



UNI

FEST

2022

A HIGHER EDUCATION EXPERIENCE



Year 10
Summer
School



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
- I live in an area where not many young people go to university

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.

WHAT'S THE CATCH?

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

"I ENJOYED BEING ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE EVENT AND EXPAND MY KNOWLEDGE."

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.

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 you can contact Aimhigher: aimhigher@contacts.bham.ac.uk

"HELPED ME GAIN KNOWLEDGE ON COURSES AT UNIVERSITY AND WHAT LIFE WOULD BE LIKE."



STEPS TO UNIFEST

1. APPLY

(JANUARY TO MARCH 2022)

Talk to your parent/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?").

"IT WAS A REALLY FUN EXPERIENCE MEETING PEOPLE."

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!

"IT HAS HELPED ME UNDERSTAND WHAT UNIVERSITY IS REALLY LIKE."

Apply! Complete the online application form at www.aimhigherwm.ac.uk/unifest with your parent or carer and let a teacher know that you are applying. **Don't forget to make a note of the dates of your selected events, and keep them free!**

We will send you an email 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 2022)

If you are offered a place you will be contacted in April 2022. 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 provide our contact details if you would like to request more feedback.

3. GET READY

(APRIL TO JUNE 2022)

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 2022)

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

"I ENJOYED BEING ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE EVENT AND EXPAND MY KNOWLEDGE."

ASTON

UNIVERSITY

STEM

RESIDENTIAL



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

LOCATION

Aston University, Aston Triangle, Birmingham B4 7ET

DATES

Monday 11th to Wednesday 13th July 2022

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?

With many transport options available to reach us in Birmingham city centre we hope you can make your own way to Aston University's campus.

There will be many ambassadors dotted around the campus on the day to make sure you can find your way to reception.

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

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

BIRMINGHAM

CITY

UNIVERSITY

LOCATION

City South Campus: Seacole Building, Westbourne Road, Edgbaston B15 3TN
City Centre Campus (Halls of Residence): University Locks, 50 Curzon Street, Birmingham B4 7JX. Please note that private transport between campuses has been arranged by the university.

DATES

Wednesday 13th - Friday 15th July 2022

Off-campus social activities to be confirmed ahead of the event.

On-campus activities - 2-hour practical workshops and talks:

- Sport and exercise nutrition
- Sport and exercise science
- Sports therapy
- Sport coaching and PE
- Why higher education
- Careers and employability

WHAT WILL I LEARN?

You will learn more about university and higher education, gaining insight into what life is like as a university student. You will also have a unique opportunity to learn what it could be like to study a sport and/or life science course at Birmingham City University. Academic staff and student ambassadors will teach you more about their university experiences, what course content and how these degrees can be applied to relevant careers in the industry.

HOW WILL I GET THERE?

Attendees will be asked to arrive and depart from University Locks, student accommodation at our City Centre Campus (address in 'location' section). Arrival will be in the morning of Wednesday

13th July, and departure will be in the afternoon of Friday 15th July. University staff and student ambassadors will meet and chaperone attendees at arrival and departure points/times.

Parents and carers will be contacted in advance of the residential visit to confirm if they will be dropping off/collecting their child, or if their child requires alternative transport. In the case of parents/carers arranging transport, parents/carers can submit a reimbursement claim for mileage and parking, if applicable. In the case of alternative transport, we may be able to provide public or taxi transport for attendees to and from campus. This is subject to budget, so details of this will be confirmed with parents, carers and attendees closer to the time. Parents will be contacted to share any additional requirements in advance of the visit, so any accessibility requirements will be considered in travel arrangements.

FUEL

FOR

LIFE

RESIDENTIAL

City Centre Campus (for evening activities and overnight accommodation) and City South Campus (for day activities)

WHAT WILL I DO?

On-campus, we have prepared an exciting range of sport, exercise and nutrition activities across the three days. You'll see what Birmingham City University is like, get to speak with university students and staff, and receive careers advice and guidance. For off-campus events, on Wednesday and Thursday evening, there will be social activities for attendees to take part in, before staying in our halls of residence (University Locks) for two nights.



