

Blessed George Napier Catholic School and Sixth Form

Lord, thank You for the blessing of this new school year. Help us to seize its opportunities with gratitude and face its challenges with courage, remembering that we never succeed or struggle alone.



Key Stage 5 Bulletin: 11th September 2026

News and Reminders

Welcome to our new Year 12s and welcome back Year 13!

In our first Key Stage 5 bulletin of this academic year, we wish all our students a happy and successful year. The transition from Y11 to Y12 is significant and it is important that students 'hit the ground running'. It is great to welcome in such an enthusiastic and committed year group, we can already see the signs of their intention to make Sixth Form a success.

Year 13 have also impressed, making great efforts over the summer to consolidate Year 12 content so they are ready for Early Assessments. Tutors and Mrs Ellul are already proof-reading personal statements, which is such a positive start to the year.

We are looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the Parent Information Evening on Tuesday 15th September, where we will be able to go over expectations, timelines, resources and answer any questions you might have.

Considering what we're all working towards, we must also mention how proud we are of last year's Year 13, and the amazing outcomes they achieved. With many students now in their first-choice universities and placements up and down the country, we wish them all the success they deserve in the next step of their journey and beyond.

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 15th September – Year 12 & 13 Parent Information Evening
Monday 21st – Friday 25th September - Year 13 Early Assessment Week
Tuesday 6th October – Sixth Form Open Evening – (Current students to support)
Thursday 8th October – UCAS Early Application Deadline
Friday 9th October – Inset Day
Monday 26th – Friday 30th October - Half Term
Friday 6th November – BGN Day
Friday 13th November – UCAS Application Deadline

Any past students interested in raising awareness of careers, pathways and the motivation of our current cohort should contact Mrs Rebecca Russell on RRussell@bgn.oxon.sch.uk or telephone BGN reception on 01295 264 216.

As always, please check your school email address regularly. A lot of important and useful information is sent out to you this way.

UCAS & UNIVERSITY



Applying for UCAS Medicine, Veterinary Science and Dentistry (6pm deadline 15th October)

1. Thursday 10th September: Students give or email first draft personal statements to tutors
2. Thursday 17th September: Tutors return feedback on first draft to early applicants
3. Thursday 24th September: Students hand in final draft to tutors
4. Thursday 1st October: Tutors return final draft to tutees
5. Early applicants complete and pay for UCAS application by 8th October

Applying by the Equal consideration deadline, students need to follow this timeline:

1. Thursday 8th October: Students give or email first draft personal statements to tutors
2. Thursday 15th October: Tutors return feedback on first draft
3. Thursday 22nd October: Students hand in final draft to tutors

Half Term Monday 26 October – Friday 30 October

4. Thursday 6th November: Tutors return final draft to tutees
5. **All applicants complete and pay for UCAS application by 13th November**

Check your courses, in case you need to apply to sit admissions tests such as LNAT for Law.



University League Tables 2027

Our 2027 league tables rank the best universities in the UK, overall and in 74 subject areas, and allow you to compare universities ahead of starting university in 2027

EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES



**UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE**

Department of Veterinary
Medicine

**VetCam 2027 - Introduction to Veterinary
Medicine at
Cambridge University**

Tuesday 23rd to Thursday 25th March 2027

A two-and-a-half-day residential programme for Year

12 students interested in applying to study Veterinary Medicine at Cambridge University. The programme will include visits to both the pre-clinical and clinical departments to give a taste of the course, insight into life at a Cambridge college, and a chance to meet staff and current students. Places are only available for students studying Chemistry A Level with predicted grades of A*/A. To view a provisional programme for the event and for more information, please visit [here](#).



For aspiring Doctors: FREE LIVE VIRTUAL Get Into Medicine conference dates:

- Saturday 19th September from 9am - 1:30pm
- Sunday 20th September from 9am - 1:30pm
- Sunday 27th September from 9am - 1.30pm

Students and parents can register for free at this link: <https://medicmentor.org/get-into-medicine-conference-signup/>



For aspiring Dentists: FREE LIVE VIRTUAL Get Into Dentistry conference dates:

- Saturday 26th September from 9am - 1:30pm

Students and parents can register for free at this link:

<https://dental-mentor.org/get-into-dentistry-conference-sign-up/>



The Journey to Your Future: Can Rail Get You There – On Time, On Budget, On Track?

