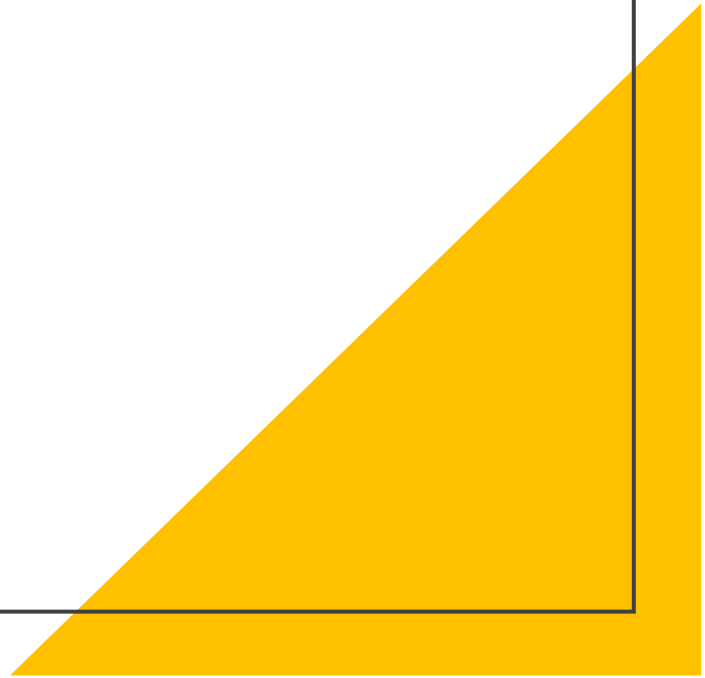


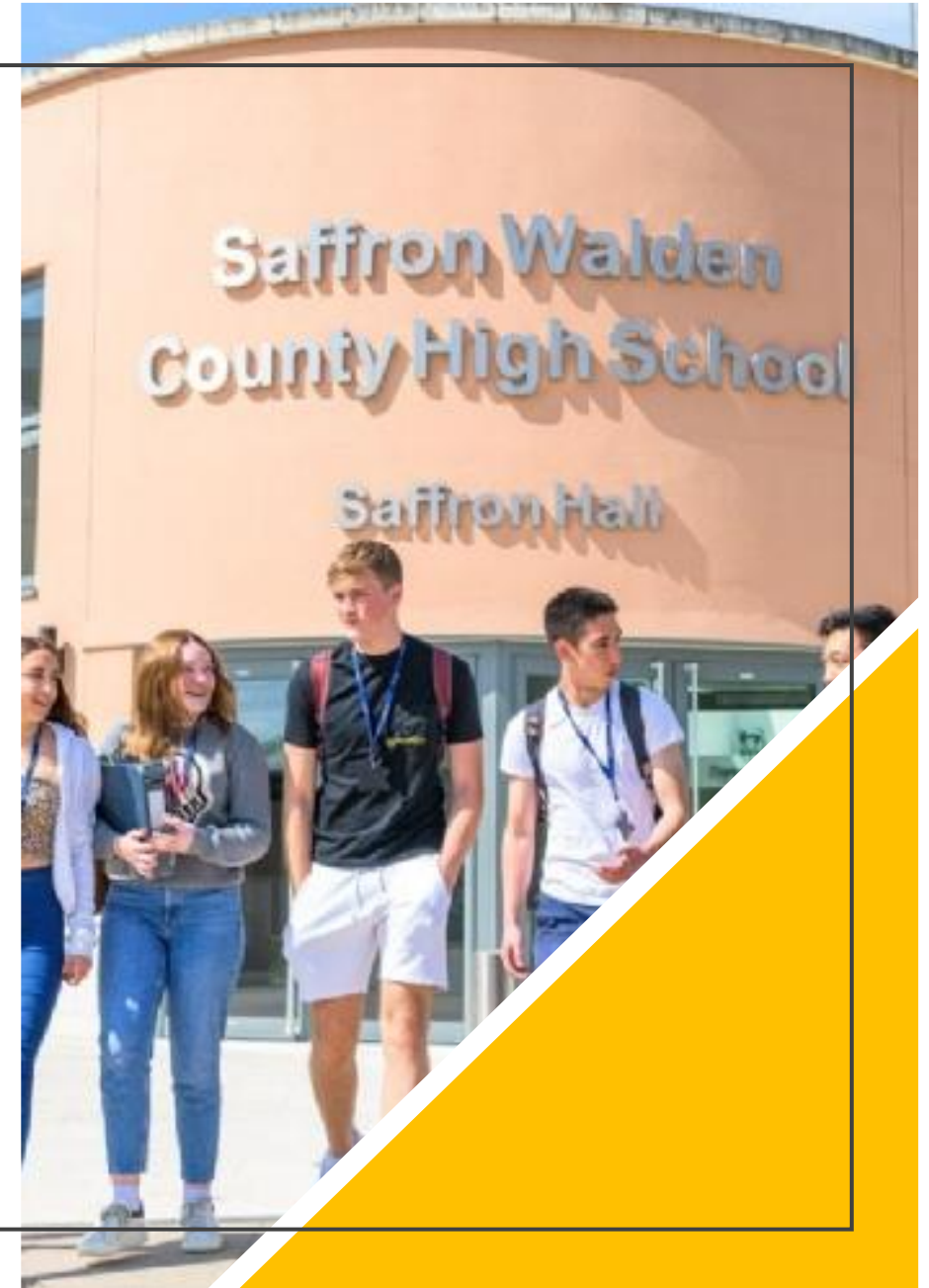
Applying to University

UCAS

Mrs Anna Bendall
Deputy Director of Sixth Form
Abendall@swchs.net



- 80% of our students go to university
- Roughly 65% of these go to 'Russell Group' Universities
- We are supporting 8 applications to Oxbridge this year
- Last year our most popular university was Nottingham Trent



UCAS

Courses and apprenticeships



What does the UCAS form consist of?

1. Personal details
2. Contact and residency details
3. Education
4. Employment
5. Nationality details
6. Supporting information
7. English Language skills
8. Finance and funding
9. Diversity and inclusion
10. Personal statement
11. Reference

£27.50

The screenshot displays the 'My profile' page on the UCAS website. It features a grid of 11 sections, each with a title, a brief description, and a status indicator at the bottom. The sections are: Personal details, Contact and residency details, Education, Employment, Nationality details, Supporting information, English language skills, Finance and funding, Diversity and inclusion, Personal statement, and Reference. The 'Reference' section is highlighted in blue and marked as 'Section in progress', while all other sections are marked as 'Section complete'.

Section	Status
Personal details	Section complete
Contact and residency details	Section complete
Education	Section complete
Employment	Section complete
Nationality details	Section complete
Supporting information	Section complete
English language skills	Section complete
