

HE Application Process



What Have We Done So Far?

- HE process started in February this year with a general introduction talk on Higher Education and Course Finder Questionnaire
- Majority of the L6 have also had a feedback interview with Gordon Collins to analyse results of the questionnaire & report produced

What Resources Are Available to Students & Parents?

- HE Guide – hard copy that the students have, available also on the VLE, Pupil Intranet & Web Site to download www.millhill.org.uk under ‘Information for Parents’
- Oxbridge Guidance Booklet – as above
- Personal Statement Writing Guide & Template – as above (although this session will be delivered to the L6 on 16th June after the AS examinations)
- UCAS Parent Guide & Finance Guide (available tonight)

Additional Resources

- Course Finder Report & Feedback
- UCAS Big Guide (although UCAS is suspending publication this cycle due to uncertainty from universities)
- UCAS Career Progression Series
- Podcasts & web links on the VLE (updated regularly)
- Interactive University Map of the UK
- Open Day link to all UK Universities

Research & Organisation



Key to Success...and making the process less stressful!

- The more organised you are, the easier you make life for yourself
- You have to take responsibility for this process – this is **your** application & even with all guidance and support available, how successful you will be is determined by the effort you expend now
- Be proactive!

The Timeline of Events

- Register on **Apply 12** from mid June – LHS will provide the ‘Buzzword’ to allow you to register as a student at Mill Hill School
- Find out when the Open Days are on & book a place (easy to do online) & go and visit
- Get the prospectus for each university you are interested in & look at the course structure & average offers made – do you need to email the admissions tutors to ask questions?



- Follow the UCAS application tutorial on the VLE & Pupil Intranet. This will be updated to Apply 12 as soon as it goes live – experience demonstrates that in general, students are not good at utilising the resources available to them. The point I made earlier about taking responsibility for YOUR application is important here!

The UCAS Process Internally

- The application process is time consuming even after you have finished your bit....
- LHS has to check the student application & approve all qualifications, fee codes etc. & often, applications will be sent back to be corrected...several times. Notification is sent by email to you
- Only when the student application is complete, can the staff reference be looked at. This process goes through the Tutor, HMM, LHS & the Headmaster before LHS can send the completed application off to UCAS electronically

Key Dates to Remember

- Deadlines **MUST** be adhered to
- Oxbridge, Medics, Dentists & Vets – October 15th with UCAS (**Half Term is 14th October this year**)
- General Applications to guarantee being sent off by 15th October Half Term – submitted for approval to LHS by October 7th October 2011
- General Applications to guarantee being sent off by December 15th – December 7th 2011
- Final UCAS deadline January 15th 2012

Additional/Admissions Tests

- These are becoming more common
- BMAT – Oxford, Cambridge, Imperial, UCL & Royal Veterinary College
- UKCAT
- LNAT – Birmingham, Bristol, Durham, Glasgow, Leeds, Nottingham, Oxford, UCL & Kings London
- Cambridge Assessments – for Oxbridge Applications
- Imperial/UCL & LSE
- **You** must research what requirements there are for your course, as specific deadlines exist & you have to register for these tests often outside of school

Preparing for Additional Tests

- This is an additional demand on students and often, these tests are testing skills that are endemic at A Level study – analysis, evaluation, synthesis and cannot be ‘revised’ or ‘crammed’ for – there are commercial organisations that will charge you to prepare you for these, but honestly, going through past papers, familiarisation with the question structures is the best prep you can undertake

Additional Tests Continued..

- At a recent 'Cambridge Admissions Conference' one of the Admissions Tutors explained that each year the bar has to be moved/altere slightly with tests such as the BMAT/TSA, as schools are so good at coaching students for these (!)
- He was keen to stress that these additional tests are to test for potential & aptitude & **NOT** subject knowledge that can be revised for

Useful Links

- <http://www.lnat.ac.uk>
- <http://www.admissionstests.cambridgeassessment.org.uk/adt/> (Cambridge Admissions Tests)
- <http://www.ukcat.ac.uk/>
- <http://www.fulbright.co.uk/> (American University Information)
- <http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/EducationAndLearning/UniversityAndHigherEducation/StudentFinance/index.htm> (Student Finance) Booklet & Information pack available to take away this evening

Useful Links Continued...

- www.britishcouncil.org/erasmus
(European study/work programmes)
- www.offa.org.uk/students (Information regarding accessing bursaries)

