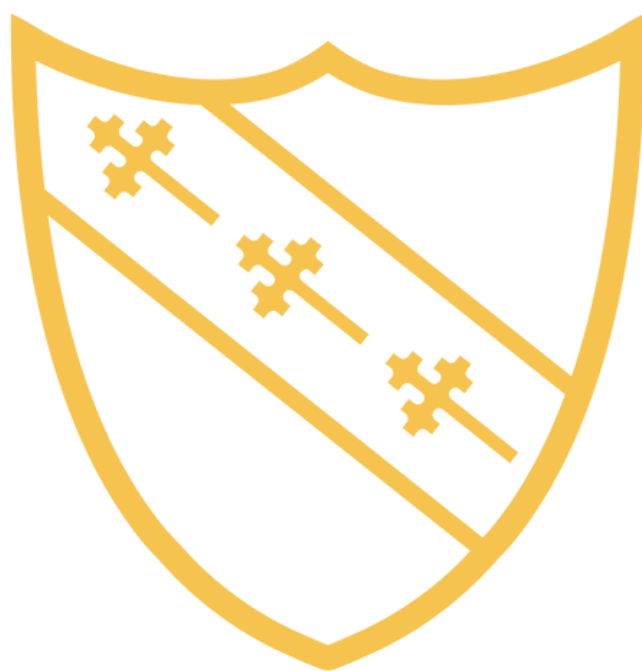


SIXTH FORM FOCUS DAY 5

POST 18

Wednesday 8th June 2022



THE NORTON

KNATCHBULL

SCHOOL

SIXTH FORM FOCUS DAY 5 POST 18

DAY TIME TABLE

ASSEMBLY 8.45- 9.10am	Introduction Main Hall (JRB & NT)					
1 9.10-10.05	UCAS Applications Process Sign up in assigned computer rooms with Tutors and Sixth Form Team member.				Apprenticeships- Speakers, searching and applying in assigned room.	
	UCAS D14 12B 12A(8)	UCAS D15 12BU & 12A(5)	UCAS G13 12K & 12A (6)	UCAS M24 12H	Apprenticeship 12 L + 12A(6) 12W	
2 10.10 -11.10	UCAS G15 12W	UCAS G13 12L + 12A(6)			Apprenticeship 12B (12A 8), 12BU (12A 5), 12K (12A 6), 12H	
Break 11.10-11.30						
3A 11.30-12.00	Student Finance- Kent University					Main School Hall
3B 12.00 -12.30	Personal Statement- Kent University					Main School Hall
4 12.35-13.35	Personal statement plan 12B + 12A (8) Front study room	Personal statement plan 12BU + 12A (5) R1	Personal statement plan 12K + 12A(6) G13	Personal statement plan 12H M24	Personal statement plan 12L + 12A(6) B36	Personal statement plan 12 W M12
LUNCH 13.35-14.10	B12 will be available for any Questions to our guest speakers.					
5 14.15- 15.15	Finding the right choice for me- SM in Hall to start session Uni Frog& post 18 Destinations Exhibition Sign Up					
	D14 12B +(8) 12A	D15 12BU + (5) 12A	G13 12K+(6) 12A	M24 (23) 12H	G14 12L +(6) 12A	D16 12W

UCAS Applications

GUIDE TO COMPLETION

A few pointers before we begin:

- ☐ If you haven't already done so on the UCAS.com website you will select Apply 2023 and start your application by registering (you do not need to pay anything until the completed application is sent). So that we are able to see your application and add your references you will need to link to our school using a buzzword.

