



Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2026

PHE – cancelled until after mocks

### Priority updates

**University of Leeds open day trip** – please make sure you have signed up to sessions with the university directly. Letters with further information about the day will be circulated this week. <https://app.geckoform.com/public/#/modern/21FO00imtccoze00khhaj8xmzx>

**Intended destinations form** – all Year 12 students must complete this so we can write tailored references. Deadline 2<sup>nd</sup> June. [Y12 2026: What are my next steps? – Fill in form](#)

**PHE** – there will be no PHE lessons until after mocks due to exams and intervention. However, there are lots of open days, taster sessions and super curricular opportunities now open – see below. [Especially look at the Channel Talent Progression Day \(info in the super-c section\).](#)

**Students sitting AS exams** – if you are planning on dropping the subject after you have sat the AS exams, you must let Miss Simpson know if you have not done so already.

**Head student applications** should be sent to Miss Simpson [k.simpson@durhamjohnston.org.uk](mailto:k.simpson@durhamjohnston.org.uk) by 2<sup>nd</sup> June, 5pm. Thank you to those who have already applied. [Head student application form 2026.docx](#)

**WEXP** – this must be all on Unifrog and approved by Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July (unless you are on WEXP earlier than this, in which case you need to have it all approved a week before you go). **Please see Miss Simpson if you have questions about WEXP or cannot find a placement.**

**Public lecture** – Our next public lecture will be delivered by Mr Bray on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June in James Hall. He will be speaking about the meaning behind our school motto, Sapere Aude (Dare to be Wise). It will be a fascinating discussion of Kant's ethical philosophy and what it means to think independently and live wisely.

**W/B 15<sup>th</sup> June:** Study leave for mock examinations all week.

**26<sup>th</sup> June** - Year 12 off timetable all day for Open Day visits; Y11 Induction Day held at DJ that day.

**UCAS PIP James Hall 7<sup>th</sup> July 5.30-6.30pm (Sixth Form Team, Durham and Newcastle University).**

**Oxbridge PIP James Hall 7<sup>th</sup> July 6.30-7pm (Richard Petty, Oxford University).**

<b>Monday</b>	Chamber Choir lunch time MedSoc SC3 lunch time <b>Oxbridge residential signup deadline today – see OXB Team for signup and details</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	Wind Band Jazz 3pm Debating 3-4pm Hi 3-4pm <b>Public lecture – delivered by Mr Bray in James Hall 3pm</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	Senior choir 3pm
<b>Thursday</b>	Senior orchestra 3pm
<b>Friday</b>	Lunchtime football supervised by Mr Howells (go out to the green gate via the main yard)



## Sport and Wellbeing

### Careers

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

[The Sixth Formers' Guide to Degree Apprenticeships](#)

### Oxbridge

#### Signup for Oxbridge residential visit on Students' Oxbridge Team

##### **Robinson College Arts and Humanities Summer Residential**

The Robinson Arts and Humanities Residential includes subject taster sessions, admissions information, and exploration of the College and the wider University. The event is free-of-charge, with accommodation and meals provided by the College. Travel expenses may be covered if students meet our Travel Costs policy.

The residential is designed for students who may be interested in exploring options across Arts and Humanities subjects, or connections between these subjects and disciplines. This structure allows students to consider and compare multiple subjects - including those they may not have previously encountered - and gain an insight into the connections and skills that underpin degree courses within each discipline.

Deadline: 11:59pm, 7th June

Date: 1st-3rd July

Open to: students in Year 11 (S4 – Scotland, Y12 – N.I) and Year 12 (S5 – Scotland, Y13 – N.I)

Location: Robinson College, Cambridge

Find out more and apply here <https://www.robinson.cam.ac.uk/prospective-students/outreach-access-and-widening-participation/outreach-events/arts-and-humanities>

##### **Robinson College STEP Prep Day**



The STEP Prep Day is a one-day event for students who are in Year 12 and are interested in studying Mathematics at the University of Cambridge.

STEP (Sixth Term Examination Paper) is an assessment done at the end of Year 13, which forms part of the conditional offer for Mathematics across all colleges of the University. For more information, please see here: <https://www.ocr.org.uk/students/step-mathematics/>

The aim of the STEP Prep Day is to introduce students to the [STEP exam](#), the style of questions used in the STEP papers, and the thought required to tackle them. The event will include an admissions talk and Q&A, a tour of the College, and sessions designed to familiarise students with STEP questions, led by current students and teaching staff from the University of Cambridge.

