

# Plympton Academy

Moorland Road, Plympton, Plymouth, PL7 2RS

Principal: Ms Lisa Boorman

Telephone: (01752) 338373

Email: [enquiries@plympton.academy](mailto:enquiries@plympton.academy)

[www.plympton.academy](http://www.plympton.academy)



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Our ref: KKE/AHO

Dear Parent/Carer and Student

As a Sixth Form we are excited to support so many of our students prepare for University applications through UCAS. The UCAS process involves several stages, consequently students have daily tutor sessions which are dedicated to this. There are important dates which we would like you to be aware of, each of which support the UCAS process:

Date	Event	Detail
21st - 25th September	UCAS assessments	Students will complete internal assessments for their subjects where appropriate. This information will be used to support predicted grades for UCAS.
30th September	Internal Deadline: Medics, dentistry, veterinary, Oxbridge, Conservatoires*	This is a school deadline for applications to these institutions.
15th October	External Deadline: Medics, dentistry, veterinary, Oxbridge, Conservatoires*	This is the deadline by which applications must be completed and references written for these institutions.
12th November	Internal Deadline: Remaining UCAS applications	This is a school deadline for applications for remaining institutions
15th January	External Deadline for UCAS	This is the deadline by which applications must be completed and references written for the remaining institutions.

*\*please note that conservatoires may publish a range of different submissions dates; if you are applying to a conservatoire please inform Mrs Kerr of their application deadline.*

Students should now ensure that they are making use of the Unifrog platform to look for suitable courses and institutions. To do this, they should be mindful of their current subjects, but consider the number of UCAS points required, and whether their course choices are suitable to their grade potential. UCAS provides a tariff calculator on their website, it would be useful for students to use this as a starting point for calculating their points.

The school will input predicted grade data for each applicant. The process is not linked to the Covid -19 epidemic, but part of normal application processes. The grades will be determined using a range of information about the student including their previous academic performance, performance in any recent assessments, and grades from any relevant coursework. Each student will be considered on an individual basis. Through these measures, we hope to enable students to apply to suitable institutions based on their grade potential.

A significant part of the application process is the personal statement. Students have been provided with guidance on how to write these through their tutor sessions. Before the summer, students were provided with the opportunity to complete online work experience, if they did not do this we recommend that they look to complete this in their own time to support their application. We recommend that students share their personal statement with you, so that you too can feed into this process. UCAS provides further information through the parent section of their website.

Once the applications have been completed internally, the Academy will then check each application and write a personal reference to each pupil. This process is essential to crafting successful applications and is why it is necessary to have earlier internal deadlines.

We anticipate that some of our pupils will not wish to apply to university. We will provide personalised careers guidance to these individuals but also encourage them to write a C.V. and personal statement which can be used with future applications. Once the apprenticeships become live towards the end of the year we will also provide support through this application process.

We hope that this information is useful to you, and we are happy to provide further support should you request this.

We look forward to supporting each of our students in discovering their future.

Yours sincerely

*K. Kerr*

Mrs Katie Kerr

Assistant Principal with responsibility for  
Sixth Form Strategy