



Burlington Danes Academy Sixth Form's

**BDA**  
SIXTH FORM

# SIXTH SENSE

AN **ark** SCHOOL [www.burlingtondanes.org](http://www.burlingtondanes.org)

19<sup>th</sup> December 2014

## Year 12 Visit Exclusive UCL Open Day with ARK



On Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December, 11 students from year 12 visited University College London with Mr Whitlock.

The day consisted of an opening presentation of the history of UCL to the present day, where they learnt that a unique degree has recently been added to their prospectus unlike no-other; the 'BASc,' (a mixture of the Arts and Sciences).



Following this, the student ambassadors shared their top tips for university life and then took the cohort on a tour of the campuses. Upon returning, there was a lecture delivered on 'Critical and Analytical Thinking Skills,' that required the Year 12 students to come up with a persuasive argument for or against the motion "London is a great place to live."

Hebba, Walid, Sally and Aqib took to the floor and delivered an argument in favour of living in London, making reference to inductive proof and using evidence from healthcare, education and the infrastructure to support their reasoning.



The day ended with a seminar on 'Making the Most of Year 12' which included some vital food for thought as students lay the foundation for their UCAS applications next year.

### \*\*\* IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR ALL SIXTH FORM STUDENTS \*\*\*

Both Years 12 and 13 students will be commencing mock examinations from the first week of term in the New Year.

Please take note of the timetables towards the back of this bulletin and familiarise yourselves with the times and subjects for the various assessments.



# IN THE SPOTLIGHT



We are thrilled to announce that one of our Sixth Form students was invited for an interview at one of the most prestigious universities in the country.

Fatima Sharif of 13 Kings attended Oxford University on the 8<sup>th</sup> of December and had an experience that will no doubt leave a lasting impression on her future. We spoke to her about the occasion and share the moment in her very own words:



**Fatima, this must have been a great moment for you – when were you invited for the interview?**

FS: The interview was last Monday to Wednesday – it was a 3 day interview and I had to stay over there until it was over.

**How did it feel at first to get the invite for an interview?**

FS: It was really an amazing moment. I was ecstatic. I got the email and I just couldn't believe it.

**How did your family react? Where they with you when you received the good news?**

FS: Yes – they were all with me. We were all so excited.

**What did you apply to study?**

FS: English Literature and Language

**Why do you think you got selected for an interview, considering how competitive it is to get such an invite from such a prestigious establishment?**

FS: I'm not quite sure to be honest. I think from my personal statement they got that I'm quite passionate about my subject choice so they wanted to know more about that aspect.

**Can you talk me through the steps of the interview?**

FS: On the first day I had to go to the common room and get my interview times, and then the next day was my real interview. The first one was at 11am, and the second was at 2pm. They were both 25 minutes long. The first interview was about literature before 1830, and the second was about literature post 1830 to modern day.

**Why did they pick those dates?**

FS: I'm not quite sure – I guess 1830 was the end of the Romantic era, so the novel became more common to write. And for both interviews, they asked me about the books I read in those periods and what I thought about them. So it was quite informal and nice.

# IN THE SPOTLIGHT

## How many people were on the panel to interview you?

FS: Two for both interviews, so Four interviewers all together. For the first interview, I was given an extract 20 minutes before the interview to read, and then I had to talk about it. it was a nice extract.

## How do you think you did?

FS: Hmm, I really liked talking to them but I don't know if what I was saying was right.

## I don't think there's need to worry about saying the wrong thing as you've done so well to get this far. How would feel if you got the grades to be accepted? And what grades are you expected to achieve?

FS: They want 3 A's – I'd be SO happy!

## How many A-levels are you doing?

FS: I'm doing 3 A-levels and an EPQ

## How do you think you will fair with your results?

FS: I suppose if I study really hard I will get them. I feel secure and ok about it.

## You've obviously worked very hard to get to this point, so academia aside, how will you spend the Christmas break? What are you going to do to rejuvenate an relax?

FS: Well I was planning to study, as we have mocks in January but I'd probably have a day out with a friend and really try and relax.

## Anything else you want to add?

FS: Definitely – I'd like to thank Ms Morris and Ms Harnetty, my English teachers, for helping me to get to this stage. They've helped me with my personal statement and everything really, just so I could be on the right track for the interview.



UNIVERSITY OF  
**OXFORD**

We wish Fatima all the best with her interview and will be keeping a close track of her progress.



# STUDENT CORNER



## The Academy in your words...

Welcome to the Sixth Form Student Corner!

There is no better way to find out more about life in Sixth Form at the academy, than through the words of the students that actually make up this collective.

We hope you will enjoy learning more about what the Sixth Form at BDA has to offer.



