

# Year 11 Parents' Information Evening 2024





Planning for success

Pastoral support

Next steps post-16

This presentation will be available on  
the school website tomorrow

# Planning for success



**GCSE Results Day 2024**



**Term 1-** Assessment 1, Report

**Term 2 – TRIAL EXAMS**

**11 Nov- 25 Nov**

**Term 3 –** Assessment 3, Report,  
Exam preparation evening,  
Revision programme begins

**Term 4-** Assessment 4, parents  
evening

**Term 5-** Summer exam season  
begins

**Term 6-** Summer exam season  
continues (study leave)

**GCSE results day – 21 August**



The summer exam season finishes on  
**25 June** – please don't book holidays  
until after this date!

# Subjects with non-examined elements (coursework/NEAs)

Art

Textiles

Product Design

Drama

Food preparation and nutrition

Music

Music technology

Performing Arts

Photography

PE

Sports Studies

# Why do trial exams matter?

Revision practice – what works, what doesn't work

The exam “experience”

Next steps – feedback

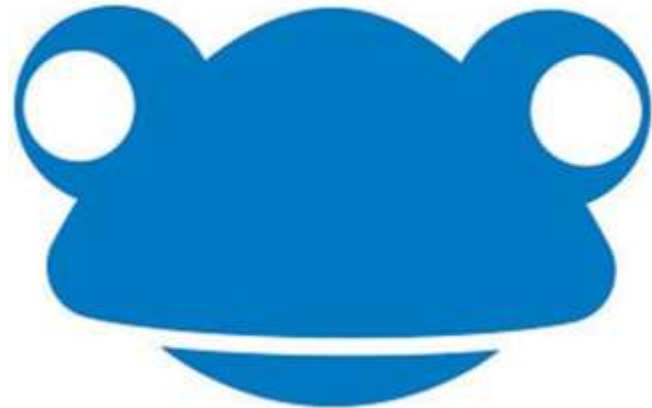
**What you will need:**

- a clear pencil case
- at least two black ink pens – blue pens are not acceptable
- an approved calculator for relevant exams
- appropriate apparatus such as a ruler or protractor for relevant exams
- a clear water bottle if you wish to take one in – it must not have a label



# Home Learning

- Every subject will continue to set home learning once a week
- All tasks will be set on Frog
- ...which means you can check!
- Space and time to work at home (remove distractions)



Alongside Sparx home learning students will receive fortnightly past papers

Year 11 past paper schedule will begin in October.

Students will have two practice papers ahead of trial exams as revision.

Whilst it is not compulsory to have a physical copy, in our opinion it does increase the effectiveness of the exam preparation, particularly where graphical diagrams are included.

We are therefore asking for a contribution of £6 per student to go towards printing costs.

Please see letter via parent pay for more details.



# Maths kit

Bring this equipment to all your maths lessons.

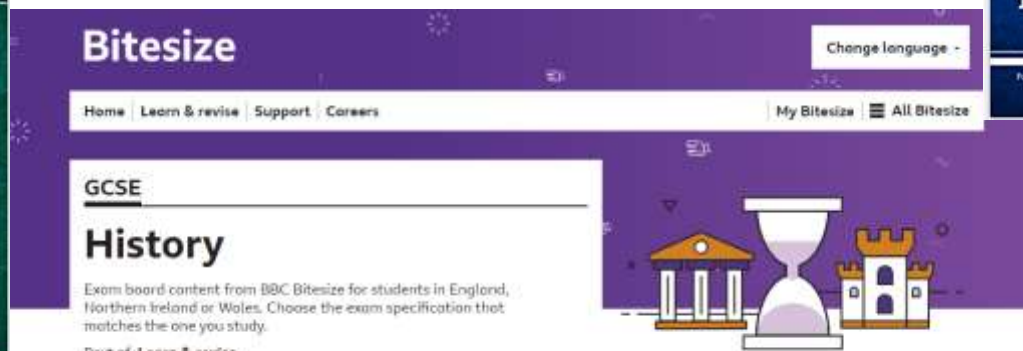
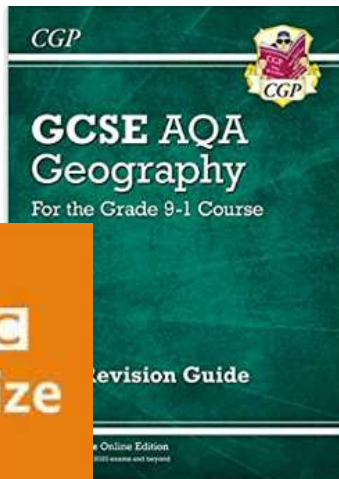
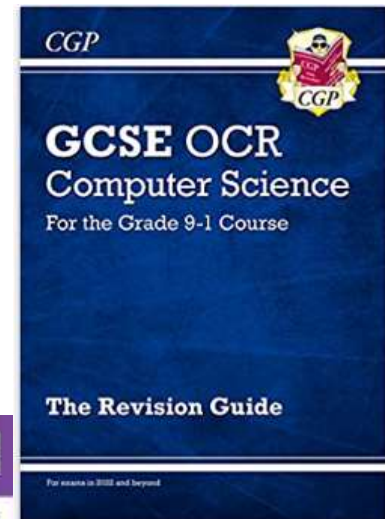
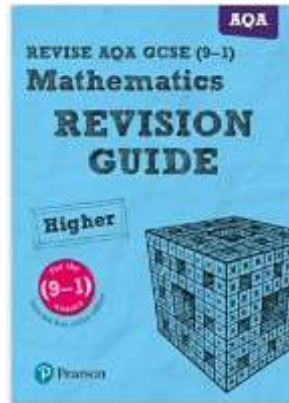


