

Sixth Form Bulletin 16/04/21

Queen Elizabeth High School Hexham



Opportunities from the bulletin also feature on our Instagram: [@qehs_sixth_form](#)

We ask students and their parents to research fully any opportunities advertised in the bulletin to ensure they are happy with the organisation they are linking with and its value for money if there is a cost.

Notices

Haltwhistle Pool is recruiting at least 14 lifeguards this year. If you successfully apply for a place on the lifeguard course and pass it, you will be guaranteed a job with them this summer. The weeklong course has a cost but it is being subsidised with support by the Newcastle Building Society. You will be trained in first aid, CPR, as well as water rescue. Applicants must be 16 and competent swimmers. To enquire about lifeguard training contact reception@haltwhistleleisure.co.uk

Kirkley Hall are holding their first in-person opportunity to visit their campus on the 28th April.

Year 13 - **May 12 @ 17:00 - 18:00** HE Guidance: Clearing and Adjustment 2021 with Goldsmiths (KS5)

[Find out more »](#)

University

Additional testing to support university admission decisions

Please find at the end opportunities being offered by Cambridge and Oxford. In particular the preparation to the PAT test for physics students looks very useful.

Nationally applications for medicine were 21% higher this year than the previous year and 15% of applications were reapplications. We try not to promote companies who charge high fees to prepare students for university, however, in the article below, although motivated by sales, the organisation offering coaching highlight the greater level of importance some universities may be placing on tests because of the ongoing disruption to normal examination grading. You do not need to pay for coaching but it is good to start to complete practice tests early.

<https://www.themedicportal.com/blog/record-number-of-medicine-applicants-for-2021-entry/>

Taster Sessions

Follow the links below for taster sessions delivered by Teesside University:

[Crime Scene Science 20 April 1.00 - 2.00pm](#)

[Midwifery taster session 22 April 2.00 - 3.00pm](#)

Channel Talent are hosting a wide range of subject talks this term. Most will be delivered live so that students can use the chat feature to ask questions should they wish to. Please make the most of these taster sessions to help you decide which subject you will enjoy at degree level.

- **April 21 @ 16:15 - 17:15** Creative Writing: Skills & Insight Workshop with UEA (KS5) [Find out more »](#)

- **April 28 @ 12:45 - 13:30** Critical Thinking: Skills & Insight Workshop with UEA (KS5) [Find out more »](#)
- **April 29 @ 12:45 - 13:45** TV/Film/Media: Friends & Why It Matters - Reading (KS5) [Find out more »](#)
- **April 29 @ 14:15 - 15:15** Music Technology: Production & Editing Masterclass with Surrey (KS5) [Find out more »](#)
- **May 4 @ 12:45 - 13:45** insight4me Engineering - Practical Applications of Physics Principles with Sheffield & 1 Uni TBC (KS5) [Find out more »](#)
- **May 5 @ 16:15 - 17:15** Human Rights – Interdisciplinary University Perspectives & Debate - Goldsmiths & 1 TBC (KS4 & KS5) [Find out more »](#)
- **May 6 @ 11:15 - 12:15** insight4me Computer Science - Focus on Algorithms with Nottingham & 1 Uni TBC (KS5) [Find out more »](#)
- **May 12 @ 16:15 - 17:15** Mathematics: Problem Solving & Thinking Skills - Maths Gym Workout with 1 University TBC (KS5) [Find out more »](#)
- **May 13 @ 11:15 - 12:15** insight4me Sociology - Focus on Identity with Surrey & UEA (KS5) [Find out more »](#)
- **May 13 @ 16:00 - 17:00** Theology & Religious Studies: Teleological/Design Arguments & Their Critics with Glasgow (KS5) [Find out more »](#)
- **May 17 @ 13:30 - 14:15** Society for Natural Sciences: Advancements in Forensics via Natural Sciences (KS5) [Find out more »](#)
- **May 18 @ 14:00 - 15:00** International Politics: Terrorism - Pasts, Presents And Futures with UEA (KS5) [Find out more »](#)
- **May 18 @ 16:15 - 17:15** Free Speech & Misinformation – Interdisciplinary University Perspectives & Debate - Unis TBC (KS4 & KS5) [Find out more »](#)
- **May 19 @ 12:45 - 13:30** Computer Science: Why Girls Are Choosing Study & Careers in Computer Science - Sheffield (KS5) [Find out more »](#)
- **May 19 @ 14:00 - 15:00** Media Studies: Study Skills for Media with Goldsmiths (KS5) [Find out more »](#)
- **May 20 @ 14:15 - 15:15** insight4me Economics - The Labour Market with UEA & 1 Uni TBC (KS5) [Find out more »](#)
- **May 20 @ 16:00 - 17:00** Theology & Religious Studies: Free Will & Moral Responsibility with Glasgow (KS5) [Find out more »](#)
- **May 25 @ 11:00 - 12:00** insight4me Media - Focus on Media Language with Reading & 1 Uni TBC (KS5) [Find out more »](#)
- **May 26 @ 16:15 - 17:15** Pharmacy/Pharmacology - University Module Insights - UEA & Nottingham (KS5) [Find out more »](#)
- **May 27 @ 14:00 - 15:00** History: Study Skills for History with Goldsmiths (KS5) [Find out more »](#)
- **May 27 @ 16:00 - 17:00** Theology & Religious Studies: The Problem of Evil and Suffering with Glasgow (KS5) [Find out more »](#)

