QUEEN
ETHELBURGA'S

QE FUTURES

DISCOVER, DEVELOP AND PREPARE

At QE, every student is seen as a future leader, innovator and changemaker.

The QE Futures Programme is thoughtfully designed and the career team begin by introducing younger students at QE to the concept of a career and we help them to **discover** the wide range of career opportunities available to them. As they progress through the key stages at QE, we guide them in identifying their interests, aspirations, and strengths, while also encouraging students to **develop** their essential employability skills needed to thrive in the evolving world of work. By the time they reach the sixth form, our focus shifts to supporting them through in-depth research and application processes. We help them make well-informed decisions and **prepare** strong, competitive applications-whether they choose to pursue higher education in the UK or abroad, secure a degree apprenticeship, enter employment, or take a gap year.

Unifrog Careers Platform

Unifrog is as a comprehensive careers platform, designed to support year 10 to 13 students at QE to explore the worlds of work and education, make informed choices, and submit competitive applications. Each student has their own account that provides a range of tools so they can find information relating to their interests and aspirations.

Key features of the platform for students include:

- Psychometric testing quizzes
- Career and subject exploration libraries
- Webinars and interactive short courses
- Self-reflection and portfolio building tools
- University course search tool
- Search tools for live apprenticeship and employer opportunities
- CV and personal statement-building tools

70% GCSE GRADES 9-7

(A*-A equivalent)

6TH IN THE UK

for co-educational independent school a level results (A/A*)

Sunday Times Parent Power 2026

80% A*-A AT A LEVEL

Reflecting exceptional Sixth-form academic performance

THE SUNDAY TIMES PARENT POWER GUIDE 2026

5th consecutive year

BEST VALUE CO-EDUCATIONAL SCHOOL IN BRITAIN

The Telegraph 2025 and 2026

WINNERS

of the ISA Senior School of the Year Award (2024) and finalists for Junior School of the Year (2025)

STRUCTURED EARLY APPLICANT OXBRIDGE PROGRAMME

MEDICINE, DENTISTRY OR VETERINARY

applicant support scheme

LAW PATHWAY

TARGETED SUPER-CURRICULAR PROGRAMME

2026 university offers include Natural Sciences at the University of Cambridge, Biochemistry at Imperial College London and five offers for Applied Medical Sciences at UCL (University College London)

OVER 150 CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

designed and delivered by a dedicated specialist team

DEDICATED ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROGRAMME

for international students aged 14-18 - included within all fees

DISCOVER

At QE, we cultivate intellectual curiosity, ambition, and scholarly independence, preparing students to compete successfully for places at the world's most selective universities.

The QE Futures Programme is deliberately structured to support high academic aspiration from an early age, guiding students to develop clear academic direction, depth of interest, and the confidence to engage with complex ideas at the highest level.

Discovery sessions include:

- One-to-one meetings with the Careers Department
- Personal Development (PD) Lessons
- Morrisby Careers Research

As students' progress through the school, tailored guidance and expert mentoring help them make strategic academic choices, refine their interests, and build compelling academic profiles. Careers Advisers at Queen Ethelburga's are available five days a week to offer dedicated guidance appointments for students in all year groups.

In the senior years, this support becomes increasingly focused on preparation for competitive university admission, with particular emphasis on academic excellence, subject mastery, and independent thinking.
From Years 9 to 13, students benefit from rigorous career and university research, alongside psychometric profiling, enabling them to identify pathways aligned with their strengths and potential. This approach supports applications to the UK's most prestigious institutions—including Oxford, Cambridge, and the Russell Group—as well as leading universities in North America, Europe, and beyond. By the time students leave QE, they are exceptionally well prepared to present thoughtful, intellectually confident applications and to thrive in the most demanding academic environments worldwide.

Throughout their education at QE, we offer a number of events and trips focused on future career and life aspirations, developing the underlying life skills of strategic thinking and goal attainment.

Annual Career Events

QE University Fair (Years 10–13)
Every year all students in Key Stages 4 and 5 attend the QE University Fair. This gives each student the opportunity to meet with representatives from a range of universities and gap year companies and begin making informed choices related to their individual study interests and suitability for their proposed university choices. Students and parents can also attend talks delivered by the universities in attendance. Talks cover topics such as how to make a competitive application or how to choose a course.

Oxbridge Alumni Morning
QE alumni who studied at Oxford or Cambridge return to QE to deliver support sessions to students who are interested in applying to Oxbridge. Alumni share their personal experiences of life as an Oxbridge student, how to choose a college and write a personal statement. Alumni also offer advice on completing interview and admissions tests. This is a valuable opportunity for students to network with the alumni and connect with those who have successfully navigated the application process.

