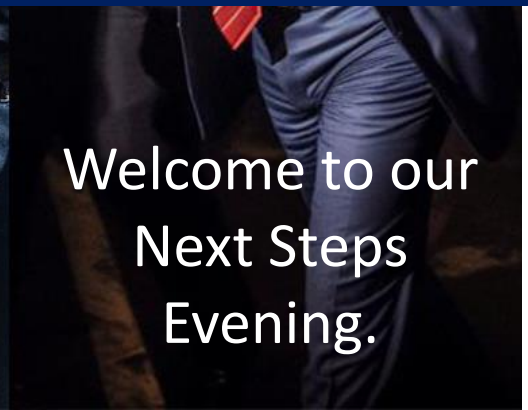


Did the Future Just Happen?





These Jobs Will Fall First As AI Takes Over The Workplace

Welcome to our Next Steps Evening.

POYNTON 6th

THE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

Please meet…



Mr Bennett
Director of Sixth Form



Mrs Hardicre
Head of Year



Mrs Cutler
Head of Year



Ms Lawson
Sixth Form Support Officer

POYNTON 6th THE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

James Rolfe
Class of 2025



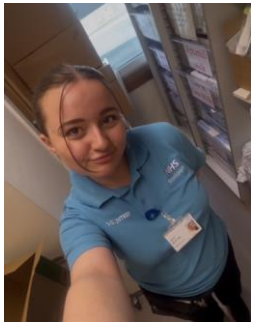
Max Waterman
Class of 2025



Adam Leyland
Class of 2025



Kate Morton
Class of 2025





Mrs Tupman
Sixth Form Welfare Leader

Aspire PHS SIXTH FORM

ATTACK OF THE ZOMBIE JOBS

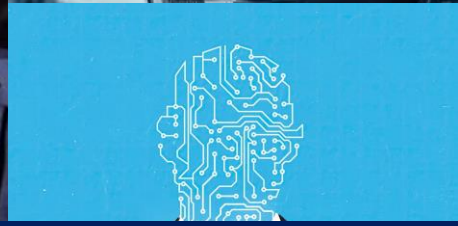


POYNTON 6th THE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

Aspire PHS SIXTH FORM

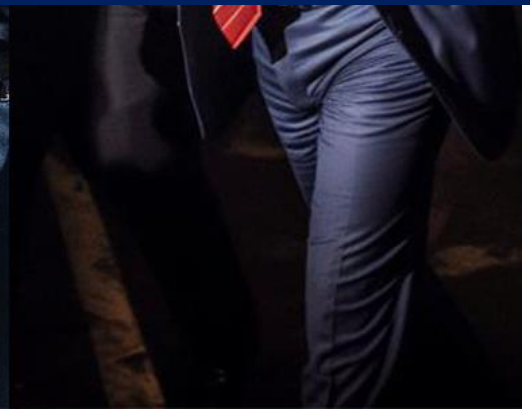






Did the Future Just Happen?



Dr Paul Redmond – Director of Student Experience, University of Liverpool

POYNTON 6th
THE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE


Unexpected item in the bagging area

Fund independent journalism

Print subscriptions | Search jobs | Sign in

The Guardian UK

News | Opinion | Sport | Culture | Lifestyle

Film | Music | TV & radio | Books | Art & design | Stage | Games | Classical

Music

This article is more than 6 months old

Musicians are deeply concerned about AI. So why are the major labels embracing it?



Eamonn Forde

Tue 16 Dec 2025 10.00 GMT

Share

Prefer the Guardian on Google



POYNTON 6th THE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

INSPIRATION ACHIEVEMENT CELEBRATION

Spotify boss defends move to AI music, saying it is better than 'slop'

Streaming platform says remix tool agreed with Universal Music Group will protect artists from piracy

Aisha Down

Tue 26 May 2026 14.40 BST

Share

Prefer the Guardian on Google



Artificial Intelligence created the lyrics and melody to this three-track EP: Listen

Can AI make good music by itself?

Forbes

INNOVATION

The Impact Of AI On The Fashion Industry

By Maximilien Abadie, Forbes Councils Member.
for Forbes Technology Council, COUNCIL POST | Membership (fee-based)

Published Jan 16, 2026, 09:30am EST

Maximilien Abadie, Deputy CEO and a member of the Executive Committee, Lectra.

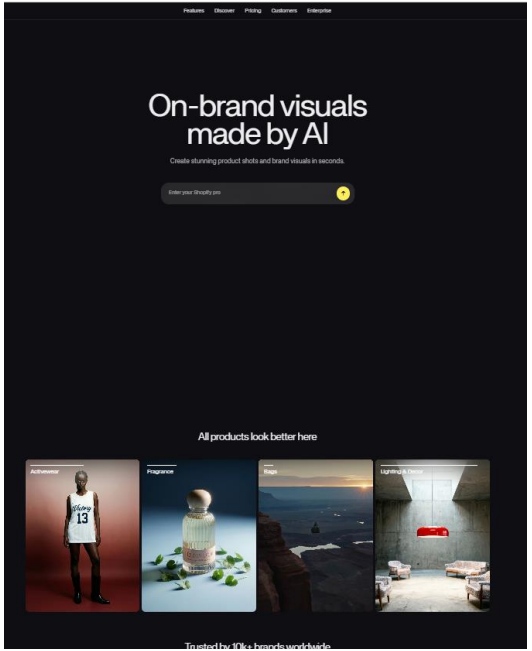


GETTY

Artificial intelligence (AI) is now transforming the fashion industry. It is rapidly

FORBES' FEATURE

POYNTON 6th THE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE
INSPIRATION
ACHIEVEMENT
CELEBRATION





Aspire
PHS SIXTH FORM

How to avoid becoming a zombie

POYNTON 6th THE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

1. Build skills and experiences. Stand out from the crowd.

2. To recognise that we are in a fast changing landscape and that being reflexive is key.

3. Emotional intelligence is more important than ever.

NOW is the time for students to be engaging in experiences which allow them to stand out in an evolving market.

Making informed choices about the future is important.

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Pathways

Aspire
PHS SIXTH FORM

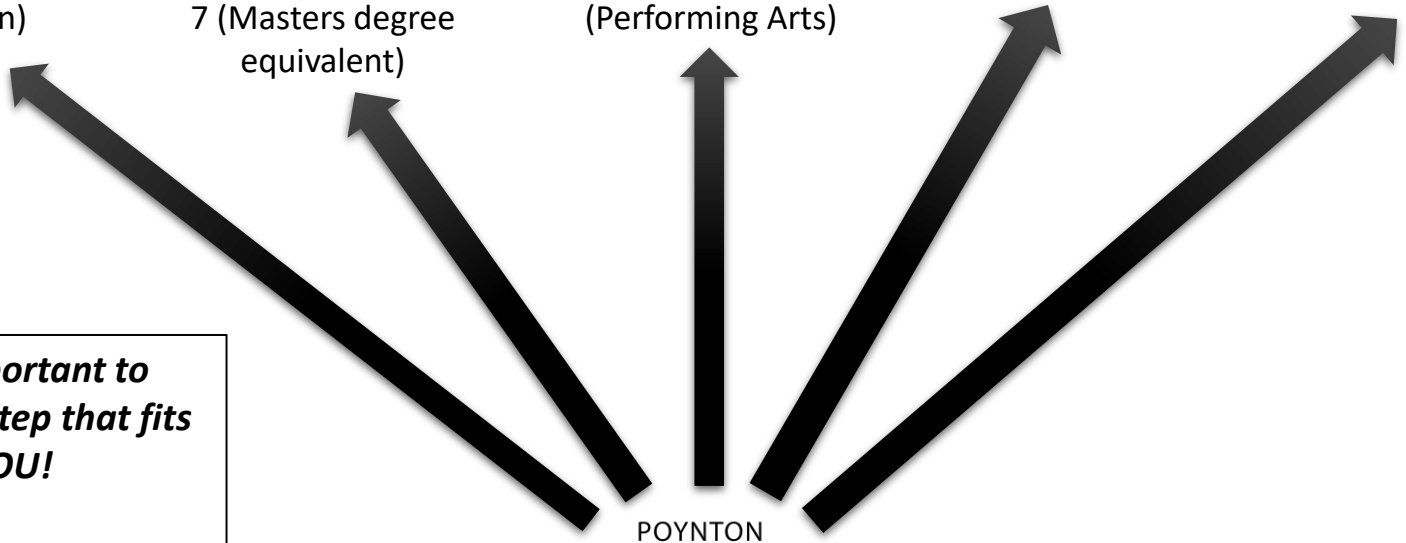
University (Higher Education)

Apprenticeship Level 3 up to Level 7 (Masters degree equivalent)

Conservatoire (Performing Arts)

Employment

Gap Year



POYNTON 6th
THE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

It is important to choose a step that fits YOU!

