



# **Post 18 Options Evening**

**Monday 25th June 2018**

Welcome - thank you for coming. This year has gone by quickly, over 560 hours of lesson time, study time, exams.

This week sees our Y13 leavers' ball, so if you think this year has gone by quickly, wait for next year!

There is a huge range of options available post 18. The aim of this evening is to enable your children to make informed decisions.

## Supporting your child's journey

### How can you be a good guide?

- Keep an open mind
- Beware having only “safe” choices
- Beware having only “aspirational” choices
- Find their motivation
- Do further research
- Remember, it's their choice...

You will have vision for your son/daughter. You know them well. In the end, it is their career path. Might make choices you wouldn't but sometimes they have to discover things for themselves.

Try to be a sounding board for their ideas, encourage dialogue

Don't rule things out based on stereotypes or assumptions.

Consider with them their interests, what subjects they are good at and the skills that they have. Their career path might also lie outside of their educational interest.

Research is your friend. Create shortlists - use unifrog.

Try networking. Do you have any contacts, university open days, school leaver job fairs etc.

Look after their emotional well being.

Dealing with high numbers of stressed out 17 year olds. We try our best to support, always helps to know the background.



# Which route is the best?

- Higher apprenticeships
- School Leaver programmes
- Sponsored Degree
- Degree Apprenticeship

Business and administration  
Childcare and education  
Construction  
Creative and design  
Digital  
Engineering and manufacturing  
Health and science  
Legal, finance, and accounting  
Protective services (e.g. police)

Higher apprenticeships / school leaver programmes.

Increasing number of opportunities in finance sector, engineering, IT - learning a role / vocation.

Normally a 2 year commitment, promise of more, if successful.

Sponsored degree - broadly, they refer to a degree programme associated with a particular employer, with financial support available for students selected by the employer.

The company typically chooses the degree course because of its relevance to future employees and can play a part in designing course content.

Degree apprenticeship - Combining university study and paid work, gaining real on-the-job experience of the chosen profession. Apprentices will gain a bachelors or masters degree and the cost of the course fees is met by the government and employers.

Qualification is the same as a standard university degree so the academic requirements are equally high. An IT Degree Apprenticeship might require a minimum of 7 A\*-C GCSE grades as well as three A-Levels at C grade or above, often including an IT related subject.

They offer the rare opportunity to gain experience and form working relationships with high profile, well-respected companies. For example John Lewis offer IT Degree Apprenticeships, JLR Engineering or Commercial Degree Apprenticeships, Goldman Sachs Technology Degree Apprenticeships and BT IT Degree Apprenticeships.

# **Fluidity, Passion and Experimentation**

Probably not choosing a job for life: some jobs they will end up doing don't exist yet.  
More of an entrepreneurial culture: might train for x but not within an established firm:  
might set up own business / be freelance / take short term contracts out of choice. Use  
Futures to help decide on areas of interest (see leaflet)

## Researching Degree Courses

- **Vocational degrees**
- **Questions about the course**
- **Researching the university**
- **Visits**

Vocational courses - is the course accredited by a relevant professional body? Links to employers? Work placement opportunities

Questions - What course content is covered? Lecturer backgrounds, do they tie in with your child's interests? Contact time? Assessment profile, how much counts to the final grade? Student satisfaction ratings?