Finance and funding	Section complete
Diversity and inclusion	Section complete
Personal statement	Section complete
Reference	Section in progress

How does it work?

- Students choose up to 5 courses to apply to
- Students can choose similar courses e.g. History and History and Politics. However...
- The same UCAS application form goes to all universities
- Students can choose more than one course at the same institution
- Students may make a 'dual application'

A young man with short brown hair and glasses is looking down at a laptop screen. He is wearing a grey t-shirt. The background is blurred, showing what appears to be a library or study area. A large red diagonal shape is overlaid on the right side of the image, containing the letters 'UC' in white.

UC

What does my child have to do?

- Start exploring and researching (Unifrog & Teams)
- Making themselves stand out amongst other applicants
- Decide **which degree** they want to take (important!)
- Decide **where** they would like to study
- Consider their grade profile (Use forecasts as a guide)
 - Aspirational, solid and insurance options
- Make a UCAS account and fill in sections 1-9 (progression week in July and the summer holidays)
- Have first draft of a personal statement ready for their return in September



OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK (ADVERTISED ON TEAMS)

CAREERS

LONDON STANSTED AIRPORT CAREERS FAIR **Thursday 27th April** Venue: Harlow Civic Centre; Book parking: [Car Park - Water Gardens Shopping Centre \(thewatergardensharlow.com\)](http://thewatergardensharlow.com)

