

This information supplements that which was disseminated in the Parents' Higher Education Information presentation in mid-March 2024. The information sheet is also available on the College website under Parents > Events > Higher Education Evening so you can use the links.

Higher Education Fair on Thursday 21 March 2024 from 6 - 8pm.

Around 75 universities will be represented, plus the following talks in the College Theatre:

18.00 - 18.30	Studying Abroad (<i>talk given by A star future</i>)
18.30 - 19.00	How to Choose a University and a Course (<i>University of Birmingham – Katherine Pagett</i>)
19.00 – 19.30	Applying to Oxford and Cambridge (<i>Helen Humphreys, ESFC Oxbridge Coordinator</i>)
19.30 – 20.00	How do universities support students with disabilities? (<i>St Mary's University</i>)

Employment and Apprenticeship Seekers' information evening on Thursday 18 April 2024 at 6.00 pm

Online presentations for students and parents from college staff and external speakers on the range of opportunities that apprenticeships and employment offer, and the help that Esher Sixth Form College can provide. Please click to join at 6pm [here](#).

'Next Steps' employers' exhibition on Thursday 2 May 2024 in the Sports Hall Students can come and talk to a range of local and national employers in the Sports Hall during a study period or at lunchtime. Local Further Education and Higher Education providers will also be present. This exhibition is visited by year 10 students from the Elmbridge secondary schools.

Work experience from Wednesday 5 – Friday 7 June 2024

During these three days students will complete independently organised work experience or **The Internship**. Details of independently organised placements are entered by the student on the **Unifrog placements tool**, which automatically emails the placement provider, parent /carer and the college supervisor (Cat Elmes celmes@esher.ac.uk) to obtain the requisite permissions. Places on The Internship can be booked and paid for (£35) via the online **College Shop**.

Parents' Higher Education online talks series:

Tuesday 7 May @ 6pm	Parents' and Carers' guide to student finance Teams link
Monday 13 May @ 6pm	How to support your student to choose a university and a course Teams link
Monday 20 May @ 6pm	Writing a personal statement Teams link






'After Esher Day' on Tuesday 20 June 2024 – HE or Apprenticeship and Employment strands

A day for students to start making concrete plans for their futures. University application form accounts will be created, mock job and apprentice assessment centre activities are completed and students hear from speakers, including former students, about their experiences and the advice they wish they'd had

at 17.

Sources of help and advice for students and parents

The following are some of the best sources of help and advice available. All universities' websites have similar material. The default ports of call for information should be **Unifrog** and **UCAS**.

Help or information about....	Source of help	Weblink etc
General future planning	 <p>Esher College's PDP programme – delivered during tutor periods</p>	<p>Presentation material is available on the College portal>Student Life>PDP>6.1 tutorial materials</p> <p>A 'How to apply to UCAS 2024' presentation will be uploaded to the portal and website for After Esher Day.</p>
All aspects of destinations planning: exploring options, researching universities and apprenticeships; recording skills and preparing applications.	 <p>Unifrog – the complete destinations platform. We have a College subscription which lasts the student beyond their 2 years at Esher.</p>	<p>Unifrog - The complete destinations platform.</p> <p>Students have already made their own account and can click through from the portal front page. Parents can log in using the form code COJBparents (<i>This code is only valid from 14/3/23 for 90 days</i>) For an overview of how to use Unifrog please see the presentation on the college website> Student Life > Progression and Careers > Using Unifrog</p>
Deciding which course to study	 <p>MyUniChoices</p> <p>If students are unsure which courses they might enjoy, MyUniChoices is a paid-for diagnostic tool that can help identify suitable courses.</p>	<p>MUC MyUniChoices</p> <p>Established for many years and developed by Cambridge Occupational Analysts, MyUniChoices (formerly Centigrade) has helped thousands of students find the right course and right university for them. Take time and care answering the 150 questions to get the best suggestions.</p>
Researching and applying to University	 <p>UCAS is the independent charitable organisation which provides the admission framework for application to UK universities.</p>	<p>Especially useful areas:</p> <p>Undergraduate UCAS</p> <p>Applying to University - learn about everything involved (ucas.com)</p> <p>Student Finance And Support Available UCAS</p>
Researching and comparing universities		<p>Formerly Which?University, this tool is now hosted by The Student Room site. Lots of great information for students and parents.</p> <p>Find and Compare the Best University & Degree Courses – The Uni Guide</p>

