



Dear Parent/Carer,

I would like to extend a warm welcome back to Year Thirteen after their summer holiday.

We would like to invite you to our Year 13 University Information Evening for Parents & Carers, which will take place in the Main Hall at 6.30pm pm Wednesday 20th September.

The aim of this event is to support Parents & Carers in facilitating their young person's university application. This will include a UCAS process overview, ideas for researching options and student finance. We will be joined on the evening by Nottingham Trent University. There will also be an additional optional session on applications to Oxford and Cambridge, as well as Medicine applications.

Having gone straight back into their lessons, the sixth form team will make the most of tutor sessions and assemblies to remind students of important deadlines approaching over the next term and of support that is on offer.

Tutor time this year will take place in rooms where computers are available so that during Destinations sessions, they can complete applications they wish to submit to UCAS, apprenticeships or employment. Each student has a log in to Unifrog which has told to help them build a CV and a personal statement. We also gave copies of guidance booklets to all students in the summer term.

UCAS is now open and students across the UK will begin the process of application. Applications can't be sent until all sections are complete, the reference is added, and the application fee has been paid. Although the final deadline isn't until 15th January, we have set an internal deadline of 18th December. This is to avoid clashes with mock examinations in January and try to regulate pressures that might otherwise build around that time of year.

Tutors will request a draft copy of students' personal statements by the end of September so they can give feedback and guidance to students allowing them plenty of time to finalise their applications. We advise all students to select a range of universities to apply to: one/two ambitious Universities, one/two Universities whose entry requirements align with current grades achieved and a University that would be a secure option that they know they could meet the entry requirements for. Tutors will offer further guidance with this and check the application carefully with the student before it is sent.

Any student who is unsure what to apply for or would like further help is able to book a careers meeting with our advisor Mrs Morris and I would encourage all students to make the most of the opportunity. They can do this by visiting her in her office or by email h.morris@theredhillacademy.org.uk Mrs Morris is able to offer advice about apprenticeships and employment opportunities as well as UCAS.

Students applying for apprenticeships/employment will receive the same support through any application process they face. If they would like additional support preparing for interviews, this is also available.

The deadline for applications to the universities of Oxford and Cambridge, and for most courses in medicine, dentistry, and veterinary medicine/ science this year is on 16th October. An application can still be sent after this date, but the universities and colleges concerned cannot guarantee they'll give it equal consideration.

As always, we thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to seeing you on **Wednesday 20th September.**

Kind regards

Mrs C Barlow
Head of Sixth Form