- **June 8 @ 11:15 - 12:15** Modern Languages: Beyond The Words - Picking Up Nuance & Meaning Masterclass with Nottingham (KS5) [Find out more »](#)
- **June 9 @ 16:15 - 17:15** History/Archaeology - Archaeological Insights into The Cold War with Nottingham & 1 Uni TBC (KS5) [Find out more »](#)
- **June 10 @ 12:45 - 13:45** HE Guidance: Researching Universities - Digital Skills To Avoid An Online Overload with Goldsmiths (KS5) [Find out more »](#)
- **June 15 @ 09:30 - 10:30** insight4me History of Art - British & American Contemporary Art with Nottingham & 1 Uni TBC (KS5) [Find out more »](#)
- **June 15 @ 16:15 - 17:15** Accountancy & Finance: Analytical Skills & Interpreting Numbers Masterclass with UEA (KS5) [Find out more »](#)
- **June 16 @ 16:15 - 17:15** Food Security – Interdisciplinary University Perspectives & Debate - UEA & 1 Uni TBC (KS4 & KS5) [Find out more »](#)
- **June 22 @ 09:30 - 10:30** insight4me Chemistry - Focus on Organic Chemistry with UEA & Nottingham (KS5) [Find out more »](#)
- **June 22 @ 16:15 - 17:15** Education - University Module Insights - Reading & UEA (KS5) [Find out more »](#)
- **June 23 @ 14:15 - 15:15** insight4me Biology - Natural Selection Field Research with Surrey & UEA (KS5) [Find out more »](#)
- **June 25 @ 12:45 - 13:30** Politics - Focus On Political Ideologies - Anarchism - With University of Surrey (KS5) [Find out more »](#)
- **June 29 @ 16:15 - 17:15** Criminology - University Module Insights - Surrey & 1 Uni TBC (KS5) [Find out more »](#)
- **June 30 @ 16:15 - 17:15** Philosophy - University Module Insights - UEA & 1 Uni TBC (KS5) [Find out more »](#)

The University of Sheffield are also offering a fantastic range of taster sessions and if you visit their website they also have an archive of past sessions too.