Also important to keep in mind that your next step is likely not to be your FOREVER MOVE!

'The average UK employee changes jobs every 5 years.' (LV insurance 2025)

By this time next year you will have sat ALL of your exams, you will have heard back from your universities and some of you will have secured apprenticeships.

POYNTON 6th THE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

unifrog UCAS

Our process supporting university applications.



March 2026
COMPLETE!
UCAS Discovery Event – exploring university courses and apprenticeships.

May 2026
COMPLETE!
Mock exams – influencing staff predicted grades.

May 2026
COMPLETE!
Work Experience Week. Log your experience to use in your Personal Statement.

Monday 22nd – Friday 26th June
UNDERWAY…
Discussion with subject teachers about predicted grades (following mocks) to inform your research of universities and courses.

By Life Beyond Morning
Complete Post-18 Intentions on Unifrog

TODAY
LIFE BEYOND MORNING:
Completing key aspects of UCAS form.

July
Subject teachers completing your references.

Researching unis and courses.

Attending Open Days

Wednesday 30th September
All Early Entry UCAS applications sent.

Wednesday 25th November 2026
Final UCAS submission at PHS.

University Open Days – Various Dates

We will authorise two visits to University Open Days in term time. An absence request form must be submitted to Mrs Tupman. Please keep in mind that many take place on weekends also. (a central Open Day calendar can be found here: https://www.opendays.com/)

Aspire PHS SIXTH FORM

Conservatoire Applications

JUL 09

Conservatoire applications open for 2027 entry

Applicants can register, pay, and send their applications.

OCT 01

(18:00 UK time) Application deadline for conservatoire music applications

Applications for dance, drama, and musical theatre courses may have a different deadline – check conservatoires' websites for information.

JAN 13

(18:00 UK time) Equal consideration date for applications for most undergraduate courses

- The reference must be completed before the application can be sent to us.
- Deadline for most conservatoire undergraduate dance, drama or musical theatre courses. Check on the specific course to be sure.

FEB 09

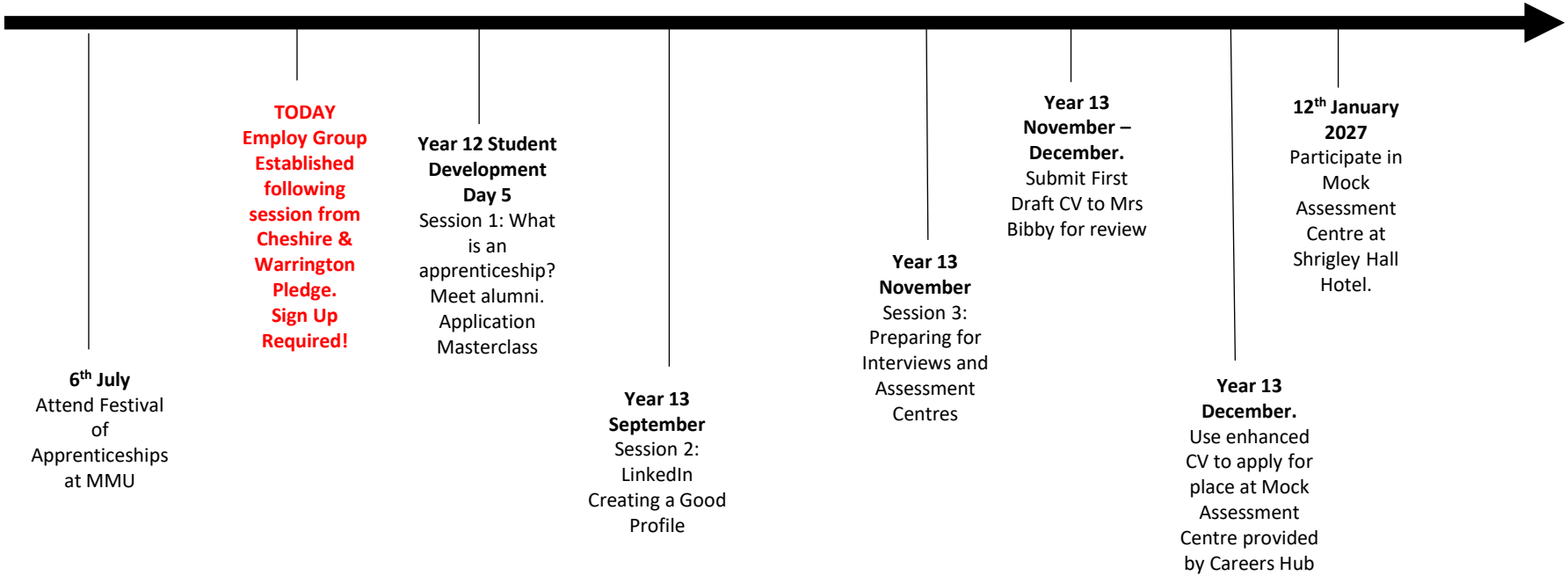
UCAS Conservatoires applicant decline by default (DBD)

If applicants receive all decisions by 7 January, they must reply by 9 February, otherwise their application will be declined by default (DBD).

Aspire
PHS SIXTH FORM

Employment Readiness Group

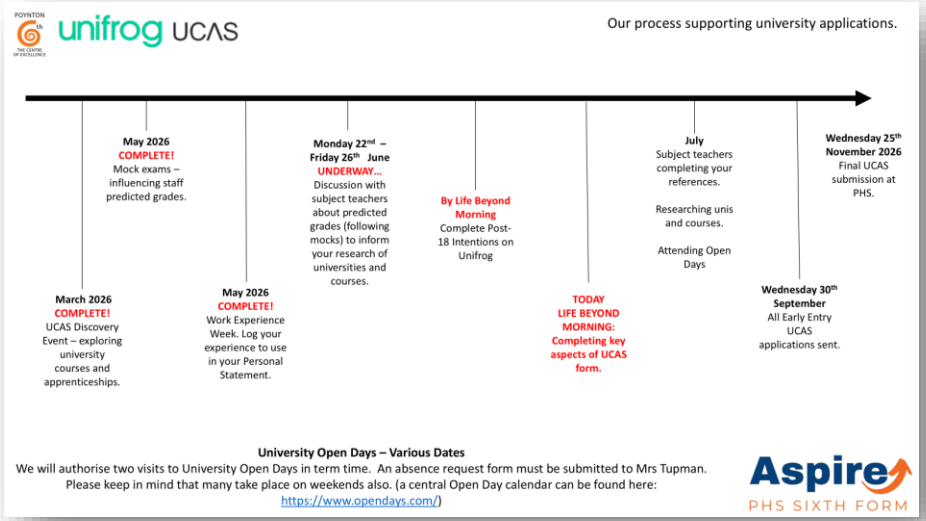
Our process supporting apprenticeship applications.

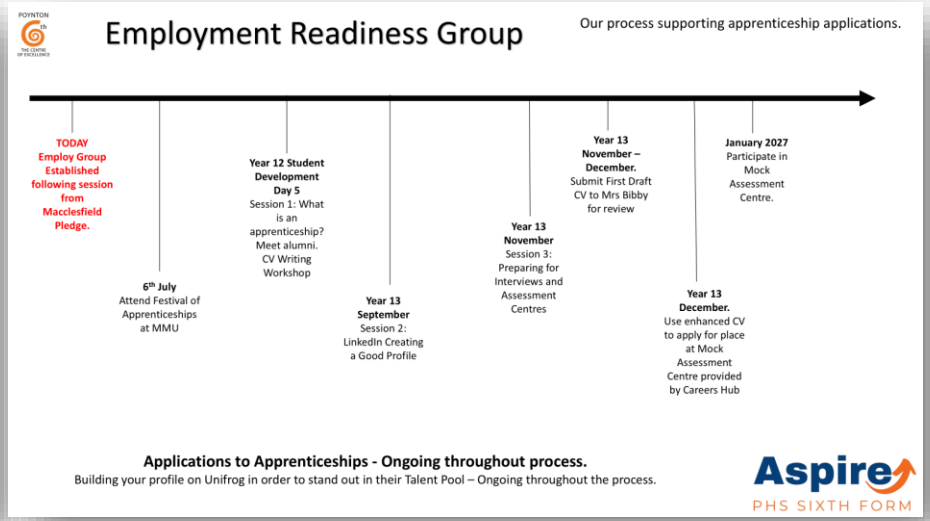


Applications to Apprenticeships - Ongoing throughout process.

