

Monday 23rd March 2026

PHE Week Z

Priority updates Submissions for the spring edition of the **super-curricular magazine** are open now, **deadline Monday 30th March**. We are looking for academic essays and articles, art/photography, academic book reviews and non-academic book reviews. There will be a section on super-curricular recommendations - so we are especially looking for Year 13 students to give us some short reviews of things they have read/watched/listened to that they would recommend to Year 12. See example here [Maths review.pdf](#). Please email your submissions to DobsonA@durhamjohnston.org.uk

Y12 Interested in Engineering? See Teams message for Engineering visit to Durham University.

Year 13 Leavers' Ball – payments to be made on ParentPay. We cannot take your food choices or place you on the seating plan until you have paid.

Year 12 – UCAS Discovery Day – get your QR ticket, pay via ParentPay and you/parents complete the EV4 form (emailed to parents via Class Charts) and found here: [EV4 Parental Consent Form - UCAS Discovery Day – Fill in form](#)

Year 12 – University of Leeds open day – Friday 12th June – Places are limited, so you will need to submit the digital EV4 form here [EV4 Parental Consent Form - University of Leeds Open Day – Fill in form](#) and pay the £15 via ParentPay in order to secure your place, allocated on a first come first served basis. Payment live now on Teams and will close May 1st.

Monday	Chamber Choir lunch time Y12 MedSoc SC3 lunch time
Tuesday	Apprenticeship support (please sign up for a slot). Venue in JW's office on SF corridor. Priority Y13 but Y12 can also get support. Wind Band Jazz 3pm Debating 3-4pm Hi 3-4pm
Wednesday	Paired reading – form time in SFA Y12 Engineering trip meeting JW office Form time Full committee – lunch time in SS3 Senior choir 3pm
Thursday	Y12 Assembly James Hall – studying in Scotland. Any Y13 students who are interested in future applications to Scottish universities can also attend. Senior orchestra 3pm
Friday	School musical James Hall 3pm

Careers [Careers Advice](#) | [Apprenticeships and Jobs Advice](#) | [UCAS](#)

Lloyds Banking Group
Easter Break - Virtual Work Experience
Monday 30th March or Tuesday 7th April 10am - 2pm (Choose one session only)

Students interested in Banking, Business, and Finance

This Easter Break, we have two fantastic virtual work experience programs with Lloyds Banking Group for students interested in pursuing a career within the banking and finance industry. Students can select which day they would like to take part in the link below. This is a great way for your students to get meaningful work experience during the Easter Break, learn more about the industry, and gain more insight into one of the UK's biggest banks. M

Lloyds Banking Group is a world-renowned commercial, personal, and investment banking management firm and the UK's biggest Bank. LBG has over 30 million customers and around 60,000 employees globally and is a FTSE 100 company. Under the Lloyds Banking Group business, they also own Halifax and Bank of Scotland, as well as other financial institutions such as Scottish Widows.

What to expect: We'll show you an introduction to LBG, how to evolve your presentation skills, take part in business-related challenges, commercial awareness and building essential skills workshops. Learn about banking, finance, and digital technology, SWOT analysis and putting it into practice.

Monday, 30th March or Tuesday, 7th April - please choose one session only

Time: 10am - 2pm

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LBG_VWEX_MAR

Careers in Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology webinar

Join this presentation and Q&A with our graduates Deborah Grubbe and Adnan Iqbal, who will be sharing highlights of their individual career journeys, valuable advice on building a career you love, tales of 'growth and grit', and lessons learned.

They will give an overview of exciting careers in chemical engineering and biotechnology and tell you more and about the diversity of jobs available to graduates in a wide range of sustainability and healthcare-related sectors.

Date: 2nd April, 5pm

<https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fevents.teams.microsoft.com%2Fevent%2F-eeb7b90f-e364-4b6d-9712-829d1bf78de7%4049a50445-bdfa-4b79-ade3-547b4f3986e9&data=05%7C02%7Ck.simpson%40durhamjohnston.org.uk%7C5fd2dc161bae41fb109d08de84ff3eeb%7Cad1342c2c40546bb80a48eb8eb723258%7C0%7C0%7C639094428985884562%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiJlZjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMtMlslkFOlJoiTWFpbCIsIldUljoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=WeaGdVkwcepQzB2oCG4qo%2B9%2FoVnpHnF1sK0VifzKHRg%3D&reserved=0>

Sport and wellbeing

[Sports Bulletin 23rd March.docx](#) Volunteer and support with young years' clubs and competitions
Well done to SF students involved in recent sporting success: fantastic achievements!

