

BANBRIDGE ACADEMY



**Year 13 Parents' Information Evening
2019**

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

- AS grades secured in Year 13 contribute 40% of A2 grade
- AS modules can be repeated but only in June of A2 year
- Some high demand university courses require all A2 grades to be achieved in same academic year
- 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 7 points in GCE AS subjects only** (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, USA, Europe
- Further Education - HNC, HND, Foundation Degree – can lead to a full degree
- Higher Level Apprenticeship – targeted qualification
- Seek employment

Higher Level Apprenticeships

- **FE colleges, UU & QUB** www.nidirect.gov.uk
- **Qualifications from Level 4 to Level 6 (Honours degree)**
- **Agri-food manufacture**
- **Construction Engineering (Civil Engineering UU)**
- **Business Technology**
- **Engineering & manufacturing**
- **Accounting & management**
- **Motor vehicle**
- **Hospitality, events & tourism**
- **QUB: a degree apprenticeship in Software Engineering with Digital Technology**
 - in the final 2 years, the student combines university modules with employer-based work experience

PWC: School Leaver opportunities: Headstart Programme

- **Join after A Levels:** work on client and internal projects, earning a salary
- **Experience in Assurance, Tax, Finance & Accounting**
 - Nationally recognised professional qualification
 - Opportunity to reach same level as a graduate

Entry: Online assessments

- Complete numerical, logical reasoning or verbal reasoning tests depending on the business area chosen.

Assessment day

- Testing similar skills + a written communication exercise and a group or individual exercise

Final interview

- One-to-one interview with a partner or director
- **Also consider Business Insight week and Big Data Camp** (summer projects)

Additional opportunities

- **PWC Flying Start Degree programme:**
the university experience whilst gaining paid work experience
 - Newcastle, Nottingham & Reading Universities
 - Chartered Accountant qualification and job security
- **BSc Hons Accounting** at QUB or UU in conjunction with **BDO Scholar programme**
- **KAINOS** – software company Earn as you Learn scheme
- **ALMAC** – Applied Industrial Science, Computing, Mechatronic Engineering
- **Deloitte Brighstart Apprenticeship programme:**
 - Hands-on experience, mentoring, salary, training contract up to 5 years. Professional or business qualification

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.
- Experience life away from home
- Making lifelong friends.
- Many employers target graduates
- Higher earning potential

UCAS application

- Research university courses and locations
- Possibility of a placement? – employer contact for future employment
- 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 grades and tariff points

A2 Grade	Tariff points
A*	56
A	48
B	40
C	32
D	24
E	16

- AAA= 144 UCAS tariff points
- ABB = 128 UCAS tariff points

Preparation for UCAS application

February/March 2020

- Consideration of all options which match their career aspirations – keep options open
- Annotated copies of personal statements
- Annotated copies of completed UCAS application forms on **Google Classroom**
- **Pupils access this using the code: a8z2ul**
- Individual guidance to assist with career pathway
- **June 2020** – UCAS workshops to complete most of the application form

UCAS application deadlines

- Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science, Oxbridge: School deadline **mid-September**
- Remaining applications - school deadline **week before Prize Day (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 form the crowd’

Work Shadowing

- 20th & 21st February 2020
- 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 Work Inspiration
- Indemnity and parental permission forms must be completed and returned to school before the end of December