Building your profile on Unifrog in order to stand out in their Talent Pool – Ongoing throughout the process.

Today is focused on BOTH PATHWAYS…





Many students are likely to follow BOTH pathways. You can make a university application alongside being in our Employ group.

Levels of apprenticeships…



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PHS SIXTH FORM

When do you apply for an apprenticeship?

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The answer is that it's different from other forms of education and the deadlines can vary depending on the type of apprenticeship you're applying for. Generally, the best time to apply for apprenticeships is between January and March. This is when many employers start advertising their apprenticeship vacancies, but it's a good idea to start your research early so that you can find the right opportunities for you. Here are the three broad categories of application timelines:

Annual recruitment cycle
Many large employers, particularly those offering higher apprenticeships, degree apprenticeships and accountancy-related school leaver programmes, follow an annual recruitment cycle. In this case, applications usually open between September and March, with closing dates from late October to early May. The start date for these apprenticeships is often in early autumn.

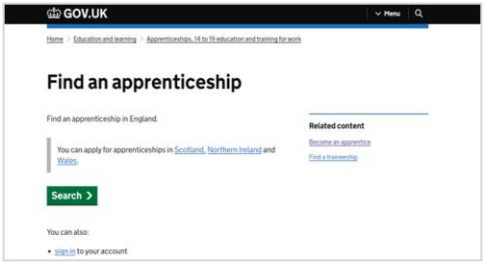
Immediate start apprenticeships
Some employers, especially smaller ones or local branches of national chains, recruit apprentices for immediate start. In these cases, it's more prudent to wait until you finish school or college. These apprenticeships are available to start work without delay.

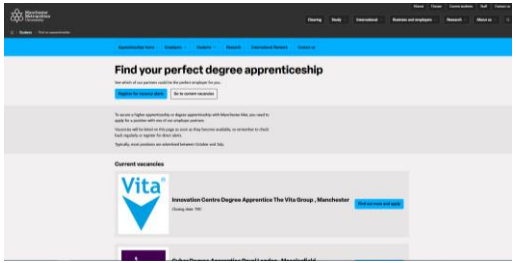
Ongoing recruitment
A few employers describe their apprenticeship recruitment as ongoing, accepting applications throughout the year. Even if a company hired you, there may not always be a position available to start immediately, so be ready to wait. This approach is more common amongst larger employers.

Searching for an apprenticeship

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https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship Students should set up their profile and register for new vacancy alerts on the Government portal.



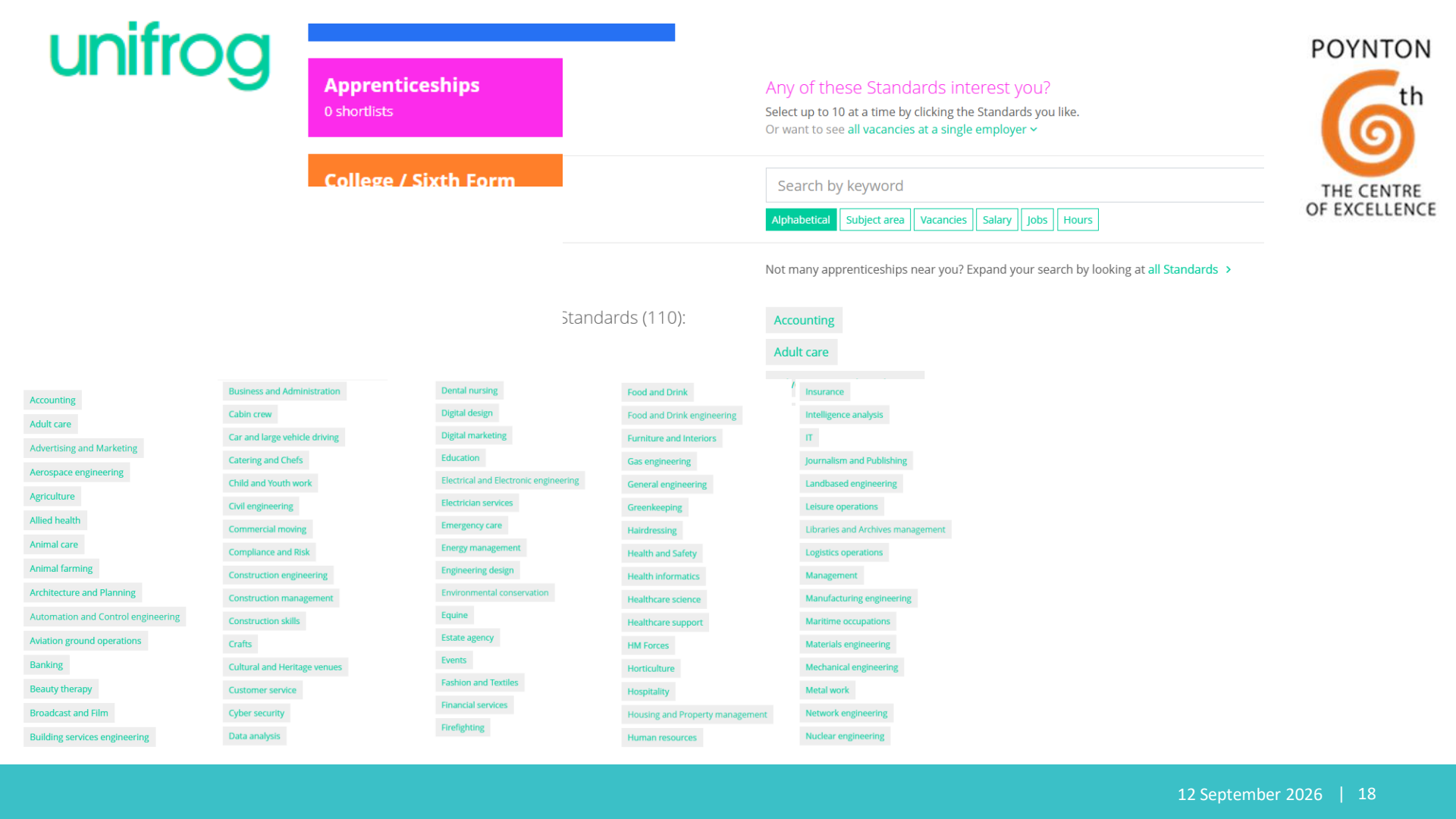


unifrog

Amazing Apprenticeships

indeed

https://www.mmu.ac.uk/study/apprenticeships/apprentices/find-an-apprenticeship


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Apprenticeships
0 shortlists
College / Sixth Form
Any of these Standards interest you?
Select up to 10 at a time by clicking the Standards you like.
Or want to see all vacancies at a single employer
Search by keyword
Alphabetical
Subject area
Vacancies
Salary
Jobs
Hours
Not many apprenticeships near you? Expand your search by looking at all Standards
Standards (110):
Accounting
Adult care
Advertising and Marketing
Aerospace engineering
Agriculture
Allied health
Animal care
Animal farming
Architecture and Planning
Automation and Control engineering
Aviation ground operations
Banking
Beauty therapy
Broadcast and Film
Building services engineering
Business and Administration
Cabin crew
Car and large vehicle driving
Catering and Chefs
Child and Youth work
Civil engineering
Commercial moving
Compliance and Risk
Construction engineering
Construction management
Construction skills
Crafts
Cultural and Heritage venues
Customer service
Cyber security
Data analysis
Dental nursing
Digital design
Digital marketing
Education
Electrical and Electronic engineering
Electrician services
Emergency care
Energy management
Engineering design
Environmental conservation
Equine
Estate agency
Events
Fashion and Textiles
Financial services
Firefighting
Food and Drink
Food and Drink engineering
Furniture and Interiors
Gas engineering
General engineering
Greenkeeping
Hairdressing
Health and Safety
Health informatics
Healthcare science
Healthcare support
HM Forces
Horticulture
Hospitality
Housing and Property management
Human resources
Insurance
Intelligence analysis
IT
Journalism and Publishing
Landbased engineering
Leisure operations
Libraries and Archives management
Logistics operations
Management
Manufacturing engineering
Maritime occupations
Materials engineering
Mechanical engineering
Metal work
Network engineering
Nuclear engineering
POYNTON
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* Your postcode SK12 1PU (change?)

* Choose radius

2 miles - 0 vacancies | 5 miles - 3 vacancies | 10 miles - 6 vacancies | 20 miles - 15 vacancies | 50 miles - 75 vacancies | 100 miles - 126 vacancies | 200 miles - 264 vacancies | No Limit - 286 vacancies

and 12 nationwide vacancies



Levels (4):

next or go back

Not sure? Expand your search by looking at all Levels ›

Intermediate - Develop basic knowledge and skills for specific jobs. Formal qualifications are not usually required, though you might need English and Maths at GCSE level or to take equivalent functional skills training.

