



Wales
HIGH SCHOOL
SIXTH FORM

Y12 Progression Evening



Thursday 11th June 2026



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Sixth Form Team

- **NINA LOCKYER** - Director of Sixth Form
- **MARK HOWARD** - Deputy Director of Sixth Form
- **KEELEY ESBERGER** – Post 16 Support and Guidance Counsellor
- **LAURA FIRTH** - Post 16 Support and Guidance Counsellor
- **LAUREN PEARSON** – Initiative Lead
- **HAYLEY LUDLAM** - Sixth Form SLT link and Assistant Headteacher



Nina Lockyer



Mark Howard



Keeley Esberger



Laura Firth



Lauren Pearson



Hayley Ludlum



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What are my options?

- University
- Apprenticeship
- Full time employment
- Gap year





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Previous Pathways

	2023	2024	2025
University	54%	50%	40%
Apprenticeships	14%	22%	14%
Further Education	2%	9%	8%
Employment	13%	11%	21%
Gap Year	1%	6%	13%
Job Seeking/Other	16%	2%	4%

***All figures approximately correct as of August of that academic year*



UCAS and University | Student Timeline



This timeline is for students working towards the Equal Consideration Deadline of Wednesday 13th January 2027

Year 12

Overview of options and UCAS process for parents and students
Importance of personal statements for university and apprenticeships

Progression Event

May-June

June

June

HEX Sessions

A series of talks and workshops on the following topics:

- University & The UCAS Process
- Russell Group Universities & Competitive Courses
- Searching & Selecting Courses
- Degree Apprenticeships
- Personal Statements
- UCAS:



UCAS Discovery Exhibition Sheffield 2026

Held at the Sheffield Arena on Tuesday 9th June.

Opportunity to speak to a wide range of universities and

Summer Holidays 2026:

- ◆ Research subjects and universities
- ◆ Plan what you want to include on the first draft of your personal statement

Writing your personal statement

Entering qualifications and personal information in to your UCAS application

VoW Day 1

Sept

Year 13

Making progress with UCAS applications

VoW Day 2

Oct

Nov

Dec

Jan

UCAS Early Entry Deadline: 15th October

Deadline for:
Medicine
Vet Med
Dentistry
Oxford
Cambridge

Internal UCAS Application Deadline: Friday 04th December 2026

UCAS Application Deadline: 13th January 2027



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UCAS Deadlines

Early Entry Applicants

Oxford & Cambridge
Medicine
Dentistry
Veterinary Medicine/Science

Deadline: 15th October 2026

Conservatoires

Performance-based courses in
music, dance, drama, musical
theatre, film, and production

