

BANBRIDGE ACADEMY



**Year 13 Parents' Information Evening
2016**

Year 13: a year to set a solid foundation for A2 grades.

- AS grades secured in Year 13 contribute 40% of A2 grade (a change from previous years)
- AS modules can be repeated but only in June of A2 year
- Some high demand university courses may not accept repeat grades
- Challenging but realistic aspirations
- Monitor progress in each of their subjects

Year 14 Entry Criteria

- Pupils must have achieved in AS examinations during Year 13 **at least 3 D Grades OR scored a minimum of 6 points in GCE AS subjects only** (where A = 5, B = 4, C = 3, D = 2, E = 1);
- Pupils must satisfy the Headmaster with regard to attitude behaviour and attendance (a satisfactory attendance rate would be 90%).

Note also that:

- If a pupil achieves less than an E grade in a particular subject they may be precluded from studying the subject in Year 14;
- Late and Absence figures will be published to Employers!!!

Options post A level

- University – traditional pathway; UK, CAO, EU
- Further Education - HNC, HND, Foundation Degree
- Higher Level Apprenticeship – targeted qualification
- Seek employment

Higher Level Apprenticeships

- **All NI FE colleges and University of Ulster**
- Business Technology (University of Ulster)
- Construction Engineering
- Creative industries
- Engineering (7 specialist areas)
- Financial Services,
- ICT, Hospitality & Tourism
- Life Sciences
- Social Media & Digital Marketing
- www.nidirect.gov.uk

- **PWC: School & College Leaver opportunities**
- 4 years to Chartered Accountancy level: 112 UCAS points
 - Real client work & responsibility
 - Earning from day one
 - Professional study & qualifications
 - Opportunity to reach same level as a graduate - a year earlier than traditional university route
 - A technical qualification; some study at college, paid study leave, professional exams.
 - Assurance, Consulting, Tax, Transaction Services
- Try out their Business Insight Week in Year 13

Higher Level Apprenticeships (continued)

- **KAINOS** – software company
 - Earn as you Learn scheme
 - Junior Software Engineer – work 4 days, 1 day in UU over 4 years
 - 112 UCAS points – Maths, Chemistry, Physics, Computer Science, ICT, Economics

Higher Level Apprenticeships (continued)

- **Deloitte Brighstart Apprenticeship programme: BBC**
 - Hands-on experience, mentoring, salary, training contract up to 5 years
 - Professional or business qualification
 - Audit, restructuring services, tax consulting, technology consulting www.bdoni.com
- **Norbrook Laboratories – Applied Industrial Science in conjunction with SRC:**
 - equivalent to Foundation Degree www.src.ac.uk/i3

**Each organisation – individual window for application:
check dates carefully**

Links with universities in NI

- **PWC Flying Start Degree programme:**
 - at least 136 UCAS points.
 - £5,000 bursary to selected students + 3 paid placements with PWC
- **Through QUB Management School**
 - Also at Newcastle, Nottingham & Reading Universities
 - Chartered Accountant qualification
 - Job security
- **BDO Scholar programme**
 - BSc Hons Accounting at **QUB or UU**
 - Bursary awarded to 2 accountancy students for duration of degree (+ mentoring and placements at BDO)
 - (Higher Level Apprenticeship –via SRC or BMC)

Links with universities

- **EY: Assurance Scholarships**
- Lancaster Management School (4 years)
- Paid work placement – 4 week summer placement in Assurance practice
- £15,000 scholarship payment
- Professional qualification & potential offer of full-time graduate job

Why Higher Education?

- Chance to study a subject they are passionate about.
- Achieve a qualification that will lead to their chosen career.
- Gain confidence, independence, and important life skills that will widen their prospects.
- Making lifelong friends.
- Many employers target graduates
- Higher earning potential

UCAS application

- Research university courses and locations
- Possibility of a placement?
- Check Entry profile – on track for this?
- Prerequisite subject(s) ?
- Select up to 5 courses and await offers/rejections
- Conditional firm (preferred choice)
- Conditional insurance (back up course)

UCAS tariff from September 2017

Grade	Previous Tariff	New Tariff
A*	140	56
A	120	48
B	100	40
C	80	32
D	60	24
E	40	16

Graduate prospects www.highfliers.co.uk

- The number of graduates hired by the top 100 graduate employers rose by 3.3% in 2015 (7.9% in 2014)
- Top employers to expand graduate recruitment by a further 7.5% in 2016, for fourth consecutive year
- 9 out of 13 employers in key industries – expecting to take on more new graduates than in 2015
- Two of the largest individual recruiters of new graduates (vacancies)
 - PWC (1,540)
 - Deloitte (1,100)
- Recruiters have confirmed that 32% of this year's entry-level positions are expected to be filled by graduates who have already worked for them – paid internships, industrial placements, vacation work

Preparation for UCAS application

February/March 2017

- Year 13 Careers classes
- Annotated copies of personal statements
- Annotated copies of completed UCAS application forms
- Individual guidance to assist with career pathway
- **Summer term 2017** – UCAS workshops to complete most of the application form