- 2 Pens
- Pencil
- Eraser
- Ruler
- Sharpener
- Protractor
- Compass
- Scientific calculator

Note on scientific calculator:

Students need to be familiar with their calculator before using it in an exam. If you are looking to purchase one, the Casio fx-85GT CW is the most common calculator used by Yr11 students.

Check the exam board for each subject before you buy!



- **Good attendance**
- The right equipment- every lesson, every day
- **Stay positive**
- Communicate with school- tutors
- Encourage your young person to ask for help
- Talk to them about their learning
- Work with us





# Pastoral Provision

including mental health & wellbeing

- ✓ Making an effort will make a difference
- ✓ It's never too late to improve
- ✓ Not getting things first time is an important part of learning
- ✓ "What do you need to do differently next time to get more marks?"

## Developing the right mentality



- X Avoid making mistakes of 'failing' at a task/question
- X Success in exams is down to being lucky
- X What I get in my exams is pre-destined
- X "I'm no good at xxx subject so there's no point in revising"

# MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING SERVICES AVAILABLE AT BACKWELL



**Safe space (ML2):**  
Quiet and safe room with a designated member of staff present every break and lunch. Opportunity to have some quiet time or talk to a teacher.



### Tutor:

Your first port of call for any questions, concerns or worries you may have. Parents can also get in touch with your tutor if needed.



### School nurse:

For any health related concerns, you can drop into the library on Wednesday lunchtimes



### Mindfulness Club (ML2):

A calm drop in space where mindful activities including meditation take place. Helpful for those who find managing stress or emotions difficult. Thursday lunch, open to all.



### Counsellors:

There are trained counsellors at school you can book an appointment with, based in the science corridor. You can self-refer by filling out a form, which can be accessed from Mr Sills or your pastoral leader



### Pastoral Leaders:

Heads and deputy heads of house oversee your wellbeing and overall progress. They will talk to you and get in touch with home if they think you need extra help. You can contact pastoral leaders via your tutor or speak to them directly. Parents can get in touch too if needed.



### Further support:

(available through Pastoral Leaders)

- Drawing and talking therapy
- Learning mentors
- Peer mentors
- Emotional/Social support
- Signposts to support services outside of school

## Pastoral Leaders

Mendip House-Miss Reeves

Quantock House- Miss Walton

Cotswold House- Mrs Whitehouse

Sedgemoor House- Miss Plaster

"Everyone you meet is fighting a battle you know nothing about. Be kind. Always."

# Keep communicating



## **Tutor:**

Your first port of call for any questions, concerns or worries you may have. Parents can also get in touch with your tutor if needed.



## **Pastoral Leaders:**

Heads and deputy heads of house oversee your wellbeing and overall progress. They will talk to you and get in touch with home if they think you need extra help. You can contact pastoral leaders via your tutor or speak to them directly. Parents can get in touch too if needed.

