these bite-sized talks will be after school/college
- See how a degree from Manchester can inspire you to make a difference
- Boost your knowledge on all things sustainability
- Explore your passions outside of your regular course content
- By taking part in any of the sessions you'll **receive a certificate** from The University of Manchester to showcase your commitment to futureproofing your planet. This is great for demonstrating your super-curricular activity, adding to your university applications, and even your CV!

Ready to ignite change? Book your place [here](#)



Open University free courses

-  Money & Business 
-  Education & Development 
-  Health, Sports & Psychology 
-  History & The Arts 
-  Languages 
-  Nature & Environment 
-  Science, Maths & Technology 
-  Society, Politics & Law 
-  Digital & Computing 

Find out more [here](#)



University of Sheffield subject tasters



Study ▾

Find out more [here](#)

Undergraduate study

Courses ▾ Visit ▾ Apply ▾ Fees and funding ▾ Accommodation ▾ Studying at Sheffield ▾

[Home](#) > [Undergraduate study](#) > [Visit](#) > [Subject tasters](#)

Subject tasters

Our subject taster sessions help students experience what it's like to study at the University of Sheffield.



Gresham College lecture videos

Gresham College has over 2000 lecture videos for you to discover [here](#)

GRESHAM RECOMMENDS

[BROWSE ALL VIDEOS](#)



Island Universes: Discovering Galaxies Beyond the Milky Way

Professor Chris Lintott

Wed, 13 Sep 2023

[Astronomy](#) [Physics](#) [Science](#)



Why Music Moves Us

Professor Milton Mermikides

Thu, 14 Sep 2023

[Music](#) [Culture](#) [Society](#)



Microbial Megastructures

Professor Robin May

Tue, 29 Nov 2022

[Microbiology](#) [Plants](#) [Biology](#)

[Science](#)



Partition of British India: 75 Years On

Kavita Puri

Tue, 01 Nov 2022

[UK](#) [Conflict](#) [Asia](#)

[Politics](#) [History](#)



London's Air: The 70th Anniversary of the Great London Smog

Dr Ian Mudway

Mon, 05 Dec 2022

[Public Health](#) [London](#) [Modern](#)

[History](#)

FEATURED SERIES: CHRISTMAS LECTURES

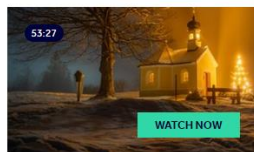
[SEE ALL](#)



Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas: Anatomy of a Christmas Classic

Professor Dominic Broomfield-McHugh

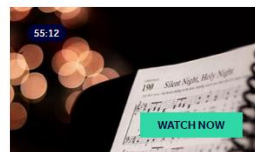
Wed, 06 Dec 2023



Christmas Carols and Nostalgia

Professor Jeremy Summerly

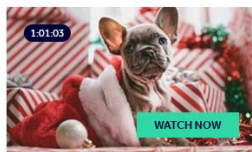
Thu, 09 Dec 2021



Boris Ord's King's College Carols

Professor Jeremy Summerly

Thu, 10 Dec 2020



Christmas Lies and Legends

Judith Flanders

Wed, 09 Dec 2020



1928 - Annus Mirabilis of the Christmas Carol

Professor Jeremy Summerly

Thu, 12 Dec 2019



Cambridge university supracurricular opportunities

[Find out more here](#)

Looking for ways to explore your subject?

Supracurricular Exploration Guide



Oxford super-curricular Opportunities

Develop your knowledge from Corpus Christi College, Oxford [here](#)



