Summer Independent Learning

Tutorial July/August 2022

Introduction

Within your tutorials you have been provided the resources and information about your potential pathways for when your study at NCP has completed.

You now need to ensure that for your return to college for Year 13 you have completed the necessary research for your chosen pathway. Please note, if you are unsure on which pathway you would like, you should research both pathways to make an informed decision at a later stage.

All students must complete Task 1, 2 and 3

Early applicants must complete Task 4

SIL – ILP information Task 1

1. Within the Enrichment – Career & Employability Tab, you need to complete the free text box with your research you have undertaken. This is to include;
   - What subject/industry you wish to pursue *(this can be more than one)*
   - Where offers this (*what university or what apprenticeship provider*)
     - If university, list the name(s) of the university
       - You need to have 5 choices for university
       - Have 2-3 Aspirational (above current target grade)
       - Have 2-3 Secure (your current target grade)
       - Have 2-3 safe (just below your current target grade)
     - Use the NCP Tutorial SIL Searching for university course to help you
     - If apprenticeship, list the company name(s)
     - You need to find 5 companies that offer apprenticeships

SIL – UCAS Task 2

2. You need to complete your UCAS application form. This needs to be completed even if university is your back up option.

The tiles that need to be included are;

- Personal details
- Contact and residency
- Employment
- Education (you will need your GCSE certificates for this)
- Nationality details
- Supporting information
- English Language skills
- Finance and funding (this will be o2, UK, Chl option)
- Diversity and inclusion

Please note, choices and personal statement can be confirmed within the start of Year 13, as these need to be checked.

SIL – Personal Statement Task 3

3. Reflect upon the Personal Statement Tutorial and the wrapper you were given for support.

Within the Statement Tab on your ILP you should have completed your bullet points in the last tutorial session on Careers and HE Day. Use those, with the resources on teams to develop these points into paragraphs.

You may also find this useful; You can complete the questions to help you to plan the sections you need to include in your Personal Statement.
Personal statements – Finding a formula
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JWxFVtSUAsQ

- Read books, e-books, newspapers, journals and magazines
- Listen to podcasts, radio programmes and audio books
- Watch documentaries and TED Talks
- Study for a mass online open course via EdEx.org, Futurelearn.com or Coursera.org
- This will show clear evidence of your knowledge in the subjects/job area.
- Remember universities/employers aren't looking for a long list – they want to see your reflections on what you have learnt. You should avoid telling the them about the content of what you have read but what you think about it.

Please note; your Personal Statement is not just used for a university application and can be used to apply for jobs and apprenticeships.

SIL – Early Applicants Task 4
This includes Medicine, Dentistry, Vet Medicine, Oxford, Cambridge or Music Conservatoires

4. You should already be involved in Teams support groups for these options already with the relevant staff member, due to the amount of preparation involved in these applications.

You need to have been working on your statement and had feedback from the relevant staff member supporting these applications.

Medicine/Dentistry/ Vet Medicine *– If you would like feedback before the summer holidays on your personal statement – send it to Emma by 24th June.*

For **OXBRIDGE** *applicants please submit your draft Personal Statement to Brian Coughlan through the assignment on our* **OXBRIDGE TEAM** *by Monday 20 June.*

Searching for University Courses

CHOOSING A COURSE

You may already have an idea of the sort of university course that you may want to do. However, if not, you could choose a course based on:

- ***what you might need for your chosen career***
  Check the degree requirements for your chosen career at https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles or https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/explore-careers

- ***what you could do from your current subjects***
  Enter the subjects you're currently studying at https://www.theuniguide.co.uk/a-level-explorer (note that this is suitable for BTECs/WJEC too) or https://www.informedchoices.ac.uk/subjects

- ***what you enjoy***
  Remember that only 50% of graduate jobs require a specific degree, so you could try entering something you are interested in into UCAS course search at https://digital.ucas.com/search (Choose 'Entry Year 2021-22')

You should also use the extra help sheet called 'what to study at university' to help you prioritise the factors that are important to you.

SAFE, SECURE AND ASPIRATIONAL CHOICES

When you first look search for courses, you should try to identify a range of universities with different entry requirements. When you decide on your final five choices, it is recommended that you have 1 or 2 aspirational choices, 2 or 3 secure choices and 1 or 2 safe choices. Therefore, initially you should aim for a long list of 5-10 courses in each category.

