



**ARDEN**

STATION ROAD KNOWLE SOLIHULL B93 0PT  
01564 773 348  
WWW.ARDEN.SOLIHULL.SCH.UK

September 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian of Year 13

Year 13 have made an amazing start to this term; they seem very focused and driven. Just thought I'd let you know our plans for this important year ahead.

During this first term, we are focusing on UCAS applications for those applying to university. We would encourage students to be booking university open days during this term (ideally on Saturdays, if possible), although open days will be authorized but may impact on missed learning.

Once students have researched and found a course/s that they're interested in, they should then finalise their Personal Statement; they can ask a teacher to check this for them. (We had workshops in Year 12 to help students make a start on their Personal Statement). Once they've completed these two steps, they'll need to complete their application on the UCAS platform and press 'Pay and Send'. This does not send off their application to UCAS, it simply lets us know that they've completed their part of the application and their tutor will be informed to write their reference based on their course choices.

Once the reference is complete, we will then set up a meeting with the student and a member of the sixth form to go through the entire application and only once everything has been checked and the final 'send' button is pressed, would the application be sent to UCAS. As you can appreciate, this process is rather timely, hence why we have set up our own internal deadlines as follows:

|   | <b>Recommended date for submission</b> | <b>Arden Deadline for submission</b> | <b>Final UCAS Deadline for submission</b> |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Early Entry (Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary, Medicine, Oxford, Cambridge)</b> | 24 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2024             | <b>1<sup>st</sup> Oct 2024</b>       | 15 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2024 at 18:00        |
| <b>All Other Courses</b>  | 6 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2024               | <b>4<sup>th</sup> Dec 2024</b>       | 29 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2025 at 18:00        |

Those wanting to apply for Apprenticeships, will also need to be doing their research and applying accordingly. Deadlines for these vary according to the company that the apprenticeship is with; hence the importance to start the research early. We will guide these students with the same amount of support, be it with interview practice, application process, referencing, etc. They just need to let us know their intentions in order for us to support them as this route is not as structured as the UCAS application process.



**Dates for the diary:**

|   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> November 2024                              | Parent/Teacher Consultation Evening |
| w/c 3 <sup>rd</sup> February and w/c 10 <sup>th</sup> February 2025 | Mock Exams                          |
| Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> March 2025                               | Year 13 Parent Meeting              |
| Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> May 2025                                     | Final Day                           |
| Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> May 2025                                    | A Level Exams Start                 |
| Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> June 2025                                | Year 13 Ball                        |
| Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> August 2025                               | A Level Results                     |

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Best wishes

**Miss Long**

**Head of Year 13**