

Summer 1 2025

UCAS Update

Most U6 pupils have already confirmed their firm and insurance choices. This MUST be done by 5 June, if you received all your decisions by 14 May. If this is not done, the offers will disappear. Please see Mrs Cast if you have any questions regarding this.

U4 Enterprise Day

On Tuesday, 1 April, our U4 pupils enthusiastically participated in the Startup School Enterprise Day, hosted by 8Billionideas. Tasked with the challenge of creating an innovative initiative to disrupt a chosen industry, pupils used recycled materials to build prototypes and presented their concepts to the audience.

Three teams were selected from each house to go to the final round, where they will pitch their ideas to a panel of judges in true Dragon's Den style.

The creativity and originality on display were incredible, and every participant should feel proud of their efforts. Well done to all!

Good Luck to U5 & U6 with their public exams!



University Guys International Roadshow

We are delighted to announce that we will be hosting our first International University Roadshow for the University Guys. On Monday 9 June from 4.00 – 5.00pm in the Haywood Centre Foyer.

The following universities will be represented.

- New York Film Academy (USA)
- McGill (Canada)
- SCAD (USA & France)
- EHL (Switzerland and Singapore)
- CUNEF Universidad (Spain)
- Minerva (Global)
- ESCP Business School (Campuses across Europe)
- Coastal Carolina University (USA)
- Virginia Commonwealth University (USA & Qatar) Please come along if you are considering applying to university abroad. Click here for the brochure.



Symposium

Fifteen L6 students are participating in an academic symposium with Epsom College, Blenheim High School, Gordon's School, and Teddington School. Paired with peers applying for similar university courses, they will deliver seminar-style presentations on a topic of their choice on 12 June.

This is a valuable opportunity to develop research, collaboration, and critical thinking skills. It also encourages students to explore subjects beyond the curriculum—enhancing both their academic profiles and their UCAS applications—while refining their presentation and public speaking abilities.



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Dates for your Diaries

Monday 2 June

Talk to L6 Students from Quest Professional on making a positive first impression in key professional settings

Tuesday 3 June

L6 UCAS Morning

Friday 6 June

Talk from University of Warwick on how to choose courses and personal statements

Monday 9 June

University Guys Roadshow

Thursday 12 June

L6 Symposium at Epsom College

Friday 13 & 27 June

L6 Mock Interviews

Tuesday 17 June

L5 Sixth Form Taster Day

Monday 30 June

Oxbridge Alumni Panel

Tuesday 8 July

National Careers Challenge Final at the Barbican

L5 National Careers Challenge

On Thursday, 8 May, our L5 students took part in the National Careers Wickes Wellbeing Challenge, engaging in two dynamic and thought-provoking tasks.

In the first challenge, teams identified a disused space within Freemen's and reimagined how it could be transformed to foster inclusivity and support physical, mental, or emotional wellbeing. In the second, they devised innovative product or service concepts that Wickes could offer to inspire more customers to embark on DIY projects and visit stores in person.

We are delighted to announce that the winning team will go on to represent Freemen's at the National Final, held at the Barbican in London on Tuesday, 8 July.

Congratulations to the winning group, and well done to all students for their creativity, teamwork, and enthusiasm throughout the day. It was a wonderful and rewarding way to mark the end of their assessments.

Unifrog



All students from L4 – U6 have Unifrog accounts, a userfriendly platform that brings together information on subjects, careers and pathways, helping students make the best choices, and submit the strongest applications. Work is done with the pupils during PSHE lessons and tutor time.

Students should log in and explore the resources at Home
- Student - Unifrog





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Useful Links and Opportunities

The following are links to opportunities that have been sent to us that may be of interest. Please note that some may incur a cost and the School is not able to endorse them. Please click on the title to access the webpage.

Events or Programmes

<u>Thinking Ahead</u> is our online engineering taster programme, inviting you to learn more about the world of engineering and take part in a sustainability-themed design challenge.

<u>What's Your Dream Challenge</u> – An exciting challenge for pupils in Years 7, 8 and 9 to dive into to ignite their entrepreneurial spirit. and give them the unique opportunity to pitch their business ideas directly to Simon at the TNCC finals on Tuesday, July 8th, at the Barbican Centre in London! Deadline 20 June.

<u>Gresham College Lectures</u> - provides free educational videos and lectures at university level, such as The Deceived Brain: Coding and Illusion or Democracy and International Criminal Justice in the Fragile World of the Rule of Law.

<u>EDT</u> - stretches learning beyond school, college and university and gives insight into real-life STE(A)M careers. They are currently accepting applications for their <u>Residential Insight into University Courses</u>. The courses run over 4 or 5 days and students get a taster of university life and an insight into a specific STEM subject.