Deadline: *varies on institution*

Equal Consideration

All other courses & universities

Deadline: 13th January 2027



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University Locations

Over **160**
universities in the
UK

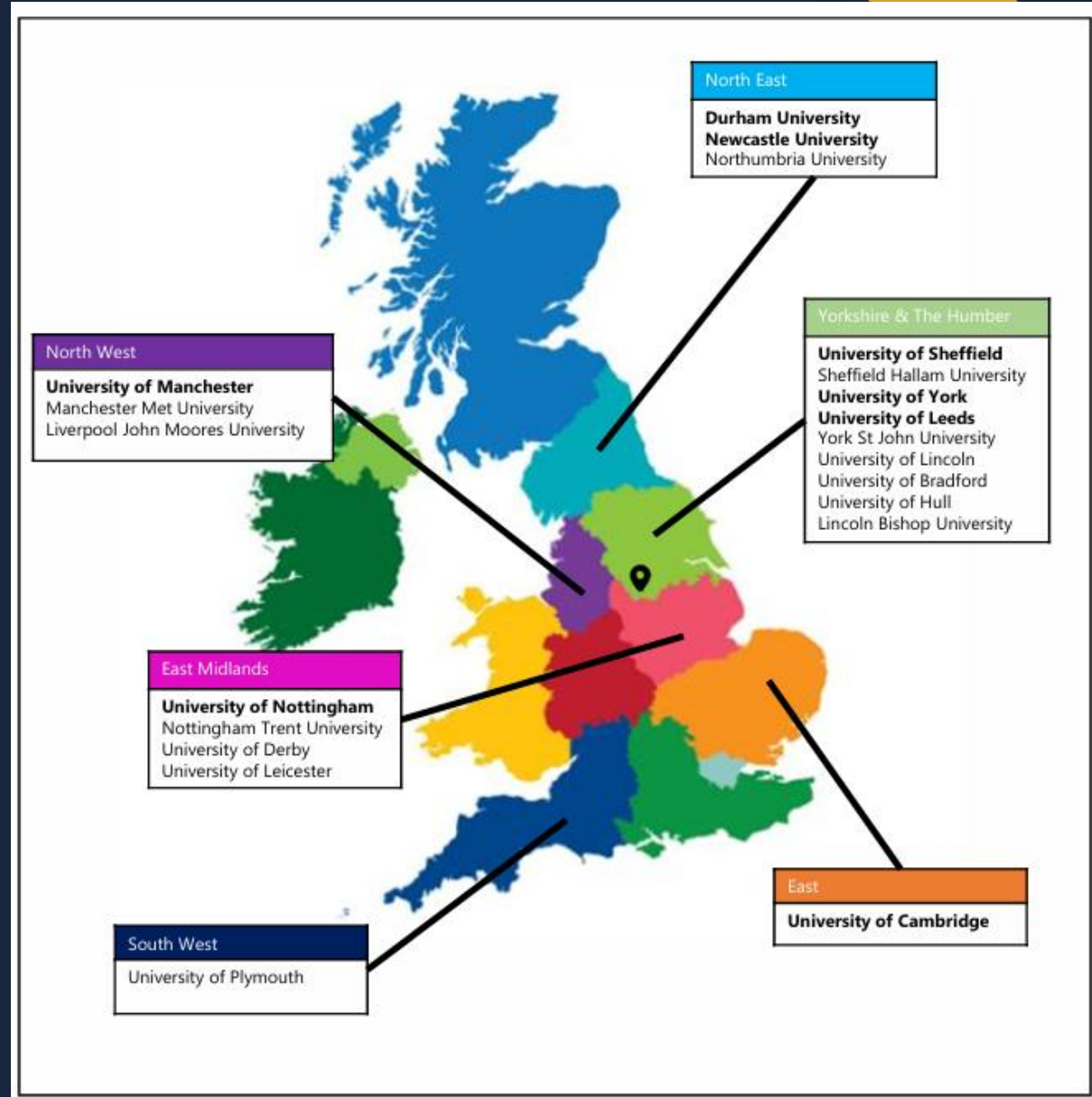
Over **65,000**
courses available to
study





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2025 UCAS Destinations





Degree Options

- **Traditional Degree** (3 years) - leading to BA/ BSc
 - **Integrated Programmes** (4 years) - leading to BA/BSc but combine an additional element e.g. 1 year in placement, study abroad
-
- **Foundation Degree** (1 year) - stepping stone onto a full degree
 - **Alternative pathways** - E.g. teaching. 3 year degree & PGCE, or full Primary Teaching with QTS, or integrated teaching and subject degree (secondary)



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What have we done so far?

- Identified the potential Early Entry applicants
- Identified the potential Conservatoire applicants
- Briefings
 - UCAS Hub
 - Entry Requirements
 - Deadlines
 - Researching courses



Trip to University of Sheffield (February)



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Research!

Research courses using the UCAS website and the university websites

- Draw up a shortlist of courses and locations
- Attend open days



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Entry Requirements

Grades (AAA) or tariff points (112 points)

Specific A-Level subject requirements (e.g. must study Chemistry and/or Biology)

Some might have GCSE entry requirements (e.g. must have 5 9-5 grades, or must have a 7 in Maths)

Make sure you have aspirational but realistic choices.



