

Life After Becky High...

- **Exceptional range of destinations:** competitive universities, apprenticeships, specialist pathways
- **Personalised guidance** to match strengths, ambitions and interests
- Be **open to the new** - degree apprenticeships and challenge common myths
- **Applying to university**
- Insight into **Oxbridge** applications

Further information:

- [Sixth Form UCAS and Further Education Guide 2026-2027](#)
- [UCAS Parent/Carer Guide](#)

The image shows the front cover of a guide for the Sixth Form. At the top left is the BHS crest with the motto 'DISCIPLINA ET DOCTRINA'. To its right, the text reads 'DISCOVER BECKY HIGH' in a serif font, with 'Sixth' written in a pink cursive font below it. The central part of the cover features a photograph of a large, multi-story library with wooden bookshelves and students sitting at tables. The title 'SIXTH FORM UCAS AND FURTHER EDUCATION GUIDE' is printed in white on a pink rectangular background, with the years '2026 - 2027' below it. At the very bottom, in a dark blue bar, it says 'BEACONSFIELD HIGH SCHOOL SIXTH FORM'.

Apprenticeships - what are they?

- A full-time job
 - The company decides the scope of the role, where and what you study etc
- 20% of time spent in formal off the job training
- Paid - subject to Minimum Wage legislation, however most degree apprenticeships offer more - starting salaries for degree apprenticeships usually £20,000-£23,000 – a bit more in London
- Can last 3-6 years an apprenticeship
- No age restrictions on starting

	Academic	Apprenticeship
Level 8	Doctorate (PhD, DPhil)	
Level 7	Masters Degree (MSc, MA, MEng) PGCE	Postgraduate Apprenticeship
Level 6	Bachelor's Degree (BSc, BA, BEng)	Degree Apprenticeship
Level 5	Foundation Degree (FdA, FdSc) HND	Higher Apprenticeship
Level 4	HNC	
Level 3	A-Levels T level, BTEC	Advanced Apprenticeship
Level 2	GCSE Grades 4-9	Intermediate Apprenticeship
Level 1	GCSE Grades 1-3	

L6: Finance, engineering technology

L3: Hair & Beauty, plumbing IT

L2: Childcare, joinery, vehicle repair etc

Physio, osteo – often offered to internal candidates

HM Government and Bank of England both offer economists apprenticeships

Note: not all accountancy apprenticeships will offer degrees, but will offer professional qualifications

	2021/22 Apprentices	2022/23 Apprentices	2023/24 Apprentices undergraduate	2023/24 Apprentices postgraduate	2023/24 Full-time undergraduates
Agriculture, food and related studies	100	170	160	10	4,290
Allied health	1470	2330	2,340	340	16,390
Architecture, building and planning	2040	2290	2,600	570	10,750
Biosciences	50	120	160	10	12,520
Business and management	4400	4980	4,710	3,410	137,300
Chemistry	80	80	70	-	4,080
Combined and general studies	100	10	10	10	3,060
Computing	1150	3940	1,620	360	36,880
Creative arts and design	80	70	60	0	32,000
Economics	90	80	90	150	12,070
Education and teaching	220	120	120	1,200	13,940
Engineering	2570	2640	2,900	190	27,730
English studies	20	0	10	-	9,580
General, applied and forensic sciences	10	10	0	-	3,760
Geography, earth and environmental studies	50	60	110	80	7,500
Health and social care	1390	1840	2,040	340	15,810
History and archaeology	0	0	-	-	10,230
Languages and area studies	0	0	-	-	3,740
Law	2480	2750	1,420	630	24,560
Materials and technology	190	210	260	20	3,000
Mathematical sciences	20	20	30	-	8,270
Media, journalism and communications	130	70	60	30	9,920
Medical sciences	580	620	720	40	12,850
Medicine and dentistry	260	70	70	60	10,290
Nursing and midwifery	6600	6390	6,010	1,060	24,520
Performing arts	0	0	-	-	19,430
Pharmacology, toxicology and pharmacy	190	230	250	20	5,600
Philosophy and religious studies	0	0	-	10	3,890
Physics and astronomy	0	0	-	-	4,150
Politics	30	10	10	90	9,250
Psychology	110	90	50	190	23,430
Sociology, social policy and anthropology	830	1270	670	-	17,850
Sport and exercise sciences	10	10	40	10	12,640
Veterinary sciences	0	0	-	-	2,320
TOTAL	25,250	30,480	26,590	8,830	553,600

