

# Progression after Level 3

Higher Education



Employment



 Apprenticeships

# What progression routes are available for level 3 students?

- ✦ Higher education study at university
- ✦ Higher education study at the University Centre at Wigan & Leigh College
- ✦ A higher or degree level apprenticeship
- ✦ Employment

**We offer extensive support for each route**



# Benefits of higher education

## Career Benefits

- ✦ Careers that require a degree, e.g. lawyer, teacher, doctor, architect
- ✦ Opens the doors to other career options
- ✦ Transferable skills
- ✦ Networking with professionals
- ✦ Work placements and experience

## Personal Benefits

- ✦ Independence
- ✦ New friendships
- ✦ Extra curricular activities to develop further interests

## Financial Benefits

- ✦ Greater range of jobs available
- ✦ Higher salaries throughout working life
- ✦ Earn whilst studying – Higher/Degree Apprenticeships



# Applying through UCAS

- ✦ UCAS is the national university application service for applying for higher education courses in the UK
- ✦ All university applications have to be made through UCAS

# UCAS



## Research is essential!

- ✦ The UCAS web site provides answers to lots of HE questions, i.e. universities and courses, what is studying and grades needed.
- ✦ Your son/daughter should take time to explore the site and to inform themselves!
- ✦ Uni visits are not a possibility at this time but research should not be held off – Uni's are offering virtual tours and also online taster sessions to help your son/daughter make choices and you parents can join in to.

# Applying through UCAS

# UCAS



Important links for parents

Help to find virtual tours and taster session

<https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/what-and-where-study/open-days-and-events/virtual-tours>

Understanding the application process

<https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/applying-university/ucas-undergraduate-advice-parents-and-guardians>

Your help and support will go a long way with your son or daughter but you need to know where to look for the right information.



# University applications Timeline and key dates

• UCAS and WLC higher education open for applications	<b>19<sup>th</sup> May 2020</b>
• Start higher education Personal Statement	<b>Now</b>
• Look for degree apprenticeships (to start after course)	<b>Now!</b>
• Higher education tours – New for 2020 Virtual Tours on most university websites	<b>Now! See the VLE – FAB Futures – Progression for links and ideas to get started</b>
• Higher education taster days – New for 2020 a range of virtual taster sessions being offered by a wide variety of Universities	<b>Now! See the VLE – FAB Futures – Progression for links to get started</b>
• Deadline for applications to Oxford, Cambridge, and most courses in medicine, dentistry, and veterinary medicine/science	<b>15 Oct 2020 (18:00hrs)</b>
• UCAS and WLC HE applications submission College deadline	<b>23 Oct 2020</b>
• UCAS deadline for most undergraduate courses	<b>15 Jan 2021 (18:00hrs)</b>

# Why do we have an early internal deadline for university applications?

**15 January is the UCAS deadline, however ...**

- ✦ Submitting UCAS applications early can increase the chances of being offered a place
- ✦ Universities start offering places as soon as soon as they receive applications in September
- ✦ Early submission is crucial for competitive courses
- ✦ Early submission allows students to focus on their studies and to reach their full potential



# Direct application to the University Centre Wigan & Leigh College

Current level 3 students can apply directly to University Centre Wigan & Leigh College for a HE course



They can also apply for 5 choices through UCAS. This gives our students more options.

Use this link to find out more about our University offer

<https://www.wigan-leigh.ac.uk/university-centre>

# Apprenticeships

## Higher & Degree Apprenticeships

- ✦ Available in a range of subjects
- ✦ A great alternative to going to University
- ✦ Combines a full degree with the practical skills gained in the workplace and the financial security of employment
- ✦ Exceedingly competitive, this is a jobs market and employability skills matter
- ✦ Employers are looking for those committed to higher education study
- ✦ The National Careers website is a good place to look for higher apprenticeship vacancies but large firms promote their own opportunities -students should check directly on the websites of companies they would like to work for.



**Higher and Degree  
Apprenticeships**



# Getting into the workplace

Our students have a range of interactions with employers and an online resource called Careers Coach which provides help building a CV, researching sectors and looking for job vacancies.

Students seriously considering moving into the world of work as their next step should:

- Be work ready - understand employability skills that employers will look for and be committed to deliver
- Undertake a substantial work placement to really understand what being an employee is like
- Be determined and optimistic - they may have to apply for a few of positions before they get a foot in the door
- Regularly search job sites and larger companies for vacancies, understand the job market and opportunities available
- Build networks and contacts through friends, family, volunteering, community work, sports and interests.
- Have a back up plan – apply for other courses and opportunities to build knowledge and experience while looking for employment.

# Questions...?

Please feel free to contact one of our Career Coaches to ask any questions you may have.

[CareersTeam@wigan-leigh.ac.uk](mailto:CareersTeam@wigan-leigh.ac.uk)

