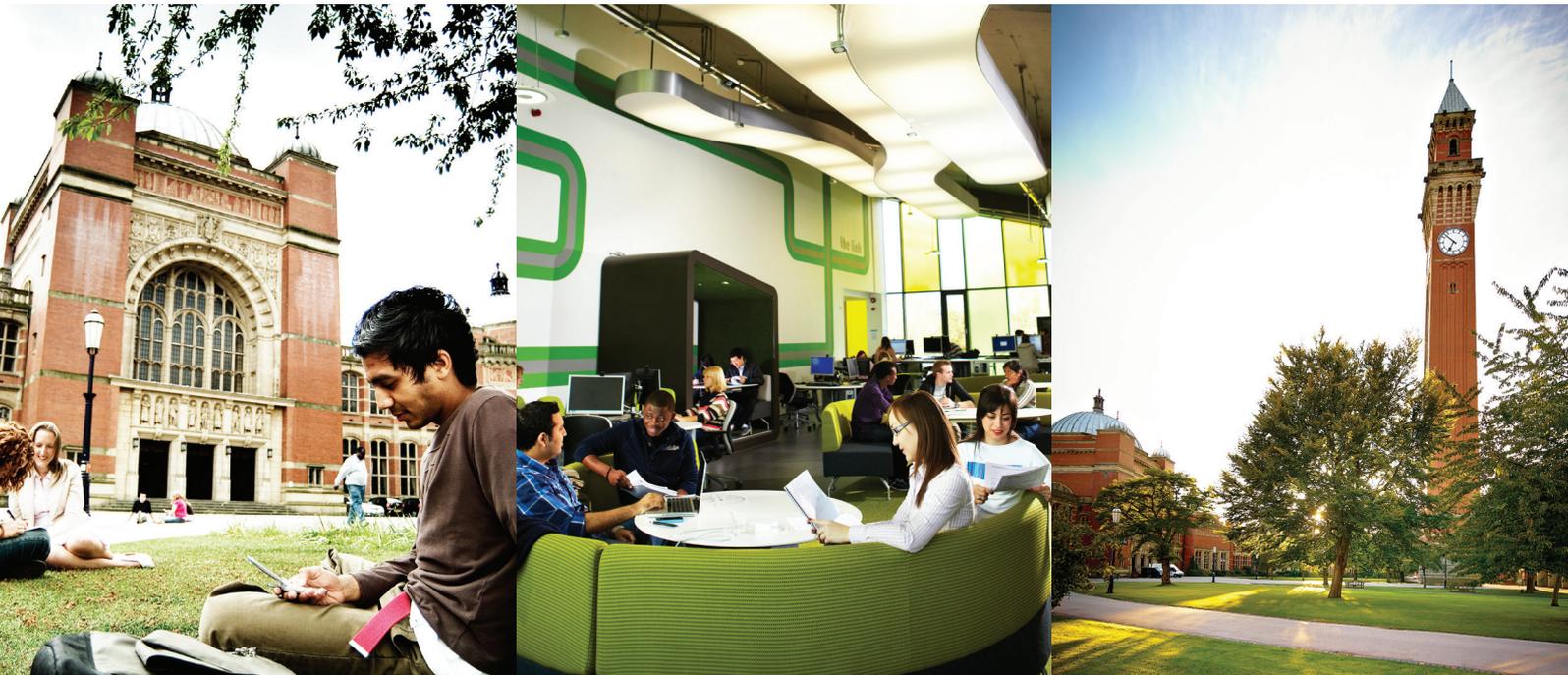




UNIVERSITY OF  
BIRMINGHAM

# Year 12 Higher Education Insight (HEI) Programme Information for teachers



**Residential: Sunday 20–Wednesday 23 August 2017**

**E-mentoring: August 2017–April 2018**

**Closing date for applications: 16 June 2017**

This programme is for Year 12 students **outside** of the West Midlands. Please see the 'Eligibility criteria' section for more details.

[www.birmingham.ac.uk/HEI](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/HEI)

# What is Higher Education Insight (HEI)?

Higher Education Insight is a new residential for Year 12 students from England and Wales. It will provide them with the opportunity to live and learn at the University of Birmingham; one of the country's leading universities.

The young people will experience first-hand what it is like to be a student at a research-led university by staying for four days and three nights in the University halls of residence and attending academic sessions in an area they are interested in. In the evenings they will be able to take part in social activities, just like a real student, and will also have the opportunity to take a tour of the UK's second city, Birmingham.

Throughout the residential there will be a team of current undergraduate student ambassadors working with the students. These ambassadors will be studying subjects within the academic streams. After the residential, the participants will be paired with an ambassador who will be on hand to help and guide them through the higher education process, including advice on UCAS applications and supporting their personal statements.

