

Recommendations

To universities

- Engage on a departmental basis with local schools and colleges. Make sure that at least one person in each department understands the learning skills and needs of applicants, and disseminates this knowledge. Engagement with younger students as well as applicants is important.
- Recognise that there are different 'types' of transition/induction activities and attempt to offer as many as possible, covering the range of generic, focused and pedagogical activity.
- View transition as a longitudinal, gradual, 'drip, drip' effect which is focussed on different potential students at different times according to their different needs.
- Engage with and encourage parents of potential university students from as early on as possible.
- Report back to local schools and colleges when their students have graduated.

To schools and colleges

- Appoint a designated, key individual who has overall responsibility for HE awareness-raising and for the application process. This person (and their team) would regularly 'push' individual students (from years 11 onwards) to particular transition activities such as open days, student shadowing or roadshows, and would oversee and monitor the UCAS application process.
- Publish the programme of support for university application, and update as necessary. Offer specific advice and activities at crucial times, such as advice on financial planning at a time before applications for funding support are due in – but not so early so that the information is 'lost' and is meaningless. Seek feedback from current applicants to revise the schedule and the types of information offered for future students.
- Encourage students (whilst maintaining support) to be proactive in their preparation for university, and to become increasingly independent in relation to their learning and study skills.
- Engage with and encourage parents of potential university students from as early on as possible.

To students

- Be proactive and take increased responsibility for your own transition. Attend any activities and take any advice wherever possible. This can be both formal (open days, etc.) and informal (advice from siblings or friends) or a combination of the two.
- Believe in yourself!