Y13 Degree Apprenticeships Support available (one to one meetings) Tuesday morning from Careers Adviser –SIGNUP outside SF office.
If you are applying for a degree apprenticeship (or level 4 or 5) let SF Team know and they'll add you to the Apprenticeship Teams page.

Civil Engineer degree apprenticeship – 2 posts – Durham Council

https://www.northeastjobs.org.uk/job/Apprentice_Civil_Engineer/292642

Civil Engineering Degree Apprenticeship - Newcastle (1 post in Planning Development, 1 post in Water) WSP UK LIMITED

<https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/apprenticeship/VAC1000348299>

<https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/apprenticeship/VAC1000348300>

Quantity Surveyor degree apprenticeship

<https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/apprenticeship/VAC2000015660>

Digital and Technology Solutions Degree Apprenticeship (DevOps) - 2 posts NEPTUNE NORTH LIMITED

<https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/apprenticeship/VAC2000020467>

[Development Woodland Officer \(Degree Apprenticeship\) - Yorkshire and North East Area Team - Civil Service Jobs - GOV.UK](#)

Lidl Degree Apprenticeship – Retail Management. Vacancies in the North East.

<https://careers.lidl.co.uk/early-careers/degree-apprenticeship>

Oxbridge

[Conference timetable | University of Oxford](#)

Peterhouse Application Support Scheme (PASS) 2026

PASS is an online programme, designed to support students in making an application to competitive UK universities, including Cambridge and Oxford. The programme covers each part of the application process - from choosing a course to preparing for an interview - through a series of online webinars and workshops, email newsletters, and interactive challenges. Each academic year, PASS takes place in two phases: Phase I will take place this year between April - July 2026 of Year 12 and covers aspects of university applications including course choice, super-curricular exploration, revision strategies and personal statements. Phase II will take place this year between late August - November 2026 of Year 13 and covers aspects more specific to Oxford and Cambridge, such as admissions assessments and interview preparation.

Deadline: 25th March, 11:59pm

Open to: state school students in Year 12 (S5 – Scotland, Y13 – N.I)

MedSoc **SC3 Monday lunch: Supercurricular presentations**

Super-curricular <https://www.ox.ac.uk/2026-online-student-conference/conference-timetable>

She Talks Science STEP Summer School

Murray Edwards offers a 3-day residential summer camp specifically aimed at preparing year 12 women and non-binary people to sit the STEP exam - with truly fantastic results! Students who attend the summer school leave feeling much more confident in their mathematical ability; with a greater understanding of the STEP paper; and as part of a community of like-minded female mathematicians.

The summer school is completely free: the meals and accommodation are provided by the College.

Deadline: 24th April, 12pm

Date: 26th-28th August

Open to: female and non-binary students in Year 12 (S5 – Scotland, Y13 – N.I.)

[She Talks Science STEP Summer School | Murray Edwards College](#)

Peterhouse Kelvin Biological Sciences Essay Competition

The Peterhouse Kelvin Biological Sciences Essay Competition aims to give students the opportunity to explore scientific concepts and topics beyond the classroom, and to engage with scientific research.

Deadline: 11:59pm, 20th April

Kelvin Essay Competition Questions – 2026

1. What do we need to know in order to save a species from extinction? (pick an example of one species conservation effort to demonstrate what made it a success, or what lacking information led to failure)
2. Why does chirality matter to biological molecules, structures and organisms?
3. Why do some species live for just days and others for centuries?
4. Can biosignatures provide convincing evidence of life on exoplanets?
5. With machine learning, can we abolish experimental chemistry?
6. Is quantum computing currently useful?

Please note: 'Diagrams supporting the essay are welcome, with a preference for original drawings.' These can be attached to the same document as your essay when you submit it.

Open to: UK and Ireland students in Year 12 (S5 – Scotland, Y13 – N.I.)/equivalent

[Peterhouse Kelvin Biological Sciences Essay Competition | Peterhouse](#)

Armstrong Arts and Humanities Essay Competition

The essay questions cover the breadth of arts and humanities subjects offered at undergraduate level at the University of Cambridge.