This programme will allow the students to develop a relationship with academics in their field of interest. They will be able to explore different topics within the academic stream and ultimately raise aspirations and have a better insight into the subject that they are interested in. The programme will instill confidence in the students, as they will be meeting people from all over the country. The weekly contact from a current undergraduate through e-mentoring will guide them in their choices regarding higher education, and ensure they reach their full potential and make the best possible choice. **This is a highly competitive programme, with only 50 places available for students.**

## Additional benefits

As a result of a student's commitment to attending the Higher Education Insight Programme, all students that subsequently apply to the University of Birmingham and are made an offer will be guaranteed a one-grade reduction on the standard offer (including Medicine/Dentistry). Alternatively, if applicants achieve an A grade in their Extended Project Qualification (EPQ), a one-grade reduction will be applied to their offer (excluding Medicine/Dentistry). The grade reduction will only apply to either the EPQ or HEI attendance, not both.

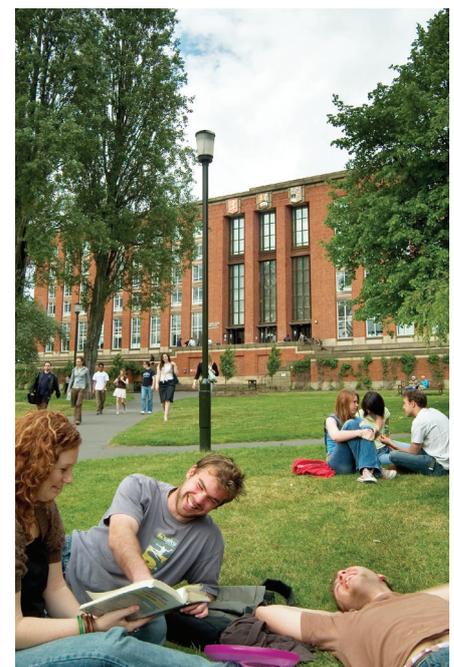


## The academic streams

Students will have the option to choose ONE broad academic stream from the two available. These academic streams must be related to the students' current studies or relevant for the degree programme they wish to study for. We have put a cap of 25 students maximum for any one academic stream and reserve the right to withdraw any subject stream if the numbers are not viable.

The academic streams will include the following (subject to availability):

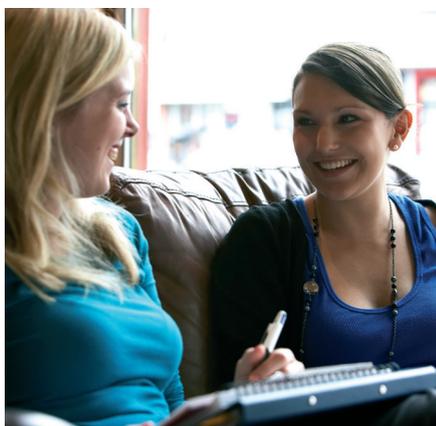
- ❑ **Humanities and Social Sciences**  
Law, History, English, Philosophy, Theology, Social Policy, Sociology, Politics
- ❑ **Biological and Health Sciences**  
Physiotherapy, Medicine, Biosciences, Dentistry, Chemistry, Pharmacy, Nursing



# Eligibility criteria

The exacting social and academic criteria for the Higher Education Insight Programme is set in order to attract applications from the most able students who have no history of higher education in their family, but have a realistic opportunity of being offered a place at leading research-led institutions in the country.

We hope that students are encouraged to make an application to this programme, in order to give them a realistic view of life as a student during the summer residential, and to take advantage of the support offered to all participants via an e-mentoring programme that forms an integral part of the initiative.



**This programme is only open to students from outside the greater West Midlands region** and students from the following areas cannot apply: Birmingham and Solihull, Black Country (Dudley, Sandwell, Wolverhampton and Walsall), Hereford and Worcestershire, Coventry and Warwickshire, Staffordshire, Telford and Wrekin, Gloucestershire, Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Oxfordshire and Northamptonshire. Students from these regions can apply for the Academic Enrichment Programme [www.birmingham.ac.uk/aep](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/aep)

**Places for this competitive programme are limited and priority will be given to students who are academically high-achieving and meet the essential criteria for the programme.**

**Essential criteria – students must:**

- ❑ Have parents that have not been to university (siblings in higher education are allowed).

- ❑ Have parents in non-professional occupations.
- ❑ Be taking relevant A level (or equivalent) qualifications for the academic stream they choose to apply for on the programme.
- ❑ Attend a non-selective state school with a high proportion of free school meals and/or in inner-city areas. If students currently attend a selective state school/college, the school at which they did their GCSEs must not have been selective.
- ❑ Have a parental household income below £42,600 per annum.