Mock Assessment Centre (Year 12/13)
Students participate in a simulated assessment centre designed to mirror real graduate recruitment processes. Activities included role-play scenarios, competency-based and strengths-based interviews, presentations, group exercises, psychometric assessments, and written tasks. Each student receives comprehensive, individualised feedback on their performance, enabling them to refine their approach and further develop key employability skills such as communication, teamwork, and critical thinking, while gaining a realistic understanding of modern recruitment practices.

Employer Networking Evening (Years 12 & 13)
Our annual Employer Networking Evening allows students and parents to speak directly with professionals from a wide range of industries. These conversations provide valuable insight into career options, employer expectations, and help build students' confidence in networking. A central focus of the evening is to allow students to gain first-hand knowledge about different sectors, including the skills, qualifications, and experiences employers look for. Employer Spotlight Talks offer deeper insight into specific industries, highlighting career pathways such as university, apprenticeships, and alternative routes.

Options Convention (Years 9 & 11)
Students and families explore subject choices with academic staff and careers advisers, linking options to future academic and career pathways.

Inspiring Futures Event (Year 12)
Our Inspiring Future Careers Event gives Year 12 students the chance to learn from industry professionals across a range of sectors and explore the different paths they've taken into their careers. Students choose which talks they attend and can hear first-hand about roles, required skills, and the varied routes into each industry. Through talks and discussions, the event supports informed career decision-making and broadens students' understanding of future opportunities.

National Careers & Apprenticeship Weeks
A programme of assemblies, research activities, and competitions highlights global career pathways, elite university routes, and prestigious degree apprenticeships.

QE Futures Project (Years 7 & 8)
An interactive futures afternoon introducing younger students to fields such as Climate Science, Forensic Science, Model UN, and Sports Science.

Annual Trips

Durham University Visit (Year 11)
This trip offers the opportunity for students to visit Durham University to have a tour of the campus buildings and attend a talk delivered by the Admissions Officer at Durham University about student life and making a competitive application.

University of Cambridge Visit (Year 12)
Prospective applicants visit St John's College for a student-led tour and an application workshop focused on securing a place at Cambridge.

UCAS Exhibition (Year 12)
Students attend a regional fair to speak directly with universities, apprenticeship providers, and employers about courses, entry requirements, and future pathways.

Care Home Volunteering (Year 12)
Students interested in Medicine and healthcare gain regular hands-on experience through volunteering, developing communication and empathy skills essential for healthcare careers.

University Open Days (Years 12 & 13)
Students are encouraged to attend university open days independently, recognising their importance in making informed application choices.

LIFE BEYOND QE – INSPIRATIONAL RETURNS

We take great pride in the achievements of our students—both during their time at QE and in their lives beyond school.

As part of the QE Futures Programme, we are delighted that many of our alumni return to share their experiences and professional journeys, delivering inspiring talks and leading discussions with current students.

Hearing first-hand from former QE students who have progressed to higher education, degree apprenticeships, gap years, or employment provides invaluable insight and aspiration. These alumni engagements offer meaningful guidance, inspiration, and networking opportunities, helping students better understand the pathways ahead and prepare for future success. Talks are available through voluntary lunchtime sessions and, where appropriate, are embedded within the curriculum, bringing real life learning into the classroom.

DEVELOP

Employability Skills at QE

This stage of the QE Futures Programme helps students develop key employability skills and understand why they matter for future education and careers.

Year 10 Employability Skills Day

Year 10 also take part in an Employability Skills Day led by the Army, building teamwork, communication and resilience through practical activities.

Year 12 Skill Development Conference

All Year 12 students take part in a dedicated skills conference designed to develop and refine key employability competencies ahead of post-18 applications and transitions. The day features a series of interactive workshops focusing on skills such as leadership, teamwork, communication, and confidence.

Our Five Core Employability Skills

Self-Reflection
Recognising strengths, learning from setbacks, and making informed decisions.

Communication & Collaboration
Working effectively with others and presenting ideas confidently.

Leadership
Listening, making decisions, and inspiring those around you.

Resilience
Facing challenges with confidence and persevering toward goals.

Creative Problem Solving
Thinking strategically and developing solutions to complex problems.

Year 10 Army Skills Day

Delivered in partnership with the Army, the day begins with a careers-focused presentation, introducing key themes around pathways, employability, and future opportunities. Students then take part in a series of practical, team-based challenges and skills workshops, developing core competencies such as leadership, resilience, communication, and problem-solving in a dynamic and engaging environment

Sixth Form Futures Support at QE

This stage of the programme is tailored for sixth form students. In Years 12 and 13, we provide focused support to help them develop the research and application skills needed to make strong, competitive applications to their chosen next steps.

