

Oldfield School Sixth Form Pathway Information For Parents/Carers

My Top Tips

- Don't panic- there's plenty of time for your son/daughter to make an informed decision.
- Don't assume you are an expert, regardless of your background.
- Encourage your son/daughter to research, explore and discuss their thoughts

Future Pathways & Earnings

- Leave education without 5 A*-C grades: **£6.93** per hour.
- Leave education with 5 A*-C grades: **£8.62** per hour
- Leave education after A levels: **£10.00** per hour
- Go on to Higher Education: **£12.60** per hour
- Achieve a degree: **£16.10** per hour



UNIVERSITY	APPRENTICESHIPS	Conservatoire
<p>Straightforward application process that ensures you know your next step</p> <p>An academic route</p> <p>One entry level: Undergraduate although some subjects offer a Foundation Year</p> <p>Courses for every conceivable subject with a range of required grades</p>	<p>May have to apply late in Year 13- they often want you to start as soon as possible</p> <p>Vocationally focused though will provide training</p> <p>Higher and Degree apprenticeships</p> <p>Often highly competitive- looking for the right person for their business. Niche areas</p>	<p>Aimed at those students with a niche interest in creative subjects, ranging from Dance to Film Editing</p> <p>Practical and performance based</p> <p>Diploma based</p> <p>Often highly competitive- will want more than academic qualifications</p>

University



Oldfield Sixth Form Schedule

- Term 6: Tutor time guidance on writing personal statement
- Term 6: Students register on **UCAS Apply 2022** and **UCAS Hub**
- Term 6: Students research options and future plans
- Year 13 September Term 1: Subject staff provide reference information and UCAS predicted grades via APO
- Year 13 Term 1: **15th October 2021** deadline for Oxbridge, Medicine, Veterinary and Dentistry.
- End of Term 2, all applications have been sent!
- Final deadline for submission for other courses: **January 15th 2022**

A Quick Word About UCAS Predicted Grades...

- These are not the same as predicted grades on reports home
- We ask staff to be realistic but optimistic when submitting grades
- Year 12 mock exam results inform staff what grade is appropriate but staff will look over the widest range of evidence

Do Your Research!

- The first thing students will want to do is research courses and universities
- UCAS provide a very useful search tool that can be accessed here: <https://digital.ucas.com/search>
- There are also a number of other websites that provide excellent information on university courses but my two favourites are:
- TheUniGuide: <https://www.theuniguide.co.uk/> and WhatUni: <https://www.whatuni.com/>
- Both these websites allow you to search by course, location and a range of other factors as well as providing detailed information about courses and universities.



Uni Open Days

- One of the most useful ways to research choices is to attend university open days.
- At the moment these are mostly virtual.
- You can find details of this via UCAS here:
- <https://www.ucas.com/ucas/events/find/scheme/virtual-and-digital?keywords=>
- TheUniGuide also allows students to search for virtual events here:
- <https://www.whatuni.com/open-days/>
- We would hope that in September these will become live events.
- Absence for any University experience are always authorised and do not impact on attendance.

UCAS Hub, UCAS Applications & The Buzz Word

- As part of registering your son's/daughter's application, they will be asked for a buzzword. This year the buzzword is:

MrNash2022

It is essential that they use this buzzword so that we will be able to see their application, provide a reference and input predicted grades.

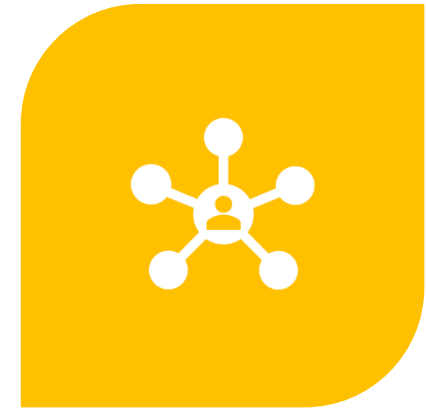
CHOOSING UNIVERSITIES



LOCATION



COURSE CONTENT



OTHER ASPECTS OF THE COURSE-
FOR EXAMPLE, LINKS WITH
INDUSTRY AND WORK PLACEMENT

Making Realistic Choices

- When deciding on University courses it's good to have an idea of what you could achieve- students should use **predicted grades** for these.
- Example:
- Bob has predicted grades of BBB for his three subjects at A level.
- Bob should think an aspirational target to set himself is AAB
- Bob should also have a worse case scenario- let's say BCC
- Choosing courses that require A*A*A is probably a poor decision- those are too high!
- Choosing courses that require CDD is also a poor decision: Bob can do better than this!

INFORMED
UNIVERSITY
CHOICES- The
Perfect 5

Aspirational Choice: the top end of what you might achieve. For Bob this was AAB

Including another aspirational choice is a good idea

A back-up choice in case things don't go so well. For Bob this was BCC

Two other courses where the entrance requirements are somewhere between the top and the bottom. For Bob these are grades ABB-BBC

Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships and Apprenticeship Research

- <https://amazingapprenticeships.com/>
- <https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>
- <https://www.getmyfirstjob.co.uk/discover/search.aspx?page2636=1&size2636=24>

Apprenticeship Levels



Advanced (Level 3): Level 3 is the equivalent of A levels. Students will want to aim higher. Academic requirements: usually 5 good passes at GCSE.



Higher (level 4, 5, 6 or 7): designed to offer degree-equivalent qualifications and experience while doing the job. Take between 12 and 60 months to complete, with a significant proportion of that time spent with a training provider, college or university, to develop knowledge and skills. Academic requirements: 5 good passes at GCSE and three Level 3 qualifications.



Degree apprenticeships: similar to a higher apprenticeship, but apprentices will also work toward a bachelor's degree at level 6 or a master's degree at level 7. Degree apprenticeships are entirely funded by the employer. As an apprentice, you'll also be paid a salary while you study, and be entitled to holiday. Relatively new and rare

What industry areas offer apprenticeships

Areas on offer represent the demands of employers.

Common areas are:

Business & Administration

Digital and IT

Financial Services

Engineering & Construction

Early years education

What can you do to prepare?



Look for opportunities, inside and outside of school, to demonstrate your skills



Volunteer, Virtual work experience, real work experience, clubs and activities, hobbies and personal projects



If doing an EPQ, tailor this to your sector



Design and keep a CV updated



Have a draft covering letter- sort of like a personal statement.

When to Apply

Apprenticeships are advertised when a company requires them

Students will be looking for an apprenticeship to start once they've completed their A levels.

From February of Year 13 would be my advice.

Conservatoires



- Focus on the performing arts- music, drama, production, script writing.
- Highly rated but competitive.
- Strong links to industry
- You can apply to most institutions via UCAS
- You can apply to Universities and Conservatoires in separate applications, you don't need to choose between them.