## **Assistant Pastoral Leaders:**

New last year!  
Each house has a non-teaching aPl that is available to support the pastoral team

## **Class Teachers:**

Class teachers can reduce your worries by helping you with subject knowledge.  
All most all class teachers are tutors as well!

# Give yourself space



## **Mindfulness Club (ML2):**

A calm drop in space where mindful activities including meditation take place. Helpful for those who find managing stress or emotions difficult.  
Thursday lunch, open to all.



## **Safe space (ML2):**

Quiet and safe room with a designated member of staff present every break and lunch. Opportunity to have some quiet time or talk to a teacher.

## **Regulation Room:**

*New last year!*

*Pupils who have identified difficulties managing their emotions will be provided with access to the Regulation Room if it is requested and approved on a Pastoral Support Plan.*



# Talk to professionals

Use the self-referral tool below if you feel that you need additional help with your wellbeing.



Self referral



## Counsellors:

There are trained counsellors at school you can book an appointment with, based in the science corridor. You can self-refer by filling out a form, which can be accessed from Mr Sills or your pastoral leader

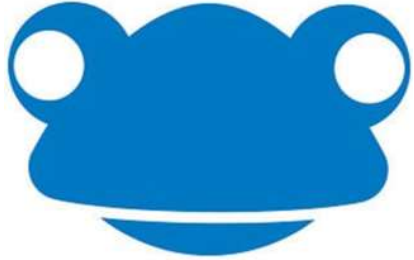


**School nurse:**  
For any health related concerns, you can drop into the library on Thursday lunchtimes

**Educational Mental Health Practitioners**



- Further support:  
(available through Pastoral Leaders)
- Drawing and talking therapy
  - Learning mentors
  - Peer mentors
  - Emotional/Social support
  - Signposts to support services outside of school



# Student Dashboard

Backwell School



[Student Notices](#)

[My Timetable](#)

[My Home Learning](#)

[Email / Office 365](#)

[Subjects](#)

[Careers](#)

[Rewards](#)

[Twitter](#)

[Letters Home](#)

[Catering](#)

[Suggestions](#)

[Useful links](#)

[Wellbeing](#)

Week beginning: 11 Sep

HOLIDAY



**Transition to year 12 at Backwell Sixth ...**  
Preparation for the start of Year 12



**Well-being**  
Information



**Anti-Racism at Backwell**



**Kooth.com**  
Free, safe and anonymous online support for young p...



**Student Council**  
Information and news from the student council



**Clubs + Courses**  
Spring/Summer 2023



**The Croak**  
Toadally fascinating



**6th Form**  
Information and notices

## Useful websites, apps and local counselling services



**Off The Record**  
Support online, in groups and 1:1



**Young minds**  
[www.youngminds.org.uk](http://www.youngminds.org.uk)



**Wellspring Counselling - Serving the Community of North Somerset**  
[www.wellspringcounselling.org.uk](http://www.wellspringcounselling.org.uk)



**Kooth - Free, safe and anonymous online support for young people**  
[www.kooth.com](http://www.kooth.com)



**Beat - The UK's Eating disorder charity**  
[www.beat.co.uk](http://www.beat.co.uk)



**Clearfear - overcoming anxiety app**  
[www.clearfear.co.uk](http://www.clearfear.co.uk)

## Top tips to get to sleep and sleep better



### Keep regular sleep hours

Going to bed when you feel tired and getting up at roughly the same time helps teach your body to sleep better. Try to avoid napping where possible.



### Confront sleeplessness

If you are lying awake unable to sleep, do not force it. Get up and do something relaxing for a bit, and return to bed when you feel sleepier.



### Create a restful environment

Dark, quiet and cool environments generally make it easier to fall asleep and stay asleep. Watch our video for tips on how to sleep better.

[Video: Tips for sleeping better](#)



### Write down your worries

If you often lie awake worrying about tomorrow, set aside time before bed to make a list for the next day. This can help put your mind at rest.

[Video: Tackle your worries](#)



### Move more, sleep better

Being active can help you sleep better. These videos can get you going, but remember to avoid vigorous activity near bedtime if it affects your sleep.

[Better Health: Home workout videos](#)



### Put down the pick-me-ups

Caffeine and alcohol can stop you falling asleep and prevent deep sleep. Try to cut down on alcohol and avoid caffeine close to bedtime.

- Avoid using devices at least 1 hr before bedtime this includes, mobile phones, tablets and TVs as devices can give off 'blue light' which keeps us awake by disrupting Melatonin in the brain.



