



# WIDENING PARTICIPATION NEWSLETTER

# WHAT'S INSIDE

---

**UPDATES FROM PARTNER  
UNIVERSITIES - 1**

---

**SUMMER SCHOOLS &  
OTHER UNIS' EVENTS - 3**

---

**BURSARIES - 13**

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## EXTRA SUMMER EDITION

Welcome to the extra summer edition of our newsletter. As we start to think about Easter and the summer holidays, we'd like to draw your attention to programmes that are still open or are opening their application window for students in both year 12 and 13. Some of the events mentioned will open in the summer months when the college is closed and we have, where possible, given links to register your interest.

**Please remember to check each programme's eligibility criteria before applying.** If you require further information, please email [wp@bhasvic.ac.uk](mailto:wp@bhasvic.ac.uk). Students can also take a look at the WP Teams page for further careers information and opportunities.

We hope you enjoy reading and learning about the events in the summer term and we wish you a pleasant summer when it arrives.

The WP Team

## UPDATES AT PARTNER UNIVERSITIES

# Sussex Inspires Programme



### Find your Future

**Sussex:** Our Find your Future conferences give attendees from Year 12 of Sixth Form and Year 1 of college the chance to discover what student life is like, in addition to offering a springboard into potential university applications. They'll leave knowing exactly what they need to do to complete a UCAS application, understand the student finance system and gain an insight into student life.

- Wednesday 13 May 2026 (spaces available)
- Wednesday 3 June 2026 (limited spaces available)
- Thursday 11 June 2026 (spaces available)
- Wednesday 17 June 2026 (spaces available)

**[Apply Here](#)**

### Preparing for Sussex

On Wednesday 24 June 2026 the Widening Participation team will be running an event for contextual and mature offer holders. The day is designed to equip students with the necessary skills to thrive at university.

The team are still finalising plans for the day, but the event will focus on the following areas, and attendees can select the elements they are most interested in.

**[For more information and to sign up, click here.](#)**

## UPDATES AT PARTNER UNIVERSITIES

# Outreach Programme



Online and in-person activities are delivered by both university staff and student ambassadors. We are also developing more and more resources for students, parents, carers and practitioners using a variety of online platforms that allow users to work at their own pace, revisiting videos when they need.

## Upcoming Events

### Student funding and finance talk and Q+A

2 April 2025 5-6pm

Online

Join us for a live presentation on all aspects of UK student funding and finance. This will be followed by a live Q+A, where our staff and current students will be on hand to answer your questions.

### A day in the life of an architect

23 April 2025 5-6pm

Online

Architecture is often characterised by iconic buildings, sometimes by charismatic individuals and at other times defined by its cost. Are these a genuine reflection of the day-to-day practice of architecture? This session will explore what the reality of studying and practising architecture looks like today.

### A day in the life of a midwife

29 April 2025 5-6pm

Online

Join us to learn about what being a midwife looks like on a day-to-day basis. Hear from one of our midwifery lecturers and get the chance to discover more about midwifery as a career path.

Open days - We hold open days at each of our three Brighton campuses, our summer dates are:

City, 6 June 2026

Moulsecoomb, 13 June, 2026

Falmer, 26 and 27 June, 2026

**You can save your place now for our summer open days.**



## Year 13 Opportunity WP Programme

Discover Bristol is a Year 13 programme for students from lower socio-economic groups to experience the University of Bristol through a series of online sessions.

Applications have now closed for 2025-26. If you'd like to be notified when the applications reopen in the Summer of 2026, please complete this [expression of interest form](#).

**This opportunity will be open for year 12s going into year 13 in September 2026**

### **About the programme**

This virtual programme is designed to enhance students' understanding of Higher Education and provide insight into how the University of Bristol supports them in making the most of their opportunities.

Discover Bristol offers a range of online sessions for students, including academic tasters, UCAS and personal statement guidance, student funding and financial literacy, study skills, careers and employability, and the range of support available to students at the University of Bristol. These sessions are delivered in collaboration with current students, student societies, central student services, and the Widening Participation team.

### **Dates and times**

All virtual events will run during after-school hours from October through to late-January. There will be up to six online sessions for students and additional sessions for parents and carers. Exact dates and times will be confirmed upon joining the programme.

If you'd like to be notified when the applications reopen in the Summer of 2026, please complete this expression of interest form.

[\*\*More Information\*\*](#)

## Residential Pathway National Year 12 Opportunity



University  
of Exeter

All students in Year 12, based outside of the south west of England (Devon, Cornwall, Somerset, Bristol, and Dorset).

Applications for the National Residential Pathway will **open in Spring 2026**. You can complete an **[Expression of Interest form here](#)** and you will receive an email when applications open.

