



22 February 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

UCAS Convention 2017

Year 12 students are offered the opportunity to attend the UCAS Convention 2017, at the ExCel, London, on **Monday 27 March 2017**. This experience is an important event which has been specifically designed to give students maximum information regarding their future career and education options, enabling them to get an insight into the next phase of their lives.

UCAS conventions are the only opportunity students have to explore a variety of post-18 options in one setting. With over 150 Higher Education institutions and professional organisations, this convention provides the opportunity for students to talk to exhibitors who can provide information and advice on their future choice of course, institution of study and career options. Students will have the opportunity to speak with university admissions staff and subject specialists, find out what life is like on and off campus, and discover what else is on offer when exams are finished, such as volunteer work, gap year adventures and future career opportunities.

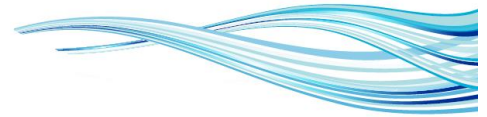
There will also be a 'Career Zone' where a number of well-known and respected companies will be exhibiting. Every employer at the event has a graduate employment route within its organisation, and representatives will be on-hand to discuss other opportunities such as internships, sponsored degree programmes, and apprenticeships.

There will be student money advisors and gap year organisations, all providing the relevant expertise to help students in the decision making process. In addition to this, a number of seminars will run throughout the morning at the convention, covering topics such as 'Applying through UCAS', 'Student Life' and 'Finance', which will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Students will be accompanied by staff from school, however, they will be free to walk around the convention by themselves. Students are reminded that they will be representing the school and that good behaviour and courtesy, in accordance with the School Code of Conduct, is expected from all who attend. Students will need to wear appropriate clothing and suitable footwear, in line with the school dress code regulations for Sixth Form students.

We will meet in the Performing Arts Centre at **9.00am** prompt and we expect to return to school at approximately 2.45pm. Please make arrangements for your son/daughter to travel home safely, in the event of any road traffic delays. Students are advised to bring a packed lunch as there are limited catering facilities at the venue. Your son/daughter will also need to bring a pen, pencil and notepad, a strong bag to carry prospectuses in, plus a list of questions!

In order to finance this trip, it will be necessary to ask for a contribution of £8.50 per student. Please make your payment using ParentPay (www.parentpay.com), our online payment system, choosing the service 'UCAS Convention 2017'. Alternatively, if you would like to have a PayPoint service barcode, please contact Ms Pridham, in the Main Office. Please return the reply slip, together with the Parental Consent Form, by **Friday 3 March 2017**.



This convention will offer support and guidance with decisions which could influence the next few years of your child’s life, and their future after that. If you have any further queries regarding this event, please contact me on the school telephone number. You can also find out more about this event at www.ucas.com/events.

Yours faithfully

**Miss E Le Count
Head of Sixth Form**

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Reply slip: please return to Ms Pridham, via Student Reception, by **Friday 3 March 2017**.

**UCAS Convention– ExCel, London
Monday 27 March 2017**

Student name: Form:

- I give permission for my son/daughter to attend the above event
- I have made my contribution of £8.50 via ParentPay.
- I enclose a completed and signed Parental Consent Form.
- My son/daughter is aware that there are limited catering facilities at the venue, therefore, he/she will need to bring a packed lunch and soft drink.

OR

- My son/daughter receives free school meals and will require a school packed lunch and soft drink.

Signed: Date:

This is a compulsory trip which will greatly benefit your child’s future; therefore, he/she must attend. However, if there are insufficient contributions the trip may have to be cancelled.