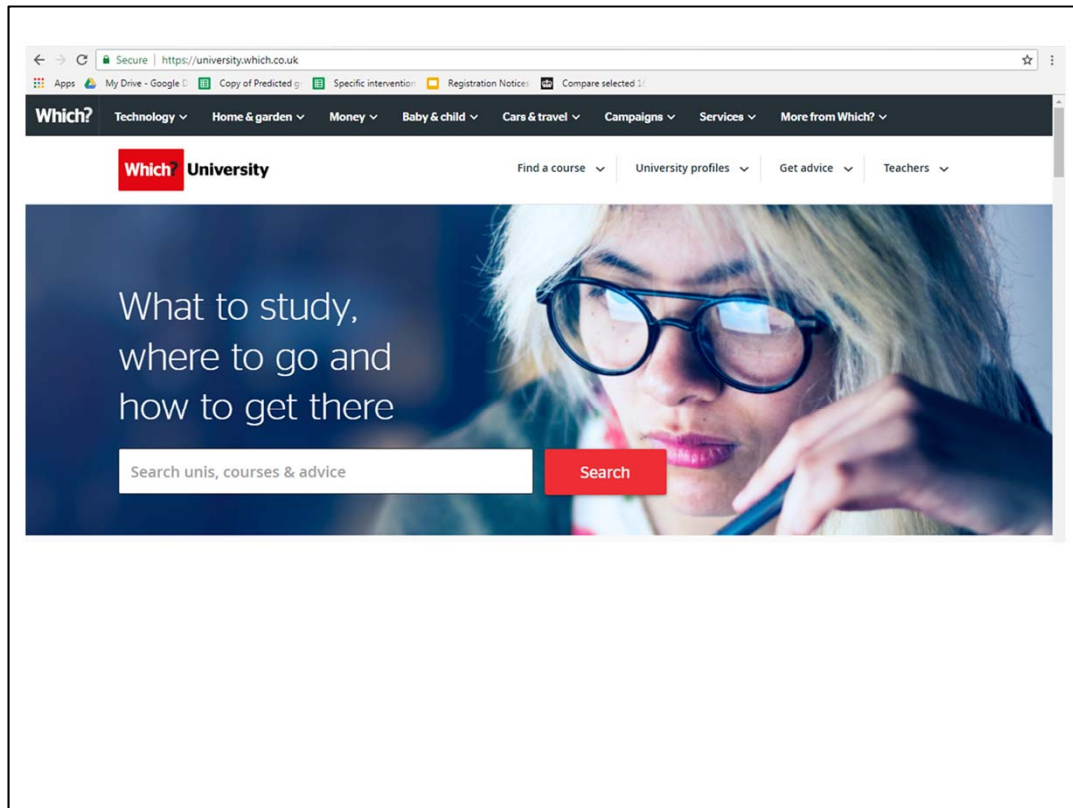
Researching - How highly is it ranked? Employability of the students, what other facilities are provided to make them more so? Location, accommodation, costs! How long to get home for visits. Local facilities.

Visits - Encourage university visits, especially to their department. Are they welcoming? Are they passionate? Have a wander round the local area, will they feel at home? If they plan to live at home how long will the commute be?

## Advice and support for you

- [www.targetcareers.co.uk](http://www.targetcareers.co.uk)
- [www.parentalguidance.org.uk](http://www.parentalguidance.org.uk)
- [www.allaboutschoolleavers.co.uk](http://www.allaboutschoolleavers.co.uk)
- [www.apprenticeships.gov.uk](http://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk)
- [www.notgoingtouni.co.uk](http://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk)
- [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com)
- [www.unifrog.org](http://www.unifrog.org)