ACCOUNTING APPRENTICESHIP AT JAMES COWPER KRESTON Applications close 31 May [Find out more and start your application here.](#)

TRAINEE ACCOUNTANT OPPORTUNITY AT WELLERS [Careers with Wellers \(wellersaccountants.co.uk\)](http://careerswithwellers.com)

LLOYDS BANK APPRENTICESHIPS: Level 2 to Level 7 in HR, Risk, Customer Services, Software Engineering. [Apprenticeships – Lloyds Banking Group Talent dedicated apprenticeship pages.](#)

LOCAL ACCOUNTANCY APPRENTICESHIP: Moore & Co **Start date: Autumn 2023.** Train to become a fully qualified accounting professional. Info and to apply: [here.](#)

NATIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE WEEK **24th-28th April** - virtual insight sessions: register to attend/catch up on demand [Events | National Work Experience Week](#)

POLICE WORK EXPERIENCE: Criminology, Psychology, Forensics, Analytics, Problem Solving <https://app.speakersforschools.org/en/opportunities/explore/c34533d0-4ebf-4bee-aaaa-08db31be7235>

GSK VIRTUAL WORK EXPERIENCE EVENTS **Wednesday 3rd May at 5pm** [GSK live online career challenge](#) Register to attend **Thursday 11th May at 6.30pm** [GSK live online career panel](#)

MEDICAL WORK EXPERIENCE COURSES:

Online course: **Saturday 13th May 2023** [Surgery work experience.](#) <https://www.premedprojects.co.uk/course/surgery-work-experience-day>

In person course: **Sunday 21st May 2023** Venue: Kings in London <https://www.premedprojects.co.uk/course/medicine-work-experience-day-event>

WORK EXPERIENCE DAYS Visit www.careerdays.co.uk **Vet** 29th April **Law** 6th May **Comp Sc** 20th May **Drama** 27th May

WORK EXPERIENCE OPPORTUNITIES: For work experience opportunities, see newsletter: [e-copy here](#) [Virtual and In-Person Work Experience with Top Employers \(speakersforschools.org\)](#)

FREE WORK EXPERIENCE OPPORTUNITIES 2-5 hour insight sessions; 2-5 day placements; online application; no formal interviews. Signup: [Speakers for Schools account registration](#)

FREE ONLINE CAREERS TALKS: **WORKING WITH CHARITIES** **Monday 24th April 10-10:45am** Click [here](#) to register **WORKING AS A CHEF** **Thursday 27th April 10-10:45am** Click [here](#) to register

FREE CAREERS WEBINARS:

NURSING: 24/04/2023 [A Day in the Life of a Nurse](#) Employer: NHS

IT AND TECHNOLOGIES: 27/04/2023 [Women In STEM with Virgin Media O2](#) Employer: Virgin Media – O2

ARTIST AGENCY: 28/04/2023 [A Day in The Life of an Artist Agency](#) Employer: MTArt Agency

NATIONAL ARCHIVES (CIVIL SERVICE): 28/04/2023 [A day in the life of The National Archives!](#) Employer: The National Archives

FINANCE 30/05/23 10AM-11AM Application Deadline: 05/05/23 To apply: ['Tips and Hints' for those considering a career in Finance – Speakers for Schools](#)

UNIVERSITY

ENGINEERING/ROBOTICS/BUSINESS/PSYCHOLOGY EVENT: **June 30th** Venue: Museum of London Docklands [Heriot-Watt University Event | WATT MATTERS!](#) (unitasterdays.com)

GIRLS INTO ELECTRONICS: UNIVERSITY EVENTS [Girls into Electronics - UK Electronics Skills Foundation \(ukesf.org\)](#) To apply: [Buy tickets for United Kingdom Electronics Skills Foundation \(tickettailor.com\)](#) For support for travel costs, please get in touch before booking, via info@ukesf.org.