Key Stage 5 Resources



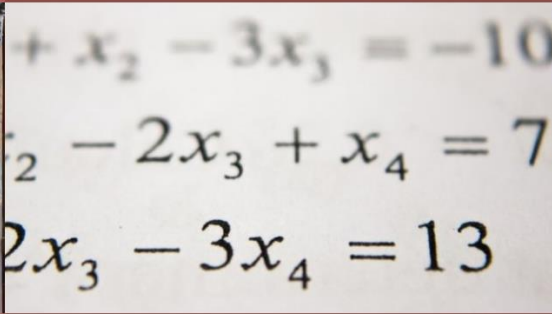
Applying to Oxford



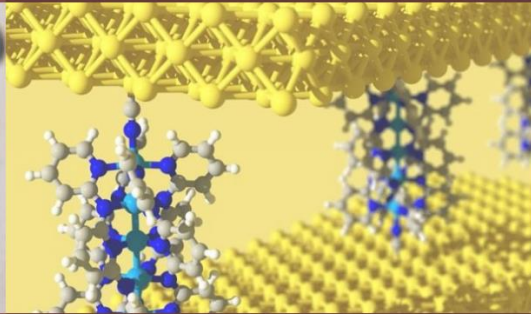
Find out more about Corpus



English Resources



Maths and Computer Science Resources



Science Resources



Super-Curricular resources from Oxford

[Our Springboard videos](#) are designed to introduce students to a range of topics related to A Level and Degree Level study. Each has been designed and produced by our graduate students and each contains activities and suggestions about further resources to explore the subject. Please note we will be adding more videos on a rolling basis. Students need to answer a few short questions to access each video.

[These subject specific super-curricular guides](#) which are available for most A Level and GCSE subjects, contain suggestions for exploring subjects further by watching, reading, listening and doing.

[Oxford University Digital Resource Hub](#) – here you can find the best of our digital resources to support learning and exploration.

[Our Insight recordings](#) are now available online. This series of talks is aimed at post 16 students with an interest in science. Each talk was given by an Oxford University post-graduate student, giving the audience an insight into their research specialism. Passionate, motivated KS4 pupils looking to challenge themselves academically may also find these talks interesting.



Oxbridge and Russell Group



NEW

Find out more about what is going on in your pathway...

- Follow this bulletin weekly
- Use the teams page for announcements

Balliol College, Oxford University

Year 12 Sustained contact programmes

Balliol has three sustained contact programmes for Year 12 students from UK state schools. These have been highly successful in supporting participants, many of whom have gone on to successfully make applications to competitive universities. With several of these currently studying with us here at Balliol at both undergraduate, and post-graduate level.

The Floreat programme is designed for students who aspire to study a Humanities degree. Frontier is for those interested in Life Sciences. Fibonacci focuses on Mathematics and related fields. All of these programmes are designed to academically challenge those interested in applying to competitive universities.

Information on our 2025 Programmes:

[Please see our website for details.](#)

We will be hosting an online information evening for those interested in applying for one of our programmes in 2025.

This will take place on Thursday 10 October 2024 18:00 — 19:00

[To sign up for the information evening please complete this form.](#)

(Please note, this is purely an expression of interest in learning more. It is not an application to one of the programmes).

Their newsletter can be accessed [here for classes and resources](#)



Balliol College, Oxford University

2025 Entry Admissions Support

We have compiled a list of relevant support and resources for the Oxford admissions process. You can find both our [Interview Resources](#) and our [Admissions Test Resources](#) attached to this original email, or by sharing the hyperlinks used here.

Helpful upcoming events include:

[Oxford Admissions Tests 1: Information & Top Tips on Preparing'](#)

[Connect - 'Oxford Admissions Tests 2: Subject Practice'](#)

[Connect - 'Interviews 1: Information & Top Tips on Preparing'](#)

[Connect - 'Interviews 2: Subject Practice'](#)

Their newsletter can be accessed [here for classes and resources](#)



APPLYING TO OXFORD

For students interested in studying Physics at Oxford 'Preparing for the PAT' course for Y12 (online)

Date: Summer 2024 – next webinar 11 Sept

Venue: Online

Audience: Students in Year 12

Over the summer (June – October) we have been running an online course called 'Preparing for the PAT' which is designed to help Y12 students build their problem-solving skills, looking ahead to the Physics Aptitude Test (PAT) that is part of the admissions process for Physics, Engineering and Material Science at Oxford. You can find out more about the PAT at www.physics.ox.ac.uk/pat. The course consists of a series of live, online webinars in June / July and September / October, with three summer assignments set over the holidays. It's open to everyone, and is free to take part in. Recordings of previous webinars are available.