Some suggestions for support

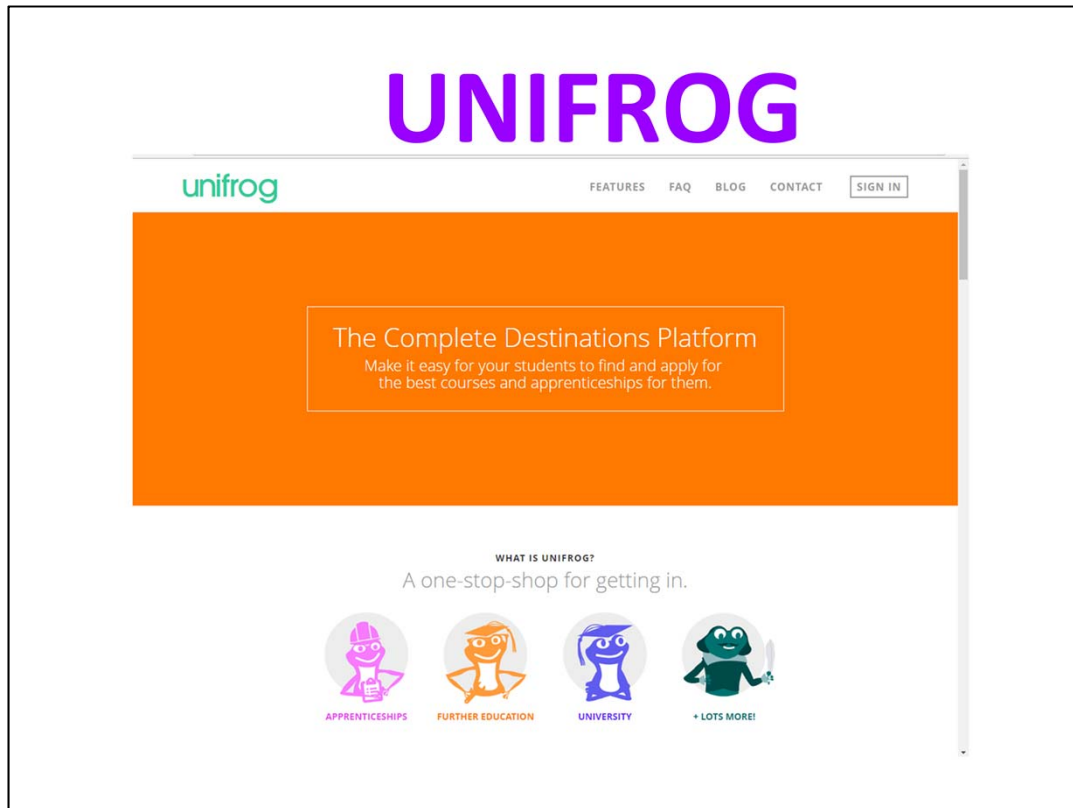


There's no end of options for research; ultimately heart probably knows best but do make an evidence-based choice. Don't choose because boyfriend / girl friend is applying; or because of the perceived nightlife ; or because you think it's easier courses... Big investment of time and money: don't make a mistake. But if you do, it's actually not the end of the world...



