Help your students reach their potential

2017/18 ACTIVITIES GUIDE
UCL Access and Widening Participation
Introduction / 

I am delighted to introduce UCL's 2017/18 Widening Participation Activities Guide. The activities outlined here are part of UCL's commitment to widening participation in higher education.

UCL has been running outreach activities with schools and colleges for over 30 years. We offer a wide range of activities to support students from primary through to Year 13, mature students, teachers, parents and education professionals.

All of our activities draw upon UCL's world-leading research and teaching. We hope to broaden and excite minds as well as foster a genuine interest in university study.

We had a hugely successful 2016/17, working with over 7000 students from hundreds of schools across the UK. In 2017/18 we will be doing even more, with new projects that support students' attainment and an expansion of the work we do outside of London. Alongside this we will be increasing our work directly with teachers and school staff.

We look forward to another successful year working with you to help your students achieve their best.

Robin Barrs 
Head of Access

Eligibility / 

UCL's widening participation activity aims to increase the numbers of students from under-represented groups in higher education. As such, students must meet our eligibility criteria to participate in our events.

Students must be attending a state school in the UK, and priority will be given to students who meet one or more of the following criteria. We also reserve 50% of places for male students, as they are currently under-represented across our programmes.

School 
Attend a non-selective state school; attend a school with low average attainment levels for GCSE or A Level.

Family background 
Do not have parents or carers who studied at university; have parents from non-professional occupations; are currently eligible for free school meals.

Neighbourhood 
Live in neighbourhoods with low overall progression rates to higher education and high levels of deprivation. (We use POLAR, IMD and Acorn data to assess this.)

Groups underrepresented in higher education 
// Refugees; young carers; students estranged from their family; looked after children and students with a disability.
// Underrepresented ethnic and gender groups (Black African and Black Caribbean students, White British students who meet our family background/neighbourhood criteria and students from Gypsy and Traveller communities).

Academic potential 
We are looking to work with highly able students who have the potential to meet UCL's minimum entry criteria. For some of our programmes we will ask you to provide details of a teacher who can give a reference to comment on your potential.

Further information on our activities is available at www.ucl.ac.uk/wp
Based near Euston in the Bloomsbury area of London, UCL is one of the world’s leading universities.

Just 190 years ago, the benefits of a university education in England were restricted to men who were members of the Church of England. UCL was founded in 1826 to challenge that discrimination. UCL was the first university to be established in England after Oxford and Cambridge, providing a progressive alternative to the social exclusivity, religious restrictions and academic constraints of those institutions.

Today, UCL still holds equality of opportunity at its core and is London’s leading multidisciplinary university, with 11,000 staff and more than 38,300 students. Over 150 nationalities are represented among UCL students with overseas students making up more than one third of the student body.

Focused on the translation of research into solutions to the world’s major problems, UCL works across the disciplines and with partners all over the world. Current activities include leading the search for an HIV vaccine and developing the clinical use of stem cells in heart disease, blindness and spinal cord repair.

www.ucl.ac.uk/about-ucl

Child protection /

UCL is committed to safeguarding all children and young people involved in its activities. As part of this commitment, UCL ensures that everyone who takes part in activities, as staff or participants, understands the boundaries of appropriate behaviour. As such, child protection is an essential part of the training programme for UCL staff and students who work with children and young people. This training is reviewed on a regular basis and all UCL staff and students are given a copy of UCL’s child protection policy and procedures before they start work. UCL staff and students who work with children and young people also undergo the appropriate level of Disclosure and Barring Service checks before they begin.

All activities held at UCL undergo a risk assessment before they take place. We are able to provide schools and colleges with a copy of the risk assessment for their visit, if required. Copies of UCL’s Child Protection Policy are also available.

UCL Term Dates 2017/18 /

**Autumn Term**

Monday, 25 September 2017 – Friday, 15 December 2017

**Spring Term**

Monday, 8 January 2018 – Friday, 23 March 2018

**Summer Term**

Monday, 23 April 2018 – Friday, 8 June 2018

Looked After Children (LAC) /

UCL recognises that when applying and entering higher education children in care can face particular difficulties that their peers are less likely to experience. We encourage virtual heads and teachers, LAC care teams and charitable organisations to contact us if they have a group of students who they think would benefit from participating in any of our activities.

