

## **SUPPORT WITH OXBRIDGE AND DMV APPLICATIONS POLICY**

At Isaac Newton Academy our aim is to equip every student with the knowledge, learning power and character necessary for success at university and beyond.

Ensuring that the Sixth Form students aspire to gain places at the best universities and have access to high quality advice and guidance is a key priority for the Sixth Form team. Supporting student who are considering applications to Oxbridge and DMV courses will require additional support and student preparation time for tests and interviews. Suitably guiding students through this process is a priority for the Sixth Form team.

### **Aims**

The aims of this policy are:

- To clarify how students will be guided through the process, from initial interest through to submission of applications
- To clarify expectations and role of tutors, Sixth Form teachers, students, parents, PLs and the SLT i/c Sixth Form in this process.

### **Process**

- All students, parents and carers are invited to attend the Higher Education evening in the Autumn term of Year 12. The process for Oxbridge and DMV applications is highlighted at this event.
- Towards the end of Autumn term of Year 12 the Sixth Form team ask students which subjects they are interested in studying at university and whether they are interested in making an application to Oxbridge.
- The SLT i/c Sixth Form and the PLs consider the students who have expressed an interest interested in Oxbridge and DMV and vet this list. Where appropriate students are advised that their attainment profile is not in line with what is required for these courses. The Sixth Form team offers suggestions of courses and/or universities that would be more in line with keeping their grade profile.
- From the Spring Term of Y12 weekly enrichments will commence to support students with preparing for the admissions tests and interviews. This enrichment programme continues into the summer and concludes in the Autumn term of Year 13.
- The Sixth Form team reviews the students attending the enrichment regularly and supports students whose attainment profile does not meet the requirements for the course which they wish to study.

### **Enrichments**

The enrichments involve supporting students with

- Effectively researching courses and institutions
- Accessing high quality, super curricular activities
- Writing effective personal statements
- Preparing for admissions tests
- Preparing for interviews through Harkness discussions and 1:2:1 interviews

**Expectations of SLT i/c Sixth Form**

- Arranging high quality CPD for staff through visiting speakers, arranging links with other sixth form providers and wider reading.
- Running the enrichments to support Oxbridge applications
- Ensuring that opportunities are marketed to Sixth Form students effectively
- Ensuring that students who are applying to Oxbridge or DMV courses are supported with the additional requirements associated with this process
- Leading on the final QA and send-off of UCAS applications
- Planning opportunities (e.g. university talks) both within INA and beyond to support students with making informed decisions

**Expectations of PLs**

- Running the enrichments to support with BMAT and LNAT preparation
- Supporting tutors and subject staff in writing references
- Quality assuring the applications before final send off
- Marketing opportunities to students

**Expectations of Sixth Form tutors**

- Supporting students in writing quality applications
- Ensuring that all deadlines are adhered to by students
- Writing high quality references for students
- Meeting with students half termly and discussing next steps when required
- Marketing opportunities to students and tracking their engagement with them

**Expectations of Sixth Form teachers**

- Writing high quality references for students
- Marketing and organising opportunities for students to learn more about courses and careers within their subject area

**Expectations of students**

- Attending university open days to support decision making
- Attending all enrichment sessions
- Proactively seeking wider opportunities to help with the application process
- Engagement with the tutorial programme (including 100% attendance)
- Responding to the feedback given on applications
- Adhering to deadlines set by tutors

**Expectations of Parents/Carers**

- Attending parent information sessions
- Supporting their son/daughter with visits and trips
- Discussing higher education options with their son/daughter