

UNITRACKS

WARWICK YOUNG ACHIEVERS PROGRAMME
Students & Parents Guide





EVERY YOUNG PERSON HAS THE POTENTIAL TO GO TO UNIVERSITY - INCLUDING YOU

Your teacher thinks you have that potential, which is why they have given you this brochure. They want you to be a part of the **UNITRACKS** programme, which has been designed for students like you, to help you decide what you might like to do in the future.

By being a part of **UNITRACKS**, you will have the chance to:

- ▷ Take part in taster sessions and interactive activities, whilst exploring subjects such as Film, English, History, Theatre and many more
- ▷ Discover hidden creative talents through projects and challenges
- ▷ Develop the skills that colleges, universities and future employers look for, such as teamwork and communication
- ▷ Begin to think critically about the world around you
- ▷ Work towards improving your academic grades
- ▷ Make new friends and have a lot of fun!

UNITRACKS is here to stretch and challenge you academically and inspire you to consider university in the future. As you go through the programme you will get to meet other creative thinkers, including current undergraduates, who will be able to give you an insight into what university life is like. We will help you explore all your options so you can make a fully informed decision about what pathway to follow into Sixth Form/ College and beyond.

By the end of your time with us, we hope you will have grown in confidence in your own abilities; developed key skills; be more knowledgeable about what university has to offer you and be well on your way to achieving your true potential!





WHAT CAN UNITRACKS DO FOR YOU

Each year of **UNITRACKS** has a different theme, designed to help you think about your next steps and to help you explore different options for your future.

YEAR 8: EXPLORE

WHAT IS UNIVERSITY LIFE REALLY LIKE?

This year will help you understand what it's like to be a university student! From shadowing a current Warwick student to working on group projects, you will start to learn the skills needed to do well academically.

YEAR 9: DEVELOP

WHAT ARE ALL THE SUBJECTS I HAVEN'T DONE?

You will have the opportunity to take part in a more creative project, using the theme of 'Developing our Identity'. There will be sessions covering GCSE options, understanding how different subjects can lead to different career paths in the future.

YEAR 10: EQUIP

WHAT CAN I ACHIEVE? WHY SHOULD I GO TO UNIVERSITY?

In Year 10, our focus switches to an academic-style project. You will have the opportunity to do your own research and present your findings. We continue to offer information, advice, and guidance about future career pathways within the world of Arts and Humanities subjects.

YEAR 11: ATTAINMENT

GET THE GRADES YOU WANT!

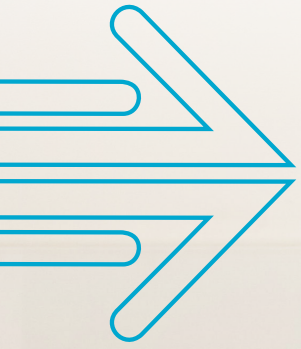
Year 11 is an important year for you, and we want to support you in getting the best grades possible! Across the year, you will be able to take part in virtual revision sessions to support your attainment. You will also be invited to attend a 3-day Revision 'Bootcamp' during the Easter holidays which we hope will boost your confidence ahead of your final GCSE exams.

“

My sister's confidence has grown around people she doesn't know. She's very quiet and shy but has made new friends that she speaks to regularly. I enjoyed the opportunity to come along to the celebration to see what my sister has been doing and what she has learnt.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING WHEN?

We are looking forward to welcoming groups back onto campus for in-person events, providing it is safe for us to do so.

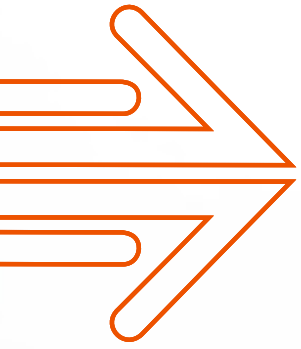
IN-PERSON, ON-CAMPUS EVENTS

When we do run on-campus events, these will take place on Saturdays or during school holidays, to ensure you do not miss out on important schooling.