Likely to be quantity surveying, planning and civil engineering

Mostly offered to internal candidates with work experience

Mostly police constable but solicitor apprenticeship numbers are increasing

Age	2021/22		2022/23		2023/24	
U21	6760	27%	8220	27%	8260	31%
21-30	9640	38%	10670	35%	8710	33%
31 and over	8840	35%	11610	38%	9580	36%
TOTAL	25240		30500		26550	

Student data so is organised by subject area, rather than professional discipline. <https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/data-and-analysis/size-and-shape-of-provision-data-dashboard/data-dashboard/>

Major companies offer apprenticeships...



Bank of England



BARCLAYS

Deloitte.



BAE SYSTEMS

FARRER&Co

J.P.Morgan



Bird & Bird



Heathrow
Making every journey better

ARUP

BANK OF AMERICA



BT Group

Linklaters

THALES



Civil Service Careers



It's everyone's water

Unlike university applications, the school does not have a formal role. We aim to support students by providing information and have just run a mock assessment centre for Y13 applicants

Sixth

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What to do next...

What type of apprenticeships are you interested in?

- Business/finance/engineering/science/law etc

Research possible options

- Companies usually have apprenticeship information on their website year round
- Online information events
- Register your interest

Be ready to apply

- Roles are generally advertised between October-early December and then from January-March

Recruitment cycles are long and specific to the company

1. Online application
2. Online tests and interviews
3. (In-person) assessment centre

The school offers support to apprentice applicants:

- Mock assessment centre
- Advice on applying interviews etc
- Sharing vacancies and other information

<https://www.beaconsfieldhigh.school/school-life/careers-education-and-guidance/careers-blog>

Year 12

Year 13

Apply to university even if it is a backup

Useful websites



Finding apprenticeships

[Amazing Apprentices](#)

[LinkedIn](#)

Employers' own websites eg

- <https://www.rbo.org.uk/learning/young-people/apprenticeships/open-opportunities>
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-government-economic-service-degree-level-apprenticeship>

[CityCentury \(for solicitor apprenticeships\)](#)

[Government Website](#)

[UCAS](#)

School website:

<https://www.beaconsfieldhigh.school/school-life/careers-education-and-guidance/careers-blog>



A useful list of companies offering apprenticeships last year

<https://alanbullockcareers.com/2025/02/09/degree-higher-apprenticeships-my-latest-2025-employer-list-9th-february-edition-for-national-apprenticeship-week-with-ongoing-updates/>



Range of apprenticeships theoretically available

<https://occupational-maps.skillsengland.education.gov.uk/>

The University Pathway: Support, Ownership & Responsibility



Parents/Carers

- Encourage
- Discuss ideas
- Challenge thinking
- Provide emotional support



The Student

- Explore options
- Research courses
- Reflect on strengths and interests
- Ask questions
- **Make final decisions**



Becky High

- Provide information
 - Offer guidance interviews
- Tailored support with UCAS and personal statements
- Offer enrichment opportunities and signposting

Preparation and organisation are key!



Decide on course: Attend virtual and actual [open days](#)/taster days. Complete MOOCs, extra-reading, **Unifrog** activities, work experience,



Decide on universities: Apply in Sept 2026, **up to 5 universities** (aspirational and safety-net and others in-between), Use Unifrog and UCAS – over 300 HEI and 43,000 courses



Decide where to go: Complete UCAS application by December 2026. Choose firm and insurance offers in May 2027.

