

Wanstead High School

Education with Character



Welcome to our Year 12
Higher Education Parents' Evening

Points for discussion

- Choosing universities and courses-*Ms Bray*
- Registering and applying to UCAS- *Ms Battiwala*
- Applying for competitive courses and competitive universities- Guest presenter *Felicity Hayter-Gare, Imperial College*
- Applying to Oxford – Online Guest presenter *Dr Hugh Munro, Access and Outreach Officer, Wadham College*
- Open days, work experience and voluntary work- *Ms Battiwala*
- Funding and Finance –Guest presenter *Lydia Newton, UEA*
- Parent guide to Unifrog platform- *Ms Van Beers*

What do you know?

How many universities are there in the UK?

325

How many universities are there in London?

50

How many courses are there at UK universities?

55,000+!

Your university – things to consider

Do you want to live at home or move away?

Do you want to live in a city or in the country?

Does the university offer a variety of courses or just one subject area?

Is accommodation guaranteed?



Which qualifications does the university require/accept?

What facilities does the university offer?

Have you visited the campus?

What grades does the university ask for?

Your course - things to consider

What do you most enjoy doing?

Would you prefer to study something completely new?

Do you want to work in a particular area?
What are the career options at the end?

What is the structure of the course? Any work placements?



Do you need a specific qualification?

Do you want the opportunity to study abroad or travel?

How long is the course?

What are the entry requirements for that course? Can you meet these requirements?

What's in a name?

Degree structure

Egyptian Archaeology BA

YEAR ONE

- As for Archaeology, with the exception of Past Societies, plus:
- Texts in Archaeology
- Introduction to Egyptian Archaeology
- Ancient Egyptian Writing and Inscriptions

YEAR TWO

- Archaeology of Ancient Egypt
- Research and Presentation Skills in Archaeology
- Two from:
 - Interpreting Archaeological Data
 - Public Archaeology
 - Current Issues in Archaeological Theory
- Further courses from a list of options

YEAR THREE

- Dissertation
- Fieldwork Portfolio
- Three Egyptian options
- Further courses from a selection of over 30 options

- Remember! No two courses are exactly the same, even with the same title.
- Read the course content carefully.
- Read the requirements

UCAS.com

Using the UCAS website pupils will be able to search for courses, find out the entry requirements, details about each course and what universities and colleges are looking for in their students.

Registering and Applying

Your young person can make an application for up to 5 universities at a cost of £26.50.

In the summer term we have a Higher Education, Careers and Futures focus and as part of this we will register current Year 12 pupils via UCAS.com.

In the **Personal details section** of UCAS, there is the option for your young person to nominate you as a parent or guardian to speak to UCAS on their behalf.



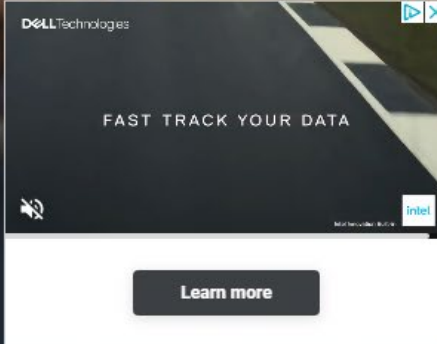
CHOOSE YOUR FUTURE

[All results](#) [Courses](#) [Uni & colleges](#) [Apprenticeships](#) [Advice](#) [Events](#)



What can I do next?

Get ideas and all the info on your options to help decide the right route for you.



Dell Technologies

FAST TRACK YOUR DATA

Learn more

Advertisement. [Why the ads?](#)



Manchester Metropolitan University

IN THE HEART OF MANCHESTER

LEARN MORE

Advertisement. [Why the ads?](#)

Feedback



Sign in

Register

REGISTER

Email *

First name *

Last name

Password *

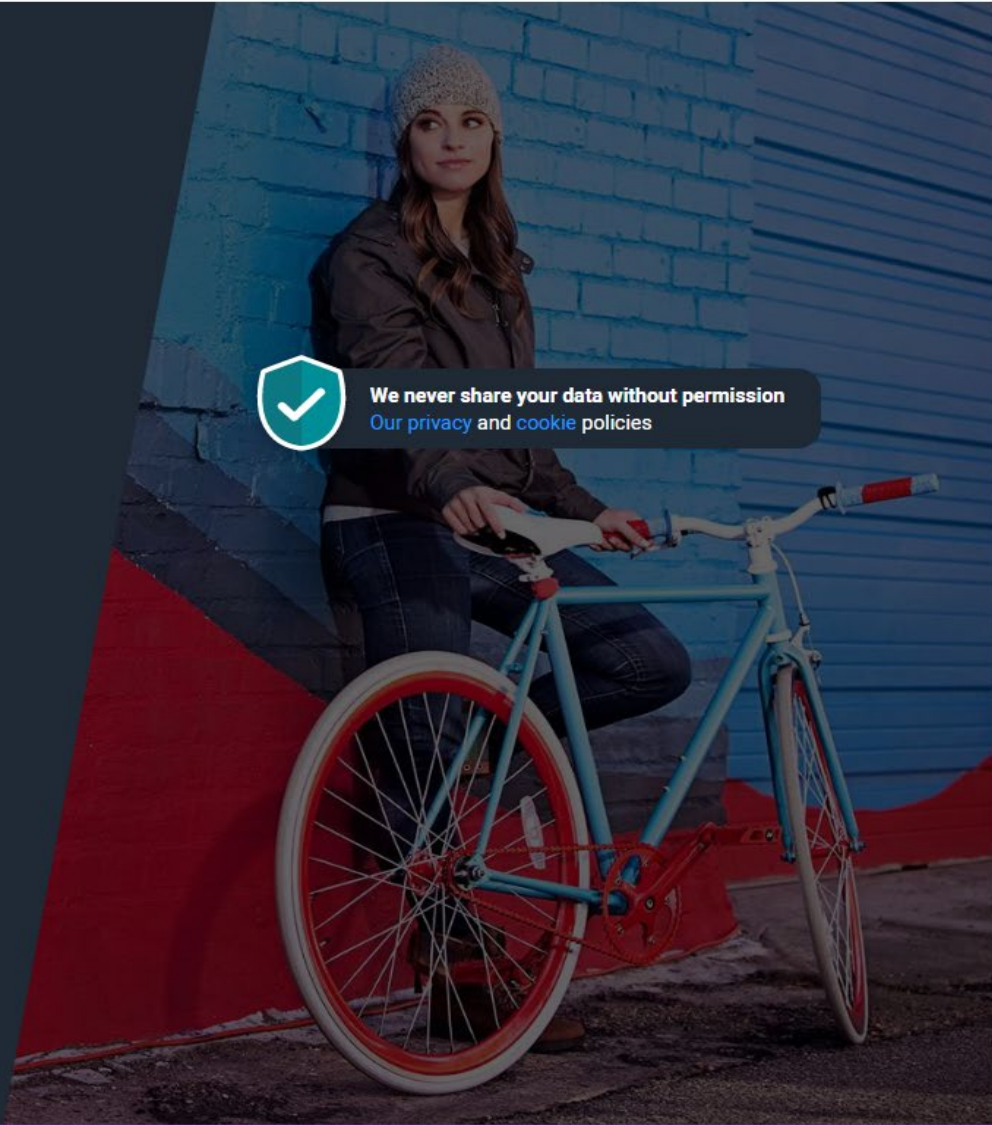
Confirm password *

I have read and understood the [Terms and conditions](#) *

Register



We never share your data without permission
[Our privacy and cookie policies](#)



Deadline dates

2nd May 2023	–	2023 entry UCAS undergraduate search tools goes live.
16th May 2023	–	Undergraduate application goes live.
5th September 2023	–	Completed 2023 undergraduate applications can be submitted.
25th September 2023	–	Wanstead Oxbridge/Early Applicant internal deadline.
16th October 2023	–	UCAS Oxbridge/ Early applicant deadline.
Mid October/early November 2023	–	Additional tests for competitive courses and early applicants such as BMAT and TSA are sat in school.
4th November 2023	–	Wanstead UCAS internal deadline for other applicants.
1st Week of December 2023	–	Oxford/Cambridge interviews.
31st January 2024	–	General UCAS deadline for majority of undergraduate courses. Includes Art and Design and most Dance, Drama or Musical Theatre courses at conservatoires.
February/March 2024	-	Deadline for some Art Foundation courses
June 23rd 2024	–	Student Finance application deadline.

