



**Weekly Student Bulletin  
for Notley High School Sixth Form Students  
Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2024**

Dear BSF Students,

An early newsletter this week as we all have a day off tomorrow. I hope that you are doing something special with this bonus day (I'll be Christmas shopping!).

It has felt a bit more like winter this week and it is also the time of year for the various winter ailments to appear. Well done to those of you who keep coming in despite the daily challenges of the winter, remember high attendance is a key factor for success and it is monitored. If you really can't make it in, please ensure you call Ms Watson so that your absence can be authorised. It is also the expectation that you contact teachers when you have had time off to arrange to catch up with missed work.

**Notices**

**Progression/UCAS**

Hopefully all students that attended the UCAS and apprenticeship search fair last Friday found it useful and had some helpful conversations with the various providers. All year 12 students will have the opportunity to go to Essex University in June for a similar fair. Hopefully the assembly delivered on Tuesday from the University of Suffolk has given a good starting point for year 12s in thoughts about the university route. Remember take time to research into all options and do come and ask if you have any questions.

Useful websites for university research:

UCAS

Unifrog

Unibuddy

Whatuni

**Academic mentors – year 12 students**

If you are interested in taking on the role of academic mentor to a student in the lower school for English, Maths or Science please make sure you have given your name and the subject area to your tutor.

**Year 11 breakfasts – subject ambassador/prefect support**

An email has been sent to the prefects and subject ambassadors about supporting at breakfasts in café 6 for year 11 students. These will take place next Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November, and the Wednesday after 4<sup>th</sup> December.

### **Academic Reading**

Year 12 students should all now have collected their first academic reading book for one of their subjects. I hope you enjoy reading these. Do discuss these with your subject teachers and please record all academic reading that you have completed in Unifrog.

There are still plenty of materials available in the library for year 13 students to take out an access too.

### **Enterprise Fair**

Year 12 should be focused on the upcoming Enterprise Fair – hopefully you have all ordered or have planned on ordering any stock you need and thought about how you will make your stall stand out and any other logistics. The event will be shared with year 7 next week and letters sent home to inform them of the event. Do email over to your tutors/me any PowerPoint slides that you would like shared with the year 7s in advance.

You will have next week during tutor time to work with your group and then you will turn your attention in tutor time to preparing for your mock interviews.

### **Entering and Leaving the site**

Students should not be entering or leaving the Sixth Form through the main reception. You must go through the student entrance and the side gate, unless there is a reason that we are aware of.

### **Mock exam dates**

Year 13 – Week beginning 9<sup>th</sup> December

Year 12 – Week beginning 13<sup>th</sup> January

### **Opportunities for you**

*This section contains opportunities that are sent through from a variety of different organisations.*

*The opportunities will vary in nature and be suitable for different students, some of the opportunities will be free an*

### **University of Suffolk - events**

#### **Business, Computing and Games Taster Day – 22 January 2025**

We are delighted to be holding our Business, Computing and Games Taster Day on Wednesday 22 January 2025 for Year 12/Level 3 students to explore the following subjects:

Accounting and Finance

Business

Game Development

E-Sports

Computing

Students can look forward to selecting up to two taster sessions in different subjects to experience on the day, as well as the opportunity to go on a campus tour and attend a Higher Education talk.

To book email [schools@uos.ac.uk](mailto:schools@uos.ac.uk)

#### **Health and Life Science Taster Day – 5 February 2025**

On Wednesday 5 February, we are holding our popular Health and Life Science Taster Day. The day will run from 9.45am until 2.30pm.

This taster day is a chance for Year 12/level 3 students to learn about people-focused careers. Sessions to choose from will include Nursing, Midwifery, Paramedic Science, Radiotherapy and Oncology, Diagnostic Radiography, Physiotherapy, Sports, Psychology and Counselling, Biomedical Science, Nutrition and Human Health and Wildlife, Ecology and Conservation Science.

The agenda for the day is as follows:

9.45-10.00am	Arrival
10.10-10.30am	Welcome talk
10.45-11.45am	Taster session or campus tour
11.45am-12.30pm	Lunch
12.45-1.45pm	Taster session or campus tour
2.00-2.30pm	Student Union Talk

To book email [schools@uos.ac.uk](mailto:schools@uos.ac.uk) (only 20 spaces left!)

Book onto Open Days: [https://www.uos.ac.uk/life-at-suffolk/visit-us/open-days/?utm\\_source=Google&utm\\_medium=CPC&utm\\_campaign=Open+Days&utm\\_id=UG25%2F26&gad\\_source=1&gclid=EAlaIqobChMlJnF7q3oiQMv6loCR2rbSM3EAAYASAAEgK4KvD\\_BwE&gclsrc=a.w.ds](https://www.uos.ac.uk/life-at-suffolk/visit-us/open-days/?utm_source=Google&utm_medium=CPC&utm_campaign=Open+Days&utm_id=UG25%2F26&gad_source=1&gclid=EAlaIqobChMlJnF7q3oiQMv6loCR2rbSM3EAAYASAAEgK4KvD_BwE&gclsrc=a.w.ds)