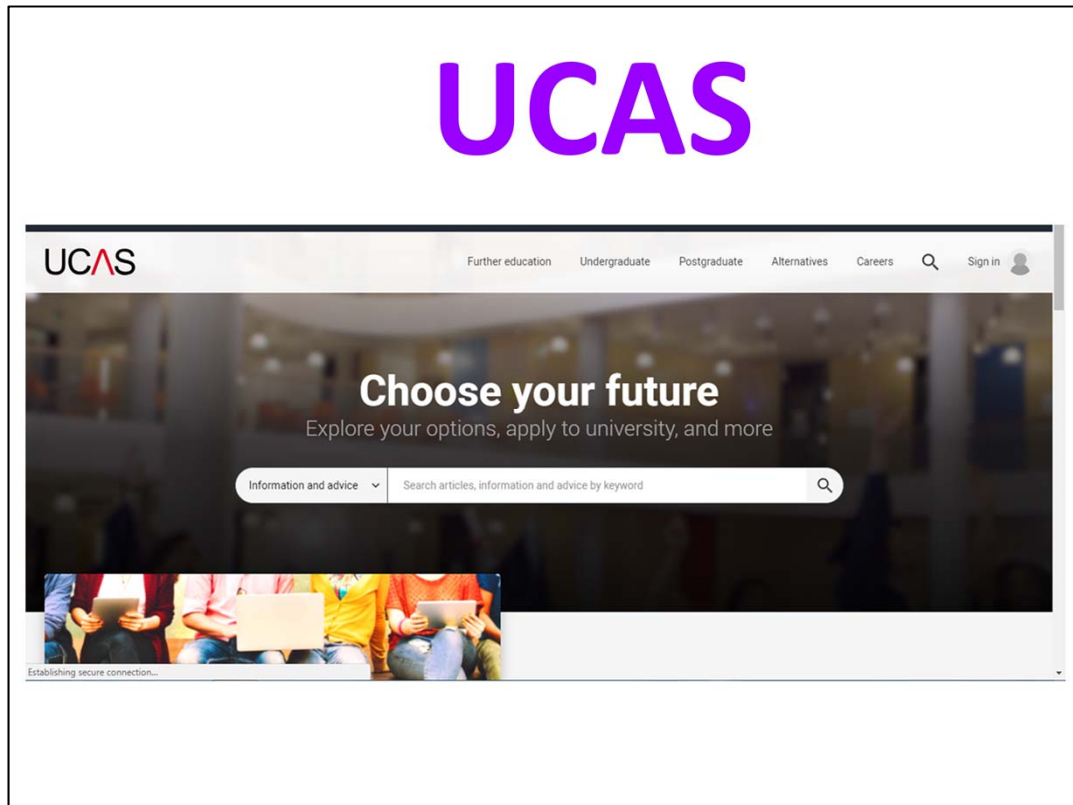
The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL [sacu-student.com/?page\\_id=2850](http://sacu-student.com/?page_id=2850). The browser's address bar contains several tabs: 'Apps', 'My Drive - Google', 'Copy of Predicted', 'Specific intervention', 'Registration Notices', and 'Compare selected'. The SACU logo is prominently displayed at the top left, with a blue arrow pointing to it. The navigation menu includes 'Students', 'Schools', 'Colleges & Universities', 'Contact us', and 'LOGIN'. The main content area features a large heading: 'Free Career Quiz showing Careers, UCAS Courses, FE Courses, Apprenticeships, Labour Market Information, Job Vacancies – Spartan Test'. Below this heading is a central graphic. On the left, a tablet displays a quiz interface titled 'SECTION 2: ACADEMIC QUESTIONS' with the instruction 'CLICK on the ONE picture which best represents you'. The tablet shows four image options: a laptop, a person with a gear, a person with a lightbulb, and a person with a gear. Below the images is a selection area with the text 'NONE OF THE ABOVE' and a red 'X' icon. On the right, a text box titled 'Spartan Test' describes the quiz as a free image-based tool for researching higher education and future careers. It states: 'Simply choose whichever image best represents you on each question – or choose none of them'.

For those with no idea of future career or just for interest, try taking the Spartan Test.



## Lisa Online resource

Demo - Ask your student to take you through the process of putting in grades and an area of interest. Look at the shortlists that are created then try using the various filters and tools to help you find the perfect course at the perfect place with the job prospects you're happy with.



Online application.

5 choices, most will apply for same course (4 for medicine)

Personal details, Education, Choices, Personal Statement, Reference + PGs

We will be with students as they complete the first part: they must try to be ACCURATE.

They will need some details with them on the Tuesday of Futures bto enable them to

complete the basic sections. We will NOT ask them to make any choices until

September / October. They have already made a good start to personal statements with

the aid of their Academic Mentors. NOTE: when they press 'Pay and send' on UCAS, it

only sends to SCHOOL. Their application is only sent to UCAS at the end of their

individual interview with a member of the Sixth Form team. They can edit until that

moment.

Deadlines

October 15th: Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science, Oxford, Cambridge

January 15th: Most other courses

Internal deadline - October half term

Generation that use informal communication skills - not the place for it!

Apprenticeship application even more brutal, rejected for missing a pre-arranged phone call.

Need to take this seriously!

