

THE PRIORY ACADEMY

LSST

YEAR 12 INFORMATION EVENING

2020



Purpose of the evening

1. University application process and timeline
2. Guidance on how to choose a course and university
3. Guidance on how to prepare to write a personal statement
4. Student finance
5. Alternative Pathways
6. Advice for Oxbridge and early entry students



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Preparing to apply to university and the timeline

Friday 20th March

University trips - a chance to visit one of 4 universities and receive advice and guidance.

Oxbridge Day – an opportunity for early entry students to get further information about their subjects

Wednesday 25th March

UCAS Higher Education Exhibition held at Lincoln University. The exhibition helps students explore a wide range of academic and career opportunities, and discover a future that's right for them.

June 2020

Registration for UCAS 2021 process takes place in school through the Universities College and Admissions Service (UCAS).



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Preparing to apply to university and the timeline

- **Mid-September 2020**

Submission of UCAS applications starts.

- **15th October 2020**

Application deadline for **Oxbridge** and those applying for **Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science**.

- **15th January 2021**

All UCAS applications should be submitted by this date.

Early application is recommended. Do not leave it till the last minute. Many universities reply to applicants swiftly. It also gives us time to give feedback on personal statements.



Preparing to apply to university and the timeline

How does UCAS work?

- Students have a maximum of 5 choices. They do not have to put all 5 choices down at once
- Invisibility of choice. Universities do not know where else a student has applied
- Universities respond to applications by 31 March 2021
- FIRM and INSURANCE choices are made in early May 2021
- It costs £20* for one choice or £25* for 2-5 choices(2020 fees)
- Payment is made online by credit or debit card by the student



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Choosing a course and university

- Research is the key
- University Open Days – talk to current undergraduates
- University websites
- League tables – The Good University Guide/Guardian
- Discover Uni – compare courses at different universities
- Course content and structure. How is the course taught and assessed?
- Location -city or campus university
- Career prospects/opportunities for work experience



Choosing a course and university

- Check entry criteria. Some courses will have minimum GCSE grade requirements, for example a minimum of a grade 6 in English
- Some universities will ask for specific A level or BTEC grades, but some will ask for UCAS points
- Check whether you need to take any additional examinations. LNAT, BMAT, UCAT, TMUA, STEP, aptitude tests or assessments.



Contextual Offers

- Universities are trying hard to widen participation from under- represented groups.
- Measures they routinely use for this are
 - Free School Meals (FSM)
 - Postcode (POLAR 4 or ACORN)
 - First generation to attend university
 - Cared for students
 - Household income
- Universities are giving reduced offers to students who meet one or more of these criteria.



Studying abroad

- Some of our students have chosen to study abroad in the past few years.
- Two years ago 3 of our students chose to study in the USA – at Princeton, St Lawrence and Hinds.
- Though fees in the USA are very high, there is substantial financial aid available at some universities. This makes it viable for academic/sports students from lower income families.
- The application process is very different and needs to start now.
- We are still waiting to see how Brexit will affect funding for those wishing to study at a European university.



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Higher or degree apprenticeships

- More and more courses are being launched in collaboration with business where the course structure includes an amount of work within the company. These courses are usually funded by the businesses involved and students will incur no tuition fees.
- There are still entry requirements to fulfil as well as a lengthy recruitment programme. They tend to be very competitive.
- Some are sponsored degrees and some are degree apprenticeships.
- University contact time varies substantially between programmes.

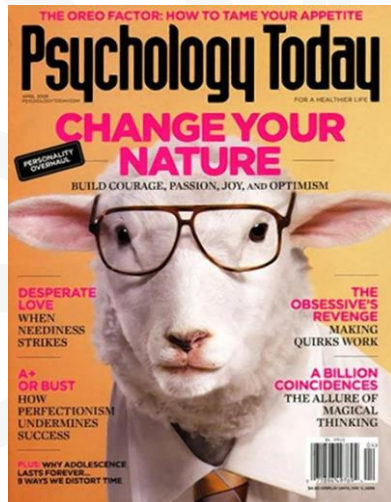


The personal statement

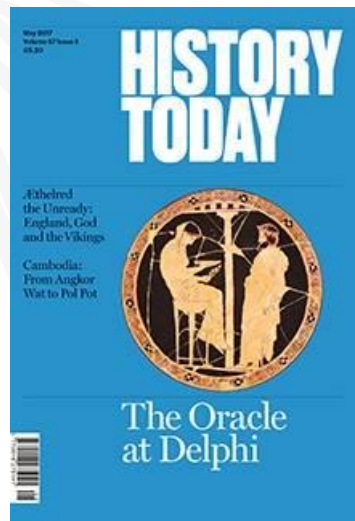
- Must be focussed on chosen subject
- Give evidence of engagement with the subject
- Demonstrate initiative and independent study skills
- Work experience, if relevant
- Summer schools/taster days/lectures attended (UNIQ, Headstart, Sutton Trust)
- Reading
- Show, don't tell.
- Aim for about 75%/25% split between subject and extracurricular activities
- Responsibilities – prefect/sport/volunteering/mentoring
- Proof read!
- Beware of plagiarism – UCAS has sophisticated software that will spot it.

