

COMPUTER PROGRAMS

There are some useful computer programs available to you on the school network under 'Careers Applications'

Higher Ideas can help you if you are undecided what to study. You can enter your AS subjects and get lists of related university ones as well as finding out where you can do them. There are also brief descriptions of all subjects if you are unsure what any of them are about

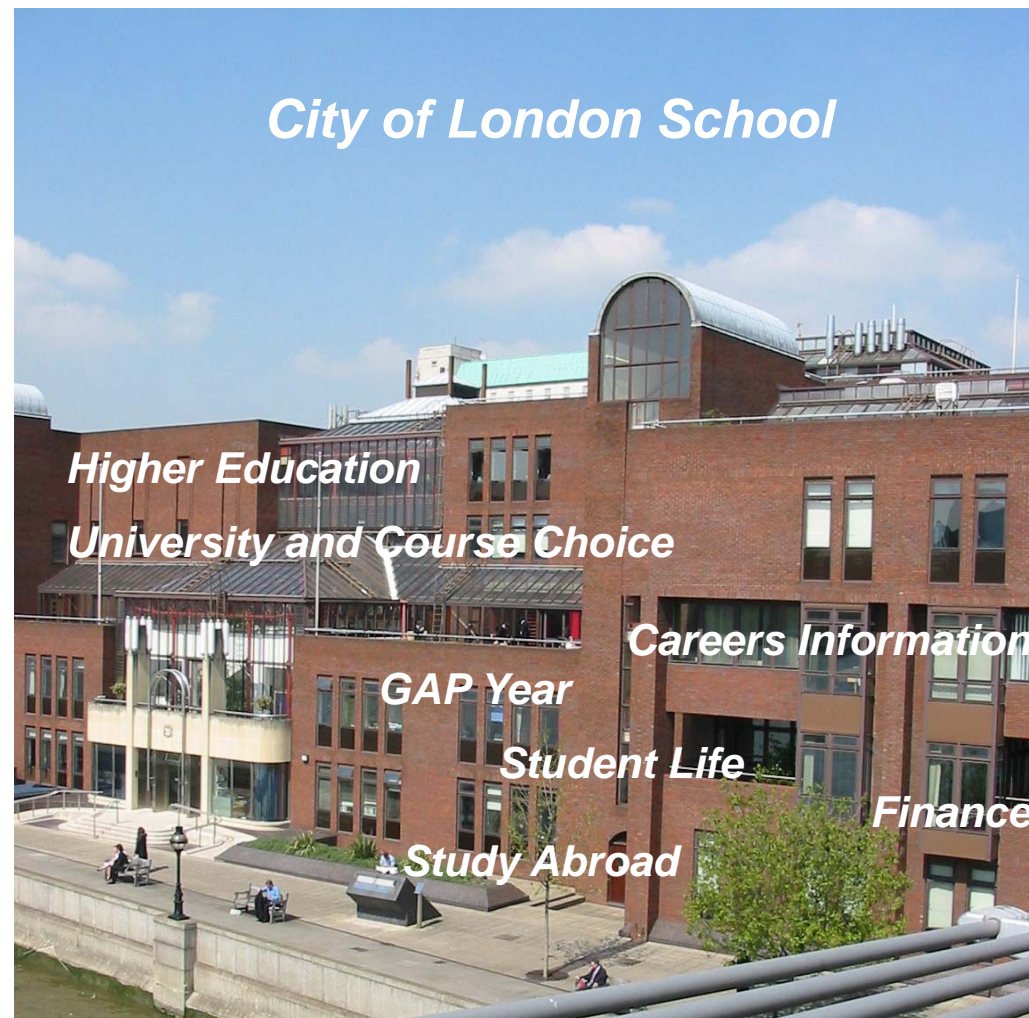
Pathfinder+HE includes an interests questionnaire which produces career suggestions but also ideas for subjects and courses at university

Worldwide Volunteering is a database of GAP Year opportunities

WEBSITES

The most essential website you will need to use is the UCAS one – www.ucas.com This includes course search facilities and entry profiles including A Level grade requirements or UCAS tariff scores. Some universities provide further information on each course and any non-academic selection criteria. You will also have to use **Apply** which is the UCAS on-line university applications procedure. Once you have applied you are able to track the progress of your applications.

There are lots of other websites about Higher Education, too many to list here. Much information is also available in the CLS '**Good Website Guide**' compiled by Mick Towner. All J6 students will receive a copy of this anyway but you can get one from the Careers Centre on request. Good luck in your research.



*Recommended
Careers Centre Resources for
Higher Education
Research and Applications*

ESSENTIAL REFERENCE BOOKS

- ❑ **'09 big guide' (UCAS)**
 - this is a general listing of all courses by subject and university
 - it includes the various subject combinations available
 - it isn't very 'user-friendly' as it's more like a telephone directory but it's a quick way of checking information
 - all the information is on the UCAS website (see website list)
- ❑ **'Degree Course Offers' Brian Heap (published by Trotman)**
 - this lists courses by subject along with the entry grades required by each university
 - it uses a league table format with the highest grade requirements at the top down to the lowest at the bottom
 - it also includes lots of other useful information including number of applicants for each place, whether they interview or not (and possible interview questions) and advice on personal statements
- ❑ **Degree Course Guides (published by Trotman)**
 - there are a series of these covering all the main university course subject areas
 - they list all the universities that offer the subject
 - there are tables which enable you to quickly compare the course content including the various options available at each university
 - there is a quick-check list of the universities that offer specific subject combinations
- ❑ **University Prospectuses**
 - completely indispensable for proper research
 - there is a full set for all UK universities in the Careers Centre (reference only)
 - this includes colleges of art and design, drama and music
 - additional course information is available from universities

RECOMMENDED REFERENCE BOOKS

- ❑ **'Choosing Your Degree Course and University' Brian Heap (published by Trotman)**
 - lots of helpful information on how to make subject choices
 - compare a subject at the different universities
 - find related subjects and more about them
- ❑ **'GETTING INTO...' (published by Trotman)**
 - this series covers most major subjects including medicine, dentistry, law, psychology, engineering, ICT and many others
 - they provide lots of valuable extra information and advice and are essential reading in some cases
 - they also include general ones on 'Getting in to Oxford and Cambridge' and 'Getting in to American Universities'
- ❑ **'The Guardian and Times Good University Guides'**
 - these two books provide university and subject league tables
 - use them carefully and don't base important decisions just on this information
- ❑ **'How to Complete Your UCAS Application' (published by Trotman)**
 - this book provides help, advice and tips on doing a good application
 - it includes a section on writing your personal statement
- ❑ **'University and College Open Days' (published by UCAS)**
 - published annually in January and lists all open days for which information is available
- ❑ **'What do graduates do?'**
 - this is an annual survey providing information on the jobs or training entered by graduates from British universities
 - it covers a wide range of degree subjects and lists the kinds of jobs students went in to
- ❑ **'The Push Guide to Which University'**
 - one of a number of more informal guides to universities including facilities, social life and so on (but not very exciting)

Most of these books are published every year so you should make sure you use the most up-to-date version available. Several of them are not published until April or May but they should arrive in school soon after then.