Talks | Workshops | Events

SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES ACTIVITY GUIDE

Extended Package

Lancaster University
We know that applying to study at university is a big decision for your students. At Lancaster we pride ourselves on supporting applicants, teachers, advisors and parents to make informed decisions. This guide summarises the many ways we can work with you.

Our professional and friendly recruitment team are on hand to visit you, providing a wide range of talks, workshops and guidance. We also welcome schools and colleges to visit our campus, and offer a range of activities whilst you are with us. Our focus isn’t just on supporting students, so we offer information, advice and guidance for you as well, including our annual teachers and advisors conference.

We’d like to share our enthusiasm for Lancaster as a top ten university and look forward to working with you.

To book any activities or to be added to our mailing list please contact us at schools@lancaster.ac.uk or call 01524593724.

**WELCOME**

Dan Barcroft,
Head of Recruitment and Outreach

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We’re great for getting students a job...

97%

97% of Lancaster graduates go into a job or further study within six months (85% at graduate level), according to the Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education Survey, 2015-16. Supporting students into employment or further studies is central to our mission; we offer work placements, one-to-one support, and skills training.

Top 10

We are ranked among the top ten universities in the UK.

9th in the Guardian 2019

8th in the UK Complete University Guide 2019

6th in The Times and Sunday Times 2018

We’re collegiate

Lancaster is one of a small number of leading UK universities to operate a college structure. All students (and staff) join one of our eight undergraduate colleges - Bowland, Cartmel, County, Furness, Fylde, Grizedale, Lonsdale and Pendle - or Graduate College, our dedicated college for postgraduates.

We’re global

Lancaster has more than 150 academic partners across 24 countries around the world. Strong links with universities in the USA, Asia and Europe ensures that we are kept at the forefront of international research, and enables students to take advantage of an innovative global network.

...and for student satisfaction

91%

91% of Lancaster students say that they are satisfied with their time at Lancaster according to the National Student Survey 2017. Our accommodation is the best in the country, having won the accolade of Best University Halls 2018 according to the National Student Housing survey.

For further information about our rankings and reputation please visit lancaster.ac.uk/reputation.
Gatsby Benchmarks

Lancaster University is committed to helping schools and colleges achieve the eight benchmarks which provide a framework for improving careers provision. They are:

1. A stable careers programme
2. Learning from career and labour market information
3. Addressing the needs of each pupil
4. Linking curriculum learning to careers
5. Encounters with employers and employees
6. Experiences of workplaces
7. Encounters with further and higher education
8. Personal guidance

Lancaster University can help schools and colleges achieve these benchmarks through providing talks, workshops and other relevant sessions within schools.

100% of schools and colleges would consider booking another event with us

86% of schools and colleges found our presentations or workshops very helpful

We are easy to reach

Lancaster University is set in beautiful parkland and lies approximately three miles south of the City of Lancaster. The campus is easily accessible via road, rail and bicycle and is within 70 miles of Manchester’s International Airport.

427

We attended 427 events off campus in 2016/17

278

These events were in 278 different schools

179

We attended 179 HE fairs across the country in 2016/17

200

Over 200 students attended our summer schools from over 150 different schools

47

47 schools visited our campus in 2016/17

100% of schools and colleges found our presentations or workshops very helpful

86% of schools and colleges would consider booking another event with us

Manchester

Birmingham

London

Edinburgh

The Lake District

Lancaster

Gatsby Benchmarks
Pre-Application Talks

Moving Towards University
Designed as an introduction to Higher Education for Year 11 students, this talk explains the process of getting a degree and the benefits one can gain from it, and also introduces other factors of university life such as sports and societies.
- What is a degree?
- What can you study at university?
- How is university different to school?
- The life of a student

Hitting the Ground Running
This talk is aimed at students at the beginning of Year 12 and will give them the chance to get a head start on thinking about Higher Education and the choices ahead of them in the near future.
- How is further education different to GCSEs?
- Where can the next 2 years take you?
- Why consider Higher Education?
- What is student life like?
- What is Lancaster like?

Choosing Courses and Places
As students begin to explore Higher Education, this talk will help them to start their discovery and make key considerations.
- Why go to university?
- Where to start when choosing what to study and the key things to consider
- What to consider when selecting a university that’s right for you
- What is the application process for applying to universities?
Additionally, we introduce independent resources that learners can use to research universities and courses.

