



Sixth Form Focus



With smaller class sizes and 1:1 careers/UCAS guidance, North Bridge House Canonbury might be the Outstanding independent Sixth Form option you've been looking for.



Find your feet and realise your potential...



Did you know?

Spanish, Mandarin and French top the list of most important foreign languages for the UK post-Brexit, according to the 'Languages for the Future Report', British Council, Nov 2017.

NBH Canonbury prides itself on its specialism in languages and offers Spanish, Mandarin and French at A-Level.

Summer Goals: Going the extra mile to perfect your personal statement

Writing your UCAS personal statement can be stressful: universities will assess your application largely based on those 4000 characters. You need to convey what you are good at, why you are good at it, and how that makes you an ideal candidate for your chosen course.

Before you exhaust your word limit though, universities will often want to see that you are committed to extra-curricular activities as well as your academic interests. Aside from taking a leadership position or joining a club or society at school, stretching yourself over the summer holidays can go a long way towards your personal development and enhancing your application.

Sixth Form student, Bertie at North Bridge House Senior Canonbury did exactly this in the summer break between Year 12 and Year 13. From getting awarded to doing something different and pursuing his interests overseas, his experience is just one great example of how you can expand your horizons and impress universities.

I thoroughly enjoyed my courses in Asian History and Max Weber's Protestant Ethic.

It was incredibly interesting to view historical events through an Asian – particularly Chinese – perspective, which differs so greatly to a British perspective. A reminder that history is so often used to reinforce one's own identity and perception of themselves / their country. The Weber course opened my eyes to some classical texts which were fascinating for discussing this 'Great Divergence' that we have seen occur in the last five hundred years. Analysing what this means for future political developments makes this discussion ever more exciting.

After my course ended I was fortunate enough to travel around Vietnam and Thailand. I was able to meet new people and experience the huge differences in our cultures and ways of life. I even met up with a fellow NBH student in Bangkok; a benefit of attending an international school. This experience has made me more independent, culturally aware and generally fascinated by the different parts of the world.



3 in 10 (28%)

university applicants wished they had chosen different A-level subjects!



4 in 10 (41%)

wished they had thought more about what subjects might help them get into university.

“As part of winning an essay competition organised by the British council, I undertook a two-month long scholarship at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology during Summer 2018.

While I was there I met such incredible people from all around the world and have been fortunate enough to make lasting friendships.

I would recommend to anyone looking to take an opportunity and do something with their summer – something that can further develop your interests and enhance your university application – to search around and see what is out there. In fact, I frequently devoted an hour or so a week to searching for such things. The opportunities are often there; you just need to find them.”

Choosing a University

If you are set on pursuing a certain career or have developed a keen interest in a subject that you want to explore further, you will have decided that university is the next step for you. There are a number of things to consider when choosing a university, aside from where you feel naturally drawn to...

1 Have you researched courses carefully?

Courses vary hugely at different unis – English Literature at one can have entirely different content to English Literature at another – and the degree programme itself should therefore determine the universities to which you apply. By the same token, this is exactly why you should remain open-minded to courses and explore topics about which you may not know, but to which you can apply transferable skills.

2 Are you a social butterfly?

Most people make friends they keep for life at university. From the like-minded people on your course to those you can meet through the huge range of clubs and societies, uni surrounds you with all sorts of characters and is a real people place. If you value your own peace and quiet, do not let this put you off but instead think about your living arrangements. Rather than lively first year halls, you may prefer a little more privacy in a student house.

3 Do you want to move away from home?

You should first consider whether you would prefer to live at home or move away when studying for your degree. This decision should then inform your choice of institution: if

you are itching for independence then university living is for you, but it's not for everyone. If you are uncomfortable with the idea, do not feel pressured into choosing universities for which you'll have to leave home or move far away. You can always complete your first year at home, get to grips with what uni is all about and then take the opportunity to move out in the second or third year.

4 Are you familiar with life away from London?

For the many of you invested in the complete university experience, you should think carefully about the location and, in turn, the lifestyle you choose. With unis all over the country and indeed the world, you can surround yourself with rolling hills or key tourist attractions. If you're used to London life and enjoy the hustle and bustle, big city unis will suit you better than those where civilisation is reached by the hourly bus service.

5 Do you want to travel?

Consider the Erasmus Programme: a foreign exchange programme for students across Europe which involves many of the best universities and aids the growth of international studying. With thousands of students involved in the programme at any one time, Erasmus offers an excellent chance of experience abroad.

Top Five jobs of the future

As predicted by Mark Brill, Futurologist at NBH Canonbury's 'Moving Up Day' 2017.



1. Human Integration Specialist – with the unstoppable rise in wearable tech and virtual reality, the industry will undoubtedly need more people involved in all aspects of integrating the human body and these devices.



2. Drone wrangler – with their increasing capabilities, the future is bright for drones, and predictions show that we could see more drone teams used in construction projects across the world.

3. Ride experience designer

– wider use of driverless cars is inevitable and increasingly the ride experience will play a vital part.



4. Body part architect – advances in the design and production of artificial/prosthetic body parts.

5. Life coach – With medical advances and better living conditions, people are living longer lives, perhaps needing more emotional and career planning support!



“The best way to predict the future is to create it.”

Peter Drucke

DO NOT MISS

- UCAS exhibitions across the country, throughout the year
www.ucasevents.com
- Skills London is London's biggest jobs and careers event for young people
23 & 24 Nov. 2018 at ExCeL, London
www.skillslondon.co.uk



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