



Rosshall Academy
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Dear Parent/ Carer,

I thought it would be useful to update you briefly on the University application process that your young person is currently going through at Rosshall Academy.

The process of applying to University (via the UCAS website) began in early September- UCAS groups run every Thursday period 6 (and occasionally 7). Here the pupils are supported with practical supports and advice as well as being allowed a ringfenced time to research their chosen course/ university pathway. Now that we have reached November, the expectation is that the pupils have a good idea of what they are planning to apply for and have begun work on their Personal Statements (the hardest part of the process). Pupils are offered the chance to have their drafts of this proofread by their UCAS teacher or myself before they pass it on to their Pastoral Care teacher, who in turn will complete their individual Teacher Reference for your pupils (and all the pupils in their caseloads).

As the prelim diet starts in December, the expectation is that pupils ideally have their personal statements completed by the end of November and passed to their pastoral care teacher- in theory this will allow their application to be sent off before prelims/ the Christmas break.

Top Up

At Rosshall Academy, we have a partnership with Glasgow University that allows our pupils to take part in a university preparation programme called Top Up. Participation/ passing Top Up can lead to a substantial grade reduction in applications to Glasgow University- please note: pupils need to have a valid Widening Participation postcode in order to receive reduced entry requirements. This does not affect application to other universities (though it looks good on the UCAS form).

Participation in Top Up is not required but is encouraged.

For more information please see the university website: https://www.gla.ac.uk/study/wp/topup/

Postcode checker is here: https://www.gla.ac.uk/study/wp/postcode/

Registrations for the November Top Up programme as closed but there are overspill windows in Feb where pupils who have not registered can still take part.

Careers Fair

Finally, we are holding our first large-scale careers fair at the school on **Thu 10**th **Nov, 6pm-8pm**. All local colleges and universities will be present as well as a large variety of professions. In the past, many S6 pupils and their families have attended to get some valuable information and we strongly encourage you to come along and speak with exhibitors for advice and support.

If you would lie to discuss any aspects of the application process to university and/ or Top Up, please do not hesitate to contact me at the school.

Sincerely,

Mr Clelland

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PT Employability & Family Engagement (Pastoral Care)