

Sixth Form Bulletin

September

Upper Sixth

Key dates this term:

Oct 14	EPQ Presentation Evening
Oct 15	National deadline for UCAS early applications
Nov 30	Deadline for all other UCAS applications

UCAS Personal Statements:

Most students will be writing their Personal Statement this half-term, which is the largest part of their application to universities. This was started in July, and most students choose to draft it using the Unifrog platform before transferring it into their application, as Unifrog provides helpful examples to provide inspiration. Support is provided within college, and students or parents can also visit the [UCAS page here](#) for further advice.

Finding local apprenticeships:

Students looking for alternative routes to university after Sixth Form are encouraged to explore Hertfordshire Opportunities Portal at www.hopinto.co.uk

At this site, they can find live vacancies for jobs and apprenticeships within Hertfordshire. These are updated constantly, so students should make a habit of checking regularly and filtering the search to their needs.

Attendance procedures:

When not in a lesson or a timetabled study period, students in Year 13 are welcome to study at home. We continue to ask parents to contact us in the mornings if a student is ill.

Parking student cars on site:

Students who do not live in Buntingford are welcome to park cars in the swimming pool car park on site. They can get a parking permit by taking their license, MOT and insurance documents to the college office.

Careers advisor:

Students are welcome to make use of our independent careers advisor this year, from Services for Young People. They can request a meeting at any time.

Major apprenticeship providers opening their applications this term:

Whilst smaller, local companies will tend to advertise their apprenticeships later in the year, many of the big national-scale providers begin their applications process this term. Here are a few to look out for:

- ✓ Sky <https://earlycareers.sky.com/>
- ✓ Unilever <https://careers.unilever.com/uk-apprenticeships>
- ✓ GSK <https://www.gsk.com/en-gb/careers/early-careers/apprentice-programmes/>
- ✓ KPMG <https://www.kpmgcareers.co.uk/apprenticeships>
- ✓ Amazon <https://www.amazonapprenticeships.co.uk/>

Students can explore a wide range of apprenticeship providers at

www.amazingapprenticeships.com/vacancies/

Sixth Form Bulletin

September

Lower Sixth

Key dates this half-term:

Oct 2 Obstacle Training Ground trip, Bassingbourn

Oct 8 Year 12 "Get Work Ready" Day

Super-curricular activities:

This half-term, students will be introduced to the concept of "super-curricular activities" – things that extend their interest in their subjects beyond what they are learning in lessons. They'll be encouraged to listen to relevant podcasts, watch documentaries and follow expert academics. Some might like to complete a short, free online university course through www.futurelearn.com to explore a subject they could study at university.

Post-18 plans:

As students' post-18 plans develop over the year we ask them to keep us informed so that the Sixth Form Team can email about relevant work experience or taster events.

Get Work Ready day:

The first of our PSHCRE Days in the year is dedicated to helping prepare students for the world of work. Over twenty professionals from a wide range of career areas will work with students on interview and assessment centre techniques to build their confidence and experience. If any parents are free on October 8th and keen to help with mock-interview style activities, please do contact Mr Abell.

Work shadowing day: (January 27th)

On January 28th, we ask all Lower Sixth students to arrange a day's work shadowing in a career area they are interested in pursuing after Sixth Form. With plenty of notice, students can plan ahead to set up a good placement for themselves. If they are unable to secure an in-person experience they will be supported to find virtual workplace experiences, but ideally they will arrange something face-to-face.

Careers advisor:

Year 12 students are strongly encouraged to make use of our independent careers advisor, from Services for Young People. At any time in the year, students can request a meeting.

Independent study time:

To be successful on their Sixth Form courses, students will need to commit significant time outside of lessons. We suggest that **an hour of independent study time** is needed for every one hour lesson taught. Students have time built into their timetable when much of this study can be done, but are likely to still need to spend around an hour each evening. Between lessons, students should be regularly:

- Reviewing notes they have taken and transforming them in some way to help lock the content into their long-term memory (eg mind-mapping, review cards)
- Looking at previous exam questions on the college network to try to apply their knowledge

If students are ever unsure how to use their study time, or need a bit of help with time management to make sure they stay on top of their workload, they should speak to a member of Sixth Form staff.