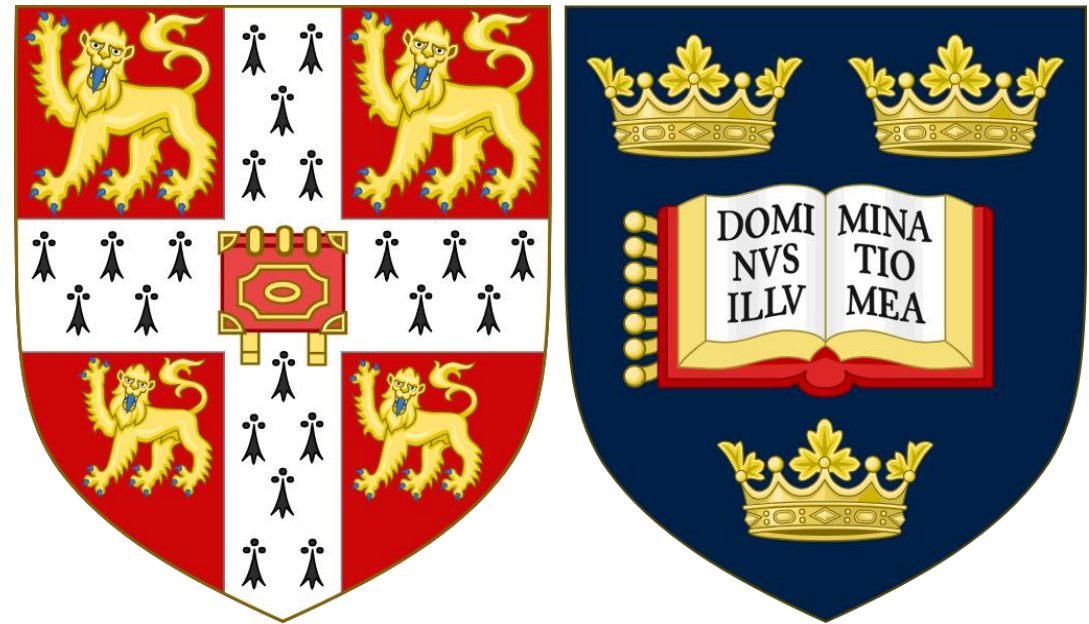
Medicine, Vet Science, Dentistry

- **Medicine/Dentistry/Vet Science:** You may apply to up to **4 courses** plus one additional non-medical course.
- All applicants must prepare for **University Admissions Tests (UATs)** (e.g. UCAT / BMAT-equivalent where required).
- **Predicted grades and mainly 8s and 9s at GCSE are critical, but admissions tests, interviews and work experience** carry significant weight.
- Applications are **highly competitive** and submitted by the **early UCAS deadline (15 October)**.



Oxbridge

- Applicants may apply to **Oxford or Cambridge, not both**, plus up to **four other universities**.
- Selection places strong emphasis on: **admissions tests, interviews, academic potential**, not just headline grades
- Applications follow the **early UCAS deadline (15 October)**.



Conservatoires

- Applications for **Conservatoires (Music, Dance, Drama)** are made independently of UCAS through specialist conservatoire systems.
- Students may apply to **up to 6 conservatoires**.
- Offers are based primarily on **auditions, portfolios and performances**, not UCAS predicted grades alone.
- Timelines, requirements and audition formats **vary by conservatoire**.



Oxbridge and Med/Vet/Dentistry Support & Enrichment

- Oxbridge lead - Dr Millington
- Dr Boxall, Dr Gawne, Dr Reynolds, Mrs Wray
- Sixth Form tutors with Oxbridge & Med/Vet/Dentistry specialist knowledge
- MedSoc
- Olympiads, trips, essay competitions
- Alumni talks
- MMI practice
- Mock interviews



Oxbridge Coordinator
Dr Alex Millington



Oxbridge Support
Dr Simon Gawne



UCAS and Oxbridge Support
Dr Jocelyn Boxall



Careers Lead
Mrs Karen Wray

Step 1 - Which Subject?



- **Academic interest** – do what you love!
- **Aptitude and strengths** – how well are you performing in related A Levels?
- **Career plans** - Medicine

Careers library ✕ Careers favourited	Courses ✕ No courses added
Subjects library ✕ Subjects favourited	MOOC You have 4 shortlists
Know-how library ✓ Guides favourited	Unifrog events Interact directly with experts

I don't know what degree I would like to study

I know what degree I want to study

Step 2 - Which course?