The buzzword you will require is Football

- ☐ The application does not need to be completed in one go but try and complete the parts you can (particularly the education section) as these can be time consuming but you should have the information you need to do that part now.
- ☐ You may be asked whether you have any criminal convictions depending on what course you select. We have had a few students accidentally enter yes (and this is not something we can see or correct) and this caused them some embarrassment later so read all questions carefully!
- ☐ Once you have completed each section you will need to mark it as complete.
- ☐ When you are ready to send off your application you will be asked to pay the fee online and then press send. Your application will not go straight to UCAS it will instead go to Mrs Thompson to check, add your reference (written by your teachers/tutor) and enter your predictions. Once double checked by Mr Messenger it will be sent to UCAS. If an error is found in the application by us it will be returned to you for amendment so it is important that you keep an eye on your home email once it has been submitted as this is the method UCAS will use to tell you we want you to amend something.

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UCAS Applications

Section 1. – Personal details.

- Enter your name and address. Be careful to include the name you wish to be known as if it is not your legal name. You will also need to enter details if you have legally changed your name prior to your 16th birthday.
- Give your address details and ensure that the email address used is one that you check frequently and that it is not one that is embarrassing or rude. **DO NOT USE YOUR SCHOOL EMAIL ADDRESS** as once you have left us your address will be closed and you will need to be able to access information next Summer.
- You are not required to complete the reference numbers section so don't worry if you don't know your Unique Learner Number (ULN)!
- Passport details may be required if you are not a UK National.
- Student Support – Your fee code should be **02 UK** so that you are billed as a UK student and not from overseas. You should enter this code even if you do not intend to apply for student finance to ensure you are charged the correct amount. Directly under this box is a dropdown selection tab that you need to enter your county of residence (most of you will be **KENT**)
- Enter your marketing preferences/ what information you want to receive.
- Nominated access – we always advise that you do enter a parent/ sibling or someone else as nominated access as UCAS will not speak to anyone about your application other than you and the person you put here. If for some reason you are unavailable on results day (we have had some students travelling in remote parts of the world) it makes it easier to communicate with UCAS if someone else can do it on your behalf.
- Disability/Special Needs – make sure you enter any requirements or measures here that they need to be aware of (for example is it a medical requirement that you have accommodation with an en-suite bathroom?). You can apply for this when you select accommodation options but if you have medical need and it is mentioned here it should be flagged from an early stage. If you get extra time in exams, please also detail this.

Section 2 – Choices

- In this section you will enter your five choices, do not worry about the order entered. The universities do not see which other choices you have made, and you do not have to rank them until all your offers are received and you choose your first and insurance choice. At that stage all the others will be declined. It is worth remembering at this point that your insurance choice should be a university with lower entry criteria in case you don't get the results you are hoping for. Try not to only apply for all universities or courses (you can apply to the same university but different courses) that have the same or very similar entry criteria as this will not be helpful when you need to choose your insurance choice. Uni Frog is useful for help with this.
- The universities include all the course codes and details of entry criteria on their website. If you feel that you want to take a gap year rather than go to university straight after exams and are considering a deferred entry you can enter it here however if you are undecided, we recommend you answer the question as no because you can change your mind later (even on results day) and it is less complicated to change from this way around due to finance/ accommodation etc.

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UCAS Applications

Section 3 – Additional information

- In this section you are asked for further background information and about your parents level of education. You do not need to answer these questions however it is worth being aware that universities have certain quota that they like to hit and bursaries available to particular groups of people (there was a bursary for son/daughter of a green grocer available at one university I saw a few years ago!). Some universities are keen to attract students who are the first in their family to attend university too.

Section 4 – Education

- FIND YOUR GCSE EXAM CERTIFICATES AS YOU WILL NEED THE INFORMATION FROM THEM.
- You will need to enter all your existing qualifications and all your pending qualifications. Select the school you took your GCSE's at and find the correct qualifications from the drop down lists provided. Once you have done your GCSE's you can move on to your pending A levels. Select NKS as your current school and enter the qualification as pending and the result date in the future (August 2021) Make sure you also add your EPQ if you are taking it. Finally, add in any additional qualification you may have including music grade exams, Duke of Edinburgh Awards etc.
- Your exam information will be checked against the details we hold on SIMS so if you are claiming a qualification that we may be unaware of you will be required to provide the school with a copy for our records before we can verify them as correct on your application.
- You will be asked to state what the highest level of qualification you expect to have before you start your course. Please do not put none! Select the 'Below honours degree level qualification' option.

