

Lesson Plan: Choosing a Course at University

Date Best run in preparation for a Careers/ UCAS Convention.		Year Group Year 11/ 12/ 13	Duration 1 hour
Aim of lesson <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To discover what information is contained within a prospectus. Understanding how this information can be used to prepare for questions to ask at a Careers/ UCAS Convention. Ultimately being informed on how to make a decision as to which course and university to choose. 			
Materials and preparation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access to prospectuses in the Careers Library or a selection of current undergraduate prospectuses (around 5) provided per group. 5 blank Fact Sheets per person. Presentation on "Choosing a Course at University". 			
Timing	Teacher	Pupils	
10 minutes	Deliver presentation, explaining the benefits of Higher Education and how to prepare for choosing the right course and university.	Whole class to listen to presentation, take notes, ask questions they are unsure of. Ensure new terminology is explained.	
25 minutes	Distribute prospectuses or allow access to library. Instruct students to complete the Fact Sheets as comprehensively as possible.	In groups of 5, the pupils are to use prospectuses to complete the Fact Sheets. They can choose to complete Fact Sheets for any universities they wish.	
10 minutes	Explain not all information will be found in a prospectus and that there are other sources of information; online (though be careful of the source), Open Days and Careers Fairs etc.	Discuss the information they have collated. Are there any gaps or further information they feel would be necessary in order for them to make an informed decision as to which course/ university is best for them?	
15 minutes	Discuss the additional questions raised, possible suggestions include; Accommodation – how is it allocated, how are special requests handled? Study abroad/Industrial placement –does it have to be for a full year. Open Days – Do you need to book a place? Remind the students to take the questions with them to the Careers/ UCAS Convention.	Ask students to feed back the additional information they would be looking to source, along with ideas as to where to find this.	
Homework Research into additional universities using further Fact Sheets. Complete any gaps on Fact Sheets using online information. Prepare questions for Careers/ UCAS Conventions.			
Evaluation of pupils' learning Were the students better prepared on the day of the Convention? Have they started to make more informed decisions?			
Targets for future lessons			