



UNIFEST 2019

 Part of the
National Collaborative
Outreach Programme

Explore
Discover
Achieve

WHAT IS UNIFEST?

UniFest Summer Schools take place at 6 universities across the West Midlands. UniFest gives you the chance to spend time exploring university life, meeting students and staff, making friends and having an action packed, fun experience.

WHO IS UNIFEST FOR?

UniFest is for students in Year 10 at state-funded secondary schools in the West Midlands who are from backgrounds and communities that are less likely to be considering university as an option. To apply for a place you will need the support of your school and the consent of your parents or carers, and you should be able to answer "Yes" to at least one of the following*

- My parents or carers did not go to university
- I receive Free School Meals
- I have a disability or learning difficulty
- I am in the care of my local authority
- I am a young carer

WHAT WILL I DO?

That depends on which UniFest event you choose. Some explore university life and study in general, and others focus on certain career or study options. All UniFest events include lots of hands-on sessions, and a packed programme of fun social activities

You can view photos and links to UniFest universities by visiting our website:

www.aimhigherwm.ac.uk



"I LOVED MEETING NEW PEOPLE GAINING INDEPENDENCE."



WHAT'S THE CATCH?

There is no catch. UniFest is funded by universities and schools **and is totally free of charge**. Meals, accommodation, activities and travel costs are all paid for (although you may want to bring a little pocket money with you). The universities will even help you plan how to get to and from events.

HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?

You will need to complete an application form telling us about you and your career interests. Your parents or carers will need to complete parts of the form, and your school will need to approve your application and send it back to us.

WHAT HAPPENS IF THERE ARE MORE APPLICANTS THAN PLACES?

UniFest is very popular, and there are often more applicants than places. We ask for information about your family background and advise you to choose several events so that we can offer places as fairly as possible. If you have any questions about eligibility contact Aimhigher on **0121 415 8176** or email aimhigher@contacts.bham.ac.uk

100% 
OF YOUNG PEOPLE WERE SATISFIED OR VERY SATISFIED WITH UNIFEST IN 2018

"IT WAS A GREAT EXPERIENCE AND IT HAS CHANGED MY FUTURE CAREER ASPIRATIONS"

"IT'S SHOWN ME THAT HIGHER EDUCATION IS FOR PEOPLE LIKE ME"

STEPS TO UNIFEST

1. APPLY

(JANUARY TO MARCH 2019)

TALK to your parents / carers, and show them this Directory. They will need to agree to your application, and give us information about their education and work background (see "Who is UniFest for?").

THINK about your interests and future plans. Look at the events in this Directory and the subject areas they cover. If you have a clear idea of the career you want to follow a specialist event might be right for you. If you don't have specific career in mind yet, a more

general event will give you the chance to try different subject areas. Check out the universities' websites and ask your teachers about it. Do they think going to UniFest will help you? Perhaps they know some older students in your school who went to UniFest last year and could tell you more about it? Either way, you will need your school to support your application, so the sooner you ask the better!

APPLY. After you and your parents or carers have filled in

"IT WAS A HUGE
CONFIDENCE
BOOSTER MAKING
NEW FRIENDS"

your application, pass it to your teacher to complete it and send it off. **Don't forget to make a note of dates of your selected events, and keep them free!**

We will send you a postcard confirming that we have received your application, and contact you if there is any information missing or if you have any additional support needs.



2. RESULT

(APRIL 2019)

If you are offered a place you will receive a letter in April. This will tell you which of your choices you are going to, and give you the contact details of the university staff planning your visit. Make sure you tell your parents/carers and your teacher straight away so that they do not plan anything that clashes with your UniFest experience! If your application is not successful we will write to you with the reasons and give you a telephone number you can ring for more feedback.

3. GET READY

(APRIL TO JUNE 2019)

Your host university will be in touch with further information about the event, and to ask if you need any special arrangements to look after you during your stay. They will tell you more about travel arrangements and meeting points, and give you the contact details of people you can talk to if you have any queries in the run up to your UniFest experience.

