



The Thomas Hardy School

UCAS

Preparation for HE

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The Thomas Hardy School

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Preparation in school

- Good attendance- exam leave begins on **Friday 26th May**.
- Good use of time- spend non teaching time in the library or in the study room.
- Make the most of opportunities- attend teacher led study/ revision sessions.
- Complete past papers/ work with the mark schemes.



Preparation at home

- Limit hours of paid employment.
- Routine and regularity.
- Welfare during the exam and revision period.



Exam Period

In school for the examinations

AM exam- **9am** start

PM exam- **1pm** start



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Offers

Results

Mrs C Sainsbury

Higher Education Coordinator

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Where are we now?

Many students will have had all their responses from universities (Offer, Unsuccessful etc.) by **31st March 2017**

– **Students must respond by 4th May 2017**

If a student has **NOT** received all the university responses by **31st March** BUT has received them by the **5th May 2017**

– **Students must respond by 8th June 2017**

If deadline is missed offers will be:

DECLINED BY DEFAULT

Contact me if all responses are not in by the 5th May 2017 as there are other dates OR if the deadline is missed

Student Finance

28th March (next Tuesday)
Bournemouth University are
coming in to talk to students
about Finance/Student Life

Useful websites:

<https://studentfinance.campaign.gov.uk/>

<https://www.thestudentroom.co.uk/content.php?r=5659-Student-Finance>

<https://www.gov.uk/student-finance-register-login>



STUDENT FINANCE

**Apply NOW using
selected university/course**

**Application Deadline to guarantee
funds is the End of May 2017**

CHOICES

FIRM CHOICE (UF or CF)

- The university agrees that if the applicant meets their offer, they will reserve them a place on the course
- The student agrees that if they achieve the offer requirements (grades or UCAS points), they will enrol on the course

INSURANCE CHOICE (CI, optional) (If the FIRM choice offer not met)

- The university agrees that if the applicant meets their offer, they will reserve them a place on the course
- The student agrees that if they achieve the offer requirements (grades or UCAS points), they will enrol on the course



Choices and accommodation

- First and insurance choices should be made by the majority of students.
- First choice, and in some cases, both choices should now be sending out accommodation information.
- Contact universities if there are any special arrangements needed for accommodation.

Changed of mind? No offers?

“ If a student wants to change their course, or would now like to defer for a year, contact the university to see if this is possible.

“ ‘Extra’ is a way of adding choices: if the student has used all 5 choices and have either received no offers or declined all of them. Use Extra in Track.



STUDENTS: Contact Details IMPORTANT

**Check your son/daughter has their UCAS TRACK
log on details safe and ready to use**

Keep their:

- **Email address**
- **Postal address**
- **Phone contact details**

UP TO DATE ON UCAS

**The universities may contact them using this
information**

Results

- Results can be collected in school on **Thursday 17th August 2017**
- Students need to be available on results day and, if their results are not what they expected, for a week or two afterwards.
NOTE: If someone other than the student is to collect the results please bring some form of identification and authorisation from the student.
- **Log on to Track/Look at contact email** to see if they have been accepted. Check their contact details are correct and they should know their login details.

Results are better than expected...

- 'Adjustment' to look at alternative courses.
- This is a big decision as they will have already organised finance and accommodation for their first choice, and spent a long time choosing it.
- Register in Track. They will have 5 days to secure an alternative course.
- Contact universities directly; there will not be a list of vacancies for Adjustment.
- They will only give up your first choice if you accept a place through Adjustment

Results are not as good as hoped...

- Decide whether they want to look for another course this year, or have a gap year and reapply.
- They may be eligible to use 'Clearing' and will be notified on Track.

How to use Clearing

- Courses with vacancies will be listed on the UCAS website; they can look for courses that are different from those they originally applied for.
- They can apply for courses they originally declined.
- Contact universities they are interested in; there will be a 'clearing number' on track which they quote so that the university can view the application.
- They may want to visit the universities you are interested in.
- They may be offered more than one place, but can only add one course at a time.

The Future...

- Once they are at university they may wish to change course. This may be as easy as transferring within the university.
- If they want to change university you will have to reapply through UCAS with a new application.
- They are able to contact the school to ask for help and for a reference. Every year we have around 50 ex-students who apply through us, mostly using UCAS for the first time.
- There will be information on our website about the procedure.



