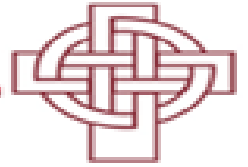


>

St Thomas More RC Sixth Form College



**College and Parents/Carers working together
to encourage and secure student success.**

> **Mrs Borwick – Head of Year 12**

Mrs Hallam – Assistant Headteacher

Sixth Form Vision

‘The Sixth Form team and all departments
will strive for each student to receive
the most effective support and the highest grades’



> Welcome

Aims of this evening:



- Expectations for what remains of the year
- Key dates
- Background to the UCAS system
- Parent Voice



>

Expectations

 Attitude and effort.

I hated every minute of training, but I said 'Don't quit. Suffer now and live the rest of your life as a champion'

Hard Work

I am
GREATEST
I said that even before I knew I was

Confidence



Year 13

SERVICE TO OTHERS IS THE RENT YOU PAY FOR YOUR ROOM HERE ON EARTH

Responsibility

If they can make penicillin out of mouldy bread, they can sure make something out of you.

Faith

Expectations



Attendance

Currently **95%** - Outstanding (Ofsted)

Morning registration and **all** lessons.



Results Day (Monday 18th June) & IAG Interview to assess curriculum needs.



Year 2 subjects – 5 hours, PSE & General RE
(1 lesson per week) EPQ



Ensure work missed due to open days, trips etc. is completed.



> Calendar

Other Key dates

Fri 29 th June*	Newcastle/Northumbria Open Days
Mon 2 nd July	Careers Day
Tues 3 rd – Fri 6 th	Work Experience
Wed 4 th – Fri 6 th July	Oxbridge Trip
Thurs 5 th July*	Year 11 into 12 Induction Day
Fri 6 th July*	School's Sports Day
Wed 18 th July	Old School Sports Day
Friday 20 th July	End of Term

* Indicates that College will be closed that day.

>

Careers Day – Monday 2th July

- **09:05 - 10:05** - Matt – Newcastle University partners and living as a student etc.
- **10.05 – 10.50 Session 1**
- **10.50 – 11. 35 Session 2**
- 11.35 – 11.55 Break
- **11.55 – 12.40 Session 3**
- 12.45 – 1.30 Lunch
- 1.30 – 2.00 **Closing session** with Mrs Borwick

>Key dates cont...

Wed 5 th Sept	Registration/Xmas Term begins
Mon 24 th Sept	UCAS early entry deadline
Mon 12 th Nov	UCAS deadline for all students
Wed 17 th Oct*	Parent's Evening
w/b 10 th Dec*	Mock exam week
Thurs 7 th Feb*	Parent's Evening
Mon 25 th Mar*	Year 13 final report
Fri 10 th May	Year 13 Prom(Attendance target)
Fri 17 th May	Expected leaving date
Fri 22 th Jun*	Exams end

*Denotes a provisional date

n.b. Assessment weeks – Oct/Feb

> UCAS : An introduction – 2019 entry



UCAS

>

Setting the scene

- Universities & Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS)
- Responsible for managing applications to Higher Education courses in the UK
- Five universities/course choices
- £13 for one course, £24 for 2-5 choices



UCAS

> The competitive advantage

Gaining a place at university or college has **three** stages:

- Research
- The UCAS application
- Consideration by HEIs



> Things to consider...

Entry requirements

Costs

Locality

Academic prestige

Course availability

League tables

City vs countryside

Size

Graduate employment rates

Accommodation

Facilities

‘New’ vs ‘Old’ university

UCAS

> 1. Research



Unifrog - Finding the best universities and apprenticeships

<https://www.unifrog.org/> ▼

The easy way for students to choose the best Universities and Apprenticeships for them, and for teachers to track their progress.

Sign in for the first time

Code: The easy way for students to choose ... To create your own ...

Blog

Blog: The easy way for students to choose the best Universities ...

Features

Features: The easy way for students to choose the best ...

Teacher

Teacher: The easy way for students to choose the best ...

