

Year 12 Higher Education Evening

Thursday 12th June 2025



RANGE HIGH SCHOOL

Y12 Careers Sessions

- The advantages and disadvantages of HE/ going straight into an apprenticeship or job at 18
- How to choose higher education courses- visiting speaker – Lancaster University
- Employability skills
- Degree apprenticeships – visiting speaker – FutureWorks
- Personal statement writing – visiting speaker – Edge Hill University

Y13 Careers Session

- Higher Education Fair - September
- UCAS registration

Additionally

- Work experience – next month
- Personal statement support
- Apprenticeship applications support
- Practice university interviews (Year 13)
- Individual tutorials
- Access to careers guidance

Why do students drop out?

- Wrong choice of course
- Inability to cope with course demands
- Dissatisfaction with course or university
- Poor quality of student experience
- Unhappiness with social environment
- Financial reasons
- Making an informed choice re: university and course is therefore very important!

How to apply for Higher Education courses

- Applications are made through **UCAS**
(Universities and Colleges Admissions Service)
- **UCAS Hub** and **UCAS Apply** (a web-based application system)

Course choices

- Choose up to **5** courses via UCAS
- Medicine, Dentistry & Veterinary Science applicants should only list **4** such courses
- **Invisibility** of choices but can add a different course as their fifth choice
- Choices listed in alphabetical order of institution code name (**not preference**)

Timeline for applying for university

- June/July: Finalise subject choice
- July/August/ September: Decide which universities you are applying for using the UCAS website, university websites, other resources in the Google Classroom and open day visits
- August / start of September: Draft your personal statement
- September – IT room session with your tutor to register and fill in the UCAS form (excluding the personal statement)
- **Monday 22nd September:** Submit your draft personal statement to your tutor
- September/October/Early November: Receive feedback from your tutor on your statement and re-drafts
- **Monday 10th November:** Paste in your personal statement and submit your UCAS form to school
- November/December: Your form is checked and returned to you for any amendments – **keep checking your email!**
- **Wednesday 17th December:** Forms are sent on to UCAS if students have met the internal deadline (10_11_25) and made any amendments within the agreed timescale. Otherwise a student's form will be sent after the Christmas holidays
- **Wednesday 14th January:** UCAS external deadline

Exceptions

- Applications to Oxford or Cambridge for all subjects
- Applications for Medicine, Dentistry or Veterinary Science at any university
- These have an external deadline of **15th October** and should therefore be completed by **15th September** to allow time for processing

The Personal Statement

- Used by applicants to convince admissions tutors to make them an offer.
- It should include:
- Reasons for choosing courses discussed – it should convey strong motivation and commitment
- Interest in present studies especially if related to the UCAS course choices

The Personal Statement

- Work experience and the knowledge / skills gained (particularly if relevant to chosen courses)
- Interests, activities and responsibilities within or outside school
- Career ideas and plan for the future
- If planning to take a year out, reasons why

The Reference

- Contextual information about the school
- Academic potential, predicted grades
- Extra-curricular activities and enrichment
- Extenuating circumstances
- Special achievements

Offers

- Each course / department makes its own decisions on whether and when to make an offer (not UCAS)
- **Unconditional** – applicant has met all entrance requirements
- **Conditional** – applicant is asked to achieve specific grades, possibly in named subjects, or a certain number of **UCAS Tariff points**
- Informed by letter/email and **UCAS Track**

Preparing for University Study

- Free online courses to help prepare for university
- HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

<https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/preparing-for-higher-education>

Support Offered - Parents

- A Guide for parents can be downloaded from the UCAS website, using the following link:

<https://www.ucas.com/parents>