Online courses and lectures.

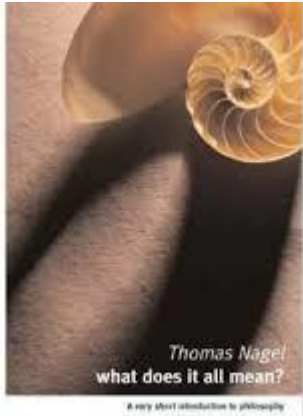
www.myheplus.com



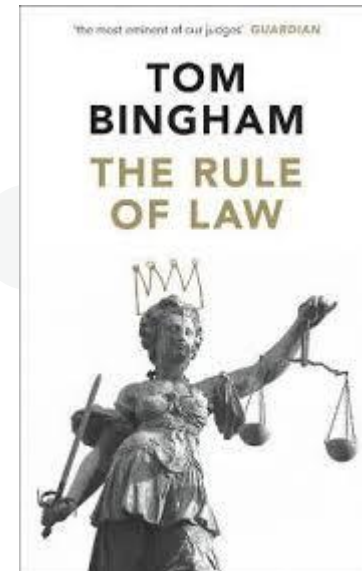
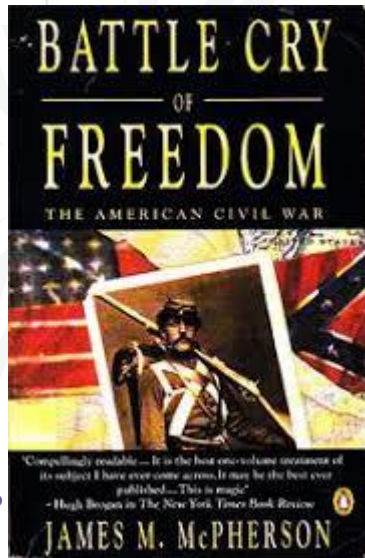
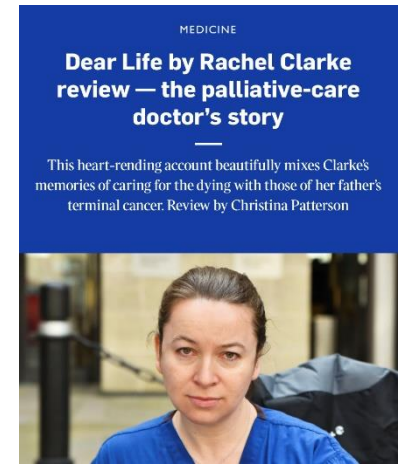
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Reading.....



THE INDEPENDENT



THE  TIMES



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References

All references are written positively and sensitively. They reflect suitability, commitment, progress and attainment as well as attendance. The reference will comment on each subject and include information about mock performance

Written by the form tutor and checked by Mrs Sharpe or Mr Milner

Predicted grades are based on the evidence of a student's performance over the course including coursework, classwork, assignments, in class assessments and mock examination results

Extenuating circumstances – these may be medical issues or family difficulties



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Unconditional offers

- If you put an Unconditional offer down as your firm choice, you cannot have an Insurance choice.
- Unconditional offers can affect your work ethic and you might not do as well as you wanted.

This can have several knock-on effects:

- You may change your mind about the course you are on and want to reapply elsewhere or transfer – your final grades could affect your ability to do this.
- Your results will have to go on any future job application, you need to ensure you do the best you can. Your results will be with you for the rest of your life.
- Graduate jobs may have a minimum UCAS points requirement, as well as a degree requirement (for example, KPMG, HSBC, Aldi).
- Some yearlong work placements (sandwich courses) require a minimum number of UCAS points.



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Student Finance

- Student Finance England (SFE) provides financial support on behalf of the UK government to students from England entering higher education in the UK.
- The two main costs you'll have while studying are TUITION FEES and LIVING COSTS
- There's student finance to help you with both – a tuition fee loan and a maintenance loan
- Depending on your circumstances, you could also get extra financial help while you study.
- Online applications for student finance open in February/March 2021.



Student Finance

- The maximum **Tuition Fee** a university can charge is £9250 per year.
- You do not have to pay the **Tuition Fee** up front. SFE pays the fee directly to the university
- The **Tuition Fee** loan does not depend on household income.
- A **Maintenance Loan** is available to **all** students, the amount depends on household income and where you live and study.
- Both **Maintenance and Tuition Fee loans** have to be repaid but not until you have finished your course and your income is over the repayment threshold, recently increased to £25K



Student finance

- **Maximum loan for living costs in 2020/21:**

• Living at home	£7747 (maximum)
• Away from home (outside London)	£9203 (maximum)
• Away from home, in London	£12,010 (maximum)
• A year of UK course abroad	£10,539 (maximum)
- **The loans are means-tested.**
- If household income is below £25,000 you will receive the maximum amount.
- **Disabled Students' Allowance** – if you have a long term health condition or specific learning difficulty (such as dyslexia)
- Go to the student finance calculator to find out how much you will get
- <https://www.gov.uk/student-finance-calculator>