Sign in

Been given a Form Code? Sign in for the first time. Are you a ...

Faq

Faq: The easy way for students to choose the best Universities ...

UCAS

> UCAS Tariff

- Offers can be based on grades or on UCAS tariff points.
- Some universities are use grade offers i.e ABB
They may have stipulations to the A grade being in a particular subject.
- Others use a points based system for their offers
– it is worth checking what they will allow to be included in this points total

> UCAS 'New' Tariffs

GCE A level and AVCE	Tariff points	Grade GCE AS & AS VCE	Tariff points
A*	56		
A	48	A	20
B	40	B	16
C	32	C	12
D	24	D	10
E	16	E	6

> UCAS New Tariffs

GCE A Double Award	Tariff Points		BTEC Double Award	Tariff Points
A*A*	112		D*D*	112
A*A	104		D*D	104
AA	96		DD	96
AB	88		DM	80
BB	80		MM	64
BC	72		MP	48
CC	64		PP	32
CD	56			
DD	48			
DE	40			
EE	32			

> The A*

- Stretch and challenge will be recognised and rewarded through an A* /Dist* grade.
- Similar to GCSE Awarded to students who achieve the very highest of that year's cohort.

> Use a combination of

Unifrog,

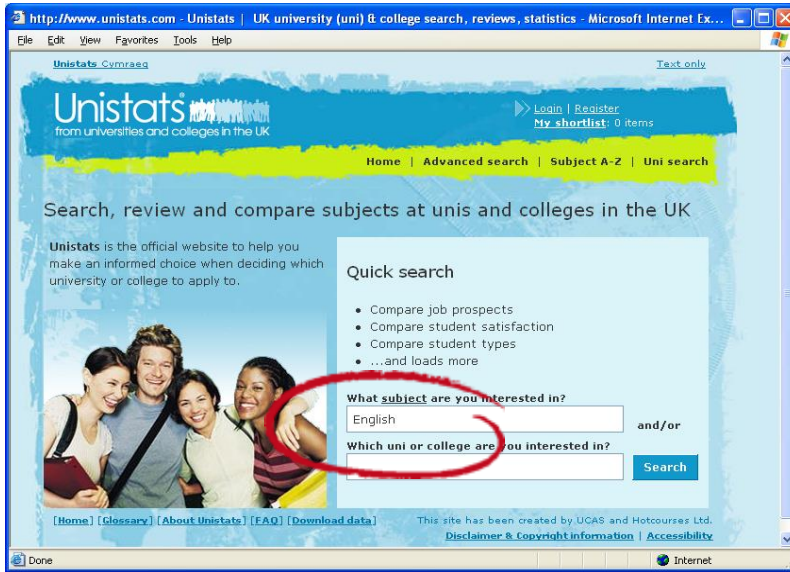
the UCAS website and

the university website to find out what skills, qualities & experience they are looking for.

You must then use these to write your P.S. You have to demonstrate the skills so if you know you are missing something e.g. work experience

do something about it...now!

UCAS



Unistats

Open Days

UCAS

Home / How it all works / Apply / Members & providers / Data & analysis / News & events / About us

Home > How it all works > Explore your options > Events and open days

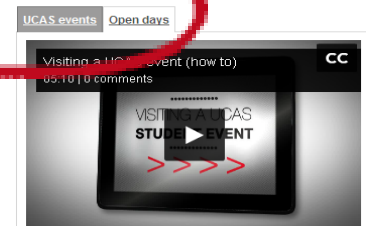
Tweet

Events and open days

- ▼ Explore your options
 - Planning your future
 - Different types of study
 - How to choose a course
 - Events and open days
 - ▶ Entry requirements
 - ▶ Studying in Welsh
 - ▶ Astudio yn y Gymraeg
 - ▶ Individual needs
 - UCAS Card for UK school students
 - ▶ Undergraduate
 - ▶ Performing arts
 - Postgraduate

It's a good idea to talk about your higher education options in person. This gives you a chance to ask questions and to see what's available.