## DEALING WITH EXAM STRESS

If stress affects you, try to find ways to maintain a positive attitude and cultivate a positive approach during your revision.



### KEEP FIT

by taking some exercise you enjoy



### RELAX

perhaps by sitting quietly or meditating



### EAT WELL

but healthily



### PLANNED TIME AWAY

take some planned time away from study, rather than avoiding revision

### THINGS THAT CAN HELP



### RECOGNISE ACHIEVEMENTS

be pleased with your achievements as you revise

### REWARD YOURSELF

reward yourself with an occasional treat



### SLEEP

get sufficient sleep





# Y11 POST 16 OPTIONS



## **POST-16 OPTIONS**

As you know, until they're 18, students legally need to be in:

- 1) education or**
- 2) employment with training towards a recognised qualification.**

However, they do have options of what and where to study/work.

If a student is not following either of these pathways then they are classed as NEET and the Local Authority will work with you and them to ensure that they have an appropriate plan. We have a duty to refer students at risk of becoming NEET.



# What are the Options Post-16?

| Level                                   | Academic  | Technical  |
|---|---|--|
| Level 3<br>A<br>Levels<br>or<br>similar | <b>VOCATIONAL COURSES</b><br>(BTEC, CTEC etc)   | <b>A LEVELS and AS LEVELS</b><br>Subject-based qualifications            |
| Level 2<br>(GCSE grades 4+ or similar)  | Subject-based vocational qualification a range of courses content different schedules | <b>T LEVELS</b><br>Classroom-based course delivered                      |
| Level 1<br>(GCSE grades 1-3 or similar) |   | <b>APPRENTICESHIPS</b><br>Work-based training for a minimum of 12 months |

**English and Maths GCSE**

**It is compulsory to continue studying these subjects if you have not achieved a Grade 4**

Usually 80% working, time in college





## Understanding technical pathways

- Personal Development in tutor time this term is focused on Post-16 options and decision making
- Next term students will have a Post-16 options assembly from an independent provider (ASK)
- At our Careers Fair on March 4<sup>th</sup> , a number of vocational/technical providers will be available and we will have talks on Apprenticeships and T Levels for students and parents/carers to attend



# College or Sixth Form?

- **Students can apply for more than one place**
- **We encourage students to have a back-up plan**

## Support in school:

- Tutor, Pastoral Leaders, Subject teachers , Miss Haywood and the wider Sixth Form Team
- Every Year 11 will have had a careers appointment with Mrs Ball before the end of Term 4 – make an appointment now if they're worried
- Unifrog, Weekly Careers Bulletin



## College options

### What to take into account:

Course choice and qualification (vocational/technical training)

Travel

Expectations and support

Results and destinations (completion rates)

Subject specialist teachers for A levels?

### Information on colleges:

Discuss with Mrs Ball (impartial advice)

Do your research online (open evenings, courses etc)

### Local to us:

Weston, City of Bristol, SGS, Bath, Boom Satsuma, Access Creative, BIMM, Robin's Foundation



# Why choose Backwell Sixth Form?



- Subject specialist teachers; enthusiasm and knowledge
- Excellent relationships between staff and students; safe and purposeful environment
- Smaller class sizes
- Pastoral support – students know they will be listened to
- Supportive structure to develop good study habits
- Successful Post-18 destinations and lots of careers support
- Inclusive intake for Level 3 study; support for students with individual needs and in challenging circumstances



## A Level Results 2024

98% overall pass rate

53% of exam entries grade A\* to B

26% of exam entries grade A\* to A



# Key dates for Backwell Sixth Form

|                              |                           |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Open Evening:</b>         | Thursday 24 October 2024  |
| <b>Application deadline:</b> | Friday 6 December 2024    |
| <b>Application meetings:</b> | February/March 2025       |
| <b>Transition Day:</b>       | Friday 4 July 2024        |
| <b>GCSE Results Day:</b>     | Thursday 21 August 2024   |
| <b>Induction to Year 12:</b> | Thursday 4 September 2025 |

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Useful links

Wellbeing

Week beginning: 21 Nov



Clubs + Courses  
Autumn/Winter 2022-3



Application to Join Backwell Sixth Form



# Follow us on Social Media



**backwell\_sixth\_form**



**backwell\_sixth\_form**



**Backwell Sixth Form**



**@Backwell6thForm**

# unifrog

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An introduction/reminder of  
how our Careers Platform can  
support students and  
parents/carers

