



Barr Beacon School  
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Ref:KH/gk/Year13CareersParentCarer/Autumn22

5<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

The Autumn Term is a very busy period for Year 13 students. Many will be applying to university in the coming weeks.

All university applications need to be made via [UCAS](#) (Universities and Colleges Admissions Service). The official UCAS deadlines for applications are:

- 15<sup>th</sup> October 2022 for anybody applying to Oxbridge, or for medicine, dentistry and veterinary medicine.
- 25<sup>th</sup> January 2023 for everybody else.

However, we strongly advise students to send off their applications early, as most universities will make their decisions as soon as they receive the application. The vast majority of applicants will apply in January, making the competition much stronger the later your child applies. It is far better to apply early, when the university is fresh into their application cycle and has more time and patience to consider applications.

Last summer we prepared students for this by running workshops on writing successful personal statements and how to complete a UCAS application. Students have also been encouraged to send their personal statements to the Sixth Form Team and their tutors for checking. When they are ready to send their application, students will book a meeting with Miss Killick and their whole application will be checked carefully.

In the meantime, students can ask the Sixth Form Team and their tutors for support at any time. If your child is still deciding which university or course to apply for, [University Open Days](#) are still taking place and the [UCAS Search](#) tool is very helpful.

For those seeking apprenticeships, we ran an apprenticeship workshop and CV session last summer and we send regular emails to students with webinars and potential vacancies. Although there are no set deadlines for applications, as apprenticeship vacancies will be advertised all year round, we will be offering ongoing support with apprenticeship applications and mock interviews.

Students will need to be proactive in making the Sixth Form Team aware of when they have found a suitable vacancy so we can support them with this. The best websites to use when searching for apprenticeship vacancies are [Not Going to Uni](#) and the [National Apprenticeship Website](#).

The whole process can be time consuming and sometimes overwhelming, so we appreciate your encouragement and support at home. You can find lots of further support on our [Careers Webpage](#) but if you have any questions in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Yours sincerely

Mrs K Hibbs  
Headteacher

