

Year 12 Parent Q&A

Where are we now...

Grades

- *reported overall subject grade* shows attainment; it is not a projected grade.
- not necessarily the grade we will use on references next year but it will be used to inform the *application grade*
- application grades can be revised up until a student submits an application
- decisions about the A-level subjects - most have made decisions but some are still in the process
- must study at least three subjects in year 13
- Application and projected grades shared in September

Summer work

- transition work but not too much!
- https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1-GseB_ylz1vlw6mhq7DI7R8xKQo6FYcU?usp=sharing
- set aside a few days, maybe closer to the start of term

Future plans so far...

Tutor time:

- focused and detailed research into options
- choosing and participating in a range of extra and super-curricular activities to strengthen applications
- Unifrog...
- Presentations:
 - Range of options available to year 13 students and timeline
 - Strengthening applications (university, apprenticeships and employment) through extra and super-curricular activities.
 - University focus – factors to consider when researching course and institutions; recommended research resources; UCAS Exhibition
 - Gap year
 - Admissions tutors
 - Introduction to apprenticeships
 - Q&A sessions
- 1:1 support: tutors/Miss Champion/Dr Pullin/careers interviews

Year 13 Key Dates

4 September	Return to school
4 September	Year 13 Parents' Information Evening
15 October	Year 13 year group photograph
October Half Term	
7 November	Report 1 issued
13 November	Parents' Evening 1
Christmas holiday	
30 January	Art/Graphics/Photography mock exams
w/b 2 February	Mock Exam week (1 week – 1 exam per subject)
February Half Term	
3 March	Report 2 issued
5 March	Parents' Evening 2
23 March	Drama exam (tbc)
Easter holiday	
w/b 27 Apr	Language oral exams (tbc)
8 May	Celebration Day (last day)
11 May	A level exams start
May Half Term	
w/b 22 June	A level film festival (tbc)
23 June	A level exams finish
24 June	Exam board contingency day – students should be available
25 June	Prom
w/b 29 June	A level Art exhibition

Results day
13 August 2026

July

Early applicants: Personal statement writing session – beginning of term 6
UCAS conservatoire applications open 10 July 2025

Research continues

September

Admissions tests

UCAS application submission opens 2 September

All: Personal statement writing session early September

October

Conservatoire music application deadline 2 October 18:00

Early applicant UCAS deadline 15 October 18:00 (Oxford, Cambridge, medicine, dentistry, veterinary)

November

KLB UCAS application internal deadline (end of the month)

December

Early applicant interviews (Oxford Cambridge)

January

External UCAS Equal consideration deadline 14 January 2026 18:00



Fee: £28.95 for up to five choices unless Free School Meals **during** their secondary education

Sources of information

- www.ucas.com; www.ucas.com/careers-advice (uni - but also Subject Spotlights and Virtual Work Experiences)
- <https://discoveruni.gov.uk/> (good for comparison)
- www.theuniguide.co.uk (The Student Room)
- www.whatuni.com (student rankings)
- <https://www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk/> (subject guides and league tables)
- www.russellgroup.ac.uk/our-universities.aspx
- <https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/>
- www.prospects.ac.uk
- www.unifrog.org

Extra and Super-curricular activities

- Future learn
- The Super Curriculum
- University wider-reading lists
- Activities that can demonstrate transferable skills

SUPER
CURRICULUM



 **Future
Learn**

Open days

- Students can have a further 2 school days to go to open days in September/October
- Students should complete a form and hand it in to me to confirm visits
- For normal absences, please continue to email Mrs Price lprice@klbschool.org.uk
- Many are at the weekend
- Look on www.opendays.com

Personal statements –changes this year

- Three sections on the UCAS form totalling 4000 characters
- Minimum 350 characters in each section
- A student's opportunity to tell universities and colleges about suitability for the course(s) they hope to study.
- Demonstrate their enthusiasm and commitment to study and ensure they stand out from the crowd

Personal statement – three sections

Why do you want to study this course or subject?

- showcase their passion for and knowledge of their chosen subject area

How have your qualifications and studies helped you to prepare for this course or subject?

- demonstrate relevant or transferable skills gained from education

What else have you done to prepare outside of education, and why are these experiences helpful?

- other activities or personal experiences which further demonstrate suitability

Year out?

- Can make a deferred entry application within our normal cycle (students select when they want to start their course as 2027 rather than 2026)
- Can defer making an application until September 2026...get in touch!
- Students could change their mind in their year out and reapply in 2026 for 2027 start
- We always support past students with their applications – they just need to get in touch!

Apprenticeships – advanced, higher, degree

- Can apply alongside a UCAS application
- Websites / resources to help search for companies that offer apprenticeship degree jobs/ courses:
- <https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship> – geographical and keyword search
- <https://amazingapprenticeships.com> – for advice and workshops
- <https://www.ucas.com/explore/search/apprenticeships> – for vacancies through UCAS – can refine search by geography, keywords or specialism

★ Job of the week

2026 KPMG Apprenticeships

Kpmg

📍 Nationwide

Apprenticeship level	Salary
England - Higher	£23,000 - 25,000
Apprenticeship - Level 6	

Industry	Apply by Start date
Finance and accounting	31/10/2025 01/09/2026

Apprenticeships and employment support

- Independent careers advisor – interviews w/b 15 Sept
- Introduction and registration session (this term)
- Workshops to support application, interview, selection exercises
- Timelines vary – we tailor our support – many Jan/Feb – Mar/Apr
- Can take many applications to secure something – organisation is the key

Bristol Autumn Fair: Wednesday 08th October 2025 - Ashton Gate Stadium:

Event Time: 9.30 am - 2.30 pm

Interview practice

- Departments and subject specialists support with interviews for Oxford, Cambridge, Medicine, Veterinary medicine, dentistry, paramedic science, nursing, midwifery, teaching and other subjects as required
- We enlist the help of external experts when we can
- We rehearse online interviews with students (a lot of interviews are online now)
- Our apprenticeship support includes interview skills
- We support interview practice for apprenticeships and jobs **whenever it is requested**
- We will gladly support any other selection exercises such as presentations that students may be asked to do as part of their application experience.
They just need to ask!