**Deadline:** 11:59pm, 14<sup>th</sup> June

**Date:** 11<sup>th</sup> July

**Open to:** students applying to Cambridge in 2026

**Location:** Robinson College, Cambridge

[Find out more and apply here](#)

[Applications now open for Trinity College Summer Residentials](#)

[Oxford for North East parent/carer workshop 2025-26 registration | Jisc Online Surveys](#) Parents need to sign up ASAP!

[2026 Oxford and Cambridge Admissions Tests Workshops](#) Students need to sign up ASAP!

24<sup>th</sup> June 3-4pm Oxbridge application support in school. Venue TBC.

MedSoc

**NHS Allied Healthcare Virtual Work Experience session taking place on Sunday 7th June.**

**Registration Link:** <https://alliedhealthmentor.org/product/live-virtual-work-experience-programme>

**Students will be guided through various allied health careers by exploring the journeys of two patients from initial presentation to full recovery. Students will gain invaluable perspectives on patient care dynamics and the collaborative efforts within the NHS, including exploring careers within:**



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

There is a cost for this - £10 per session, or £50 for all sessions.

### **St. Catharine's College Medicine Taster Day**

This event is aimed at students who are considering studying medicine, veterinary medicine, or biomedical sciences at university. The day will involve sessions with academics, talks on admissions, and the chance to talk to current students and staff at the university. Lunch is provided for all students, and a full travel bursary is available for any students who are currently in receipt of Free School Meals, or who have been eligible for Free School Meals at any point over the past 6 years.

**Deadline:** 15<sup>th</sup> June

**Date:** 30<sup>th</sup> June

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

**Location:** St. Catharine's College, Cambridge

[Find out more and apply here](#)

**Reaching Research 2026**



The Cambridge Institute of Medical Research (CIMR) is running an online event called Reaching Research aimed at students interested in studying medicine, biomedical sciences, biochemistry, biology, and similar subjects at university.

Reaching Research will consist of:

- Several talks from biomedical scientists at different stages of their careers.
- A lab experiment carried out in CIMR.
- Information about university admissions.

Speakers include PhD students, postdoctoral researchers, and group leaders. Scientists will discuss their career background, current research topic and advice to students considering careers in science.

**Deadline:** 27<sup>th</sup> July

**Date:** 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> August

**Open to:** UK students in Year 12 (S5 – Scotland, Y13 – N.I) and Year 13 (S6 – Scotland, Y14 – N.I) attending state schools

[Find out more and apply here](#)

### **Emmanuel College Medic Mentoring Scheme**

The Medic Mentoring Scheme, spearheaded by Emmanuel's Medical and Veterinary Society, pairs aspiring medical students with current clinical medics at Emmanuel. Through regular support via our mentoring platform as well as webinars on topics such as interviews, sitting the UCAT, and personal statements, participants are supported in making competitive applications to UK medical schools.

Taking place between July and December 2026, the Medic Mentoring Scheme is open to Yr 12s attending state-maintained schools in the UK who are applying for medical courses at UK universities including Oxford and Cambridge.

**Deadline:** 5pm, 17<sup>th</sup> June

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

[Find out more and apply here](#)



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### **MediCafe Webinars**

Really useful webinars from Hull York MediCafe regarding medicine applications and interviews. Sign up below:

#### **Choosing a Medical School**

Tuesday 2 June 2026

17.00 - 17.45

#### **Preparing for a Medicine Interview**

Tuesday 7 July 2026

17.00 - 17.45

#### **Being a Medical Student**

Tuesday 14 July 2026

17.00 - 17.45

<https://preview-hullyorkmedicalschoo-uni-hull.cloud.contensis.com/medicine/open-days-and-events/medicafe.aspx>

### **Leicester University Online Talks**

#### **Virtual UCAT talk**

22 June 2026, 6.00pm-7.30pm

<https://le.ac.uk/medicine/outreach>

[UCAT Question Bank - Improve Your Performance - The Medic Portal](#)



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Super-curricular

# Channel Talent Online Progression Day

## 16th June 2026

### Showcasing Exciting Degrees from Diverse UK Universities

We invite you to join us for our online Progression Day for students applying for university entry from 2027. The Day brings together 24 subject talks from 6 leading and diverse UK universities (Edinburgh, Warwick, Surrey, Southampton, Aberystwyth, UAE)

Each 35 minute talk covers a subject or group of closely related subjects offered at university and will be live, online and interactive. You can book onto one or multiple sessions.

