

Year 12 Parents' Futures Information Evening

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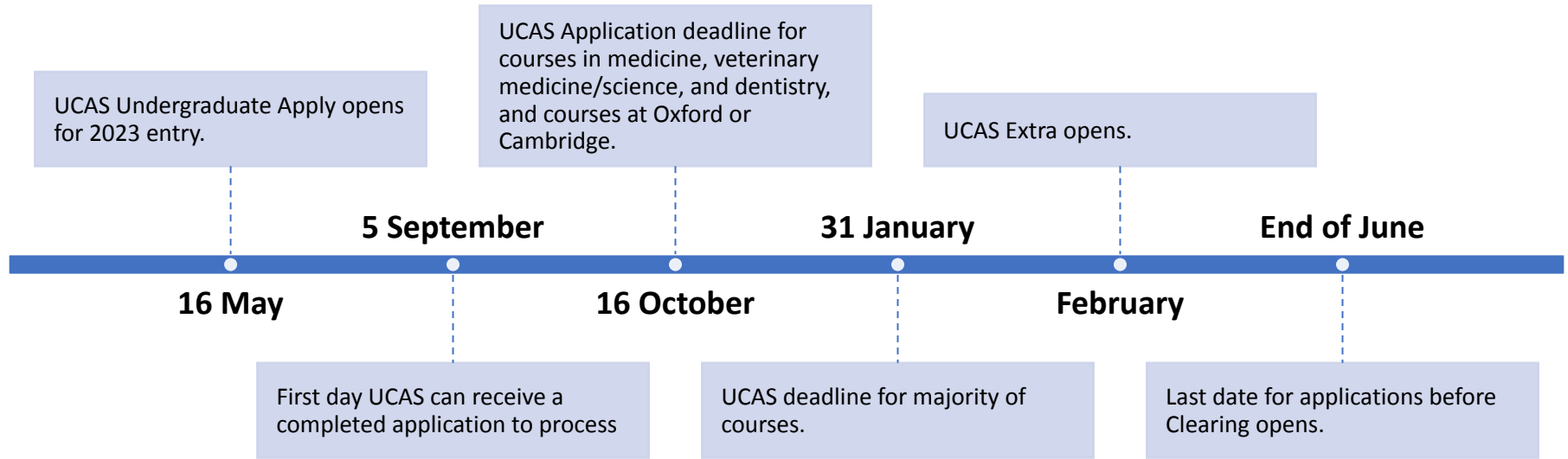
Sandringham School

'Everybody can be Somebody'

Aims:

- To help you understand the application process & key dates for UCAS and apprenticeships
- To understand the preparation we have completed so far this year
- To understand the next steps

When to apply for 2024 entry



- **Extra**: for students who get no offers. This avoids waiting for clearing. Students can apply for any course with vacancies. Extra is open from early February and closes at the beginning of July.
- **Clearing**: courses with vacancies are advertised on www.UCAS.com for students who don't achieve the grades they hoped to in the summer. (Students contact institutes directly).

Oxbridge



- Deadline for applications is 16th October, **internal deadline 29th September.**
- *Applicant tests will now be used for both universities.*
- Offers are likely to be A*AA or A*A*A
- Students have had a lot of guidance already, and should have undertaken research and extra reading throughout the year
- St. Albans School Oxbridge workshop - 27th June
<https://forms.gle/5nYJXGWdXZzNvVLn8>
- Oxbridge 2023 - 24 Google Classroom Code: iyav4ot
<https://classroom.google.com/c/NTcyNDE5MTE3NTM4?cjc=iyav4ot>

Applying - Key Facts

1. **Register with UCAS** via the Hub
2. Use a username and password to apply **online**
3. Make up to **5 choices**, unless applying to Oxbridge and/or applying for medicine, veterinary medicine/science, dentistry – then it's **4 choices**
4. Students **can't apply to BOTH** Oxford and Cambridge
5. If they are applying for the early deadline, they must submit all choices by that deadline
6. Applying **costs** £27.50 for up to 5 choices
7. Universities **can't see** other choices when you apply
8. Students choose a first choice and an insurance choice

Sandringham Deadlines

Friday 29th September: Oxbridge/ Medicine/ Veterinary Science

Friday 20th October: All other subjects

Choosing the right university for you

Style – from the traditional, with a focus on subject-based courses and research, to modern universities, with a greater focus on vocational courses.

Location – some are based in large cities, others in smaller towns - a major influence on the environment and lifestyle.