Understand the course structure

- Single Honours
- Joint/Dual Honours (two subjects, 50:50)
- Combined Honours (main subject *with* another)
- Degree with placement or study abroad year
- Integrated Master's (4–5 years)
- Foundation Year

Research and reality-check

- Speak to current students (UCAS, open days, university websites)
- Admissions teams are usually happy to answer questions
- Balance ambition with **realistic entry requirements**

Look beyond the course title

The same subject can vary widely between universities. Compare:

- course content and modules
- teaching style and contact time
- assessment methods and independent study
- length and structure of the degree

Step 3 - Which University?

Often determined by

- Subject availability
- Predicted grades

Other key considerations

- Distance from home
- Campus or city university
- Accommodation (halls / private / home)
- Catered or self-catered
- Facilities (libraries, labs, sports, study space)
- Clubs, societies and wider student life

Also worth considering: Teaching style and class sizes; Student support and wellbeing provision; Year abroad or placement opportunities; Cost of living in the local area



The UCAS application

- UCAS sign-up and log-in details provided by school
- **The application requires from students:**
 - *Personal and educational details*
 - *A Personal Statement*
 - *At least one (but up to five) university choices*
- **The application requires from us:**
 - *A school reference*
 - *Predicted grades*

UCAS At the heart of connecting people to higher education

Log in

Thank you for registering with UCAS

Please log in below using the details you used to register.

Don't have an account yet? [Register here](#)

✔ Thank you, your account has now been activated.

Email address

Password

Log in

[Forgotten password?](#)

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The Personal Statement: Show don't tell!

- 4,000 characters max
- Q1: **Why** do you want to study the course or subject?
- Q2: How have your **qualifications and studies** helped you to prepare for this course or subject?
- Q3: **What else have you done** to prepare outside of education, and why are these experience useful

top tips for writing your UCAS personal statement



remember the abc rule

a the action | b the benefit | c the relevance to the course


Support & Guidance - Spring & Summer Term 2025

- Unifrog
- Open Day Visits
- Careers Advisor
- Guidance Mentoring (Form Time; Learning & Wellbeing Review Day; Sixth Form Team)
- Outside Speakers (Clubs & Societies; PSHE days; Enrichment sessions)
- Personal Research (wider reading lists – university, essay competitions)
- Olympiads, challenges, trips, essay competitions
- Sixth Form Weekly – work experience opportunities
- UCAS and Futures Day on Friday 15th May
- End of Year Exams and Predicted Grades (June/July)



Year 13 Support & Guidance

- **Early Applicant Deadline - Early October 2026**
- Admissions Tests - UCAT – Summer, LNAT – take before 15th October, most others - early November 2025
- **Standard UCAS Deadline - End of November 2026**
- Offers start to be received (the timelines for university offers vary depending on the course and institution)
- UCAS '[Extra](#)' opens for those not holding any offers – February 2027
- Year 13 Information Evening - March 2027
- **UCAS firm/insurance choice deadline – May 2027**
- A-Level exams, May – June 2027
- Mid-August: Results Day (firm choice, insurance choice, [Clearing](#), other)



LIMITLESS
AMBITION
BUILT ON
HONESTY

UCAS Predicted Grades

- **Limitless ambition** means aiming high and believing you can improve.
- We encourage students to challenge themselves and be resilient.
- But ambition must be **realistic and based on evidence** - aiming high does not mean unlimited predicted grades.
- **Predicted grades should be achievable and fair to everyone**

How predicted grades are set and how we will support you

Based on evidence at the end of Year 12:

- End-of-year exams (strongest evidence)
- Quality of other assessments produced during Year 12
- Response to feedback, engagement and attitude to learning
- Progress over time
- Teachers use professional judgement to decide what a student could achieve at their best.

Why This Approach Works

- Historically accurate and evidence-based
- Designed to open doors in students' best interests
- Predicted grades “*aspirational but achievable*” - over-prediction risks placement
- Decisions are based on full academic profile, not pressure
- Formal Review Window available for concerns
- **Fairness, integrity, and student success.**