4. GO!

(JULY 2019)

UniFest goes live, with events taking place from late June all the way through to late July.



ASTON UNIVERSITY

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY

ENGINEERING AND MATHS (STEM)

RESIDENTIAL



LOCATION

Aston University, Aston Triangle, Birmingham B4 7ET

DATES

Monday 8th July to
Wednesday 10th July 2019

WHAT WILL I DO?

Are you interested in finding out more about Science, Technology, Engineering or Maths (STEM) related subjects at University? If yes, then this is the Summer School for you!

You will have the opportunity to experience fun and interactive sessions in STEM, taught by real University lecturers. There will be an exciting and inspirational mix of practical sessions, lectures and team projects for you to get involved in.

During your stay you will be working closely with university students that study STEM courses, giving you the opportunity to hear first-hand what it's really like to study at University! You will get to experience what university life is like by staying in our accommodation on our city-centre campus. You will have a private bedroom, complete with your own bathroom.

There will be plenty of opportunity to meet new people and make new friends. Your evenings will be filled with a programme of fun social activities!

WHAT WILL I LEARN?

You will gain an insight into what life is like as a University student. You will experience what it's like to study a STEM related subject at university and learn more about careers in these areas. We hope that this experience will inspire you to consider higher education as an option, and give you a better understanding of what to do after school or college.

HOW WILL I GET THERE?

You would be expected to make your own way to the university. If you are travelling by public transport, our Student Ambassadors will be on hand at Birmingham New Street train station and key locations in the city centre to meet you. You may also choose to travel independently to the University and meet us on campus. All transport costs can be reimbursed with proof of receipt.

During the summer school all transport arrangements for activities will be organised and paid for by the University.

BIRMINGHAM CITY UNIVERSITY

TODAY'S DESIGN,

TOMORROW'S SUCCESS

RESIDENTIAL



LOCATION

Birmingham City University, City Centre Campus, 6 Cardigan Street, Birmingham, B4 7BD

DATES

Tuesday 16th July to
Thursday 18th July 2019

WHAT WILL I DO?

What's the first thing that comes to mind when you think about design? Is it product design, interior design, or perhaps fashion design? Design is all that and much more! You can design what fabrics look like but also build them from scratch; design what a room looks like as well as all the products that go in it and think even higher: look at how you can design outdoor spaces! And how about designing chic, modern and traditional jewellery? Ever wondered who designed and created your favourite stage performance, music festival or exhibition experience? Interested in experimenting with such creations or maybe even design your own play? What about

designing successful brands and creative advertising? And finally, learning how to photograph all your beautiful designs on a professional level?

WHAT WILL I LEARN?

At BCU's summer school you can experiment all the different aspects of where a career in design could take you so if this sounds like the thing for you go ahead and book a place!

This summer school gives an insight to: Interior Design, Product Design, Fashion Design, Design for Performance, Brand Design and Creative Advertising.

Unifest is a great way to build your personal confidence and independence, whilst also learning about your interests and deciding whether you may like to study at university one day.

By taking part in activities, you will also develop key skills such as teamwork, communication and problem solving. Remember, we design our sessions so that you can talk about them (and the skills



they have developed) in sixth form & university applications in the future!

HOW WILL I GET THERE?

You will make your own way to meet us at our City Centre Campus, where we will be on hand to welcome you before checking you in to your accommodation.

If travelling independently or by public transport you can arrange to meet our staff at one of Birmingham's train stations (only a short 10 minute walk from campus). Alternatively, there will be a designated drop off point on campus for those travelling with parents/guardians.

The university will happily reimburse travel costs for this event.

"IT HAS HELPED ME KNOW WHAT TO EXPECT IN THE FUTURE AND HOW TO APPROACH IT"

"IT HELPED ME UNDERSTAND MORE ABOUT UNIVERSITY AND MAKE NEW FRIENDS"

NEWMAN UNIVERSITY

WORKOUT YOUR GOALS

RESIDENTIAL



LOCATION

Newman University,
Genners Lane, Bartley Green,
Birmingham, B32 3NT

DATES

Wednesday 10th July to
Friday 12th July 2019

WHAT WILL I DO?