Applications have also just opened for their <u>Virtual Insight into University course</u>, the course (open to pupils in years 11 - 13 will take approximately 30 hours to complete and will run over 8 weeks, (30th June - 22nd August 2025). It allows students to explore STEM studies at university including Degree Apprenticeships and the Career opportunities that these subjects can lead to.

<u>Minds Underground</u> - Are you curious about the world around you? Join an international community of like-minded thinkers, Curious Minds! It is entirely free to join with members receiving resources to support their academic studies, n essay competitions and academic event recommendations.

<u>What Next?</u> –15 November 2025, considering your post-school or college choices? If you are aged 15 to 19 and want to discover the best university or apprenticeship options, this is a truly unmissable event! Tickets are completely free and available now, book yours today for fast-entry access to discover the best school leaver options, all under one roof.

<u>Future Financial Advisor</u> - Future Financial Adviser is a community where young people can access career advice and learn about opportunities within the financial advice profession.

<u>The University of Law Virtual Events</u> – click to access the spring and summer schedule.

<u>Thinking Ahead</u> – The Engineering and Design Institute online engineering taster programme, inviting you to learn more about the world of engineering and take part in a sustainability-themed design challenge. Deadline 22 June.

<u>Oxford Springboard Videos</u> -Each video has an introduction to a new topic, plus lots of activities and further resources to explore.

<u>Free Interactive University Online Events from Channel Talent</u> - The sessions, each including either one or two universities, offer enrichment for curriculum themes and support for students considering progression to HE. They aim to be dynamic and participative, encouraging everyone to engage and shape the session but in a way that they are comfortable with.



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Work Experience or Careers

Young Professionals Virtual Work Experience Opportunities - Click to access a range of virtual work experience opportunities

<u>Wealth Management Work Experience at St James's Place</u> - _Taking place on Thursday, 29th May, 9:30am - 3:30pm this is a fantastic opportunity for your students to get an insight to wealth management and financial advice.

<u>INVESTIN Weekend Career Experiences</u> - Students will learn directly from some of the world's best professionals - doctors, lawyers, engineers, investment bankers and more. **You will be entitled to 10% discount on any bookings through InvestIN if you use the code FREEMENS10. Students can use FINAL15 at the checkout page to get 15% off on any summer programme until 2nd June.** Several Freemen's pupils have taken part in these courses over the years and found them really useful.

UCAS – Virtual Work Experience.

<u>Unifrog Virtual Work Experience Week</u> - Each day will be a combination of live webinars and time for students to complete a real workplace task through our Courses tool.

<u>Virtual Work Experience</u> – Virtual Work Experiences is a free service covering 110+ careers and provides fun exploratory activities for students and goes a long way to providing answers to finding, affirming, and developing a student's career choice.

<u>Pathway CTM -</u>Connecting young people, schools & parents with leading global brands. Providing employability skills training, free careers events, and work experience & apprenticeship opportunities!

<u>Springpod Virtual Work Experience</u> In-depth, interactive and informative virtual work experiences from industry experts in the world's leading employers.

<u>Careers Days</u> – CareerDays.co.uk is for any student aged 13-18 who wants to experience different careers or gain work experience in their chosen field. From medicine, law, performing arts, psychology, business or becoming a vet, we have a 1-day online event for you, designed to give you an insight into life in your chosen field.

Prospects – learn more about internships, online experience, work placements, shadowing, volunteering and part-time work.

University Events

<u>The Students' Guide 2025</u> - Perfect for students thinking about university and including insights from 65+ university experts. It covers the new UCAS personal statement, information on the first tuition fee rise since 2017, and researching universities during a cost-of-living crisis. Plus, student finance tips from Martin Lewis!

<u>University of Cambridge</u> - Get free up-to-date application advice on every step of the application process. <u>FAST Webinar Series</u> <u>from Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge</u> These webinars, on Monday evenings from January 2025 help to guide you through the process of completing your Cambridge application.

<u>University of Oxford</u> - What student life here is really like' official guide will take you through everything from how you'll learn to our wide range of clubs and societies.

<u>The University of London Taster Course programme</u> - provides Year 12 students with a taste of what life at a university in London is like. Taster courses are free to attend and give you an opportunity to try out a variety of subject areas at numerous participating universities.

<u>UCAS</u> – University Open days – use UCAS to search University Open Days

<u>Complete University Guide</u> – information on university open days and virtual events.

UniTaster Days - Search the directory of university events, watch webinars or listen to podcasts



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Apprenticeships

<u>Ask An Apprentice</u> - Student mentors, apprentices who have been where you are now, are here to help. Get honest answers from people who get you.

