



12th February 2019

Dear Parent/Carer and Student

UCAS HE Convention Trip – Friday 22nd March 9am to 1.15pm

There will be a **Higher Education Convention** at the Wadebridge Royal Agricultural Showground on Friday 22nd March 2019. The day will provide vital information about universities and higher education institutions and will also help students to prepare their university application. There will be about 100 Higher Education Institutions attending the Convention as well as a range of seminars that students can elect to attend. We know university is not the right progression route for everyone, but this is part of our careers education and would like all students to attend.

Transport will be provided by the College and we will meet in the bus park at 9am and return for 1.15pm. We will be back for lunch. **Please could students bring along any required snacks for the morning.** *In the event of an emergency we will be referring to the Parental Consent Form that you completed for use during this academic year, commencing September 2018. If there have been changes to any information you have submitted about your contact details or your child's medical needs, then please request a replacement form from reception. This must be submitted prior to the visit.*

Parents can support students in researching their options in a variety of ways. University is just one of many options available to students as they complete their Post 16 studies but all students must take time to carefully consider their decisions. Students are entering the first stage of the university process, where they need to research their options. They have been encouraged to speak with teachers, friends and relatives about university and careers. **Thestudentroom.co.uk** is also a good website where students can speak to other students and find out information and ask questions. Not all students will be set on a course to study, some take longer to make this decision than others. It is important that students take the time to research their options so as to make the best decision for them.

Once they have an idea which subject area they wish to study, students should be using **unifrog.org** to find out which universities they can access based on their predicted grades. Unifrog has information about universities and apprenticeships and supports both progression routes. We will launch unifrog with the students in a Monday morning briefing just after the February half term. Students will trial the webpage in a Tuesday morning tutor time. When they have identified institutions of interest, they should then visit **ucas.co.uk** to find out more detailed information about entry requirements and vital information about what the course will entail. Students should also visit the university webpage for further details about the course.

Once students have completed their very important end of year 12 exams w/c Monday 24th June, they should consider attending at least one university open day. These are all listed on individual university webpages or can be found on **opendays.com**. There are some helpful 90 second videos for parents found here <https://www.ucas.com/ucas/undergraduate/getting-started/ucas-undergraduate-parents-and-guardians> including information about how to make the most of an open day. If you are planning a long journey to visit an open day and there is another university nearby you would like to see, please contact them as most places will be more than happy to accommodate a student visit at any time.

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When considering entry requirements, some institutions will offer places based on grades in subjects e.g. AAB, while some will offer places based on a points system which is linked to grades. The points for each grade can be found below:

Tariff Points	EPQ	AS Level	A Level	BTEC
56			A*	D*
48			A	D
40			B	
32			C	M
28	A*			
24	A		D	
20	B	A		
16	C	B	E	P
12	D	C		
10		D		
8	E			
6		E		

We will hold an information evening for parents and carers in the summer term, which is when students will begin their UCAS application in College. We will give you further advice and suggestions for how to support your son/daughter through the summer and autumn term. However, if you should have any questions or concerns at any time about university or any further matters, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely

Mr M Porter
Head of Progress – Post 16

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To: Mrs Rowe, The Post 16 Office, Helston Community College, Church Hill, Helston, TR13 8NR

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Student's name: _____ Tutor Group: _____

I am happy for my child to attend the trip to the Royal Agricultural Showground on Friday 22nd March

There have been no changes to my contact details or my child's medical needs.

There have been changes to my contact details or my child's medical needs and I have requested a replacement form from reception which will be submitted prior to the trip.

Signed: Emergency contact number:
(Parent/Carer)