WAYS TO STUDY POLITICS CONFERENCE: UNI OF NOTTINGHAM **Booking Deadline: Friday, July 7, 2023** [University of Nottingham Event | Ways to Study Politics conference \(unitasterdays.com\)](#)

UNI OF NOTTINGHAM: SCIENCE PUBLIC LECTURES Free lectures on third **Thursday of each month.** [Science Public Lecture Series - The University of Nottingham](#)

UNI OPEN DAYS For all this year's open days, visit: www.myopendays.co.uk

UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD ON-CAMPUS OPEN DAY **Saturday 24 June and Saturday 8 July** [Open days | Undergraduate study | The University of Sheffield](#)

UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM OPEN DAY **Friday, June 30, 2023; Saturday July 1st 2023** [University of Nottingham Event | University of Nottingham open day \(unitasterdays.com\)](#)

UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD TASTER SESSIONS [Online subject tasters | Undergraduate study | The University of Sheffield](#)

TASTER DAYS AT NOTTINGHAM TRENT UNIVERSITY More info and to book: [Experience our subjects | Nottingham Trent University](#)

UNI OF EXETER ONLINE EVENTS [University of Exeter](#) have listed a range of online events for students.

UNI WEBINARS, PODCASTS AND STUDENTS' GUIDE:

Subject webinars - explore subjects: [webinar platform](#) **Uni Guide Podcast** – [latest episodes](#) summer schools and [uni events](#).

Students' Guide to University 2023 - released this month and [available now](#)

Select courses below

Pick the best courses for you by ranking, filtering and searching. Click next when you're done.

✓ Rank ▾ Filter ▲ Search ▾

All distances

10 miles

20 miles

50 miles

100 miles

200 miles

300 miles

All modes

Full time

Part time

Sandwich

Only Foundation

No Foundation

Only full degrees

No full degrees

All types

W/ study abroad

W/out study abroad

Only Russell Group

Only Top Third

No courses that prefer A-level, IB, Pre-U

No courses out of my range

Big cities only

Scotland only

Aspirational (318)

Top of your range

Solid (37)

In the middle

Safe (17)

At the bottom

🎓 Human Geography - 4SW BSc (Hons) ⓘ
🏢 Manchester Metropolitan University
100% of course assessed by coursework

🎓 Human Geography - 3FT/4PT BSc (Hons) ⓘ
🏢 Manchester Metropolitan University
100% of course assessed by coursework

🎓 Human Geography (with overseas study) - 4FT BSc (Hons) ⓘ
🏢 Manchester Metropolitan University
99% of course assessed by coursework

🎓 Geography - 4SW BSc (Hons) ⓘ

🎓 Geography (Human Geography) - 3FT/PT BA (Hons)
🏢 University of Northampton
86% of course assessed by coursework

🎓 Geography - 4FT BSc (Hons)
🏢 University of Northampton
86% of course assessed by coursework

🎓 Geography (Human) - 3FT BA (Hons)
🏢 Bath Spa University
85% of course assessed by coursework

🎓 Geography (Physical) - 3FT BSc (Hons)

🎓 Geography (with Social Sciences foundation year) - 4FT BA (Hons)
🏢 Keele University
66% of course assessed by coursework

🎓 Geography - 4FT BSc (Hons)
🏢 University of Hull
63% of course assessed by coursework

🎓 Geography (with Science foundation year) - 4FT BSc (Hons)
🏢 Keele University
62% of course assessed by coursework

🎓 Human Geography (with Social

next ▶

or go back

The Personal Statement

Students will have a personal statement workshop and subject masterclass in the last week of term.