Deadline: 11:59pm, 26th April

Open to: students in Year 12 (S5 – Scotland, Y13 – N.I.) attending state-schools

[Armstrong Arts and Humanities Essay Competition | Magdalene College](#)

Online subject sessions – University of Brighton – sign up if you are interested in studying the subjects below (not just at this university):

- What's it like to study podiatry and physiotherapy, and what practical skills will you learn? 19 March 2026
- Reimagining everyday products in the AI era: studying product design and design engineering 24 March 2026
- Exploring the notion of space law: who owns outer space? 26 March 2026
- Career routes within geography, ecology and environmental sciences. 21 April 2026
- Exploring free speech, toleration, and the neutral state within politics and philosophy. 27 April 2026
- A day in the life of a midwife. 5 May 2026
- Towards our faster future: an introduction to futurism, acceleration and disruption for marketing and business. 12 May 2026
- A day in the life of an architect. 20 May 2026

<https://www.brighton.ac.uk/studying-here/visit-us/school-college-events/online-subject-taster.aspx>

LSE Explore: Year 12

LSE Explore is a series of online and in-person subject taster events for Year 12 students which offer an insight into selected undergraduate degree subjects at LSE.

Applications for LSE Explore 2026 are open and will close on Sunday 29 March at 11:59pm.

This year's series will include six online academic subject taster events, online admissions sessions, and three in-person Explore Extra events.

The six departments participating in LSE Explore 2026 are:

- Anthropology
- Economic History
- International History
- International Relations
- Management
- Philosophy, Logic and Scientific Method

<https://www.lse.ac.uk/study-at-lse/Undergraduate/widening-participation/Sixth-form-college/lse-explore-year-12>

Online subject sessions – University of Cambridge – lots more than those listed below. Even if you are not interested in Cambridge, sign up to the subject taster.

<https://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/events-listing>

Immerse Blog Entry – deadline 30th April Win a Funded 1:1 Online Research Opportunity

Students aged 13–18 are invited to submit a 300-word piece of writing in an area of their choice.

We are seeking blogs that demonstrate intellectual independence, conceptual depth, and serious engagement beyond the school curriculum, the qualities expected of students preparing for highly competitive university courses.

Selected entries will be published, and overall winners will receive **fully funded places on the one-to-one Immerse Online Research Programme**. Students work individually with an academic mentor, including researchers with backgrounds at Oxford, Cambridge, and leading Ivy League institutions, to design and complete an original research project culminating in a substantial academic paper.

To participate, details and submission guidelines are available [Blog competition - Immerse Education](#)

Leeds University: Social Sciences Summer School 2026 – 23rd-25th June

The University of Leeds is inviting Year 12 learners to apply for its three-day, two-night Social Sciences Summer School, running 23–25 June 2026. This free residential programme is an excellent opportunity for students interested in subjects such as Environment, Geography, Sociology, Education, Politics and International Studies, and Business to deepen their understanding of the social sciences.

Apply by 5th April

<https://app.onlinesurveys.jisc.ac.uk/s/leeds/social-sciences-summer-school-2026-individual-booking-for>

Sheffield University subject tasters – a whole range of subjects. All Year 12 students thinking about studying these subjects at uni (not just at Sheffield) should sign up and access them.

<https://sheffield.ac.uk/undergraduate/visit/subject-tasters/book>

Department	Title	Date	Time
English Literature	The many loves of Jane Eyre	Wednesday 11th March	17:00-18:30
Philosophy	Manosphere and misogyny - an illustration of engaged philosophy	Wednesday 11th March	17:00-18:30
English Literature	Adaptation: Interrogating Austen's novels onscreen and onstage	Tuesday 17th March	17:00-18:30
History	Britain in the 60s: A Decade of Change	Wednesday 18th March	17:00-18:30
Languages, Arts and Societies: German	Freud on Mind and Society	Tuesday 24th March	17:00-18:30
Music	Mozart's Requiem: Facts, Fiction and Legends	Thursday 23th April	17:00-18:30
Philosophy	Are We Morally Obligated to be Poor?	Wednesday 29th April	17:00-18:30
Languages, Arts and Societies: East Asian Studies	The Rise of Game Survival Narratives in East Asian Cinema & Television	Wednesday 29th April	17:00-18:30
History	King of the United States? Monarchy and the American Republic	Wednesday 6th May	17:00-18:30

