

SIXTH FORM AND FE COLLEGES PROGRAMME 2026-2027

Working in partnership with
schools and colleges



Find out more about
our activities



Our work with schools and colleges

We aim to inspire every student to explore the possibilities and pathways into higher education, helping them to see what their future could hold. Through meaningful opportunities to connect with our campus, students gain insight, knowledge and confidence in taking their next step.

Working in partnership

The University is proud to work in partnership with the Kent and Medway Progression Federation. We have close relationships with local schools and FE Colleges, and other organisations.



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Bring your students to our campuses

Take a tour of our beautiful campuses, explore teaching and social spaces, and hear directly from current undergraduates about their experiences.



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Open Days

Our Open Days give students a feel for life at Kent. Students have the opportunity to engage with staff and explore the campus, courses and facilities available.



↩ TO BOOK

Progression route map

Our activities are designed to inform, inspire and increase awareness of higher education. We have a range of talks, workshops and campus events within the themes below to support students at each step throughout their educational journey.

Core talk offer

30min talks
(large/small groups, assemblies)

What next after
school/college

Making the right choice/
choosing and applying

UCAS and Personal
Statements

Student Finance

Transition to university
– next steps

Campus visits

Full/part day
campus visits

Exploring Uni
visit day

Spotlight On – subject
specific small group
visit day

UK Uni Search

Head Start

Academic Conferences

Full day subject
focused conferences

Our Academic Conference series is updated annually. Previous conferences have included:

- Under Investigation: Law, Psychology and Criminology
- Sixth Form Language Conference
- Creative Arts in HE: Film, Drama and Media Studies
- Engineering, Maths and Physics Conference
- Introduction to Sports Sciences

Meeting the Gatsby Benchmarks

We've mapped how each of our activities and events are aligned with the Benchmarks and how they can support schools and colleges to deliver on their Careers Strategy.



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Talk and workshop details

In addition to our popular 30-minute talks, schools who meet our widening participation eligibility criteria can also access our Journey to Uni workshop series, providing targeted, small-group sessions designed to support students who are currently underrepresented within HE. Delivered by our trained Student Ambassadors, these interactive workshops bring the subject to life and allow for a more personalised learning experience.

Title	Year 12/13 Year 1-2 talks package	Journey to Uni workshop series
	30 min talk (all size groups) with time for Q&A after	60min workshop (suitable for groups up to 30)
What next after school/college?	Introducing the options after Level 3 including the value of HE	Explore what pathway might be right for the individual student, considering university and other options
Making the right choice	An introduction to the diversity of choice at university, including subject choice, location, availability of support and options for study	Working with our ambassadors to learn more about the range of courses at university, explore progression pathways and discover what is important when choosing a future university
UCAS and personal statements	Making sense of the UCAS process and timelines and an introduction to writing a personal statement	1-2-1 and small group support with our student ambassadors working through personal statements or inspiring students to make a start
Student Finance	Introducing Student Finance, including applying, extra sources of funding and repayments	Working in small groups we explore what the costs are at university, how to apply and how to budget
Transition to university	What happens after application and what steps students can take before coming to university	An interactive session, we discuss what steps students need to take before the end of their school journey and how they can maximise their time before starting university

Campus visits

Higher Education Access Tracker research (2020) shows that learners who attend on campus activities are more likely to enter HE than those attending off-campus activities. We offer a range of campus events for your students, from two-hour library visits to full day academic events, there is something for everyone at Kent.

Exploring Uni visit Full day	This immersive and fun day allows students to experience the extra-curricular side of university life. They will have the opportunity to investigate what they might like from their own HE experience, discover and research course options through UCAS, see accommodation and view facilities. The day features an in-depth campus tour and is supported by our student ambassadors
Spotlight On – subject specific visit days Full day	A deep dive into certain subjects with taster sessions, talks from academics, tours of the facilities and support from our student ambassadors. Academic subjects will offer Spotlight On days throughout the year, full details on our website
Check it out! Library visits Part day	A two-hour visit for students undertaking their own research. Introducing sources, referencing and offering an insight into the extensive library facilities available at university. Talks provided by library staff and supported by our student ambassadors
UK Uni Search Event	To accompany this popular event, we offer talks to eligible schools and college groups on how to get the best out of the day. We can also arrange subject specific tours with our student ambassadors
Head Start Full day	For students that will be starting at Kent from our local schools and colleges, we offer a day before Welcome Week to smooth the transition into life at Uni. With opportunities to find out what the first few days, weeks and months may be like and a chance to perhaps meet others studying similar courses, Head Start is a relaxed way to start your new life at Kent. Parents and supporters are welcome to attend and have their own session on how they can be the best supporter
Conferences Full day	We have a varying programme of conferences aimed at Post 16 students. Previous conferences have included Under Investigation, focusing on Law, Criminology and Psychology and EMP, focusing on Engineering, Maths and Physics

Additional opportunities

Alongside our core activities, we offer a range of extra sessions designed to meet the needs of schools, colleges, and your students. These opportunities aim to enhance student engagement, raise aspirations, and provide valuable insight into higher education and future pathways.

Our support includes:

- Targeted and appropriate support for Access to HE students at our local Further Education Colleges
- Student ambassador support for mock interview events within schools/colleges
- Talks for parents/supporters on university progression and student finance
- Student ambassador support at HE or Progression Fairs

We are always happy to tailor our support to suit your setting and priorities. If any of these opportunities would benefit your students, please get in touch to discuss how we can work together.