Chemical and Biological Engineering	Topic Optimizing your future with Chemical Engineering	2021 date Wednesday 28 April, 4:00 - 5:30pm	Book here Book your Chemical and Biological Engineering taster session here
Subject Computer Science	Topic Taster session with the MiRo robot First insights on data analysis, in collaboration with the Sheffield Women in Computer Science Society (SWiCS) Taster session with the MiRo robot	2021 date Wednesday 21 April 2021, 4:00pm - 6:00pm (FULL) Wednesday 5 May 2021, 4:00pm - 6:00pm Wednesday 19 May 2021, 4:00pm - 6:00pm	Book here Book your Computer Science taster session here
Subject Education	Topic Studying Education, Culture and Childhood: a multidisciplinary degree	2021 date	Book here Book your Education taster session here

		Wednesday 21 April 2021, 4:25 - 5:45pm	
Subject Electronic and Electrical Engineering	Topic Introduction to Electronic and Electrical Engineering	2021 date Thursday 29 April 2021, 3:45 - 5:30pm (FULL)	Book here Learn more about our Electronic and Electrical Engineering taster session
Subject Health and Human Sciences	Topic Introduction to inequalities in health in the UK and inequalities in COVID-19: 'Led by the science' - Introduction to the role of evidence in the health sciences	2021 date Tuesday 11 May 2021, 3:45pm - 5:00pm	Book here Book your Health and Human Sciences taster session here
	Topic The Cultural and Political Geographies of the Memorial: Edward Colston and the Black Lives Matter Movement	2021 date Wednesday 28 April 2021, 3:45 - 5:00pm	Book here Book your Geography (Human) taster session here
Subject Geography (Physical / Environmental Science)	Topic Forecasting Volcanic Eruptions	2021 date Wednesday 5 May 2021, 3:45 - 5:00pm	Book here Book your Geography (Physical/Environmental Science) taster session here
Subject General Engineering	Topic Interdisciplinary Engineering for a Renewable Future!	2021 date Tuesday 27 April 2021, 4:00 - 5:30pm	Book here Book your General Engineering taster session here
Subject Mechanical Engineering	Topic Sensing the world with sound Introduction to 3D Printing	2021 date Tuesday 4 May 2021, 4:00 - 5:30pm Tuesday 11 May 2021, 3:45 - 5:00 pm	Book here Book your Mechanical Engineering taster session here
Subject Physics	Topic Be a Physics Student for the Day: Spotlight on Particle Physics	2021 date Wednesday 2 June 2021, 12:30 - 3:20pm	Book here Book your Physics taster session here

Super-curricular

See the letter from Cambridge below and their Caius Explore super-curricular initiative

Not Going to Uni straight after Sixth Form

Newcastle University still has places for some courses for a September 2021 start. If you would like to learn about which courses are accepting late applications and have the chance to talk to current students or gain advice on making a late application join their online event on the 28th April. [Follow this link for more information](#)

Other universities will also have spaces for late applicants. If you would like an appointment with Rebecca or Michelle to talk about making a late application contact curriculum@qehs.net

Student Finance (Year 12 and 13)

Student finance applications for courses starting autumn 2021 are now open.

DofE Guide to student Finance https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XuVv-gz_lbs

UCAS budget calculator <https://www.ucas.com/budget-calculator>

Apprenticeships (remember to check <https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/> regularly and any employers, such as the NHS, who you are particularly interested in working for). Here are examples of recently added ones on the government's apprenticeship website.

Optical Assistant with Spec Savers in Consett earning £220 per week. The apprenticeship lasts 13 months and will provide you with a Level 2 Optical Assistant qualification as well as experience in a customer facing role.

Level 3 Software Developer Apprenticeship with the potential to progress to Level 4 with De La Rue Currency earning £16-18,000 per year.

Level 2 Roofing apprenticeship in the Durham area with Springs Roofing (must be able to start work at 7:30am). Block release training will be at Newcastle College one week per month and the apprenticeship is expected to last 2 years with a starting salary of £167.

Level 3 BMW Motor Vehicle Technician Apprenticeship in West Boldon, with a starting salary of £172 per week. Blocks of residential training will take place over a three year period at their group academy in Berkshire.

Level 6 Development Chemist Apprenticeship, working for AKZO Nobel in Gateshead, lasting 4 Years. During your apprenticeship you would be funded to complete a degree and earn £19,000 as a starting salary. They are looking for applicants with a chemistry or science qualification.