Unable to attend an Open Day? Book onto a campus tour: <https://www.uos.ac.uk/life-at-suffolk/visit-us/campus-tours/>

### **Free Parent Webinar – Elevate Education**

**How You Can Build Resilience in Your Child**  
**Tuesday 3rd December 6:00-7:00pm (GMT)**  
[Click here to register for free](#)

Here's what Elevate will be covering on the night:

- ✓ **Practical strategies to help your child manage their response to setbacks**
- ✓ **Building your child's resilience both in and out of school**
- ✓ **How 'fear of failure' can impact your child's resilience**

### **Oxford and Cambridge University's Next Steps Essex webinar series 2025**

This annual programme is run in collaboration by Hertford College, Oxford and Emmanuel College, Cambridge and aims to give students the tools to make a competitive application to Oxford/Cambridge.

The programme will consist of four online sessions run by Oxford and Cambridge Outreach staff, each with a Q&A with current undergraduate students:

- Tuesday 21st January: Introduction to Oxbridge (Y11 & Y12)
- Tuesday 4th February: Entry Requirements & Post-16 Choices (Y11 & Y12)
- Tuesday 18th February: Critical Thinking, Study Skills & Super Curriculars (Y11 & Y12)
- Tuesday 4th March: Personal Statements & Applying to Oxbridge (Y11 & Y12)
- *Interview Workshop (September 2025 TBC)*

All sessions take place online between 17:00 and 18:30.

The following eligibility criteria applies for students:

All students from state schools in the local authorities of Essex, Southend-on-Sea and Thurrock are eligible to take part.

As long as students meet these criteria then they will automatically gain a place on the programme.

The deadline for signing up is 12pm on Friday 13th December.

Students can sign-up using this online form: [Next Steps Essex 2025 Application Form](#)

## **Civil Engineering**

### [Virtual work experience](#)

ICE's on-demand virtual work experience programme is tailored for students aged 14 to 18.

It's completely free and opens the door to exciting careers - plus gives students bonus material to help them stand out on personal statements and CVs.

KS3-5 students can explore our interactive careers website, [ICE Inspire](#). It's got quizzes and lots of fascinating information about how civil engineers are shaping our world. Students can also virtually meet real life Civil Engineers and find out more about the career.

## **EDT (Engineering Development Trust)**

**\*Applications are now open** for our hugely popular [Residential Insight into University Courses](#).

These are summer schools at various top Universities that run over 4 or 5 days where students get a taster of university life and an insight into a specific STEM subject. Students will get the opportunity to experience university style lectures and work on activities and group projects with the support of academics and student mentors. Students will stay in halls of residence and will take part in social activities in the evenings, so that they get the full university experience.

**For Year 12 students / S6**

**Courses taking place June-Aug 25**

**Accreditation: Silver [Industrial Cadets Award](#)**

**\*Applications are now open for our [YINI-Year in Industry Placement scheme](#)**

An EDT placement will give students an opportunity to continue their STEM journey after leaving school or college and take a paid gap year to help inform and shape their future career choices. They will gain invaluable experience working in industry, develop their skills and knowledge, and boost their future employability. We have vacancies with companies across many areas of STEM from leading FTSE 100 companies to small innovative start-ups. EDT placements are accredited at Industrial Cadets Platinum level meaning that the student's experience during their year in industry is quality benchmarked and recognised industry-wide.

**For Year 13 students /S6**

**Placements will start July/Aug 25**

**Accreditation: Platinum [Industrial Cadets Award](#)**

**STEM SMART scheme Cambridge**

**University of Cambridge - Masterclasses**

We are excited to tell you about the Subject Masterclasses which we are running this autumn.

Subject Masterclasses are subject-specific events that offer students in Year 12 (S5 for Scotland, Year 13 for NI, or equivalent) the chance to experience typical undergraduate teaching at the University of Cambridge, and to learn more about a topic of interest.

The events are designed for all students looking to apply in October 2025, including mature students.

**[Upcoming Subject Masterclasses](#)**

**26 November** Theology, Religion, and Philosophy of Religion

**27 November** Sociology

**28 November** Music

These sessions are all taking place online

**[Subject Masterclasses | Undergraduate Study \(cam.ac.uk\)](#)**

**Each Masterclass includes:**

- two taster sessions delivered by academic staff from the University
- the opportunity to ask questions
- an introduction to the Cambridge admissions process
- the chance to hear about life as a Cambridge student from current undergraduates

**Cost**

The cost of our online Subject Masterclasses is **£12.50**

Funded places are available for students who meet any of the following criteria:

- In care, or care-experienced
- Eligible for Free School Meals
- Seeking asylum, or with refugee status
- Household(s) in receipt of Universal Credit
- Financial hardship

To apply for a funded place students should complete a short form and include a supporting statement from their school or college with an authorised stamp or signature.

Please [visit our website](#) for more information and the application form for funded places.

### **The complete university guide – league tables 2025**

Visit the complete university website to see the league tables for 2025

<https://www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk/league-tables/rankings>

Have a good weekend

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ms A Brewis-Shephard', written in a cursive style.

Ms A Brewis-Shephard  
Deputy Head of Sixth Form