*** The webinar on the 11th September is dedicated to all practical things! We will look at registration, test taking technique, the online calculator, the online paper, multiple choice technique etc ***

More information and booking: [Click here for more information and to apply for the Preparing for the PAT course.](#)

For students interested in studying other subjects:

MAT livestream course for Y12 prospective physics applicants (online)

Date: Thursdays from 5pm to 7pm from the 6th June 2024 to the 10th October 2024

Venue: Online

Audience: Prospective applicants to the Oxford Maths course

The Oxford Maths department runs a weekly livestream talking about maths problems and problem solving strategies with a focus on the Maths Admissions Test (MAT)

More information and booking: [Click here for more information about the MAT livestream and to register](#)

Online Chemistry workshops (online)

The Oxford chemistry department run online workshops and outreach events which can be found at <https://www.chem.ox.ac.uk/whats-on>

Online Engineering student chat (online)

The Oxford engineering department has an online chat section where you can ask current students about life as an Oxford engineer. You can find this at

<https://eng.ox.ac.uk/outreach/chat-to-our-student-ambassadors>



Lucy Cavendish College Cambridge's Academic Attainment Programme

The Academic Attainment Programme is a programme for around 1000 high-achieving UK state-school students in Year 12 who meet certain Widening Participation criteria. You can find the full list of criteria [here](#). The focus of this programme is on raising attainment, by supporting students in their A-Level studies, so that You can reach their potential and achieve the highest possible grades, and in making applications to competitive universities. Some of your students may have participated in the programme in previous years, but what we're particularly excited about this year is that we have expanded the programme to allow even more participants and so it will not only cover Year 12, but also Year 13, meaning students can continue to be supported as You complete university applications and summer examinations.

As part of the programme, students will get access to **subject-specific enrichment classes** led by experts, to allow them to develop and expand on their knowledge of the content of their A-Levels, and to help them to achieve the very best grades in their examinations. You will also attend **Peer Discussion Groups**, to prepare them for the university environment by improving their oracy and their problem-solving skills. Students will also **receive advice** from the Lucy Cavendish College Admissions Team **on every stage of the university application process** across the two years, and You will **complete a Supracurricular Exploration Project** to encourage them to think more seriously about their degree choices. Finally, students will also **receive subject-specific revision guidance** in the lead up to their exams, to ensure You are well-placed to receive the best possible grades.

We have had some fantastic results from previous participants, with 9 in 10 receiving offers to study at Russell Group universities, and over the past 2 years participants have almost doubled their chances of being offered a place at either Oxford or Cambridge. Following the 2022-23 programme, 95% of students felt more confident in their A-Level studies, and 95% of respondents felt You knew how to make a competitive application to Cambridge and other top universities. Our [website](#) has even more information about this exciting programme, and it also contains the link to apply.

deadline for students to apply is **9am on Monday 7th October**



Medical Sciences



NEW

Medical and Dental work experience

UCAS is updating the personal statement format. Instead of a traditional essay, students will be asked to respond to three specific questions. One of these is: "What else have you done to prepare outside of education, and why are these experiences useful?"

This is where attending a Free Virtual Get Into Medicine or Dentistry conference is incredibly beneficial! At the conference, students get a detailed overview of the medical/dental application process, learn about the UCAS changes, and receive access to resources that will help prepare them for medical and dental school. Plus, they'll gain valuable insights from Doctors and medical students as they share their experiences in medical school and the NHS. And the best part? All students receive a certificate of attendance to showcase their preparation for medical/dental school!