Contact Information

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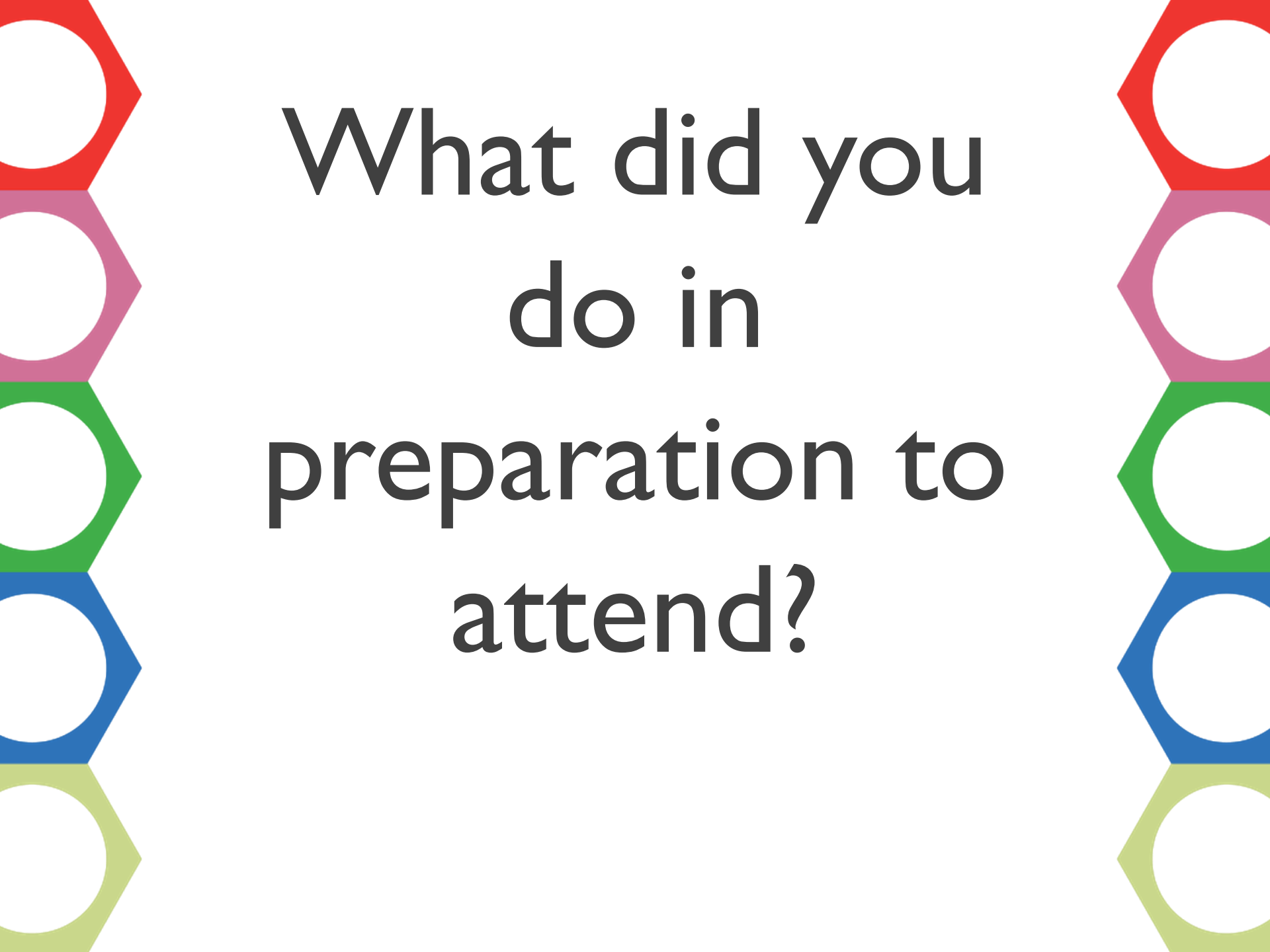