Contextual Offers & Access Schemes

Contextual offer schemes

- Usually automatically applied to eligible applicants
- Typically a 1 grade drop on the standard offer
- Often only looking for 1 or 2 characteristics in order to be eligible
- No additional work or participation required

Access schemes

- Usually need to be applied to separately
- Typically applied to and completed during year 12 or 13
- Often a bigger grade drop (min 2 grades) and financial support available
- Often looking for more socio-economic factors to be met for eligibility
- Usually requires participation/completion of activity during year 12/13

Foundation year programmes

- Usually a 1-year course completed after Year 13 (or equiv) and before starting a full undergraduate degree
- Applied to during Year 13, often through UCAS
- Often for students without specific subjects needed, e.g. no Maths A Level
- Not usually looking at specific socio-economic characteristics



UCAS Grade Procedure

Teachers will be asked to input a UCAS predicted grade in June of Year 12. Students will receive one predicted grade per subject (not one from each teacher). The school must be realistic about the predicted grades given which are based upon:

- **actual attainment in the progress examinations in the summer term of Year 12**
- **actual attainment in AS examinations for students studying mathematics, biology, chemistry and physics. In this instance, a UCAS predicted grade can change once we have these grades in August.**
- **sustained performance in assessments throughout Year 12 including the results of homework assignments and topic/module assessments**
- **sustained performance in attainment and commitment to learning (CTL) grades throughout Year 12**
- **the professional experience and judgment of the teacher**

Predictions will not be based upon:

- **student or parental/carer pressure**
- **a student promising that they will “work much harder in Year 13”**
- **what a student says they “want” or “need” to apply to a particular university or course**



UCAS Hub

Download the UCAS Hub app

Set up an account – use a personal email address (not your school one)

Enter the buzzword to link it to our school (**Walesmh27**)

Profile

Personal details Name, age, title and gender Start this section	Nationality details Birthplace and nationalities Start this section	Where you live Tell us about your address history Section in progress
Contact details Address, email, and telephone Section in progress	Supporting information So that providers know how to support you during your studies Start this section	Finance & funding Tell us how you'll fund your study Start this section
Diversity & inclusion Additional equality information Start this section	More about you Tell us about any circumstances that you might need support for during your studies Start this section	

Experience

Education Qualifications and periods of study Section complete	Employment Paid employment Section complete	Extra activities Taken part in any activities to prepare you for higher education? Start this section
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Personal Statement

Personal statement Why do you want to study this subject? Start this section

Personal details and information

GCSE and A-Level qualifications

Personal Statement

Home

Activities Day



Personal Statement

1 Why do you want to study this course or subject?

What's your motivation?
Why does the subject interest you?
How does it fit into your big plans for the future?



2 How have your qualifications and studies helped you to prepare for this course or subject?

What have you studied inside or outside of school related to this?
What skills have you developed from those studies?
What awards have you received?



3 What else have you done to prepare outside of education, and why are these experiences useful?

What else have you done that will make you a fantastic student on this course?
Think work experience, volunteering, hobbies, extracurricular activities, and things in your personal life.





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UCAS Application

- You can make up to 5 choices on an application
- The 2026/27 applicant fee is **£34.50***
- Invisibility - universities cannot see where else students have applied.

**Students on Free School Meals have their application fee waived*





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Work Experience

- Degrees in Medicine, Dentistry, Teaching, Veterinary, Midwifery, Nursing and Paramedic will require relevant work experience.
- Year 10 work experience doesn't count! It needs to be recent/current.
- There's now a range of virtual work experiences available via Springpod and Speakers4schools.
- It is the student's responsibility to arrange any work experience required around their timetable. Sixth Form will support where possible. There is dedicated work experience time at the end of year 12





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Further Support in Y12


HEXTRA

- Degree Apprenticeships
- Russell Group Universities
- Searching Courses
- Personal Statements

UCAS Discovery Event – Sheffield Arena (June)



Activities Day (July) – Setting up UCAS account and entering personal information & qualifications. Personal Statement advice



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Support – Y13

VoW Days

VoW Day 1 – Progressing with application and qualifications, starting personal statement

VoW Day 2 – Progressing with application, finishing personal statement

Progression Advisors

Each student is allocated a member of staff who will guide and assist them with their personal statement

Year Team

We write each students UCAS reference and check their application before it is sent to UCAS



Tuition Fee Loan

How much you can get

	2025 to 2026 academic year	2026 to 2027 academic year
If you're a full-time student	Up to £9,535	Up to £9,790
If you're studying an accelerated degree course	Up to £11,440	Up to £11,750

Tuition fee and maintenance loan will likely increase for the 2027/28 cycle

Maintenance Loan

How much you can get

The maximum amount you can get depends on where you live.

