



CLAREMONT  
FAN COURT SCHOOL



# HIGHER EDUCATION SUPPORT

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Universities particularly want to see that you have an independent interest in the subject for which you are applying. A significant proportion of your time should be spent developing this interest, which you will need to demonstrate in your UCAS application and interview (if applicable). You should be independently reading widely and critically around your subject, following the news (from different sources) and keeping up to date with the latest developments in your subject area.

You should take every opportunity to attend lectures (online and in school), university summer schools, to gain work experience, to participate in academic enrichment activities and to enter competitions. The Joyce Grenfell programme will help with this and you should take full advantage of what's on offer.

Although many teachers will provide you with guidance and suggestions throughout the application process, remember that this is your application - the strongest applications are the ones that are clearly driven by a student's interest and enthusiasm for their subject.

If you are uncertain what you should be doing at any point, or would like some advice, do come and speak to Mrs Jones, Mr Grabowski and Mrs Rixon.

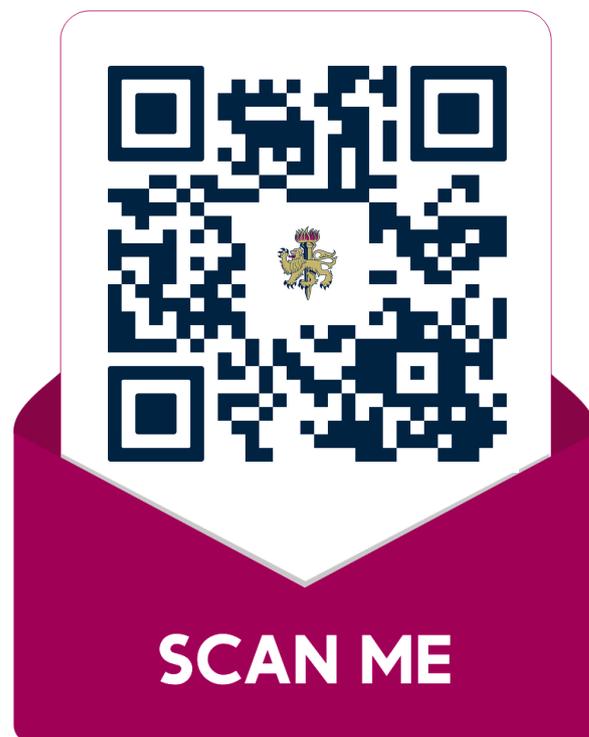


# ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT AND COMPETITIONS

Taking part in internal and external competitions and the enrichment opportunities (as published each term JGP booklet), will stretch you and develop your interest in the subject beyond the curriculum. This will provide evidence of your interest and ability as well as giving you discussion points for UCAS applications and interviews.

# WIDER READING AND ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT

Discuss with your teachers, UCAS subject contacts, Oxbridge mentors and Librarian, Mrs Roberts suitable books for extending your knowledge and interest beyond the curriculum. Good starting points are:



# LECTURES/SEMINARS

Attending internal and external lectures and talks is a great way to extend your knowledge and demonstrate enthusiasm for your subject and help to develop your critical thinking skills and intellectual curiosity. There are a wealth of online lectures and talks from many universities. Internal speakers, competition and talks will be published each term in the JGP booklet.

Gresham College has been one of the world's leading hosts of academic discourse and debate since the 16th Century – you can visit their YouTube Channel and range of Podcasts here - <https://www.gresham.ac.uk/>

# YEAR 12 AUTUMN TERM

## Ongoing:

Areas of interest: Identify courses/areas of interest to begin researching and exploring



### Oxbridge applicants:

Oxford University visit for interested students

### UCAT preparation:

Attend talk about UCAT preparation for Medicine and related courses



### Academic enrichment courses/qualifications:

Decide on additional enrichment qualification/course through Joyce Grenfell Programme



### Applying to the US:

Interested students are encouraged to start this process by the new year. Students will also be encouraged to book 1:1 meetings with Mrs Rixon i.c Overseas applications. Students may wish to consider applications for sports and other scholarships. Pupils choose SAT or ACT and begin preparation



# YEAR 12 SPRING TERM

## Throughout:

**Taster courses:** Universities run a range of taster courses which provide an excellent insight into university-level study. These will be advertised on university websites and Unifrog. **Online/JGP lectures and talks.**



### **Introduction to Student Futures:**

Year 12 assembly outlining Higher Education and alternative pathway support from Mrs Jones. Information about using Unifrog, UCAS, Oxbridge and the importance of super-curricular enrichment

Register for Olympiads, essay competitions and other nationally recognized competitions

### **US sport and alternative scholarships applicants:**

Reach out to college coaches. Using guidance from college websites, create a video of sports performance and send to coaches. Establish connections.

Sign up for summer schools run by Universities (check eligibility)



### **Organising work experience:**

Gaining relevant work experience can really enhance your application. It will take longer than you think to set up, so start organising this now!



### **Student Futures Evening**

#### **Create UCAS HUB account**

Start exploring university courses and apprenticeships. Use personal email address to create account

#### **US applicants:**

Draft Common App essay

# YEAR 12 SUMMER TERM



Y12 Internal exams



Oxford/Cambridge open days



UCAS application workshop/aptitude test preparation:

Required preparation will be discussed and personal statements launched. We will also focus on assessments/aptitude tests for relevant pupils, giving you time to look at papers and practise them.

Oxbridge written work:

For a number of courses at Oxford and Cambridge, you may be asked to submit examples of your written work from a relevant A-level course. These should be pieces of marked work and you should start to think about which pieces you will want to submit and collect these pieces of work early.\*

UCAS registration and personal statement writing workshop

Complete UCAS Hub account including GCSE results and finance options. Link UCAS hub account to Claremont, using the buzzword: claremont2027 (all lower case).