UCAS application deadlines

- Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science, Oxbridge: School deadline **end September**
- Remaining applications - school deadline **last week in October**
- Application forms must be completed with the utmost care
- Competitive applications – Personal statement

Personal Statement – begin in Year 13

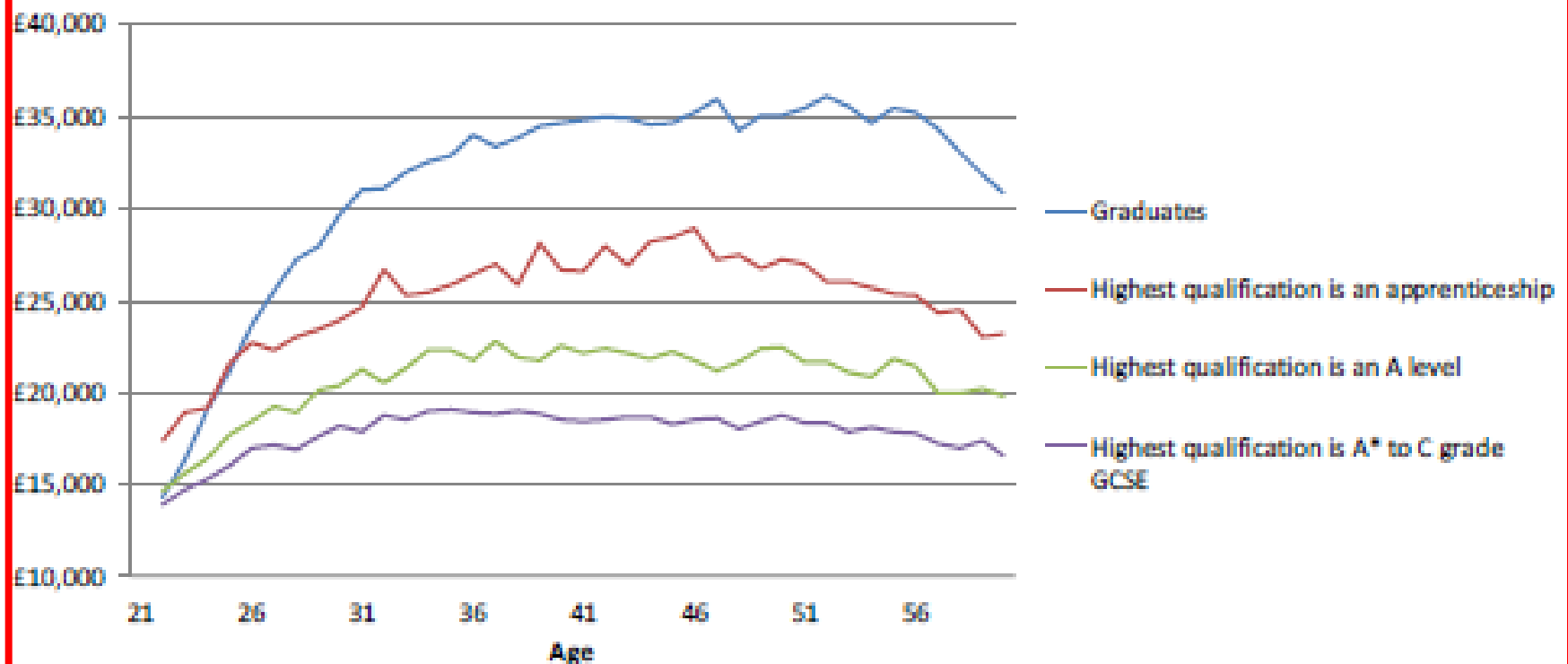
- A pen portrait of the applicant
- Courses and reasons for choice
- Opportunity to show enthusiasm for courses and knowledge of chosen profession
- Activities in and outside school used to illustrate personal skills & qualities – employability skills applicable to chosen career pathway
- Can make them ‘stand out from the crowd’

Work Shadowing

- February of Year 13
- Pupil's opportunity to research a career pathway which they are considering
- Start the search early – places fill up quickly
- Make use of personal contacts and school data base
- May need to 'book' a placement with Charter
- Indemnity and parental permission must be completed and returned to school before the end of December

Average earnings by level of education

Salary progression by age and level of qualification, UK, 2012/13



Source: ONS

- 2012/13 is the latest data available from ONS in respect of salary progression. ONS currently have no plans to update this data release.

NI Skills Barometer Findings Report

“Skills in demand”

<https://www.economy-ni.gov.uk/publications/ni-skills-barometer>

The importance of employability skills

- The definition of employability skills varies and although this is not to be considered as exhaustive, they tend to centre on the following key areas:
 - Problem solving;
 - Team working;
 - Communication;
 - People management;
 - Commercial awareness;
 - Critical/ objective thinking;
 - Professional attitude; and
 - Initiative.