

## Sixth Form Bulletin 26/09/17

Queen Elizabeth High School, Hexham



### University/College

**YEAR 13** Please note: any students planning on **applying to Cambridge University or Oxford University**, or for courses in **Medicine, Dentistry, and Veterinary Medicine/Science** should be aware of the **early UCAS submission date for these applications – Sunday 15 October 2017**. If there are any students planning to apply for these universities/courses but have not informed the Curriculum Office yet, please do so as soon as possible.

**YEAR 13** Reminder: students that wish to sit **Admissions Tests for university** should complete an Admissions Test Entry Form, available from the Exams Office or the school website. Forms need to be handed in no later than **29 September 2017**.

**YEAR 13** **Newcastle University** runs a **supported entry scheme** called the PARTNERS Programme. Through PARTNERS, eligible students could receive a **lower offer** for a place on their undergraduate courses than the University's typical offer, usually by two grades. The PARTNERS scheme requires a successful completion of an **academic summer school** which takes place after the Year 13 exams. As well as receiving a lower offer, the PARTNERS Programme provides students with the opportunity to **visit Newcastle University**, make informed choices about higher education, **develop skills** to be successful at university, and **meet other students** before embarking on an undergraduate course. For more information about PARTNERS including full details of the eligibility criteria, see <http://www.ncl.ac.uk/schools/partners/>



**BOTH YEARS** **Other universities run similar supported entry schemes**, including Leeds (see below), Durham (featured in the Bulletin soon when their 2017 selection criteria are published), Northumbria, and York. These schemes sometimes include elements that must be undertaken during Year 12, so for eligible students it is worth researching as soon as possible.

**YEAR 13** **Leeds University's supported entry scheme** is called Access to Leeds. Eligible students receive an Access to Leeds offer up to **two A level grades below the standard offer**, subject to successful completion of the **Access to Leeds online module** which encompasses study skills and subject skills. The programme is designed to ease students' transition into university life and **give them a head-start** by providing access to the University's academics, IT facilities and resources before the course starts. For more information on Access to Leeds including the eligibility criteria, see [www.leeds.ac.uk/A2L](http://www.leeds.ac.uk/A2L)



**BOTH YEARS** The five North East universities (Durham University, Newcastle University, Northumbria University, the University of Sunderland, and Teesside University) are jointly hosting an **information day for parents/carers** called **'University Explained'** on **Saturday 4 November 2017** (9.30am – 2.15pm), held at Durham University. During the day there will be a programme of informal

information sessions which cover topics such as the university application process, financial support for students, student life, student support at university, and careers. For more information and to book a place, see <http://www.nerap.ac.uk/university-explained-bookings-now-open/>

## Enrichment

**BOTH YEARS** The **British Film Industry** are accepting applications for the **BFI Fiction Film Academy at Tyneside Cinema**. As part of the programme, participants will meet working industry professionals; learn how to adapt a script, direct actors, shoot a scene, design a soundscape, and edit rushes; enjoy use of the state-of-the-art filmmaking facilities at Tyneside Cinema; and share the film at a 'world premiere' at Tyneside Cinema for family and friends. The programme also helps students work towards a **NCFE Preparing to Work in the Film Industry qualification**, which develops creativity and leadership skills and **can count towards entry to college/university**. The scheme has a participation fee of £25.00. To apply, download an application form from <https://www.tynesidecinema.co.uk/learn/young-people/fiction-academy> and submit it by 11.59pm on Monday 2 October 2017.



**YEAR 12** Newcastle University run Year 12 **Medicine and Dentistry (MaD) Days**, designed to give students the opportunity to visit the University campus and explore the worlds of Medicine and Dentistry. The days are held on 7, 28 and 29 November 2017; students pick **either** Medicine **or** Dentistry for all three days, with a series of interactive lectures exploring their chosen subject, the applications process and interviews. The days will also feature sessions in the relevant Clinical Skills Lab. For more information and to book a place, see <http://www.ncl.ac.uk/schools/events/upcoming-events/eventitems/eventyear12medicineanddentistrymaddays.html>

**YEAR 12** Year 12 students can apply now for 2018 Headstart courses. Headstart provides hands-on **Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) activities and taster courses** for students who are interested in related courses but would like an opportunity to explore the subject areas further. Headstart courses take place at universities across the UK, giving further information on not just the degree courses available but also the varied career opportunities they'll lead to. As the courses cover a lot of **niche areas** across the STEM fields, Headstart offers a chance to **sample a specialism that might not be available in Taster Sessions anywhere else**, for example Marine Engineering, Nuclear Physics, Material Science, Robotics, and Aerospace Engineering. For more information see [www.headstartcourses.org.uk](http://www.headstartcourses.org.uk)