(From left to right; Zeynab Yusuf, Ohood Abadi and Abdirahman Hirsi)

This week, we speak to some students of Year 13 about how it feels to have received all 5 university offers.

Additionally, they have been kind enough to offer some tips on how to get the best chances from the UCAS application process.

### 1. What was the most challenging thing about applying for University?

**ZY:** Finding the right course.

**OA:** The fact that you're given 5 options – you don't know which universities you want to attend because you're afraid that you may want something else in the future. And also making sure that you're selecting universities with the right grade requirement for yourself.

**AH:** It's making sure that our predictions matched the university courses.

### 2. How much time did you get given to apply?

**ZY:** Enough time. We started last year before the summer writing our personal statements, and then we came back and started going through UCAS.

### 3. Why do you think it's important to stick to the deadlines given to you at BDA?

**OA:** First of all, the sooner you get it done, the sooner you get offers, and then it helps to reassure that you've got a place at university and what conditions you'll get. Secondly, if you have a specific deadline, and something bad happens and you happen to go over the deadline from school, you still have time to meet the original UCAS deadline, so you've got a lot of time to sort yourself out.

### 4. The hard bit is over now, tell us what offers you have received

**ZY:** Exeter, Nottingham, Surrey, City and Kent.

**OA:** Loughborough, Brunel, Queen Mary's, Royal Holloway and Keele.

**AH:** Queen Mary's, Kent, Birmingham City, Keele and London Metropolitan.



# STUDENT CORNER



## 5. Which university are you inclined to accept should you achieve the grades required, and what will you be studying?

**OA:** Hopefully if I get the grades, my first choice will be Queen Mary's and my insurance will be Loughborough, to study Mathematics, Accounting and Finance.

**ZY:** My firm will be Surrey and my insurance will be City, to study Criminology and Sociology.

**AH:** I will be studying Mathematics with Accounting and Finance. My firm would be Queen Mary's and insurance would be Kent.

## 6. So now you've got all five offers out of the way, how are you going to spend the Christmas break?

**AH:** Play lots of games! Video games...

**ZY:** I'm flying out on Friday to Denmark to go visit some family.

**OA:** To be honest, I've got a lot of catching up to do so I'm probably going spend most of my time revising, but there'll be some days that I'll take off – let's call it a Sabbath day – and see if I can go out with friends.

## 7. Wrap it up for us, what message do you want to give to your peers and the rest of the school as we approach the end of term?

**ZY:** Definitely work hard towards getting those grades the first time round because you don't want to do retakes.

**AH:** I agree with Zeynab's statement – work hard.

**OA:** Make sure that you work hard but at the same time, enjoy yourself because if you're so used to getting stressed out, then you won't be able to reach your full potential. So if you're more relaxed and can balance your time, you'll be fine.

## 8. Are there any shout-outs you'd like to make to anyone in the academy?

**OA:** Layla Baldo in 13 King's – just for the sake of it

**ZY:** Zeinab Hussein in 13 Durham!

Congratulations must be given to these students for receiving all 5 offers from great universities. It is important to note that hard work pays off, along with effective time management. In doing so, you increase your chances of not only receiving an offer, but gaining entry into a top establishment of your choice.

As we draw to a close for this academic term, it is time to take note of your progress so far at the academy, and use the break to reflect on any areas that may require improvement.

Mocks begin on the first week back next term, so use your time wisely by studying, catching up on any work and resting!



# DOL ANNOUNCEMENTS



## YEAR 12

“ Year 12, well done on surviving what is widely regarded as the toughest of all the school terms... The term itself is the longest in the academic calendar (7 weeks), the days are much shorter and the weather is much colder!

The majority of your subject content is covered in this term, and therefore it is vital that you consolidate this knowledge over the Christmas break, while also reviewing the exam techniques for your subjects.

Over the holidays, it is recommended that you spend at least 5 hours a day revising for your mock exams which start when we return (Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January). The results from these will provide a good indication of how you will perform in your AS levels and will form the basis of your UCAS predictive data.

With all this said, it is important that you do take some time to rest and spend time with your friends and family... Just try not to over indulge too much! Have a great Christmas. ”

*Mr Goorah, DOL for Year 12*

## YEAR 13

“ Hi all, as we come to the end of the UCAS application process I can honestly say I feel privileged to have been a part of it. It has given me a real insight into the hidden talents of some of the members of our year group. We have a vast array of musicians, army, cadets, Duke of Edinburgh survivors and budding sports stars but above all, we have a group of students determined to challenge themselves at some of the best institutions in the country. Make sure you keep updating us with offers and interview dates and as soon as you have your five offers (which many of you have already!) book a meeting with myself so we can finalise your firm and insurance choices.