Section 5- Employment

- Give details of any part time jobs you may have done or currently do

Section 6 – Student Finance

- Confirm whether you have read the details given

Section 7 – Personal Statement

- This section will be dealt with separately however please be aware that all the details you have already given in the application do not need to be re-iterated in the personal statement (eg. name, age, subjects studied) Also, if you have a lot of things you want to say but run out of available room speak to your form tutor about including it in your reference.

Sections 8 & 9 – Predictions and Reference

- These will be added by us once your application has been sent.

Apprenticeships/Employment Post 18

During this session you will have the opportunity to hear from a range of local businesses that currently offer apprenticeship opportunities and or employment at post 18.

What is an Apprenticeship?

An apprenticeship is a paid job where the employee learns and gains valuable experiences.

Alongside on-the-job training, apprentices spend at least 20% of their working hours completing classroom-based learning with either a college, university or training provider which leads to a nationally recognised qualification.

An apprenticeship includes:

- paid employment with holiday leave
- hands-on-experience in a sector/role of interest
- at least 20% off-the-job training
- formal assessment which leads to a nationally recognised qualification

Apprenticeship levels

Different apprenticeship levels equate to different qualification levels.

An apprenticeship can start at any level, but some may require:

- previous qualifications such as English or math's GCSEs
- additional training in English or math's to ensure the apprentice is at the right level

Level	Equivalent education level	
Intermediate	2	GCSE
Advanced	3	A level
Higher	4,5,6 and 7	Foundation degree and above
Degree	6 and 7	Bachelor's or master's degree

Applying for an Apprenticeship

The application process works in the same way as applying for a job.

Most companies will advertise either through their own websites, on national employment sites such as indeed and or via the apprenticeship.org website. You can also use Unifrog to search current opportunities.

Once you have a field/area in mind for example accountancy, start with a simple google search and this should give you a range of both local and national opportunities

Most companies start to advertise from January onwards but some even as late as May so make sure you keep looking and apply to all those that are of interest.

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The application process itself can be quite long with several stages such as the follow:

- Application paper shift – your application is considered with key criteria in mind
- A call virtually on Teams etc.. Or via telephone to express your interest and answer some key questions about the role and your suitability to it
- Next is normally a team exercise to observe your leadership skills and thought processes
- Finally, an interview

Not all work in this way but it's good to be prepared and practice interview questions especially those that ask you to think about examples of when you have had to problem solve or make key decisions. Don't forget Mrs. Vernon is available to organise mock interviews if required.

Today's guests include:

Kreston Reeves Accountancy

AMEY Ltd

Brakes

Cheryl Causebrook Construction Industry

Army

Liberty Hand Education Pople

NHS Apprenticeships in Engineering

Gallager

Kent Police

Suggested sites to check:

- www.ucas.com/understanding-apprenticeships
- Careerfinder.ucas.com/jobs/ap-prenticeship
- www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship
- www.apprenticeships.gov.uk

Gap Years

Some of you may be considering a Gap Year, when doing so you need to think about what the purpose of this year will be and what you hope to achieve? You have many options such as to defer entry for university, take part in a pre-arranged gap year experience, go to work and or participate in volunteering opportunities. These can vary both in length of time and more importantly cost and or income.

When looking into options its best to decide early on what you hope to achieve from your year out? Many pre-planned gap year experiences such as those delivered by the sites below can be very expensive however you have the security of having a tour guide, planned activities and support.

Another option is to travel independently, many choose to do this as a group and as such you can look to purchase group tickets at reduced prices although you must all travel together, again this takes lots of planning but can be a very worthwhile experience. Students who choose to travel normally decide to work for 6 months before to save money before leaving in the new year. Be mindful that if you plan to travel for more than 3 months you may be required to sort out student finance, accommodation and confirm course choice if you deferred entry to university or applied later. All this really needs is access to emails.