# The planned gap year

Some students are currently investigating the possibility of a year between finishing A Levels and starting a degree. There are advantages to this including:

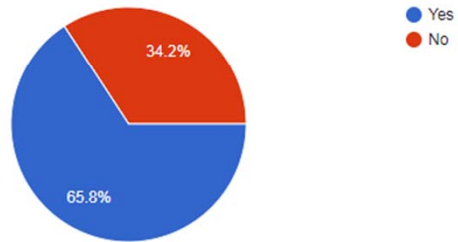
- A break from full time education (after what seems like forever)
- A chance to look around at different areas before settling on a degree
- A chance to earn some cash and then enjoy the degree more!
- A chance to get some real-life experience before going back to education.
- A chance to grow up a bit.

Other people want to get straight on with things: it's their choice!

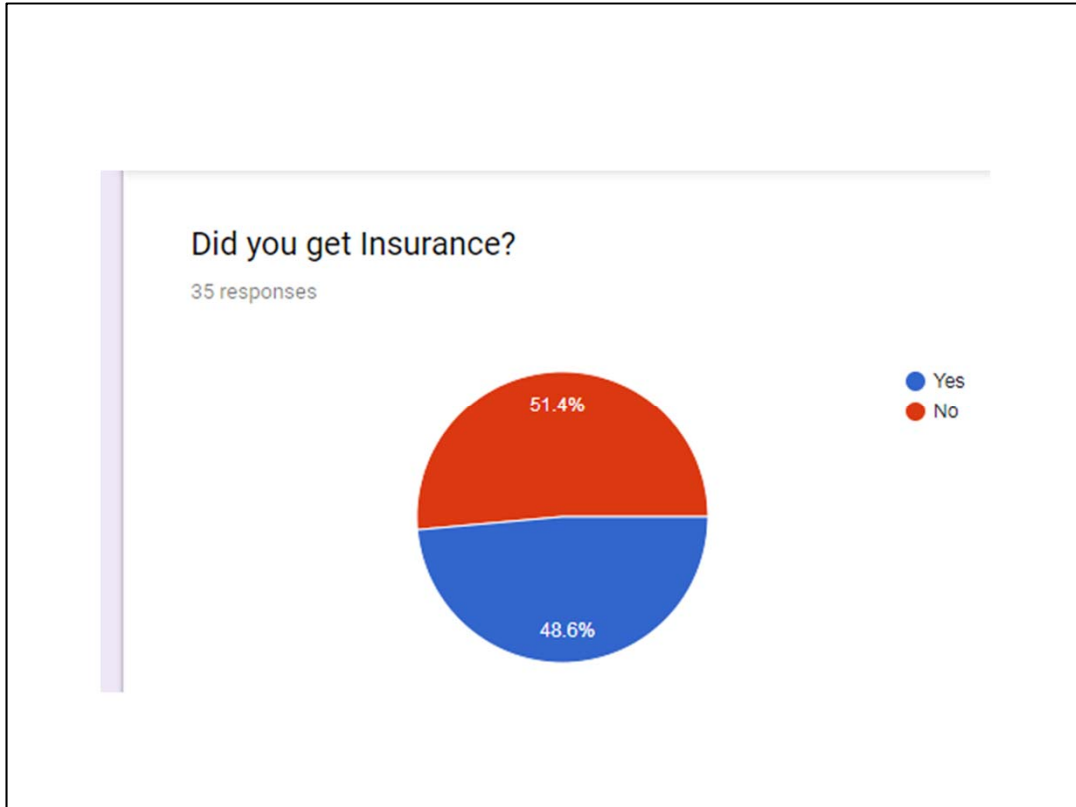
## Making the correct choice... lessons from the past

Did you get first choice?