Advanced - Develop good knowledge and skills for specific jobs. You'll usually need to have a few GCSEs including English and Maths.

Higher - Develop high knowledge and skills for specific jobs. You'll usually need to have GCSEs including English and Maths, and you'll often need an A level or equivalent qualification that is relevant for the role.

Degree apprenticeship - Develop high skills for a specific job, while also getting a related Bachelor's or Master's degree. You'll usually need to have achieved good grades on A levels or equivalent qualifications that are relevant to the role.

UCAS

Starting very soon (0)	Starting soon (15)	Starting in a while (36)
Within 4 weeks	Within 1-3 months	In 4+ months
	Engineering Maintenance Technician Apprentice AstraZeneca Distance: 5 miles	Higher Apprentice - Engineering Manufacturing Technician Siemens Distance: 8 miles
	Process Industry Manufacturing Technician Apprentice AstraZeneca Distance: 5 miles	Level 4 Professional Taxation Technician Kaplan Nationwide
	Project Controls Apprentice AstraZeneca Distance: 5 miles	Degree Apprenticeship - Accountancy/Taxation Professional Siemens Nationwide
	Accounting Apprentice LANGRICKS LIMITED Distance: 5 miles	School and College Leavers - Tax PwC Nationwide
	Accounts and Finance Assistant	

next ▸ or go back

Intermediate 0 Advanced 1 Higher 0 Degree 0

1 vacancy selected - **click save to get more info including useful links**

save

Engineering Maintenance Technician Apprentice - Advanced

Employer: AstraZeneca
Training Provider: AstraZeneca

Employer website | Uni & Employer library profile

Charter Way, Macclesfield SK10 2NA

Engineering Maintenance Technician Apprentice

Apprenticeship facts

Deadline
Annually in February

Applications open
Annually in January

Start date
Annually in September

Weekly wage
£473

Hours per week
Check their site

Duration
Check their site

Number of vacancies
Check their site

Distance from home
5 miles

Training provided

Employer & Training facts

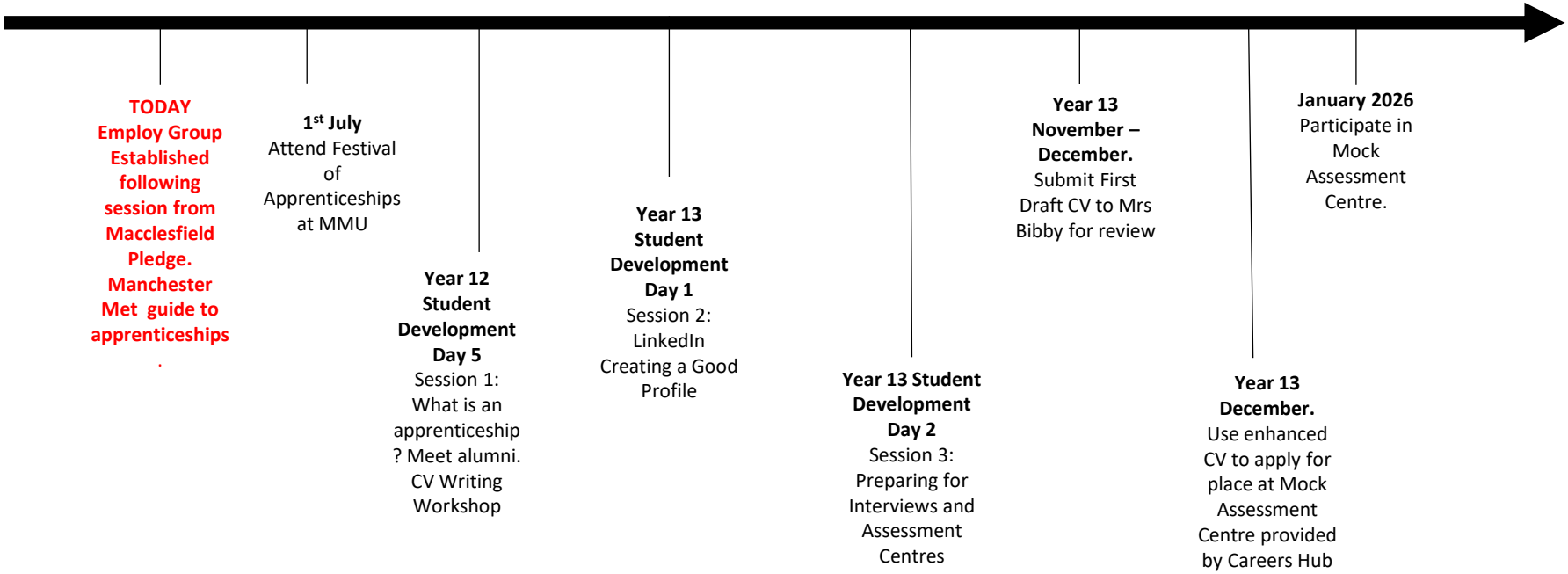
Employer description
AstraZeneca is one of the world's most exciting bio-pharmaceutical companies. From scientists to sales, lab techs to legal, we're on a mission to turn ideas into life-changing medicines that improve patients' lives and benefit society. We need great people who share our passion for science and have the drive and determination to meet the unmet needs of patients around the world.

Training provider Ofsted rating
-



Employment Readiness Group

Our process supporting apprenticeship applications.



Applications to Apprenticeships - Ongoing throughout process.

Building your profile on Unifrog in order to stand out in their Talent Pool – Ongoing throughout the process.

Please meet our Alumni…

James Rolfe
Class of 2025



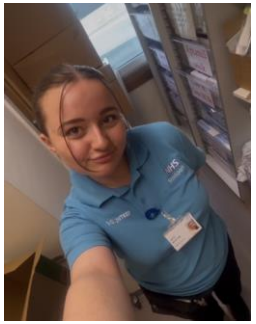
Max Waterman
Class of 2025



Adam Leyland
Class of 2025



Kate Morton
Class of 2025



ONE YEAR ON...



James Rolfe

James studied A Levels in Maths, Economics and Spanish. he is now at the University of Warwick studying Economics. He's enjoyed deepening his understanding and the intellectual challenge of his degree so far.

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POYNTON 6th THE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

ONE YEAR ON...



Max Waterman

Max studied A Levels in Maths, Physics and Economics.
He is currently taking a degree apprenticeship in the Bridges team at WSP.
He has enjoyed the balance of being in the office and on site.

POYNTON 6th THE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

POYNTON 6th THE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE



WSP

ONE YEAR ON...



Adam Leyland

Adam studied A Levels in Media Studies and Sociology alongside BTEC Sport. He is currently completing a degree apprenticeship with the NHS in Operating Department practice. He has most enjoyed working alongside surgeons, anaesthetists and the wider theatre team.

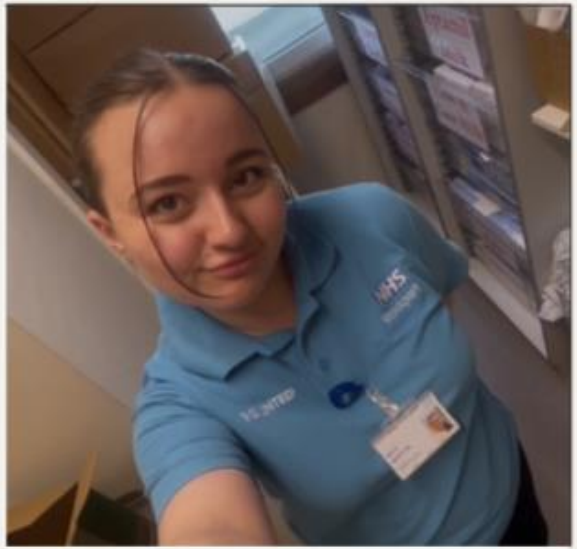
POYNTON 6th THE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE



POYNTON 6th THE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE



ONE YEAR ON....



Kate Morton

Kate studied A Levels in Biology, Psychology and English Literature. Kate's story is important as she has taken a year to work and gather important volunteering experiences to bolster her university application and take time to consider the 'right' pathway for her.

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NHS

What is UCAS?

UCAS is an independent charity providing information, advice and admissions services. They're there to help people discover what their next step might be.

UCAS does:

- provide information, advice, and support
- process applications
- complete fraud and verification checks
- take part in education sector engagement

UCAS doesn't:

- make decisions or offers
- set entry requirements
- advise on finance
- advise on immigration or visas for individuals

What's right?