# The Unifrog tools

Access all tools on Unifrog to learn what options are available, access good quality information, and search for opportunities to support your child.

| Exploring pathways  | Recording what you've done | Searching for opportunities | Drafting application        | Making applications |
|---------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| Careers library     | Activities                 | UK universities             | UK Personal Statement       | Post 18 Intentions  |
| Subjects library    | Competencies               | US universities             | Classes                     | Locker              |
| Know-how library    | Interactions               | European universities       | Subject References          | Applications list   |
| MOOC                |                            | Oxbridge                    | CV / Resumé                 |                     |
| Personality profile |                            | Canadian universities       | Writing tool                |                     |
| Interests profile   |                            | Asian universities          | Common App Essay            |                     |
| Read, Watch, Listen |                            | Australasian universities   | US recommenders             |                     |
| Webinars            |                            | ME and African universities | Notes for Reference writers |                     |
|                     |                            | Irish universities          |                             |                     |
|                     |                            | Special Opportunities       |                             |                     |
|                     |                            | Events                      |                             |                     |



# Careers Library

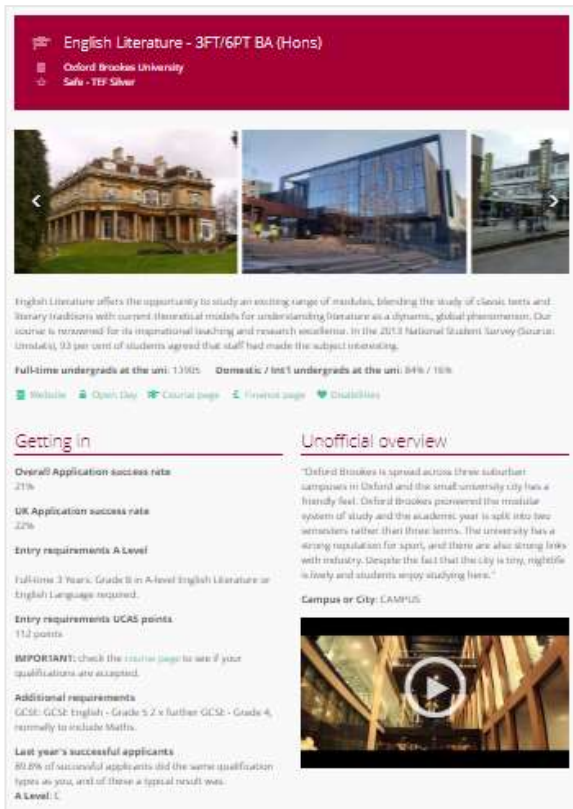
- Over 1000 career profiles
- Presents information from a range of sources, including local and national LMI
- Includes qualifications and skills needed, interviews with industry professionals and labour market information
- Explores progression opportunities and what a working week really looks like

## Architect

Architects design new buildings and the spaces around them, and work on the restoration and conservation of existing buildings.



# UK Universities



The screenshot shows a university course page for 'English Literature - 3FT/6PT BA (Hons)' at Oxford Brookes University. The page features a red header with the course name and university logo. Below the header are three images: a traditional building, a modern glass building, and a street scene. The main text describes the course, highlighting its focus on literary traditions and current theoretical models. It also mentions the university's accreditation and student satisfaction. Navigation links for 'Website', 'Open Day', 'Course page', 'Event page', and 'Disabilities' are provided. The page is divided into two sections: 'Getting in' and 'Unofficial overview'. The 'Getting in' section lists application success rates (21% overall, 22% UK), entry requirements (A Level, UCAS points), and additional requirements (GCSE English, Maths). The 'Unofficial overview' section includes a quote about the university's location and a video player showing a campus scene.

English Literature offers the opportunity to study an exciting range of modules, blending the study of classic texts and literary traditions with current theoretical models for understanding literature as a dynamic, global phenomenon. Our course is renowned for its inspirational teaching and research excellence. In the 2013 National Student Survey (NSS) (overall), 93 per cent of students agreed that staff had made the subject interesting.

Full-time undergrads at the uni: 1,390 Domestic / Int'l undergrads at the uni: 84% / 16%

Website Open Day Course page Event page Disabilities

### Getting in

**Overall Application success rate**  
21%

**UK Application success rate**  
22%

**Entry requirements A Level**

Full-time 3 Years: Grade B in A-level English Literature or English Language required.