Size – larger universities can have more than 20,000 students, whereas some of the smallest have only a few thousand.

Culture and facilities – influenced by a range of factors, including the diversity of students who attend.

What graduates do – all universities collect destination statistics. It can be interesting to find out the types of jobs or further study students go on to.

Tuition fees – can vary between universities and colleges. Check if there are any scholarships or bursaries available.

Living costs – accommodation, transport, and food can vary enormously.

Choosing the right course for you

- What does the course cover?
- Courses with the same title may be very different.
- Look carefully at the core course content, and the range of optional studies/modules available.
- Which modules are the most interesting and relevant to your career aspirations?
- See if the course or university/college offers any internship, placement, or study abroad opportunities.
- How is the course taught – structured teaching, or more independent research? How many lectures are there, and how much group work will be done in seminars?
- How is the course assessed?

Predicted grades

- Universities make offers based on the grades the school predicts.
- We will issue predicted grades in September.
- We will use a range of data, including Threshold Exam grades.
- Predicted grades will be aspirational but achievable and data-driven.

Universities may make offers in two ways

Subject specific grades e.g. AAA, ABB

Or Tariff points e.g. 120 points (BBB)

BTEC quals also carry points

AS points don't count if continuing with A level.

Tariff Points		
56	A*	D*
48	A	D
40	B	
32	C	M
24	D	
16	E	P

UCAS reference changes for 2024 entry

- There are 3 sections:
 - A general statement about your school/college/centre setting the context **which will be the same for each student**
 - Details of extenuating circumstances which have impacted the student's education
 - Outline **other supportive information** relevant to the applicant and the course they are applying for (this is where **subject references go**) - **your reference will be closely linked to your predicted grade**
- Much more emphasis on contextual information for each student.

UCAS Timeline

- June 2023 – further research and begin personal statements.
- Tutor and 6th form staff discussions with students June/July 2023
- Personal Development sessions in June, July and September.
- First completed draft of Personal Statements is to be handed in on **Monday 11th September**

Form tutors continue to work with students throughout the process to support their research and writing of the personal statement.

Looking ahead

- Students should continue to research and decide what type of university (campus, city) and which course they would like to study at university.
- Summer Term: Complete Personal details and GCSE results on UCAS form.
- Visit universities over the summer.
- If necessary, adjust choices after threshold exam results
- Complete a first draft of their personal statement ready to hand in to their tutor in Sept.
- ELD in September – UCAS day in school finalising applications.

Next steps

- Subject teachers write a UCAS reference for individual subjects
- Students submit preference for their personal statement (July)
- Once the student has completed their application and sent it, the form is checked and each reference is read and polished by Sixth Form team.

How parents can help

- Researching courses
- Researching and attending open days for universities.
- Supporting with the research for their Personal Statement
- Supporting with the development of life skills for example cooking, cleaning, laundry and budgeting
- Researching bursaries and other monetary awards as these can be worth thousands