When listing their entry requirements, some universities state A-level and/or BTEC grades, some state UCAS points, and some use a combination of both. You can work out the range of UCAS points that you should use when searching for safe, secure and aspirational choices using the method below.

You start in the middle, writing in the grades that you are most likely to achieve. Once you have worked out your 'safe' and 'aspirational' end of Y13 grades, you should convert these into UCAS points using the UCAS Tariff outlined below. For BTEC courses, you should use the points listed for the relevant 'Y12 and 13' course.

A Level Example

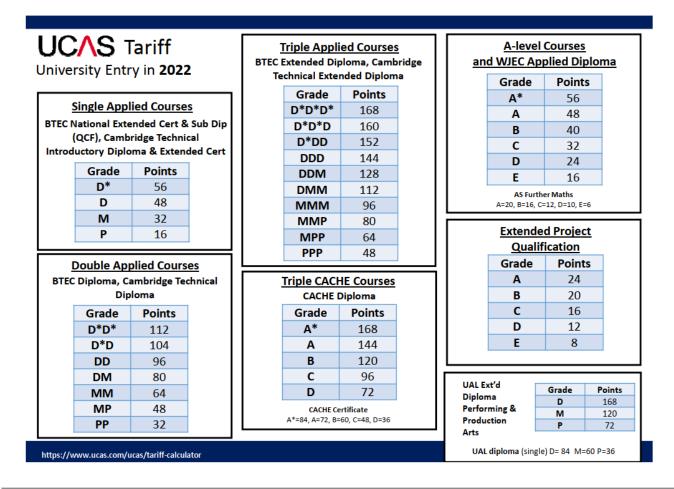|	SAFE		MOST LIKELY (SECURE)		ASPIRATIONAL
End of Y13 Grades	B C C	Take one grade from three single courses	B B C	Add one grade onto two single courses	A B C
UCAS Points	40+32+32= **104**	←	40+40+32 = **112**	→	48+40+32 = **120**

A Level + BTEC example

	SAFE		MOST LIKELY (SECURE)		ASPIRATIONAL
End of Y13 Grades	Distinction C D	Take one grade from three single courses	Distinction B C	Add one grade onto two single courses	Distinction* B B
UCAS Points	48+32+24 = **104**	←	48+40+32 = **120**	→	56+40+40 = **136**

BTEC Triple Example

	SAFE		MOST LIKELY (SECURE)		ASPIRATIONAL
End of Y13 Grades	Distinction Merit Merit	Take one grade	Distinction Distinction Merit	Add one grade	Distinction Distinction Distinction
UCAS Points	**112**	←	**128**	→	**144**

UCAS Tariff
University Entry in 2022

Single Applied Courses

BTEC National Extended Cert & Sub Dip (QCF), Cambridge Technical Introductory Diploma & Extended Cert

Grade	Points
D*	56
D	48
M	32
P	16

Double Applied Courses

BTEC Diploma, Cambridge Technical Diploma

Grade	Points
D*D*	112
D*D	104
DD	96
DM	80
MM	64
MP	48
PP	32

Triple Applied Courses

BTEC Extended Diploma, Cambridge Technical Extended Diploma

Grade	Points
D*D*D*	168
D*D*D	160
D*DD	152
DDD	144
DDM	128
DMM	112
MMM	96
MMP	80
MPP	64
PPP	48

Triple CACHE Courses

CACHE Diploma

Grade	Points
A*	168
A	144
B	120
C	96
D	72

CACHE Certificate
A*=84, A=72, B=60, C=48, D=36

A-level Courses and WJEC Applied Diploma

Grade	Points
A*	56
A	48
B	40
C	32
D	24
E	16

AS Further Maths
A=20, B=16, C=12, D=10, E=6

Extended Project Qualification

Grade	Points
A	24
B	20
C	16
D	12
E	8

UAL Ext'd Diploma Performing & Production Arts

Grade	Points
D	168
M	120
P	72

UAL diploma (single) D= 84 M=60 P=36

https://www.ucas.com/ucas/tariff-calculator

SEARCHING FOR COURSES

The best place to search for courses is on the UCAS website at https://digital.ucas.com/search and you should choose 'Undergraduate' and 'Entry Year Apply 2022.

