



Sixth Form Bulletin - Summer 2026

Exam season has started and the tension can be felt in the common room but so far we have been impressed by the Year 13s and how they are handling the pressure.

The Year 13s start study leave on Friday 22 May but please remember they are welcome to come into school if they want to study here or speak to teachers. Their teachers will be free in the lessons they were due to teach the year 13s, (unless they have been assigned a cover lesson), so these are good times to find them and ask questions.

Please can parents remind the students to look at their emails, Mrs Slater sends lots of emails to their school email addresses which include work experience opportunities as well as open day information and educational courses.

We hope you have a wonderful May half term and we look forward to seeing the students ready to learn on Monday 1 June.

Mr Richmond and Mrs Slater

UCAS Research

We have started the Year 12s on their UCAS journeys and asked them to complete a university research sheet [UCAS Research Sheet](#) by Monday 8 June.

If your son/daughter is not planning to apply to university in this cycle please can you ask them to come and speak to Mr Richmond or Mrs Slater to discuss what they are planning to do.

The UCAS website is a very good place for the year 12s to start their research, so please do encourage them to start this process. There is a lot to consider when deciding where to apply, not only the course and university but also the town/city where they'll be studying, they will be living there for at least three years! [Ultimate Guide](#)

If they have any questions please encourage them to come and talk to us in the Sixth Form office.

Mr Richmond and Mrs Slater

Super-Curricular Inspiration

Super-Curricular Information

Here's a great article that explains super-curricular activities: [Better Uni Choices](#)

Gresham College

Gresham College has been providing free public lectures since 1597 when Sir Thomas Gresham's vision of a college to bring the 'new learning' to Londoners was realised. Today we carry on Sir Thomas's vision, bringing some of the world's most brilliant minds to speak in fields ranging across the arts and sciences.

We are always thrilled to welcome young viewers and audience members from schools across the world. Many of our lectures are useful aids for study, degree choice, career development and personal statements.

[Gresham College](#)



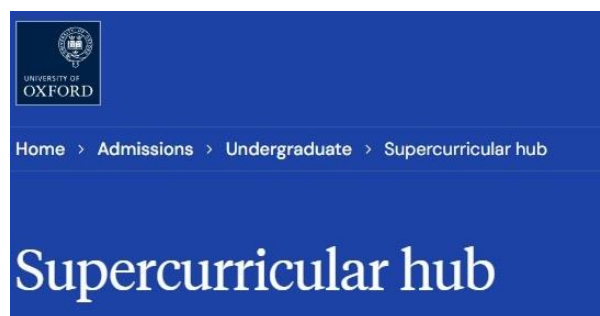
Super-Curricular Hub - Oxford University

Have a look at the Oxford University Super-curricular hub: [Oxford Link](#)

Talks on most subjects can be found if you hunt around the website, for example, here's a link to the History department's talks: [Historia Lectures](#)

Balliol College have run a series of talks where their graduates talk about their research, recording can be found on their youtube page: [Balliol Youtube](#) and [Into Science 2026 Series](#)

St Hugh's College is running a series of talks to help students from state schools with their Oxbridge applications: [St Hugh's](#)



MOOCs

It sounds like a game but it stands for Massive Open Online Course, they are free, open, online courses designed to offer a taste of higher education: [My MOOC website](#)



TED Talks

Another great place to get inspiration for academic research, just have a look for a talk on something that interests you; climate change, AI, Romans, anything

[TED Talks](#)



Cambridge University

Here's a link to the Cambridge University Super-Curricular page, this has ideas for everyone, not just those considering applying to Oxbridge: [Cambridge Super-Curriculars](#)



Girls Into Electronics

Girls into Electronics is a unique opportunity for female students – in years 10, 11 and 12 – to explore Electronics. At the heart of the programme is a series of one-day events, during

the summer term, hosted by the UKESF's partner universities. During the day, participating students find out more about Electronics and studying the subject at university level, hear from female graduate engineers working in the Electronics sector and get 'hands on' with Arduino microcontrollers.

