

What Next Parent Evening Information Sheet

The purpose of this sheet is to provide all parents/carers with any key websites and information needed to support a student as they help make future choices.

The summer term of Year 12 marks a pivotal point, in your child's education journey and their future life choices. Over the next few months, the decisions they make will start to shape how the rest of their lives play out. We as a school body are here to support them in their future pathways.

University

The majority of students at Cox Green School will apply for university in the UK, through the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS). Completed online, the application process is simple. Students will create an account on Monday 3rd June however and will start to complete this form fully throughout the summer term into September.

Useful websites:

www.ucas.com: UCAS provides the opportunity to search university courses, taster days, and open day opportunities. Website used to apply for university.

www.whatuni.com: Research and advice on choosing a university, with soft surveys on students course satisfaction.

www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk: Popular league table resource. Helps you explore the suitability of a uni.

www.tomnuttersoccer.com: Help and advice and guidance from Tom on how to be successful applying for scholarships abroad.

www.grantfairy.com: A downloadable app that helps you search for possible scholarships.

Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships are becoming a popular route into employment, providing training and education within the workplace. A genuine job, providing nationally recognised qualifications, and an extremely popular choice for people who already have a chosen career pathway. Students should be researching higher degree level apprenticeships that provide a wage between £12,000-30,000, alongside free degree study at a university creating a brilliant employment package. However, this makes them competitive and parent support is vital to success. The opportunities are incredible, so a lot of research, from the start of Year 13, is required for a student to be successful in this pathway.

Useful websites:

www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship: The government provided website that lists a range of different apprenticeship opportunities.

www.apprenticeships.gov.uk: Provides a range of advice and guidance to potential applicants with real life stories that show the variety of apprenticeships on offer.

www.ratemyapprenticeship.co.uk: Provides a list of the latest opportunities available alongside advice and guidance.

www.amazingapprenticeships.com: This website explains and advertises lots of high level apprenticeships, especially in a creative industry.

Big companies like Microsoft, Mars, Deloitte, GlaxoSmithKline (GSK), Large retail and Jaguar Land Rover advertise on their own websites and ask you to register, so keeping up to date with the companies individually is also useful.

Gap Years

Gap years can occur for many reasons. Some of our students last year completed Gap years (a year between school and university/apprenticeships) for monetary reasons and for further experiences. For example, one student went to Nepal to volunteer for three months, whilst another used the opportunity to work and apply for apprenticeships starting in September 2019. Whatever the reason, universities are happy, in most instances for students to defer their place. The main thing is to ensure the year has purpose.

Useful websites:

www.gapyear.com: Provides information on a variety of opportunities.

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/jobs-and-work-experience/gap-year>: A useful website that explains the type of experiences an employer values from those who participate in a gap year.

www.volunteerhq.org: A brilliant resource full of examples of global volunteering options.