

This information supplements that which was disseminated in the Parents' Higher Education Information presentation in mid-March 2024. The information sheet is also available on the College website under Parents > Events > Higher Education Evening so you can use the links.

**Higher Education Fair on Thursday 21 March 2024 from 6 - 8pm.**

Around 75 universities will be represented, plus the following talks in the College Theatre:

18.00 - 18.30	Studying Abroad ( <i>talk given by A star future</i> )
18.30 - 19.00	How to Choose a University and a Course ( <i>University of Birmingham – Katherine Pagett</i> )
19.00 – 19.30	Applying to Oxford and Cambridge ( <i>Helen Humphreys, ESFC Oxbridge Coordinator</i> )
19.30 – 20.00	How do universities support students with disabilities? ( <i>St Mary's University</i> )

**Employment and Apprenticeship Seekers' information evening on Thursday 18 April 2024 at 6.00 pm** Online presentations for students and parents from college staff and external speakers on the range of opportunities that apprenticeships and employment offer, and the help that Esher Sixth Form College can provide. Please click to join at 6pm [here](#).

**'Next Steps' employers' exhibition on Thursday 2 May 2024 in the Sports Hall** Students can come and talk to a range of local and national employers in the Sports Hall during a study period or at lunchtime. Local Further Education and Higher Education providers will also be present. This exhibition is visited by year 10 students from the Elmbridge secondary schools.

**Work experience from Wednesday 5 – Friday 7 June 2024**

During these three days students will complete independently organised work experience or **The Internship** with 8billionideas. Details of independently organised placements are entered by the student on the **Unifrog placements tool**, which automatically emails the placement provider, parent /carer and the college supervisor (Cat Elmes [celmes@esher.ac.uk](mailto:celmes@esher.ac.uk)) to obtain the requisite permissions. Places on The Internship can be booked and paid for (£35) via the online **College Shop**.

**Parents' Higher Education online talks series:**






Tuesday 7 May @ 6pm	Parents' and Carers' guide to student finance <a href="#">Teams link</a>
Monday 13 May @ 6pm	How to support your student to choose a university and a course <a href="#">Teams link</a>
Monday 20 May @ 6pm	Writing a personal statement <a href="#">Teams link</a>

**'After Esher Day' on Tuesday 20 June 2024 – HE or Apprenticeship and Employment strands**

Students can make concrete plans for their futures. University application form accounts will be created, mock job and apprentice assessment centre activities are completed and students hear from speakers, including former students, about their experiences and the advice they wish they'd had at 17.

## Sources of help and advice for students and parents

The following are some of the best sources of help and advice available. All universities' websites have similar material. The default ports of call for information should be **Unifrog** and **UCAS**.

Help or information about...	Source of help	Weblink etc
General future planning	 <p>Esher College's PDP programme – delivered during tutor periods</p>	<p>Presentation material is available on the 6.1 student Team</p> <p>A 'How to apply to UCAS 2025' presentation will be uploaded to the portal and website for After Esher Day.</p>
All aspects of destinations planning: exploring options, researching universities and apprenticeships; recording skills and preparing applications.	 <p>Unifrog – the complete destinations platform. We have a College subscription which lasts the student beyond their 2 years at Esher.</p>	<p><a href="#">Unifrog - The complete destinations platform.</a></p> <p>Students have already made their own account and can click through from the portal front page. Parents can log in using the form code <b>COJBparents</b> (<i>This code is only valid from 14/3/24 for 90 days</i>) Intro parent pack <a href="#">here</a>. Introduction to Unifrog video <a href="#">here</a></p>
Deciding which course to study	 <p><b>MyUniChoices</b></p> <p>If students are unsure which courses they might enjoy, MyUniChoices is a paid-for diagnostic tool that can help identify suitable courses.</p>	<p><a href="#">MUC   MyUniChoices</a></p> <p>Established for many years and developed by Cambridge Occupational Analysts, MyUniChoices (formerly Centigrade) has helped thousands of students find the right course and right university for them. Take time and care answering the 150 questions to get the best suggestions.</p>
Researching and applying to University	 <p>UCAS is the independent charitable organisation which provides the admission framework for application to UK universities.</p>	<p>Especially useful areas:</p> <p><a href="#">Undergraduate   UCAS</a></p> <p><a href="#">Applying to University - learn about everything involved (ucas.com)</a></p> <p><a href="#">Student Finance And Support Available   UCAS</a></p>
Researching and comparing universities		<p>Formerly Which? University, this tool is now hosted by The Student Room site. Lots of great information for students and parents.</p> <p><a href="#">Find and Compare the Best University &amp; Degree Courses – The Uni Guide</a></p>