Home study

- Students can apply for home study when we are settled into term 1
- No morning home study
- Withdrawn if school work or other concerns
- Must complete a form that is signed by a parent

Driving to school



- Not permitted if you live within a safe walking distance (Wotton and Kingswood)
- To get a permit, student **and a parent** must have signed the consent form that is handed in to Mrs Price
- Limited onsite parking while building work is taking place
- Encourage lift-sharing for both fuel economy and parking limitations

Other questions?

- Part-time work – how much? When to cut back?
 - DoE research suggests no more than 15 hours
 - A lot of students cut back around Christmas – run up to February mock exams
- Support for art students:
 - Course director visit (subject to availability)
 - Department support to **all students** interested in pursuing art subjects
 - The art department will support students in getting portfolios together for applications
 - Art foundation courses (direct from sixth form) do not incur tuition fees. If students are wanting to take a year out, they should do so **AFTER** their foundation course in order to avoid the cost
 - Don't have to have done art for A level.

Oxford

Check if there are admissions tests

All admissions tests will be online, delivered in partnership with Pearson VUE via its established network of test centres – no charge this year

Oxford: Students register themselves 18 Jun – 19 Sept 18:00

Oxford: Book tests themselves 18 Aug – 26 Sept 18:00

Take test 21-27 October (Except LNAT and UCAT)

Oxford

- History Admissions Test is not running in 2025
- **24 October** Ancient History and Classical Archaeology Admissions Test (AHCAAT)
- **21-27 October** (excluding weekend) Biomedical Sciences Admissions Test (BMSAT)
- **22-24 October** Classics Admissions Test (CAT)
- **24 October** Modern Languages Admissions Test (MLAT)
- **24 October** Philosophy Test (PhilAT)
- **21-27 October** (excluding weekend) Thinking Skills Assessment (TSA)
- **22-23 October** Physics Admissions test for Physics, Engineering and Materials Science (PAT)
- **22-23 October** Mathematics Admissions test (MAT)

Cambridge (UAT UK): Pearson VUE registration system.

- Entry fee applies unless you are eligible for bursary voucher.
- Access arrangement deadlines: 8 September 2025
- Booking open 31 July – 29 September 2025

9 or 10 October 2025 (book by 29 September) [Engineering and Science Admissions Test \(ESAT\)](#) for Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology; Engineering; Natural Sciences; Veterinary Medicine

13 or 14 October 2025 (book by 29 September) [Test of Mathematics for University Admissions \(TMUA\)](#) for Computer Science (Peterhouse and Trinity also require the Computer Sciences Aptitude Test); Economics;

Some courses require college admission assessments. You do not need to register for these: the colleges will contact students with when and how they should take the tests.

Other universities (UAT UK): Pearson VUE registration system.

- Entry fee applies unless you are eligible for bursary voucher.
- Access arrangement deadlines: 8 September 2025

9 or 10 October 2025 (book by 29 September) Engineering and Science Admissions Test (ESAT) for courses at UCL and Imperial

13 or 14 October 2025 (book by 29 September) Test of Mathematics for University Admissions (TMUA) for courses at Durham, UCL, LSE, Imperial, Warwick

15 or 16 October 2025 or 12/13 January 2026 (book by 29 September) Test of Academic Reasoning for Admissions (TARA) for courses at UCL

Others: Pearson VUE LNAT for law degrees

- Registration opens on 1 August 2025. Testing starts on 1 September 2025.
- The fee is £75 unless you qualify for a bursary. The bursary must be applied for first.
- Check the LNAT website for the various deadlines for different universities:
 - [University of Bristol](#)*
 - [Durham University](#)*
 - [University of Glasgow](#)
 - [King's College London](#)*
 - [LSE London School of Economics and Political Science](#)*
 - [University of Cambridge](#)*
 - [University of Oxford](#)*
 - [SOAS](#)
 - [University College London](#)*

Others: Pearson VUE UCAT (University Clinical Aptitude Test)

- Medicine/Dentistry
- Fee £70 unless you qualify for a bursary. The bursary must be applied for first.
- Book from 17 June-12 September at noon
- Applicants are required to sit the UCAT (between 7 July and 26 September) if they are intending to apply for entry in 2026 (or deferred entry in 2027)
- <https://www.ucat.ac.uk/about-ucat/universities/>

Bursary

Post-16 bursary is a fund available to support those whose education might be inhibited by financial considerations.

- Applications should be made by 12 September 2025.
- Those in receipt of the bursary this year will need to sign the **Year 13 Continuation Claim** to roll over the provision by 12 September 2025.
- In-year applications possible if circumstances change.

Forms will be available on the website or hard copies on request.

EPQ deadlines

- Written report completion date: 29/9/25
- Presentation rehearsal: w/b 29/9/25
- Presentation: w/b 6/10/25
- Submission: 13/10/25
- Marking: 15/10/25