

Dalkeith High School S6 Careers Resource 2020-21

Welcome to S6

Welcome back to sixth year at Dalkeith High School. Since this is your last year at school, it’s essential to begin **now** to think about what you are going to do in the future. This book contains career planningresources that everyone can use this year.

As the school’s Careers Adviser, I am here to give you information and advice about the options open to you, so please get in touch if you need my help.

**Help from Skills Development Scotland**

If you would like help in deciding what to do when you leave school, you should register on Skills Development Scotland’s website **My World of Work** at **www.myworldofwork.co.uk**. As a starting point, use the online tools and quizzes on the website to help identify areas of study or employment which might suit you. The website can also give you lots of useful information on applications, CVs, interviews, jobs and college. You can also call Skills Development Scotland’s Contact Centre for advice on **0800 917 8000.**

If you have used the **Strengths** tool and accessed **My World of Work** website and other resources to research information, but are still undecided about what to do, please speak to your Guidance Teacher / Pupil Support Leader, who can refer you to me for a face to face interview in school.

We can also be contacted by phone at the Skills Development Scotland Centre in Dalkeith on 0131 663 7287 or by email at barbara.moir@sds.co.uk

**Barbara Moir**

**Careers Adviser**

**Dalkeith High School**

**June 2020**



My Action Plan

Tick the boxes that apply to you – there may be more than one!

Use the sections on the next page to help with how to do this.

My main career interest is

 I don’t know go to section 1

After S6 I plan to... go to university go to section 2

 go to college go to section 3

 get a job go to section 4

Over the summer I need to.....

Get some/more work experience Explore my strengths and skills

Talk about my ideas Improve my confidence

Do some volunteering Find out entry requirements

Anything else I should do - e.g. identify possible courses, start working on personal statement....

Remember you should try to develop a back-up plan too....

Back up Idea:

My back up plan is ……………………………………………………………………………………………….

Start planning now

REGISTER ON [www.myworldofwork.co.uk](http://www.myworldofwork.co.uk)

If you need any help, e-mail me at barbara.moir@sds.co.uk or phone the SDS office on **0131 663 7287.**

Useful Websites for Higher Education Applicants

[**www.ucas.com**](http://www.ucas.com) **– UCAS (Universities and Colleges Admissions Service)**

Details of degree courses throughout the UK. Includes course search by subject and/or institution, course profiles, university/college information, student finance as well as advice on how to complete your personal statement. Also includes Apply, the on-line application system used by applicants to UK universities.

[**www.myworldofwork.co.uk**](http://www.myworldofwork.co.uk) – **Skills Development Scotland’s website**

Provides information on Higher National and Degree courses as well advice on how to choose a course and make your application.

[**www.planitplus.net**](http://www.planitplus.net) **- PlanIT**

Contains information on all full and part time courses at Scottish colleges including Higher National Certificates/Diplomas, along with information on degree courses at Scottish universities.

[**http://unistats.direct.gov.uk**](http://unistats.direct.gov.uk) **– Unistats**

Detailed information on the going rate for entry to courses. Also includes a survey of current students’ views of their course, including how it is taught and assessed, level of academic support provided, availability of learning resources including libraries and IT facilities. Data on graduate employment destinations for individual courses.

[**www.push.co.uk**](http://www.push.co.uk) **– PUSH Online**

The ultimate Guide to student life, university and everything! Researched by students and recent graduates. Includes brief university profiles, university links to student unions/newspaper websites, information on how to apply, prices of beer, a jargon buster and lots more.

[**www.pathways.ac.uk**](http://www.pathways.ac.uk) **– Pathways**

Designed to help HNC/HND college students with progression on to degree courses at university. This site provides useful information for school leavers on links from HNC/D courses at local colleges to related courses at universities in Scotland.

[**www.prospects.ac.uk**](http://www.prospects.ac.uk) **– Prospects**

The essential guide to graduate careers, jobs and postgraduate study in the UK. Gives information about employment opportunities in its ‘What do Graduates Do’ section.

[**www.saas.gov.uk**](http://www.saas.gov.uk) **– Student Awards Agency for Scotland**

Information on all aspects of student funding including bursaries and student loans. Scottish students studying in Scotland do not pay tuition fees for their courses. Some students may be eligible for a non-repayable bursary depending on the level of their family’s income. All students can apply for a non income assessed repayable loan. Look at this site to find out more about the cost of Higher Education.