<u>Volkswagen Group</u> -Volkswagen Group is one of the world's leading automobile manufacturers and the largest carmaker in Europe. Earn while you learn and be part of an innovative team that uses leading edge technology with a focus on customer service

<u>BBC Apprenticeships</u> - The BBC's award-winning apprenticeship schemes could be your chance to start an exciting career across a wide range of jobs in the media industry. With opportunities in the areas of business; digital, data and technology; engineering and operations; journalism; and production, there's a place for you, with us, at the BBC.

<u>KPMG</u> – interested in an apprenticeship at KPMG, click for more information.

<u>PwC</u> – Sign up for virtual events to find out more on School and College Leaver programmes.

Lloyds Bank Apprenticeships with around 20 different roles available, there's something to suit almost every interest.

Accounting Apprenticeships –Have you considered an accounting apprenticeship? The following links will provide you with more information_AAT , ACCA and ICAEW

<u>British Airways</u> - the Emerging Talent team run 'virtual 'drop in' sessions for you to ask any questions about our emerging talent programmes and opportunities

<u>Deloitte</u> - programmes that have been designed to help you build your career your way, as you develop the skills you'll need to make an impact that matters to you. Find out more about paths with Deloitte that could be right for you.

Choices – the May edition of the ultimate guide to apprenticeships from Amazing Apprenticeships.

<u>Amazing Apprenticeships</u> – find out more about apprenticeship and their benefits and join virtual events on how to make a successful application for apprenticeships.

<u>Top 100 Apprenticeship Employers</u> – the Department for Education launched the new Top 100 Apprenticeship Employers for 2024, during a special live TV programme. Click to watch it.

Not Going to Uni – click here to access information about apprenticeships and careers and here to access their podcasts.

<u>Advanced Therapies Apprenticeships Community</u> - We develop apprenticeship programmes, designed to train and upskill individuals for the ever-growing and thriving life sciences industry.

<u>Sixth Formers Guide to Degree Apprenticeships Programme</u> – Click to watch the 45-minute programme which explains how degree apprenticeships offer a debt-free route to a university degree or professional qualification - and will provide expert advice and guidance on which degree apprenticeships are available in 2025 and how to apply. Click here to access the <u>guide</u>.



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Medics

<u>Operating Department Practitioner Event</u> – on Thursday 29th May this online event will cover all the roles within allied health professions, how to become an Operating Department Practitioner (ODP) and the pathways available, including apprenticeships.

<u>Live Virtual NHS Healthcare Careers Work Experience Programme</u> - created and delivered by healthcare professionals. You can select from one day or a full 6 month work experience programme where you will follow patients from admission to discharge in the high fidelity simulation suite, designed to provide you with an immersive experience from the comfort and safety of home.

Applying to Medicine - this popular Medic Mind FREE course, will give an insight into the medical application.

<u>NHS Careers Untapped</u> - The NHS Careers Untapped NHS Team are pleased to announce upcoming webinars showcasing some more of the great jobs available in the NHS.

<u>Get into Medine and Get into Dentistry Events from Medic Mentor</u> equipping aspiring medical and dental students with the tools to sidestep common mistakes and pitfalls and ace their application to university.

Other Interesting Links

<u>LawCareers.Net</u> – click here for the <u>Beginners Guide to a Career in Law</u> and here for <u>The Law Apprenticeships Guide</u>

<u>British Army Scholarship Scheme</u> - The Army Officer Scholarship Scheme guarantees them up to £10,000 in financial support, starting in academic year 13. Our scholarship also guarantees them a place at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst and a career as an Army Officer when they finish education.

<u>GVI (international volunteering, gap year and internship provider)</u> is now hosting free Virtual Open Days every Tuesday at 13:00 EST/18:00 GMT and you're invited! They'll be sharing details about their programs in some pretty incredible locations.

<u>Thinking of Studying in US</u> – Visit the Fulbright College Day on 26-27 September. Make the most of the day by preparing ahead. **Education USA** has comprehensive information on their higher education system including choosing a university, funding, how to apply and obtaining a visa/preparing for study:- <u>Undergraduate study in the USA | Fulbright</u>

The University Guys – for information and help on studying outside the UK

<u>InvestIN – Applying to Study in the United States</u> – click on the link to access the recording of their recent webinar on how to make a successful application to University in the USA.

<u>US University Day</u> - Wednesday June 18, 13:00 – 15:30, this online event is an exciting opportunity for students to explore higher education options in the US with the chance to hear directly from speakers and US university representatives. Sessions will cover guidance, advice and top tips.