The Key Stage 5 strand of the QE Futures Programme has two parts: preparing students for university and preparing them for the workplace.

University Preparation

Most QE students progress to university in the UK or overseas. We guide them through every stage of the application process, including researching courses, understanding entry requirements and submitting competitive applications.

Support includes UCAS workshops, personal statement guidance, admissions test preparation, and advice on finance and accommodation. Students applying early to Oxbridge or for specialist subjects such as medicine or law receive tailored sessions and access to expert speakers.

Throughout Years 12 and 13, we offer a structured programme of guidance, workshops and one-to-one support designed to help them research their options, make competitive applications, and confidently take their next steps—whether to university in the UK or abroad, or into degree apprenticeships and employment.

Workplace Preparation

For students aiming for employment or degree apprenticeships, we offer a full programme of workshops and activities that build essential recruitment skills.

This includes CV and cover-letter writing, interview coaching, mock interviews and assessment centre practice. Students also learn about networking, professional behaviour and employer expectations. Engagements with industry professionals broaden their understanding of career pathways and help them make informed decisions.

PREPARATION FOR UNIVERSITY

As students move into Sixth Form, they begin preparing for the important transition beyond QE.

We help students to research university courses, understand entry requirements, and make competitive applications to UK and international universities. For those considering applying early to University of Oxford or University of Cambridge, or apply for specialist pathways, such as law or medicine, we offer tailored sessions and access to expert speakers.

YEAR 12

All year 12 students receive the following support sessions as part of the year 12 PDP programme:

- Overview of Post-18 options
- Guidance on securing work experience
- Unifrog Careers Platform Workshop
- Guidance on making competitive applications to Russell Group universities, (delivered by a university guest speaker).
- The UCAS application process, including how to complete an application
- Writing strong personal statements
- Degree Apprenticeships and Recruitment Processes

Support for International University Applications

We also provide tailored guidance for students applying abroad, including:

- A talk on applying to U.S. universities, delivered by University Guys.
- A session on applications to universities in Australia and New Zealand, led by Study Options.
- A workshop on studying Business and Sport internationally, featuring speakers from Glion and Les Roches (with campuses in Spain, Switzerland, the UK, and Abu Dhabi).

YEAR 13

In Year 13, students receive focused help with:

- UCAS submission, predicted grades, and support from UCAS supervisors.
- Writing effective personal statements and answering key questions.
- Interview preparation workshops.
- Applying for student finance, accommodation, and responding to UCAS offers.
- Understanding UCAS Extra, Clearing, and preparing for Results Day.

UCAS Supervisors

Throughout KS5, all students work closely with Form Tutors, Subject Teachers and Heads of Year and each student is allocated a UCAS Supervisor, a senior and experienced member of staff to oversee their application to UK universities to ensure they are given the best possible chance of securing university offers. UCAS Supervisors as well as the Careers Team can also support students to apply to international universities.

EARLY APPLICANT SUPPORT SESSIONS

Our Oxbridge Programme, led by the Careers Department begins in the Spring Term of Year 12 and is designed to give students the edge, and provide comprehensive guidance for students applying to the Universities of Oxford or Cambridge. The programme includes a series of structured sessions, workshops, and talks from guest speakers to ensure students are fully prepared for the competitive application process.

YEAR 12 SUPPORT

Spring Term

- Introductory Session including an overview of competitiveness, course selection, college choice, and what makes Oxbridge unique
- Oxbridge Team Membership: access to resources and updates from the Careers Team.
- Application Process Guidance (through lunchtime support sessions)
- Unifrog Oxbridge Tool
- Online Opportunities:
  - Think Cambridge webinar series
  - Choose Oxford Student Conference
- Oxbridge Alumni Morning: QE alumni share insights and advice on preparing for an Oxbridge application.
- Super-curricular engagement workshop
- Completion of the Super-Curricular Project (including student presentation)
- University of Cambridge Visit - experience the uniqueness of Cambridge first-hand and visit St John's College to have a tour and attend an application talk and subject specific workshops.
- Admissions Tutor Talk: Direct advice from a University of Cambridge representative

Summer Term

- Admissions Test Preparation Workshop
- Personal Statement Workshop
- Continued super curricular engagement
- Regular meetings with subject specialists are encouraged
- Final workshop of the academic year to understand grade expectations, deadlines, and commitment required for early applications