DIGITAL EVENTS

We will continue to run Digital Events as part of the overall programme, in addition to our in-person events. Digital Events will take place on Microsoft Teams.





WHAT'S THE PROGRAMME LIKE?

Don't just take our word for it. Opposite are some testimonies from current and former UNITRACKS Programme students.

“

Being part of the programme has helped me to find out what I'd like to do as a career and helped me to see what university life would be like. The most enjoyable part has been the people - the mentors and everyone else were really encouraging and supportive; they really pushed us to be more confident and to express our opinions.

Year 9 participant

I've enjoyed getting to experience what it could be like at university and having such an opportunity. I also got to make new friends and learn new things.

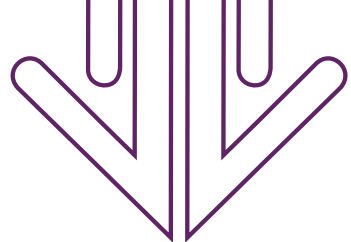
Year 9 participant

The most useful part has been developing new skills like communication skills. The experience felt very real, and it is quite exciting.

Year 9 participant

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INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS/CARERS

Why has my child been selected?

Your child has been selected to be a part of **UNITRACKS** because we feel that they will benefit greatly from the opportunities available. All the young people involved have the ability and potential to gain a place at one of the UK's leading universities.

Participants will be encouraged to choose the best university course for their interests and abilities. Former **UNITRACKS** participants have gone on to study at universities such as Birmingham, Bristol, Cambridge, Durham, Leicester, University College London and Warwick!

We recognise, however, that university might not be the right option for your child. By working with them over four years, we hope that we will have given them the confidence in themselves and all the information possible to make the right decision for their future.

What does this mean for me?

We ask that you support your child's participation in the various opportunities open to them as a member of **UNITRACKS**. This could include attending the initial launch event; giving consent to them taking part in a group challenge or participating in other activities such as a residential event, and talking with your son/daughter about their decisions for their future.

Logistics for attendance at events is coordinated through your child's school - if you have any other questions, please email: unitracks@warwick.ac.uk

What does the programme involve and how often will my child have to go to Warwick?

We hold our main events on Saturdays or sometimes during school holidays in order that the participants are not missing out on school. During their first year on the programme, depending on the activity your child gets

involved in, they can expect to come onto campus three to four times. In subsequent years it is more likely to be once or twice in the year.

What are the costs involved with this programme?

There are no costs involved to participating in this programme. We will reimburse parents/guardians/carers for costs relating to bringing your child to any of our events.

Will they have to wear school uniform when attending events?

Most **UNITRACKS** events have a casual dress-code so no uniform necessary!

Is transport to and from the University of Warwick provided? What about other resources and food?

Transport should never be a barrier to a participant attending a **UNITRACKS** event. We will offer support either through reimbursing mileage or public transport costs, or by arranging travel with a coach or minibus.

Regarding resources, unless specified otherwise, we would provide these for the participants. However, there are no specific resources required to be a participant in **UNITRACKS**.

All **UNITRACKS** events are catered and we can arrange for dietary requirements, provided we know in advance.

Who will be supervising my child at the events?

Events are supervised by staff from the University of Warwick's Widening Participation Team and academic departments, and current undergraduates who work as Student Ambassadors. All staff and students who will be working with the **UNITRACKS** participants in an unsupervised capacity undergo a DBS check in line with current regulations.

SEE WHAT PARENTS AND CARERS HAVE SAID!



Since attending the course, Kiran's confidence levels have improved, she is more organized, plans homework, is more independent when researching and completing work. She has become more open minded about her future and education wise. As a family, we feel she has matured more academically.

Sukvero (parent)

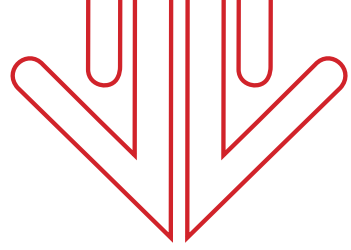
The programme has made a very strong positive impact on Suchit's thinking and perception towards his future. It has opened his eyes on so many other avenues which he can peruse if he is willing. Such an amazing programme, would recommend to anybody who is willing to work hard as the opportunities are endless.