[Link](#)



Trinity College Cambridge - Summer Residentials

Biosciences Residential

Applications are now open for the 2026 **Trinity College Bioscience Residential**. This event is for Year 12 students (England & Wales), Year 13 (NI), S5 (Scotland), who are interested in studying bioscience subjects, especially **Biological Natural Sciences** at Cambridge.

During this residential, students will take part in **taster sessions** delivered by Cambridge researchers, roll up their sleeves and get involved in **lab work**, and have the opportunity to meet academics, current students, and admissions staff, gaining insight into university life and the Cambridge learning experience.

The residential is a two night, three day programme which takes place at Trinity College between **28-30 July 2026**. The event is free, and travel reimbursements are offered to ensure that this event is open to all.

Applications are now open, and close on **Monday 8 June at 6pm**. The event is open to all students who attend a maintained school in the UK, with students selected by academic merit, interest in the subject, and prioritisation according to widening participation criteria.

Sign up: [Registration Link](#)

Humanities Residential

Applications are now open for the 2026 **Trinity College Humanities Residential**. This event is for Year 12 students (England & Wales), Year 13 (NI), S5 (Scotland), who are interested in studying arts and humanities subjects at Cambridge.

There are three streams for the residential:

- Literature

- History & Politics
- Law

Are you fascinated by people, ideas, and how we make sense of the world? Would you like to work alongside Cambridge academics and students, develop your academic skills, and explore subjects like History, Politics, Law, and Literature?

Participants will take part in taster sessions led by Cambridge academics meet current students and admissions staff, and gain a genuine sense of the Cambridge learning experience.

The residential is a two night, three day programme which takes place at Trinity College between **4-6 August 2026**. The event is free, and travel reimbursements are offered to ensure that this event is open to all.

Applications are now open, and close on **Friday 19 June at 6pm**. The event is open to all students who attend a maintained school in the UK, with students selected by academic merit, interest in the subject, and prioritisation according to widening participation criteria.

Sign up: [Registration link](#)



Free Creative Workshops in Ipswich

MAY HALF TERM
CREATIVE WORKSHOPS
All sessions are free at Suffolk New College's Ipswich campus

Tuesday 26th of May
10:00 - 13:00 - Art and Design:
Come and have a go at creating your own lino print in this hands on workshop.
Open to ages 14 and upwards.

Tuesday 26th of May
10:00 - 13:00 - Music: A song in a day.
Come and create your own hit song either using instruments or technology.
Open to ages 14 and upwards.

Thursday 28th of May
10:00 - 13:00 - Level 4 Creative Enterprise:
Come and learn some of the skills required to be a freelance practitioner and find out more about this exciting course. This is suited for those not looking to go university who wish to enter the world of the self-employed.
Open to ages 16 and upwards.

 Suffolk New College
To book, email caediadmin@suffolk.ac.uk and state your chosen workshop

Lloyds Banking Group Half Term Work Experience

Lloyds Banking Group - May Half Term Virtual Work Experience
Friday 29th May - 1pm - 3:45pm

Join us for the Lloyds Banking Group Virtual May Half Term Work Experience for a fast-paced afternoon of challenges, real-world scenarios and networking with professionals from across the industry. Lloyds Banking Group are one of the largest banks in the UK and offers so many fantastic opportunities to students across the UK. This hands-on experience is designed to help you build the skills employers are looking for within the industry.

1 - Sign up here: [Sign up form](#)

Scholarships and Bursaries

Did you know there are hundreds of financial support packages worth thousands of pounds that can be claimed by students to cover tuition or living expenses at university or college?

UCAS has launched a new online tool that pulls together nearly 800 scholarships, bursaries and grants all in one place on the UCAS website for the first time, after its research found that low awareness of funding opportunities may be adding to financial uncertainty for prospective students.