Summer Term Activities

- Registration online for admissions tests (to be taken at Pearson Vue Test Centres in October).
- Completion of relevant work experience and super-curricular activities.
- Completion of UCAS application form
- Draft UCAS personal statement.
- Prepare for admissions tests
- Review AS results (three A grades required in subjects being taken forward to proceed with an Oxbridge application)

YEAR 13 SUPPORT

Autumn Term

- Allocation of Early Applicant Supervisor to support students to submit the university application
- Lunchtime sessions covering UCAS submission, college choices, admissions tests, and the My Cambridge Application.
- Cambridge Applicant Online Webinar Series
- Practice admissions test papers with subject teacher support
- UCAS Oxbridge deadline: mid-October.
- Sit admissions tests at Pearson Vue Test Centres: mid – end October.
- Interview Preparation:
  - Technique workshops
  - One-to-one mock interviews with subject teachers and supervisors
  - Oxbridge Interviews take place during the first three weeks of December.

Oxbridge Alumni

Brandon Lino Bsc
Medicine 2019-2024 Full Time Junior Dr at Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh

Sophia Liversidge
Bachelors degree, History and Politics 2021-2024, now full-time freelance broadcast journalist. Working for Times Radio, BBC & ITN.

Morgan Godden
BA Geography 2020-2023. Trainee teacher with Nottingham TORCH

Jingru Apple Chen
Bachelor of Arts - BA, Mathematics, 2022-2025

Morgan Richardson
Master of Chemistry, MChem,2021-2025

SUPPORT FOR MEDICINE, DENTISTRY OR VETERINARY MEDICINE APPLICANTS

- The QE Careers Team understands exactly what is required for a strong Medicine or Dentistry application. Aspiring Medics need genuine interest in medical innovation, excellent academic results, insight into the NHS and the realities of the profession, meaningful work experience, a strong personal statement, a high UCAT score and the confidence to perform well at interview.
- Our support helps students build these strengths while deepening their understanding of NHS careers, ensuring they are fully prepared to submit a competitive application.
- The QE Futures Medics Programme focuses on developing the skills, experience and insight needed for success. In the Autumn term, students are introduced to the highly competitive application process for Medicine and Dentistry.

Year 12 Opportunities

- Weekly Super-curricular Medicine sessions exploring the life of a medic
- Guest Speakers from the medical profession, including Old Ethelburgians
- Practical skills workshops (e.g. suturing)
- Support with work experience applications

Ongoing Support

- Introduction to Medicine, Dentistry and allied health careers
- Guidance on work experience and volunteering
- Sessions with York Hospital Trust on NHS careers, alternative pathways and undergraduate preparation
- Advice on choosing universities and understanding course structures
- UCAT preparation, including in-school mock tests

- Guidance on 5th-choice degree options
- Personal statement workshops
- QE Medical Conference, including group research and presentations on current medical issues such as gene therapy, cancer immunotherapy, Alzheimer's treatments or antimicrobial resistance

Work Experience & Volunteering

- Students can apply for:
- Dementia care home volunteering (Spring Term)
- Work experience at the Institute of Cancer Therapeutics, University of Bradford
- Two-week volunteering placement at Harrogate District Hospital, plus optional shadowing

They are also encouraged to apply independently for hospital volunteering roles (e.g. York Hospital).

- Each student is assigned a UCAS Supervisor after Easter.

In the final year of Sixth Form, aspiring Medics, Vets and Dentists focus on making applications, extending knowledge and preparation for the next steps.

- Finalise personal statements
- Use UCAT and assessment results to choose up to 4 medical schools + 1 other course
- Complete UCAS application and meet the mid-October deadline

After submitting their application, students shift focus to extending their subject knowledge and strengthening communication and interview skills. Support includes:

- Weekly ethical discussions and hot topics
- Interview practice with peers
- Individual mock interviews with a retired GP and the Careers Team
- Panel interviews with the Science Team
- In-school MMI practice sessions

If A Level or UCAT results are not competitive for Medicine or Dentistry, students receive tailored support after October half term to explore allied health degrees, research alternatives and complete new UCAS applications and interviews.

Additional Support for Veterinary Medicine Applicants

Students interested in Veterinary Medicine are invited to many of the above sessions, plus dedicated guidance on:

- Securing required veterinary work experience
- Writing a strong Veterinary Medicine personal statement and meeting UCAS deadlines
- Choosing a suitable 5th UCAS option (only 4 can be for Veterinary Medicine)
- Taking part in Veterinary Medicine MMI mock interviews

Hear the stories of some of our students who have taken the medical route:

Aidan Hi Long Ho,
Imperial College London

"After graduating from QE in 2021, I went on to study Medical Biosciences at Imperial College London, before completing a Master's degree in Cancer at University college London. Now I work as a Computational Biologist in the Jasmin Fisher Lab at the UCL Cancer Institute, develop computational models that predict therapeutic outcomes of triple-negative breast cancer chemotherapy and immunotherapy, as well as predicting biomarkers that drive sensitivity or resistance to treatment.

