



28 April 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Please find with this letter, a power point presentation designed by UCAS to help you support your child in their planning and preparation for their next steps beyond Year 13. The presentation explains what UCAS is and how you can access a wealth of information, advice and support on its website. It also gives some useful information on:

- How to explore apprenticeships on offer
- How to research university courses
- The application process including some important dates
- What happens after an application is sent
- What your child should be doing now and how you can support them

UCAS have responded to the current lockdown by providing a huge amount of accessible support and advice on its website, such as the opportunity to book and take part in virtual open days and a forum where your child can chat with undergraduates currently studying courses that your child is interested in.

Throughout this year, all Year 12 students have been given the opportunity to explore post 18 options in their work on the Progression Module, in Employability lessons. This gives them a great head start in developing important skills and knowledge to help them to research and make informed decisions about their future, as well as to develop high quality applications. Employability lessons are continuing on Teams, so all students should be able to complete this qualification whilst they are on lock down. They have also been encouraged to use the excellent set of resources available on Unifrog, please ask your child to show you this resource and to also research the "special opportunities " tab which gives details on scholarships and activities that are on offer.

Those students who have expressed interest in applying for a place on highly competitive courses, such as medicine and veterinary science, will receive more specific guidance on Microsoft Teams over the coming weeks. As some of these courses require students to take entrance exams and the UCAS deadline for applications to such courses is earlier (15 October 2020) it is important that students are well prepared and ahead of the game.

Please note that although the UCAS deadline for most applications is 15 January, our in-school deadline for completed applications, other than medicine, dentistry and Oxbridge, is October half term 2020. This is necessary to allow time for their applications to be checked, references added and predicted grades recorded before sending to UCAS.

I hope you will find the presentation informative.

Yours sincerely

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