**Other Resources to help explore and research Higher Education**

**Which University** [**here**](http://university.which.co.uk/)

**Go Think Big** [**here**](http://www.gothinkbig.co.uk/tools/careers-infographics)

**Studential** [**here**](http://www.studential.com/)

**The Student Room** [**here**](http://www.thestudentroom.co.uk/)

**Icould** [**here**](http://icould.com/)

  

   

**Higher Education Open Days 2020**

**The majority of open days are virtual on-line events.**

**Register on university websites for up to date information and to reserve a place.**

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| **Institution** | **Date of Visit** | **Website address** |
| **Aberdeen University**  | Medicine Open Day Saturday 13 June – virtual event. Tuesday 25 August 2020 – General Open Day. Virtual event.Saturday 3 October 2020 – General Open Day | <https://www.abdn.ac.uk/study/open-days.php> |
| **University of Abertay, Dundee** | Wednesday 30 September 2020Saturday 31 October 2020.Open days are currently on campus, but may move to online. Register on website for updates. | <https://www.abertay.ac.uk/visit/open-days/> |
| **University of Dundee** | Dentistry – Thursday 11 June 2020 – on-lineMedicine – Friday 12 June 2020 – on-lineMain campus Open Days – Monday 31 August and Saturday 26 September 2020 – virtual open days.Art/Design/Architecture – Friday 30 October and Saturday 31 October 2020. On campus, but check website for updates. | <https://www.dundee.ac.uk/study/visitus/opendays/>  |
| **University of Edinburgh**  | On-line information sessions. Virtual open days also planned. Sign up for information. | <https://www.ed.ac.uk/studying/undergraduate/open-days-events-visits/online-information-sessions> <https://www.ed.ac.uk/studying/undergraduate/open-days-events-visits/mailing-list-signup> |
| **Edinburgh Napier University** | Saturday 12 September and Saturday 10 October 2020. Virtual open days. Register on-line for details. | <https://www.napier.ac.uk/study-with-us/undergraduate/meet-us/open-days>  |
| **University of Glasgow** | Glasgow campus –all contact will be on-line. Register on university website for information updates.Crichton campus, Dumfries. Open Day Wednesday 7 October 2020. On campus, but check website for updates. | <http://www.gla.ac.uk/about/visit/undergraduateevents/> <http://www.gla.ac.uk/schools/interdisciplinary/studyindumfries/visitus/visitdays/> |
| **Glasgow Caledonian University** | Wednesday 2 September and Saturday 3 October 2020. Virtual open days. | <https://www.gcu.ac.uk/study/opendaysandtours/datesandtimes/> |
| **Glasgow School of Art** | Normally held in October. Check website for information. | [www.gsa.ac.uk/gsaopen](http://www.gsa.ac.uk/gsaopen)  |
| **Heriot-Watt University** | Edinburgh campus – Saturday 26 September and Saturday 24 October 2020. Virtual open days.Scottish Borders Campus, Galashiels – Friday 2 October and Friday 6 November 2020. Virtual open days.  | <https://www.hw.ac.uk/uk/visit/edinburgh-campus-open-day.htm> <https://www.hw.ac.uk/uk/visit/sbc-open-day.htm>  |
| **University of the Highlands and Islands** | Various visit days and on-line events at individual campuses. See website for information. | <https://www.uhi.ac.uk/en/studying-at-uhi/open-days/>  |
| **Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh** | Saturday 17 October and Saturday 14 November 2020. Virtual open days. | <http://www.qmu.ac.uk/open-days-and-meeting-us/undergraduate-open-days/> |
| **Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen** | Wednesday 7 October 2020. Virtual open day.Saturday 7 November 2020. On campus open day, but subject to change. Check website. | <https://www.rgu.ac.uk/study/visit-us/open-days>  |
| **Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, Glasgow**  | Music – virtual open day Friday 12 June 2020. Dance, Drama, Production and Film virtual open days will be held in autumn 2020. Dates to be confirmed. Go to website to register interest to be notified of virtual open day dates. | <https://www.rcs.ac.uk/apply/visit-us/open-days/> |
| **SRUC - Scotland’s Rural Colleges**  | Various open days at individual campuses. Check website for full details.  | <https://www.sruc.ac.uk/info/120091/open_days_and_events> |
| **University of St Andrews** | Wednesday 30 September, 7 October, 14 October, 28 October and 4 November 2020. Virtual open days. Book on-line. | <https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/visiting/online/> |
| **University of Stirling** | Saturday 19 September and Saturday 24 October 2020. Virtual open days. Sign up on university website. | <https://www.stir.ac.uk/study/visit-us/undergraduate-open-days/> |
| **Strathclyde University** | A virtual open day will be held in October 2020. Date to be confirmed. Register on-line for information. | <http://www.strath.ac.uk/studywithus/openday/>  |
| **University of the West of Scotland**  | Virtual open days are being planned for autumn 2020. Dates to be confirmed. Check website for information. | <https://www.uws.ac.uk/study/open-days-info-sessions/> |