If you live OUTSIDE the South West (Devon, Cornwall, Dorset, Somerset & Bristol), you can apply.

Subject Strands: We aim to place participants on their first choice of residential and subject strand, but due to demand and availability we are not always able to do so. In this case, we will place participants on their second or third choice of residential and subject strand. Please do try to choose a residential and subject strand (see lists below) for your second or your third choice that you would be just as happy to study as part of the Exeter Scholars programme. Also, when choosing first, second, and third choices for subject strands, do not select the same subject strand multiple times – this will not increase your chances of getting your first choice.

### **STREATHAM CAMPUS:**

- ARTS AND HUMANITIES
- BUSINESS
- HISTORY & HUMANITIES
- BIOLOGICAL AND HUMAN SCIENCES
- CLINICAL, BIOMEDICAL & ALLIED HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONS
- SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS (STEM)
- SOCIAL SCIENCES

### **PENRYN CAMPUS:**

- CONSERVATION AND ECOLOGY
- EARTH, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES & ENGINEERING
- COMBINED HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES

**[More Information](#)**



## Year 12 & 13 Opportunity

### Further mA\*ths Online Programme

This programme, supported by the Hg Foundation, aims to assist A-level Further Mathematics students who are considering studying a maths-related degree at university.

Through this programme you will:

- Develop the skills you need to achieve an A\* in A-level Further Mathematics.
- Build your confidence to apply to universities that require an A\* in Further Mathematics for your chosen subject.

During the programme, you will receive tailored online support, including online mentoring and face-to-face masterclasses at Imperial College London. This initiative runs in collaboration with Mathematics in Education and Industry (MEI).

We run two cohorts for the programme: one for year 12 students and one for year 13 students.

Please note: This programme is for students studying A-level **Further Mathematics**.

We also run an A-level Mathematics programme. Although you can apply to both programmes, you will only be allowed a place on one. Therefore, we encourage students to think carefully before they apply and to try to select the programme they would most like to participate in.

### mA\*ths Online Programme

Are you an A-level Mathematics student considering studying a maths-related degree at university?

Through this programme you could:

- Develop the skills you need to achieve an A\* in A-level Mathematics
- Build your confidence to apply to universities that require an A\* in Mathematics for your chosen subject

During the programme, applicants receive tailored online support, including online mentoring and face-to-face masterclasses at Imperial College London. This initiative runs in collaboration with Mathematics in Education and Industry (MEI).

We run two cohorts for the programme, one for year 12 students and one for year 13 students.

Please note: This programme is for students studying A-level Mathematics. We also run an A-level Further Mathematics programme. Although you can apply to both programmes, you will only be allowed a place on one. Therefore, we encourage you to think carefully before you apply and to try to select the programme you would get the most from.

**Eligibility Criteria**

**Sign up to hear more**



# Year 13 Opportunity

## Summer School

### Bright Futures Scholarship

The LSE is delighted to be able to offer up to five scholarships exclusively for eligible Year 13 students for the LSE Summer School 2026.

Over 8,500 students joined us last year, from over 120 countries around the world and a range of different backgrounds and experience levels. We encourage students to take up this exclusive opportunity to apply for a scholarship that will help build a foundation for their future studies and career, whilst making friends from all around the world.

What's on offer?

Selected scholars will receive:

- fully-funded participation to study a course on the LSE Summer School 2026, Session 3 running from 3 - 21 August 2026
- lunches Monday to Friday on campus
- a stipend to support their participation in social events organised by LSE.

To be eligible, students must:

- be from a low-income household (evidenced by eligibility for the pupil premium grant/sixth form bursary)
- **be in Year 13**
- be 18 years of age by the start of the course (3 August 2026)
- hold an offer to study at university.

How to apply

Students must complete the online application form, including a two-minute video submission before the **deadline Wednesday 15 April 2026 23.59pm BST**.

LSE's selection committee will communicate final decisions to applicants by Friday 8 May.

Please visit our webpage for more information about the Bright Futures Scholarship.

**[More Information](#)**



## Year 12 & 13 Opportunity

### Lancaster Access Programme

The Lancaster Access Programme is a supported entry programme for year 12 and 13 students from widening participation backgrounds. Our programme provides a fantastic opportunity to take part in a range of activities, designed to introduce you to university, give you the chance to experience campus life and enhance a range of key skills that will help you prepare for a future studying at university.

Lancaster Access Programme is a targeted initiative delivered by Lancaster's widening participation team. Therefore, students are required to meet our academic and widening participation (WP) criteria in order to apply.

Students in Year 12 and Year 13 (or equivalent) can apply to join the programme as long as they attend a UK state school or college and meet our requirements.