Remember that mock exams start in the first week back after Christmas so use your time away from the academy wisely. ”

*Mr Jennings, DOL for Year 13*

## FROM THE DIRECTOR OF SIXTH FORM

“ Well done on making it to Christmas, a real milestone in the academic year!

As the largest sixth form we have ever had you are truly always now visible throughout the Academy, and I love seeing you moving around role modelling uniform, manners and respect to each other and staff.

Y13 you have worked exceptionally hard on your UCAS process and the first stage of your journey towards university has been accomplished with maturity and commitment. There are more stages to follow, but it will all be worth it in the end.

Y12 you have made a fantastic start to life in the sixth form, what has impressed me most are people being on target, working hard in lessons, using the sixth form library, and those taking up opportunities to make themselves stand out next year in their UCAS application.

All of you need to work hard over the Christmas holidays to prepare for the January mock exams, but it is also important to rest, get healthy and read a good book! I hope you and your families have a happy and safe Christmas.

See you all on Jan 6<sup>th</sup>. ”

*Ms Stone, Director of Sixth Form*

# MOCK EXAMS TIMETABLE

## YEAR 12

Day	Date	Periods 1 - 3 (Exam Length: 2hr 15m max)	Periods 4 - 5 (Exam Length: 1h 10m max)	Periods 6 - 7 (Exam Length: 1h 30m max)
Tuesday	06-Jan-15	12 Op Q (Hi,Gg)	Y12 Chemistry	Y12 Dance
Wednesday	07-Jan-15	12 Op R (Ph, Sp, Ms, Bs, Py, Re)		12 Op T (Gs, Finance, Home Lang)
Thursday	08-Jan-15	Y12 English	Y12 Mathematics	
Friday	09-Jan-15	12 Op S (Gp, So, Re, Hi)	Y12 Biology	Y12 Economics

## YEAR 13

Day	Date	Periods 1 - 3 (Exam Length: 2hr 15m max)	Periods 4 - 5 (Exam Length: 1h 10m max)	Periods 6 - 7 (Exam Length: 1h 30m max)	15:30 (After School)
Tuesday	06-Jan-15	Government & Politics Philosophy Further Maths Sociology	Chemistry		
Wednesday	07-Jan-15	Biology 1 Business Geography Philosophy Politics	Maths C2	Psychology Economics French	Biology 2 Chemistry 1 Economics 2 Physics 2
Thursday	08-Jan-15	English Maths C1	Mathematics		Chemistry 2 Psychology French
Friday	09-Jan-15	Business Geography Economics 1	Biology	History Physics	Maths D1 Maths S1 History

<b>Opportunity Description:</b>	<b>Application and venue details:</b>
<p><b><u>City University Masterclasses in Engineering and Law</u></b></p> <p>A fast paced and creative one day master-class in Engineering <b>or</b> Law with the aim of allowing students to explore a professional area in depth through a mixture of academic and practical workshops led by employers, City alumni and academics.</p> <p>For Year 12 students.</p>	<p>Engineering – <b>11<sup>th</sup> February 2015</b>, Law -<b>13<sup>th</sup> February 2015</b> Both 9:30 – 16:30</p> <p><b>City campus (central London)</b></p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:susan.peat@arkonline.org">susan.peat@arkonline.org</a> by <b>9<sup>th</sup> January</b> with names of interested students – please note spaces are limited.</p>
<p><b>HR Work Experience (Work experience / career exploration)</b></p> <p>Interested in working in HR? Sign in to find out more...</p>	<p><a href="http://www.accessprofessions.com/opportunities/ap-1/hr-work-experience">http://www.accessprofessions.com/opportunities/ap-1/hr-work-experience</a></p>
<p><b>Slaughter and May: A Career in Law &amp; Trainee Solicitors (Careers information, Online materials (articles, podcasts etc.), Work experience/ career exploration)</b></p> <p>Find out all about a career law, becoming a trainee solicitor and the Slaughter and May London office.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.accessprofessions.com/opportunities/slaughter-and-may/slaughter-and-may-a-career-in-law-trainee-solicitors">http://www.accessprofessions.com/opportunities/slaughter-and-may/slaughter-and-may-a-career-in-law-trainee-solicitors</a></p>





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TAKE ME STRAIGHT TO SCHOOL LEAVER JOBS



[BSkyB](#)  
Broadcast Services  
Apprenticeship  
Location - Various  
Deadline - 11/01/2015



[Jaguar Land Rover](#)  
Higher & Advanced  
Apprenticeships  
Location - Various  
Deadline - 31/01/2015



[Just IT](#)  
Social Media  
We are Apps  
Location - Various  
Deadline - Ongoing



**Rolls-Royce**

[Rolls-Royce](#)  
Supply Chain  
Management  
Location - Various  
Deadline - 09/01/2015



**BAKER TILLY**

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