Georgia Moyo
University of Oxford

"The interview practice sessions with staff were another crucial part of my preparation; they helped me refine my answers, think critically on the spot, and approach the interviews with confidence. Moreover, the many extra curricular activities available helped to further enhance my application. Looking back, my experiences at QE laid the foundations for my journey into medicine."

Hanson Li
University of Manchester / Imperial College London

"After leaving QE, I studied Public Health at the University of Manchester, graduating with First Class Honours. I then progressed to Imperial College London, where I'm completing an MSc in Epidemiology. My current work focuses on applying statistical modelling, Infectious disease modelling, Bayesian analysis, and data-driven methods to study health outcomes and disease patterns.
Alongside my studies, I serve on the Board of Directors at Nova Skyland Hotel in Finland, where I contribute to data-led business planning and investment strategy. I also founded Physia, an AI-powered health management app designed to simplify medical results and help users track their long-term wellbeing.

Aniya Birdi

"The teachers at Queen Ethelburga's, especially Dr Robinson, played a crucial role in supporting me throughout my medical school application process. Dr Robinson was incredibly dedicated, offering consistent guidance and encouragement from the very beginning. She gave me detailed feedback on multiple drafts of my personal statement, helping me to highlight my strengths and motivations for studying medicine."

Arjan Jaiyeola

"What stood out most were the extra sessions throughout my A-level years. We had personal statement workshops, BMAT preparation seminars, and even mock interviews. All of which made the whole process feel less daunting. I left QE feeling well prepared, and now, as an FY2 doctor in the NHS, I can appreciate how important that early support was in helping me get started."

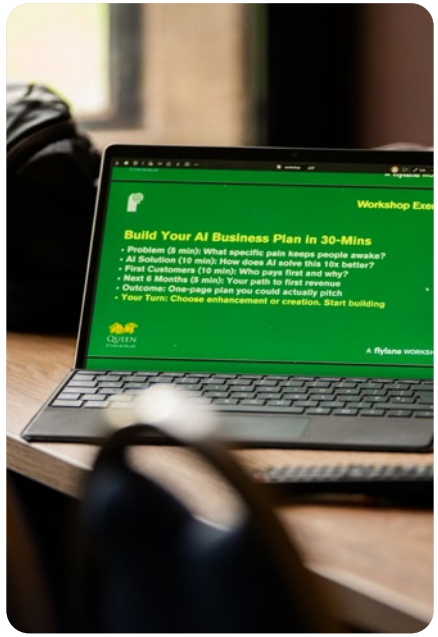
SUPPORT FOR LAW APPLICANTS

For students interested in law, our Law Pathway offers a structured programme in Year 12, including:

- An introduction to the legal profession and its key sectors
- A "Day in the Life of a Law Student" session to understand university study and career pathways
- Public speaking workshops to develop confidence and clarity
- Debate and advocacy training to build analytical and persuasive skills
- LNAT (Law National Aptitude Test) Support Workshop

These sessions are delivered by experienced staff and visiting professionals, giving students first-hand insights and practical guidance.

Whether aiming for university or legal apprenticeships, this dedicated support reflects our commitment to helping aspiring law students understand the realities of the profession, develop their academic strengths, and equips students with the knowledge and skills to prepare for the competitive world of legal education and training.



Jade Pearson
2015-2019
Graduated with a First Class Honours Degree in Law. Works as a paralegal at Buxton Coates Corporate Law.

Cara Mattocks
2020-2022
Law graduate and one of only a few women to be a qualified FA-licensed football agent.