4000 characters (1 side of A4)

It should focus on why they want to study the subject

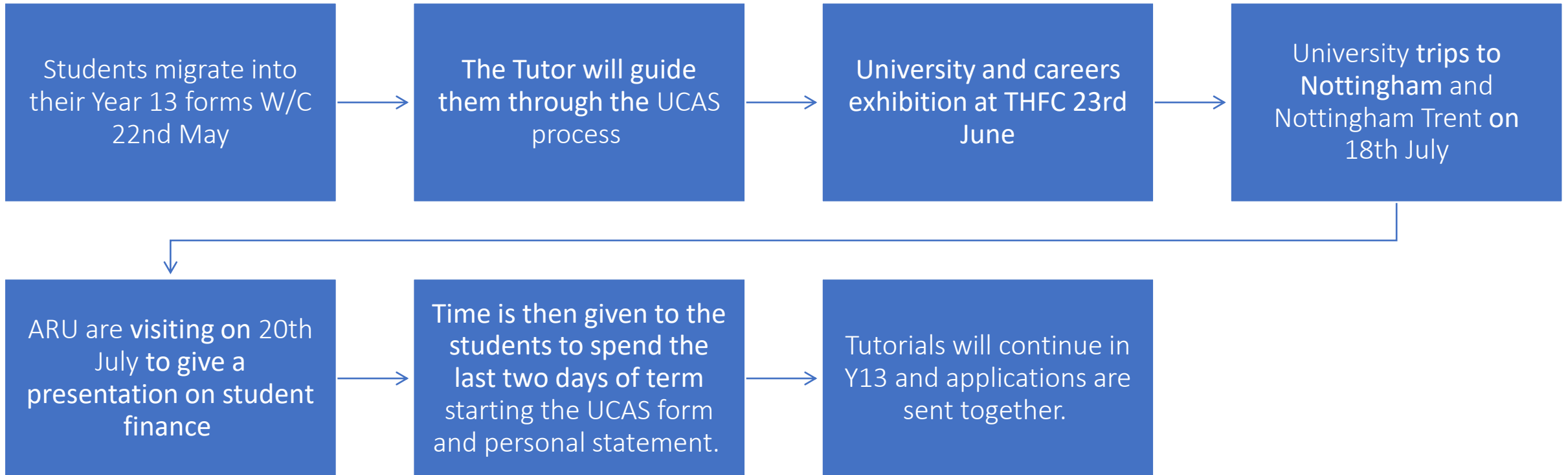
It should also demonstrate their ability to think critically about the subject

It should showcase their knowledge beyond the curriculum

Show how they would be a great student of the subject

Extra curricular is relevant but secondary

What does SWCHS do to support?



The reference grade and the school reference

- Obviously, applications are made before exam results are known
- The school is asked to submit on the form what UCAS call the 'predicted' grade
- It is better to think of this grade as a 'reference grade' - it is not necessarily what we think your child will get next summer; it is a combination of optimism and realism. This is about getting their foot in the door!
- The bulk of the reference that goes on the form is written by Y12 subject teachers – they know your child's strengths the best
- The Y13 Tutor tops, tails, edits and adds the flourishes!

When does the form need to be completed by?



PERSONAL
DETAILS



EDUCATION

Etc by the end of the summer term.



CHOICES



PERSONAL
STATEMENT

... return in September with some choices
and a first draft.



SCHOOL
REFERENCE

... in by **October half-term** to guarantee it being sent by Christmas

2024 entry dates

2 May 2023	UCAS search tool displays 2024 courses.
9 May 2023	Adviser portal opens for 2024 entry.
16 May 2023	Undergraduate applications open for 2024 entry.
12 July 2023	Conservatoires applications open for 2024 entry.
5 September 2023	Completed undergraduate applications can be submitted to UCAS.
2 October 2023	Closing date for conservatoires music applications.
16 October 2023	Applications for Oxford, Cambridge and most courses in medicine, dentistry, and veterinary medicine/science should arrive at UCAS by 18:00 (UK time).
31 January 2024	Applications for the majority of undergraduate courses should arrive at UCAS by 18:00 (UK time) on the equal consideration date.
	Closing date for most conservatoires dance/drama/musical theatre applications.



Final advice

- Start the conversations and discussions
- Explore together, visit universities and compare courses
- Ask the right questions
- Listen to their reasons
- Have an eye on the timeline to support personal statement deadlines etc
- Encourage them to be proactive
- Lots of understanding and reassurance. For some, this process of change is really difficult to manouvre
- Encourage them to engage in the support on offer

