



Northumberland East
Sixth Form Academy

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Dear Parent/Guardian,

As we come to our final weeks of an unprecedented year, as a Sixth Form team we would like to pass on our congratulations to all of our young people in the resilience they have shown through very uncertain times.

As we have moved through this last term staff and students alike have responded well to the challenges presented and ensured that, whilst it has been far from ideal, progress has been made in a number of key areas; within subjects and their wider development as well.

University Application Support

A great deal of our additional support for students has had a focus on university applications which has ranged from online presentations to PowerPoint resources and advice as to how to research courses, universities and write personal statements. Students have also attended two university webinars delivered by Durham and Newcastle University and, by the end of this week, will also have had a UCAS presentation in school delivered by a member of the Sixth Form team. They have also had a one to one conversation with staff to support their progression.

We appreciate you will want to support them as best you can with an area which has such significant implications on their next steps and future livelihood and also realise that there will be some of you who will have no experience of this process.

With this in mind, we have produced a PowerPoint presentation which can be accessed through the link provided and which has a 'talk through' of many of the key points and advice which has been given to students, ranging from course and university research to general advice as to how to navigate the UCAS website and other advice which is available through it.

<https://www.loom.com/share/502e4fef39d0452e8c1424cd17467bfb>

We would recommend that you also use the parents/guardians' section of the UCAS website at www.ucas.com/parents. Here you can sign up for updates from UCAS, and get everything you need to know about the application process direct to your inbox. You could also attend virtual university events and open days as you may

have a different perspective to students. We hope that the PowerPoint presentation and UCAS website will be of benefit and support to you in helping your child to plan their next steps after sixth form.

During the summer students should be continuing to do their university research and should be completing a draft of their personal statement. Students may wish to explore online work experience opportunities and to complete some Massive Open Online Courses (MOOC's) in order to extend their experiences which they can include in their personal statement. They will receive help with work experience opportunities and MOOC's before the end of term. We would be grateful for your support in ensuring that students have a draft of their personal statement available for us to read and give them feedback on by the start of September.

We are hoping that if circumstances allow, we will be able to meet you all just after the start of the new academic year.

We are very proud of our Year 12 students and the resilience that they have shown throughout these challenging few months. As ever if you have any further questions please do not hesitate to get in touch with our dedicated team.

Yours faithfully,

S. Bell

LSmith

Ms Bell
Head of Sixth Form

Miss Smith
Assistant Headteacher