114 responses



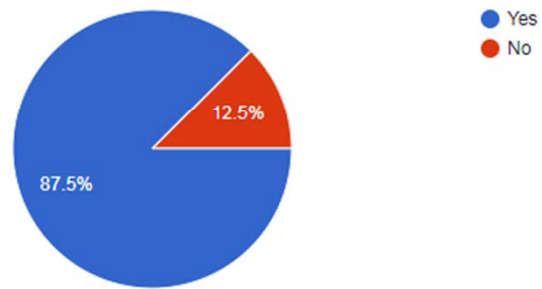
Pie Charts and being realistic - people generally only missed their offers if they asked for raised predicted grades. Think very carefully before asking for a raise!



Having a good insurance offer is important - and you have to be happy to go there.

Were you given a different course by one of your original choices?

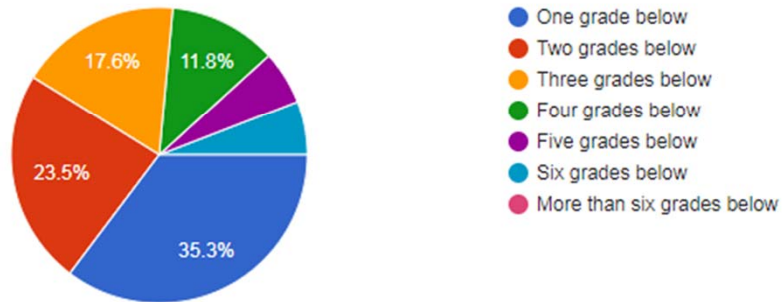
8 responses



Some universities may offer an alternative or a Foundation year. Don't rely on it though!  
It all goes back to being realistic.

## Did first choice accept you with...

17 responses

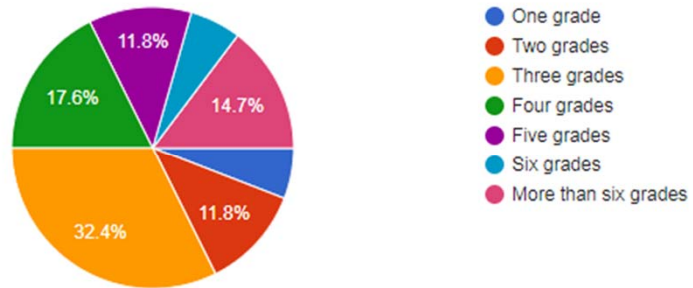


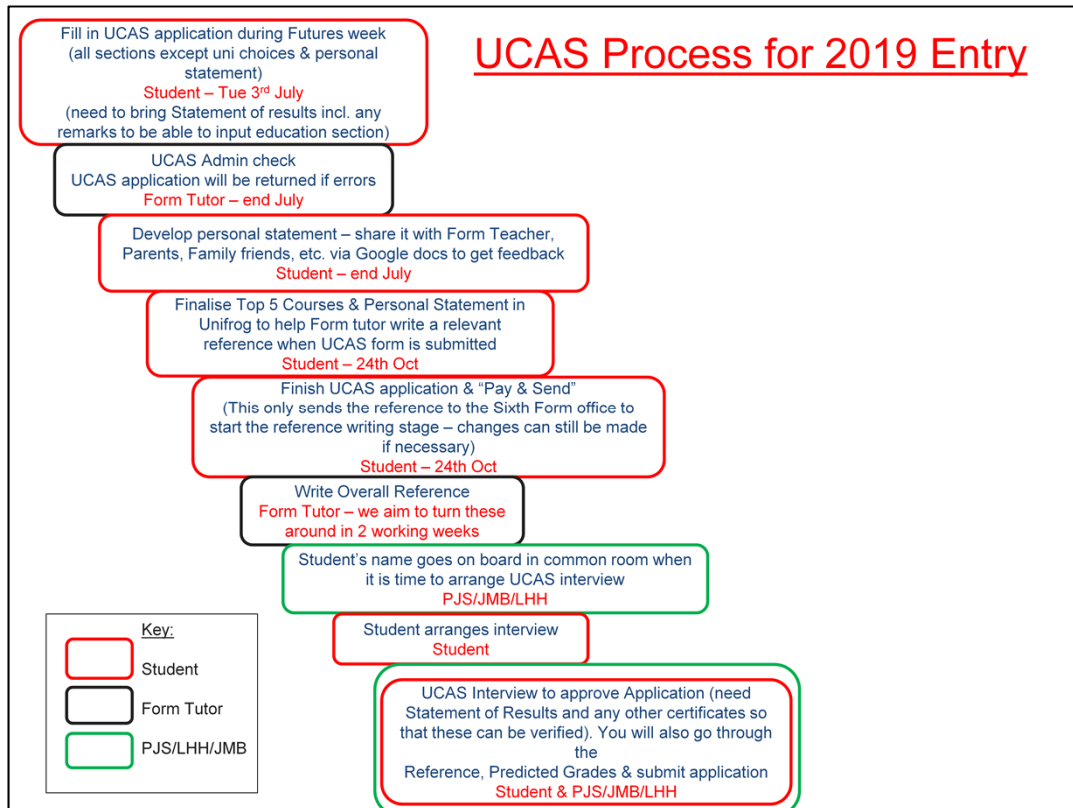
Only 2 or 3 universities accepted people with grades way below. What does it suggest about the university?