There are a number of things to consider with their next step :

- something they enjoy – they are investing time and effort
- whether it's right for their career path – check with employers and professional organisations
- location – city or rural, transport links
- a study and assessment style that suits them
- environment including extracurricular, clubs, and societies
- finances, living costs, bursaries (often not income related)



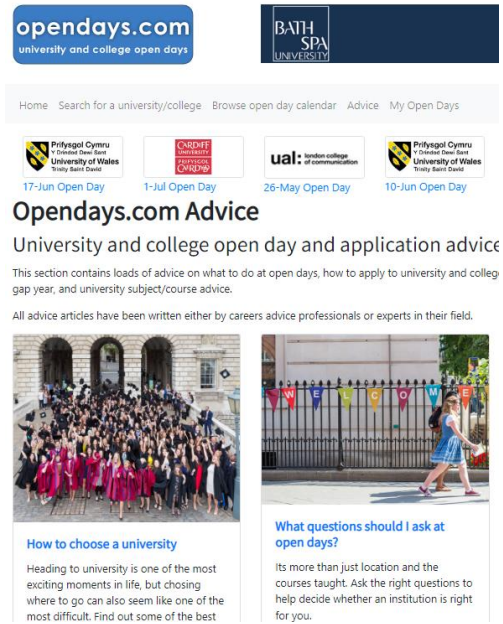
POYNTON 6th THE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

Aspire PHS SIXTH FORM

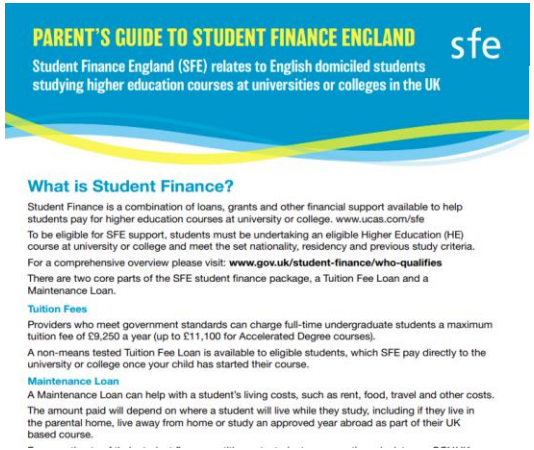
Open Days and Student Finance

POYNTON 6th THE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

- www.opendays.com



- https://www.ucas.com/sfe
- https://www.gov.uk/student-finance-register-login
- https://www.gov.uk/student-finance-calculator



Check how much student finance you could get

This calculator is for students living in England starting a new undergraduate course in academic years:

- 2024 to 2025
- 2025 to 2026

Choosing the right course

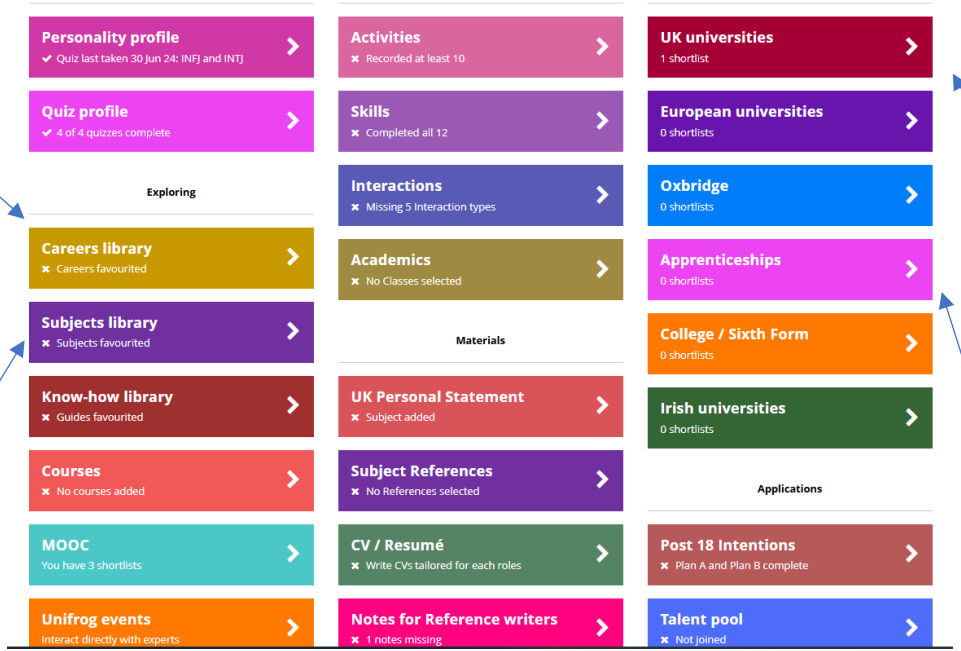
- What does the course cover?
- Courses with the same title may be very different.
- Look carefully at the core course content, and the range of optional studies/modules available.
- Which modules are the most interesting and relevant to your career aspirations?
- See if the course or university/college 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?

Choosing the right next step for YOU

Research, research, research…We have made significant investment in the best platform to support this process. There is no ‘one-size-fits-all’ approach, you need to make your research and actions fit YOU.

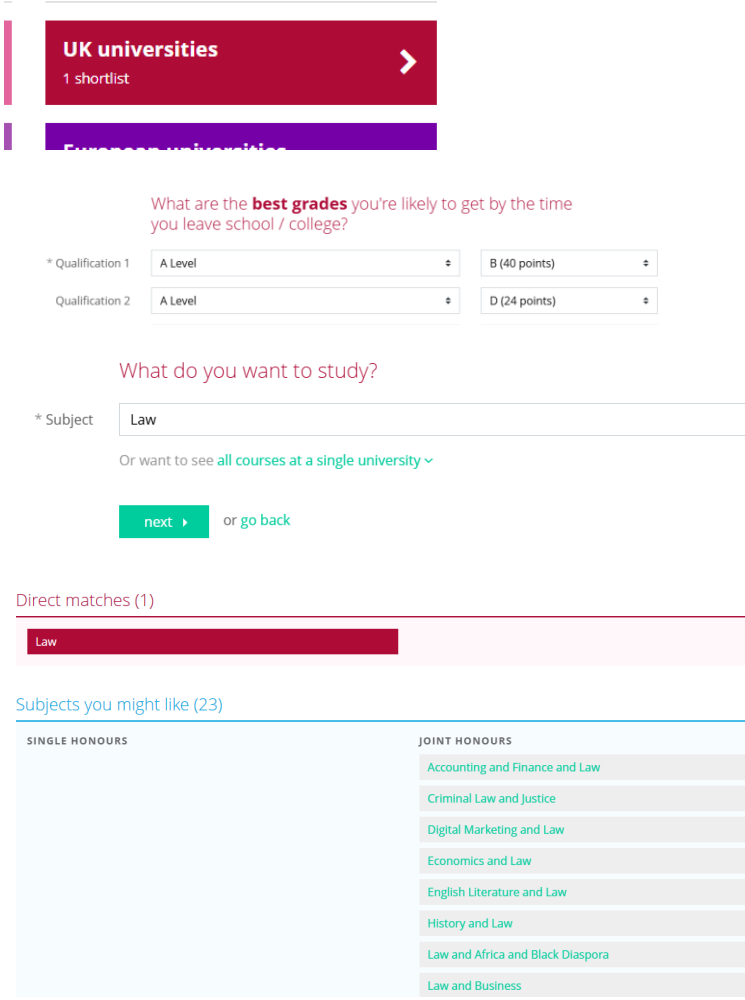
Search careers that your current courses may lead to. Find out what they entail and what you need to do next to get there.