Today you will find information available from Gap 360 which is a company we have used for some time and offer some amazing opportunities. Mrs. Vernon can support with students considering this option.

Suggested sites to check:

- [Gap Year Travel Experts Gap 360 offer 200+ Amazing Trips in 50 Countries](#)
- [The Mighty Roar - Structured & Affordable Volunteer Abroad Programmes](#)
- [Real Gap Experience](#)

Example Personal Statements

Look for:

- Correct grammar and punctuation
- Relevant content
- Skills
- Links to the course
- Relevant experience
- Good structure
- Positive comments

PERSONAL STATEMENT ONE

Ever since I was a child I would create wild, creative and fascinating drawings of my dream home; a home which would spell comfort and luxury. A reality? Most probably not. However, that will and desire to create a building which is architecturally beautiful, has continued to run through my veins. I have without a doubt been influenced by programmes such as Grand Designs on Channel 4 or Mega-structures on Channel 5. One has taught me how delicate yet strong a structure can be, whilst the other has shown me that in this world there is a continuous desire to go one step further into the impossible. The Millau Viaduct, created by Sir Norman Foster, is a structure which continues to fascinate me, for these very same reasons. My fascination for architecture has thus driven my desire to become an architect. I often find myself enticed by Architectural Review, a journal which reveals the latest news and headlines in the architectural world. One article which sets itself out from the rest was one about South Africa and the issues surrounding poverty and prejudice among the black community. Although South Africa has emerged from the shadow of apartheid, still a huge number of people live in poverty in townships. The article reviewed how architects have set about improving the lives of those who live in the townships. One construction was that of the Usasazo School in the Khayelitsha Township. This is already delivering improvements to the education system the route to a better future for many. Another construction is the Police Station which covers the Cape Peninsula's local rail network has set about reducing the crime rates, which are considerably high in South Africa with around 20 murders per 1000 people. These two examples have shown me that architecture can not only improve the environment which we live in but also society as well.

Having this desire to study architecture at university, has led me to take work experience opportunities at architectural firms. During the summer term of 2009 I was accepted for a week's work experience at Rogers Stirk Harbour & Partners in London, where I was invited to create a small sanctuary for architects who worked late into the night, somewhere where they could relax, unwind and sleep. That week was without a doubt one of the most interesting and fascinating experiences I have had, not only because of an intriguing and enjoyable topic, but also the kindness and helpfulness of everyone who I worked with. I have also worked in the retailing business for a week, at a golf shop, and I have had experience working in a charity shop (once a week for a year). These have also been experiences that I will never forget.

I have played for the highest teams in rugby and football and I also enjoy more individual sports such as squash, skiing, and scuba diving (reaching the level of Dive Leader in the BSAC branch), and am the secretary of the Scuba club. I also enjoy playing music. In the past I've played the Bassoon to grade 4, and I still play the Alto and Baritone Saxophone. I hope to complete grade 8 at the end of the year. Because of my love for the Saxophone, I have thrown myself into a various groups such as the School wind band, swing band, and the schools saxophone quartet. I have also enjoyed playing music outside the school at my church. I also enjoy art and frequently attend Life Drawing sessions to try and improve my drawing skills. It is because of these skills that I have been appointed head of house music and art. I have also taken part in school plays, and have achieved my Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award.

My childhood ambition of building my luxurious home will never completely leave me, but as I have matured I have realised that the creation of affordable homes of every description for people in all parts of the world, made with sustainable resources, is infinitely more important. I wish to study Architecture so as to be able to part of the future of the world's buildings.