### If you missed your first choice, did you miss by...

34 responses





Flow chart - child is one of a large group - time taken with UCAS support interviews - not expecting instant turnaround with interviews: just because they have finally got it done doesn't mean that they get instant access

# FUTURES

Wednesday 4th July														
P1 9.05-10.05am			P2 10.05-11.05am			P3 11.25am-12.25pm			P4 1.30-2.30pm			P5 2.30-3.30pm		
V	Subject	RM	V	Subject	RM	V	Subject	RM	V	Subject	RM	V	Subject	RM
	Cardiff University: General	11		Cardiff University: Dentistry	11		Leeds University: General	11		Cardiff University: Medicine	11		Cardiff University: Healthcare	11
	Southampton University: Medicine	11		Southampton University: General	11		Martin Carter: How to deal with difficult interviews	13		Leeds University: Finance advice	16		Leeds University: Sociology	16
	Project Trust	14		Sheffield University: General	10		cancelled	14		cancelled	14		cancelled	14
	Leeds University: Applying to competitive courses	16		Leeds University: Making the Most of Open days	14		The unexpected gap year	16	ADN Hewitt					16
	Early Entry Intensive Skills L Hodgkinson	1027		BCU: Biomedical Sciences	16		H52: Apprenticeship Talks	10		Mental Health Nursing	10		BCU: Patient Detectives	10
	Application Support: Art, Biology, Computing, Maths, Spanish	1014		Application Support: Art, Biology, Computing, Economics, History, Maths, Music	1014		Application Support: Chemistry, Food Technology, History, Law, Maths	1014		Early Entry Intensive Skills L Hodgkinson	1027		Nursing	14
	unifrog research	08		unifrog research	08		unifrog research	08		unifrog research	08		unifrog research	08
	Mock interview			Mock interview			Mock interview			Mock interview			Mock interview	

Just a snippet from next week's Futures programme. Students will be given a copy next week.

# **Work Experience Exam results**

Work Experience: It's happening and it's important!

Last week of term for Exam Results... Predicted grades will be released via Unifrog at around the same time.

## **Early Entry**

This is what has been on offer so far for medicine and early entry:

Discussions / workshops / networking / written submissions / coaching / mock mock interviews

## Early Entry: Next Steps

1. Futures support / Support at home with interview skills / passion / knowledge
2. Personal Statement to be complete by return
3. Registering for tests is student's own responsibility.

**Please note tests are during half term!  
October 31st**

Experience suggests that the interviews are an area worth focusing on - students need to be able to SHOW PASSION and THINK ALOUD. This can be rehearsed at home around the dinner table: make them talk and express opinions all the time! Encourage them to explore their academic area of interest. Buy them / point them to magazines.