<p>Writing your personal statement</p>	 <p>Pay £2 on college shop and collect from Progression Guidance office R105</p>	<p>The COA Personal Statement planner is a useful hard copy resource for students.</p> <p>Also see:</p> <p><a href="https://www.unifrog.org/student/personal-statement">https://www.unifrog.org/student/personal-statement</a></p> <p><a href="#">ucas-personal-statement-worksheet.pdf</a></p>
<p>Student finance</p>		<p>This is where you find out the 'official' information: <a href="#">Student finance for undergraduates: Overview - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</a></p> <p>And this is where you can see Martin Lewis's take (MoneySavingExpert) on what it really means to have a student loan: <a href="#">Student Guides - MoneySavingExpert</a></p>
<p>Alternatives to university and apprenticeships</p>		<p><b>Please come to our online evening talk on 18 April</b> <a href="#">Multiverse   Changing the future of work</a></p> <p><a href="#">Not Going To Uni: Apprenticeships &amp; Work Experience in the UK</a></p> <p><a href="#">Amazing Apprenticeships</a></p> <p><a href="#">RateMyApprenticeship: Apprenticeships, School Leaver Jobs &amp; Reviews</a></p>
<p>Studying abroad</p>		<p><b>Come to the talk on HE day 21 March at 6pm</b></p> <p><a href="#">Study in Europe, Australia, Asia, USA (astarfuture.co.uk)</a></p> <p><a href="#">Study abroad   Prospects.ac.uk</a></p>
<p>Taking a Gap Year <i>(these Gap year activity providers are just a selection of those available)</i></p>		<p><a href="#">Independent Gap Advice   Independent Gap Year Advice For Young People</a></p> <p><a href="#">Should I take a gap year?   Prospects.ac.uk</a></p> <p><a href="#">Taking a gap year (thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk)</a></p>
<p>Information about all aspects of progression</p>	<p><b>Esher College Progression Bulletins</b> are published and sent to all students every fortnight during term time.</p>	<p>Information about open days, lunchtime talks, apprenticeships, taster days, part time jobs, Gap year opportunities and more.</p> <p>Please ask your student if they have read the latest edition!</p>
<p>1:1 help with all aspects of Progression</p>	<p><a href="#">Progression Guidance</a> staff. We are in <b>R105</b> (first floor, along from the Maths department).</p>	<p>You can drop in with queries or book an appointment with a careers advisor. Email <a href="mailto:progression@esher.ac.uk">progression@esher.ac.uk</a> for appointments.</p>

## Esher Sixth Form College 2025 UCAS Apply deadlines.

Students **must** have a **face-to-face** (*in person or Teams*) **HE discussion and checking meeting** with a member of the Progression Guidance team **before** paying and submitting their form. **No forms will be processed** until the form has been checked. Please note our 'turn around' time commitment is only valid for forms submitted **without errors**.

Applications can be submitted from the start of teaching in the autumn term, Monday 9 September 2024.

Type of application	You must submit your form before ...	...and we will send your form to UCAS
Medicine, Veterinary Science, Dentistry and Oxbridge applications	8am on <b>Wednesday 25 September 2024</b>	by the UCAS early deadline of <b>Tuesday 15 October 2024</b>
Competitive applications ( <i>if you want your form to be processed with 10 working days</i> )	<b>mid-late October (exact date tbc)</b> Date to be confirmed upon publication of the college calendar (before June 2024)	within <b>10 working days</b> of the form being received, provided it is <b>error-free</b>
General applications	8am on <b>Monday 11 November 2024</b>	by the end of the autumn term, <b>Friday 20 December 2024</b>
General applications - final deadline	8am on <b>Monday 25 November 2024</b>	by the UCAS final 'equal consideration' deadline, <b>29 January 2025</b>

We will endeavour to process forms submitted after Monday 25 November as quickly as possible but **cannot guarantee** they will be submitted by the UCAS deadline of 29 January 2025.

**Most** universities continue to accept applications beyond the UCAS deadline, but are **not obliged** to consider them. Popular courses will almost always have filled up so these institutions won't accept late applications. For many courses and institutions, a policy of '**first come, first served**' does seem to apply. An early application for any course at any institution therefore optimises the chance of receiving an offer.

**However, it is better to make good choices and visit open days than to rush the form.**

If a student is still unsure of which course to apply for, or whether indeed to apply to university at all, they are advised to make a **direct to clearing** application on results day in August, or a **post-results application** in September 2025, as a '**6.3 applicant**'. Help and Unifrog access will always be available to the student as a former member of college, and a 6.3 UCAS registration session will take place in early September 2025.

**Art Foundation Course** Applications are due in during the Spring Term 2025. Each Art College has its own deadline.

**A level results day is likely to be Thursday 15 August 2024.**