Explore how data can help the rail industry make better decisions and keep journeys on time, on budget and on track. **Thursday 10th October at 5pm** (virtual session hosted on Zoom)

Students will:

- Join a **45-minute virtual briefing** with the Project ROUTE team
- Complete the career challenge at their own pace
- Receive a **certificate on completion**
- [Register now!](#)

**YOUNG
PROFESSIONALS**

Get Into Law — a free virtual insight evening

Wednesday 16 September · 5:00–7:00pm · Virtual.

This may be the biggest and best careers event in the law space for students — and it kicks off our academic season. We're bringing together 12 huge international law firms to talk about the full spread of practice areas — from corporate and criminal to family and real estate, plus everything in between. Whether you're at school or university, this is a direct line to the people who decide who gets in.

**YOUNG
PROFESSIONALS**

Get Into Business, Accounting & Finance — a free virtual insight evening

Friday 18 September · 5:00–7:00pm · Virtual.

Accounting and finance is one of the widest doors into business — and almost nobody explains what's actually behind it. We're bringing together PwC, UBS, BDO, CIMA and S&W — with more to be announced — to talk about what the work really involves: audit, advisory, tax, investment banking, wealth management, corporate finance and consulting. Whether you're at school, college or university, this is a direct line to the people who decide who gets in.



NavigATE 2026/27 Webinar Schedule

Amazing Apprenticeships' NavigATE 2026/27 webinar schedule, now featuring new evening sessions, is perfect for parents and carers. Kick off the new term with 'Understanding apprenticeships' on 24th September, 'Job search support, claiming benefits and opportunities' on 7th October and a series of 3 sessions through October, November and December that cover key elements of securing an apprenticeship



Medical opportunities for students aged 14–18 and considering careers in medicine or healthcare:

- London 1 Day Medical Work Experience (Anatomy, A&E, Surgery, Radiology, Oncology and more)
- Free Future Doctors Weekend (On Demand)

Students can complete the course and obtain a certificate

[1 Day Courses](#), [Virtual Week](#), [Free Course](#)

The Sixth Formers' Guide Degree Apprenticeships

The Sixth Formers' Guide to Degree Apprenticeships Your free 140-page guide to how degree apprenticeships offer a debt-free alternative to a traditional university degree



Higher & Degree Apprenticeships Vacancy Listing

The mini-edition of the Higher & Degree vacancy listing has now launched!

Explore 950+ Higher and Degree apprenticeship vacancies from 38 employers, including GXO, KPMG, Devon and Cornwall Police, British Army, ARUP and many more!

Download the Higher & Degree listing [HERE](#)



Introducing the Bright Stars Scholarship

An exclusive university scholarship for future optometry students, offering £10,000 towards university costs. Register your interest and after you've applied for an Optometry course at your chosen university, we'll invite you to join us for The Bright Room. Following the event, we hope to match you with a local practice where you can work part-time and begin to learn more about Optometry. Then, when you start university, you'll receive £2500 each year, over the 4 years of your optometry course. When you finish university, you'll be a fully qualified Optometrist, ready to see where a career at Specsavers could take you. [Find out more HERE](#)



STEM Learning's research placements are engaging, real-life workplace experiences. They take place during the summer holidays after Year 12 and consist of one to three weeks on placement, along with pre- and post activities including independent study. Placements take place in a variety of locations including offices, museums, research centres, laboratories or fieldwork settings. Students can take part in a

placement at no cost.

Read the [guide for student applicants](#) here.



Delivered by top professionals, our Insight Days enable students to gain the foundations of an industry, try their hand at an interactive career simulation, receive career coaching and participate in a live Q&A session. Insight Days have two intakes per academic year, with dates available on Sundays in November and March. Students can choose to attend the non-residential programmes in-person at UCL in London or live online (UK time zone).

Girls in Aviation Day at AirTanker 19th September



AirTanker are hosting Girls in Aviation Day at RAF Brize Norton and applications are now open. This event is designed for girls aged 13 to 18 who are curious about what a future in aerospace and defence could look like. [Register here](#).