**Entry requirements UCAS points**  
112 points

**IMPORTANT:** check the [course page](#) to see if your qualifications are accepted.


**Additional requirements**  
GCSE: GCSE English - Grade 5 2 x further GCSE - Grade 4, normally to include Maths.

**Last year's successful applicants**  
89.8% of successful applicants did the same qualification types as you, and of those a typical result was:  
**A Level: C**

### Unofficial overview

"Oxford Brookes is spread across three suburban campuses in Oxford and the small university city has a friendly feel. Oxford Brookes pioneered the modular system of study and the academic year is split into two semesters rather than three terms. The university has a strong reputation for sport, and there are also strong links with industry. Despite the fact that the city is tiny, nightlife is lively and students enjoy studying here."

**Campus or City: CAMPUS**



- Students can enter subject of interest and projected grades to see all relevant university courses available in the UK
- Rank and filter opportunities by factors like hours of lectures, price of accommodation and graduate job rates
- Get direct links to university information pages, with impartial information on courses and institutions
- Save unlimited shortlists to refer back to later

# Apprenticeships

**AAT Apprentice - Intermediate Level**  
Employer: Heron Motor Group  
Learning Provider: Delivered by Newcastle College

**Key dates**

|           |                  |
|-----------|------------------|
| Deadline  | 25 May           |
| Interview | Check their site |
| Start     | 26 May           |

**Qualification required**  
English and maths at GCSE level (5 grade or equivalent) or above.

**Skills and personal qualities required**  
The successful candidate will be proficient in using Microsoft Excel and managing spreadsheets. They will be confident with numbers and have a high level of attention to detail.

- A passion for accountancy
- Professional attitude
- Well organised

**Quick facts**

|                    |                                 |                           |                 |                           |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Weekly Wage</b> | <b>Hours a week</b>             | <b>Employer locations</b> | <b>Duration</b> | <b>Distance from home</b> |
| Competitive        | Working 9-5:30<br>Monday-Friday | 1                         | 12 months       | 1 miles                   |

**Job description**  
The apprentice will gain experience in a range of duties for which they will be responsible:

- Purchase Ledger
- Credit Control
- Invoice Processing
- Raising Invoices
- Allocation of Payments
- Statement reconciliations
- Processing Transactions

**Employer description**  
Heron Motor Group is one of the UK's largest car supermarkets. Established in 1996 Heron Motor Group were the first to pioneer the new and used car supermarket concept, not only in Newcastle but in the North East.

- Students can find live apprenticeship vacancies
- Vacancies are updated daily
- Rank and filter opportunities by factors like distance from home, weekly wage and application deadlines
- Direct link to the 'apply' page
- Each apprenticeship vacancy includes practical information about the opportunity, employer and training
- Save unlimited shortlists to refer back to later

# Special Opportunities

- Includes £5 million-worth of grants, bursaries, scholarships, contextual offers and extracurricular activities
- These can be filtered by circumstances or characteristics, depending on the access requirements of the opportunity
- Includes direct links for applying
- Unlimited shortlists can be created and referred back to

Select special opportunities below  
Pick the best opportunities for you by ranking, filtering and searching. Click next when you're done.

Rank Filter Keyword search

| Scholarships (690)<br>Money you don't have to pay back  | Activities (13)<br>Summer schools, mentoring, extracurricular  | Contextual offers (54)<br>Looker entry requirements  |
|---|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>100 Year Anniversary Of The Great War Award<br/>University of Bolton<br/>Country: UK</li><li>A Level Entrance Scholarship Competition<br/>Queen's University Belfast<br/>Country: UK</li><li>All InOne Scholarship<br/>University of Bath<br/>Country: UK</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Action Tutoring<br/>Action Tutoring<br/>Country: UK</li><li>BGU Open Days<br/>Bishop Grosseteste University<br/>Country: UK</li><li>BGU Summer School<br/>Bishop Grosseteste University<br/>Country: UK</li><li>Bishop Grosseteste University Host</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Aberystwyth University Contextual Offers<br/>Aberystwyth University<br/>Country: UK</li><li>Aston University Contextual Offer<br/>Aston University, Birmingham<br/>Country: UK</li><li>Bangor University Beneficial Offers<br/>Bangor University<br/>Country: UK</li></ul> |

# So many more useful tools!

## Subjects library

Find the best subjects for you, then save your favourites here.