Track

Once UCAS has processed the application form, your young person can log onto Track via the UCAS website, where they can track the progress of their application form and view the decisions that the universities are making and reply to any offers.

They can also use Track to change details such as an address.

Personal Statement writing

In the summer term, there will be a workshop dedicated to exploring what makes an effective personal statement and supporting pupils to start completing a draft of this.

Making a
**COMPETITIVE
APPLICATION**



UCAS AND PERSONAL STATEMENTS



Felicity Hayter-Gare

University Applications

All Applications through UCAS – **Deadline 31st January**

Five choices of course and university

October 16th Deadline

- For Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary courses and any course at Oxford or Cambridge

Application consists of:

- Qualifications – subjects and grades
- Personal Statement
- Teacher Reference



University Applications

After their form is submitted it will go to their school/college for the reference to be completed

You will hear back from universities during the Autumn and Spring terms

If there are additional admissions steps for their course, eg interviews and tests, You will be invited to these between October and March/April

UCAS will update with the universities offer decision:

- **Unconditional offer** – Normally only given when grades have already been achieved
- **Conditional offer** – offer of a place, on the condition of achieving certain grades
- **Unsuccessful**



Responding to offers

Universities will have till 19th May to respond to all applicants

Applicants have until 9th June to make their response

At this stage you narrow your choices down to a maximum of two choices:

Firm – your firm acceptance of where you would like to go. If you achieve this offer on results day you will have a guaranteed place on this course

Insurance – If you do not meet the conditions of your firm offer, you will be moved to your insurance choice. If you meet your insurance offer you will have a guaranteed place on this course



PERSONAL STATEMENTS



WHY IS THE PERSONAL STATEMENT IMPORTANT?

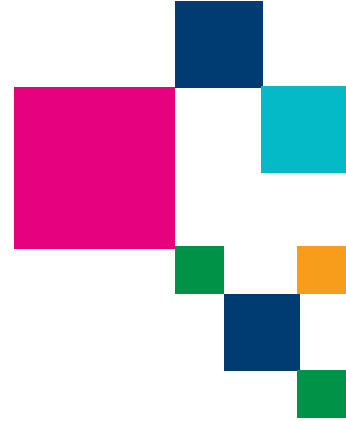
Universities receive thousands of applications

Grades are not enough

Personal statement gives extra information

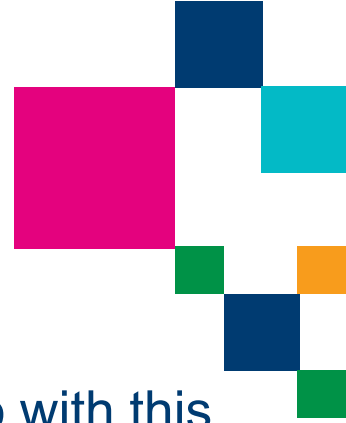
Demonstrate that you are the ideal applicant

Don't waste this opportunity, other students won't!



WHAT DO WE WANT TO SEE

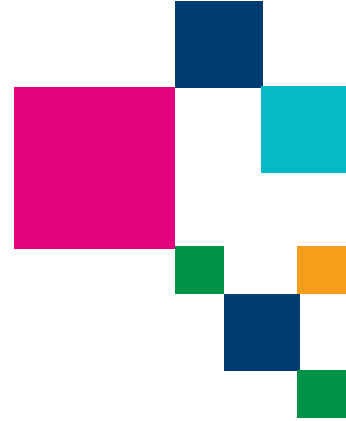
- Understanding of the subject
 - That you're making the most of opportunities you have
 - Skills that will help you flourish at university
 - Self-motivated learner
 - How have you developed your interest in the subject?
- What do you want to do with this degree?
 - What will you bring to the university experience?
 - What made you want to do this degree?



POSSIBLE THINGS TO INCLUDE:

- Books
- Journals
- Newspapers
- Podcasts
- Blogs
- YouTube videos
- MOOCs
- Summer schools
- Work experience,
- EPQs

“I did [x] and found out about [y] which made me want to find more out about [z]”



Admissions Tests

Some competitive courses will also use admissions test

Examples Include:

- BMAT or UKAT for Medicine & Dentistry
 - STEP or MAT exams for Maths and computing
 - LNAT for Law
 - PAT for Physics
-


Most can be taken in school but speak to your exams office/head of 6th form in Year 12 to check and make arrangements





Interviews

Final part of the admissions process for very competitive courses

- Oxford and Cambridge interview for all courses
 - Imperial for most courses
 - Selected courses at other universities such as UCL and LSE
 - Courses including medicine, dentistry and veterinary at all universities
- 



What are we looking for?

- A chance for us to find out more about the person behind the statement
- Reason and motivation to study
- Communication skills
- Academic ability
- Intellectual flexibility
- Clear understanding of the course
- Not trying to catch you out!



Preparation

- Most students are very practiced at being assessed with written tests
- Ways to improve:
 - Practice talking about your self
 - Practice with friends/family but also more formal situations – Teachers, family friends etc
 - Practice tackling unfamiliar problems and talking through your thought processes
 - Different exam boards past papers can be good for this



What you can do right now

Find out if you need to take an admissions test – do not rely on your school or universities to tell you!

Start preparing – all admissions tests are a skill you can get better at.

- Practice, practice practice!

For personal statements and interviews –

Start to write down anything you might want to include. Ask friends, family and teachers for their input

Add to you list – visit museums, sign up for talks (virtual or in person), listen to podcasts and read around your subject

RUSSELL GROUP AND RESEARCH

What does “Russell Group” mean?

- Big focus on research and academic achievement
- You work with world-class experts

What do we mean by 'research'?