Our upcoming Get Into Medicine conferences are:

- Saturday 5th October from 9:30am - 3:30pm
- Sunday 6th October from 9:30am - 3:30pm
- Saturday 26th October from 9:30am - 3:30pm

Register here: <https://airtable.com/appgXnyzN5ZD9lwk6/shry7MZYtt3MGPjvO>

Our upcoming Get Into Dentistry conference is:

- Sunday 10th November from 9:30am - 3:30pm

Register here: <https://airtable.com/appgXnyzN5ZD9lwk6/shrBuiR7SBAC19kE>



The Get into Medicine/Dentistry Conferences are a complete guide to the medical or dental application journey. Students get essential insights into the medical/dental UCAS application process (such as the NEW personal statement structure), connect with professionals, fellow students, and gain a deeper understanding of a future career in medicine or dentistry.

During this conference, Dr Kennedy, Dr Safiyyah and I will guide students through essential topics such as:

- Application Timelines
- How to Tactically Choose Medical/Dental Schools
- CV Building
- Personal Statements - New format from 2026
- Medical/Dental School Interviews
- UCAT - Entrance Exams to Medical/Dental School
- Medical Leadership and Awards Programmes
- Accessing Work Experience
- Accessing Scholarships

Students will need to ensure they have a functioning camera and microphone for the session. It's also important that they have a parent or guardian present at these conferences not only for safeguarding, but also to gain insight and guidance to support them effectively.



Medical and Dental work experience

I am delighted to extend an invitation to your students in years 10-13 year groups for our upcoming session on **Sunday 6th October, 8:30am - 5pm**, focusing on Communications & Fractures.

Register here: <https://alliedhealthmentor.org/nhs-healthcare-careers-virtual-work-experience/>

The NHS Virtual Allied Healthcare Work Experience offers a unique opportunity for aspiring healthcare professionals. It's a rare occasion for students to hear from our exceptional guest speaker, Lucie Rochfort, a seasoned Speech and Language Therapist, with a wealth of knowledge and insights to share.

Lucie will provide invaluable guidance to help these future professionals embark on their dream healthcare careers. Following Lucie's talk, students will gain an intimate look at the healthcare industry in the LIVE virtual work experience, delving into diverse roles within allied healthcare and taking a closer look at patient care by following the journeys of two patients from incident through to treatment.

The NHS Allied Healthcare Work Experience is the largest programme for aspiring healthcare professionals, having successfully invited over 12,000 students to participate in its programme last academic year - many of which have gone on to study:

- Nursing
- Midwifery
- Paramedicine
- Physiotherapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Dietetics
- Radiography
- Prosthetics and Orthotics
- Speech and Language Therapy
- Pharmacy

Once registered, students will receive access to their virtual work experience portals. Better yet, every complete session comes with a Work Experience Certificate, and for those who complete the full 6-month programme, there's a Highly Commended Reference – a golden ticket for their apprenticeship and UCAS applications.

Registration will start at 8:30am, with guest speaker Shelley from 9-10am, then the live work experience session starts at 10am, with an end at 5pm. Plenty of breaks are set throughout.

Students can register at any time throughout the 6-month programme using the link below. We recommend booking early to gain as much out of this programme as possible.

Places are £10 a session to cover administrative and technological costs, or £50 for the full 6 months:



Medical and Dental work experience

Gaining valuable work experience is a must-have for medical and dental applications, and we understand the challenges your students may face while finding the right placement. Luckily, medical and dental schools have accepted Virtual Work Experience as a valuable alternative to in-person shadowing, and can play a significant role in preparing students for their in-person work placements through structured teaching and opportunities to speak directly with healthcare professionals.

Our Virtual Work Experience Programme is brought to you by Birmingham Universities Hospitals Trust in collaboration with Medic & Dental Mentor. It is free to participate in, and is open to any student across the UK from 14 years old and above who has attended one of our FREE virtual Get Into Conferences!