Department	Title	Date	Time
Chemical Engineering	Optimizing your future with Chemical Engineering	Tuesday 24th March	17:00-18:30
Computer Science	Machine Learning and Data Science	Tuesday 21st April	17:00-18:00
Materials Science & Engineering	From Engines to Atoms	Tuesday 28th April	17:00-18:30
Biomedical Engineering	What is Biomedical Engineering?	Tuesday 5th May	17:00-18:00
Civil & Structural Engineering	Strengthening against Earthquakes	Wednesday 6th May	17:00-18:15
Electrical & Electronic, Mechatronic &	From discrete components to intelligent systems	Wednesday 13th May	17:00-18:30

Robotic and Computer
Systems Engineering

General Engineering General Engineering: Where All Thursday 21st 17:00-
Disciplines Meet May 18:00

Department	Title	Date	Time
Orthoptics	Orthoptics: Why Do We See Double?	Wednesday 11th March	17:00-18:15
Nursing	The Kidneys - Why they're so great	Tuesday 17th March	17:00-18:15
Pharmacy	More than counting tablets	Wednesday 18th March	17:00-18:15
Speech and Language Therapy	Clinical Voice Disorders	Wednesday 22nd April	17:00-18:15

Department	Title	Date	Time
Maths	The Mathematics of Monopoly	Wednesday 11th March	17:00- 18:30
Chemistry	Designing two-dimensional nanomaterials	Thursday 12th March	17:00- 18:30
Psychology	Psychology In Action	Thursday 19th March	17:00- 18:30
On campus: Physics	Physics taster day: Find a particle at the LHC	Wednesday 1st April	09:00- 16:15
Physics	Quantum Computers	Wednesday 6th May	17:00- 18:30
Bioscience	Cystic fibrosis and small molecule treatments	Tuesday 12th May	17:00- 18:00

Department	Title	Date	Time
Journalism	What Would You Do? Ethical Dilemmas in Journalism	Wednesday 15th April	17:00- 18:15
Landscape Architecture/Urban Studies and Planning/Geography	Creating a Sustainable City	Tuesday 21st April	17:00- 18:15

Economics	Environmental Economics: What is the right amount of pollution?	Wednesday 22nd April	17:00-18:15
Sociological Studies/Management/Data Science	How can we better understand and impact people's health and wellbeing?	Thursday 23rd April	17:00-18:15
Politics	What is capitalism?	Thursday 30th April	17:00-18:30
Architecture	Communicating Architecture and Design	Wednesday 6th May	17:00-18:15

Newcastle Uni - Bitesize Uni Residential Summer School

Applications are now open for our Year 12 Summer School! On the event, students can: explore a subject area via academic led sessions
join in with fun social activities
experience staying residentially on the University's Campus
speak to current staff and students.

Please share the opportunity with your students. Applications close on Friday, 27 March 2026. Please note that we reserve the right to close applications early in the event of an exceptionally high volume of sign ups.

[Bitesize Uni Summer School](#) | [School and College Outreach](#) | [Newcastle University](#)

Leeds Uni - Are you studying A-level French, Spanish or German?

Experience what it's like to study languages at university on our free residential for Year 12 languages students! Join us for the Linguastars residential on 23-25 June 2026.

[Linguastars Languages Residential](#) | [Access and Outreach at Leeds](#)

Northumbria University Lecture series – Lit and Phil Newcastle – free evening lectures

[NU Ideas | Season 4 Talk 3 | Permafrost & Zero Emission - The Lit & Phil](#)

[NU Ideas | Season 4 Talk 4 | Wireless Web of Invisible Currents & Hidden in Plain Sight - The Lit & Phil](#)

[NU Ideas | Season 4 Talk 6 | Staying safe in a fake world & Pain, Immunity, and the Preservation of Autonomy in Robots - The Lit & Phil](#)

[NU Ideas | Season 4 Talk 7 | The James Webb Space Telescope & Bringing Microwave Light Out of the Cold - The Lit & Phil](#)

[Suggested Subject Resources | University of Oxford](#)

[super-curricular suggestions.pdf](#)

[HE+](#)

[Oxpire | The Home of Big Questions](#)

<https://www.st-annes.ox.ac.uk/study-here/undergraduate/outreach/students/super-curriculars-and-resources/>

[Super-Curricular Challenge - Hertford College | University of Oxford](#)

[Staircase12 - University College Oxford \(Univ\) \(Univ\) - Staircase12](#)

[Guide-to-Super-curriculars.pdf](#)