STEM Club

Heading into its third year running, STEM Club takes place on Thursday lunchtime in B17 from 1:50 to 2:05 pm. Students prepare a 5-slide PowerPoint and present it to their peers who ask questions at the end. A great forum for getting experience presenting on a topic they research.

SUBJECT TASTER DAYS & UNIVERSITY OPEN DAYS

OPEN DAY CALENDAR

[Search the Opendays.com calendar of university and college open days](#)

SUPER CURRICULAR



**Mansfield
College**
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

Recordings of past Mansfield Public Talks can be found on Mansfield's YouTube channel, [here](#)



Explore our vast online collection which includes more than 3000 videos, featuring over 1200 speakers dissecting hundreds of topics.
<https://www.gresham.ac.uk/watch-now>



[The Sky at Night, Tonight: A New View of the Changing Sky](#)

Professor Chris Lintott

Monday, 14 Sept 2026 - 19:00

[Astronomy Science](#)



[Is the HIV Pandemic Over?](#)

Professor Matt Higgins

Wednesday, 16 Sept 2026 - 18:00

[Public Health](#) [Disease](#) [Medicine](#) [Sexuality](#)

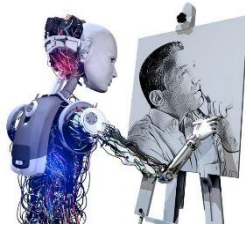


[The Myth and Promise of the U.K. Jury Trial](#)

Professor Mieko Kanno

Thursday, 17 Sept 2026 - 18:00

[UK Law](#) [Society](#) [Politics](#)



[The Future of Creativity](#)

Professor Daniel Susskind

Tuesday, 22 Sept 2026 – 18:00

[Artificial Intelligence](#) [Technology](#) [Art](#) [Culture](#)

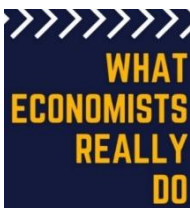
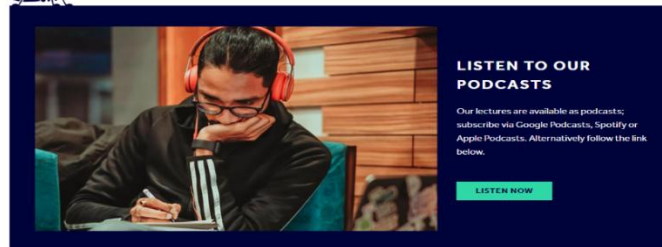


[Cosmology's Mad Idea: Inflation & the Creation of Our Universe](#)

Professor Chris Lintott

Wednesday, 23 Sept 2026 – 19:00

[Astronomy](#) [Physics](#) [Science](#)



[What Economists Really Do](#)

The University of Oxford Department of Economics' What Economists Really Do series is a free series of talks designed to inspire the study of economics by exploring some of today's most pressing issues.



Melvyn Bragg and his guests discuss the history of ideas - including topics drawn from philosophy, science, history, religion and culture

Webinars:

- Monday 14 September 4:30pm - [Natural sciences taster: why one science isn't always enough](#)
- Monday 14 September 5:30pm - [Law taster: does prison work? Exploring overcrowding and the early release scheme](#)
- Monday 14 September 6:30pm - [Parents and caregivers session: a parent's guide to open days](#)
- Tuesday 15 September 4:30pm - [Psychology taster: what makes faces so special?](#)
- Tuesday 15 September 5:30pm - [Becoming a doctor](#)
- Tuesday 15 September 6:30pm - [Designing the medicines of tomorrow: a pharmaceutical science taster](#)
- Wednesday 16 September 4:30pm - [Psychology taster: why smart people make bad decisions](#)
- Wednesday 16 September 5:30pm - [Sports science taster: why can't everyone run fast marathons?](#)
- Thursday 17 September 4:30pm - [What makes an entrepreneur? And can you learn how to be one?](#)
- Thursday 17 September 5:30pm - [Criminology taster: can you spot a liar?](#)
- Thursday 17 September 6:30pm - [From electrical to mechanical: which engineering course is right for you?](#)
- Monday 21 September 4:30pm - [Benefits, concerns, and real answers about studying at university](#)
- Monday 21 September 5:30pm - [Supporting next steps: a parent and caregivers' guide to post-18 options](#)
- Tuesday 22 September 4:30pm - [Earn while you learn: the ultimate guide to apprenticeships](#)
- Tuesday 22 September 5:30pm - [The gap year game plan: how to travel and build your CV](#)
- Wednesday 23 September 4:30pm - [Engineering the future of healthcare: meet the experts](#)
- Wednesday 23 September 4:30pm - [Becoming a lawyer](#)
- Wednesday 23 September 5:30pm - [Biomedical science taster: how scientists diagnose illnesses](#)
- Thursday 24 September 4:30pm - [AI everywhere: cybersecurity, fintech and big data](#)
- Thursday 24 September 4:30pm - [Where could a degree in education take you?](#)



