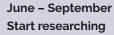
YR12 / L3 YR1 - SUPPORTING YOUR YOUNG PERSON TO RESEARCH THEIR NEXT STEPS



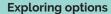
Your young person should be considering different courses and universities – research is key! They will need to register on the UCAS Hub and familiarise themselves with the application process.

Your young person's school will start giving them lots of information about their choices. It's important whilst they're beginning to consider their next steps at school that similar conversations are happening at home.



May

UCAS Undergraduate application system will go live. This means your young person can start to search for university courses they're interested in.



Once your young person has begun to explore their options, it could be useful to have a conversation with them about which options best suit their learning and interests. You can use these questions to get the conversation started:

- What are your current interests?
- What subjects are you most excited about? Which ones don't excite you?
- · How do you learn best?
- What options best suit the way you learn?
- What are you first thoughts about your next steps?



Are apprenticeships an option?

The world of apprenticeships is growing! Did you know you can now earn a degree through an apprenticeship? The learning environment can be very different from university. This may benefit young people who are looking for an opportunity to be paid to train and learn through a more hands on approach.

Want to know more?

Check out our Take Your
Place resources and <u>guide to</u>
<u>apprenticeships</u> as a starting point.
Go to Takeyourplace.ac.uk.

The Amazing Apprenticeships website has a parent zone where you can explore the latest guidance for parents and carers and tune into The Parent Perspective podcast. Visit amazingapprenticeships.com.



Spring is a good time to attend Higher Education and Careers Fairs with your young person. It's a great opportunity to get a sense of ALL the options available to them. Prepare some questions before you go!

Some questions to get your started:

- What courses and qualifications do you offer?
- What are the benefits of this course / qualification?
- What do students who study here go on to do next?
- What support services are available?



July

Get specific!

Encourage your young person to get specific! Support them to create a list of the options they're most interested in and the pros and cons of those options. This is a good time to explore what the application processes are for each option – for example the university application process VS apprenticeship process.





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Strengthening applications

The summer can also be used to secure work experience, attend summer schools, or widen their reading in an area of interest that could help strengthen their applications.



The early application deadline is October!

Remember, if your young person is applying for any course at Oxford or Cambridge University, or for most courses in medicine, veterinary medicine or dentistry, the deadline for applications is in mid-October. This is earlier than the main UCAS deadline, which is in January. Support them to feel prepared for this first big step towards their higher education journey!



Most universities have Virtual Open Day Platforms which are a great way to explore university campuses and facilities online. It can help your young people get a taste of the universities they're interested and narrow down their choices before visiting in person.

After each Open Day encourage your young person to write down their initial thoughts - what they liked and what they didn't like about each university. This can help them when they need to make decisions about which ones to apply for



Open Days are a way for universities to promote who they are, and what they offer - and for prospective students to explore what it would be like to study there! Summer is a great time to attend Open Days. They will continue throughout the year but make sure you prioritise your young person's preferred choices.



Your young person can apply for more than one option – this means they can apply for both apprenticeships and university courses. If your young person is applying for more than one option, it's a good idea to sit down and create a timeline together of what they'll need to apply for and when.