When you've hit search, you should narrow down your options by choosing 'Filters' in the top left, selecting 'Entry Requirements' from the menu that appears, and adjusting the UCAS points range so that it matches the safe-secure-aspirational range that you calculated above. You can also apply other filters according to your requirements.

Courses for careers in health

If you are interested in a career in health, you should use the Health Careers course finder at https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/career-planning/course-finder first, as this lists all of the accredited courses recognised by the NHS. Make sure you choose 'Undergraduate' for 'Type of Qualification.' Once you have found course you are interested in, you should locate them on UCAS Course Search.

Courses for careers in the creative industries

If you are interested in a career in the creative industries, such as TV, film, radio, visual effects, media and animation, you are advised to use the ScreenSkills course finder at https://www.screenskills.com/courses/search/#/ first, as this lists all of the courses that carry the ScreenSkills Select and are recognised by employers in this industry. Once you have found course you are interested in, you should locate them on UCAS Course Search.

Art Foundation Courses

If you wish to pursue a degree in Fine Art, it may be necessary for you to complete an Art Foundation Course first. For some Art Foundation Courses, you can search and apply through UCAS, whereas for others, you apply direct to the college that you wish to attend. Note that our sister college, New College Pontefract, offers the Art Foundation Course – you can find out more by visiting https://ncpontefract.ac.uk/courses/course-links-98598237598320573248/art-foundation-diploma/ or speaking to your Progress Tutor or a member of the Visual Arts team.

Conservatoires

If you wish to pursue a music or acting/drama degree, you may wish to consider applying to a conservatoire. These have a strong vocational and performance focus, and the structure of the course is reflective of the industry, with teaching staff made up of working professionals. You can find out more about these at https://www.ucas.com/conservatoires and http://www.conservatoiresuk.ac.uk/

The application process for these depends on which conservatoire you intend to apply to. For example:
Conservatoires where applications are made through 'UCAS Apply':
- Royal Central School of Speech and Drama

Conservatoires where applications are made through 'UCAS Conservatoires' rather than 'UCAS Apply':
- Bristol Old Vic Theatre School
- Leeds College of Music
- Royal Academy of Music
- Royal Birmingham Conservatoire
- Royal College of Music
- Royal Conservatoire of Scotland
- Royal Northern College of Music
- Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama
- Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance

Conservatoires where applications are made through the institution website:
- Conservatoire for Dance and Drama
- Guildhall School of Music and Drama

You should make your Progress Tutor aware if you are interested in applying to a conservatoire.

University Centres

These are further education colleges that have an attached higher education centre. They are often cheaper than universities, and you can complete a degree in stages, for example, leaving after one year with a Certificate of Higher Education, after two years with a Diploma in Higher Education, or after three years with a Degree. Local examples are:
- Doncaster College University Centre (degrees are validated by the University of Hull)
- Leeds City College (advance HE)
- Wakefield College (University of Hull)

ADMISSIONS TESTS

Some courses at some universities require you to sit an admissions test. Some of these test have to be taken externally before Sept/Oct, some can be taken in college in October, some are taken at interview, and some are taken with A-level exams at the end of Year 13.

For more information, check out individual universities for course entry requirements and information on admissions test. You can seek advice from your Progress tutor or the Careers department in college.

NARROWING DOWN YOUR CHOICES

By the end of June, you should aim to have a long-list of 10-15 courses that you can narrow down to 5 courses over the summer.

To help narrow down your university choices, you should:

- **Go on Open Days – they're listed at https://www.opendays.com/**
  This is the most important thing that you can do
  You should use the extra help sheet called 'Open Day Checklist'
  Many universities are offering Virtual Open Days during the Covid-19 lockdown

- Compare courses at https://discoveruni.gov.uk/search-landing-page/

- Check the subject league tables at https://www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk/league-tables/rankings
  (Choose 'Subject League Tables' near the top)

- Read the Uni Guides at https://www.thestudentroom.co.uk/university/apply/

Skills and Experiences Statement Template _for task 3_ **Name** _____

Describe and explain some examples of how you have demonstrated your **organisation** skills

Describe and explain some examples of how you have developed you **problem solving** skills

Describe and explain some examples that show you are good at **teamwork**

Describe and explain some examples where you have shown your **initiative**

Describe and explain some examples that show how you have good **communication** skills

Research two skills that are specific to the job or apprenticeship that you wish to apply for.
Describe and explain how you can demonstrate these skills.