

*“Sixth-form students benefit from teaching that is closely tailored to their needs.”*



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# Year 13 Conference Personal Statements

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Tuesday 22 September 2026



## **Studying Psychology @ NUA**

**Wed 7th Oct, 2-4.15pm, Norwich University of the Arts, NR3 3AJ**

Explore what studying psychology is all about. We will talk about how we do things a little differently at Norwich and how we can think of psychology in the context of creative education. We will also touch on possible career paths some you may already know about but some you may not!

Sign up [here](#) by 28th September.

“



## Personal Statement Workshops for Year 13 Sep - Dec, online

Join us at one of the 1-hour online workshop to help you get started, edit and/or perfect this all-important part of your UCAS application. No matter what stage you are at we'll help; learn what to put in, what to cut out, and what admissions tutors are looking for.

Sessions take place online on:

- ~~Tue 15th Sept, 5-6pm~~
- Tues 13th Oct, 5-6pm
- Tues 10th Nov, 5-6pm
- Tues 15th Dec, 5-6pm

Sign up [here](#).

# HAS Opportunities



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## **Aim Higher Programme 26-27**

Our on line monthly online programme delivered by Barny Pearce, aimed at taking them through the process of preparation and application starts **TONIGHT**. Students need to sign up below a.s.ap to get on the list and ensure they receive invitations, links , resources etc.

[Aim Higher Student Registration 26-27 – Fill in form](#)

## **Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September**

Year 12 - 5-6pm - The Big Picture

Year 12 - 6.10 – 7.10 - Application Term Survival

**Oxbridge Interview Skills Workshop** – Live at County Hall - **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October** (n.b change of date from 12<sup>th</sup> Oct)

A fantastic live session with subject experts where students get to hone their skills in responding to unseen material and talking about their Personal Statement.

[Oxbridge Interview Preparation Workshop - Monday 12th October 13.00-16.00 - County Hall – Fill in form](#)

## Mock interviews for early entrants (Y13 only) Mon 9th - Mon 23th Nov, online and live

Every year, HAS offers mock interviews to all Norfolk students facing an interview as part of their application process. For this first round, we're inviting applications from early entrants who must meet the 15th Oct deadline (Oxford, Cambridge, Medicine, Veterinary Science or Dentistry). Interviews will take place throughout November.

This is an opportunity to experience an online or live mock interview with a subject specialist, we aim to make this as realistic an experience as possible. After the interview you will also get coaching and feedback to help you in your preparation for the real thing.

Register your interest [here](#) by Friday 23rd Oct.

*We will then contact you with your interview date and time - please check your emails and respond so we know you can make it!*

## **MMI interviews for Medicine/Dentistry/Veterinary Science Mon 23th Nov, live at County Hall, Norwich**

If you have applied for Medicine, Dentistry or Veterinary Science check carefully the kind of interview that each university requires. Our normal interviews above are 1:1 online or in person. But we are also offering an MMI (multiple mini interview) experience for those who will also experience this type of interview.

This will involve you coming along to County Hall for a one hour MMI involving 7 x 5 minute stations which will each test a specific skills or knowledge. This will be undertaken in groups of 7 students and everyone will receive feedback on the day.

Sign up [here](#) by Friday 23rd Oct if you think you will be meeting this kind of interview at any of your chosen universities.



## Sizewell B Visit

Tue 8 Dec, 8am - 4pm

The Energy Sector, particularly nuclear power, offer significant career opportunities in our region including apprenticeships at [Sizewell B](#) and [Sizewell C](#).

We're offering a visit to Sizewell B, where you'll learn about operations, electricity generation, and career opportunities.

Spaces are limited to 40, distributed fairly across schools and colleges. If interested, [complete this form](#) by 2nd Oct. These trips are very popular, so act quickly.

***Important:*** Visitors must provide personal information for background checks and bring photographic ID, preferably a passport. Without valid ID, you cannot join the tour.