Example Personal Statements

Look for:

- Correct grammar and punctuation
- Relevant content
- Skills
- Links to the course
- Relevant experience
- Good structure
- Positive comments

PERSONAL STATEMENT TWO

Computing can at times be very maddening but when I solve a problem the feeling of satisfaction reinforces my desire to build upon my knowledge of this intriguing subject. It's an exciting time to be studying computing in our rapidly increasing technological world and I'm keen to take a role. I am studying C and Java while for my year 13 project I am enjoying analysing a company's situation, identifying the solution and writing a program. Furthermore the units on arrays and data representation have held a particular interest. Each lesson has given me fresh ideas to contemplate, developing my scientific knowledge, while testing my problem-solving abilities. I am looking forward to learning much more about programming, databases and operating systems. Mathematics has been an absorbing choice of A level and my logical mind has found the modules on algebra, statistics and integration particularly appealing. I think I would enjoy studying topics on calculus and probability.

Computers touch almost every aspect of our daily lives and are invaluable in mathematical research, while mathematics forms the basis of our understanding of science and technology. I was very pleased when I realised I could study a degree that allowed me develop both my passions.

In Psychology A level I especially liked the modules on memory and have conducted research in these areas. I am a member of the British Psychological Society. Creativity is important in the study of all these subjects and I hope I can apply the skills learnt to my degree course.

At weekends and during school holidays I work in a thriving public library which has a comprehensive range of IT facilities. My interpersonal and communication skills have been greatly developed while working there. Working with other members of staff has helped me understand the meaning of team work and flexibility. I have found helping the public with a varied range of enquiries challenging and stimulating. Work experience at an estate agent first helped me learn the value of how to organise and manage my time efficiently, and the ability to work independently when required.

In the sixth form I am the student representative for the School council. My main role is organising extra-curricular activities. I am proud that I have been awarded numerous Head Teacher commendations, certificates for attendance and just recently my form award for outstanding effort and achievement. Community Service in the sixth form gives me the opportunity to work with a Year 7 mathematics class which I have found very rewarding. Furthermore I am involved in a buddy system assisting newcomers to the school. For many years I have been a member of local sports clubs and have experienced many sporting activities including gymnastics, tennis and swimming. Badminton is important to me and my involvement with a junior badminton team taught me the values of patience, leadership and delegation. I am interested in family history and have enjoyed the methodical research this past time requires. My musical abilities focus on my electronic keyboard.

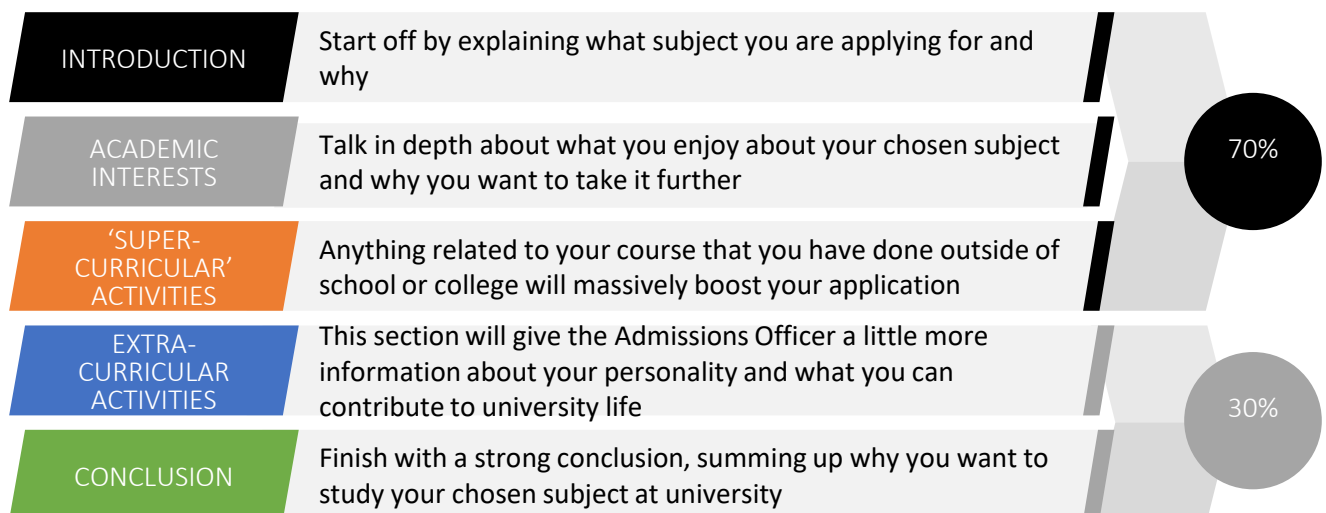
My career path is yet unplanned but I know that I have a desire to be further challenged. I am dedicated to my A level studies so I can take a degree course that I know will be stimulating. I know that university life is full of possibilities with the opportunity to try fresh activities, meet different people and the chance to be involved with another community. It's an exciting time and I'm enthusiastic about my future.

