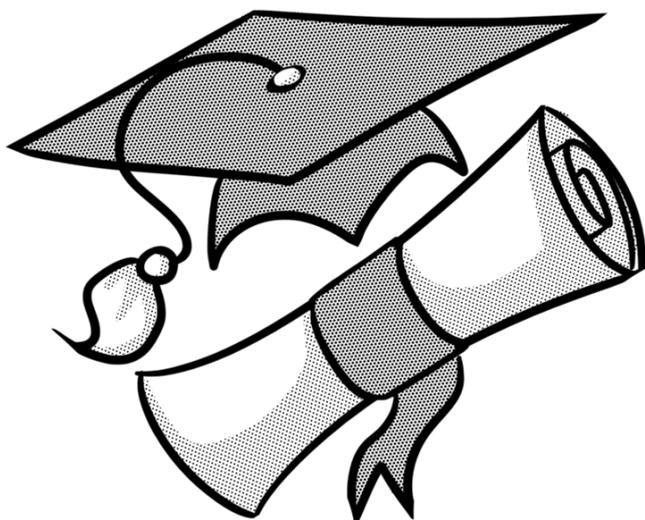




Did you know?



Approximately 700,000 people apply for full-time undergraduate courses at over 380 universities and colleges across the UK each year.

The competition for places can be fierce so it is good for your son/daughter to be as prepared as possible.



What can you do?

A key thing to remember is that preparation is **the key** for a successful university application – and that it isn't always just about the grades. Here are some of the things that university admissions tutors will be looking out for, and what we will be doing to help:

A Strong Personal Statement: A student's personal statement should show passion and enthusiasm for their chosen subject area and demonstrate the wider skills and experiences that will enable them to succeed at university. If you can, prompt them to think about things they could do to enhance their application - the sooner the better!

A Passion for their Subject Area: Encourage your child to complete extra reading, engage with TED talks, complete MOOCs (online courses), and think outside the restrictions of the exam specifications. Most of these things are free but could make a real difference to them.

Character Development: The kind of things that will make them stand out from other applicants are the LORIC attributes: Leadership, Organisation, Resilience,

Initiative and Communication. They often find it quite difficult to recognise their own strengths in these areas - it is helpful for you to remind them of their areas of strength.

Work Experience: Successful applications for some courses are enhanced by work experience. If you know anyone who would be willing to have them in to their work for a day or two, this can really help. It is also worth noting that the skills acquired through part-time paid and voluntary work are also valued by many universities; just make sure any part-time, 'small' job doesn't turn into one that distracts from their work.

University visits: Attending university Open Days is invaluable for a variety of reasons – and many are over the weekend so there's often no need to miss lessons. Students will be able to speak to course tutors, test the travel arrangements to and from home, look at the location, accommodation...a whole wealth of things that will ensure that they are making an informed choice. The universities often run sessions for parents at their Open Days.