**Desirable criteria:**

- ❑ Students should have a minimum of eight GCSEs (Grade B and above including Maths and English).

**Other factors we will consider:**

- ❑ Students with disabilities or those that grew up in care are actively encouraged to apply.

# How to apply

The application form has been designed so that completing it is as simple as possible and we hope that this should make the application process easy. All applications must be endorsed by the Head of Sixth Form or a nominated teacher at your school. Once the application form is completed and endorsed, please return the form to the programme co-ordinator at the University of Birmingham (contact details listed on the right).

Early applications to the programme are strongly advised. Decisions will be made on a first-come, first-served basis. Deadline for applications is 16 June 2017.

**Learn more**

For further information and an application form, please contact the co-ordinator:  
**Mohammed Ansar** (Outreach Officer)  
Email: [m.ansar@bham.ac.uk](mailto:m.ansar@bham.ac.uk)  
Tel: +44 (0)121 414 7169

University of Birmingham  
Higher Education Insight Programme  
Student Recruitment and Outreach Office  
Birmingham  
B15 2TT



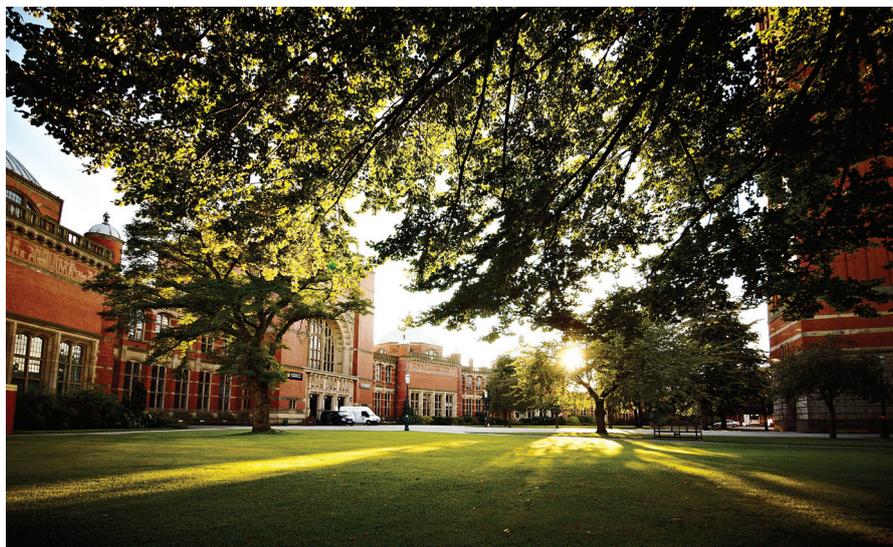
# About the University of Birmingham

The historic university is part of the Russell Group of universities. It is set in a beautiful 250-acre parkland campus and was voted one of the UK's top ten most beautiful universities by *The Telegraph* (2012). There are over 30,000 students from more than 150 countries across the world studying at the University, which has an international reputation for the quality of its research and excellence of its teaching.

The University has invested over £5 million in its Careers Network to support the undergraduate population. This was recognised by Birmingham being named *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* University of the Year for Graduate Employment 2016. The Guild of Students is home to over 200 clubs and societies and hosts the Job Zone, a one-stop shop of employment opportunities within and outside the University.

The University is like a small town. On campus you will find two Spar supermarkets, other food outlets including Subway, Starbucks, and Costa Coffee; a bookshop, Ryman stationers, STA Travel, a hairdressers, mobile phone shop and banks. We are also the only mainland university that has its own railway station, making us easily accessible from all over the country. The University is less than a ten-minute train journey from Birmingham New Street station.

The University also has a strong tradition of investing in its infrastructure for the benefit of its students. The University invests on average £1 million a week in its facilities. Recent major developments have included a state-of-the-art 450-seat music auditorium costing £17 million. A further £55 million has been invested in a new sports centre and the building of a new library.



## How much will it cost?

**NOTHING!**

The costs for this programme will be met by the University of Birmingham. This includes: transport costs to and from the University (subject to a limit of £35 per student) for the summer residential, and the costs of accommodation, food and social activities in the evening.

## Terms and conditions

The University will charge a £100 non-attendance fee for all schools/colleges that put forward students who drop out less than **FOUR WEEKS** before the start of the residential; fail to arrive at the start of the week, or fail to complete the e-mentoring part of the programme. **We request that only students who are committed to completing both parts of the programme are selected and put forward.**

[www.birmingham.ac.uk/HEI](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/HEI)



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This leaflet was written several months in advance of the start of the academic year. It is intended to provide prospective students with a general picture of the programmes and courses offered by the School. Please note that not all programmes or all courses are offered every year. Also, because our research is constantly exploring new areas and directions of study some courses may be dropped and new ones offered in their place.