- Changing the world we live in

***YOU can get involved in research –
student fellowships***



A competitive field

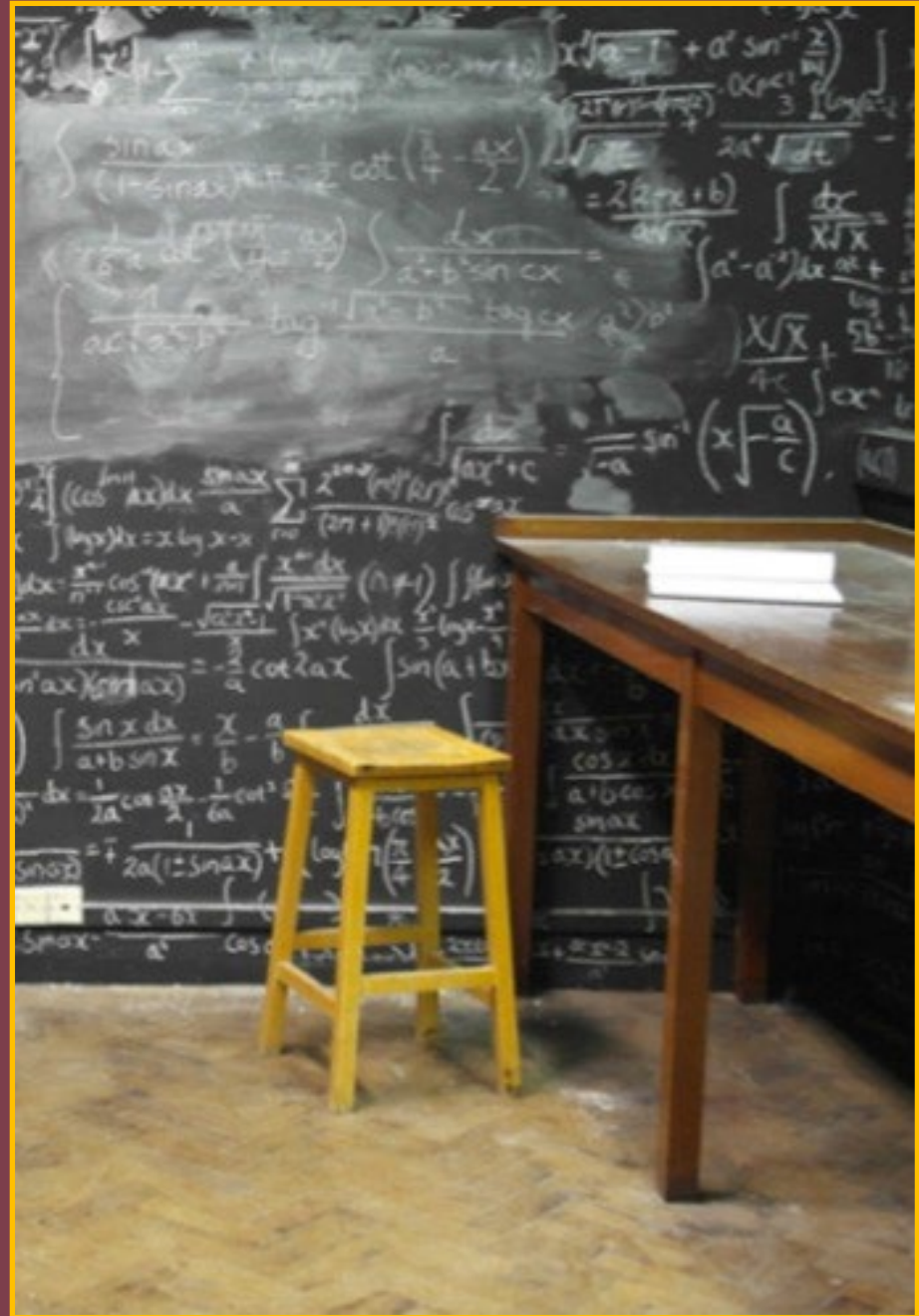
WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Research the course
- Research the industry/career
- Start your application early
- Prepare and practice for interviews and aptitude tests
- Any necessary work experience or volunteering
- Have an open mind
- Public lectures, TED talks, taster days, news articles, exhibitions...



THE PERSONAL STATEMENT

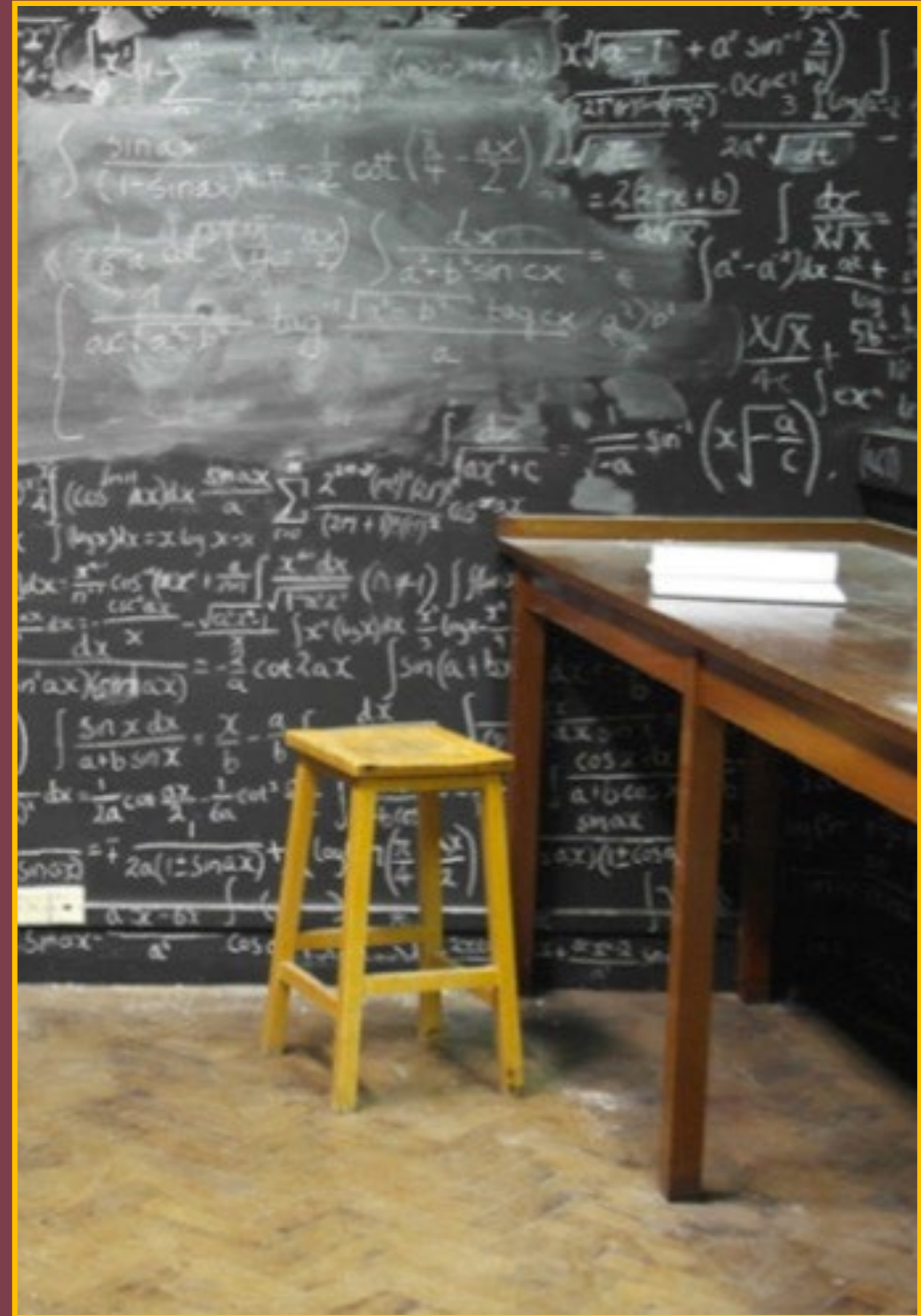
- Tell them what excites you about your chosen course- imperative if applying for particularly competitive courses
- Orientated towards a profession or industry sector (if you can)
- 4,000 characters (or 47 lines!)



'I have a dream...'