THS Students

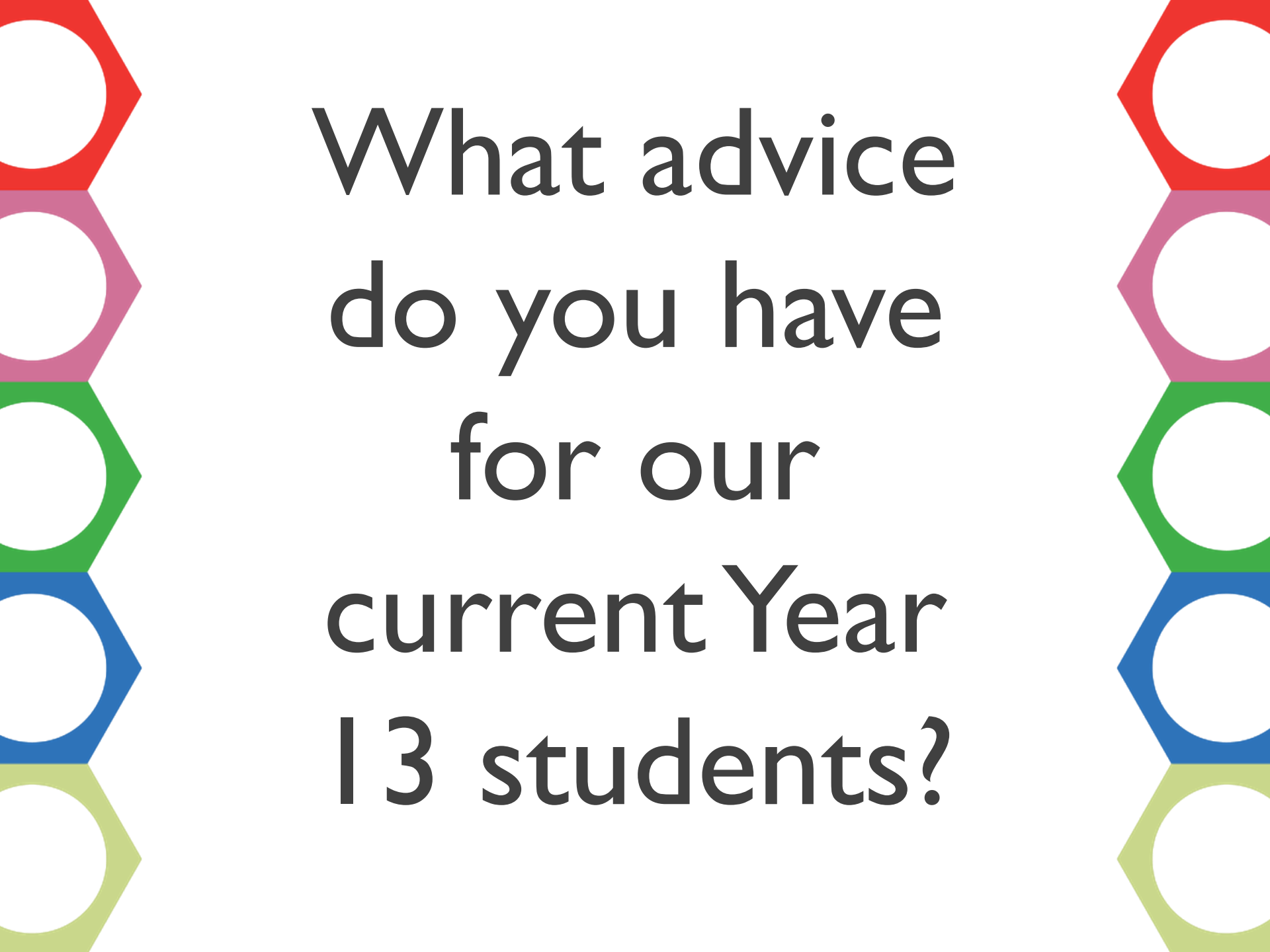
One of our ex-students has kindly returned to let us know about their university experience



What were
your first
impressions of
university life?

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What did you
do in
preparation to
attend?

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What advice
do you have
for our
current Year
13 students?



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Pots and Pans!

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Accommodation

- Each university is different – research
- Halls
- En-suite
- What's included
- Clearing – get in quick!

What to get ready

- Use the university website for advice
- I had to get:
 - Bedding
 - Crockery, knives and forks
 - Food 'starter'
- Clothing check
- Documents, they won't thank anyone if they go without their Id.
 - Check if the university needs their certificates.
 - Take UCAS and university letters

Money

- Check out the student bank accounts
 - Santander 123 gave a 4 year railcard last year
 - Interest free overdraft
 - Get the student finance done so they have the money to pay for accommodation
 - Set up online banking/banking App.
 - Talk through a budget

On arrival

- Consider taking a 'goodie' for you and your flatmates
- Lots of students arriving at the same time. The university may give you a timeslot.
- Parents, don't rush away BUT don't linger.

Contact

- Communications are brilliant nowadays but don't phone 10 times a day.
- Some homesickness is almost inevitable. Don't tell them to rush home – things may well be different the next day.



Remember

This is a way of leaving home into a protected environment.

They are embarking on a fantastic experience with other young, intelligent and motivated young people.

There is always help available at the university – use it if needed.



Thank you

All the very best wishes
for a happy and fulfilling
university life!