	2025 to 2026 academic year	2026 to 2027 academic year
Living with your parents	Up to £8,877	Up to £9,118
Living away from your parents, outside London	Up to £10,544	Up to £10,830
Living away from your parents, in London	Up to £13,762	Up to £14,135
You spend a year of a UK course studying abroad	Up to £12,076	Up to £12,403
If you're 60 or over on the first day of the first academic year of your course	Up to £4,461	Up to £4,582

More information will be provided to students when Student Finance opens for the 2026/27 academic year



What Next?

- Research course and university information
 - **Unitasterdays.com**
 - **Completeuniversityguide.co.uk**
 - **Whatuni** and **discoveruni**
- Attend open days / visit potential locations
- Work experience



Apprenticeships | Student Timeline



Year 12



next

SIEMENS

Confirm work placements to enhance application

Work Placements

Jan

June

July

Internships

Look for internship for the summer

Work Placements

Complete work placements & complete WRL log*

Join apprenticeship group email—vacancies and opportunities sent out via this communication

Greencore



Big corporations start to release vacancies—must apply early as deadline is often December.

Potentially will be lots of stages to go through (assessments, group work, tests and interview)

Vacancy Release

Sept



Year 13



Attend the workshop to ascertain how to apply via the government website

Ensure CV is up to date

Apprenticeship Workshop

Sept

Government website & UCAS website

Register with the give website

Set up reminders and check emails on a regular basis

HART SHAW

Chartered Accountants & Business Advisers



MUST look at vacancies twice a week (local organisations will release vacancies)

Check email and government website regularly

Send CV's to companies you want to work for—be bold!

Vacancy Release

Nov/Dec

Deadlines

Deadline dates for big corporations approaching



Jan onwards



*WRL = Work Related Learning



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What is an Apprenticeship?

