



NEWSTEAD WOOD SCHOOL

"creating opportunities for success"



18 June 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

UCAS Launch Day – Thursday 3 July 2025

I am pleased to announce the details of our UCAS Launch day on **Thursday 3 July**. Students will be 'off timetable' for the day and we have arranged speakers from a variety of universities including Cambridge (Gonville and Caius), Warwick, Bath, Nottingham, Southampton, Lancaster and Brighton.

During Period 1, students will attend a presentation from the University of Warwick on how to write a good personal statement in the new style and what universities look for in applicants. During Periods 2, 3 and 4 students will choose from several options. These include presentations about Medicine, Engineering, Law, Humanities, Economics and Science, Social Sciences, Oxbridge applications and more. Students will select two options and the third period will be spent registering with the UCAS online system. Finally, during Period 5 students will receive further advice on starting their personal statements from their form tutors.

This day is a great opportunity for students, providing them with specific advice for their future aspirations. Spaces on some talks may be limited, so in order for students to have the best chance of attending the talks most appropriate to them, they should complete the Microsoft Form that was sent to them **Friday 13 June**.

UCAS have announced two new developments recently. Firstly, students in receipt of Free School Meals will no longer have to pay for their university application. Secondly, the new UCAS entry grades tool will show students both offer rates and the historic grades held by previous successful applicants on admission to a particular course, alongside the listed entry requirements published by universities. UCAS has indicated that nearly half of applicants were admitted to HE with lower than published entry requirements. The new entry grades tool is intended to increase transparency around the admissions process, allowing students to better understand how their predicted grades compare to those of previous successful applicants to the courses they are interested in, and helping them to make informed, ambitious choices.

Our UCAS grades policy which details of weighting for UCAS grades is [here](#).

Finally, as the weather becomes warmer I would like to remind all students and parents of our Sixth Form dress code policy which can be found [here](#). Our sixth formers should be dressed in smart or formal wear while on the school site; if a student's clothing is deemed inappropriate (ie. not adhering to the dress code) they may be asked to borrow suitable clothing from us, or required to go home and change.

Headteacher: Mr Alan Blount, MA, BSc, QTS

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I look forward to supporting our students through this vital stage of their education and school journey. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at rjordan@newsteadwood.co.uk.

Yours sincerely,

Rachel Jordan

Miss R Jordan
Head of Year 12