<p>Writing your personal statement</p>	 <p>Pay £2 on college shop and collect from Progression Guidance office R105</p>	<p>The COA Personal Statement planner is a useful hard copy resource for students.</p> <p>Also see:</p> <p>https://www.unifrog.org/student/personal-statement</p> <p>ucas-personal-statement-worksheet.pdf</p>
<p>Student finance</p>	 <p>student finance england the student finance experts</p>	<p>This is where you find out the 'official' information: Student finance for undergraduates: Overview - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</p> <p>And this is where you can see Martin Lewis's take (MoneySavingExpert) on what it really means to have a student loan: Student Guides - MoneySavingExpert</p>
<p>Alternatives to university and apprenticeships</p>	 <p>NGTU NOT GOING TO UNI</p> <p>Amazing Apprenticeships</p> <p>RATEMY APPRENTICESHIP</p>	<p>Please come to our online evening talk on 18 April Multiverse Changing the future of work</p> <p>Not Going To Uni: Apprenticeships & Work Experience in the UK</p> <p>Amazing Apprenticeships</p> <p>RateMyApprenticeship: Apprenticeships, School Leaver Jobs & Reviews</p>
<p>Studying abroad</p>	 <p>ASTARFUTURE</p>	<p>Come to the talk on HE day 21 March at 6pm</p> <p>Study in Europe, Australia, Asia, USA (astarfuture.co.uk)</p> <p>Study abroad Prospects.ac.uk</p>
<p>Taking a Gap Year <i>(these Gap year activity providers are just a selection of those available)</i></p>	 <p>ProjectsAbroad</p> <p>gapFORCE SINCE 1989</p> <p>REAL Gap Experience</p>	<p>Independent Gap Advice Independent Gap Year Advice For Young People</p> <p>Should I take a gap year? Prospects.ac.uk</p> <p>Taking a gap year (thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk)</p>
<p>Information about all aspects of progression</p>	<p>Esher College Progression Bulletins are published and sent to all students every fortnight or so during term time.</p>	<p>Information about open days, lunchtime talks, apprenticeships, taster days, part time jobs, Gap year opportunities and more.</p> <p>Please ask your student if they have read the latest edition!</p>
<p>1:1 help with all aspects of Progression</p>	<p>Progression Guidance staff. We are in R105 (first floor, along from the Maths department).</p>	<p>You can drop in with queries or book an appointment with a careers advisor. Email Sally Leyshon, Progression Guidance Coordinator for appointments: sleyshon@esher.ac.uk</p>

Esher Sixth Form College 2024 UCAS Apply deadlines

Students **must** have a **face-to-face** (*in person or Teams*) **HE discussion and checking meeting** with a member of the Progression Guidance team **before** paying and submitting their form. **No forms will be processed** until the form has been checked. Please note our 'turn around' time commitment is only valid for forms submitted **without errors**.

Applications can be submitted from the start of teaching in the autumn term, Monday 11 September 2023.

Type of application	You must submit your form beforeand we will send your form to UCAS
Medicine, Veterinary Science, Dentistry and Oxbridge applications	8am on Wednesday 27 September 2023	by the UCAS early deadline of Monday 16 October 2023
Competitive applications (<i>if you want your form to be processed with 10 working days</i>)	8am on Monday 9 October 2023	within 10 working days of the form being received, provided it is error-free
General applications	8am on Monday 6 November 2023	by the end of the autumn term, Weds 20 December 2023
General applications - final deadline	8am on Monday 27 November 2023	by the UCAS final 'equal consideration' deadline, 31 January 2024

We will endeavour to process forms submitted after Monday 27 November as quickly as possible but **cannot guarantee** they will be submitted by the UCAS deadline of 31 January 2024.

Most universities continue to accept applications beyond the UCAS deadline, but are **not obliged** to consider them. Popular courses will almost always have filled up so these institutions won't accept late applications. For many courses and institutions, a policy of '**first come, first served**' does seem to apply. An early application for any course at any institution therefore optimises the chance of receiving an offer. However, it is better to make good choices and visit open days than to rush the form.

If a student is still unsure of which course to apply for, or whether indeed to apply to university at all, they are advised to make a **direct to clearing** application on results day in August, or a **post-results application** in September 2024, as a '**6.3 applicant**'. Help and Unifrog access will always be available to the student as a former member of college, and a 6.3 UCAS registration session will take place in early September 2024.

Art Foundation Course Applications are due in during the Spring Term 2024. Each Art College has its own deadline.

A level results day is likely to be Thursday 15 August 2024.

Nicola Wilberforce, Director of Progression Guidance, Esher Sixth Form College.