WHAT TO AVOID

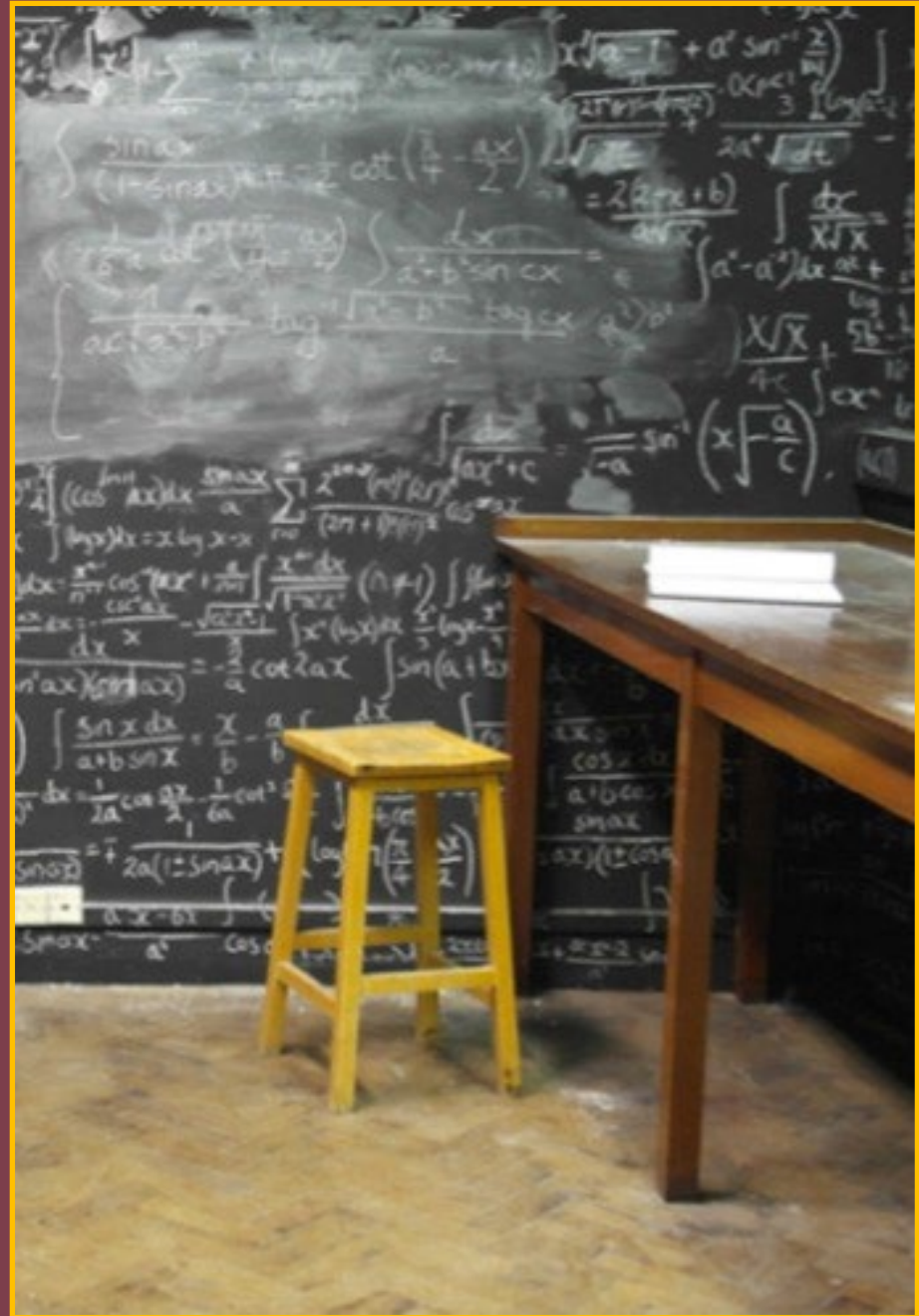
- Mentioning university names
 - “I have applied to...”
- Lying/plagiarising
- Thesaurus
- Negative language
- Shopping lists
- Irrelevant quotes



Not again...

COMMON OPENING LINES

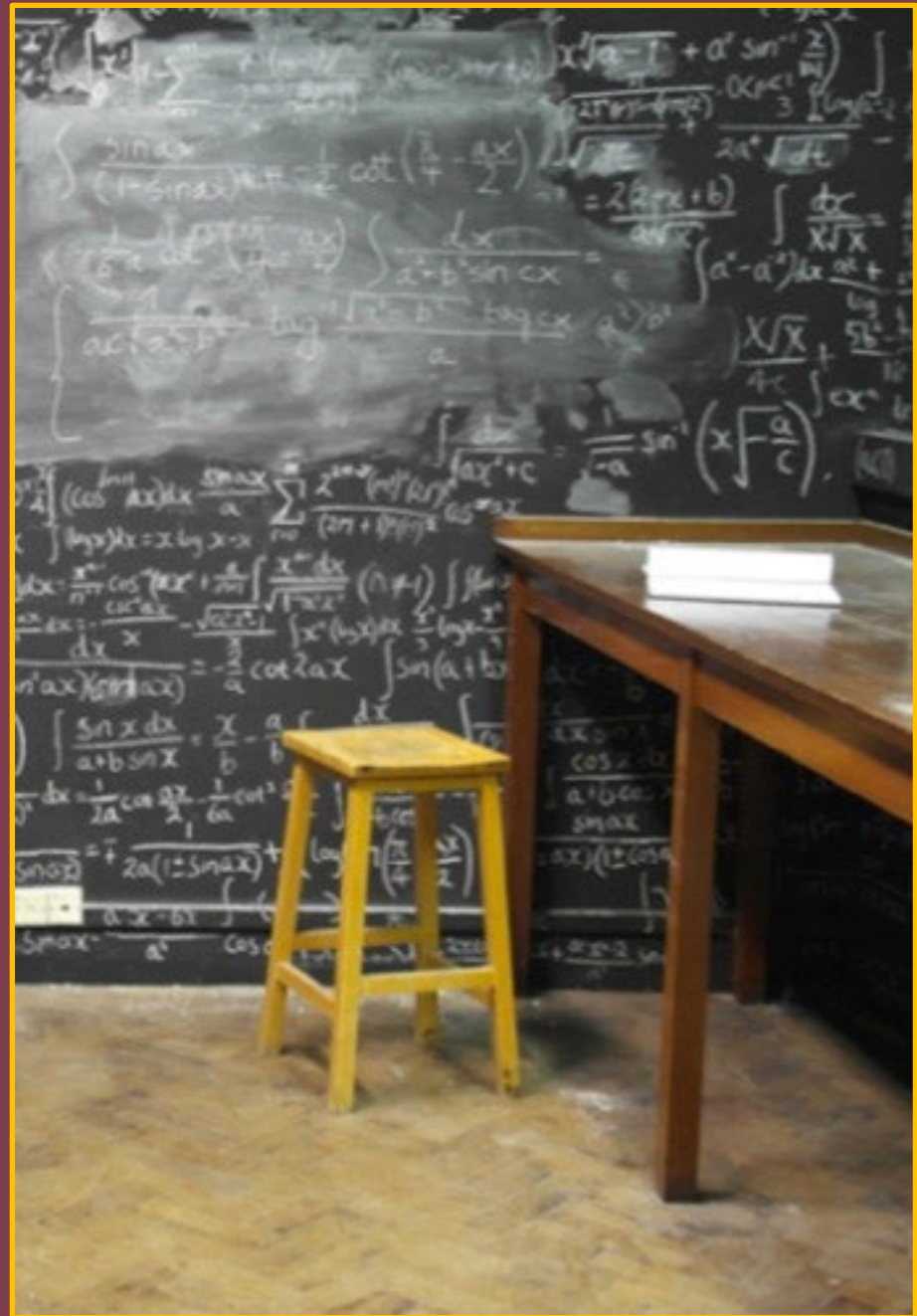
- From a young age I have (always) been [interested in/fascinated by]...
- I have always been interested in...
- I have always been passionate about...
- Academically, I have always been...
- X is a very challenging and demanding [career/profession/course]...
- Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world



Personal statement

MAKE A START NOW!

