

Preparing for the Future: Year 12 Visit University & Apprenticeship Fair

Last Wednesday, Year 12 students attended the UK University & Apprenticeship Search Fair at Oxford Brookes University. The event provided an excellent opportunity for students to explore the wide range of pathways available after sixth form, helping them make informed decisions about their futures.



Students spoke with representatives from a broad range of universities, including Exeter, Bath, Nottingham, Imperial College London, and Oxford Brookes University and many other higher education providers. They also met apprenticeship providers and employers, gaining valuable insight into course options, career routes and entry requirements. Seminars on student finance, UCAS applications, and higher and degree apprenticeships further supported students as they began planning their next steps.

The visit had a clear impact. Following the event, **100% of our Year 12 students said it had helped them make decisions about their post-18 education and career choices, and every student said they would recommend the experience to future Year 12 students.** The fair broadened students' understanding of the both university and apprenticeship pathways broadening their understanding of the opportunities available and helping them plan their next steps with greater confidence.



POINTS TO COVER IN YOUR PERSONAL STATEMENT				
WRITING ABOUT THE COURSE	SKILLS/ACHIEVEMENTS	HOBBIES AND INTERESTS	WORK EXPERIENCE	FUTURE PLANS
- Why are you applying for your chosen course(s)? - Why does this subject interest you? - Why do you think you're suitable for the course(s)? - Do your current or previous studies relate to the course(s) that you have chosen? If so, how? - Have you taken part in any other activities that demonstrate your interest in the course(s)?	- Skills e.g. organisation, resilience - Achievement e.g. positions of responsibility that you hold or have held both in and out of school, and attributes that make you interesting, special or unique.	Make a list of your hobbies, interests and social activities. Then think about which ones are relevant and how they demonstrate your personality, skills and abilities. Try to link them to the skills and experience required for your course(s).	Include details of job, placements, work experience or voluntary work, particularly if it's relevant to your chosen course(s). Try to link any experience to skills or qualities related to the course.	If you know what you'd like to achieve after completing the course, explain how you want to use the knowledge and experience that you gain. How does the course relate to what you want to do in the future?
Only for international students	Tell universities why you want to study in the UK and why you think you can successfully complete a course that is taught in English. Say if some of your studies have been taught or examined in English and if you have taken part in any courses where you have used English outside of your country.		Only for Mature students	Explain what you've been doing since leaving education and provide additional evidence to support your application. If you're not in full-time education, you should give details of any relevant work experience, paid or unpaid, and information about your current or previous employment.

"I discovered new courses I never knew existed" Yee

"The apprenticeship talk was really helpful" Joshua

"I enjoyed discussing the different options with universities" Emma

"I was able to see what differs from doing the same course but at different universities – it helped me pick the right one for me" Niamh