# Apprenticeship Opportunity



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## Larking Gowen

Chartered Accountants & Business Advisors

## Apprenticeship Trainee 2027

Various, United Kingdom · Fixed Term

Overview

Application

### About this job

#### Apprenticeship Trainee Programme Information

**Gain real client experience, develop in-demand professional skills and work towards a recognised qualification while building a rewarding career with an award-winning accountancy and business advisory firm.**

Our **Apprenticeship Trainee Programme** starts in **September 2027**, and we're looking for ambitious and motivated individuals to join the firm. We also have a limited number of opportunities available for candidates wishing to start in **January 2027**.

At Larking Gowen, our people are at the heart of everything we do. We are committed to creating a supportive and inclusive workplace where wellbeing is prioritised, work-life balance is valued, and personal growth is encouraged through tailored training and development opportunities. In 2025, we were proud to receive the 'Best Benefits to Support Work-Life Balance' award at the National Employee Benefits Awards.

# What are the questions?



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“ Why do you want to study this course or subject? ”



“ How have your qualifications and studies helped you to prepare for this course or subject? ”



“ What else have you done to prepare outside of education, and why are these experiences useful? ”



# Q1: Why do you want to study this course or subject?



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You'll want to show **evidence** of passion, curiosity and interest; this might include:

## Motivations for studying this course(s):

- Have you been inspired by a key role model or moment in your life?
- Is it a subject you love and want to pursue further?
- What is your drive?
- How has your path led you to this course or subject area?

## Knowledge of this subject area and interests:

- Is there a particular subject area you've researched?
- Something you can't wait to learn more about?
- What about a book or subject expert doing great things that's sparked your interest?

## Future plans; demonstrate why this course/subject is a good fit:

- Do you already have a particular profession in mind?
- How might you use your studies to launch your career?
- What's important to you and your future, and how might the knowledge gained from this course(s) help you achieve this?

**Remember** these are just some examples, you don't need to include it all. The key is to research the course(s) to find out what might be most relevant. Check out the [UCAS personal statement guidance](#).



## Q2: How have your qualifications and studies helped you to prepare for this course or subject?



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Focus on what's most **recent** and **relevant** to your subject or course(s), examples could include:

### How your studies or training relate to chosen course(s) or subject area:

- This could be your current or previous studies.
- This could be from any form of formal education – think school, college, training, or short online courses.

### What relevant or transferable skills have you got that make you a great candidate:

- Are there a couple of subjects that helped you develop a core set of relevant skills required for your chosen course(s)?
- Maybe a particular module or project helped you understand where your interests and strengths lie.

### Any relevant educational achievements

- Universities and colleges will see your grades on your application - don't waste space talking about these.
- Focus on your other accomplishments like a competition, holding a position of responsibility or representing the school/college.



# Q3: What else have you done to prepare outside of education, and why are these experiences useful?



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Examples should be **reflective** and **demonstrate** further **suitability** for your subject or course(s), this could include:

## Work experience, employment, or volunteering

- In-person or virtual work experience.
- Paid for work or volunteering.
- The key thing is reflection on the experiences and the skills gained relevant to your chosen course(s).

## Personal life experiences or responsibilities

- Is there a situation you've personally overcome that has influenced your decision?
- Are there personal experiences that have helped you develop essential qualities for the course?

## Hobbies and any extracurricular or outreach activities:

- Think sports, reading, community work, summer schools.
- Any activities outside of core studies that help further showcase why you'd make a great student.

## Achievements outside of school or college

- This could be a position of responsibility for local clubs or groups, competitions, or qualifications you've attained outside of the classroom.



# Format and structure



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Three sections with question prompts



4,000-total character count split across sections



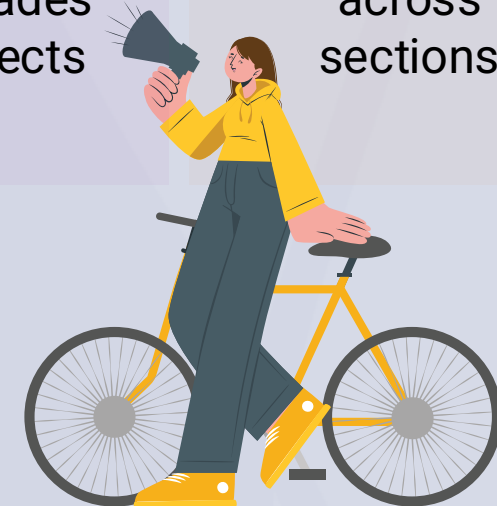
Minimum character count 350 characters per section