- Make a list of your experiences, interests and qualities
- Be selective – What's most impressive? What's relevant?
- Quality not quantity!
- Draft it, think about it, discuss it with others and redraft
- Go to taster days and Open Day and speak to current students



A competitive field **APTITUDE TESTS**

- A way of differentiating between a number of good applicants
- Are not intelligence tests
- Tests skills such as verbal, numerical, situational reasoning
- Some have essays
- Can't revise but you can do practice tests
- Law - LNAT
- Medicine & Dentistry - UCAT / BMAT
- Maths – MAT / STEP
- Various – Thinking Skills Assessment

**Look online for
past papers**



A competitive field **INTERVIEWS**

- Check if an interview is part of the application process
- Assess your suitability for the course/profession
- Questions based on personal statement
- Different types: one-to-one, panel, group interviews, Multiple Mini Interviews

**A chance for
you to
interview the
university**



Interviews

TOP 3 TIPS

1. The personal statement is **personal** – they want to hear your voice, not anyone else's
2. You owe it to yourself to make the best choices – start your application early so that the universities you select are **perfect for you**
3. Understand that redrafts of the personal statement are inevitable and it is an ongoing process that will become easier over time



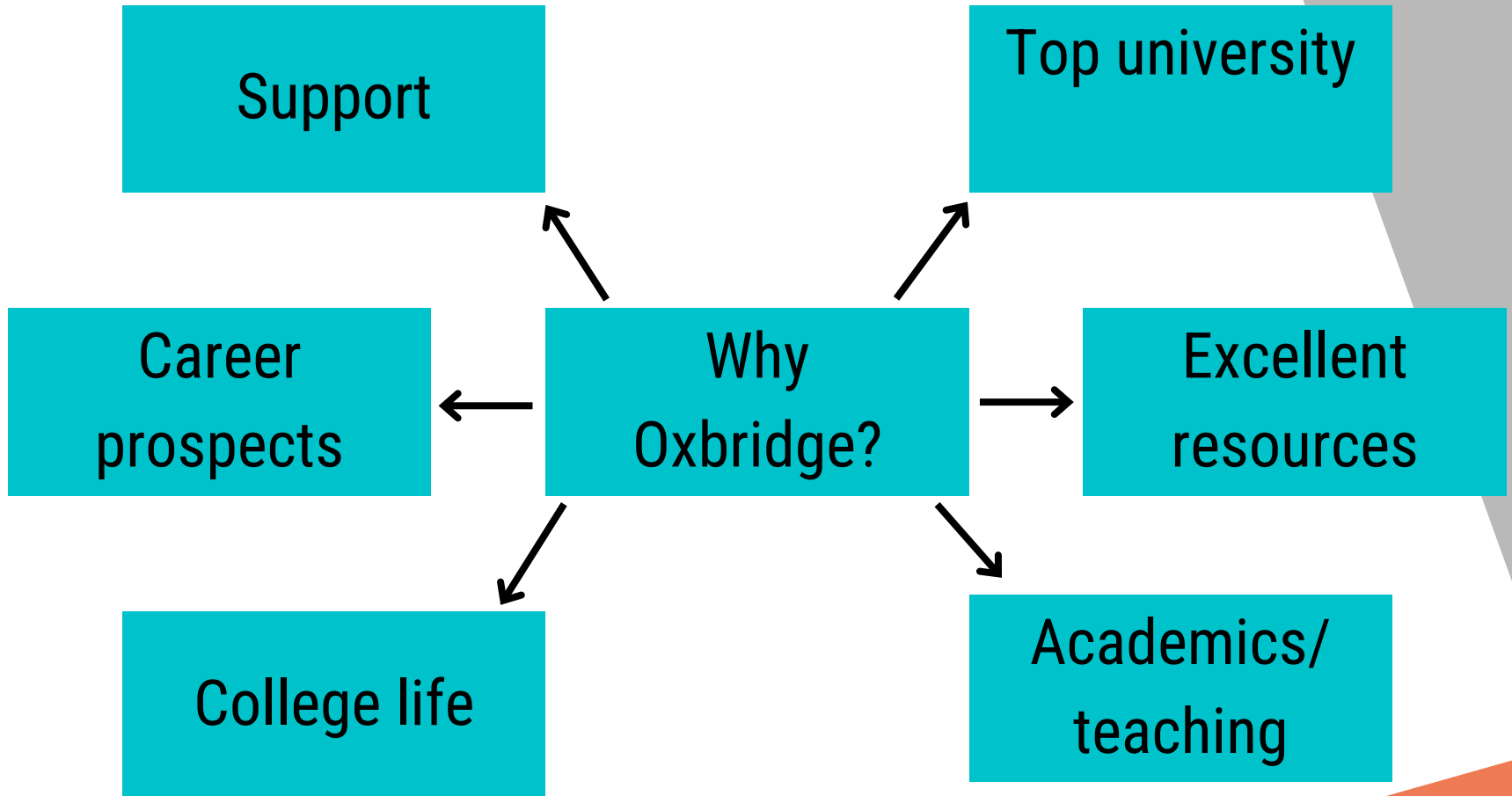


Access to
Excellence
WADHAM COLLEGE



WADHAM COLLEGE

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD



COURSES

OXFORD

- Archaeology and Anthropology
- Biochemistry
- Biological Sciences
- Biomedical Sciences
- Chemistry
- Classics
- Computer Science
- Earth Sciences
- Economics and Management
- Engineering Science
- English Language and Literature

- Experimental Psychology
- Fine Art
- Geography
- History
- History of Art
- Human Sciences
- Law
- Materials Science
- Mathematics
- Medicine
- Modern Languages
- Music
- Asian and Middle Eastern Studies
- Philosophy
- Politics & Economics
- Physics
- Theology & Religion

CAMBRIDGE

- Anglo-Saxon, Norse & Celtic
- Archaeology
- Architecture
- Asian & Middle Eastern Studies
- Classics
- Economics
- Education
- English
- Geography
- History
- History & Modern Languages
- History & Politics
- History of Art
- Human, Social & Political Sciences

- Land Economy
- Law
- Linguistics
- Modern & Medieval Languages
- Music
- Philosophy
- Theology & Religious Studies
- Chemical Engineering
- Computer science
- Engineering
- Mathematics
- Medicine
- Natural Sciences
- Psychological & Behavioural Sciences
- Veterinary Medicine

Extra-curricular activities at Oxford & Cambridge

CLUB AND SOCIETIES

- Arab Society
- Chemistry Society
- Computer Science Society
- Electronic Music Society
- Exploration Club
- Harry Potter Society
- Hip-Hop Society
- Jazz Society
- Lego Society
- Light Entertainment Society
- Magic Society
- Nature Conservation Society
- eSports Society
- Salsa Society
- Symphonic Band
- Table Tennis Club
- Aeronautical Society
- Biotech Society
- Dramatic Society
- Chamber Music
- Baseball and Softball
- Blockchain Society
- Chinese Studies Society
- Climate Society
- Competitive Computer Security
- Croatian Society
- Dr Who Society
- German Society
- Law Society
- Mixed Martial Arts
- Pharmacology Society
- Tolkien Society
- Quidditch Club
- Archaeological Society
- Art Club
- Society
- Board Games Society
- Brass Band
- Buddhist Society
- Ceilidh Band
- Dance Society
- Floorball Club
- Gymnastics Club
- Islamic Society
- LGBTQ+ Society
- Media Society
- Northerners Society
- Philosophy Society
- Photography Society
- Physics Society
- Quiz Society
- Rugby Club
- Skateboarding Society
- Story Society
- Tea Appreciation Society
- Robotics Society
- Rock Music Society
- Scout and Guide Group
- Start-up Factory
- Quiz Society
- Airborne Electric Racing
- Neuroscience Club
- Materials Society
- Engineering Society
- Bridge Association
- Females in Engineering, Science and Technology Society
- Ukulele Players
- Tango Society
- Student Action for Refugees