**Important information for applicants to courses in Medicine, Dentistry or Law**

**Medicine and Dentistry**

All applicants to degree courses in **Medicine** and **Dentistry** must sit an aptitude test. The **UCAT** (UK Clinical Aptitude Test) is being used by all Scottish universities (and the majority of those outside Scotland). This is an aptitude test, which does not draw on any particular body of knowledge that a candidate can learn in advance. However, you should familiarize yourself with the format of the test and do the practice questions on the UCAT website.

Due to the Coronavirus, UCAT is still finalizing arrangements for this year’s testing. Information on this was updated on the UCAT website on 1 June. It is proposed that registration for the UCAT test will open on 1 July and close on 17 September and test sessions will be held between 3 August and 1 October 2020. Check the UCAT website for the latest information.

You can also follow UCAT on social media –

**Instagram** [@ucatofficial](https://www.instagram.com/ucatofficial/) **Twitter** [@UCATofficial](https://twitter.com/UCATofficial) **Facebook** [@UCATofficial](https://www.facebook.com/UCATofficial).

There is a test centre in Edinburgh and this year there is also be an option to sit the test at home.The cost of taking the test is £75.00. Bursaries may be available to cover the cost of the test depending on parental income. Check the UCAT website for more details. [**www.ucat.ac.uk**](http://www.ucat.ac.uk)**.**

The **BMAT** (BioMedical Admissions Test) is used by a small number of universities including Oxford, Cambridge, Brighton and Sussex Medical School, Lancaster University, University of Leeds, Imperial College, London and University College, London for entry to **Medicine,** by University of Leeds for **Dentistry** and by Oxford for **Biomedical Sciences**. BMAT normally offers test sessions in September and November. The September session has been cancelled in 2020 because of the Coronavirus. The only test will be held on **4 November 2020**. Registration for the test is between **1 September** and **1 October 2020**. The test fee is £49. Check the latest information at <https://www.admissionstesting.org/campaigns/coronavirus/>. [**www.bmat.org.uk**](http://www.bmat.org.uk)**.**

**Law**

The **LNAT** (the Law National Aptitude Test) is used by the **University of Glasgow** (and other institutions outside Scotland) as part of the selection process for applications to all courses in Law, including joint degrees in Law and another subject. The test can be taken between 1 September 2020 and 15 January 2021 (by 15 October 2020 if applying to Oxford University). The cost of the test is £50. Full details of test dates and registration go to the LNAT website [**www.lnat.ac.uk**](http://www.lnat.ac.uk)**.**

**Personal Statements**

University, college and job applications will require you to write a personal statement in which you should let the reader know about:

\* your interest in the course / job

\* relevant skills you have

\* relevant experience

\* your career aspirations

Include information relating to relevant subjects you have studied at school, work experience, part time/ Summer jobs, volunteering as well as involvement you may have in local clubs outside of school, volunteering, Duke of Edinburgh Award, hobbies and interests.

The reason for this is so the admissions tutor or employer can find out a little more about you as a person. It is very important as it can help the tutor / employer to decide if they should give you an interview / place on the course, etc.

Use the “Profile Tool” on [www.myworldofwork.co.uk](http://www.myworldofwork.co.uk) to help you make a start.

**Start to think about how to write your Personal Statement for UCAS applications and what to include.**

* Remember to allow yourself plenty of time to work on creating a good personal statement. Universities decide on their offers based mainly on your statement and your exam results.
* More on how to write your personal statement can be found at [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com)

**College**

College applications are done on line using the individual colleges’ websites. Unlike university, you apply directly to the college although there are a few exceptions e.g. HNC Social Sciences at Newbattle Abbey College and HNC / HND and degree courses at Scotland’s Rural University College are applied for using UCAS.

