

Early Entry Information- The Holt School

Early entry applications means being interested in applying to Oxford or Cambridge, or applying to study Medicine, Dentistry or Veterinary Medicine. Applications to these institutions are considered 'early entry', as the UCAS application must be completed by the beginning of October, so students need to start preparing their applications earlier than the rest of the cohort.

For a successful Early Entry application, the minimum required predicted grades are AAA and for many courses, there must also be at least one A*. As well as this, GCSE grades should all ideally be a grade 7 or above; and please note that many Medicine, Veterinary Medicine and Dentistry courses specify minimum GCSE Science grades.

We run a range of activities to prepare students for their early entry applications. These include:

- Introductory talk from our early entry co-ordinator
- Visiting speakers from Cambridge/Oxford admissions
- Visits from Holt alumni who are current/ex Oxbridge and medicine students
- Mock interviews with Wellington College and Heads of department
- Multiple Mini Interviews (MMIs) for medicine, dentistry and veterinary applicants
- Discussion groups for Oxbridge candidates
- Personal statement guidance for early entry
- Regular 1-2-1 meetings with the early entry-co-ordinator

There are numerous admissions tests for these type of courses. These are essential to get to the interview stage of the application process, so thorough revision and practice of the questions is essential. The UCAT and LNAT need to be booked individually and taken at external test centres. Oxbridge entrance exams are booked through and sat in school. All students have the opportunity to sit a mock exam. Links for more information about entrance exams can be found below:

Oxford entrance exams:

[Admissions tests | University of Oxford](#)

Cambridge entrance exams:

[Admission assessments | Undergraduate Study \(cam.ac.uk\)](#)

LNAT:

[LNAT | The Law National Aptitude Test](#)

UCAT:

[About the University Clinical Aptitude Test \(UCAT\) | UCAT Consortium](#)

For an Early Entry application, super curricular activities are also needed. These are interests outside of the curriculum that allow students to demonstrate passion for the subject in both their personal statements and their interviews. This can include, but is not limited to, listening to podcasts, reading beyond their A-Level courses and watching documentaries. Students should keep track of their thoughts and responses to their super curricular activities on Unifrog. **Those applying for vocational courses (especially Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary Medicine) must get some volunteering or work experience to allow them to understand the realities of the course, the requirements for this will vary between universities.**