<https://www.channeltalent.co.uk/progression-day-2026/>

**Session 1 9:10-9:45, choose from:**

**Studying Law**  
**Studying Computer Science**  
**Studying Modern Languages**  
**Studying for Allied Healthcare Professions**

**Session 2 10:10-10:45, choose from:**

**Studying English Literature**  
**Studying Biosciences**  
**Studying Economics**  
**Studying Archaeology**

**Session 3 11:10-11:45, choose from:**

**Studying History**  
**Studying Engineering**  
**Studying Criminology**  
**Studying Media**

**Session 4 12:10-12:45, choose from:**

**Studying Business/Management**  
**Studying Politics/International Relations**



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## **Studying Chemistry Studying Classics**

**Session 5 1:10-1:45, choose from:**

**Studying Psychology  
Studying Geography  
Routes to Medicine  
Studying Physics**

**Session 6 2:10-2:45, choose from:**

**Studying Sociology  
Studying Mathematics/Statistics  
Routes to Zoology  
Studying Applied Linguistics**

## **Online lecture from the School of Divinity at The University of Edinburgh**

Religious Studies/Politics: Trump, God & The Idea of America as a Christian Nation: Understanding White Christian Nationalism in the USA Today with Professor Gordon Lynch

Details <https://www.trybooking.com/uk/events/landing/112937>

Date:

June 9

Time:

12:45 - 13:30

## **Entrepreneurship Essay Competition**

The 2026 Entrepreneurship Essay Competition, run by the [King's Entrepreneurship Lab](#) (E Lab) is now open. Students are invited to submit a 1,000-word essay in response to one of four questions:

- How do personal experiences and social context shape entrepreneurial thinking?
- Can failure can be a strength in entrepreneurship?



- What responsibilities do entrepreneurs have beyond profit?
- How do constraints shape entrepreneurial creativity?

The competition welcomes students studying any subjects and encourages the use of local, community based, or personal examples.

**Deadline:** 9pm, 5<sup>th</sup> August

**Open to:** UK students in Year 11 (S4 – Scotland, Y12 – N.I) to Year 13 (S6 – Scotland, Y14 – N.I)

[Find out more and enter here](#)

### **Young Historian Awards 2026**

The purpose of these Prizes is to encourage you to think, research and frame your own questions that you will answer from further reading and research. This might be the result of a piece of work your teacher has set you to do at home, or it may be a piece of research you are carrying out for your own interest. It is also an opportunity to perhaps tell some of the untold stories around the themes.

**Deadline:** 17<sup>th</sup> July

**Open to:** students aged from 11-19

[Find out more here](#)

### **Royal Geographical Society's School Essay Competition with the Financial Times**

Students are asked to write an essay answering the following question:  
*What factors drive migration, how are patterns shifting and what are the consequences?*

**Deadline:** 5pm, 9<sup>th</sup> November

**Open to:** Geography students in Year 12 (S5 – Scotland, Y13 – N.I) and Year 13 (S6 – Scotland, Y14 – N.I)

[Find out more and enter here](#)



**Sunderland University – On Campus Subject Events. Students can sign up individually to these. If you sign up to attend one, make sure you put in a blue absence form.**