2026

UNIVERSITY DESTINATIONS

Anglia Ruskin University	Animal Management
Anglia Ruskin University	Criminology [with Placement year]
Arts University Bournemouth	Modelmaking
Birmingham City University	Architectural Technology
Bournemouth University	Business & Management
Cardiff University	Architecture
Durham University	Accounting and Finance
Durham University	Psychology
Durham University	Business and Management with Placement Year
Harper and Keele Veterinary School	Veterinary Medicine and Surgery
Hull York Medical School	Medicine
Hull York Medical School	Medicine
Imperial College London	Biomedical Technology Ventures

Institute of Contemporary Music Performance	Popular Music Performance - Guitar
Keele University	Forensic Science with Foundation Year
Keele University	Pharmacy with Foundation Year
Keele University	Physiotherapy with Integrated Master's
King's College London, University of London	Electronic Engineering
King's College London, University of London	Medicine
King's College London, University of London	Data Analytics for Business and Finance
King's College London, University of London	Medicine
King's College London, University of London	Economics
King's College London, University of London	Biomedical Engineering
King's College London, University of London	Geography
King's College London, University of London	Computer Science
King's College London, University of London	Medicine
King's College London, University of London	Data Analytics for Business and Finance
Leeds Arts University	Comic and Concept Art (with placement year)
Leeds Beckett University	Real Estate and Property Management
Leeds Beckett University	Content Creation
Liverpool John Moores University	Business with Digital Marketing
LMA	Musical Theatre

London School of Economics	Psychological and Behavioural Science
Loughborough University	Mathematics
Loughborough University	Economics and Finance (with placement year)
Loughborough University	Economics
Loughborough University	Management
Manchester Metropolitan University	International Business Management
Manchester Metropolitan University	Sport and Exercise Science
Manchester Metropolitan University	International Business Management
Manchester Metropolitan University	Primary Education with QTS
Manchester Metropolitan University	Sports Marketing Management (Foundation Year)
Newcastle University	International Relations
Newcastle University	Business Management
Newcastle University	Business Management
Newcastle University	Pharmacy
Newcastle University	Business Management
Northumbria University, Newcastle	Business Management
Northumbria University, Newcastle	Business and Marketing
Northumbria University, Newcastle	Marketing
Northumbria University, Newcastle	Real Estate
Northumbria University, Newcastle	International Business Management
Nottingham Trent University	Real Estate
Nottingham Trent University	Media Communications
Nottingham Trent University	Law
Nottingham Trent University	Business Management and Marketing
Queen Mary University of London	Law
Queen Mary University of London	Biomedical Sciences

Queen Mary University of London	English and European Law (4 years)
Queen Mary University of London	International Relations with Business Management
Sheffield Hallam University	Business Management and Marketing
Sheffield Hallam University	Financial Trading and Investment Management
UCL (University College London)	International Social and Political Studies
UCL (University College London)	Medical Innovation and Enterprise
UCL (University College London)	Mathematics
UCL (University College London)	Pharmacology
UCL (University College London)	Media
UCL (University College London)	Information Management for Business
UCL (University College London)	Neuroscience
UCL (University College London)	Psychology and Language Sciences
UCL (University College London)	Science and Engineering for Social Change
UCL (University College London)	Neuroscience
UCL (University College London)	Statistics
UCL (University College London)	Media
UCL (University College London)	Law
UCL (University College London)	Creative Arts and Humanities
UCL (University College London)	Global Humanitarian Studies
UCL (University College London)	Applied Medical Sciences
UCL (University College London)	Chemistry
University of Bath	Mathematics
University of Bath	Natural Sciences
University of Bath	Accounting and Finance
University of Bath	Computer Science

University of Bath	Accounting and Management
University of Bath	Architecture with professional placement
University of Bath	Architecture with professional placement
University of Birmingham	Psychology
University of Bristol	Veterinary Science
University of Bristol	Aerospace Engineering
University of Cambridge	Natural Sciences
University of Exeter	Media and Communications
University of Exeter	LLB Law with Professional Placement
University of Exeter	Business Economics
University of Exeter	Finance: Business Management
University of Huddersfield	Health Foundation Pathway
University of Leeds	Law
University of Leeds	Business Management
University of Leeds	Medicine
University of Leeds	Chemical Engineering
University of Leeds	Actuarial Mathematics
University of Lincoln	Pharmacy with Science Foundation Year
University of Manchester	Medicine
University of Manchester	History and Sociology
University of Manchester	Psychology
University of Manchester	Management (Marketing)
University of Manchester	Psychology
University of Manchester	Mathematics
University of Manchester	Mechanical Engineering
University of Manchester	Civil Engineering
University of Manchester	Planning and Real Estate
University of Manchester	Information Technology Management

