Please forward this email to all parents and carers – if you are a parent or carer, great this email has reached you, please continue reading our newsletter.

How to get ahead over the summer

Wondering what the next academic year will bring and how you can support your young person over the summer? Whichever year they’re entering from September, read on to see how you can support them over the summer.

Good luck in your new school!
This is a time when they will be finding their bearings, meeting new friends and enjoying lots of new subjects.

GCSE study
Now they’re studying for their GCSE’s, it’s time to think about how they best study and revise to get the best grades possible.

GCSE options choices
Help them think about subjects they are good at and enjoy. Depending on the school your young person studies at, they may start making GCSE choices in Y8 or Y9.

Think about what you want to do next
Is it sixth form or college? Is it A levels, BTECs or an apprenticeship? Time to help them to research their options, visit providers and choose what is right for them.

Planning beyond sixth form/college
The deadline for most UCAS applications is January 2022 (sixth form or college deadlines will be earlier). Research courses and providers on UCAS, take a visit to a provider and speak to current students.

Good luck in sixth form or college!
As well as settling into their new subject(s), it’s time to start thinking about their options after sixth form or college. What career would they like to do in the future? Do they want to progress onto University level study? Time to start researching options.
Open days are a great way of exploring higher education institutions students are interested in - getting a feel for the place, speaking to current students and staff and having a walk around. Whilst many open days are currently taking place online, the towns and cities institutions are based in are open again!

When Savannah was choosing her university, she did just that.

"As soon as I stepped out from train station, I wholeheartedly fell in love with the city. I had chosen Edinburgh due to my love of Scotland and the scenery but stepping out into the city, in-person, thinking I could one day live there was just magical!"

Read her top tips and experience in her blog.

Stacey always aspired to go to university but due to difficult circumstances had to leave home at 16 and go into full time employment, subsequently having to step out of education.

At 23 years old, with two children, Stacey decided to bite the bullet and call The Open University.

In 2020, at 30 years old, Stacey graduated from The Open University with a 2:1 degree with honours and is now looking forward to studying Learning Disability Nursing and Social Work at Sheffield Hallam University.

Read Stacey's story into higher education.
For more information and advice:

- HeppHUB - Higher Education Progression Partnership
- Welcome to the Hepp South Yorkshire Plus programme | HeppSY (shu.ac.uk)
- You can also speak to our qualified careers advisers via online messaging or a phone line: www.heppsy.org/chat.

Remember your support is invaluable and working together can make a difference. Keep an eye out for our next edition in September!