Our next Get Into Medicine Conferences are:

- Sunday 29th September, 9:30am - 3:30pm
- Saturday 5th October, 9:30am - 3:30pm
- Sunday 6th October, 9:30am - 3:30pm

Register here: <https://airtable.com/appgXnyzN5ZD9lwk6/shry7MZYtt3MGPjvO>

Our next Get Into Dentistry Conference is:

- Saturday 28th September, 9:30am - 3:30pm

<https://airtable.com/appgXnyzN5ZD9lwk6/shrBuiR7SBAC19kE>

The Get into Medicine or Get Into Dentistry Conference is a complete guide to the medical or dental application journey. Students get essential insights into the medical/dental UCAS application process (such as the NEW personal statement structure), connect with professionals, fellow students, and gain a deeper understanding of a future career in medicine or dentistry.

Our conferences will provide tailored advice, covering essential topics such as:

- Application Timelines
- How to Tactically Choose Medical/Dental Schools
- CV Building
- Personal Statements - New format from 2026
- Medical/Dental School Interviews
- UCAT - Entrance Exams to Medical/Dental School
- Medical Leadership and Awards Programmes
- Accessing Work Experience
- Accessing Scholarships

Students will be awarded a certificate of attendance, which can be listed on their UCAS applications for 'activities that support higher education'.

Please ensure you have a functioning camera and microphone for the session. It's also important that you have a parent or guardian present at these conferences, not only but also to gain insight and guidance to support you effectively.



Access to Medicine – Lancaster University

For any of your prospective med students, please advise them to explore our Access to Medicine scheme which allows participants to work towards a guaranteed interview.

*Access to Medicine deadline is **Sunday 3rd December**.*



Medicafe

join us for our **'Applying to Medicine' live MediCafé webinar on Monday 30 September at 5pm**, and learn about:

- Admissions tests
- Work experience
- Interviews
- Summer opportunities
- Application milestones
- And more!

Our student ambassadors will be joining our admissions experts to answer questions and share their stories about how they successfully navigated the application process.

The event is part of our [MediCafé webinar series](#). Whether your students are simply considering becoming a doctor or are completely certain that it's the route they want to pursue, MediCafé is open to anyone interested in a future in Medicine.

[Book here](#)

Future MediCafé webinars

- Monday 14 October, 1.15pm - [Could you be a doctor?](#)
- Monday 25 November, 5pm - [Preparing for interview](#)



Leeds Futures programme

Applications are open now for Leeds University Medicine, Dentistry and Healthcare strands of Leeds Futures

To apply, you must meet our eligibility criteria and complete a short application form

More information can be found on our website at <https://www.healthsciences.leeds.ac.uk/student-hub/post-16/>

Applications close on Sunday 24th November 2024

You can find out more about our other Futures subject strands at <https://www.leeds.ac.uk/undergraduate-teachers-supporting-students/doc/leeds-futures>

Any questions?

Medicineandhealth@leeds.ac.uk



Medical Sciences

Entry requirements onto university courses

- [Medicine requirements](#)
- [Dentistry requirements](#)
- [Veterinary requirements](#)



Leeds University – Leeds Futures Programms

Our [Leeds Futures](#) programmes have been designed to support students throughout Year 12 and Year 13 to develop their subject insight, knowledge and skills in a wide variety of subject themes. Below you will find out more information about the programmes run by the Health Sciences Outreach Team to support students interested in professions in Medicine, Dentistry and Healthcare.

Leeds Futures - Dentistry - Year 12

Applications open Monday 7th October

A 12 month sustained programme for aspiring Dental professionals, Leeds Futures - Dentistry is designed to support students throughout Year 12 to develop their knowledge and skills ahead of applying to Dental School in Year 13.

[Find out more](#) ►

Leeds Futures - Healthcare - Year 12

Applications open Monday 7th October

Leeds Futures - Healthcare has been designed to give young people information and insight into a wide range of healthcare professions other than Medicine and Dentistry.

[Find out more](#) ►

Leeds Futures - Medicine - Year 12

Applications open Monday 7th October

Our Leeds Futures - Medicine programme supports young people to explore the medical field, guiding them to develop knowledge and skills throughout Year 12 ahead of supporting with interview preparation in Year 13.