University of Manchester	Management (International Business Economics)
University of Nottingham	Economics
University of Nottingham	Industrial Economics
University of Nottingham	Law
University of Nottingham	Geography with Business BA
University of Nottingham	Nutrition and Dietetics
University of Nottingham	Nutrition and Dietetics
University of Sheffield	Law (European and International)
University of Sheffield	Biomedical Science
University of Sheffield	Journalism Studies
University of Sheffield	Medicine
University of Sheffield	Law
University of Sheffield	Architecture
University of Southampton	Business Management and Human Resources
University of Southampton	International Business with Study Abroad Year
University of Southampton	Civil Engineering
University of Surrey	Veterinary Medicine and Science
University of Surrey	Biomedical Science
University of Surrey	Biomedical Science
University of Surrey	Sport and Exercise Science
University of the Arts London	Advertising
University of the Arts London	Advertising
University of the Arts London	Media Communications
University of the Arts London	Design Management
University of the Arts London	Fine Art: Sculpture
University of Warwick	Computer Science
University of Warwick	History and Politics
University of Warwick	Cyber Security
University of Westminster, London	Pharmacology and Physiology

NCUK INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION YEAR

International students can complete the one-year NCUK International Foundation Year (IFY) programme at Queen Ethelburga's College.

This course is designed for students looking to take the first step towards applying for subjects related to business or science at university.

As the first private senior school in the North of England to collaborate with NCUK, the programme enhances international students' English language proficiency and academic skills, preparing them for successful applications to NCUK University Partners in the UK and internationally. NCUK, a global leading pathway provider, has developed programmes including their International Foundation Year to enable international students to access world-class education.

Which subjects are available?

Students can choose either a Business or Science pathway. The Business Pathway includes modules in Economics, Business, and Mathematics for Business. The Science Pathway allows students to select any three of the following modules: Biology, Chemistry, Physics, or Mathematics for Science. Additionally, the course includes an English language module tailored to students' proficiency levels.

Entry requirements

The NCUK International Foundation Year is recommended for 17-year-olds who have completed the equivalent of UK Year 12 (AS Level) and have an English language level of at least IELTS 5.5. Students applying are required to take a Cognitive Ability Test (CAT4) to help place them in a learning environment that is right for them.

What qualifications will students achieve?

The qualification is comparable to receiving A Level, AP (US), and HKDSE (Hong Kong) qualifications and is formally recognised by the top universities across the UK and internationally. The Careers team will support students with university applications including interview practice and admission preparations.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Work experience is central to building employability skills, exploring career interests and strengthening applications for university, apprenticeships and future employment.

> “I enjoyed working in a classroom environment—it’s something I’ve always wanted to try.”

In-House Year 12 Work Experience

In recent years, the Careers Team launched an exciting initiative to give Year 12 students the chance to gain work experience within the Collegiate and develop transferable employability skills for life beyond school. Many QE students are part of the boarding community, which can make accessing external work experience during term time challenging. The Careers Team has partnered with a growing number of departments across the Collegiate to create meaningful, in-house opportunities for students.

Year 12 students can now apply for the following roles during term time, offering practical experience and valuable insights into professional environments:

- Retail assistant in the Uniform Shop
- Coffee Shop assistant
- Teaching assistant in Chapter House
- Social Media Manager in Esports
- Teaching Assistant in Languages (German, EAL, French and Spanish)
- Swimming and PE Assistant in Chapter House
- Camp QE Assistant (outside of term time)
- Sports Assistant

Students apply formally, complete an interview and receive supervised feedback and a reflection meeting.

> “I learned how important it is to be efficient and organised in a physical workplace.”

> “I grew more confident working independently and making decisions on my own.”

PREPARATION FOR LIFE IN THE WORKPLACE

At QE, we equip students with the practical skills, confidence and experience needed to succeed in the modern workplace—whether they choose university, a degree apprenticeship or direct employment.

Degree Apprenticeship Support

- Introduced at the end of Year 12 through a careers-led assembly.
- Helps students explore post-18 pathways and understand how degree apprenticeships compare to traditional university routes.

CV & Cover Letter Workshops

- Guidance on finding opportunities and showcasing skills effectively.
- Sessions delivered by the Careers Team and industry experts.
- Access to templates, examples and how-to guides.
- One-to-one support for personalised CVs and cover letters.

Psychometric Assessment Preparation

- Overview of key assessment types used in recruitment.
- Strategies for success and mock assessments to build confidence.