The carousel displays three video thumbnails. Each thumbnail features a person with a white play button overlay. The first thumbnail shows a woman in an art studio. The second shows a man in a workshop. The third shows a woman in a laboratory setting. Below each thumbnail is a subject title, a brief description, and a 'Read the guide' link. A red heart icon is present to the right of each title. A right-pointing arrow is located to the right of the third thumbnail.

**Fine art**   
The study and creation of drawings, paintings, prints, photography and sculpture.  
[Read the guide >](#)

**Electronic and Electrical engineering**   
The study, design, and application of equipment, devices, and systems which use electricity, electronics, and electromagnetism.  
[Read the guide >](#)

**Veterinary medicine**   
Develop a strong understanding of how animals behave, work so you can diagnose, treat and manage medical conditions.  
[Read the guide >](#)



### Search by keyword

Search for university subjects using a keyword

[Go >](#)

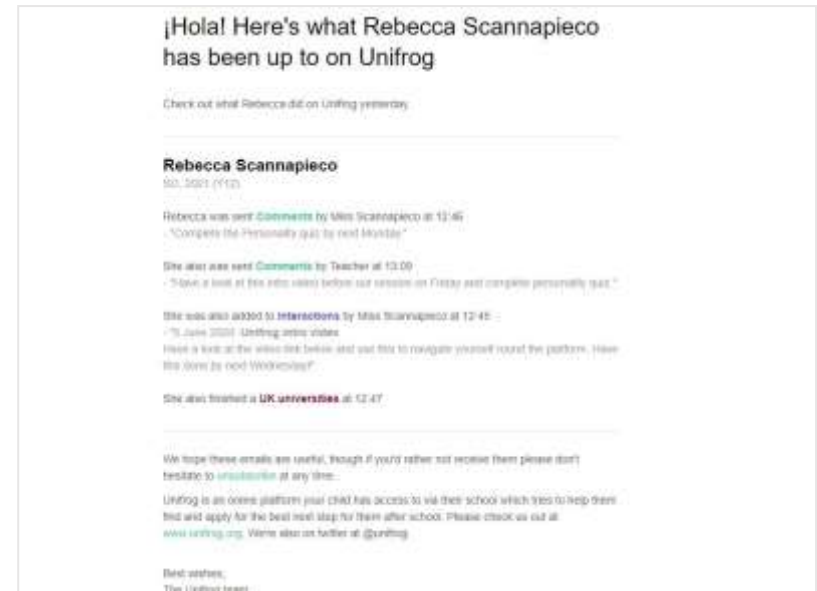
### Search by school subjects

Search for university subjects using the subjects you're studying at school that you like the most

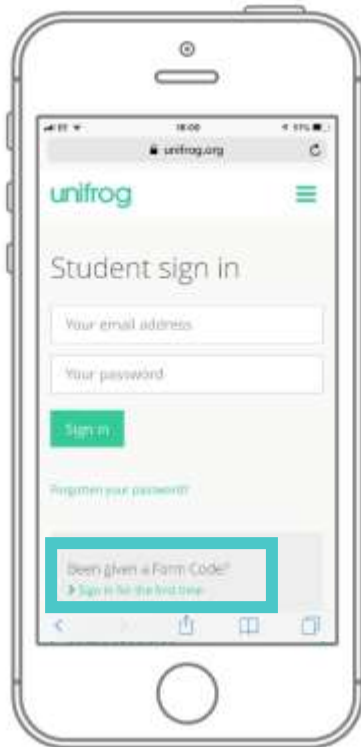
[Go >](#)

# Weekly summary emails

- Parents/carers can sign up to receive weekly summary emails
- This summary will show you any shortlists your child may have made on the Unifrog platform
- It will also detail any interactions logged against your child, such as Careers Fairs taking place or careers interviews coming up.
- Unifrog takes data security very seriously, and as such, has several features in place to protect school and student data.



# Parents/carers, get signed up!



Go to [www.unifrog.org/student](http://www.unifrog.org/student) and click 'Sign in for the first time'

You'll be asked for some details and a Sign up Code. This is what you need:

**<<BACKparentscarers>>**

After signing up, log into Unifrog using your email address and password via the student sign-in page!

# Planning for success