Apprenticeships and Employment

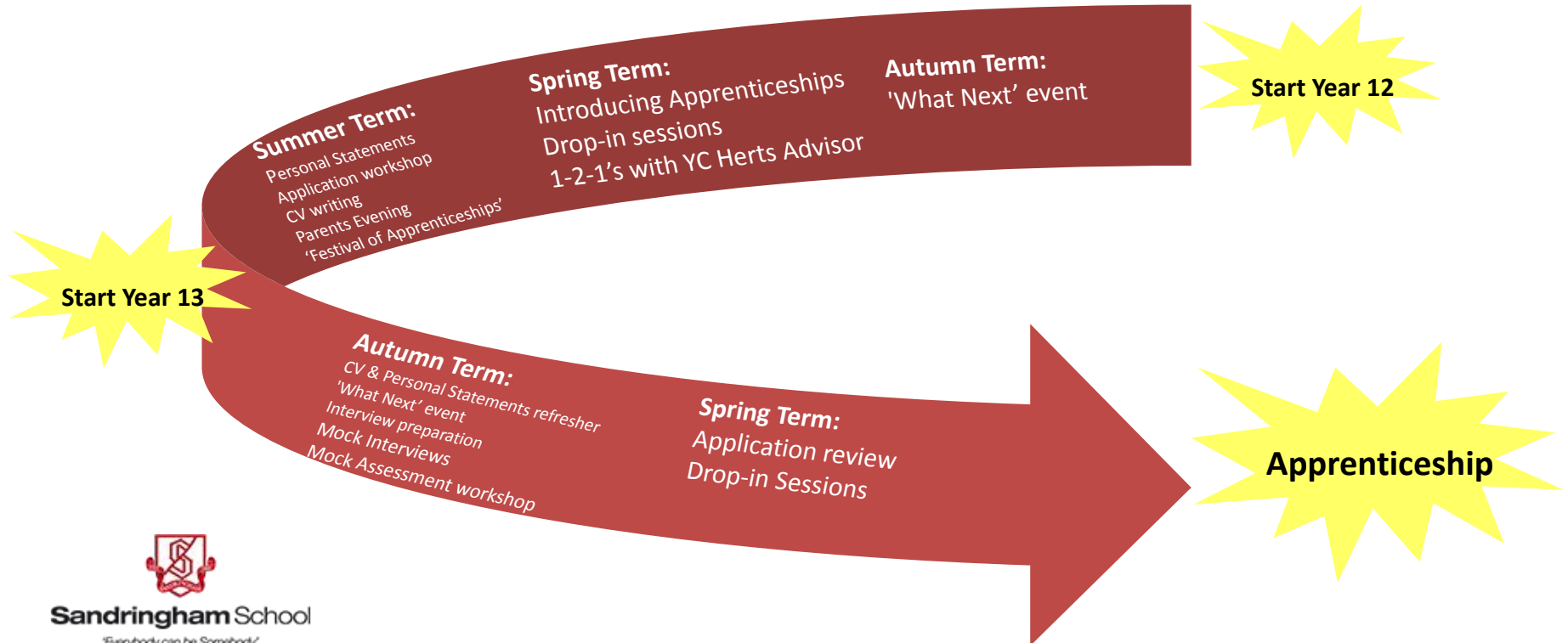


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Apprenticeships – The Journey



Apprenticeships – The Timetable

School Year	Activity	Date
Year 12	'What Next?' Careers event, London (Years 12 & 13)	11 Nov
	Introducing Apprenticeships assembly	Feb
	Drop-in sessions	Ongoing
	1-2-1's with YC Herts Advisor	Ongoing
	CV Writing	June
	Personal Statements – making a start	June
	Parents Evening	June
	Festival of Apprenticeships event (London)	29 June
	Application workshop (Apprenticeship Support & Knowledge programme)	6 July
Year 13	CV & Personal Statements - refresher	Sept
	Group sessions - searching & applying, interview preparation	Autumn Term
	'What Next?' Careers event, London (Years 12 & 13)	11 Nov
	Interview Preparation & Mock Interviews	Oct/Nov
	Mock Assessment workshop	Dec
	Application review	Jan - Mar
	Drop in sessions	Ongoing

Apprenticeship Levels

Name	Level	Equivalent educational level
Intermediate	2	5 GCSE passes at grade A*- C or 4-9
Advanced	3	2 A Level / Level 3 diploma / International Baccalaureate
Higher	4,5,6 & 7	Foundation degree and above
Degree	6 & 7	Bachelor's or master's degree

The range of apprenticeships...

Accounting
Nursing
Architect
Surveying
Project Management
Cyber Security
Aviation
Creative & Digital
Journalism
Legal Services
Horticulture
Teaching
Hospitality
Marketing

and many more....!



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A snapshot of employers who offer apprenticeships



Key skills to develop

- Team work
- Initiative
- Communications
- Confidence
- Resilience
- Independence and decision making
- Responsibility

- Additional and specific support for students with Mrs Boost
- 6th July - application workshop
- Good idea to look for virtual work experience this summer and any activity to develop skills
- Read the Sixth Form Careers Bulletins and Newsletters
- Unifrog lists a lot of vacancies and has information to support applications

A student must tell us if they are thinking about applying for an apprenticeship so that we can support them.

Please see 'Apprenticeship Toolkit 2023 -24' under Careers and Higher Education in the Sixth Form area of the school website for further details.

For further info and to see what apprenticeship and traineeship opportunities are available in Hertfordshire you may want to look at:

Hertfordshire Opportunities Portal - <https://www.hopinto.co.uk/>

Amazing Apprenticeships - <https://amazingapprenticeships.com/>

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FAQs about UCAS and Apprenticeships

Available here:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1gWpVPolfceanN2ZUyEMThFnuliNucy9leg-lhJlG9u0/edit?usp=sharing>

Thank you for listening.