SPORTS

- Aikido
- American Football
- Archery
- Athletics
- Australian Rules Football
- Badminton
- Baseball
- Basketball
- Boxing
- Canoe and Kayak
- Caving
- Cheerleading
- Clay Pigeon Shooting
- Contemporary Dance
- Cricket
- Croquet
- Cross-Country
- Cycling
- Dance sport
- Dinghy Sailing
- Equestrian
- Fencing
- Floorball
- Football
- Gliding
- Golf
- Gymnastics
- Handball
- Hockey
- Ice Hockey
- Ice Skating
- Jiu Jitsu
- Judo
- Kabaddi
- Karate
- Kendo
- Kickboxing
- Korfbal
- Motor Drivers
- Modern Pentathlon
- Mountaineering
- Netball
- Octopus (underwater hockey)
- Orienteering
- Pistol
- Pool and Snooker
- Powerlifting
- Rifle
- Rowing
- Rugby
- Ski and Snowboarding
- Squash
- Surf
- Swimming
- Table Tennis
- Taekwon-Do
- Tai Chi
- Tennis
- Trampolineing
- Triathlon
- Ultimate Frisbee
- Underwater Exploration
- Volleyball
- Walking
- Water Polo
- Windsurfing

TEACHING

Lectures

Seminars

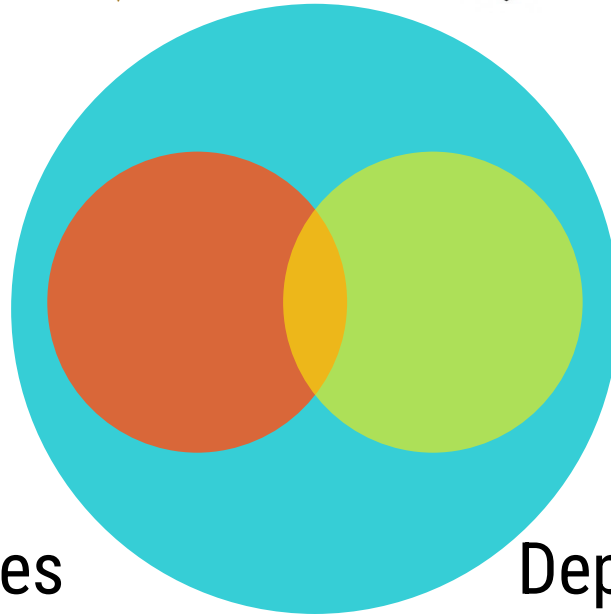
Labs

Supervisions/
Tutorials

HOW DO THE UNIVERSITIES 'WORK'?



University



Colleges

Departments

CHOOSING A COLLEGE

Size

Location

Facilities

Age

Course

Does you feel comfortable there? Does it feel 'homely'?

CHOOSING A COLLEGE

Virtual Tour

Webinars

Open Days



WHAT ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

Academic ability
and potential

Commitment to
study

Independent
thought

Critical and
flexible thinking

Enthusiasm for
your subject



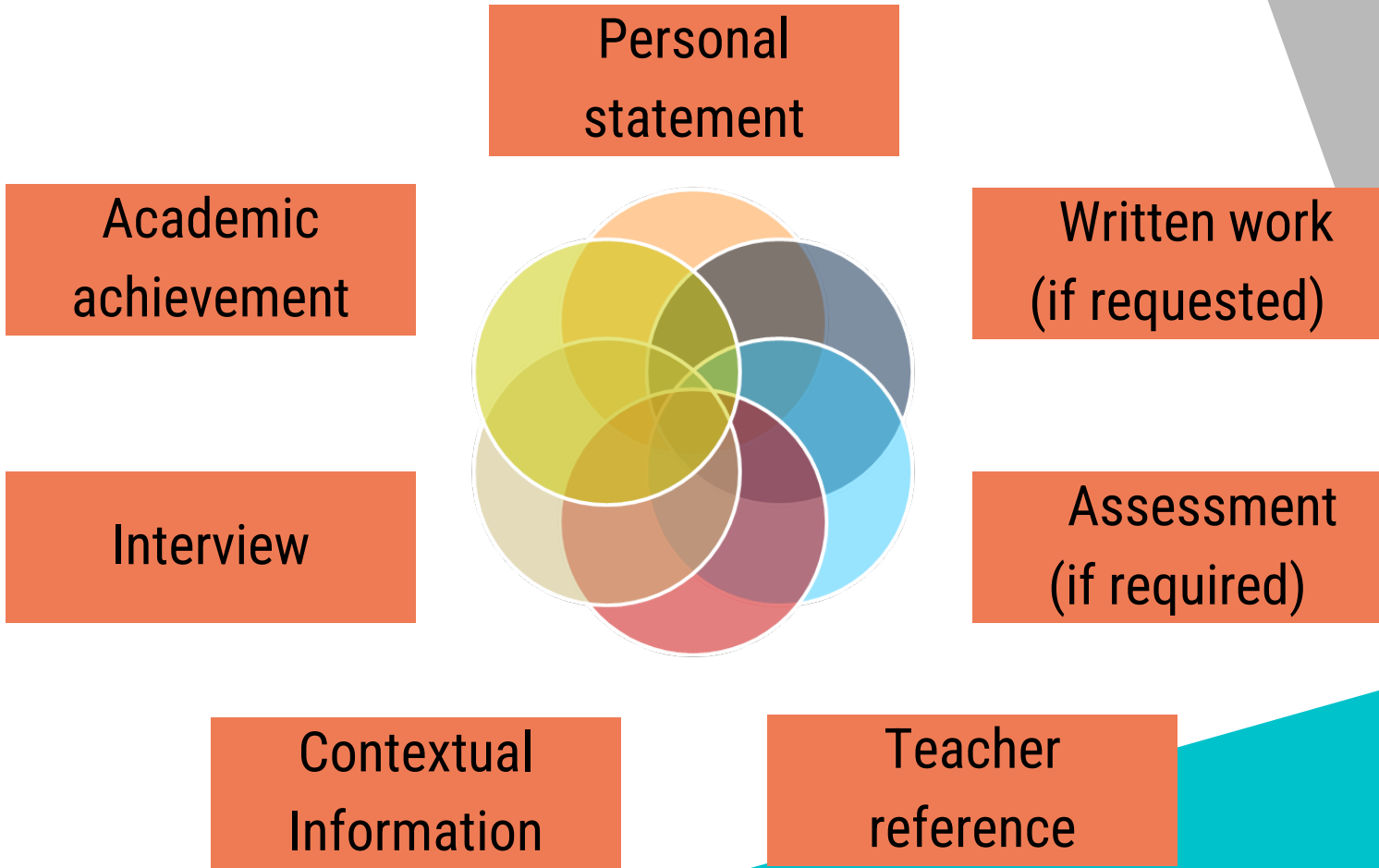
TYPICAL MINIMUM OFFERS

Cambridge:

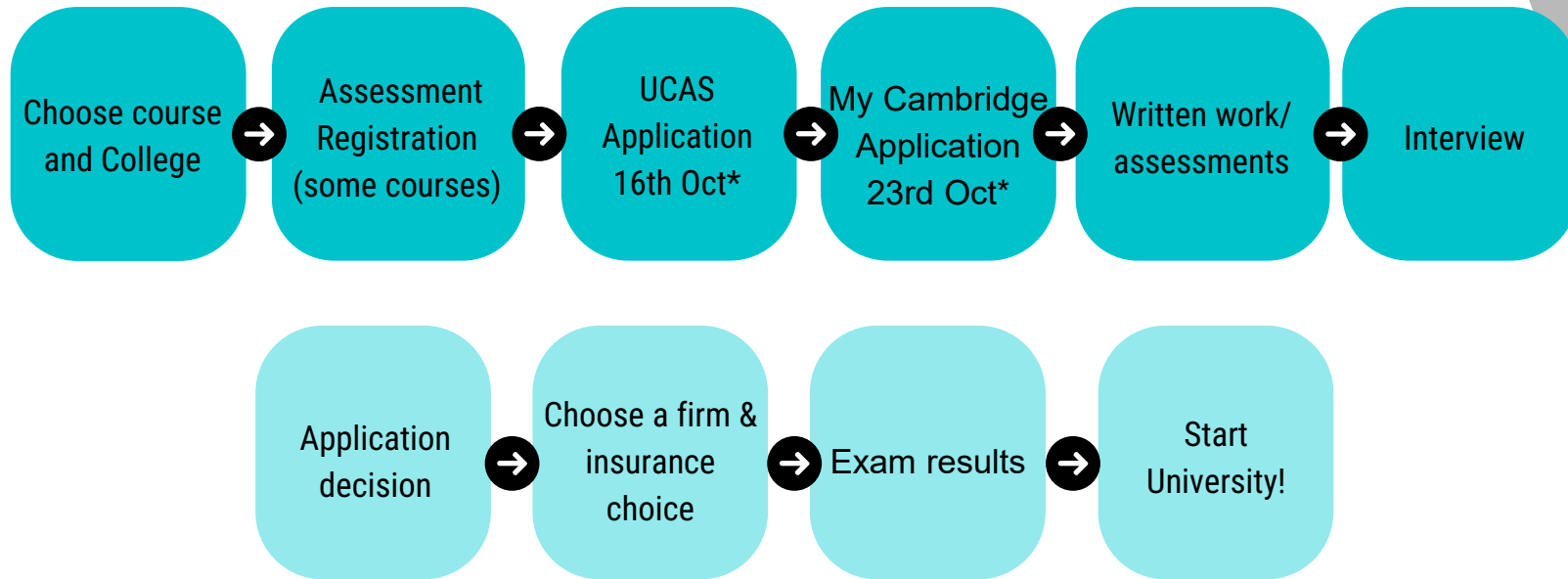
A*AA-A*A*A

Oxford:

AAA-A*A*A



APPLICATION PROCESS





Being Super-Curricular

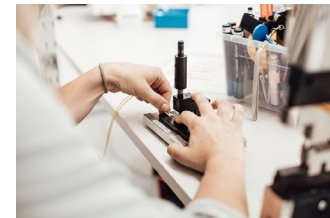
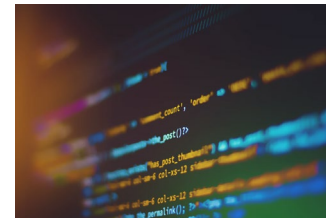
How have you developed your knowledge outside the classroom?

What have you done, read, visited, listened to that has inspired you?

summer school / EPQ



practical experience / work experience



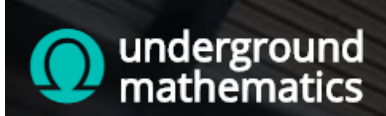
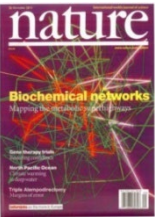
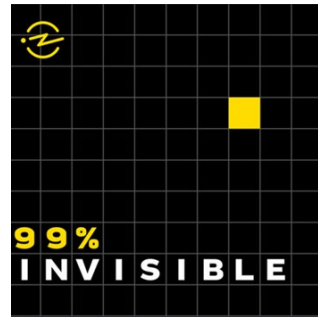
reading



podcasts / lectures



Being Super-Curricular



Predicted grades

Pupils need to understand that their summer mock examination results will help to inform predicted grades, along with a review of progress throughout Year 12. Therefore pupils must prepare for these appropriately and work hard for their mock exams and in class tests to establish their credentials for their applications, particularly if they intend to apply for competitive courses or Russell Group universities.

Year 12 mock exams 12th- 22nd June

Open Days

Open day visits can support your young person to make the right choices of university or college.

Open days are run by the universities and colleges and are a great opportunity for your child to understand university life, to get a feel for the location, the town itself and the facilities offered.

www.opendays.com

University Ambassadors are located all around the campus and can share real-life experiences. Your young person should take the opportunity to visit the ambassadors as part of their open day experience.

Open Day visits arranged by the school

- Higher Education fair - June 6th at UEL
- Open Day visit at a London Russell Group university in June/July after mock exams
- WHS drop down day of seminars and workshops to support with next steps.

Super-curricular and enrichment

We have been working with pupils to help encourage them to sign up to taster sessions, seminars and workshops linked to their areas of interest and to boost their super-curricular profile (during Learn to Learn sessions). Getting involved in such activities really helps to strengthen their application and demonstrate key transferable skills that will make them an ideal candidate to study X at degree level.

If your young person is considering completing some work experience or voluntary work to help support their application, now is the time to do it!



STUDENT FINANCE

Lydia

Higher Education Advisory Team





THIS IS
UEA

UK TOP 30

The Times/Sunday Times 2023, Complete University Guide 2023 and The Guardian University Guide 2023

WORLD TOP 200

Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2022

RESEARCH QUALITY UK TOP 20

Times Higher REF 2021 Analysis



THIS IS UEA



JOHN INNES CENTRE



COLNEY LANE PLAYING FIELDS

EARLHAM HALL



THE ENTERPRISE HALL

NORFOLK AND NORWICH UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

EARLHAM PARK



SPORTSPARK



BOB CHAMPION RESEARCH AND EDUCATION BUILDING



SAINSBURY CENTRE

THE CAMPUS KITCHEN

DOCTORS AND DENTIST



ZIGGURATS ACCOMMODATION



THE SQUARE STUDENT UNION



THE LIBRARY



THE STREET (SHOPS, BANK, LAUNDRETTE)

STUDENT SERVICES



ON-CAMPUS ACCOMMODATION





ELIGIBILITY

WWW.GOV.UK/STUDENT-FINANCE/WHO-QUALIFIES



TUITION FEE LOAN



MAINTENANCE LOAN





TUITION FEE LOAN



£9,250



MAXIMUM MAINTENANCE LOAN



LIVING AT HOME

£8,400

LIVING AWAY FROM HOME

£9,978

LIVING AWAY FROM HOME IN LONDON

£13,022

HOW MUCH?

FULL TIME STUDENTS	MAXIMUM LOAN	EVERYONE IS ENTITLED TO THIS	TOP-UP BASED ON HOUSEHOLD INCOME
PARENTAL HOME	£8,400	£3,698	£4,702
AWAY FROM HOME	£9,978	£4,651	£5,327
LONDON	£13,022	£6,485	£6,537

2023 entry



STUDENT FINANCE CALCULATOR

WWW.GOV.UK/STUDENT-FINANCE-CALCULATOR



REPAYMENTS

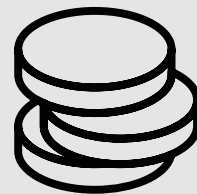
9% ON EARNINGS OVER £25,000

“Ignore newspaper headlines about students leaving university with £50,000 of debt. That's mostly a meaningless figure. What counts is how much you'll repay.”