Each day of our residential is designed for students to experience different areas in the sporting field. You will have the chance to train in the shoes of an athlete and learn from sports staff and students about where sports can take you in the future. Why

not learn what it would be like to run your own sports gym? Or to qualify as a fitness trainer or as a sports therapist?

This residential will be the time to test your glow-in-the-dark fitness with a Glow Sports Takeover, and to enhance your knowledge about higher education with our quizzes and workshops. Challenge staff and students alike with your questions about university, as you experience first-hand life as a university student by staying in our onsite accommodation for two nights.

Socialise and get to know the other summer school pupils with our action-packed evening of activities both on and off campus.

WHAT WILL I LEARN?

You will learn about the routes into sport degrees at university, and the careers they can lead to. Learn what it would take to become a coach, teacher or athlete using the latest technology and lab equipment.

You will gain key skills in team-work, independence, motivation and communication. Alongside this, you will gain insight into student life, working with current Newman University sports students so you can get the full experience of being at Newman.

HOW WILL I GET THERE?

If you're travelling independently or via public transport, arrangements can be made for you to meet our Newman ambassadors at the central point of New Street station, and to then be transported from here directly to our campus. All reasonable travel costs for these journeys can be reimbursed upon proof of receipt.

For those of you who will be dropped off to our university campus by parents/carers, we will be on hand to direct you to the car park and guide pupils into the building.



UNIVERSITY COLLEGE BIRMINGHAM

HEALTH, COMMUNITY

AND EDUCATION

YOUR PASSION, YOUR FUTURE

RESIDENTIAL



LOCATION

University College Birmingham,
Summer Row, Birmingham, B3 1JB
(accommodation at The Maltings)

DATES

Wednesday 3rd July to
Friday 5th July 2019

WHAT WILL I DO?

Careers in health and social care are an extremely rewarding opportunity to support people at their greatest time of need. Have you ever thought about working alongside doctors or working with the community? How about managing a Nursery or becoming a social worker? UCB's summer school will give you an insight into different Health and Social care based careers and explore the sector that really make a difference to people's lives.

There will be fun and interactive sessions such as learning how to take blood pressure in our Health Hub, mindfulness activities and rock climbing led by professionals, lecturers and industry experts.

You will also get first-hand experience of student life at university by taking part in exciting social activities and staying in our en-suite student accommodation. You'll meet people from other schools and our Student Ambassadors will be on hand throughout UniFest to answer any questions you may have.

WHAT WILL I LEARN?

Through interactive sessions you will learn about the wide variety of careers within Health and Social Care. From public health, where you will learn about the impact of smoking and alcoholism to early years where you can learn about the benefits of baby massage.

Whether you are thinking about becoming a healthcare professional, youth worker or a family support adviser you will get a unique flavour of how exciting university life can be!

HOW WILL I GET THERE?

Please make your own way to our student accommodation, the Maltings, which is in the city centre off Broad Street. Parking will be available but if you choose to travel by public transport our Student Ambassadors will be available to meet you at Birmingham New Street station. All reasonable travel costs will be reimbursed as long as you keep a receipt.



IT HELPED MY
TEAMBUILDING SKILLS
AND CONFIDENCE'

UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

YOUR FUTURE

YOUR CHOICE

RESIDENTIAL



LOCATION

University of Birmingham,
Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2TT
(Accommodation at Vale Village)

DATES

Wednesday 17th July to
Friday 19th July 2019

WHAT WILL I DO?

Are you interested in going to university, but not really sure what you want to study? Then come along to the University of Birmingham's, Your Future, Your Choice Summer School to find out what possibilities await you!

From staying in student halls of residence to attending university workshops, you will experience life as a university student. Our academic staff will deliver fun, engaging and eye-opening sessions from a wide range of subjects that you can study at the University of Birmingham.

