



BARNARD CASTLE SCHOOL

POST-18
CAREERS GUIDANCE
AND PATHWAYS

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2023

Month	Event
September	HeadSpace Speaker Programme begins (occurs every fortnight)
	Year 13 Mock Interviews
	Post-18 Clinic
	Year 12 Industry Day
October	UCAS Group 1* internal applicant deadline
	UCAS Group 1* external applicant deadline
November	UCAS Group 2** internal applicant deadline
	National Apprenticeship Show, Harrogate
	Post-18 Clinic
December	UCAS Group 3*** internal applicant deadline

*Group 1: Early Year 13 applicants (Oxbridge, medicine, veterinary, law)

**Group 2: Year 13 applicants

***Group 3: Late Year 13 applicants

For the Post-18 Clinics, it is advised to make an appointment with Mrs Shovlin (Careers) or Mr Alderson (Higher Education) in advance

2024

Month	Event
January	Professional Confidence Course begins (two week programme for all Year 12)
	UCAS Group 2**/3*** external applicant deadline
	Year 12 Work Experience Contact Deadline
February	Year 12 Work Experience Week
	Post-18 Clinic
March	Year 12: Visit to St Chads College, University of Durham
	Year 12 Work Experience Reflection Deadline
	Post-18 Clinic
May	All Groups (Year 13): UCAS reply deadlines - book accommodation and arrange student finance
	Post-18 Clinic
	Year 12: Higher Education Fair, Teesside University
June	Post-18 Clinic
July	Year 13: UCAS Plan B - research alternative options through Clearing
August	A Level Results Day

**Group 2: Year 13 applicants

***Group 3: Late Year 13 applicants

For the Post-18 Clinics, it is advised to make an appointment with Mrs Shovlin (Careers) or Mr Alderson (Higher Education) in advance

CAREERS: INTRODUCTION

Starting Sixth Form, not long after completing GCSEs, can be a daunting time, especially when you are constantly being asked 'What do you want to be?'. I prefer to turn this question around and ask, 'What skills do you have?', 'What skills do you need to improve?', and 'What is your next step?'.

Through 1:1 guidance meetings with the Head of Careers and Head of Higher Education, supported by HSMs and tutors, those next steps are explored and explained.

In addition, we use the Morrisby platform (www.morrisby.com) as a tool for self-discovery, which aids decision-making and exploration of careers, universities and apprenticeships. It also helps with discovering strengths, defining where interests lie and how personality plays a part in careers.

We do not force our young people to decide on a career but encourage them to explore career pathways and skills, reminding them that the average person of their generation will have 12 job changes in their lifetime, and with each step, they will have more experiences to find out what they really enjoy and where their skillset lies.

Our Work Experience Week is the perfect opportunity to put their skills to good use and to develop new ones. For many, it is their first time to interact with the world of work and a realisation that the skills they are developing in the Sixth Form are transferrable to the workplace.

With guidance, we expect placements to be well-researched and planned quite some time in advance, as these often lead to the most fulfilling experiences. Placements can be secured using family connections or via the Barney Careers Network, and they can be local or on a global level; literally, the world is their oyster!

Mrs C L Shovlin
Head of Careers





“He has applied himself to many varied tasks with verve and a brilliant sense of humour”



CAREERS: WORK EXPERIENCE WEEK



"I would say that you should jump into every opportunity that is thrown your way! Even though it probably feels really scary, it has been such an amazing experience for me"



“It was our pleasure and, from the feedback I have received, pleasure is the correct term. She was extremely well received and professional in every aspect. She is already a very capable individual indeed”



“He is an absolute super star! We love him! He’s such a credit to himself and the School. He’s out with one of our supervisors today, and is probably going back out on site tomorrow. I hope he’s enjoying it as much as we’re enjoying having him”

“I have learnt that I am much more capable and independent than I initially thought. Despite the fear of travelling alone for the first time, I have now learnt that I am much more self-sufficient”



HIGHER EDUCATION: INTRODUCTION

Reflecting the extensive range of routes to the world of work, we offer a personalised journey for each student, delivered through our Higher Education Programme.

Throughout their time in Sixth Form, the following is offered to students:

- One-to-one student meetings with Mr Alderson, Head of Higher Education, and Mrs Shovlin, Head of Careers
- Drop-In Clinics for parents and students
- At least one Mock Interview for every student
- For students who select the UCAS route, Personal Statement advice from trained tutors
- Personalised subject references from Heads of Department, which form the basis for the School reference. The whole application process overseen by Mr Alderson and Mrs Beadnell, Deputy Head (i/c Sixth Form)
- A strong HeadSpace lecture programme with regular visiting speakers from a plethora of career sectors and university admissions tutors
- A trip to the Teesside UCAS Discovery Fair
- A trip to Chad's College at Durham University

Even within Higher Education, there are many application routes: we support our students' applications through UCAS, UCAS Conservatoires, Common App for overseas applications, and applications to any university whatever the admissions process.

Accessing information throughout A Levels is vital in Post-18 preparations. Students have access to our Higher Education and Careers SharePoint site which is a one-stop-shop for students to research their plans, discover application materials and pre-admissions testing materials, and find engaging supra-curricular activities and courses. Students additionally have access to a wide range of newspapers delivered daily to the Sixth Form Centre. We also have a dedicated Microsoft Team

where communications, updates and opportunities are posted.

Preparation for courses such as Medicine, Law and highly competitive Oxbridge courses have the benefit of student-led societies and the Academic Enrichment programme. Mrs Gibson leads MedSoc which is available to students from Year 11, and Dr Nichols oversees our Academic Enrichment programme, where fortnightly meetings are held which include academic debate and personal development.

It is pertinent to note that the Higher Education landscape is changing fast: changes to funding, an increasingly competitive application process, and ever more subject options for students are to name a few. While university is still the most popular Post-18 route, increasing numbers are also looking towards apprenticeships and alternative pathways to work.

In light of the Post-18 world the students will be part of, it is therefore vital that young people have the tools, information and guidance to make the right choice for them; that additionally means being proactive and taking personal responsibility when making these very important decisions about their future, including making the most of opportunities provided.

It is an undoubtedly exciting time in the students' lives. If you have any questions with regards to the Higher Education Programme, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Mr C H Alderson
Head of Higher Education



HIGHER EDUCATION: SUPPORT

Mock interview with Governors



HeadSpace Lecture Programme

HIGHER EDUCATION: SUPPORT

Personal Statement advice and personalised subject references

BARNARD CASTLE SCHOOL





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PREP | SENIOR | SIXTH FORM

KEY CONTACTS

Mrs Beadnell, Deputy Head (i/c Sixth Form) – feb@barneyschool.org.uk

Mr Alderson, Head of Higher Education – cha@barneyschool.org.uk

Mrs Shovlin, Head of Careers – cls@barneyschool.org.uk

Miss Saville, Director of Development & Alumni Relations – dts@barneyschool.org.uk



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