**YEAR 13** The same company who runs Headstart also offers **Year in Industry (YINI)**: a gap year option for students interested in **STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) subjects, ICT, and Business**. The scheme offers the opportunity to gain **paid work experience** and skills that will benefit students during their further studies and into employment. YINI students make key contacts for the future with some students offered **company sponsorship, paid holiday work** and in some cases alternative routes into their chosen career, for example **the offer of an apprenticeship**. Vacancies on the YINI scheme (available to view on the website) will increase in number as

employers start to advertise their new placements for the year. For more information go to <http://www.etrust.org.uk/the-year-in-industry/about-yini>

**BOTH YEARS** UCAS is hosting a new event for **students interested in creative, media, or performance-related subjects**: 'Create Your Future'. The event is held in two locations, at ExCeL in London on 17-18 October 2017, and at Manchester Central in Manchester on 21-22 November 2017. Both events include the opportunity to meet course leaders, current students, and industry specialists; attend subject-specific seminars; watch performances by current undergraduates; and attend Q&A sessions with Professor Julian Lloyd Webber and Ace. For more information and to book a place at the London event, see <https://www.ucas.com/events/create-your-future-london-304401>. To book a place at the Manchester event, see <https://www.ucas.com/events/create-your-future-manchester-304486>



**BOTH YEARS** **Workshop Conferences** offer conferences for students interested in applying for **Medicine and Veterinary Medicine**:

- **Vet-Medlink Intensive**: 17–18 December 2017 at the University of Nottingham. The **two-day residential conference** offers advice and support to aspiring veterinary students, covering topics such as work experience, what veterinary schools look for, chemistry masterclasses, interviews, and the opportunity to meet current veterinary students.
- **Medlink Intensive**: 17–18 December 2017 at the University of Nottingham. This event is similar to Vet-Medlink but is tailored to students applying to medical school, covering topics such as the UKCAT, interviews, using social media, auscultation practical sessions, and the chance to meet current medical students.

For more information and to book a place on Vet-Medlink or Medlink, see <https://medlink-uk.net/shop/>

**YEAR 12** The next **Cambridge University Sixth Form Law Conference** will take place from Monday 26 March to Thursday 29 March 2018. The conference is run by current law undergraduates and is designed to give Year 12 students a balanced view of law **both as an academic subject and a profession**. The event also gives students an insight into **life as a Cambridge undergraduate** as accommodation is provided alongside students in colleges. Featuring lectures in the Law Faculty, workshops organised by City law firms and barristers' chambers, campus tours, and evening activities, the overall cost for the conference (including meals and accommodation) is £140. For more information and to book a place, see <http://www.cambridgesixthformlawconference.com/>



**BOTH YEARS** The Bank of England is running a **schools' film competition** called 'Bank, Camera, Action'. To enter, students need to **produce a short film** on this year's topic: 'What independence means to me'. Students are free to use any medium they wish, and can shoot their film on a smartphone, tablet, or video camera. The video should be between one and three minutes long. To enter the competition, students must pre-register (before they have made their film), submitting the entry form on the Bank of England's website by Monday 9 October 2017. For more information and to download the entry form, see <http://www.bankofengland.co.uk/education/Pages/competitions/bankcameraaction.aspx>

## Careers/Apprenticeships

**BOTH YEARS** Ernst and Young (EY) is holding a 'EY Choices Evening' on Tuesday 3 October 2017 (starting at 6.00pm), held at their offices in Newcastle. The event gives students the opportunity to learn about EY as a business, to explore all the **different options available** at EY, find out about **career paths**, and **meet current trainees and senior employees**. For more information and to book a place, see <http://www.ukcareers.ey.com/schools/events-and-contacts/events/face-to-face-events/schools-choices-evening-newcastle>

**YEAR 13** EGGER is holding an **open day** for students interested in **apprenticeships** within the firm. EGGER offers apprenticeships in **Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Business Administration, and Laboratory Technician**, with apprentices working towards level 2 and 3 NVQ qualifications and potentially **undergraduate degree** level courses. The open day will be held on Thursday 2 November 2017 (3.30-6.30pm), and gives students the opportunity to meet with current apprentices, managers and training providers. The event is free to attend but registration is required; interested students should contact the Human Resources department on 01434 613374 or [jobs.uk@egger.com](mailto:jobs.uk@egger.com). For more information about EGGER and their apprenticeships, see [http://www.egger.com/shop/en\\_IE/apprenticeships](http://www.egger.com/shop/en_IE/apprenticeships).



**YEAR 12** The Social Mobility Foundation runs a scheme called the '**Aspiring Professionals Programme**' to help Year 12 students to access top professions. Their support is free of charge and is tailored to one of **11 career sectors**: Accountancy, Architecture, Banking & Finance, Biology & Chemistry, Business, Engineering & Physics, Law, Media & Communications, Medicine, Politics, and Technology. Students can also pick a '**no preference**' option if they are unsure about which career to enter. Students on the Social Mobility Foundation Programme receive e-mentoring, internship placements, university application support, and professional development and career support. The deadline for applications is Monday 11 December 2017. It is worth noting that the Social Mobility Foundation has **strict eligibility criteria** which focus on financial circumstances and academic ability – see their website for more information: <http://www.socialmobility.org.uk/programmes/app-city/>