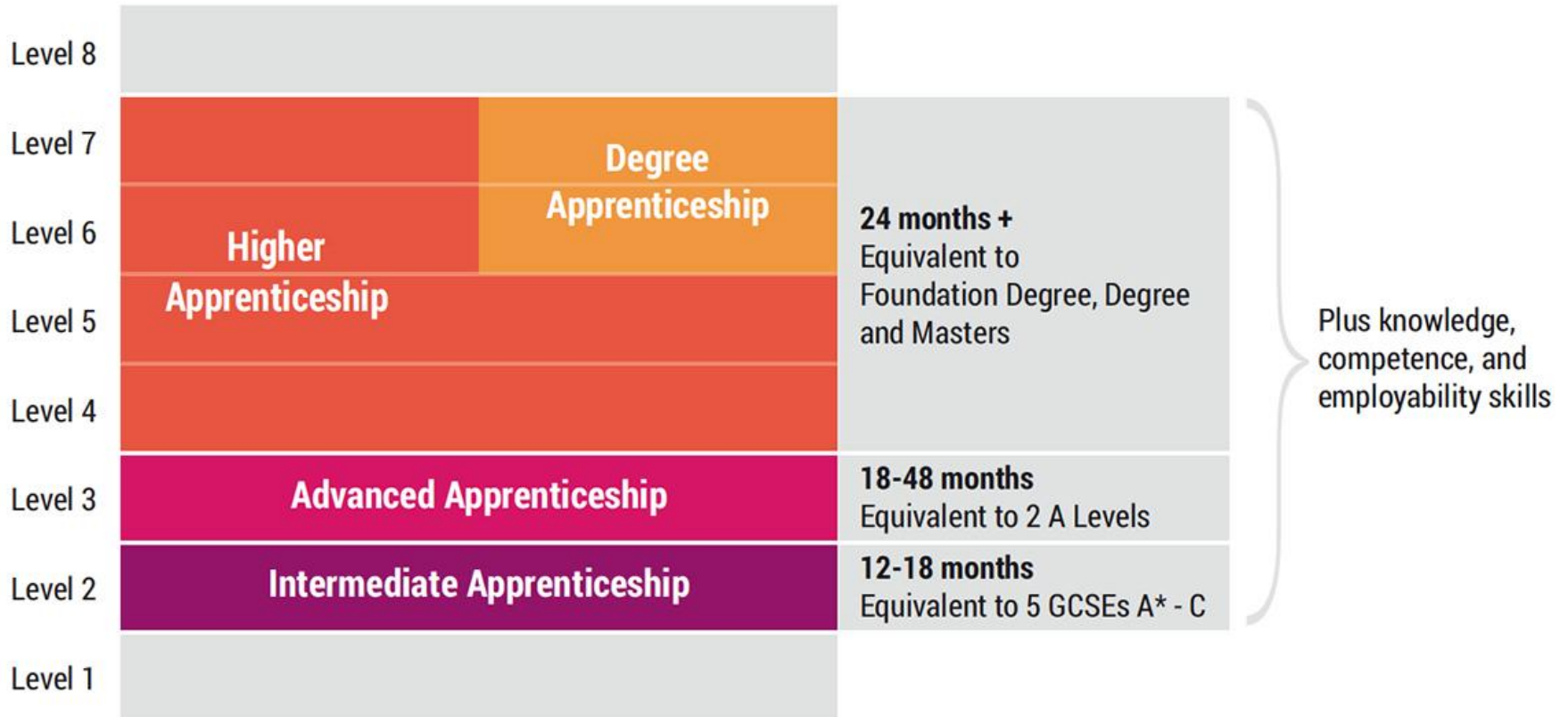
Apprentices are for people aged 16 or over and combine working with studying to gain skills and knowledge in a specific job.

Apprentices can be new or current employees.





Types of Apprenticeships

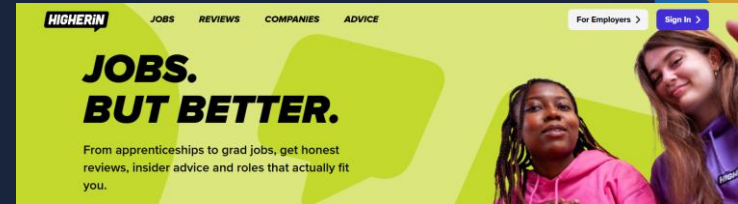




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Where to look?

- UCAS website
- Government website
- Higherin
- Indeed
- Notgoingtouni
- Civil Service and local councils
- Companies may advertise directly
- Sending speculative CVs to companies you may want to work for



UCAS DISCOVER **APPRENTICESHIPS**

UCAS



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When to apply?

- Bigger companies might recruit at the same time as UCAS.
- Websites often let you sign up to email alerts for new positions.
- Don't always be put off by start date, they may be willing to wait for you.

**THE TIME
IS NOW**



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How to be prepared

- Make sure you have checked your CV.
- Have a covering letter ready in case you're asked for one.
- Research common interview questions and practise what you would say.
- Have a 'personal statement' prepared.
- Apply for as many as you can, don't apply for one and wait. But remember quality over quantity.
- Ensure you attend Mrs Lockyer's support sessions on CV writing, interview techniques and employer talks.
- Always be professional.





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Progression Advisors

- Each student will be assigned a member of staff to support them with their next steps after Sixth Form.
- The PA will **support** with UCAS applications, personal statements, apprenticeship/ job applications and interview techniques
- Students must meet with their PA before the end of year 12 to discuss initial plans and continue having regular meetings in year 13. **It is the student's responsibility to arrange this.**





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Parent Support

An extremely valuable part of the application process!

Please encourage your child to be proactive in researching and then applying

If you have any queries then please contact the year team



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Any questions?



START
YOUR JOURNEY
AT WALES
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ACHIEVE YOUR FULL POTENTIAL