

# Higher Education - Visits & Open Days

You should visit universities on your individual short lists and attend relevant Open Days because they offer valuable insight into university life and they will help you with decision-making. You may attend **five open days during school time**, but be selective and make use of weekends and holiday time as well for getting a sense of the places you are considering. It is wise to disrupt your own study as little as possible. However, do talk over your personal situation with your tutor.

## Procedure

- You must inform your tutor and any affected subject teachers as soon as possible about any upcoming visit;
- Your tutor has a simple form which needs to be completed which keeps a record of who has attended what university and when. Please ask your tutor for the form.

## Preparation

- Take along the relevant **prospectus**, having read it thoroughly and noted queries inside the front cover. It is important to have your questions formulated ahead of time and **written down**;
- Look at the information held on that institution in '**Which University?**' and '**Potter's Guide**' before you go. Check on the points that are most important to you while you are there;
- Arrange to see any relevant videos available in school. Your tutor has a list;
- Check on transportation costs and convenience beforehand. Consider how often, and how, you will travel;
- Talk to as many people as you can about the reputation of the place.

## On The Day

- Be alert to what is on show, but also to what is not;
- See more than one example of what is available e.g. Hall of Residence, lecture theatre etc. How large are classes?
- Check on domestic arrangements. For example, are first-year students guaranteed a place in residence?
- How far is accommodation from teaching areas? What about transport?
- Visit the library. Are there computing facilities?
- What kind of social life is generally available? Is it your style? How much does it cost? What clubs and societies are thriving?
- Does the place itself cater for activities/sports you value and will want to keep up? What are the costs?
- How flexible might they be if you don't get quite the right grades?

Do inform your tutor and Mrs Jones about the university. Your comments keep us up-to-date!



Open Days