



Tring School

CEO of the RLP: Mrs Susanna Collings BSc(Hons), MA, FRSA
Head of School: Mrs Sally Ambrose BA(Hons), NPQH
Mortimer Hill Tring Herts HP23 5JD



10 September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Students who are applying to university this year have been busy over the last six months researching courses, starting their applications and writing their personal statements. The next two months are a crucial time for students as they finalise their applications and send them off to UCAS. We are grateful for the ongoing support that you have given your child in making such important decisions.

Below you will find some useful information for parents/carers, as well as an update on the upcoming UCAS timelines and what students need to be doing now to ensure they meet these deadlines:

UCAS Deadlines

In order to manage the flow of applications, students are required to meet one of four deadlines as set out below. We strongly encourage students to aim for one of the earlier deadlines so they can then focus on their studies without any distraction.

4 - 20 September	Personal statement feedback from Mrs Beck
21 September	Deadline for UCAS applications for students applying to Oxbridge/Dentistry/Medicine/Veterinary and other early applications (applications to be processed by 15 October)
5 October	2 nd deadline for UCAS applications (applications will be processed by 2 Nov)
19 October	3 rd deadline for UCAS applications (applications will be processed by 16 Nov)
8 November	Final deadline for UCAS applications (applications will be processed by 3 Dec)

Personal Statements

We have given lots of guidance to students over the last few months on how to write their personal statement. The first presentation that was delivered in June can be found [here](#) for your information.

The deadline for students to receive feedback from Mrs Beck on their personal statements is 20 September - after which time her attention will need to focus on the student applications

Tel: 01442 822303 Email: tringschool@tringschool.org www.tring.herts.sch.uk



and references. Students can still seek feedback from their tutor and teachers and are encouraged to do so. We have also reminded students of the value of seeking input from parents, particularly in relation to editing and spelling/grammar checks.

There are still lots of students who haven't started or completed their personal statement. Students have been asked to prioritise this over the next couple of weeks. Most students will produce several drafts before it is ready to send to UCAS, so it is important that they leave adequate time to get feedback and work on their revisions. We would very much appreciate your support in encouraging your child to focus on their personal statement, and application over the next couple of weeks.

University Applications

Students who intend to apply this year should have started their application by now using the UCAS portal. Full instructions and guidance have been given to students on how to apply using the UCAS site.

It is worth noting that we check all UCAS applications and references thoroughly; this process can take up to three weeks. Therefore, when a student pays (this fee goes to UCAS) and presses the 'send' button, they are sending it to the Sixth Form Team and need to factor in that it could take up to three weeks for their application to reach UCAS. We will process all applications as quickly as possible. If any errors are picked up on applications, we cannot change them and we have to send the application back to the student for them to make any amendments. It is, therefore, essential that students regularly check both their UCAS account and their email accounts.

Please note, if your child is not intending to apply to University this year, but does intend to apply in the future, they should still be drafting personal statements now. Whilst Mrs Beck will continue to support students with university applications once they have left school, it is a much easier process to go through when they have the support of teachers.

Predicted Grades

Subject teachers will soon be providing students with their UCAS Predicted Grades. These grades are the ones that will be sent to UCAS and are the students' most aspirational predictions. Next week, students will be asked to be proactive in speaking to their teachers to discuss their progress and predicted grades. These grades will take into account all assessments over the last year and are a holistic prediction for the students; they are not solely based on Year 12 exams as we know these were taken during the challenging lockdown situation. These grades will then be available for students and parents to see on Go 4 Schools in the week commencing 4 October.

Mock Interviews

We advise students to book a 'mock interview' with Connexions should they be applying to a course that is likely to offer an interview. These commence from the end of September, running throughout October. Students should see Mrs White in Connexions along with their Personal Statement/CV to arrange an appointment. This opportunity is available to all students, both those looking to go to university and all alternative pathways. If you are able

to assist in interviewing students for university or job applications, your help would be greatly appreciated. Please email: cwhite@tringschool.org

UCAS advice for parents and guardians

Many of the presentations we have delivered to students can be found on the [Your Future](#) section of the school website. In addition, there are lots of useful resources for parents [here](#). UCAS also produce a parent newsletter with lots of useful information and updates: [UCAS newsletter sign up](#)

University Events

Almost all universities are now offering virtual events, and many are now offering in person open days again. The following websites are a good starting point if you are interested in attending one: [UCAS events](#), [Uni Taster Days](#). We also encourage students to visit universities independently in order to get a taster for the city and campus.

An upcoming event you may be interested in is the [Meet the Russell Group](#) virtual fair which takes place on 29 September, with all 24 Russell Group university members attending. This is an excellent opportunity for students to find out more about these institutions, and get answers to any questions they may have. Students can learn the key tips for a successful Oxbridge application, and get a better understanding of student life at a Russell Group university. There will also be 3 warm up webinars before this event; please follow the link [here](#) to sign up.

In addition, the UK University and Apprenticeship Search Fair takes place on 20 October, and will feature a huge range of universities, colleges and apprenticeship providers, as well as a live timetable of webinars. To register click here: [UK University Virtual Fair](#)

Should you have any questions about the university process, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Cait Beck, UCAS Coordinator (cbeck@tringschool.org)

Yours faithfully

Mrs Browne
Head of Year 13

Mrs C Beck
UCAS Coordinator