

Senior Girls

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**MERCHANT
TAYLORS'
SCHOOLS**

For Boys and Girls
aged 4 to 18 years

September 2018

Dear Parents

UCAS Applications – 2019 Entry

We are writing to remind you that the Upper Sixth will be completing their UCAS applications during the Autumn Term. It is our expectation that all girls who intend to apply to university this year will have finalised their application by October half term. All tutor groups were given the opportunity to register their personal details and GCSE examination results on-line during the Summer Term. Tutor periods during the first half of the Autumn Term will be devoted to selecting appropriate courses and drafting and correcting personal statements; the first draft of personal statements should be submitted on **Thursday 6th September 2018**. With very few exceptions therefore, most applications will be complete by the end of this period, although we appreciate that a small number of girls may wish to finalise their choice of university course after the half term break, when they are more confident about their academic progress.

We would emphasise that, for popular courses and institutions, early application is definitely an advantage:

- Some courses are filled before the official deadline.
- Later applications are sometimes asked for higher grades.
- Applications made in December may not be dealt with until January.
- It will be impossible for School to process applications during the Christmas holidays.

It is our practice to check all applications before the girls send their final version. The process of compiling and typing the Headmistress's reference is then completed, which can take some days if a number of applications arrive simultaneously in the office. To be fair to all the girls, applications are dealt with strictly in the order in which they are received and it may therefore be some days before your daughter is able to read her reference so that her application can then be transmitted to UCAS. Girls should build this timescale into their calculations to ensure all deadlines are met.

Mock interviews will be available for those who need them, although it must be the applicant's responsibility to let Mrs Copley know the dates of any interviews to which she is invited in plenty of time to organise this.

NB

- Internal deadline: Final draft of personal statements for the early deadline below – **Monday 24th September 2018**
- The deadline for UCAS to receive Oxford, Cambridge, Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary Science Applications – **Monday 15th October 2018**
- Internal deadline: Final draft of personal statements for all other university applications – **Monday 15th October 2018**
- Final UCAS deadline is **Tuesday 15th January 2019**

Yours sincerely

Mrs C Tao
Headmistress