[Find out more](#) ►



Hull York Medical School - MediCafe

MediCafé

MediCafé is our flagship webinar talk series, covering key topics throughout the academic year. The series is **open to all students, as well as parents, teachers & careers advisors, and is free to attend.**

Our MediCafes will be replacing other talks this academic year, so please consider what might be most suitable for your students to attend. Please get in touch if you have any suggestions of topics you would like to see covered as well.


- **Applying to Medicine**
30 September 2024 | 17:00-18:30
This will run again in Spring and Summer terms
 - In this MediCafé session, we will be guiding you through everything you need to know before you apply to medicine. Expect to hear about admissions tests, work experience, summer opportunities and more. Our Ambassadors will be on the panel to share their stories about how they successfully navigated the application process.
 - **Target group:** Year 12 and 13
- **Could you be a Doctor?**
15 October 2024 | 13:15 - 14:00
 - An introduction session for students who may be considering medicine as a future career in the future. This session will cover topics from where a doctor works, what they do and the qualifications you want to aim for to be able to apply for this career.
 - **Target Group** Year 9 - 11
- **Preparing for Interview**
25 November 2024 | 17:00 - 18:00
 - A session packed full of useful advice and guidance about preparing for an interview with a medical school. We will provide an overview of how medical school interviews are structured and explore some common question themes to structure preparation around. The panel will include current medical students who will share their own experience of interviews and share their top tips.
 - **Target group:** Year 13

More sessions will be added from January 2025, so please keep checking back to the [MediCafe webpage](#) to sign up.

Register for a [medicafe](#) here




Medical Sciences - opportunities




Medical Awards & Scholarships

The only National Medical Awards for Secondary School Students and the UK's largest scholarship programme to study medicine at university



Medical Leadership Opportunities

Discover the Medical Leadership Programme, opportunities to join out national student committees and more!



Research Opportunities

Conduct your own research and publish your work in a national medical magazine!



National Medical Prizes

Apply for medical art, essay, presentation prizes and more!



Volunteering Opportunities

Join Medic Mentor and the Royal Medical Benevolent Fund in our fundraising mission to support struggling doctors and medical students in the UK.



Conferences And Student Societies

Free and Virtual! Enjoy from the comfort of your own home. For parents and students in 10/S3-12/S5 year groups.

Make yourself stand out from the crowd by participating in these medical opportunities.
[Click here](#) for more information



Apprenticeship and Employment



NEW

TRIP Opportunity to the *UK University and Apprenticeship Search Event*



We are planning to attend the UK University and Apprenticeship search event happening at Elland Road Stadium on **Wednesday 23rd October 2024**

This year's event has a focus on applying for apprenticeships and includes seminars and an opportunity to meet apprenticeship employers. You can find out more about the event by visiting: <https://www.ukuniversitysearch.com/fair-signup/leeds-autumn-2024>

Spaces are limited and there will be a small cost, but at this stage we are asking for Year 12 and 13 students to register their interest on this form: <https://forms.office.com/e/FRYQj76eV7>

A promotional poster for the UK University & Apprenticeship Search Fair. The poster has a vibrant, abstract background with purple, blue, and orange shapes. The main title "UK UNIVERSITY & APPRENTICESHIP SEARCH FAIR" is prominently displayed in white. Below the title, the event details are listed: "23rd October", "Leeds", and "9.30am - 2.30pm". The location is given as "Leeds, Elland Road Stadium, LS11 0ES". A circular inset photo shows a group of people, including students and a professional, engaged in a discussion at the event. A "Special Focus" section lists "UCAS Applications" and "Applying for Apprenticeships". The UK University & Apprenticeship Search Fairs logo is visible in the top right corner of the poster.

Year 13 - Mock Assessment Center

The apprenticeship and employment pathway will be partnering with Graduates First to deliver an in-person mock assessment centre to help students prepare and feel confident in attending them as part of the apprenticeship recruitment process.