- Come to a UCAS event to talk to course provider reps.
- Go to a course provider open day to explore the campus.



UCAS events
Prepare for your visit to a UCAS higher education convention. This video is packed with tips and advice about what to do before, during and after the event.
[Watch more video guides](#)

This site uses c

UCAS

> Useful Websites

- www.ucas.ac.uk – course search, links to university websites.
- www.unistats.com - Search, review and compare subjects at universities and colleges in the UK.
- www.prospects.ac.uk – graduate careers website
- www.push.co.uk - independent guide to UK universities, student life, gap years, open days, student finance.
- www.studential.com – personal statements, interview tips
- www.ukcoursefinder.co.uk – questionnaire to complete which then matches courses to interests.

> Useful Websites

- www.timesonline.co.uk – good university guide and league tables
- www.direct.gov.uk/studentfinance - up to date information about student finance available



Unifrog - Finding the best universities and apprenticeships

<https://www.unifrog.org/> ▼

The easy way for students to choose the best Universities and Apprenticeships for them, and for teachers to track their progress.

Sign in for the first time

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Teacher

Teacher: The easy way for students to choose the best ...

Faq

Faq: The easy way for students to choose the best Universities ...

UCAS

2. The UCAS application – the Form and the PS



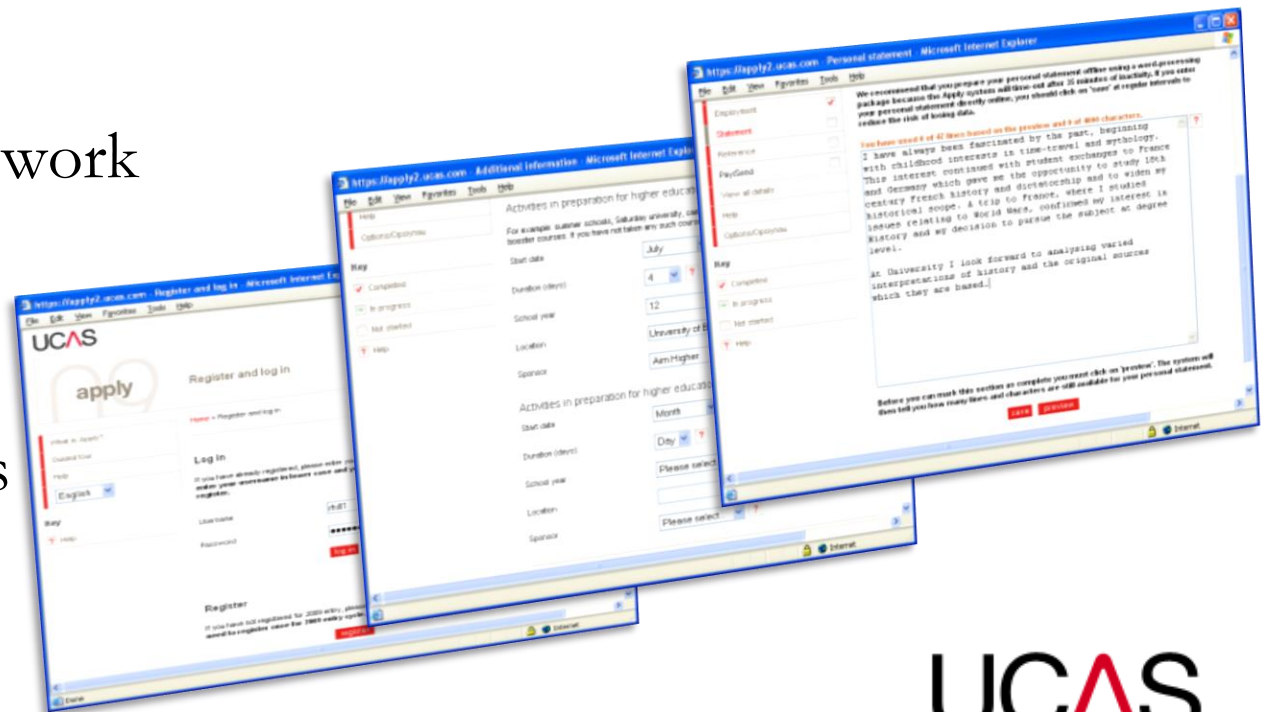
How to use Apply 2019



UCAS

> Transparent selection process

- Qualifications - Past, present and future
 - Predicted grades for 'pending' qualifications
- Personal statement
- Reference
- Interview
- Piece of written work
- Portfolio
- Audition
- Admissions tests