Work experience



University open days



### US applications:

Register for tests if needed. Draft US entrance essays and visit US colleges. Decide on colleges and investigate funding options.

## SUMMER HOLIDAYS BETWEEN Y12 AND Y13

### Independent reading, listening and research and UCAS writing personal statement

The autumn term can be very busy with NEA work, preparation for aptitude tests, admissions assessments and interviews (if applicable). You should therefore ensure that a draft of your personal statement is completed over the summer, ready for discussion with your mentor on your return to school.

### Apply for and work on admissions tests

1 August -15 September: Register and book your admission test slot (in order to sit the test before or on, 15 October if applying to Oxbridge)



# YEAR 13 AUTUMN TERM



*1 Sept* Send first draft of personal statement to tutor and subject mentor

*23 Sept* Admission test applications to the exams office (all except LNAT)

*22 Sept*

**OXBRIDGE AND MEDICINE APPLICATIONS COMPLETED**



Admission test and interview preparation/Mock admission tests



*15 Oct* Medicine and Oxbridge deadline for submission of UCAS forms



Admissions tests



*22 Nov*

**ALL UCAS APPLICATIONS COMPLETED AND SENT**

Apprenticeships:

research apprenticeships and begin applications. Practice skills tests and carry out interview practice



Oxbridge Interviews:

These typically take place online (Oxford) and in person (Cambridge)

# YEAR 13 SPRING TERM

Throughout:

Decisions from universities



Y13 A-level mock exams

Oxbridge interview results

*14 Jan* UCAS deadline for applications

# YEAR 13 SUMMER TERM

Throughout:

Decisions from universities

Register for and attend offer holder days



Make firm and insurance choices on UCAS Hub account

Apply for Student Finance



Sit A-level exams



Results day



## ADMISSIONS TESTS AND SUBMITTED WORK

The vast majority of courses at Oxford and Cambridge now require formal written assessment, usually prior to selection for interview. Most pre-interview assessments are sat externally and need to be registered during the summer between Year 12 and 13.

You can find details of the assessments by looking at the entrance requirement tab for the relevant course on the university webpages.

## SUPPORT AVAILABLE

There is a vast range of support in school to help students make good choices, prepare excellent applications and develop into outstanding undergraduates and professionals. Mrs Jones is our Higher Education Co-ordinator and Oxbridge Co-ordinator and meets with all members of the Sixth Form – she will guide students through the application process, offer support with their course and institution choices as well as give advice about matters such as university accommodation and student finance. Mrs Jones will also be able to support students through the application process for US universities and degree apprenticeships. She will be able to advise students on course and college choice and will liaise with the Oxbridge mentors about preparation for entrance tests, interviews and the submission of written work.





Mrs Rixon is in charge of Overseas Applications and Head of Year 12.



Mr Grabowski oversees the Joyce Grenfell Programme, Academic Enrichment and Scholarships and oversees the academic programme of study within curriculum time.



Mrs Wigley is our Student Futures Coordinator. She support students with opportunities to listen and talk to professionals and industry experts, applications for apprenticeships, advising on work experience and supporting the Higher Education process. Mrs Wigley also organises our annual Student Futures Evening in February.

We have a wide range of teachers acting as our UCAS Subject Contacts – they give students subject specific advice about personal statement content and academic enrichment opportunities in their specific subject area but also course and institution choice. They are the first port of call if a student has a query about specific subject at undergraduate level.

Each applicant for Oxford, Cambridge, Medicine, Dentistry or Veterinary Medicine also has their own Oxbridge Mentor – they give specific guidance on academic enrichment, interview preparation, pre-interview testing and the submission of written work. Oxbridge Mentors are assigned to students typically at the beginning of the Summer Term in Year 12.

# UNIVERSITY OPEN DAY TOP TIPS

- Explore the university open day calendar using [www.opendays.com](http://www.opendays.com)
- Book onto open days in advance (summer term of year 12)
- Download the University app
- Check locations of all the talks - map
- Book into talks where necessary
- See facilities linked to the course
- Take lots of photos
- Explore the town
- Think about clubs and societies
- Check out facilities – sport, drama and more

## HOW TO CHOOSE 5 COURSES

Choosing 5 courses can be tricky. It is best to have 2 aspirational courses, two solid choices and two safe choices. Use Unifrog to help explore and select courses and the entry requirements. Be particularly mindful of the GCSE requirements for Maths and English Language.

This is an example of choices for an applicant with 3 A grades predicted at A Level.

Aspirational (61)	Solid (247)	Safe (268)
 <b>Psychology - 3FT BSc (Hons)</b>   King's College London, University of London A Level: A*,A,A	 <b>Psychology with Counselling - 4SW BSc (Hons)</b>  Nottingham Trent University UCAS Points: 128-136	 <b>Psychology with Foundation - 4FT BSc (Hons)</b>  Durham University Foundation year
 <b>Psychology and Psychological Practice - 4FT MSci (Hon)</b>   University of Birmingham A Level: A*,A,A	 <b>Psychology (Developmental Psychology) - 4SW BSc (Hons)</b>  Nottingham Trent University UCAS Points: 128-136	 <b>Psychology with Foundation Year - 4FT BSc (Hons)</b>  University of Sheffield Foundation year
 <b>Experimental Psychology - 4FT MSci</b>   University of Oxford A Level: A*,A,A	 <b>Psychology (Criminal Psychology) - 4SW BSc (Hons)</b>  Nottingham Trent University UCAS Points: 128-136	 <b>Psychology including Foundation Year - 4FT/8PT BSc (Hons)</b>  University of Wales Trinity Saint David



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