Martin Lewis, 2022

2023 entry

REPAYMENTS



£30K

~£38 per
month

£35K

~£75 per
month

£40K

~£112 per
month

2023 entry

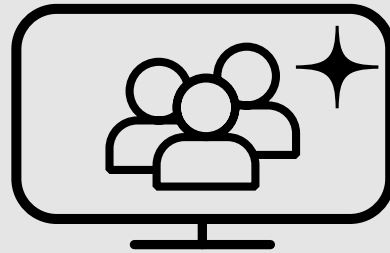


INTEREST RATES

%

RPI ONLY

APPLY ONLINE



WWW.GOV.UK/STUDENTFINANCE

COURSE

BANK DETAILS

INCOME

NI NUMBER



19 MAY



Deadline for 2023 Entry

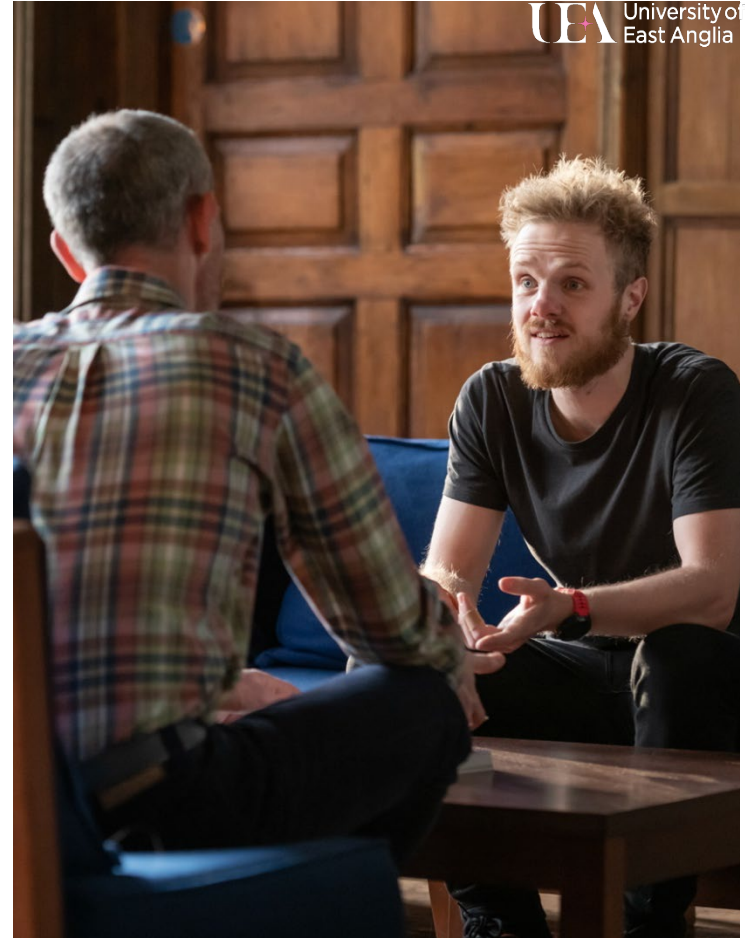


NON-REPAYABLE



ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

- Travel Grant
- Disabled Students Allowance (DSA)
- Dependents
- Childcare
- NHS Learning Support Fund: including the £5,000 NHS Training Grant





UNIVERSITY SUPPORT

BURSARIES AND SCHOLARSHIPS

UEA BURSARIES

£800 - £2,500 per year

UEA BURSARIES

£800 - £2,500 per year



BRIGHT SPARK SCHOLARSHIP

A SPARKLING FINANCIAL REWARD FOR YOUR
PRE-UNIVERSITY ACHIEVEMENTS

A/A* in research project

+

ABB+ or 32+ IB or equivalent

+

Short application form ~ 300 words

2023 entry



SPORTS SCHOLARSHIPS

A RANGE OF FINANCIAL AND SPECIALIST SUPPORT
SERVICES FOR OUR STUDENT ATHLETES

INDIVIDUAL AND TEAM SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

PERFORM AT YOUR PEAK



MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP

FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO NURTURE
YOUR MUSICAL ABILITY WHILST YOU STUDY

COULD IT BE MUSIC TO YOUR EARS?



FURTHER QUESTIONS?

Student Finance England

UK Students: +44 (0) 300 100 0607

UEA Finance Queries

admissions@uea.ac.uk

NHS Learning Support Fund

www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/nhs-learning-support-fund

Disabled Students Allowance

www.gov.uk/disabled-students-allowance-dsa

Which – How much it costs to live at University

which.co.uk/money/university-and-student-finance

Money saving expert – How much will you repay

www.moneysavingexpert.com/students/student-finance-calculator/



OPEN DAYS 2023

SAT 8 JULY

SAT 9 SEPTEMBER

SAT 21 OCTOBER

SAT 18 NOVEMBER

uea.ac.uk

Useful websites and links

- UCAS website: www.ucas.com
- UCAS search tool: www.digitalucas.com
- Rankings/ratings: www.theguardian.com/education/universityguide
- Rankings/ratings: www.unistats.ac.uk
- Rankings/ratings: www.whatuni.com
- Rankings/ratings: www.push.co.uk
- Open days calendar: www.opendays.com/calendar
- Finance and Funding: www.gov.uk/student-finance
- Work experience: www.springpod.com
- Unifrog (pupils have logins): www.unifrog.com
- Guide: www.ukcareerguide.ey.com/schools
- Guide: www.KPMGcareers.co.uk/schoolleavers
- Opportunities: www.pwc.com/uk/schools
- Apprenticeships: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>
- Alternative pathway information: <http://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk/>
- MOOC courses: <https://www.mooc-list.com/>
- Courses: <https://www.coursera.org/>



unifrog

Introduction to Unifrog



Features of Unifrog?

- Unifrog is a one stop Post 18 destination platform
- It has thousands of resources, tips and information relating to different career pathways, universities and apprenticeships.
- It provides guidance on writing CVs and University personal statements
- It allows students to save and record their searches and shortlists.

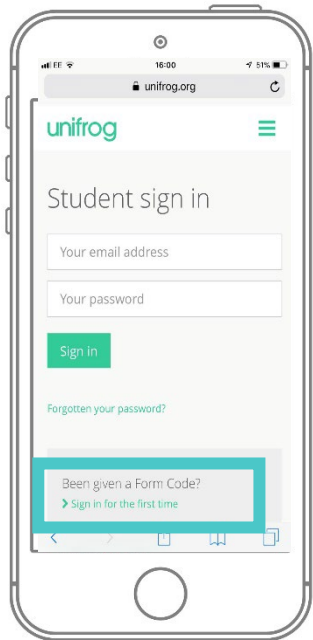


The Unifrog tools

There are multiple tools on Unifrog to learn what Post 18 options are available, access good quality information, and search for opportunities.

Exploring pathways	Recording what you've done	Searching for opportunities	Drafting application materials	Making applications
Careers library	Activities	UK universities	UK Personal Statement	Post 18 Intentions
Subjects library	Skills	US universities	Classes	Locker
Know-how library	Interactions	European universities	Subject References	Applications list
MOOC		Oxbridge	CV / Resumé	
Personality profile		Canadian universities	Writing tool	
Interests profile		Asian universities	Common App Essay	
Read, Watch, Listen		Australasian universities	US recommenders	
Webinars		ME and African universities	Notes for Reference writers	
		Irish universities		
		Special Opportunities		
		Events		

Parents & guardians get signed up to Unifrog!



Scan this QR Code or go onto www.unifrog.org/student and click 'Sign in for the first time'
You'll be asked for some details and a Sign up Code. This is what you need:

WAHSparents

After signing up, log into Unifrog using your email address and password via the student sign-in page!



Thank you for your time.