Please contact us if you’d like to arrange a visit for a group of young people in care and/or care leavers or alternatively would like a member of staff to come and speak to your young people about studying at UCL or on a higher education topic.

Costs /

All activities in this booklet are free of charge for UK non-selective state schools and students who meet our academic and demographic selection criteria (see eligibility on page three). UCL’s widening participation activities are funded through our Access Agreement commitments. We also receive generous additional support from the following donors: Sutton Trust, Peter Cruddas Foundation, Wolfson Foundation, and Lloyds Scholars.
Our wide range of activities makes connecting your students to university easy.

UCL’s widening participation office runs a variety of activities throughout the year for students in a variety of year levels who meet our eligibility criteria (see page three). Primarily, this activity is divided between groups who are:

// Pre-16
// Post-16
// Adults and mature learners.

We also provide resources and support for teachers and education professionals, who are seeking to encourage their students into university study.

Opportunities to visit UCL and attend department-specific activities also occur throughout the year.

See the right-hand page for an overview of our activities. More detail is also available for each event on the page listed. Purple icons ( ) throughout the booklet indicate the applicable year levels for each event and red icons ( ) indicate who you can contact to book or find out more.

### Activities at a glance

#### Pre-16

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#### Teachers/Education

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Our pre-16 programmes are designed to be engaging and interactive.

We encourage students to explore a wide range of future degree and career options in STEM and humanities subjects, and to understand the impact that GCSE and A level choices can have on their future plans. Our workshops develop confidence and skills in independent research, academic writing, group work and public speaking.

Our activities offer students an opportunity to keep in touch throughout their secondary school career, and to progress to other UCL programmes.

For more information, dates and details on applications please visit:
www.ucl.ac.uk/wp/activities

Bring Your Family to University Saturdays

Bring Your Family to University Saturdays are an informal and enjoyable introduction to higher education. Learn more about education choices, how degree subjects link to careers, and student finance. You will attend sample lectures and hear from current UCL students. Our partners at Birkbeck, University of London also offer talks for adults interested in accessing higher education as mature students. Any adults supporting a young person, including older siblings, relatives, parents and guardians, are very welcome to attend.

Abi Robertson
020 3108 7680
a.robertson@ucl.ac.uk

Explore UCL Summer School

Explore UCL is a four-day residential summer school, providing students with a real taste of life as a university student at UCL. The programme consists of a mixture of lectures, workshops and tutorials covering a wide range of academic subjects offered at UCL. Students work in groups to complete a project across the week and are supported by current UCL student ambassadors. The summer school will be offered to 100 participants attending schools all across the UK – it is a great opportunity for students to meet new people and make new friends. As this is a residential summer school, all students will be provided with accommodation at UCL Halls of Residences for the duration of the programme. Travel to and from, as well as meals and other requirements related to the programme are also provided.

Alexander Hall
020 3108 7646
alexander-hall@ucl.ac.uk
Museums Summer School / Celine West
Get hands-on with some of our amazing objects and specimens in UCL’s museums, and find out what university life is like.
Celine West
020 3108 8921
celine.west@ucl.ac.uk

Parent Information Evenings / Abi Robertson
UCL staff and students share their expertise and answer your questions. Any adults supporting a young person, including older siblings, relatives, parents and guardians, are more than welcome to attend.
Abi Robertson
020 3108 7680
a.robertson@ucl.ac.uk

Target Medicine Summer School /
A week-long, non-residential summer school, designed to help students find out what life is like as a medical student and doctor. For more information visit:
www.ucl.ac.uk/target-medicine
targetmedicine@ucl.ac.uk

UCL Horizons /
Two-year academic enrichment and support programme for 125 highly able GCSE students attending non-selective state schools in Greater London, and who meet our selection criteria. The programme includes Year 10 and 11 Saturday Schools, and summer activities. Students receive detailed information and advice about education choices, degree options and future careers, and develop academic skills to support high attainment at GCSE. We recruit new students in September of Year 10.
020 3108 7641 or 07852 312221
horizonsgcse@ucl.ac.uk