Academic criteria:

Applicants must be predicted and 'on track' to achieve a minimum of BBC at A Level or equivalent (e.g. DMM at BTEC level). In addition, students must have achieved five GCSEs at Level 4 or above, including English Language and Maths.

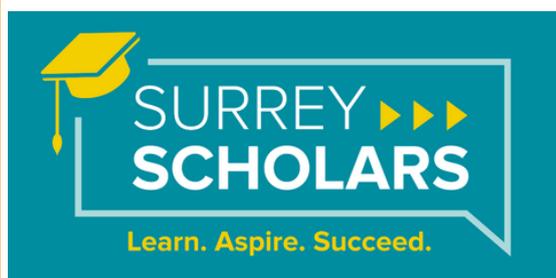
Widening Participation criteria

Students must also meet two or more of our Widening Participation criteria (**see Am I eligible?**).

\* For students who are considering applying to our Medicine and Surgery degrees we offer our Access to Medicine programme. Participants who successfully complete the Access to Medicine programme will be offered a guaranteed interview if they apply to Lancaster to study Medicine and Surgery (A100) or Medicine and Surgery with a Gateway Year (A104) (subject to eligibility).

Applications for the Lancaster Access Programme for the 2025/26 academic year have now closed. Applications for our 2026/27 cohort will open in September 2026.

If you would like to complete **this expression of interest form** we'll email you to let you know as soon as applications open for next year.



## Year 12 Opportunity Summer School

Monday 29 June to Thursday 2 July

Apply to our residential summer school to experience and find out what it's like to study a subject you love at university degree level. Our summer schools are FREE and open to Year 12 students who meet our eligibility criteria.

Applications for our 2026 Summer Schools are open until **Sunday 29 March 2026.**

All applications are reviewed after the deadline before places are confirmed from Monday 27 April 2026.

Our 2026 residential summer schools will be 4x days, 3x nights. We have capacity for 100 places shared across the following subject strands:

- Business (35 places)
- Engineering Sciences (35 places)
- Veterinary Medicine (30 places)

The timetable for each subject strand will consist of:

- Sample lectures
- Workshops
- Research projects
- Sports tasters
- Evening socials

We provide overnight accommodation and 3x meals a day for all participants in addition to covering transport costs where requested.

**[More Information](#)**



## Ignite Your Journey

At the University of Southampton, we take a lifecycle approach to Widening Participation and Social Mobility. Our flagship programme Ignite Southampton allows us to offer sustained and sequential support to students from groups under-represented in higher education.

### **Programme overview**

Participants will take part in a number of activities to develop skills and knowledge around university level study, and help with their transition to HE.

**Online learning module:** You will complete an online learning module to prepare you for university and help develop some of the key skills needed for higher education.

**Virtual Q&A sessions:** We will host monthly live Q&As to connect you with experts on topics related to your journey to university.

**E-mentoring:** You will be matched with a current University of Southampton student who will be able to share their experience of university life and answer your questions.

**Personal development opportunities:** We will offer a range of opportunities which will focus on transferable skills to get you thinking about your employability and personal development.

**On campus activities:** We will offer you travel bursaries of up to £100 to enable Ignite your Journey students to attend one of the University's Autumn Open Days and/or an Applicant visit day, where appropriate. All participants will also attend a Transition and Skills event in April of Year 13 which will consolidate your online learning.

**Entry to the 2026 programme is now closed. Details of the programme for 2027 entry will be available in Spring 2026. The information above is for reference only.**

[Visit website](#)

# University of South Wales

University of  
South Wales  
Prifysgol  
De Cymru

## Year 12 Opportunity

### Summer School 20-24 July - new date

The USW and Reaching Wider Summer School returns this July with a programme of exciting activities to give students a taste of life as an undergraduate student. Summer School will provide students with an authentic experience of university life. Along with two nights' accommodation in our residential halls and series of social activities, students will have the chance to participate in subject-specific workshops and HE information, advice and guidance sessions. Students will also have the opportunity to connect with like-minded students from other schools and colleges, and meet our enthusiastic team of student ambassadors to get an insight into student life at USW.

Places will be allocated to Year 12 and Level 3 (Year 1) school and college students, however numbers are limited and priority will be given to students from groups currently under-represented in higher education, who meet one of the eligibility criteria as per the University's 2023-24 Fee and Access Plan. **There is no charge to attend** the Summer School, accommodation and meals are included and we can also support with the cost of transport to attend.

[Expressions of interest form](#)



[Visit website](#)



# Year 12 Opportunity



APPLY NOW

## Future Ready with the University of Reading

A free programme for Year 12 (Level 3 Year 1) students to explore your university options and experience student life first-hand.

