

The Thomas Hardy School



Future: Higher Education

Year 12

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The Thomas Hardy School

To find out more:



All this information and useful links can be found on the school website

THS Higher Education



- Approximately 75% of students progress to **HIGHER EDUCATION**
- Each year we have 300-350 students apply to universities all over the British Isles and abroad
- Each Year a number of students achieve Oxbridge/Medicine/Veterinary Medicine/Dentistry places (Ms Platt)
- A wide range of courses are studied
- A wide range of institutions are attended

Higher Education



- Student chooses what to study
- They study in greater depth
- Normally at a University or College
- Independent style of learning
- International Qualification
- Often first time they leave home

Why study



- Pleasure of knowledge - Move towards being expert
- Needed for a job/career
- Personal development
 - Independence
 - Time management
 - Money management
- Keep doors open for the future (flexibility)
 - Moving employer
 - Differentiating yourself in at work
 - Retraining later in life

UCAS



- The Universities and Colleges Admissions Service.
- It runs a website with information on:
 - Courses & Universities
 - Help with making an application (including helpful videos)
 - Etc.
- It organises the Higher Education **Exhibition** for students.
- In the summer term UCAS will launch '**APPLY**' for students to prepare their application
- **TRACK** is used by students to follow their application through the system

Finding the right course



Subject

Type of
Course

University

Course Choice: Subject(s)



- What do I really **enjoy** studying?
- What am I **good at**?
- What **expertise / experiences** do I have?
- What **careers** am I interested in?
- Examinations or Continuous **Assessment**

Other Considerations (parent help for these!):

- Employability
- Future options

Course Choice: Structure



- **Foundation:** lower entry requirements
can lead onto study for a full degree
- **HND/HNC:** Vocationally focussed qualification
- **BSc/BA ...** **Subject**
- **Joint honours:** 2 separate but equal subjects
- **Vocational:** e.g. accounting, business, medicine, law
- **Sandwich:** 4 year course with year in industry (sometimes abroad)

Higher Education



- Degree courses:
 - **Foundation:** FdSc/FdA (Usually 1 or 2 years)
 - **Bachelors:** BA/BSc/BEd (Usually 3 years)
 - **Masters:** MChem/MEng (4 years)
- Sponsorship
 - Research possibilities

What Institution: 350+ to choose from!



- **Location?**
 - city, town, rural
 - cost of living
- **Campus** – self contained or centrally located
- **Distance from Dorchester?**
- **Accommodation** – hall for all 1st years?
- **Status** – see Times/Guardian guides
- **Quality of Teaching**
- **Overseas** – apply via national system.

What Institution? (Contd.)



- **Facilities** e.g. internet, sport, library
- **Opportunities** available (e.g. time abroad)
- **Size**
- **Personal experience** – friends, relations, teachers, OPEN DAYS & VISITS
- Higher Education in a Further Education College
 - Cheaper
 - Closer to home

<http://www.uea.ac.uk/newstudents/undergraduate-students>

Open Days



IMPORTANT

- A great way to experience what the university feels like.
- Ask students and staff questions directly.
- Don't do the grand tour of UK.
- Go to around 3 open days
- Motivational

Don't panic!



- **Some students will know what they want to study others will not**
- **There is time to finalise course and university choices BUT it does take effort, students must be:**
 - **Honest with themselves about**
 - **What they enjoy**
 - **What they are good at**
 - **Remembering they will need to earn a living!**
 - **Research using UCAS, other websites and books**
 - **Talk to Parents, Friends & Teachers**
 - **Connexions appointment (Mrs Hymas)**
 - **Work Experience (Mrs Weir)**

The process: APPLYING

- Which course – Subject & level
- Which university
- Completing a UCAS application
 - Personal information
 - Education and qualifications
 - Personal statement
 - THS reference
 - Predicted grades
- Some students may need to sit additional admission tests (Ms Platt)
 - the information is clearly included in UCAS and it is **the student's responsibility** to register (there are **VERY** strict **deadlines**)



The UCAS Application



- ‘**Apply**’ on the UCAS website
- Apply for up to 5 courses-range of grades
 - 4 choices in any 1 of: Medicine/Vet. Science/Dentistry
- 1 application to **EITHER** Oxford or Cambridge
- Parents can be named as a contact
- Declare Special Educational Needs

Deadlines



- Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary medicine and science and for all courses at Oxford and Cambridge University.
- **School- September 15th 2017** UCAS- October 15th
- All other courses except those listed above.
- **School- November 24th 2016** UCAS- January 15th

The earlier the better



- **Early applications normally lead to early offers**
- **Avoids UCAS pressure when the academic pressure is mounting**
- **Time to 'get it right'**

UCAS website: Getting Started



UCAS Advisers Providers Corporate Contact Feedback

UCAS At the heart of connecting people to higher education

Sign in Register

Events and key dates Find events, key dates, conferences, exhibitions and open days

All stages Discover Apply Track

Search for courses
Select a course type

Getting started

Filters

- Undergraduate
- Postgraduate
- Teacher Training
- Conservatoires
- 16-18 Choices

Applying Getting started
The application process
Apprenticeships and jobs

Exhibitions and open days

Our bloggers share their higher education experiences with you.

and career ideas

Options after your GCSEs or Nationals

Graduate jobs and internships

Parents and guardians

Via 'Parent Information Tool' you can sign up for a **NEWSLETTER** and download a **PARENT'S GUIDE**

Our Aim: Higher Education



To get each student who chooses to enter Higher Education

- ✓ **on the right course for them**
- ✓ **at the right place of study for them**