Puspa (parent)



FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT THE PROGRAMME MANAGER

✉ unitracks@warwick.ac.uk ☎ 07876 218090



THE UNITRACKS PROGRAMME IN DETAIL

KEY STAGE 3 - YEARS 8 AND 9

For the first two years of the programme, our aim is to help the participants see university as one option for them in the future.

We start to familiarise **UNITRACKS** members with issues relating to university, such as:

- ▷ What a university is, and how one university differs from another
- ▷ Why they might choose to study at university
- ▷ The benefits of receiving a university education.

KEY STAGE 4 - YEARS 10 AND 11

These are important years for your son/daughter. The lead up to GCSE exams can be stressful and challenging and the idea of university can seem very far off.

There are key decisions during this Key Stage that can affect future progression to university and employment.

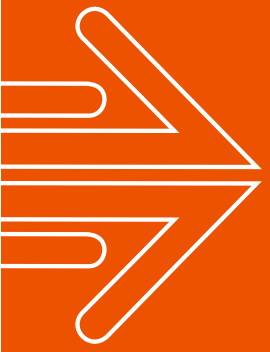
Performance in GCSE exams can affect future options for study at university, and through **UNITRACKS** we will help your child develop effective exam revision skills. During this Key Stage your child will also need to make decisions about what to study post-16.

With the wide range of courses available, **UNITRACKS** will help them to consider all their options and to make an informed decision.

UNITRACKS helps give its members clearer information on issues such as:

- ▷ Effective GCSE exam revision
- ▷ Sixth form options
- ▷ A level course choice.





HOW TO APPLY

The application form is online – the teacher who has put you forward for the programme will give you a link to the form.

There are three parts to the application:

Participant (You) + Parent / Carer + Teacher.

When completing the application form, you will need to have a current email address for your parent or carer.



The University of Warwick is a world-leading campus university, renowned for its excellent teaching and world-leading research.

Ever since we welcomed our first students to our Coventry-based campus in 1965, we have remained forward thinking. Today, our three Faculties – Arts, Social Sciences, and Science, Engineering and Medicine – continue to pioneer and excel. We encourage unbounded learning, motivating our students to pursue modules outside of their main department. More so than ever, a flexible approach to teaching is crucially important, and positive student feedback on our approach to teaching during the Covid-19 pandemic was influential in Warwick being named University of the Year for Teaching Quality by The Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2022.

With more than 300 clubs and societies, life outside study provides many opportunities to try new things, and build new friendships. Our 720-acre campus provides a hub for much of this activity, with developments and facilities that help you enjoy the best possible student experience. If you enjoy the Arts, you can enjoy the theatre, visual arts, cinema, music and comedy on offer at our newly redeveloped Warwick Arts Centre. For those who want to get active, our Sports and Wellness Hub provides amazing facilities including a climbing wall, combat studios, glass-backed squash courts, and a large gym packed with advanced cardio and strength equipment and technology.

Your wellbeing is hugely important to us, so support is always readily available, helping you to make the most of every opportunity and achieve your potential.

All this means that, by choosing Warwick, you'll be joining a safe, supportive community, where you can grow, connect, excel, and thrive.



IN THE UK
WARWICK IS RANKED

8TH

The Guardian 2021 league table

IN THE WORLD
WARWICK IS RANKED

61ST

QS World University Rankings 2022

FOR HIGHEST EARNINGS

TOP 10

5 YEARS AFTER GRADUATING, WARWICK GRADUATES RANKED WITHIN THE UK TOP 10 FOR HIGHEST EARNINGS IN OVER 11 SUBJECTS

UK government's 2018 Longitudinal Education Outcomes (LEO) dataset (2015-16 data)



UNITRACKS

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