Level 3 Agricultural Technician Apprenticeship based in Hexham working for Thomas Sherriff & Co Ltd, expected to last three years with a starting salary of £172 per week. Blocks of residential training will be provided through John Deere's Training Centre at their head office.

Level 3 Photography and Drone Operator Apprenticeship. The apprenticeship will be based in Haydon Bridge, working for Dianne Makepeace and expected to last 12 months with a starting salary of £160 per week.

Level 3 Early Years Nursery Apprenticeship based in Prudhoe, working for Wise Academies earning £159 per week (term time only).

Business Administration Apprenticeship expected to achieve a Level 3 (equivalent to A Level) in 18 months, earning £166 per week gaining lots of experience working within a property environment for David Robson and associates, their offices are based on the East of Newcastle

Training Schemes

PwC still have a vacancy in Manchester in Legal Eligibility Governance and Compliance.

Minimum requirements are 112 UCAS tariff from up to three full A-Levels or equivalent and a Grade C or 4 or above in GCSE (or equivalent) English Language and Mathematics. Follow this link for more information <https://youtu.be/Va2-vSzQ81Y>

Please see below the notices Cambridge and Oxford have asked school to promote

Cambridge

I would like to highlight our upcoming 'Subject Taster Evenings', which are open to year 12 (or equivalent) students at all UK state schools, and will feature the chance to meet our Directors of Studies (lecturers in charge of

undergraduate teaching), hear from undergraduate students, and experience Cambridge-style teaching. These evenings begin towards the end of this month, and run into May; further details are available [here](#), and students can sign themselves up using [this link](#).

Launching in late April or early May is a new initiative called Caius Explore, which is aimed at supporting prospective Cambridge applicants develop their super-curricular interests, and will involve the opportunity for students to submit work and visit Cambridge. Full details will be released [here](#) once the scheme is live.

Finally, we have a dedicated [YouTube channel for outreach](#) at Caius, which contains a mixture of videos including application guidance, taster lectures, and student experience, for a range of different age groups. Any of your pupils wanting to find out more about life at Caius and/or Cambridge can also chat to some of undergraduate students direct on our website, via [The Ambassador Platform](#).

There are a few subject-specific events being hosted by various colleges and departments at Oxford that we would like to draw your attention to. The events are primarily for students in Year 12, please do pass them on.

Oxford

Christ Church Women in PPE Day

Christ Church is holding a **Women in PPE Study Day** on **Tuesday 1 June 2021**. The online event will include an introduction to Philosophy, Politics and Economics at Oxford and taster sessions in each strand of the subject. We welcome applications from **Year-12 students**, whose gender identity includes **woman**, who are considering applying to study Politics, Philosophy and Economics at Oxford. **We will be prioritising applications from students who attend state-maintained schools in the UK.**

[Click here to find out more and apply](#). Applications close on **Tuesday 25 May at noon**.

Oxford Modern Languages Open Day

We're delighted to announce that booking is now open for our 2021 **Modern Languages Open Day**. This is an online event (with live sessions delivered via Microsoft Teams and Q&A via Slido) and will take place on **Saturday 1 May 2021** between 10am and 4pm: attendees are welcome to dip in and out of sessions over the course of the day. It's a great opportunity for prospective applicants to find out more about all of the languages we offer, as well as Oxford's joint degrees featuring languages alongside other subjects. The day will be hosted by current tutors and undergraduate students and there will be lots of opportunities to ask questions.

A full programme for the event is available [here](#). Booking is essential (links to the online elements of the event will be supplied on booking). Attendees can register for a space via [this link](#).