Our local colleges are:

[www.borderscollege.ac.uk](http://www.borderscollege.ac.uk)

[www.edinburghcollege.ac.uk](http://www.edinburghcollege.ac.uk)

[www.newbattleabbeycollege.ac.uk](http://www.newbattleabbeycollege.ac.uk)

[www.sruc.ac.uk](http://www.sruc.ac.uk)

There are a variety of colleges throughout Scotland and they offer a wide range of courses. You can find other colleges on [www.planitplus.net](http://www.planitplus.net)

**Apprenticeships**

Apprenticeships are a great way to learn on the job and get paid at the same time. Have a look at [www.apprenticeships.scot](http://www.apprenticeships.scot) for more information and to see local opportunities in our local area. Check out the websites listed in this booklet relating to “Getting a Job” and “Employment and Training.”

Research your career ideas thoroughly using the websites listed throughout this booklet.

**Planning Ahead**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Don’t have a clue:** | * Think about your skills, strengths and interests.
* Visit [www.planitplus.net](http://www.planitplus.net) and complete the Careers Match quiz for ideas. You can use the computers in the school library or at home to do this and it will help generate some ideas.
* Register on [www.myworldofwork.co.uk](http://www.myworldofwork.co.uk) for careers information and resources. Try the Strengths tool for suggestions.
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| **Have some ideas but need to explore options available:** | * Visit [www.planitplus.net](http://www.planitplus.net) for career and course information
* Try getting some relevant work experience or work shadowing.
* Start to research the post-school options outlined below using the available resources.
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**Post-school options and resources**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Further Education** | * Visit [www.planitplus.net](http://www.planitplus.net) for course availability
* Information on student matters [www.studentinformation.gov.scot](http://www.studentinformation.gov.scot)
* Read college prospectuses in the careers library and/or visit college websites:

Borders College – [www.borderscollege.ac.uk](http://www.borderscollege.ac.uk)Edinburgh Colleege – [www.edinburghcollege.ac.uk](http://www.edinburghcollege.ac.uk) Newbattle Abbey College – [www.newbattleabbeycollege.ac.uk](http://www.newbattleabbeycollege.ac.uk) Oatridge College – [www.sruc.ac.uk](http://www.sruc.ac.uk) There are many other colleges throughout Scotland which you can explore in more detail through the Planit website. |
| **Higher Education** | * Visit [www.ukcoursefinder.com](http://www.ukcoursefinder.com) you can take a quiz to help you identify course ideas
* Visit [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com) and [www.planitplus.net](http://www.planitplus.net) for course information
* Visit [www.saas.gov.uk](http://www.saas.gov.uk) for financial advice
* Visit [www.push.co.uk](http://www.push.co.uk) for student advice
* Visit [www.prospects.ac.uk](http://www.prospects.ac.uk) for degree course progression
* Articulation routes at [www.pathways.ac.uk](http://www.pathways.ac.uk)
* Advice on funding and accommodation [www.studentinformation.gov.scot](http://www.studentinformation.gov.scot)
* Read university prospectuses in the careers library or visit university websites.
* Attend the Higher Education Convention at Royal Highland Centre, Ingliston on 5th November 2020
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| **Employment/ Training** | * Register on [www.myworldofwork.co.uk](http://www.myworldofwork.co.uk) for help with CV, job search and interview skills
* There are lots of job search websites keep a weekly check on these: [www.edubuzz.org/midandeastvacancies](http://www.edubuzz.org/midandeastvacancies) , [www.apprenticeships.scot](http://www.apprenticeships.scot) and [www.theguarantee.org](http://www.theguarantee.org)
* Visit [www.yell.com](http://www.yell.com) or use the Yellow Pages or local trade directories to identify employers to contact about recruitment.
* Try to get some relevant work experience or work shadowing or do some volunteering – try [www.volunteermidlothian.org.uk](http://www.volunteermidlothian.org.uk)
 |
| **Year Out** | * Visit [www.yearoutgroup.org](http://www.yearoutgroup.org) [www.summerjobs.com](http://www.summerjobs.com) and [www.gapyear.com](http://www.gapyear.com)
* Think about what you hope to gain from a year out.
* Plan what you would like to do at the end of your year out too
* Check out [www.myworldofwork.co.uk](http://www.myworldofwork.co.uk) and [www.planitplus.net](http://www.planitplus.net) for advice.
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**START PLANNING NOW!**