Interview Skills Development

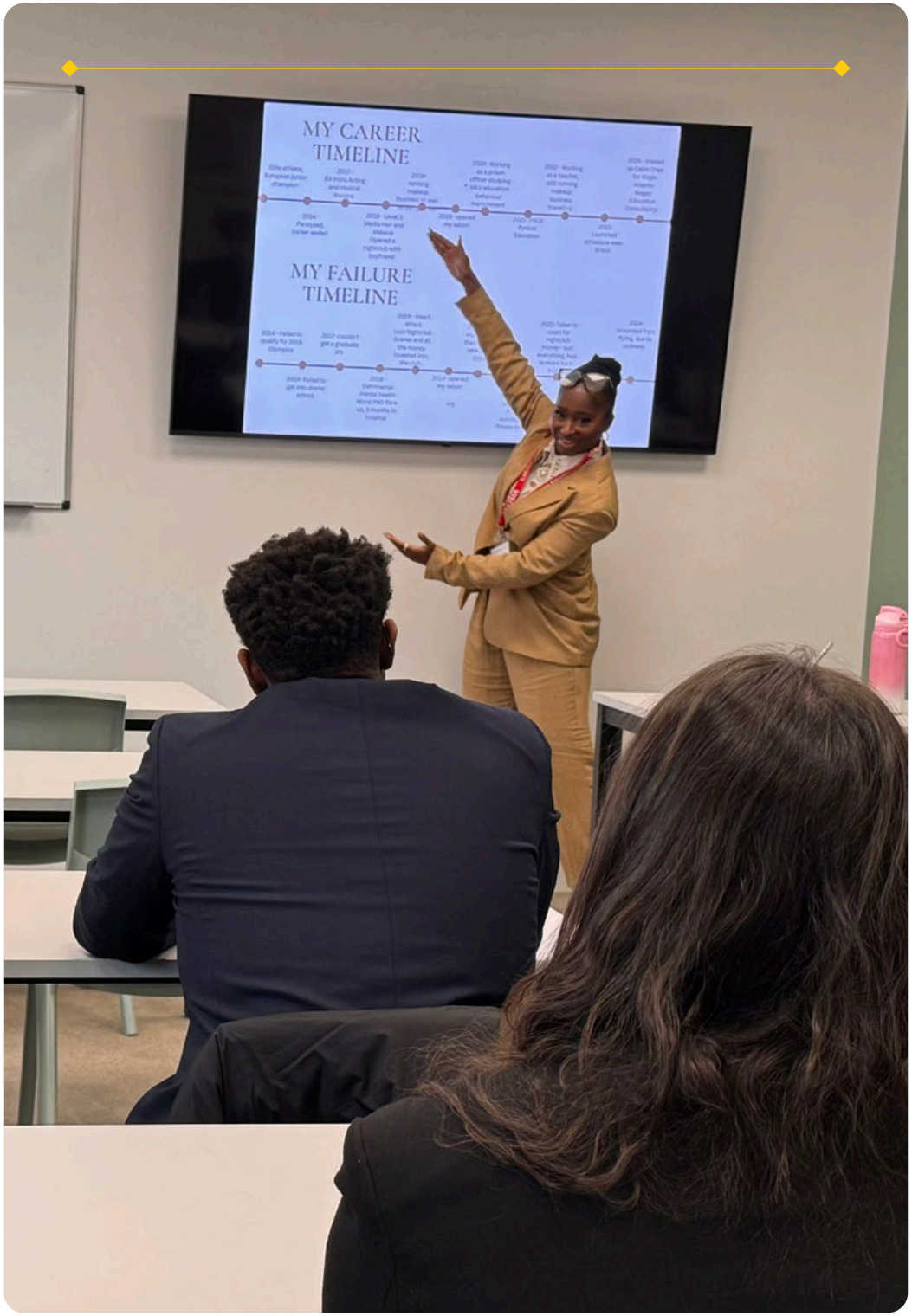
- Advice on answering interview questions and presenting confidently.
- Insight from employers and industry professionals.
- Mock interviews with the Careers Team and QE staff.

Professional Online Presence

- Dedicated workshop on creating a strong LinkedIn profile.
- Guidance on networking, showcasing achievements and building a credible digital footprint.

Assessment Centre Preparation

- Workshop explaining assessment day structures and expectations.
- Mock assessment centre including group tasks, in-tray exercises, presentations and panel interviews.
- Constructive feedback to help students improve their performance.



NEXT STEPS

Ready to Explore our World

We know choosing an independent school for your child can be a big decision – whether it is just down the road or halfway across the world.

Our friendly Admissions Team is made up of UK office-based staff and global QE Recruitment Managers.

This means information and support on applying for a place at QE is only ever a video call, phone call or email away.

Our world never stops turning either, so you can come and visit us at any time so we can show you just how special QE could be for your child. Full details and step by step details of our application processes, as well as current fees, can be found at:

Qe.org
Email: **admission@qe.org**

Queen Ethelburga's
Thorpe Underwood Estate,
York
United Kingdom
YO26 9SS

+44 (0)1423 33 33 33

qe.org