Why Lancaster
Lancaster ranks as a top 10 university, delivering world-leading research and providing the highest standard of teaching. This talk is designed to inform schools and colleges about the degrees and opportunities Lancaster offers including our flexible Part 1 system.
- An overview of our campus
- Introduction to the collegiate system
- About the student experience

Making the Most of UCAS Fairs
Attending a UCAS fair is one of the best ways to explore different options when it comes to Higher Education. This talk provides guidance and tips on:
- Which fairs to visit
- Planning your day
- How to gather the appropriate information from university representatives

I think that the support offered is good. Lancaster is a university which looks after our students who choose it, and that same sense of care is seen in the HE progression support.

Woodhouse Grove
Introduction to Personal Statements

Writing a personal statement that has a positive impact on admissions tutors is vital for gaining a place at university. Our presentation gives students an insight into:

- The process of applying through UCAS
- Structuring the statement
- Writing content

By the end of this presentation we aim to have students thinking about the content which they can use to write their personal statements.

Applying to competitive universities

This talk aims to help students prepare a strong application and understand the selection processes of competitive universities.

- Application
- Personal statements
- Competitive courses
- High Flying Graduates

Personal Statements: Getting Started

This interactive workshop provides a recap of the main content the student should include in their statement followed by tips on how to get started.

- Re-cap of personal statement structure and content
- Making a start on the personal statement first draft
- Support for students from our team member

Students will leave this session with a plan for their personal statements and will have made a start on their first draft.

Application Stage Talks

Interview Skills

Our presentation is for students hoping to attend university or job interviews when leaving school or college.
- Provides advice and guidance on preparation
- How to build confidence
- Tips on keeping calm
- How to perform well at the interview stage

Students will have the opportunity to practise answering a range of questions typically asked in interviews. This presentation works well in conjunction with the session on presentation skills.

Presentation Skills

Giving presentations is a key part of a university degree, and is often required in interviews, selection centres, jobs, and when completing an Extended Project Qualification. This presentation is designed to help perfect the skills required to deliver an excellent presentation.
- How to convey an effective message
- Making a presentation engaging
- Tailoring presentations to an audience

This presentation works well in conjunction with the presentation on interview skills.

Interview Skills

The presentation was extremely clear and gave specific advice that could be easily followed. The speaker had a great manner and also responded very well to individual questions afterwards.

The Leys School

Presentation Skills

The speaker was very engaging. Their knowledge around the subject was particularly useful, even when asked direct questions. Very useful information on the slides and students were provided with examples.

Netherthorpe School
Enhancing Employability
This talk provides an overview of the opportunities for students to enhance their employability whilst at university.
- Overview of graduate job market
- Achieving skills from academic studies and non-academic activities
- The importance of work experience
- Preparing for life after university

Global Opportunities
From learning a new language, to travelling overseas, there is a range of exciting opportunities for students to broaden their knowledge and understanding of the world. This talk will inform students about the ways in which they can gain their own global experience whilst studying.
- What opportunities are available
- Reasons to consider taking part
- Student profiles
- Funding

Student Life
Starting university can be one of the biggest changes in a young person’s life. This talk provides information about the student experience at Lancaster and other universities.
- Studying in Higher Education
- Living at university: accommodation, welcome week and budgeting
- The importance of work experience
- Getting involved: students’ union, sports, societies and support

Student Finance and Budgeting
Student finance can often be a confusing topic for students. This talk aims to simplify the student finance process from the initial application up to graduation and beyond, including ways for students to successfully budget whilst at university. We can also tailor these talks for Islands, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland schools.
- What are student loans and how do they work?
- Scholarships and bursaries
- What is budgeting?
- Ways to save and manage a budget
- The repayment process
This session is also available as a classroom-based workshop for groups of up to 40. In the workshop option, students will have the opportunity to create their own budget in an interactive activity designed to encourage them to start thinking about realistically budgeting for university.

Highly informative and well thought out. Excellent quality of presenter and added bonus of messages that we give to students reiterated by presenter.
Sir John Deane’s Sixth Form

Excellent information given to students which will support their concerns regarding adjusting to university life.
Bishop Heber High School

A great resource for our school to take advantage of and give the pupils an insight into different aspects of university life.
Liverpool College
Extended Project Qualification

Lancaster University places a high value on success in the EPQ. The majority of our degree schemes will incorporate the EPQ into an offer. Eligible applicants receive our usual offer plus an offer of an A in the EPQ and one grade lower in their A level subjects.