Personal Statement

Task 1: In the space below create a mind map of all the aspects you'd like to include in your personal statement. Include extra-curricular activities, interests, transferable skills, jobs, sports, music, achievements. You will be using this to help you draft your personal statement:

About Me

Task 2: On the next page using the structure provided create a draft for your personal statement. This will need to be typed up on Uni Frog before the 1st July. Support is available from the Sixth form Team, careers advisor, subject teachers and your tutors.



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Personal Statement

Why do you want to study this subject?

How will a degree in this subject help you with your future career?

What skills have you developed from voluntary activities or work experience?

What skills have you developed from voluntary activities or work experience?

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Personal Statement

What have you done outside of school or college to further your interest in your subject

Think of the academic skills you already have. How will these be used in your degree?

Why should you be accepted on to the course?

Show **enthusiasm**
and **wider experience**
of the subject

Keep the tone **formal** and
official- no abbreviations
(e.g. gotta, weren't)

Vary sentence structure and
openings

Encourage a **coherent**,
consistent structure

Back up points with relevant,
real life examples

Focus on **skills** and **qualities**,
not narrative

DO NOT
Mention a specific
university

DO NOT
Use **negative** comments
about yourself or your
abilities

DO NOT
Use cliches, long quotes or
lists

DO NOT
Try to be funny

DO NOT
Use **irrelevant**
comments, facts or
exposition

DO NOT
Lie, plagiarise
or exaggerate

Your checklist:

- ☐ Keep it relevant
- ☐ Make a list of the skills you would benefit from gaining and think of an extra- curricular activity to improve these
- ☐ Link it to your chosen course
- ☐ Include lots of positive comments
- ☐ Include relevant experience. Sign up to a few hours of volunteering or work experience!
- ☐ Check your structure, spelling and grammar, but also ask someone else to read it through (parent/supporter or teacher)
- ☐ Personal Statements drafts due: **1st July**- to be submitted via Uni Frog.

Student Finance

TUITION FEE LOANS: Full Time UK Undergraduate what's available?

Most students won't have to pay for tuition fees up front – you can apply for a Tuition Fee Loan to pay your fees.

How much you can get depends on:

how much your university or college charges

whether you're studying at a publicly or privately-funded university or college

when you started your course

You could get a Tuition Fee Loan of up to £9,250 if you're studying at an eligible uni or college. If you're studying an accelerated degree course, you could get up to £11,100.

If you're not sure if a course qualifies for student finance, check with the uni or college.

Eligibility

Whether you can get student finance depends on your:

personal circumstances, course, uni or college

How it's paid

You need to register at your uni or college before Student Finance England can make your first payment. You'll usually do this in the first week of your course, and you may have to take your student finance entitlement letter with you. Your Tuition Fee Loan is paid directly to your university or college in three instalments during the academic year.

When are payments made to your uni or college?	How much is paid to your uni or college?
At the start of term one	25% of the tuition fee
At the start of term two	25% of the tuition fee
At the start of term three	50% of the tuition fee

How to apply

When you apply for student finance, you'll need to agree to Student Finance England's terms and conditions.