Staff notes

Personal details

Personal

Title _____
 Gender _____
 First/given name(s) _____
 Surname/familyname _____
 Preferred first name _____
 Previous surname at 16th birthday _____
 Postal address _____
 Is your permanent home in the UK? _____
 Home address _____
 Home telephone number _____
 Mobile number _____
 Email address _____
 Date of birth _____
 Country of birth _____
 Date of first entry to UK _____
 Nationality _____
 Dual nationality _____
 Area of permanent residence _____
 Residential category _____

Reference numbers

Unique Learner Number _____
 Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA) Number _____
 Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) Number _____
 International English Language Testing System (IELTS) Number _____

Student support

Fee code _____ 02 LA, SAAS, NIBd, EU, Chi, JoM or Student Finance England
<https://apply2.ucas.com/staffapply2010/StaffServlet?functionname=showDetails&list...> 09/07/2010

Student support arrangements

Mailings from UCAS

Do you want to receive information by text message? _____
 Do you want to receive information by email? _____
 Do you not want to receive information by post? _____

Nominated access

Full name of nominee _____
 Relationship to you _____

Criminal convictions

Criminal convictions _____

Disability/Special needs

Category _____
 Please give details of any special needs _____

Additional information

Ethnic origin _____
 National identity _____
 Dual national identity _____

Activities in preparation for higher education: 1

Sponsor _____
 Start date _____
 Duration (days) _____
 School year _____
 Location _____

Activities in preparation for higher education: 2

Sponsor _____
 Start date _____
 Duration (days) _____
 School year _____
 Location _____

Have you been in care? _____
 Duration in care _____
 Parental education _____
 Occupational background _____
 I would like correspondence from Welsh universities, colleges and UCAS to be in Welsh _____

Choices

The University of Birmingham (B32)

Medicine (5 years) (A100)

Campus: Main Site (-)

Live at home?: No

Start date: October 2010

Deferred entry?: No

Point of entry: _____

The University of Birmingham (B32)

Medical Science (B900)

Campus: Main Site (-)

Live at home?: No

Start date: October 2010

Deferred entry?: No

Point of entry: _____

University of Bristol (B78)

Medicine - MBChB Standard entry (5 years) (A100)

Campus: Main Site (-)

Live at home?: No

Start date: October 2010

Deferred entry?: No

Point of entry: _____

Cardiff University (C15)

Medicine (first-year entry) (A100)

Campus: Main Site (-)

Live at home?: No

<https://apply2ucas.com/staffapply2010/StaffServlet?functionname=showDetails&list...> 09/07/2010

Start date: September 2010

Deferred entry?: No

Point of entry: _____

University of Leeds (L23)

Medicine (A100)

Campus: Main Site (-)

Live at home?: No

Start date: September 2010

Deferred entry?: No

Point of entry: _____

Previous UCAS application number (if known) _____

Education

GCE Advanced Level

Biology	06/2010	WJEC
Chemistry	06/2010	AQA
French	06/2010	AQA

GCE Advanced Subsidiary (first award 2001)

Biology	A	06/2009	WJEC
Chemistry	A	06/2009	AQA
Critical Thinking	A	06/2009	OCR
French	A	06/2009	AQA
General Studies	A	06/2009	AQA
Mathematics	A	06/2009	OCR