Why do an EPQ?
This talk is designed for students who are considering an EPQ or who are in the early stages of deciding on their research topic.
- What is the EPQ?
- What are the benefits of an EPQ?
- What type of work will be involved in the EPQ?
- Choosing a subject
- Gathering information and how to choose and use sources
- Outlining the practical areas of the EPQ dependent on the pathway the student is considering (production/artefact/report)

This talk is a perfect complement to any existing Extended Project Induction information, providing students an extra incentive to take up the project and deliver it to a high standard. It is designed to be delivered to groups in 'lecture' style format, with the opportunity for Q&A with the speaker following the talk.

Preparing Your Project: Getting Your EPQ Started
This interactive workshop is designed to get students thinking about the best way to plan and develop their project, covering a range of practical tips and techniques to enable them to make a positive start.

We focus on encouraging peer to peer support as well as emphasising the use of a supervisor to maintain momentum through the early stages of the project. It includes advice on:
- Picking the best research methods
- How to avoid ‘project creep’
- Managing your time
- Avoiding plagiarism

The introduction to the EPQ was very comprehensive and gave the students a clear idea of both what the EPQ involved and the value of completing one (in terms of study skills being developed and reduced university offers/employability).

The Cotswold School

Subject Talks

We offer a range of specialised subject talks, including Law, Business, Criminology and Geography. We provide students with an introduction to the subject, including what they can expect to learn and how it is taught at university level.

Studying Medicine

Do you have students interested in medicine? This informative talk will give students a valuable insight into studying medicine covering:
- Choosing a medical school
- How teaching is delivered
- Why choose Lancaster
- Problem-based learning
- Lancaster’s selection process

International Students

Our UK International Student Recruitment Officer can help international students through the university application process. For schools with international students who are interested in booking activities, please contact our London based UK International Student Recruitment Officer, Tom Malcolm at schools@lancaster.ac.uk or 07970156513.

Engaging and inspiring talk on Criminology that stretched and challenged even the brightest of students.

Royal Grammar School, Newcastle upon Tyne
The Science and Technology Taster Day is an annual event which invites over 200 Year 12 students to the University campus to gain an insight into what it is like to study science and technology subjects at a top ten UK university. Students have the opportunity to take part in a variety of different lectures and practical workshops, designed to both challenge and inspire students to take the study of science and technology subjects to the next level. Always a popular event, visiting students also have the chance to tour campus and speak to current undergraduate students about their experiences at Lancaster.

Management School
We offer a range of activities, both on and off campus, that have been developed to inspire students and give a real insight to what it’s like to study in a business school.

Discovery Lectures
This programme includes a range of inspiring one-hour talks delivered by our lecturers in your school or college. The lectures give students the chance to develop their subject knowledge, discuss themes with a subject specialist and explore progression to Higher Education.

Taster Days
Our Taster Days give students the opportunity to experience what it’s like to study in a business school, through sample lectures or interactive sessions. They are suitable for those with a strong interest in a particular area of business, or for the undecided. They take place on our campus, and give you and your students the chance to view our facilities and meet students and staff. Taster Days are open for individual and group bookings, and typically take place in the late summer and autumn terms.

Subject Talks
We can also visit your school or college to give a talk on studying a specific area of business, or studying business at university more generally.

For further information on any of the activities that we offer, or to enquire about a bespoke activity, please visit lums/teachers.
Parents and Carers Support

Parents’ Guide to Student Finance
Student finance can often be a confusing topic. This talk aims to simplify the student finance process from the initial application up to graduation and beyond. Allowing parents to gain a better awareness of all aspects of student finance.

- What are student loans and how do they work?
- Scholarships and bursaries
- The repayment process

This talk aims to give parents a complete understanding of the process that students will go through when applying for university. From their first steps of choosing a university to their final application submission, this talk will guide parents in what to expect and how they can help.

- Why university?
- Choosing a course and a place to study
- The application process

Further guidance and online resources, including personal statement and interview support can be found on our website.

www.lancaster.ac.uk/parents

Low factual information presented clearly. It was just what we needed.
Lancaster Royal Grammar School
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