University life isn't just about studying – it's about having lots of fun too. There will be a fun-filled social programme for the evenings too. Whilst you're with us, you will be looked after by our student ambassadors, who are all current students at the University. They will be on hand to guide you around campus, make sure you settle in and, most importantly, answer any questions you may have on life at university.

WHAT WILL I LEARN?

You will gain an insight into student life, including independent learning and have your questions answered about all things 'university' – you may even decide on a subject you'd like to study!

As more jobs require higher level qualifications, you will also learn about the transferable skills that

employers will be looking for in the future. Summer schools offer a great opportunity for you to grow in confidence, gain independence and make lots of new friends!

HOW WILL I GET THERE?

You will need to make your own way to the University. Student ambassadors will be on hand to meet you at the University (Birmingham) train station and at the designated drop-off point for those travelling by car. All reasonable travel costs will be reimbursed with proof of receipt.



UNIVERSITY OF WORCESTER

PSYCHOLOGY, CRIMINALS

AND CONVICTIONS

NON-RESIDENTIAL



LOCATION

University of Worcester
City Campus, WR1 3AS and
St Johns Campus, WR2 6AJ

DATES

Monday 8th July to
Wednesday 10th July 2019

WHAT WILL I DO?

This exciting summer school will give you the opportunity to experience what it is like being a student at university via participation in sessions on Law, Developmental Psychology, Criminology and Policing. You will get a taste of the state of the art university facilities available, such as a custom-built courtroom where you will be working on a mock trial, or forensic laboratories where you will unlock secrets on how criminal investigators

collect information at a crime scene. Students will learn from academic experts whom, with their knowledge combined will share with you what it is like to speak in court and what to do when collecting evidence at a crime scene. You will also get a perspective of the minds of criminals to explore why crimes are committed in the first place. By the end of the summer school you will have a greater understanding of what options you will need to take to pursue a career in criminal justice.

WHAT WILL I LEARN?

You will develop insights into Psychology, Forensic Science and Law. You will also experience what it is like working towards a degree. Throughout the summer school, you will work with current University of Worcester students, providing you with an ideal opportunity to discover more about the student's eye-view of university life. We will also take time to look at the range of careers available in the justice sector.

HOW WILL I GET THERE?

Costs of getting to and from the Summer School will be provided for the summer school attendee, and one accompanying adult if

required. We recommend that you travel by train; the university will buy and post you your tickets beforehand.

The university assumes responsibility for your child when they are signed in either at the University or at the train station. We will hand over responsibility for you son/daughter once they have boarded the train or been collected from the University.

Upon arrival you will be met by our Summer School ambassadors who will be wearing blue t-shirts, and carrying signs saying 'Summer Schools this way!' You will be guided to and from our campus by these ambassadors either by foot or via a minibus.

"IT WAS VERY ENJOYABLE AND INTERESTING. I LEARNED LOADS AND HAD LOADS OF FUN"

"I ENJOYED EVERYTHING AND THE WHOLE EXPERIENCE HAS BOOSTED MY CONFIDENCE"





"I BECAME MORE
CONFIDENT, MADE
NEW FRIENDS
AND ENJOYED
MY TASTER OF
UNI LIFE"

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



PARENTS/ CARERS

WHY SHOULD MY CHILD ATTEND?

UniFest gives your child a great chance to find out what university is all about, so that they can make decisions about their future. The experience is exciting, fun and really motivates young people to do their best at school.

WILL MY CHILD BE SAFE?

YES - UniFest universities have a duty of care towards young people that starts from the moment they are handed over to us. Your host university will give you details of hand-over points and travel support arrangements at the start and end of each event. **It is important you read and understand this information, so that we can keep everyone safe, especially at the start and end of events.**

All UniFest activities are risk assessed and supervised by staff and students who are checked by the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS...the new name for CRB). DBS approved staff and students stay overnight to supervise things.