**May – July 2026**

- ✓ Attend an in-person launch (in Reading, Birmingham, Cardiff, London, or the South West\*)
- ✓ Receive mentoring from a current student
- ✓ Join a two-night residential on our beautiful campus
- ✓ Benefit from a £1,000 bursary if you enrol at the University of Reading following the programme

\*launch locations will be confirmed after applications close.



### Who can apply?

You must be in Year 12/Level 3 Year 1 and attending a state school/college. You should also meet at least one of these criteria:

- Live in a POLAR4 or TUNDRA MSOA Quintile 1 or 2 area (check postcode: [tinyurl.com/criteriacheck](https://tinyurl.com/criteriacheck))
- Live in an IMD Quintile 1 or 2 area (checked by the University)
- Asylum seeker or refugee
- Currently in or previously in local authority care
- Estranged from family (in Friends and Family Care)
- Young carer for a family member with illness, disability, mental health issues, or substance misuse

### How do I apply?

Apply now: [data.heat.ac.uk/event/apply/reading/future-ready-2026](https://data.heat.ac.uk/event/apply/reading/future-ready-2026)

Deadline:  
**Midnight, Monday 13 April 2026**

Secure your place and get Future Ready!

Any questions?  
[outreach@reading.ac.uk](mailto:outreach@reading.ac.uk)

**[More Information](#)**

## Year 12 & 13 Opportunity

**Non Residential Summer Schools**



### **UNLOCKSTEM 2026 (29TH JUNE - 1ST JULY 2026)**

The UCL Division of Medicine **invites Year 12 and Year 13 students** from UK state schools to take part in UnlockSTEM, a three-day, hands-on Summer School exploring the world of Biomedical Research.

This exciting programme offers a unique opportunity to work alongside leading scientists, gain practical experience in UCL laboratories, and discover how real-world scientific research is conducted. Students will also explore the wide range of career pathways available within STEM and experience university life at one of the world's leading centres for medical research.

Whether you are considering a future in medicine, biomedical sciences, or research, UnlockSTEM will provide valuable insight into studying and working in these fields, as well as the chance to meet like-minded students and academic staff.

**Applications for this programme are open until Thursday 28th May 2026, 11:59 pm.**

### **Redefining Health: Create, Test, Pitch (Global Business School for Health)**

**Non-Residential Summer School, 27-31 July 2026)**

#### **Year 12**

Join UCL's Global Business School for Health (GBSH) - the world's first business school dedicated to health - for a five-day summer school exploring how business and innovation can transform healthcare. Work in a team to design a digital health start-up and pitch your idea to a Dragons' Den panel of business and health experts. Learn customer discovery, and business models, meet UCL academics, and visit a health innovation hub in London.

**Applications deadline: 23:59, Sunday 28th June 2026**

**[More Information](#)**



## Cost of Living Bursary 2026

We are introducing a new cost of living cash bursary of £1,500 to home undergraduate students from qualifying postcodes.

We believe who you are or where you're from shouldn't decide how far you can go. To empower everyone to achieve in their own way, this £1,500 cost of living bursary is available for those from a postcode with a lower participation rate in higher education. With cost of living rising, this bursary is designed to help ease its pressures. You can spend it on what you need – whether that's food, rent, books, bills or travel – so you can focus on making the most of your time at university.

### Eligibility

- You live in a postcode with a lower participation rate in Higher Education (quintiles 1 and 2). We will use your main home address from your application and you can use this [Postcode Checker](#) to see whether you will qualify.
- Terms and conditions
- To be eligible for this award you must be a new, undergraduate or foundation year student who are ordinarily resident in a postcode classified as Polar4 quintiles 1 and 2 at the point of application.
- Students may receive only one financial scholarship or bursary from the University.
- Eligibility for this bursary does not exclude or affect eligibility to apply for or receive hardship funds or other similar financial support should financial difficulties arise during studies as well as sport participation fund or employability grant.
- Applicants will be notified of their eligibility shortly after receiving an offer of study. In the interim, applicants may check postcode eligibility using this [online checker](#)
- To be eligible for this award, applicants must have submitted the application, received an offer and firmly accepted the University as their UCAS choice **by 30 June 2026**.
- This bursary is available only to new students commencing on the first year of their programme of study.
- The bursary will be paid in two instalments within the first academic year, subject to the student's continued enrolment and engagement with the programme of study
- This award is for 2026 entry only. Students who defer entry to 2027 or later, or who interrupt or withdraw from their studies during the 2026 academic year, will not be eligible for the award.
- This bursary is not available to Hull York Medical School Students

[\*\*More Information\*\*](#)