Don't waste characters listing grades and subjects



Don't repeat information across sections



# Examples of evidence

|                                      |                          |                                               |                               |                                   |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>In person<br/>work experience</b> | <b>Blogs &amp; vlogs</b> | <b>Positions<br/>of responsibility</b>        | <b>Projects or<br/>essays</b> | <b>Mentoring</b>                  |
| <b>Virtual<br/>work experience</b>   | <b>Documentaries</b>     | <b>Awards</b>                                 | <b>Books</b>                  | <b>Tutoring</b>                   |
| <b>Work<br/>shadowing</b>            | <b>Podcasts</b>          | <b>Challenges</b>                             | <b>Influencers</b>            | <b>Online<br/>subject courses</b> |
| <b>Paid<br/>employment</b>           | <b>TED Talks</b>         | <b>Personal<br/>life experiences</b>          | <b>Hobbies</b>                | <b>Trips or visits</b>            |
| <b>Volunteering</b>                  | <b>Articles</b>          | <b>Work<br/>based learning /<br/>training</b> | <b>Clubs</b>                  | <b>Competitions</b>               |

# Create a comparison chart



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| UCAS CHOICE (COURSE) | KEY TRANSFERABLE SKILLS | SUBJECT SPECIFIC SKILLS (OR KNOWLEDGE) | PERSONAL EVIDENCE OR EXAMPLES |
|----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
|                      |                         |                                        |                               |
|                      |                         |                                        |                               |
|                      |                         |                                        |                               |
|                      |                         |                                        |                               |
|                      |                         |                                        |                               |

# Example comparison chart

| UCAS CHOICE (COURSE)                                 | KEY TRANSFERABLE SKILLS                                                               | SUBJECT SPECIFIC KEY SKILLS (OR KNOWLEDGE)                                                                 | PERSONAL EVIDENCE OR EXAMPLES                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Business<br>XXX University                           | Research strengths, analytical skills, quantitative skill, communication, leadership. | Corporate governance, marketing, new technologies.                                                         | <p>What examples and evidence do you have to demonstrate these skills e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Online course: Society &amp; Environment: What Are The Ethical Responsibilities Of A Business?</li> <li>• Personal project written about What responsibility do businesses have to their consumers?</li> <li>• Budgeting my money from part time job salary.</li> <li>• Delivering a presentation in final unit studies.</li> </ul> |
| Business management<br>The University of xxx         | Leadership, teamwork, communication.                                                  | The global environment, new technologies, entrepreneurial innovation, marketing                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Business management with marketing<br>XXX College    | Presenting, budgeting and evaluation.                                                 | Legal, ethical and efficient practices, supporting innovation. Environmental and technological influences. |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Business management<br>XXX University                | Problem solving, communication with others, project management, analytics.            | Agile delivery, digital marketing principles, suitability in business management.                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Business management with marketing<br>XXX University | Group work and problem solving., teamwork. Independence.                              | Marketing data analysis, digital software usage, and creative content strategies.                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

# Remember to PEEL



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**P**oint

**E**vidence

**E**xplain

**L**ink



# AI Do's and Don'ts



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## DO

Do use AI carefully and make sure you understand how the data you input is being used.

Do fact check everything that AI tools suggest. They do get things wrong!

Do double check if the universities or colleges you are applying to have specific guidance around using AI tools.

## DON'T

Don't copy and paste from AI tools and use as your final text.

Don't forget that AI can only state facts but cannot reflect your own skills, experiences and thoughts in your voice, which is what universities are looking for!

Don't forget to check how AI tools might use your data.



Remember UCAS run checks to detect similarity in personal statements.

# UCAS Key Dates



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**Taverham Sixth Form internal deadlines:**  
**Friday 2nd October**  
**Friday 20th November.**

\* 18:00 UK time