It will be held on ***Tuesday 3rd December***

The mock assessment centre will include:

- Psychometric Test and Feedback
- A Group discussion scenario
- A one to one interview

This is just for year 13 students at the moment and spaces are limited to 18. Priority will be given to students on the apprenticeship pathway. Please sign up using this form:

<https://forms.office.com/e/A380W0BgVf>



Apprenticeship and Employment – work experience

Speakers for Schools offer work experience programmes with industry leading employers through insight days and 3–5-day virtual work placements.



Visit <https://www.speakersforschools.org/> to view the full range of opportunities, register and apply.



STEM



NEW

Imperial College – STEM programme

Year 12 STEM Potential Programme 2024/25

For Year 12

STEM Potential supports students with their A-level studies and university applications during Y12 and Y13. Students will take part in practical workshops, lectures and university taster days.

Students will have the opportunity to meet current Imperial students and learn about their university experiences. We will support students with the university application process including workshops on personal statements and university interviews.

Applications will close on **08 October** and you can find more information visiting the [STEM Potential page](#).

For any queries please contact stempotential@imperial.ac.uk.



STEM Recommended Reading

STEM book list



If your passion is science and you're looking for something inspiring to read, take a look at our recommended reading list. Below is a list of favourite books suggested by our staff, ambassadors and academics.

These books are available to purchase online and at major bookstores, and most will be available from your local library. We hope you enjoy it!

Once you've read a book on our recommended reading list why not [rate it?](#)

[Expand all](#)

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| General science | + |
| Biology | + |
| Chemistry | + |
| Maths | + |
| Mechanical engineering | + |
| Medicine | + |
| Physics | + |
| Social science | + |

Lots of good book suggestions [here](#) from Imperial College



STEM - Imperial College

- **mA*ths and Further mA*ths Online Programmes 2024/25**
For new applicants starting Year 13 in the autumn

Applications Now Open

The mA*ths and the Further mA*ths Online Programmes (supported by the Hg Foundation) aim to support A level Mathematics and Further Mathematics students who are considering studying a numerate degree at university.

Develop the skills needed to achieve an A* at A Level. Students on the programmes will be provided with tailored online support and attend two masterclasses with Imperial academics.

To find out more about the programmes, eligibility criteria and how to apply, please visit our [mA*ths Online Programme webpage](#) and/or [Further mA*ths Online Programme webpage](#).

Applications will close on **Monday 09 September for Further mA*ths and Wednesday 11 September for mA*ths**. For any queries please contact mathsonline@imperial.ac.uk.



STEM - CanSat Competition

- The CanSat competition provides students with the opportunity to have practical experience working on a small-scale space project. You are tasked with designing and building their own simulation of a real satellite, integrated within the volume and shape of a soft drink can. The challenge for students is to fit all the major subsystems found in a satellite, such as power, sensors and a communication system, into this minimal volume. After building their CanSat teams will be invited to launch events across the UK to launch their CanSats on small rockets, with their CanSats returning to Earth using a parachute designed by the students.
- Teams are set a primary mission of measuring air pressure and air temperature during the CanSat's descent, with data being transmitted to the students' ground station. You are also tasked with designing a secondary mission of their choosing. It can be based on other satellite missions, a perceived need for scientific data for a specific project, a technology demonstration for a student-designed component, or any other mission that would fit the CanSat's capabilities.
- See Mr Brooke -Mawson for details



Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences



NEW

Psychology Essay Competition – University of Law

Psychology Essay Competition

This year we are running an essay competition with [The Mental Health and Digital Technologies Journal](#) (Emerald Publishing), which will help students develop key skills, gain knowledge in an emerging area of psychology, and could see them become a **published author**.

Answer the question below and write an essay that argues the differing views across the emerging area of cyberpsychology.

‘How can technology support young people’s mental health and wellbeing?’

Be inquisitive, research to expand your knowledge in the area and develop key skills that will help you achieve your ambitions.

Why should you take part?

