



10 things to do in Year 12 for UCAS

MS ELLIS – JANUARY 2017

Act now!

- ▶ Send off early in year 13
 - ▶ What you do in Year 13 doesn't count (apart from final grades)
 - ▶ Now and the summer is your action time!
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- ▶ Here are my top 10 tips of things you should be doing in year 12 to help you write a cracking application.

Research

- ▶ Get familiar with the [UCAS website](#)
 - ▶ Each university will also have own website
 - ▶ Other websites – <http://www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk/>
 - ▶ <https://unistats.direct.gov.uk/>
 - ▶ <http://university.which.co.uk/>
 - ▶ <http://www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk/league-tables/rankings>
 - ▶ <http://www.theguardian.com/education/2011/may/17/university-guide-student-advice>
 - ▶ <https://www.gov.uk/student-finance>
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- ▶ Don't buy a car/ house or get married without some research first.
 - ▶ Big investment – do research!

Make some visits

- ▶ Three years living and working in this town
- ▶ [open days](#)
- ▶ More than once

Relevant experience

- ▶ a genuine interest in the subject
- ▶ Not work experience
- ▶ Does what you do now prove your interest?

- ▶ Health care profession – volunteer at old peoples home
- ▶ English/Drama – Theatre and books
- ▶ Sports – coaching a younger team
- ▶ Science – lectures and online courses
- ▶ Humanities/social science subjects – online courses, reading around the subject, conferences and lectures
- ▶ Teaching – working with children

Taster events

- ▶ London Taster Days <http://www.london.ac.uk/TASTERS>
 - ▶ UCL Lunchtime lectures
http://events.ucl.ac.uk/calendar/tab:lunch_hour_lectures/
 - ▶ Summer Schools
<http://www.sussex.ac.uk/study/wp/students/summerschools>
 - ▶ SOAS masterclasses
 - ▶ <http://www.suttontrust.com/programmes/uk-summer-school-2/>
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- ▶ Watch your emails for more opportunities.

Read

- ▶ Read relevant periodicals
- ▶ Books around the subjects
- ▶ Extra books by same authors/ poets/ play writes
- ▶ BBC website
- ▶ Good newspapers [The Guardian](#)

Be prepared to write about and discuss

Be challenged

Be inspired

Ask for suggestions – ask for copies!

Online courses

- ▶ Show relevant experience
- ▶ Develop academic potential
- ▶ Read around your subject
- ▶ Show passion

- ▶ [Future Learn](#)

Get involved

- ▶ Sixth form role
 - ▶ Leadership team
 - ▶ Departmental leaders
 - ▶ Mentoring
 - ▶ Duke of Edinburgh
 - ▶ Overseas expeditions
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- ▶ A wide range of opportunities in the local community/volunteering

Communicate

- ▶ Are you not sure what you should be doing to get relevant experience? Are you confused about the best course for you? Are you worried about the money or leaving home? Don't know where to start?
- ▶ Teachers
- ▶ Tutors
- ▶ Head of Sixth Form
- ▶ UCAS advisor
- ▶ Careers advisor
- ▶ Parents
- ▶ Friends
- ▶ Universities – UCAS Convention and Open Days (Booked for March – letters coming soon)

Communication is a two way street. Please check your emails! Often!

Be nice to your teachers

- ▶ Going to write subject comments
- ▶ Going to write tutor references

- ▶ Need to know a bit about you
- ▶ Need to know what you are interested in
- ▶ See need to see your interest
- ▶ Need to be impressed!

Work hard

▶ Year 12 grades matter!!

- ▶ Year 12 not a dress rehearsal
- ▶ Grades will go on application form
- ▶ Grades will influence predicted grades

- ▶ No such thing as luck!

- ▶ Don't sulk around in year 13 because you cannot apply to the university of your choice, when in reality you did no work in year 12! Step it up now!