

Visiting your Department – Transcript

Marcus Williams (Deputy Director of Student Recruitment)

Applicant visit days are mini University open days when the department to whom you have applied will invite you on to campus to have a good look round. Most universities will invite applicants to have a look round between the middle of November and the middle of March and at Birmingham it's no different. In terms of how you receive your invitation, usually the department will send you a letter out detailing when you need to arrive and where you need to arrive; and how it will actually operate {Video Caption 'University Reception – Aston Webb Building'}.

A lot of Applicant visit days will be half a day in length, some may be a full day, it really entirely depends on the department. You'll also receive at the University of Birmingham a postcard from the admissions department setting out the general activities you may be able to engage in as well as your departmental activities.

Dr Craig Blunt (Admissions Tutor, Modern Languages and Joint Honours programme)

With our Applicant visit days at the University we try to move away from the standard model of 'here's a talk about the course' and 'here's a campus tour'. Instead what we're trying to give them is a flavour of what it would be like to be a student at Birmingham University studying modern languages. So in addition to the standard welcome talk and the campus tour, we'll also give them a taster session of a small group seminar, with an authentic text that we may well use in one of our seminars anyway we'll put some of our students in that discussion group with them to kind of facilitate it and help them along, so that when they leave they will have a sense of 'okay, that's what I'm letting myself in for', because it is a very different learning experience at University compared to school.

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