

13th February 2026

Dear Parents/Guardians

**Re: Year 13 UCAS update**

I am writing at the end of a very busy and productive half term for Year 13. This week, the students received their PPE (pre-public examination results) and their TPGs (teacher predicted grades). These results will help the students, and you, their parents/guardians, make more informed decisions about where they wish to live and study for university, or what apprenticeship opportunities may be available to them. In this letter I will outline the next steps in the UCAS (Universities and Colleges Admissions Service) process and signpost additional information for you and your child.

The vast majority, over 90%, of Year 13 made applications to university through UCAS, and now is the time for students to begin seriously considering their firm and insurance choices.

The firm choice should be the students' first choice, the institution they most want to attend. If they meet the conditions of the offer, this is where they go. The insurance choice should be a safe, back-up choice they would be happy to attend. If they do not meet the conditions of their firm offer, they will automatically be placed with their insurance choice if they meet those requirements.

To confirm, once a student selects a firm and insurance choice on UCAS, any other offers are automatically declined. The majority of students will have conditional offers (requiring students to achieve certain grades in the summer). Please ask your child to look at their UCAS offers and identify any specific requirements universities may have asked for, for example an offer may state that the student needs to achieve grades ABB at A Level, with a grade A in a specific subject. If a students' firm choice is unconditional, they cannot have an insurance choice.

Over half term, I would strongly encourage you to sit down with your child and discuss their options. After half term, your child will meet with their UCAS supervisor in school to give further advice before they make their choices. Every student should meet their supervisor before selecting their choices on UCAS.

Here are some key dates relating to the remaining UCAS cycle;

26 February: UCAS Extra opens. Extra is for students who included five choices in their application, have received decisions from all five, and weren't accepted, or the student declined the offers they received. It allows the student to apply for one additional course. More details [here](#).

31 March: Universities must reply to all applications

6 May: Students must choose their firm and insurance before this date: if they don't, all of their offers will be rejected

13 August: A Level/BTEC results day. If students miss their firm and insurance offer, they will be placed into Clearing. More details about Clearing can be found [here](#), rest assured there will be school staff on hand on results day to support this process.

For more information, please see [this](#) presentation which has been shared with the students. There is also a comprehensive guide for parents/guardians from UCAS [here](#).



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Please also be aware that applications for student finance for students starting university in Autumn 2026 opens on Monday 23rd March. For more information about student finance and how much financial support your child is eligible to receive, please see this [website](#).

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via the school office. We appreciate these are important decisions and we are here to support you and your child every step of the way.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L Sills".

Mr L Sills  
Head of Sixth Form



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