BEHAVIOUR

The universities expect everyone to behave responsibly and follow instructions. All students must sign a Code of Conduct that makes it clear that they may be sent home if they do not behave as expected. If there are problems you will be kept informed throughout.

HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?

UniFest is FREE. If you have to pay for travel the university will send you details of how to claim money back.

WHY DO YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT MY EDUCATION BACKGROUND?

Young people from families where no one has been to university are much less likely to go into higher education and the professions. We need to find out about your background so we can offer places to young people who need extra support to decide if university is right for them.

HOW WILL YOU PROTECT OUR PERSONAL DATA?

To take part in UniFest we need to share information about you and your child with Aimhigher universities so they can run the

programme. The forms you will be sent if you are offered a place are important, and we will not be able to accommodate anyone who does not complete them in full and return them on time. The application form also asks your permission to use data to help us see if young people attending UniFest apply for university. Any information we publish will not make reference to you or your child individually. Full details are on the application form.

WHAT IF MY CHILD BECOMES ILL?

We will contact you, using the details you have provided on the application/consent form. It is important that you tell us if these change before the event.

HOW CAN I CONTACT MY CHILD?

You will be given emergency contact details for the university in the run up to the event. Young people can take mobile phones but do so at their own risk.

WHAT WILL MY CHILD NEED TO BRING?

The universities will give you details of the type and amount of clothing and other personal belongings they will need.

YOUNG PEOPLE

WILL I HAVE TO DO REAL WORK?

UniFest is your chance to see what being a student is all about... so **YES** you will be expected to take part in all planned sessions, but the universities will make it exciting and interesting.

WILL I BE WITH MY FRIENDS?

Often friends from the same school go to the same event, but a big part of UniFest is meeting new people and making new friends.

WHAT SORT OF CLOTHES SHOULD I WEAR?

Casual clothes are appropriate most of the time. You may want to take sportswear and something a little smarter for evening activities. If you need any special clothing we will let you know before the event.

WHERE AND WHAT WILL I EAT?

All your meals will be provided, and we will cater for any special dietary needs.

WILL I NEED TO BRING ANY MONEY?

You can bring a small amount of money for snacks/drinks but you will be responsible for it at all times.

SCHOOL STAFF

HOW MUCH WILL IT COST MY SCHOOL?

UniFest is free of charge.

HOW DOES ATTENDING HELP YOUNG PEOPLE?

The Sutton Trust has evaluated summer schools as a high impact intervention as part of their Pupil premium toolkit. Attending can raise aspirations, improve attainment and contribute to your duty to provide impartial careers education and guidance.

WHICH LEARNERS SHOULD APPLY?

Young people whose parents / carers do not have graduate-level qualifications, those with disabilities and / or learning difficulties and those in or leaving the care system will be given priority. Applications from young people receiving Free-School Meals during the last 6 years will be looked upon favourably. We also welcome applications from young carers.

WILL WE NEED TO ATTEND EVENTS TO SUPERVISE OUR STUDENTS?

You do not need to supervise young people on UniFest events. Full details of the safeguarding arrangements for UniFest are on our website.

I'M INTERESTED BUT NEED TO KNOW MORE

Our "UniFest Guidance for Schools" outlines things in more detail. Visit www.aimhigherwm.ac.uk or call **0121 415 8176** for more information.



ABOUT

AIMHIGHER

Aimhigher West Midlands is a partnership of universities, schools and colleges who work together to help young people to:

- **become motivated and confident about their learning and career progression**
- **explore the world of higher education and what it might mean for them**
- **make informed decisions about their future.**

Higher education changes the life chances of students, strengthens our economy and enriches our society. We want to ensure that everyone with the potential to benefit from higher education has the opportunity to do so.

If you require more information go to www.aimhigherwm.ac.uk or contact Aimhigher on **0121 415 8176**

 @aimhigherwm



All information correct at time of printing (December 2018). UniFest events require a minimum number of applicants in order to run. Aimhigher will make every effort to inform applicants, their families and schools of any changes to the programme as published.