University wide opportunities

Beyond the Schools and Colleges Team, the University offers a wide range of opportunities for schools, colleges, and the wider community to engage with us throughout the year. From interactive events and outreach activities to specialist programmes and campus experiences, these opportunities are designed to inspire, inform, and connect learners of all ages with university life.

Staff professional development

We can provide information on the university application process and help you to stay updated with changes in the sector. Our CPD is free and there's something for everyone, including our annual Teacher and Advisors Conference.

We attend many large-scale recruitment events and exhibitions across the country every year, including UK University Search, What University? Live and UCAS fairs.



↙ FIND OUT
WHERE WE
WILL BE



Subject specific

We also offer a wide range of subject-specific opportunities designed to inspire and inform students. These sessions are delivered by academic staff and supported by student ambassadors, giving participants a taste of university-level study in their areas of interest.

Our subject specific sessions can be delivered by our academics in class or on campus.

To discuss developing a bespoke request please email schoolsandcolleges@kent.ac.uk

Kent and Medway Medical School

KMMS are committed to widening access to medical degrees.

The KMMS Future Doctors team can visit schools to talk about careers in medicine. They hope to inspire students to study medicine who many not have otherwise considered it an option

To organise a visit or join the mailing list to find out about upcoming events, please contact futuredoctors@kmms.ac.uk



↪ FOR EXISTING
EVENTS VISIT

Years 7-11

Please see our Outreach opportunities for schools working in partnership with the University by scanning the QR code.–



Live webinar schedule 2026-27

We host a monthly twilight webinar series, with each session dedicated to a different topic. During these sessions, we provide practical guidance and timely insights, and participants have the opportunity to pose questions to our team.

Date	Topic	To book
Tue 22 September	What are my options post-16?	All of our webinars are 18:00-18:45 and can be booked via our website: 
Tue 20 October	Why go to university?	
Tue 24 November	Writing a successful personal statement	
Tue 19 January	CPD: Student finance Q&A for teachers	
Tue 23 February	Student finance for students	
Tue 16 March	I've applied – what happens next?	
Tue 20 April	Studying locally	
Tue 18 May	How to choose a course and university	
Tue 15 June	Clearing	
Tue 6 July	CPD: Reference writing for teachers	

Resource ready

We have a range of classroom resources and videos you can download and share with students.



↪ FOR RESOURCES
AND VIDEOS VISIT

Targeted outreach

At the University of Kent, we believe that everyone with the potential to succeed at university deserves the chance to do so.

For over 15 years we have been committed to widening access to higher education for all those who could benefit. We have delivered major innovation and success in this field alongside the University's core objectives of excellence in teaching and research.

While many of our activities are available to all schools and colleges, some have limited capacity. We will give priority to requests from institutions that have a high percentage of students who meet the eligibility criteria.

Scan the QR code below for a comprehensive list of criteria, and how we can help you target students.



↩ FIND OUT MORE

Care-experienced and estranged students

We have a range of support services specifically to address the needs of care-experienced and estranged students, from bespoke visit days, to webinars for foster carers and supporters and CPD for professionals. We also have a designated member of staff to support students before they enrol at Kent.



↩ ACTIVITIES
FOR CARE-
EXPERIENCED/
ESTRANGED
STUDENTS

// Being a Targeted Outreach Ambassador is empowering... I have been able to share my care experience and turn it into a strength by helping young care-experienced people overcome stereotypes and look towards a better future for themselves. //

Targeted Outreach Student Ambassador

Ambition to Succeed

Our flagship Level 3 progression programme

Each year, we invite ambitious Year 12 and first-year FE Level 3 students to apply for this enriching and forward-thinking progression programme.

Priority is given to applicants who meet one or more of the eligibility criteria.

Blending online and in-person delivery, the programme offers a varied and engaging experience, culminating in a residential stay on our Canterbury campus.

Students take part in a dynamic and interactive timetable designed to inspire curiosity, encourage exploration, and provide valuable first-hand insight into higher education.

Support continues into Year 13 (FE Level 3 Year 2), with tailored guidance and expert advice to help students navigate their choices, strengthen their applications, and confidently transition to higher education.

Students who successfully complete the programme and secure a place at the University of Kent will be eligible for the Ambition to Succeed Scholarship.



To book a promotional talk in your school or college, please email schoolsandcolleges@kent.ac.uk

Scan the QR code below for more information about the Ambition to Succeed programme and associated scholarship.



↓ FOR MORE
INFORMATION

When your students become our students

Clearing

Every year thousands of young people use Clearing to find a different path on results day. We work with teachers, advisers and parents to provide information, advice and guidance on how best to support students through this process. If your students need to use Clearing, they're not on their own; our friendly operators on our Clearing Hotline will help them to explore their options.

Head Start

Head Start gives students resources, guidance and support throughout the summer, so they'll be ready to go from the moment they arrive.



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Study skills

Our advisers provide advice and help with study skills, such as essay writing, time management, note-taking and more.

Visit: kent.ac.uk/learning

Wellbeing and support

Our great team of advisers, mentors and trained counsellors support with medical conditions, specific learning difficulties, disabilities and mental health concerns.

Visit: kent.ac.uk/studentssupport

Careers and employability

We help students prepare for life after university. Workshops, events, 1:1 appointments, CV help and career planning.

Visit: kent.ac.uk/ces



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