UCL Sutton Scholars /
Two-year academic enrichment and support programme for 100 highly able Year 8 and 9 students attending non-selective state schools in Greater London, and who meet our selection criteria. The programme includes a series of interdisciplinary Discovery Days, which expose students to a wide range of subjects. Students also receive detailed information and advice about education choices, degree options and future careers. Recruiting starts in October of Year 8, and the programme launches in February half-term.
020 3108 7646 or 07469 118172
scholars@ucl.ac.uk

UCL Visits to Schools /
We offer out visits for years 6 to 11 to non-selective state schools in Greater London and surrounding counties who meet our widening participation criteria. UCL widening participation staff can deliver talks on the university application process, student finance and student life at school assemblies, and student ambassadors are able to attend careers fairs. We also offer subject specific taster sessions delivered by trained UCL PhD students, a great way to stretch highly able students.
Alexander Hall
020 3108 7646
alexander-hall@ucl.ac.uk

Visit UCL Days /
We offer pre-16 school visits to UCL for years 6 to 11, on fixed Wednesdays for specific year groups. UCL Visit Days are open to non-selective state schools across the country, and we prioritise schools who meet our widening participation criteria. A school can bring up to 15 students for a visit (your students will be attending with groups from other schools on the same day).
Felicity Hayter-Gare
020 3108 7864
f.hayter-gare@ucl.ac.uk

Young Researchers /
This programme gives students the opportunity to attend an academic course over four weeks (one two-hour session, per week) throughout the summer. Students from schools across London and the South East are split into research groups of 15 students, and each academic tutorial will be led by a current UCL PhD student. This gives students the experience of studying a subject in depth, whilst developing independent research and academic writing skills. The programme culminates with students writing an academic research piece, which could be used to support their application to university.
China Anya
020 3108 8280
c.anya@ucl.ac.uk

Pre-16
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Our post-16 events and activities are designed to give gifted and talented students an opportunity to study their subject area in more depth and experience teaching and learning styles at a research-based university.

It is hoped by participating in our activities students will:

- be stretched beyond their A level studies
- gain knowledge in their chosen subject area
- have a greater understanding of how to make a successful application
- have an awareness of the skills required to study successfully at degree level.

For more information, dates and details on applications please visit:

www.ucl.ac.uk/wp/activities

Discover UCL: A Summer School for D/deaf and Hard of Hearing Students /

An award-winning, three-day residential programme exclusively for D/deaf and hard of hearing students in years 11 and 12. UCL will provide BSL interpreters for the programme and a palantypist for the academic sessions.

www.ucl.ac.uk/wp/discover-ucl

widening.participation@ucl.ac.uk

Futures in Finance Spring School /

Interested in a career in the City, but don't want to study a finance or business degree? This four-day, non-residential programme takes place during the February half-term, and offers Year 12 students the opportunity to explore alternative routes into the financial sector.

www.ucl.ac.uk/wp/futures-in-finance

Ben Lund-Conlon
020 3108 8277
b.lund-conlon@ucl.ac.uk

Gateways Conference /

A series of one-day, subject-themed conferences at UCL during the Spring and Summer Terms for Year 12 students. Students attend academic sessions, and get advice on applying to university.

www.ucl.ac.uk/wp/gateways-conferences

a.varilone@ucl.ac.uk

Masterclasses /

Masterclasses are engaging and hands-on, two-hour subject-based sessions that are delivered by UCL academics and PhD students, and provide a greater understanding of the teaching and learning styles at university. There is also the opportunity to learn more about UCL and be given a guided tour of campus by current students.

www.ucl.ac.uk/wp/masterclasses

Ben Lund-Conlon
020 3108 8277
b.lund-conlon@ucl.ac.uk

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Museums Summer School /
Explore UCL Museums’ outstanding art works, historic objects or natural history specimens, to inspire exciting learning across some of the university’s arts, humanities and sciences subjects.
Celine West
020 3108 8921
celine.west@ucl.ac.uk

