

ABBAY COLLEGE MANCHESTER

UNIVERSITY PREPARATION AND ENRICHMENT



The college is committed to ensuring that our students gain places on the best and most appropriate course and that they are equipped with the skills needed to thrive at university.

Students gain entry to a wide range of competitive courses and leading universities

The college delivers UK “Gold Standard” national qualifications – A’ level and GCSE

We also offer our own International Foundation Programme which is a pathway to a wide range of courses in UK universities

Expert University guidance and support is available to ensure our students make the right choices and build competitive applications

We have a strong focus on developing our students as effective learners and equipping them for the challenges of university study.

EXPERT UNIVERSITY SUPPORT TEAM

In Y12 and Y13 students receive support and guidance from our specialist University Support Team who guide students through the UCAS process and help build a competitive application.

4RS AND SUCCESS IN THE SIXTH FORM

We support our students to become effective learners – equipping them with the skills to be successful at A' level and IFP as well as gaining the confidence, the capacity and the appetite to engage with the challenges of learning at university.

- 4Rs emphasis on developing the habits of routine, rigour, responsibility and resilience
- Weekly support to help students develop their ability to plan, monitor, understand and manage their own learning.

UCAS APPLICATION PROGRAMME

The ACM Application Programme is designed to guide students through each stage of the UCAS process.

- An introduction to UK universities and the UCAS process
- Guidance in researching suitable universities and courses
- Specialist programmes and support for Oxbridge and competitive courses/universities
- Specialist Medical preparation programme
- Help with the UCAS application procedure
- Advice on writing an effective Personal Statement
- Support with finding relevant work experience
- Preparation for taking the IELTS exam
- Guidance on interview techniques through practice sessions
- Advice on reviewing offers and the best options

OXBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PREPARATION

Making an application to Oxford or Cambridge involves a number of additional stages compared to applications for other UK institutions. To support ACM students through this process and to ensure they are as prepared and competitive as possible we offer a programme which starts in Y12:

- Support and guidance e.g. on wider reading, mock interviews, and guidance on how to prepare for entrance tests
- A talk on personal statements for Oxford and Cambridge applications
- Support in completing additional forms e.g. the Supplementary Application Questionnaire (SAQ)
- Mock interview practice
- A series of final preparation sessions in the weeks prior to interviews

MEDICAL AND DENTAL PREPARATION PROGRAMME

The ACM Medical preparation programme guides students through the entire application process, from choice of medical/dental school, drafting the personal statement to accepting an offer.

- Develop a thorough understanding of what a medical/dental career will involve
- The opportunity to discuss medical ethics and current medical issues
- Advice on how to write an effective personal statement for medicine/dentistry and make the most of work and voluntary experiences
- Interview preparation: both traditional and Multi-mini interviews
- Input from UCLAN via their academics
- Advice on other medically related courses and how to use the fifth choice on the UCAS form

UNIVERSITY SKILLS PROGRAMME

The University skills programme, run in partnership with Teesside University, gives students the opportunity carry out a university research project which can gain them extra university credits. The programme gives students a practical introduction to how to study effectively at university:

- Reading and make notes for research
- Using lectures effectively
- Making the most of seminars/tutorials and make effective oral presentations
- Developing effective university writing
- Developing critical and analytical thinking skills

ENRICHMENT

Universities are looking for well-rounded applicants with broad interests and a range of “soft skills”. We offer a range of academic and non-academic enrichment activities to help students develop general life skills and broader interests and experience. The Enrichment programme includes:

- Sports and physical education:
- Football, badminton, table tennis, Basketball, swimming, Yoga.
- Creative Arts: Music, Art, Film, Photography, Crafting.
- Medical preparation
- Engineering project
- Critical thinking

ENGINEERING PROJECT

Greenpower electric car challenge requires students, guided by their teachers and industry mentors, to design, build and then race an electric car.

Many of the students taking part in the project have applied to top universities to study STEM subjects.



MATHS CHALLENGE

Taking part in the Maths Challenge individual and team competitions is a popular enrichment activity for Maths and Further Maths students.

It helps students to demonstrate strong motivation and aptitude for a wide range of course in which mathematical and problem-solving skills are essential.

UNIVERSITY LINKS

We have special links in particular with the following universities who visit the college and contribute to our preparation programmes:

Aston

Chester

Dundee

Keele

Lancaster

Loughborough

MMU

Newcastle

Plymouth

St George's Grenada

Teesside

UCLAN

UWE