Student Finance Package

Example Table

Household income	Maintenance loan paid in three instalments (one each term)	Maximum tuition fee loan Note: not all courses will cost £9250	Maximum amount borrowed excluding interest
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Living away from home and studying outside London			
£25,000 and under	£9,203	£9,250	£18,453
£30,000	£8,544	£9,250	£17,794
£35,000	£7,884	£9,250	£17,134
£40,000	£7,225	£9,250	£16,475
£42,875	£6,845	£9,250	£16,095
£45,000	£6,565	£9,250	£15,815
£50,000	£5,905	£9,250	£15,155
£55,000	£5,246	£9,250	£14,496
£60,000	£4,586	£9,250	£13,836
£62,252 and over	£4,289	£9,250	£13,539



Household income

- If you are supporting an application for student finance that depends on household income, SFE will need details of your taxable income and National Insurance number.
- If you are a parent of the student and live with your partner, they also have to give us details of their taxable income and NI number.
- **Taxable income includes**
 - wages, salaries, tips and other taxable employee pay
 - long term disability benefits received prior to minimum retirement
 - net earnings from self employment
- **Taxable unearned income includes**
 - interest from savings
 - benefits and pensions
 - rent from a property

More information can be found at www.gov.uk/income-tax



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The UK has left the EU

[Hide message](#)

[Find out what this means for you](#)

Part of

[Get undergraduate student finance: step by step](#)

Student finance login

Sign in or register for student finance online. You can:

- view your statements and letters from Student Finance England
- track an existing application
- check when your payments are due
- update some of your personal or application details
- reset your password or find your customer reference number
- apply for finance as a new or continuing student

If you're a parent or partner supporting a student's application, there's a different way to [submit or update information about your income](#).

Part of

[Get undergraduate student finance: step by step](#)

[Show all](#)

1

Check if you're eligible

[Show](#)

2

Find out how much loan you could get

[Show](#)

and

Check if you can get extra help

[Show](#)

3

Prepare your application



to help pay your tuition fees and living costs while at uni or college.

New students should also read our interactive [quick start finance guide](#).

Tuition Fee Loan

[About](#)

[What's available](#)

[Nationality and
residency](#)

[Course, age and
previous study](#)

[How it's paid](#)

[How to apply](#)

Living costs

[About](#)

[What's available](#)

[Nationality and
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[Course, age and
previous study](#)

[How it's paid](#)

[How to apply](#)

Disabled Students' Allowances

[About](#)

[What's available](#)

[Eligibility](#)

[How to apply](#)

[Study Needs
Assessment](#)

Dependants' Grants

Bursaries and Scholarships

- Many universities offer financial support through Bursaries and Scholarships
- Bursaries are linked to personal circumstances and household income. These are not repayable.
 - Sheffield Bursary Scheme automatically receive minimum of £250 if household income is below £40K (up to £1000 for an income below £25k)
 - Imperial Bursary Scheme pays out up to a family income of £60K, with £4000 for anyone with an income below £50K
- Scholarships are linked to academic results or ability in areas such as sport or music. They can be subject specific and are usually limited in number.



Student loan repayment

- You won't make repayments until your income is over the repayment threshold
- Repayments start the April **after** graduation
- You repay 9% of your income over the threshold, (currently £26,575). It's deducted directly from your salary through HMRC
- If your income falls below the threshold, repayments will stop
- Any outstanding balance will be cancelled 30 years after entering repayment

Income each year before tax	Monthly repayment
£26,575	£0
£30,000	£26
£35,000	£63
£40,000	£101

Interest

- Interest is added to the loan as soon as the first payment is made to your university
- It is charged at the rate of inflation (Retail Price Index RPI) plus 3% while you are studying
- From the April after finishing university, you enter repayment and the interest added varies according to gross income
- £26,575 or less RPI
- Between £26,575-£46,305 RPI + up to 3% dependent on income
- £46,305 and over RPI +3%



Pathways

What next for me?



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Apprenticeships



- Apprenticeships are varied and range from Level 2, (Equivalent to GCSE) up to Degree level and can last anything from 1-4 years
- They are suitable for those students who would prefer not to go to university and would like to move in to the world of work
- They are a combination of working, gaining further qualifications and getting paid at the same at the time
- Many businesses you will recognise offer apprenticeships



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Apprenticeship Opportunities

SIEMENS



Nestlé Good Food, Good Life



LLOYDS BANK



ASTON MARTIN



United
Lincolnshire
Hospitals
NHS Trust



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YOUR M&S

Employment Opportunities

We work directly with local businesses who offer full time employment opportunities for our year 13 students. These are not apprenticeships, but offer on the job training and a competitive salary



Potential early entry applications
Oxford, Cambridge
Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science

Mr Milner will be giving a presentation in the Lecture
Theatre



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