

Preparing for Life After CFSA

At Colonel Frank Seely Sixth Form we are driven by a desire to see students succeed. We promote high aspirations and encourage our students and actively encourage students to apply to university or advanced apprenticeships.

We have a robust careers programme delivered across the two years that encourages our students to find out about university, apprenticeships and employment.

Below is a list of useful links and information for students thinking about their career aspirations, and those who are not sure if University is the right choice for them.

University Applications

Students are provided with a clear, step-by-step guide to the UCAS application process, enabling students and parents to understand how applications are supported throughout Sixth Form. Weekly guidance sessions are delivered to help students complete each stage of the application, including dedicated workshops on writing effective personal statements. During the summer term, students take part in our Next Steps days where the UCAS process is introduced allowing students to begin completing their online application, parents are invited to attend our Aspirations information evening.

Colonel Frank Seely Academy has a team of experienced, UCAS-trained advisors who support students throughout Years 12 and 13. The application journey begins in the spring term of Year 12, when students start exploring university courses and considering which institutions they may wish to apply to. Students are encouraged to visit universities during the summer term, and the Academy also welcomes university representatives to speak with students. In addition, information evenings covering student finance and the UCAS process are held for parents.

By September of Year 13, students focus on finalising their personal statements. Every student is expected to complete a personal statement by the October half-term deadline, whether they intend to progress to university, an apprenticeship or employment. Additional guidance is available from the Trust, tutors and the Head of Sixth Form for students making early applications to Oxbridge, Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary Science, alongside support for all other university applications.

Following the October half term, students complete the final stages of their UCAS applications. Teachers then prepare and submit academic references, after which students begin receiving university offers and interview invitations. The UCAS application fee for 2027 entry is **£34.50**.

The remainder of Year 13 is dedicated to achieving the grades needed to secure students' chosen destinations. Final university decisions and confirmation of places take place on A Level Results Day in August.

For more information about UCAS deadlines and the application process, please visit the UCAS website.

Unsure about your post 18 options?

Have a look at the links below for further guidance and support:

Not Going To Uni

Founded in 2008 'Not Going To Uni' showcases the alternatives to the standard university route to school and college leavers. They want to change how young people engage with brands and discover their future careers.

allaboutschoolleavers.co.uk

This website supports school leavers in preparing for and finding employment. It helps students to understand the career paths available to them. Here, you'll find information on the different levels of apprenticeship—Intermediate, Advanced, Higher and Degree—as well as the latest school leaver job news and advice to help guide you on your own career journey.

Pure Potential

Pure Potential is an independent organisation that raises the aspirations of thousands of sixth-formers every year. This site encourages them to apply to, and achieve offers from, excellent universities and leading employers.

icould.com

icloud uses the power of personal stories to inform young people's career choices. Free and simple to use, icould features over 1000 videos of people talking about their careers – explaining their job roles, career path, and how different factors have shaped their direction.

National Apprenticeship Service

Through the National Apprenticeship Service you can find out how to become an apprentice, what apprenticeships are available, which employers offer them and information about starting your apprenticeship.