Oxford Mathematics Online Open Days

The Oxford Mathematics department are hosting Online Open Days on 24 April and 1 May 2021, with both live and pre-recorded maths talks, application advice, and information about the Mathematics (and joint honours) degrees at Oxford. There will be opportunities to ask questions to current staff and students, and we will run workshops on the Mathematics Admissions Test. We look forward to seeing you there! All talks and live sessions will remain on the open day website after the event for you to watch back afterwards. Follow this link to find out more:

<https://www.maths.ox.ac.uk/open-days>

Oxford Online Maths Club

The Oxford Online Maths Club is back this term for Season 2, with one hour of maths problems, puzzles, and mini-lectures broadcast live every **Thursday at 17:00**. If you're thinking of applying to university for Maths, then you can find our livestream and lots of super-curricular maths over at <http://www.maths.ox.ac.uk/r/club> including all our Season 1 livestreams, which covered maths from topology to primes, and from probability to pigeons. It's all free, and there are lots of links to other free resources so that you can read more; you might just find your new favourite maths topic!

Physics: Preparing for the PAT

The Oxford Physics 'Preparing for the PAT' course is now open for applications. This online course runs from June – Oct and helps students develop their problem-solving skills and mathematical thinking in preparation for the Oxford Physics Aptitude Test, which is sat by everyone applying to study Physics, Engineering or Material Science at Oxford. The course is open to **Y12 students at UK state-funded schools and colleges**. Application deadline: 16th May 2021. More details about the course and the online application form can be found at www.physics.ox.ac.uk/preparingforthepat.

If you have any questions, please email Kathryn, the Physics Access Officer, via PAT.prep@physics.ox.ac.uk.

Balliol College Virtual Taster Days: Chemistry, Classics, History, English and Medicine

Balliol College is hosting **five Virtual Taster Days** for the following subjects for **students in Year 12**:

Chemistry: Monday 19 April ([apply here](#))

Classics: Monday 17 May ([apply here](#))

History: Friday 21 May ([apply here](#))

English: Tuesday 1 June ([apply here](#))

Medicine: Wednesday 16 June ([apply here](#))

Do check back on their website as they will also be holding a Biology Taster Day on Thursday 3 June (details available shortly) and a Physics and Philosophy Taster Day (date tbd).

Oriel College Virtual Study Days (English, Medicine, PPE)

Oriel College is offering Virtual Study Days in selected subjects for **Year 12s from UK state schools**. These virtual events will give a taste of studying each subject at a top university and offer advice and guidance on applying for them at Oxford, including dedicated sessions on interviews and admissions testing. There will be opportunities to interact with academics and current undergraduate students, and content will be available in live and pre-recorded formats (including recordings available for a period of time post-event) to enable participants to access the events in a way which best suits them.

Applications are currently open for **English & English Joint Schools** (1st June), **Medicine & Biomedical Sciences** (3rd June), and **PPE** (4th June). Further information, including selection criteria and an application form, can be found here: <https://www.oriel.ox.ac.uk/virtual-study-days>. Any questions should be directed to outreach@oriel.ox.ac.uk.

Wadham College's Year 12 Summer Schools 2021

Applications are now open for Wadham College's Year 12 [5-day Summer Schools](#) taking place from 23rd August -27th August 2021. These free residential Summer Schools are designed to give UK pupils a taste of what it's like to be an undergraduate studying at the University of Oxford. Pupils will take part in an academic programme, live in College,

talk to student ambassadors studying at Oxford, and receive information, advice and guidance on applying to university. Government guidance regarding COVID will be followed, so some sessions may be delivered remotely.

There will be **three summer schools**:

- Biology and Human Sciences Summer School : 'From Macro to Micro'
- Classics Summer School : 'Gender and Sexuality in the Ancient World'
- Modern Foreign Languages Summer School: 'Ghosts and the Supernatural'

We welcome applications from current Year 12 pupils studying at UK state schools. To apply please complete an [application form](#) which asks questions about you, your interest in the subject and your academic performance. You will also need a teacher from your school to provide a reference.

Full Application Form link: <https://oxford.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/wadhamsummerschools2021>

The deadline for applications is 5pm 31st May 2021.

If you have any questions about the Summer Schools please contact Dr Hugh Munro at access@wadham.ox.ac.uk.