Realising Opportunities /
Realising Opportunities (RO) is an innovative national programme which supports the progression of talented students to leading research intensive universities. The RO Programme develops students’ skills and provides students with support and information to help them make informed decisions about their future. By taking part in the RO Programme students benefit from additional consideration, an alternative offer and skills development. For more information see our website:
www.ucl.ac.uk/wp/activities/realising-opportunities
Khashim Hussain
020 3108 7763
realisingopportunities@ucl.ac.uk

Subject-specific Summer Schools /
A series of residential and non-residential summer schools run by academic departments, designed to give students a thorough insight into studying their subject at university. Details of the programmes to be offered in 2018 will be published on our website in January 2018:
www.ucl.ac.uk/wp/summer-schools
020 3108 6964
summerschool@ucl.ac.uk

Target Medicine Mentoring Programme /
The Target Medicine Mentoring Scheme aims to give Year 12 and 13 students a better understanding of what is needed to be a successful applicant to medical school and provides structured support and guidance to them during the application process. Visit our website for more information:
www.ucl.ac.uk/target-medicine
targetmedicine@ucl.ac.uk

Summer Challenge /
An award-winning, after-school study programme which develops students’ academic knowledge and study skills. Students attend a weekly Summer Challenge course run by UCL academics and develop their own independent research project. Applications will open in the Spring Term.
www.ucl.ac.uk/wp/summer-challenge
020 3108 6964
summerschool@ucl.ac.uk

Uni-Link /
Uni-Link is a long-term programme for Sixth Form students. It is designed to offer support and guidance throughout years 12 and 13 so that students are better prepared to apply to UCL and other competitive universities. Applications for Uni-Link open in October. For further information see our website:
www.ucl.ac.uk/uni-link
Khashim Hussain
020 3108 7763
uni-link@ucl.ac.uk
Twitter: @UCL_UniLink

Visits for schools /
UCL hosts a number of school visits to the university to school groups consisting of Year 12 students who are likely to achieve UCL’s minimum entry requirements (ABB). For details, visit:
www.ucl.ac.uk/wp/school-visits
Ben Lund-Conlon
020 3108 8277
b.lund-conlon@ucl.ac.uk
Experience life and study at UCL in a variety of ways throughout the year.

UCL opens its doors to prospective students, parents, and guardians in a variety of ways throughout the year. School groups can visit the campus, or we can visit your school to deliver sessions and workshops tailored to your needs. Our departments also run more specific sessions including lectures and more.

UCL Open Days /

The 2018 UCL Open Days for undergraduate students will take place on Friday, 29 June, Saturday, 30 June, and Saturday, 8 September. Visitors have the opportunity to visit the campus and attend both subject and information talks, as well as tours and activities taking place on the day. Please visit our open day website for details:

www.ucl.ac.uk/openday

openday@ucl.ac.uk

Science Centre Lectures /

A series of free lectures of a range of scientific subjects for students in years 11, 12 and 13 and their teachers. For further details on the 2016/17 lecture series please visit:

www.ucl.ac.uk/phys/outreach

UCL Museums /

UCL Museums run curriculum-linked school visits to our museums and outreach sessions in schools and colleges. Our sessions use object-based learning as a method to engage students with their topics. These activities are available for years 7–13 and cover a range of topics in science, history and citizenship. For details, visit:

www.ucl.ac.uk/museums/learning-resources/secondary-schools

Inspiring Women in Science /

A programme of speakers in schools, aiming to shatter stereotypes by introducing students to female role models in science, sparking their curiosity and self-belief in disciplines where girls have traditionally been under-represented.

020 3108 3991
equalities@ucl.ac.uk

Lunch Hour Lectures /

Running since 1942, UCL Lunch Hour Lectures are an opportunity for anyone to sample the exceptional research work undertaken at the university. The lectures are free and open to all, with no need to book. For details of the programme and videos of previous lectures, please visit:

www.ucl.ac.uk/lhl

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Engaging adults and mature learners in university study.

In 2017/18 we are offering events and activities to advise and encourage prospective students who will be 21 years of age or above at the time of starting their degree programme.

Mature Student Information Evenings /

UCL will be holding information evenings for mature learners in the Autumn and Spring Terms. These will provide sessions on how to apply to competitive universities, and the opportunity to meet current students.