[Student Finance England's Guide to Terms and Conditions 2022/23](#)

New students

The quickest and easiest way to apply is online at www.gov.uk/studentfinance

It's important to apply as soon as possible so your funding is in place for starting your course.

Set up a student finance account

When you register, you'll be given a unique Customer Reference Number, and will need to create a password and secret answer. You should keep these safe, as you'll need them to sign in to your account to check the progress of your application, and reapply for student finance next year. Fill in and submit your application The first time you apply, you'll be asked for proof of identity. You can easily do this by providing your valid UK passport details. If you don't have a UK passport, you may have to send [evidence](#).

Student Finance

If you want to apply for student finance that depends on your household income, Student Finance England will ask your parents or partner for their National Insurance number, and their personal income details.

You will also need the following information to complete your finance application and provide evidence to support the application.

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Student Finance

LIVING COST LOANS: Full Time UK Undergraduate

A Maintenance Loan can help pay for things such as rent, food, books, travel, and other expenses. Any loan you borrow needs to be paid back, but not until you've finished or left your course, and your income is over the repayment threshold.

What's available?

Everyone who is eligible for student finance can get at least some [Maintenance Loan](#), but you can apply for more that's based on your household income.

Students who are eligible to receive State Benefits, who are entitled to receive the means-tested element of funding, may be eligible for an increased amount of maintenance loan. If eligible, their maintenance loan will be made up of the Maintenance element and the Special Support (SSL) element.

<i>Maximum Maintenance Loan for the 2021/22 academic year</i>	<i>Maximum Maintenance Loan for the 2022/23 academic year</i>
Living with parents	Up to £8,171
Studying in London, and not living with parents	Up to £12,667
Studying outside London, and not living with parents	Up to £9,706
Living and studying abroad as part of your UK course	Up to £11,116

<i>Maximum final year Maintenance Loan for the 2021/22 academic year</i>	<i>Maximum final year Maintenance Loan for the 2022/23 academic year</i>
Living with parents	Up to £7,689
Studying in London, and not living with parents	Up to £11,736
Studying outside of London, and not living with parents	Up to £9,179
Living and studying abroad as part of your UK course	Up to £9,950

A lot of students find they will seek part-time employment which fits around their studies to support themselves further.

There are other loans available and some grants for certain circumstances. Please read up about this in more detail:

[Maintenance loans, maintenance & support grants - Student living costs \(ucas.com\)](#)

For key information please use the websites below to get a full insight into student finance including how to repay the loans.

[Student finance in England - Everything you need to know \(ucas.com\)](#)

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Post 18 Destinations Convention: Thursday 9th June

To register for the convention, you must complete the registration process below and print your digital ticket.

[UCAS Discovery exhibition Kent 2022: Registration](#)

Click the link go to Attend, then click join group booking and enter the booking reference UCASBKN640341 enter your details and print the digital ticket that will be required to enter the exhibition on Thursday.

You will need to bring this ticket with you on the day so that it can be used to scan at the event to provide you with additional information and to complete registration. Ensure you have a hard copy printed as back up.

Selecting the exhibitors, you wish to visit:

Click the link below and pin your favourites to the top.

[Kent UCAS exhibition 2022 | UCAS](#)

Once you have confirmed your choices list them below. Note that all the stands have a stall number. A location map will be available on the day to let you know where to go.

Make a list of the top 10 places you want to visit on the day and make a note of the stall number.

1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		

Checklist:

- ☐ Consent form including medical updates returned
- ☐ Arrival at school 8.30am, for a 9am departure
- ☐ Suitable attire, school dress code not required
- ☐ Sign up online to the UCAS Discovery exhibition
- ☐ Planned your itinerary
- ☐ Return to school by 1pm

Make a list of some questions you want to find out from them?

For example: do they include an opportunity to do a year abroad? Do they offer a placement year? Entry requirements?

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Additional Notes or Questions

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Additional Notes or Questions