Additional Admissions Test

Clinical Aptitude Test (UKCAT) 06/2009

GCSE

Additional Science	A*	06/2008	Edexcel
Business Studies	A	06/2008	Edexcel
English	A*	06/2008	WJEC
English Literature	A*	06/2008	WJEC
French	A*	06/2008	AQA
History	A*	06/2008	OCR

<https://apply2ucas.com/staffapply2010/StaffServlet?functionname=showDetails&list...> 09/07/2010

Mathematics	A*	06/2008	Edexcel	Copyright © UCAS
Physical Education	A*	06/2008	AQA	
Science	A*	06/2008	Edexcel	

GCSE Short Course

Citizenship Studies	A*	06/2008	OCR
Religious Studies	A*	06/2008	Edexcel

Employment

Tesco PLC

A week spent at an investment company taught me what my real values are. I am not attracted to a career in which the overriding objective is to earn money for a large corporation. I need a profession that will give me the opportunity to have a direct impact on the wellbeing of others whilst challenging me intellectually. Medicine offers this, in addition to being a life long vocation in which I will never stop learning, suiting my inquisitive nature.

My placements allowed me an insight into the variation between medical practices in different locations. Initially I spent three days on a placement shadowing GPs at a rural practice, with predominantly elderly patients. The case of a generally healthy lady with arthritic knees stood out for me as I found it interesting to see steroid injections administered and discuss the benefits. My second placement was in stark contrast to this. I spent four days shadowing GPs at a city practice in a deprived area. One doctor consulted in French and Kurdish, which highlighted for me the importance of effective communication in medicine. The prevalence of joint problems within the Somali community caused by vitamin D deficiency awakened me to the social and cultural aspects of medicine in terms of symptoms and solutions.

A consultation with a recovering heroin addict and her son during this placement gave me experience of an ethical dilemma. I also had the invaluable opportunity to discuss the issues surrounding methadone treatment with the doctor afterwards. As part of the school debating team, I have experience in tackling ethical problems, such as conflicts between religion and medicine, in an analytical manner.

I have a natural interest in people and their emotional wellbeing. The case of a lady with severe depression following a rape particularly stood out for me on my urban placement. It

<https://apply2.ucas.com/staffapply2010/StaffServlet?functionname=showDetails&list...> 09/07/2010



allowed me to see that medicine is a career in which empathy with people's feelings is required in order to provide appropriate care. Years of antidepressants had not worked for this patient, but the suggestion of community volunteering proved effective, giving the patient a sense of purpose and thus greatly improving her mental health.

Two days spent with nurses on my rural placement showed me the importance of teamwork in medicine. I witnessed first hand how patient care is provided by an array of individuals, not just doctors. Therefore I feel that five years captaining a trophy-winning school rugby team have equipped me with valuable skills, such as how to lead and get the best from people. Playing for my club has taught me to be a team player, as I learned to listen to authority and value every team member. My part time work in retail has given me experience of working with others towards a common goal.

I have recently been accepted as a volunteer at a local hospital where I will spend one evening a week for the next year on a ward. My duties will include feeding patients and befriending those with no visitors. This role will develop skills transferable to my medical career by enabling me to conduct myself in a more responsible, professional and confidential manner with patients. For the duration of lower sixth, I held a position of care as a reading mentor, working to improve the skills of children with dyslexia. Each week without fail, I spent two hours tutoring in the basics of reading, finding it fulfilling to see their steady progress.

I am able to cope well with stress, finding that my sporting and social interests allow a good work/life balance. When faced with a large workload I prioritise my time and work efficiently. For example during the summer exam period I decided to take unpaid leave from my job to focus on my studies.

I feel that my experience, academic performance and enthusiasm make me well suited to thrive at medical school and later in life as a doctor. I am sure that I want to spend my life practising medicine and am eager to take the next step in my education.