UCL is also involved in collaborative work with other Higher Education Institutions aimed at mature students. Further information about upcoming events can be found on our website.

Students can apply for a place at our mature student events individually through our website at:

www.ucl.ac.uk/wp/adult-learners

If you are a teacher working with adult learners and you are interested in bringing a group please contact us.

widening.participation@ucl.ac.uk
Working with teachers and education professionals to widen participation in university study.

The merger between UCL and the Institute of Education (IOE) means we can now greatly increase the work we do to support staff in schools and colleges. This is important because teachers and other influencers at every stage of the education continuum have a crucial role to play in facilitating fair access to opportunities and helping to improve social mobility.

Enabling Social Mobility through Education (ESME) /

A free, online programme of professional development equipping schools to facilitate student progression and enable social mobility. ESME provides professionals with an in-depth understanding of the social mobility and fair access agenda, as well as setting out evidence-based practical steps that schools can take to support students to raise attainment, access appropriate opportunities in higher education and ultimately fulfil their true potential in life. For further details visit:

www.ucl.ac.uk/wp/esme

Professional Learning Network (PLN) /

The Professional Learning Network (PLN) draws together academics, researchers, and teachers to explore pedagogies and tools that aim to close the attainment gap and support social mobility through education. Practising teachers form a powerful voice within the PLN, shaping content and the direction of the Network, which is open to teachers from all sectors (primary to post-16). A key aim of the PLN is to support collaboration between colleagues based on sector/subject specialism and also development/research interests.

Members of the PLN can also access ‘Teacher Takeaways’, which are twilight CPD sessions that combine sector-leading research with teaching and learning strategies, the events are open to teachers from all subject disciplines, and across all phases (primary to post-16).

You can join the PLN at:

www.ucl.ac.uk/wp/teachers

wp.teachers@ucl.ac.uk
**Teacher CPD Conference /**
The UCL Teacher CPD Day is a day of talks, training and information sessions for teachers covering a range of in-school CPD areas. This will be run in conjunction with UCL departments, UCL WP staff and external contributors from a number of key organisations.

[wp.teachers@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:wp.teachers@ucl.ac.uk)

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**Teacher Masterclasses /**
UCL offers a variety of Teacher Masterclasses designed to support the teaching of specific areas of subject knowledge or areas of the curriculum. Additionally, we also run sessions to help and support gift and talented pupils in a variety of subjects. These masterclasses are delivered at your school at a time that suits you and can also include partner schools.

[wp.teachers@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:wp.teachers@ucl.ac.uk)

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**Teacher Summer School /**
Our Teacher Summer School provides an opportunity for teachers and careers staff to immerse themselves in a two-day programme, which includes an exploration of the UCL campus and meeting academics across a range of different subject areas. Summer school attendees will also have the opportunity to hear from UCL admissions and careers staff offering advice about the application and admissions processes.

The Teacher Summer School includes workshops that support colleagues’ wider work in raising attainment and supporting progression, for example previous sessions have focussed on collaborative learning, critical thinking and oracy.

We can provide accommodation for those teachers who are not within a commutable distance of London, and a free programme of evening entertainment is also included. For more details, or to register your interest, please email:

[wp.teachers@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:wp.teachers@ucl.ac.uk)

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**Teacher Taster Days /**
Teacher Taster Days are subject specific days run by an academic department, designed to aid teachers in teaching their subject in school and to bridge the gap between Key Stage 5 and degree level study. In addition to receiving up-to-date admissions information, these interactive events, run by UCL academics, include hands-on workshops, Q&A sessions and networking opportunities.

[wp.teachers@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:wp.teachers@ucl.ac.uk)

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Nearest tube stations / 
Euston (Northern and Victoria lines), Warren Street (Northern and Victoria lines), Euston Square (Circle, District and Hammersmith & City lines), Russell Square (Piccadilly line), Goodge Street (Northern line).

Bus routes / 
10, 14, 24, 73, 134, 390 stop outside Gower Street southbound and Goodge Street/Warren Street station northbound.
University College London
Gower Street
London WC1E 6BT

Further information:

e  wp@ucl.ac.uk

t  +44 (0)20 3108 6964