Join live sessions
and chat directly
with **32** universities
across the world

unifrog

INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY FAIR

Wednesday 23rd September 2026

Sep 23, 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM

The Unifrog International University Fair is a great opportunity to find out all about studying at university, and get all your questions answered by the experts in just two and a half hours! Join over 30 universities from across the world to speak to their representatives via Q&A, and choose from 18 live webinar sessions to get an insight into all things university and find out more about where you could be studying.

[The Woman Engineer Podcast](#)

This podcast is hosted by Inès, Lauren and Sarah, three engineers with very different journeys through chemical, aerospace and nuclear engineering. Their introductions cover what sparked their engineering journey, the power of mentorship and asking questions, why it's okay to take unexpected career turns, how transferable engineering skills are across sectors, pushing outside your comfort zone and staying curious.

WORK EXPERIENCE



Interested in STEM?

EDT delivers a range of programmes and tailored activities for companies supporting young people at every key decision-making point throughout their educational journey.

Industrial Cadets is a widely recognised, accredited awards scheme providing industry-based experiences on pathways through education to employment.

Together, with our partners we collaborate and unite, inspiring young people to discover the exciting world of STEM, creating a funnel of diverse early talent interested in entering the STEM industries, answering the needs of key growth areas.



Virtual Work Experience with Springpod

Get stuck in with immersive and informative virtual work experiences with leading employers such as the NHS, Barclays, and Airbus. These incorporate real workplace activities – from observing a live surgery to designing a lunar landing module – and the chance to speak with, and hear from, industry professionals.

MEDICAL VIRTUAL WORK EXPERIENCE OPPORTUNITIES

Gaining valuable work experience is a must-have for medical and dental applications, luckily, medical and dental schools have accepted Virtual Work Experience as a valuable alternative to in-person shadowing.



CAREERS



Future Careers Experience

Future Careers Experience can be accessed at any time and at your own pace. This program is designed to provide you with an in-depth understanding of different roles and potential career pathways within Amazon whilst also helping you build employability skills. It includes activities related to the various career pathways and CV building.

AFTER SIXTH FORM



[Outlook Expeditions](#)

Learning experiences like no other – an all-encompassing preparation course for life.



Young Professionals connect students with thousands of companies that offer Apprenticeships and Virtual and In-Person Work Experiences through apprenticeships.co.uk. Young Professionals also host [industry events](#) in STEM, Law, and Business & Accounting and [digital practice interviews](#).

Top 100 Apprenticeship Employers 2026



Check out the [The Sunday Times Top 100 Apprenticeship Employers](#)



University isn't for everyone; but a career in finance can be.

Accounting apprenticeships with AAT offer school leavers an ideal start to their career. They can work in finance while studying, gaining practical skills and recognised credentials that set the stage for a successful accounting career.

[Get AAT's apprenticeship guide >](#)



Check out The Uni Guide Podcast for an inside look at the student experience at university. In the latest episode,

What should you study at university? Finding your subject | Episode 56

Listen to this and all previous episodes [HERE](#).

Browse exciting events listed on UniTasterDays for students, with more being added daily. Including open days, subject taster days, information fairs on studying abroad...Your next university adventure awaits! Check them out [HERE](#)

Explore various university subjects through the dynamic [webinar platform](#), featuring the UK's first video subject guide. You can browse the videos, search by keyword, or filter by subject.

The Students' Guide to University is your all-in-one free brochure for essential university guidance.

Packed with insights from university experts across the UK.

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Tours & activities

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