+ one page
school reference

<https://apply2.ucas.com/staffapply2010/StaffServlet?functionname=showDetails&list...> 09/07/2010

> Writing the statement

- Supported from start to finish
- General advice on where to start and how to write. (STM / Partners / Careers Day/ Unifrog.)
- Role of the form tutor.
- Role of the UCAS tutor (GB, ABT, LJ, DH)
- 80% subject; 20% other interests. (Love of subject = key)
- Relevant work experience – Year 10 work experience?
- Nothing to do with the 308 bus route!!
- University slides & UCAS website

>What is the UCAS Personal Statement ?

Why is it important?



The Personal Statement is a very important part of your university application, around an A4 side in length, which gives you an opportunity :

- To tell the universities and colleges why they should choose you.
- To tell them about **your suitability** for the course(s) that you hope to study.
- To demonstrate **your enthusiasm** and **commitment**, and above all, ensure that **you** stand out from the crowd.

>

- **Most university courses do not interview** so your only chance to impress selectors is in the Personal Statement
- Even some highly selective universities do not interview e.g. LSE and Durham (except for Medicine and Education)
- If you are interviewed you may be questioned about what you said in the Personal Statement



UCAS

> Very Good advice on the UCAS website

- What to include
- Dos and don'ts
- Size and presentation
- Similarity detection

2012 apply Personal statement <Log out

Welcome > Personal statement

Welcome

Personal details

Choices

Education

Employment

Statement

Reference

View all details

Pay/Send

Help

Options/Opsyn...

Our [guide to writing your personal statement \(opens in a new window\)](#) should help you complete this section.

We strongly recommend you write the statement using a word-processing package and paste it in to Apply.

Whether you are typing your statement directly into the box, or amending a statement that you pasted in, you should click 'save' regularly because Apply will time-out after 35 minutes of inactivity. The countdown below displays how much time you have left before it times out.

Personal statement

Session will timeout in 34:34

You have used 0 of 47 lines based on the preview and 0 of 4000 characters.

Key

Completed

In progress

Not started

Help

When it comes to filling in your UCAS form there is a direct link to good Personal Statement advice on the Personal Statement page itself.

UCAS

> Similarity Detection Service

- Personal statements are checked against a library of those already in the system, and from a variety of websites and paper publications
- Each new statement is added to the library after processing

Make sure that your personal statement is your own work

We will carry out checks to verify that your personal statement is your own work. If your personal statement appears to have been copied from another source we will inform the universities and colleges to which you have applied. They will then take the action they consider appropriate. We will also contact you by email.

> Transparent selection process/STM support

- Qualifications

 - Past, present and future

 - Predicted grades for 'pending' qualifications

- Personal statement

- Reference

- Interview

- Piece of written work

- Portfolio

- Audition

- Admissions tests



> Main UCAS Deadlines...

23th September (15th October)

Deadline for applications to

Oxford or Cambridge

and for

Medicine, Dentistry and

Veterinary Medicine/Science courses

11th November (15th January)

Deadline for applications to all other courses,
except some Art & Design courses.

(Check on course search to find out Art & Design deadlines)

> The Great Wait

- www.ucas.com/track
- Log on to check if any university has responded to your application.
- Conditional offer
 - requires certain grades or points to be met.
- Decisions
 - no longer made with Jan resits having an impact!
 - **FIRM** – should be the place you want to go to
 - **INSURANCE** – second choice in case firm choice conditions are not met

> Strategies

■ Insurance choice

- It's a safety net not a second option
- In a competitive market, use it as a safety net
- 42% had CIs harder or equal to CFs!



- > **Do three A grades guarantee you a place?**
- **3000+ with three A grades ‘missed out’**
 - broaden your choice of institution and course
- **Only 63% predicted Grade A actually achieve it**
 - HEIs use other evidence from the application to test the validity of your predictions



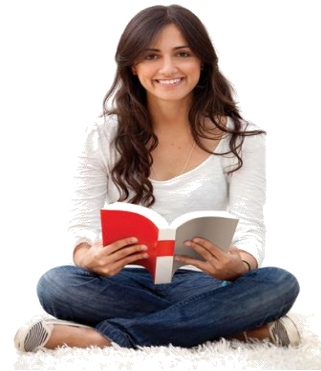
> Extra



- Open from end February to end June
- Available for those who have already used five choices and not received or accepted an offer
- Apply one course at a time
- Decision within 21 days
- Preferable to clearing

> Guidance for using Extra

- **Minimum entry requirements**
 - Are minimum entry requirements
- **Achieving minimum entry requirements puts you in the ‘pile’ that gets considered**
 - Then additional sifts are applied
 - **Everyone** competing for the place you want will also meet the minimum requirements.