[UCAS Search Tool](#)

Degree Apprenticeships

Degree Apprenticeships are a great way to get a degree whilst earning a living, gaining valuable work experience and not wracking up huge debts. To find out more about a degree apprenticeship click on this guide:

[Degree Apprenticeships](#)

[Government Degree Apprenticeship Website](#)

You can also search on the UCAS website for degree apprenticeships: [UCAS](#)

Another useful website for more information on degree apprenticeships is, Amazing Apprenticeships: [Amazing Apprenticeships](#)



Useful Websites

The Student Room

The student room is full of useful information, including:

- student finance
- discussion forums - speak to current students on the course you want to study
- university guide

If you're still not sure what to study, enter your A Levels here [A Level Search](#)

Once you find a course you can then do a search using your predicted grades to see a full list of the courses you could apply for:

[Course Search](#)



SACU Quiz

If you really don't have a clue what you want to do, take a quiz on SACU [Careers Quiz](#)

You will also find information on apprenticeships and it's another place to do a search for a course using your A Levels



Uni Taster Days

Another great website to research courses and find out more about the different universities.

[Website](#)

Search through lots of events/conferences or programmes here: [Link](#)



Complete University Guide

This is another website to use for researching courses, it also allows you to search for a course by its ranking.

[Website](#)



Speakers for Schools

Have a look at the work experience opportunities offered through Speakers for Schools

[Web link](#)



The UKCAT People

For those considering applying to medicine, veterinary or dentistry, I suggest you look at the UKCATpeople website, it includes a useful blog as well as lots of information about the different schools. It is important you research carefully all the schools to make sure you apply to the ones you are more likely to get into. There is plenty of free information on their website, you don't need to sign up for their mentoring courses.

[UKCATpeople Link](#)

Year 12 Checklist



- Make a revision timetable for your mocks, they start on 18 June (in 4 weeks time)
- Go through your notes and tidy them
- If you missed any lessons look on Arbor and Onenote to fill in the gaps
- Make a list of anything you don't understand to check with your teacher in the new term
- Look at the topics covered so far and start a traffic light system
- Organise Open Day visits to universities
- Work on your UCAS research, use all the websites listed here to help you
- Organise work experience for over the summer

- Start building your super-curricular collection so you have plenty of material to include in your personal statement

Year 13 Checklist



- REVISE
- If you haven't already done so, finalise your university choices and sort your accommodation
- If you are planning to take a gap year and apply to university next year, now is the time to try and organise some worthwhile work experience or volunteer placements for after your exams, so you can include them in your UCAS application next January
- Keep an eye on your emails if you have applied to university, sometimes universities ask for additional information following on from your application
- UCAS Extra opened on 26 February, read here to find out more about who it applies to: [UCAS Extra](#)

You've applied to university – what happens next? This quick guide walks you through what happens next, so you know exactly what to expect and how to feel prepared for the journey ahead.

[Next Steps guide](#)

Podcasts



The uni podcast - [Link](#)

In our time - [In Our Time](#)

Artworks - [Artworks](#)

Thinking Allowed - [Thinking Allowed](#)

Rare Earth - [Rare Earth](#)

General Information

Dates:

1 June - Summer Term Starts

18 June - Year 12 mocks start

19 June - Year 11 Transition Morning

19 June - Year 13 Prom

24 June - National Exam Contingency Day

2 July - Year 12 Geography Field Trip, Southwold

6 July - Cambodia Trip Departs

7 July - Sports Day

10 July - St Benedict's Day and Fayre

17 July - Last day of term

1 September - PD Day

2 September - Autumn Term Starts

If you have any questions about sixth form, please email;

Mr Richmond: jrichmond@st-benedicts.suffolk.sch.uk or Mrs Slater: aslater@st-benedicts.suffolk.sch.uk

St Benedict's TikTok: [TikTok Page](#)