

15 March 2021

Dear Parent or Carer,

In addition to the letter you have recently received informing you of our intentions regarding the awarding of grades this summer, I want to take this opportunity to update you on a few other Year 13 specific issues.

By this point in the year, the majority of University applications are completed and students have already or are currently attending interviews and receiving offers of places. For students completing apprenticeship applications, the process remains ongoing as these will be advertised and applied for as they become available. For students considering this route, we encourage them to have a CV and covering letter ready so that it can be tweaked for the specific opportunity when it presents itself. It is a good idea for students to be checking the national apprenticeships website and the apprenticeship section of the UCAS website weekly for opportunities.

For students applying for university through UCAS, it is usual to have heard back from all institutions by the end of March, although the universities do not have to respond until 20 May. Once students are in receipt of their offers, they will often be invited to "applicant days". These present an opportunity for students to virtually revisit their chosen universities as they seek to narrow down their options to the two institutions that they are likely to choose. The applicant days are not compulsory and will not affect the student's offer (if they have already received it). Students are expected to accept their "firm" and "insurance" offer by 10 June but can do this at any time once they have received all their offers. The firm offer should be the student's first choice destination and is usually the more aspirational choice. The insurance choice then operates as a backup option.

Students will be invited to apply for accommodation directly by the university, but this will vary in time depending upon each institution. Some may require the students to accept their offer before this is possible.

Students can now also apply for student finance and have been provided with details of how to do this. With this letter is an invitation to an information evening on student finance for parents and students. This is a service provided by one of our partner universities to provide an overview of the student finance system. Students do not need to have applied for Hull University to attend this evening, it is open to all. If you feel like you would like to ask any questions regarding student finance, or the university application process, please don't hesitate to contact me on darren.andrews@driffieldschool.org.uk and I will help in any way that I can.

Thank you for all of the support you continue to offer us and your child as we strive to gain the best outcomes possible for them. I am so impressed with how they have managed the difficult circumstances they have encountered over the last two years. Their resilience has been extraordinary and I am very proud of them.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Darren Andrews', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Darren Andrews
Head of Sixth Form