UCAS

> N.B - Adjustment and Clearing

- **Adjustment** – facility for students to re-apply if they have achieved grades higher than expected.
- **Clearing** – facility for students to re-apply if they achieve grades less than expected

> Student Finance

- All applications for student finance are now to be completed online - Apply for finance in April / May 2019.
- Students (**with help of parents**) complete application with all the necessary information e.g. financial details.
- Once the application is submitted you will find out what finance you are entitled to within 6-8 weeks.
- More information will be provided for students in PSE lessons.

> Tuition fees



- Any institution will be able to charge up to £9.25k per annum.
- No eligible student will have to pay up front for their tuition – the Government provides access to loans to cover tuition fees

> Tuition fees

- Students will only start to contribute when they are earning over **£25,000**
- **30-40%** won't pay back full amount and debt wiped after **30 years**
- Plenty of bursaries to support students on lower incomes
- Independent advice about finance at:

<http://www.moneysavingexpert.com>



UCAS

> What about students not applying to University?

- Not forgotten about!
- 15-20%
- Early identification in light of results
- Work closely with Miss Johnson on a Tuesday morning.
We offer employability workshops inc. Advice;
research; applications; interview preparation; work
experience
- Tracked all the way - **Unifrog**
- Great strength of STM = Post 18 NEET statistics.

> Financial Support -

North Tyneside Schools' 16 to 19 Bursary Scheme 2017/18:

- The 16 to 19 Bursary scheme provides financial help to young people aged 16 to 19 who face financial barriers to participating in education or training, provided they meet agreed standards of attendance, behaviour and progress.
- The application pack and supporting info will be available on the council website and in school.
- **2** tiered system of support.

> Tier 1 (£1200 for the full academic year)

To be allocated the **tier 1** bursary, students must be:

- In care
- Have left care having been in care for a minimum of 3 months from the age of 14
- In receipt of Income Support
- In receipt of **both** Employment Support Allowance **and** Disability Living Allowance.

> Tier 2- Discretionary

To qualify for **tier 2** students must be:

- Eligible for Free School Meals
- A family in receipt of Working Tax Credit and with a gross household income of **£16,500** or less.

> **Hardship Bursary**

In addition, there is a fund for students experiencing hardship, severe need or emergency.

Typically, circumstances could include:

- Family breakdown / domestic crisis
- Recent parental unemployment
- Severe financial hardship

There are **no set criteria**, such as in receipt of Working Tax Credits etc, for the discretionary fund but to assess the application NTC will need information about:

- Household income and the number of dependant children/ young people
- The particular circumstances and need for a discretionary bursary
- What students will use the discretionary bursary for

NTC will allocate Tier 1 Bursaries first before opening up the Discretionary Bursary and this means that 'Hardship' Bursaries are likely to be quite **modest payments**.

>

Receipt of other support funds, such as allowances or bursaries, will be taken into account in determining any Hardship Bursary payments.

Applications go before a panel made up of Heads of Sixths.

The panel meets once every half term to assess applications and agree the level of financial support – this panel do not see the names of students or the schools they attend.

Free School Meals

You are eligible for help if you are in receipt of any one of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Income-based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Pension Credit Guarantee
- Child Tax Credit without Working Tax Credit & an annual taxable income below £16,190
(as assessed by HM Revenue and Customs)
- If you think you may be eligible,
please contact us on **(0191) 643 2288**.



Thank You!

**A challenging year ahead –
but students will be
supported all the way.**

- Feel free to contact College to clarify any of these issues in the future.
- Parent Voice!