Search subjects at university that your current courses may lead to. Find out more about where they may lead you – employment etc…

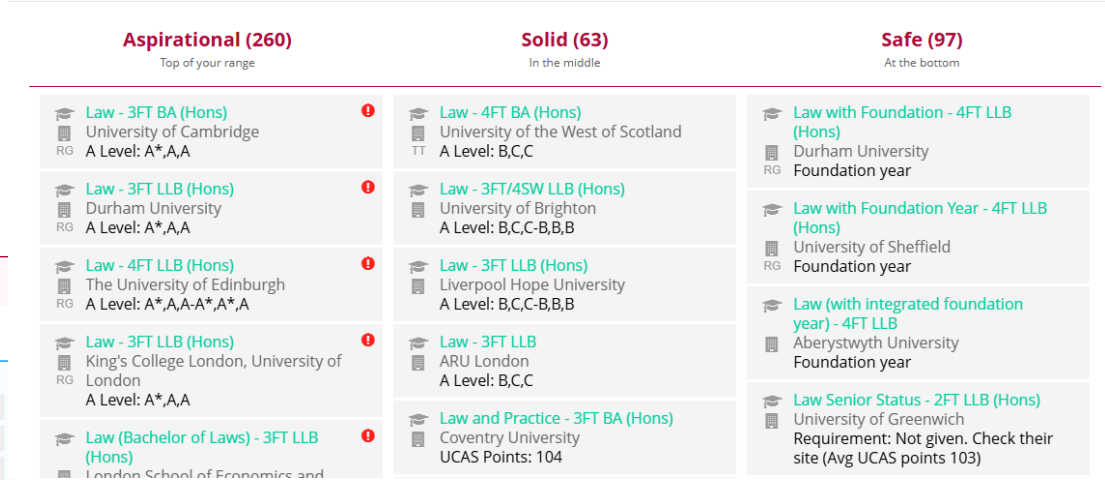


Search for university courses based on the grades you believe you might get. Compare them with each other. Look at student satisfaction ratings, employability following the course etc..

Research apprenticeships, get links to connect with the employers. Look at location, wages, what you need to apply etc…



The UK universities tool on Unifrog is key to exploring your options.
You can add the grades that staff are predicting you are capable of into the search feature alongside a subject area.
You will find different courses with a range of entry requirements. You can then 'shortlist' these.



https://www.unifrog.org/student/know-how/uk-universities – 5 min guide clip

Here you can make comparisons between unis and courses…

unifrog

Law - 3FT LLB (Hons)

Durham University
Durham, England





Website | Open Day | Course page | £ Finance page | Disabilities | Contextual offers | Scholarships | Visa info | Accommodation

Upcoming events

Subject Taster Sessions — Book
Ongoing
These subject tasters are an ideal way to get a taste for what university might be like!

Discover Durham Live! — Book your spot!
Ongoing
We're running a series of Discover Durham Live virtual sessions covering everything from our colleges to sports and societies!

Open Days and Visits — Find out more
Ongoing
If you are interested in applying to Durham or already have an offer, we have plenty of ways for you to find out more.

University facts

Guardian overall rank
6th

Complete University overall rank
6th

QS world rank
89th

Teaching Excellence (TEF)
Silver

THE Impact rank
36th

People and Planet rank
48th

Guardian subject rank
Law: 6th

WhatUni Student Support rank
-

Full-time undergrads
17,075

International undergrads
25%

Ethnic minority 1st years
14%

Disabled 1st years
18.5%

Difficulty
Aspirational - Out of your predicted range

WhatUni Student Life rank
-

Getting in

2026 A Level entry requirements
A*,A,A
Full-time 3 Years: All applicants are also required to sit the LNAT (www.lnat.ac.uk).

Admissions test
Law National Admissions Test (LNAT)

Last year's successful applicants for Law
The average UCAS tariff for last year's successful applicants was 197, and you fall in the 0-10th percentile. This means that 0-10% of the students who were on this course last year achieved lower grades at school than the ones you entered.

79% of successful applicants did the same qualification types as you, and of these a typical result was:
A Level: A*A*A*

Aspire
PHS SIXTH FORM

Research apprenticeships at different levels, find out how to apply

How far do you want to travel?
Narrow down your search [illegible] distance limits below.

* Your postcode SK12 1PU (change?)

* Choose radius

2 miles - 0 vacancies | 5 miles - 0 vacancies | 10 m
50 miles - 36 vacancies | 100 miles - 59 vacancies
No Limit - 145 vacancies

and 6 nationwide vacancies



Rank | Filter | Keyword search

Intermediate (1)
Equivalent to GCSEs

Apprentice Junior Estate Agent
SIMPLE MOVE MCR LIMITED
Distance: 8 miles

Advanced (4)
Equivalent to A-levels

Apprentice Account Handler
ARDONAGH ADVISORY HOLDINGS LIMITED
Distance: 11 miles

Apprentice Mechanical Design Engineer - Manchester
JOHNSON CONTROLS BUILDING EFFICIENCY UK LIMITED
Distance: 11 miles

Apprentice CAD Technician
EM3 SOLUTIONS LTD
Distance: 18 miles

Higher / Degree (13)
Equivalent to Foundation / Bachelor's

Apprentice Cost Consultant
Arcadis
Distance: 10 miles

Actuarial Apprenticeship
Willis Towers Watson
Distance: 11 miles

Higher Apprentice: Functions
Barclays
Distance: 11 miles

Higher Apprentice: Functions
Barclays
Distance: 11 miles

Apprentice Cost Consultant - Degree

Employer: Arcadis
Training Provider: Arcadis

Employer website | earlyyearscareers@arcadis.com

1st floor, Suite 1a, 4 Piccadilly, Manchester M1 3BN

As a cost consultant you can work in any of our sectors and you will work across cost, commercial and tra
projects. At its core, Cost Consultancy involves estimating and advising on the cost of construction works,
providing advice on project finances and contractual relationships. Working in a fast-moving industry mea
transformation is key.

Apprenticeship facts

Deadline
14 June 2024

Applications open
May

Start date
1 September 2024

Weekly wage
£420

Hours per week
35

Duration
18 Months

Number of vacancies
1

Distance from home
11 miles

Training provided
You will work towards your:

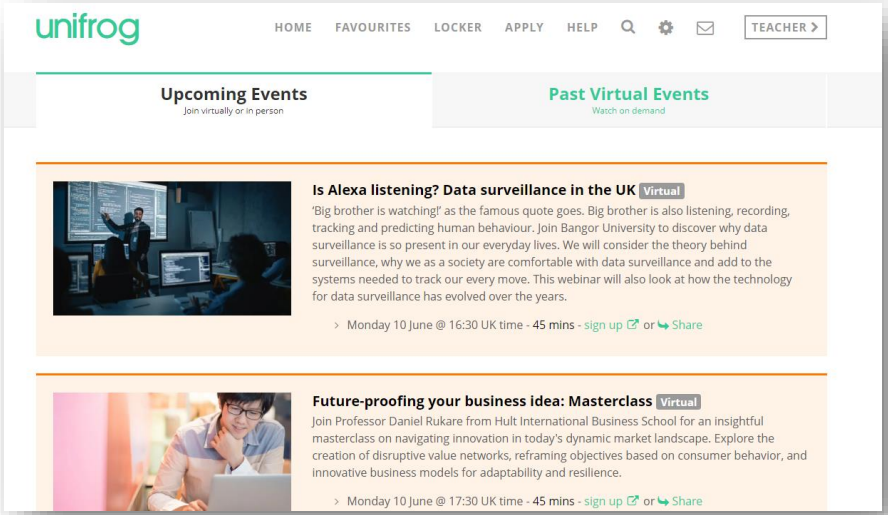
- Insurance Practitioner Level 3 Apprenticeship
- Certificate in Insurance (Cert CII)
- Level 2 Functional Skills in English and Maths (if required)

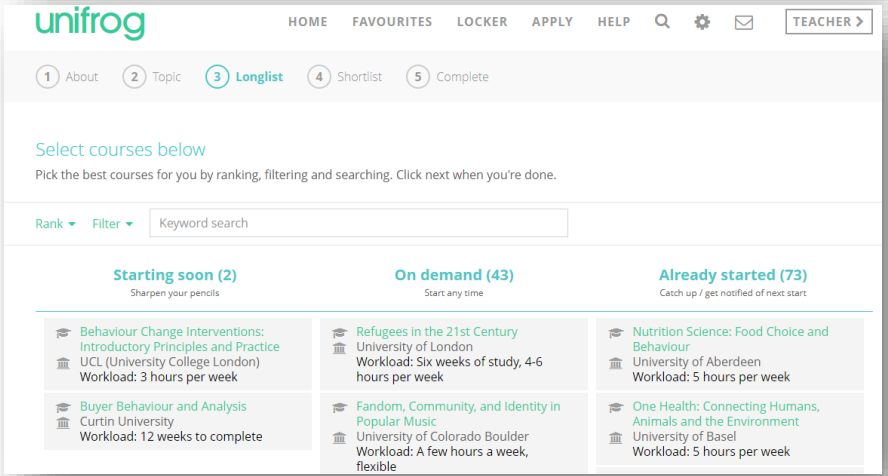
Employer & Training facts

Employer description
One of the world's leading independent insurance brokers.

Training provider Ofsted rating
Requires improvement
Read report

unifrog
Aspire
PHS SIXTH FORM





Discover academic recommendations based on areas of interest, reading, listening and super-curricular studies that help you stand out against peers applying for courses and bolster your wider subject knowledge.

- MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses) affiliated and accredited by universities.
- Podcasts, journal articles, books created and curated for you by leading academics.
- Masterclasses from key universities for you to attend online.
- …there is so much to help you stand out.

All important places to reference for our SUPER-CURRICULAR SUMMER!

unifrog

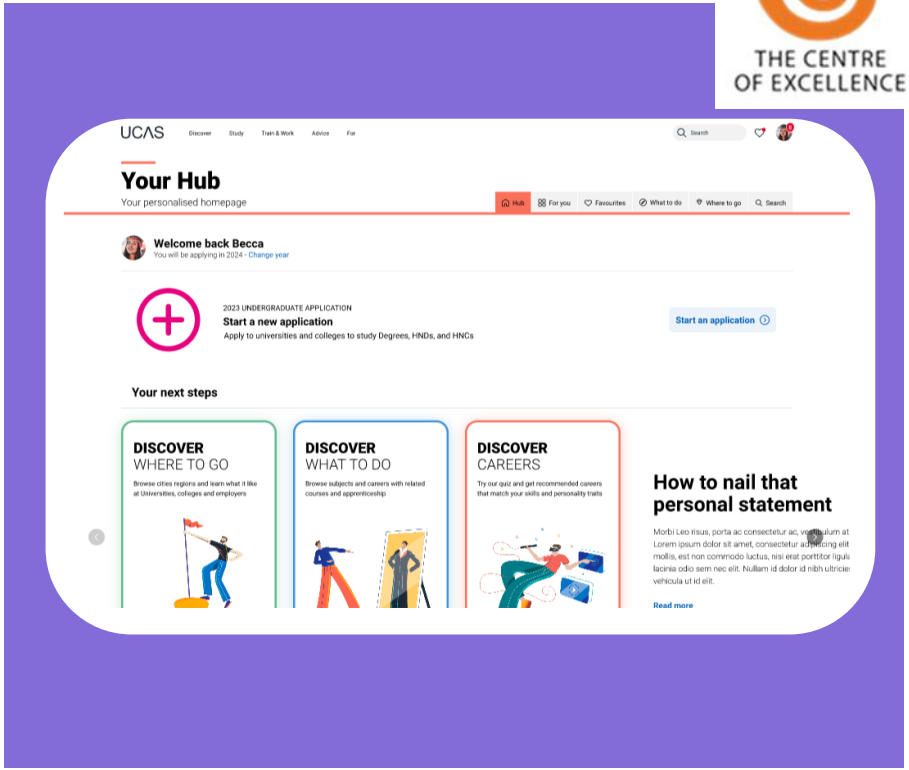
Aspire

PHS SIXTH FORM

Starting research

Students are already registered with the UCAS Hub to:

- explore careers, subjects, places, and apprenticeships
- find and favourite over 35,000 courses
- search for open days, events and virtual tours
- turn predicted grades into UCAS Tariff points
- speak to those in the know using Unibuddy
- speak to career, higher education, and application specialists by attending Hub lives
- take the UCAS Quiz to find your career matches
- start their application – we have already tasked them with this today!

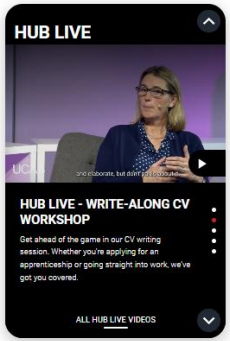


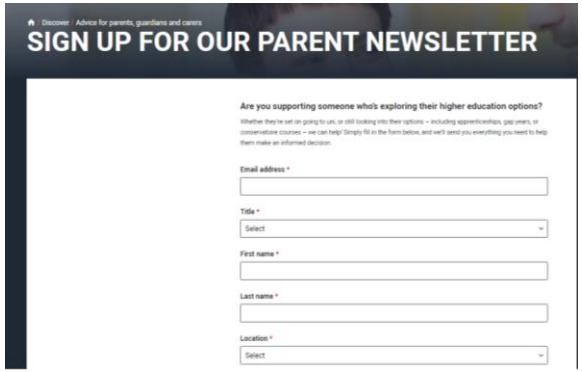
UCAS advice and events

UCAS Hub lives

Join live sessions hosted by expert panels.

Ask questions to help you make an informed decision about the right path for you. University, apprenticeships or the world of work.





UCAS Newsletter for Parents

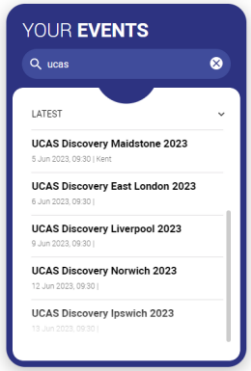
https://www.ucas.com/parents-signup

Whether they're set on going to uni, or still looking into their options – including apprenticeships, gap years, or conservatoire courses – we can help! Simply fill in the form below, and we'll send you everything you need to help them make an informed decision.

UCAS Discovery

Events and open days are presented based on your preferences.

Register straight from the Hub for UCAS Discovery 'The Big Q&A Tour', with exciting new zones covering all pathways.



Completing the UCAS application



Student registers for a UCAS Hub account to carry out research and start application.



Student completes all sections of the application (this is now live to complete) and asks Mrs Bibby to check form when fully complete. (Personal Statement does not need to be finalised for this)



Form Teacher reviews Personal Statement via Unifrog and creates reference, predicted grades added to reference. June 2026 - Students are currently completing discussion cards with subject staff.



Final review meeting with Sixth Form Team link, student then instructed to pay for application.

(£34.50, there is a FSM waiver)



Student books to see Mr Bennett or Mrs Hardicre to review application prior to it being forwarded to UCAS on behalf of the student.



Universities and colleges make their decisions on the application and reply via the UCAS Hub.

POYNTON 6th THE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

When to apply for 2026 entry

Our process supporting university applications.

Thursday 30th January 2025
COMPLETE!
Establish login for UCAS platform setting up your UCAS Hub.

Session on use of Unifrog for research.

Wednesday 5th March 2025
COMPLETE!
UCAS Discovery Event – exploring university courses and apprenticeships.

Monday 28th April – Friday 9th May
COMPLETE!
Mock exams – influencing staff predicted grades.

Monday 19th – 23rd May
COMPLETE!
Work Experience Week. Log your experience to use in your Personal Statement.

Monday 23rd – Friday 27th June
UNDERWAY…
Discussion with subject teachers about predicted grades (following mocks) to inform your research of universities and courses.

TODAY
LIFE BEYOND MORNING:
Completing key aspects of UCAS form.

July
Subject teachers completing your references.

Researching unis and courses.

Attending Open Days

Friday 10th October
All Early Entry UCAS applications sent.

Friday 5th December 2025
Final UCAS submission at PHS.

University Open Days – Various Dates

We will authorise two visits to University Open Days in term time. An absence request form must be submitted to Mrs Tupman. Please keep in mind that many take place on weekends also. (a central Open Day calendar can be found here: https://www.opendays.com/)

Aspire PHS SIXTH FORM

There are **two main UCAS deadlines** to be aware of when applying**.** Our **SCHOOL DEADLINES** are set in advance of the UCAS deadlines to ensure we have enough time to carry out all the checks needed and to write good quality references. Please make sure you observe the school deadlines.

Early Entry
Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science, Oxford, Cambridge.

UCAS Deadline = 15th October
PHS Sixth Form Deadline = 3rd October

Most other degrees

UCAS Deadline = 14th January
PHS Sixth Form Deadline = 1st December

You MUST meet our PHS Sixth Form deadlines in order for us to have capacity to submit your UCAS form on time.