**Business Boardroom Battle**

**When:** Thursday 4 June 2026 – 9:30am – 2:30pm

**Where:** St Peter's Campus

**Web page:** [Business Boardroom Battle | The University of Sunderland](#)

**Booking Link:** [University of Sunderland On-campus Subject Events](#)

**Understanding Stalking**

**When:** Wednesday 10 June 2026 – 9:30am – 2:30pm

**Where:** St Peter's Campus

**Web page:** [Understanding Stalking | The University of Sunderland](#)

**Booking Link:** [University of Sunderland On-campus Subject Events](#)

**Engineering your Future**

**When:** Wednesday 17 June 2026 – 9:45am – 2:30pm

**Where:** St Peter's Campus

**Booking Link:** [University of Sunderland On-campus Subject Events](#)

**ByteBuilders: Your Future in Computer Science**

**When:** Wednesday 17 June 2026 – 9:45am – 2:30pm

**Where:** St Peter's Campus

**Booking Link:** [University of Sunderland On-campus Subject Events](#)

**MediaHub Experience Day**

**When:** Thursday 18 June 2026 - 10am – 3pm

**Where:** St Peter's Campus

**Web page:** [MediaHUB experience days | The University of Sunderland](#)

**Booking Link:** [University of Sunderland On-campus Subject Events](#)

Please share this with your students to book as this is for individual bookings only

**Exploring Education**



**When:** Tuesday 23 June 2026 – 10am – 2pm

**Where:** St Peter's Campus

**Web page:** [Exploring Education | The University of Sunderland](#)

**Booking Link:** [University of Sunderland On-campus Subject Events](#)

### **Queen Mary London Subject Taster Sessions**

#### **English Taster – Introducing Literary Theory**

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2026

#### **Film Taster – Decoding Cinema and Cultural Iconography**

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2026

#### **Comparative Literature Taster – Fairy Tale Fashion**

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2026

#### **Modern Languages Taster – Learning/Writing/Drawing French Poetry**

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2026

#### **Modern Languages Taster – Discover Russian**

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2026

Register here: [Taster sessions - School of the Arts](#)

**Cambridge University Subject Masterclasses** (not just for those interested in Cambridge - anyone interested in the following should book onto them) - zoology, history, cardiovascular physiology, chemical engineering and biotechnology, psychological and behavioural sciences, genetics and biochemistry, geography and music.

**<https://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/events/masterclasses>**

**Computer Science Scholars Year 13 Programme** is designed to support **female and non-binary students** in making strong, competitive applications to Computer Science degrees. The programme combines university application guidance with academic mentoring to help students feel confident and well prepared for undergraduate study in Computer Science.

**Programme overview (October 2026 – April 2027, all online):**



- **University application support:**  
Two small-group sessions led by a PhD tutor, focused on the Computer Science application process. Students will receive tailored advice on choosing courses, writing personal statements, and navigating university applications.
- **Academic mentoring:**  
Eight small-group sessions with a PhD tutor, focused on developing the Maths knowledge and skills needed for Computer Science at university.
- Sessions will run **1–2 times per month**, usually **after school**.

### Eligibility criteria

Students must:

- Be in **Year 13** in the 2026-27 academic year
- Attend a **non-selective state school**
- Identify as **female or non-binary**
- Be studying **A Level Maths**
- Be interested in studying **Computer Science at university**

### How to sign up?

Students can apply for a place on the programme by completing the application form here by **26th June 2026**:

<https://forms.office.com/e/d5kKRPD2H6>

### The University of Law (sign up in advance)

#### Virtual Mock Trial: A Fatal Punch - Killer Intentions?

4th June - Virtual - 5pm - 7pm

Guilty or not guilty? You decide...

Have you ever wanted to see how a murder trial plays out?

Well, as part of The University of Law's live virtual experience, audience members will witness a live mock trial from start to finish and be part of the voting jury – without having to leave home!

<http://www.law.ac.uk/events/event-booking/?id=af042433-1b34-f111-88b4-000d3ad67a6e>

#### Virtual Criminal Investigation Day: The Anna Delvey Case

30th June 4pm - 5:30pm

Step inside the world of Anna Delvey, the notorious socialite who fooled New York's elite with a carefully crafted false identity.  
Delivered Online



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<https://www.law.ac.uk/events/event-booking/?id=6b8e4c65-b03c-f111-88b4-70a8a5760196>

### **Psychology of Crime: Forensic Psychology**

15th July 16:30 - 18:00

If you cannot attend, please do still register so that you can receive the recording. Wednesday, July 15, 2026

Delivered Online

<https://www.law.ac.uk/events/event-booking/?id=10ade9e8-e73f-f111-88b4-70a8a54e3531>

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

[super-curricular suggestions.pdf](#)

[HE+](#)

[Explore | 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](#)