- Develop key study skills for future study (researching, referencing and essay writing)
- Support and enhance your current study or pursue a new area of interest
- Strengthen your Personal Statement and CV
- Gain professional knowledge in the emerging area of psychology
- Become a published author in an academic journal

Prizes

- Your essay published in the academic journal: [The Mental Health and Digital Technologies journal](#)
- £500 cash prize from the University of Law
- Work Experience session with experts from the editorial team of the Mental Health and Digital Technologies Journal

the closing date is **15 November 2024**.

Find out more [here](#)



Pathway to Law – Manchester University

The University of Manchester is proud to be a part of the Sutton Trust's innovative [Pathways to Law programme](#), inspiring and supporting academically-able state school students in Year 12 from backgrounds under-represented at university who are interested in a career in Law.

Getting into Law can be highly competitive, and so the Sutton Trust and The University of Manchester want to offer you the opportunity to gain the necessary knowledge and skills to break that barrier. Pathways to Law is completely free (including travel) and provides support in accessing higher education, training in soft skills, and understanding careers in Law with incredible work experience opportunities.

You may apply to a Pathways programme if you:

- Attend, and have always attended, a state-funded, non fee-paying school/college
- Are in Year 12 at the start of the programme.
- Live within a reasonable commuting distance of the university you are applying to

If you meet the above requirements, we will look at the following criteria when we consider your application:

- Have achieved at least five GCSEs at grades 9 – 6, including English and Maths. A minimum of two of these qualifications should be at grades 9 – 7. Or five A or B grades at National 5 including one A.
- Would be in the first generation of your family to attend university.
- Have been in receipt of Free School Meals whilst at secondary school.
- Attend a school or college with a below-average A-level or Higher point score and/or a low rate of progression to higher education.
- Live in a neighbourhood with a low rate of progression to higher education and/or a high level of socio-economic deprivation.
- Have been looked after or in care

The more criteria you meet, the more likely you are to secure a place. You don't need to meet all the criteria to be eligible. There is room on the application form for you and your teacher to provide a statement and teacher verification to explain any extenuating circumstances that might impact your application.

If you are (or have been) looked after, accommodated or in care, you only need to meet the age, school and academic requirements.

Applications to The University of Manchester's Pathways to Law programme will close on **04/11/2024**. Students can apply here: <https://pathways.suttontrust.com/>



Want a legal career?

Are you thinking about pursuing a legal career, please let them know about the virtual masterclass we're running next Wednesday 11 September 3:00-4:00pm.

Entitled '**Starting out in law – what you need to know**', this masterclass will cover the basics of launching a legal career, including:

- what students need to know about pursuing a legal career;
- timeframes of applying to law firms;
- what to do in your first year of university (and before);
- apprenticeship options;
- how to research legal employers and find the right fit; and
- how to get work experience.

Students should come along to hear from our panel of legal recruiting experts and trainee solicitors and ask their questions. No question is too stupid!

Registration link: https://lbresearch.zoom.us/webinar/register/2817254366600/WN_ds4rTvrQPGoRxBEN27Kfw

The recording will also shortly be available on our [YouTube channel](#).



Business Economics and Finance



NEW

Business Economics and Finance

Business, Economics and Finance Pathway Autumn Term Expressions of Interest



Guest Speaker SAM TEALE

Sam Teale is a former student who has gone on to win awards for Entrepreneur of the year. Come and hear about his journey and Sam Teale Productions. The talk is taking place on Friday 27 September during period 2. Sign up below using the link.

New York 2025 expressions of interest will be going out to parents soon via classcharts announcements, keep an eye out!

The Financial Times is looking for ambassadors, a great opportunity to network and work for a highly esteemed news organisation. Sign up below using the link.

Would you like to take part in the **Young Enterprise Competition**? You will work as part of a team to set up a registered company and you keep your profits! Sign up below using the link.

Drop in is Weds morning in F005 from 8.30-8.40 or message me eharker@heckgrammar.co.uk or via teams.

BEF Autumn Term EOI Link <https://forms.office.com/e/cb0A4Q8Dkk>