Key facts

- Universities and colleges can't see the other choices when students apply, until firm and insurance courses are selected.
- Students have up to five choices, unless applying to study medicine, veterinary, medicine/science, dentistry – then it's four choices but they can use your 5th for a different course if they wish
- Students can't apply to BOTH Oxford and Cambridge.
- Applying costs £34.50. Student pays for application online when their Sixth Form Team Link gives them the go ahead – this DOES NOT send to UCAS at this time, Mr Bennett sends all applications to UCAS. *If a student has been in receipt of Free School Meals this fee can be waived if they indicate this on their application.*

Application

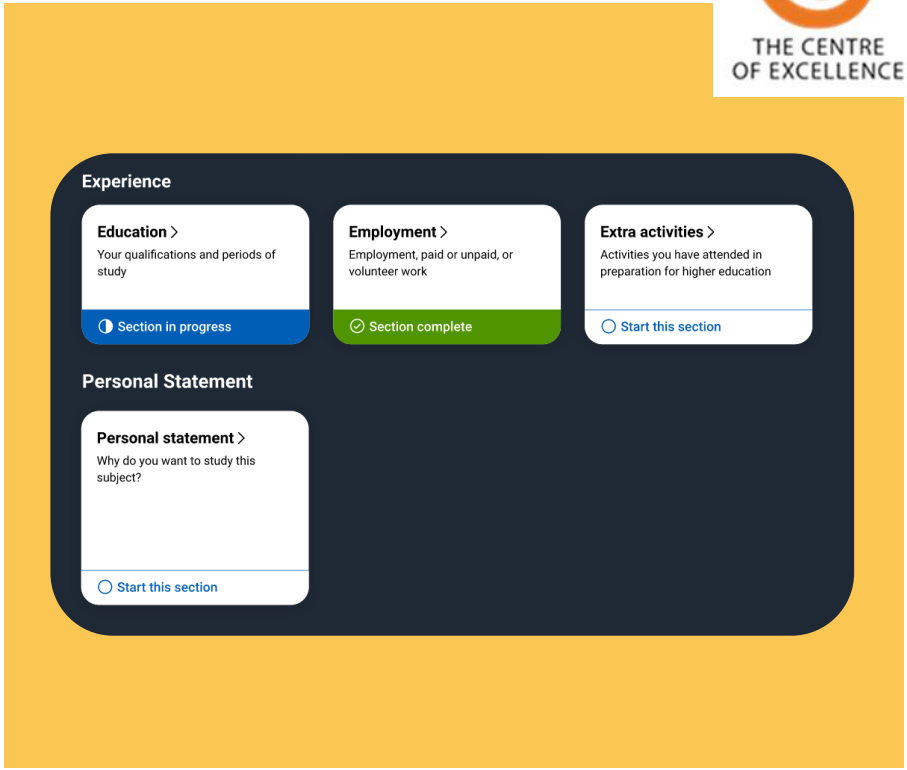
Experiences:

- Education
- Employment
- Extra activities

What have you done above and beyond?

- Personal statement
- Reference**
- Add choices – up to five

**(not visible for students linked to their school/college)



References Update

POYNTON 6th THE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

The UCAS reference system for uni applications has changed…

PREVIOUSLY…

One central reference of 4000 characters which tutors pulled together from subject staff completing paragraphs for each student.

NOW…

Three ‘sections’ (4000 characters in total)

Section One:
General statement about school.

Section Two:
Extenuating circumstances.

Section Three:
Other supportive information specific to the applicant and relevant to the course(s) applied for.

Aspire PHS SIXTH FORM

POINTS TO NOTE….

Our references will be much shorter than previously, as directed by UCAS.

We will still be creating a comment for ALL students – we feel this is important.

Students will have the opportunity to meet with their tutor or a member of the Sixth Form Team to discuss any extenuating circumstances that we are not already aware of. UCAS have suggested that the vast majority of students are most likely to have nothing noted in this section.

The Personal Statement Format for 2027 entry

POYNTON 6th THE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

The new personal statement is now scaffolded around three questions…

1. **Why do you want to study this course or subject?**

Examples of what you might talks about here are your motivation for studying this course, your knowledge of this subject area and interests, your future plans and why this is a good fit for you.

2. **How have your qualifications or studies helped you prepare for this course or subject?**

Examples of what you might talk about here are how your studies or training relate to your chosen course(s) or subject area, what relevant or transferable skills you have that make you a great candidate and any relevant educational achievements

3. **What else have you done to prepare outside of education, and why are these experiences useful?**

This could include work experience, volunteering, personal life experiences, hobbies and extra-curricular outreach activities and achievements outside of school.

UCAS' similarity detection service:
Every personal statement is run through software to check for plagiarism. Generating (and then copying, pasting and submitting) all or a large part of a personal statement from an AI tool such as ChatGPT, and presenting it as your own words, could be considered cheating by universities and colleges and could affect chances of an offer.

Students now have to declare that their personal statement hasn't been copied or provided from another source, including artificial intelligence software.

The UCAS Verification Team run checks to detect fraudulent applications and patterns of similarity in personal statements which are reported to universities.

Personal statement example

Why?

POYNTON 6th THE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

Lord Darzi's recent report highlights the huge challenges facing the NHS and need for stark reform. It concludes however that the NHS's 'vital signs remain strong' with a deep passion and determination from all staff to make the NHS better for patients. The NHS has always been there for my family and I, from broken bones to cancer. I'm in awe of the skills, compassion and dedication displayed by these amazing people who make the service tick. My decision to pursue medicine is formed from a love of science, research and an intrinsic desire to help others.

I love studying Psychology as I'm fascinated by the capability and workings of the human mind; in particular what motivates people to behave in diverse ways. I am particularly interested in Forensic Psychology, questioning what triggers criminals to commit crimes, and wondering if it is possible to predict behaviours and identify patterns in order to prevent criminality.

A defining moment for me was when I was able to understand the application of biochemistry to my own life. I was prescribed a brown inhaler as part of a treatment plan to help prevent my symptoms of PFAPA syndrome and thought how does this compare to my blue inhaler. During my research I found that it acts as a preventer rather than a reliever highlighting to me that the chemical structure alters the effect of each inhaler on the human body. One of the standout moments in my chemistry lessons was when I prepared a sample of aspirin.

Personal statement example

What?

POYNTON 6th THE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

As a Geography ambassador, I helped out in year 7 geography lessons once a fortnight in year 12. This was so encouraging as I was working with young students who were struggling but gradually saw them learn to understand and enjoy geography with my help. During my work experience at a high school in Altrincham, I observed geography lessons, helped students, and soon gained the confidence to teach lessons to Year 7 and 8 classes. I really enjoyed this and I wish to explore teaching further at university after my geography degree.

Outside of Sixth Form, my project led to me creating a cover for my local magazine- a peacock butterfly in colour pencil as well as an article about the importance of insects. This opportunity allowed me to further share my work with others, as well as being able to communicate my passion for these wonderful creatures. I have also spent time volunteering, both in my local library over the summer and working at my local ceramics studio over a series of months, culminating in a week spent doing work experience there.

I began a MOOC on Global Media, War, and Technology. Over a three-month period, I researched cyberspace, learned how to complete a discourse analysis on an image, became better versed in politics and, more broadly, began to understand the true power of the media in society. These were but a few of the factors that enticed me further toward a career in Journalism. My EPQ project explored the portrayal of disability in literature. Through extensive research of fourteen fictional novels, I outlined normalised but harmful stereotypes that negatively shape the cultural perception of disabled individuals.

Decisions

https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/applying-university/admissions-tests

Universities and colleges will review the:

- personal statement
- qualifications
- reference

They may also ask for:

- admissions test
- interview
- portfolio/audition

Replies to offers

May/June 2027

POYNTON 6th THE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

Once students have decisions on all their choices, they can choose two:

- One as a ‘firm’ acceptance – their first choice.
- The other as an ‘insurance’ acceptance. This acts as a back-up if they do not get into their ‘firm’ choice.

Any remaining offers must be declined.

Once all their decisions and replies have been made, if they are not holding an offer, they may be able to use Extra or Clearing to find available places.



What should students be doing?

- research, research, research
- attend open days and events
- extracurricular and super curricular activities
- work experience
- volunteering
- independent learning outside the curriculum
- focus on this year's studies



POYNTON 6th THE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

Stepping up to Year 13

POYNTON 6th THE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

Year 13 is short! Workload is concentrated and well-paced. Being organised with positive study routines is key for success.

- We would expect students to be performing at a level close to their final grades in the Year 13 mock exams. 'just a mock' mentality won't cut it.
- If work ethic left scope to improve in Year 12 improvements MUST happen in Year 13.
- Attendance should not fall below 96%. Anything lower correlates with lower levels of progress (as do any punctuality concerns).
- Work external to sixth form must be kept at an appropriate level in order to prepare fully. (we can see where students have not been able to prioritise their education).
- Students must attend form time. This is where key routines, messages and activities linked to applying for next steps happens.

Upcoming

- Tuesday 14th July Student Development Day –Personal Statements workshop, Employment Readiness Session (Meet the Apprentices and Applications Masterclass)
- Wednesday 15th July – School Sponsored Walk
- Thursday 16th July – Aspire Assembly 8.40. Final Day of Lessons. Summer Break.

Any Questions?

Please meet…



Mr Bennett
Director of Sixth Form



Mrs Hardicre
Head of Year



Mrs Cutler
Head of Year



Ms Lawson
Sixth Form Support Officer

James Rolfe
Class of 2025



Max Waterman
Class of 2025



Adam Leyland
Class of 2025



Kate Morton
Class of 2025





Mrs Tupman
Sixth Form Welfare Leader