**NEWMAN
UNIVERSITY**

LOCATION

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

DATES

Wednesday 6th - Friday 8th July 2022

**CREATIVE
CHANGE**

NON-RESIDENTIAL

WHAT WILL I DO?

If you're passionate about social change, and enjoy writing or performance, then Creative Change is the programme for you! You will spend 3 days at Newman University with our amazing Applied Writing team. You will have the opportunity to explore issues you really care about, develop your writing and creative skills, and create a piece that aims to educate and change perspectives. You'll get to meet a lot of like-minded young people, and speak to academics and current students.

Each day we will have fun activities planned in the afternoon, so you can unwind and socialise with the group. Discover the campus and what Newman has to offer with our campus tours and talks around student life – there will be plenty of food, drinks and giveaways too, maybe even a quiz with actual prizes! Challenge yourselves and our staff with your perspectives and questions (which is a big part of university life).

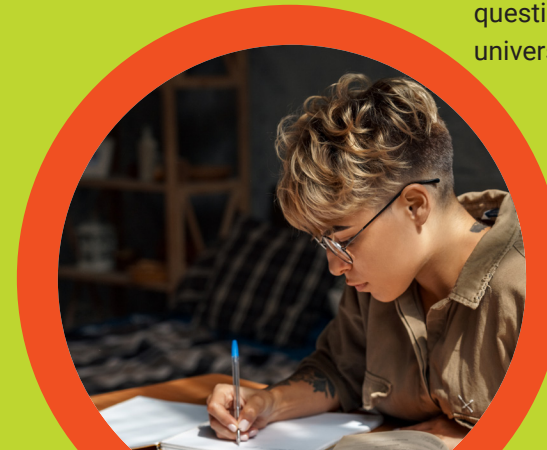
WHAT WILL I LEARN?

You'll learn what it's like to study a creative degree at University, and the careers to which they can lead. You will gain techniques that will improve your skills in writing, performing, and production. These skills will help prepare you for HE courses in Applied Writing, Creative Writing, Drama, Media, and Journalism.

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 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.



**"IT WAS A HUGE CONFIDENCE BOOSTER
MAKING NEW FRIENDS"**



UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE
BIRMINGHAM

UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE

BIRMINGHAM

PRACTICAL

UNIVERSITY

PATHWAYS

NON-RESIDENTIAL

LOCATION

McIntyre House, 2 Holland Street, Birmingham B3 1PW

DATES

Monday 4th - Wednesday 6th July 2022

WHAT WILL I DO?

Are you a practical learner? Do you prefer a range of assessments and not just exams? Have you ever heard of a vocational university?

This non-residential summer school will give you real life experience of what it's like attending a vocational university, whilst working in 'departments' to work on a group project linked to the Commonwealth Games. This will allow you to explore a range of subject areas such as events management, finance, sports therapy, food and hospitality and more. Whilst completing this project you will also learn about the difference between vocational and academic universities, student finance, degree apprenticeships, career opportunities after university from lecturers, support staff, alumni and employers.

You will have your own timetable including lectures, practical sessions, social events, site/employer visits and group study time. This will conclude with an event showcase to celebrate your work in front of an industry panel.

WHAT WILL I LEARN?

Through your personal timetable and group project, you will understand what it's like studying at a vocational university and whether it is the right fit for your learning style and career aspirations. Also find out more about a range of subject areas you can study.

Experience living at home while studying by attending this non-residential summer school, plus find out more about university in general and explore whether it's a future option for you.

HOW WILL I GET THERE?

You have two options for travel, public transport or travelling by car.

If you're travelling by public transport, our Student Ambassadors will meet you at Birmingham New Street Station. Keep your receipts for as all reasonable travel costs will be covered when you provide these receipts.

If you are travelling by car, there is parking available at The Link for drop off only. You'll be able to claim back the mileage for your travel.

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



UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM

UNIVERSITY

OF

BIRMINGHAM

YOUR

FUTURE,

YOUR

CHOICE

RESIDENTIAL

LOCATION

University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2TT

DATES

Wednesday 13th to Friday 15th July 2022

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 will 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 our very own train station - University (Birmingham) and at the designated drop-off point for those travelling by car or bus. All reasonable travel costs will be reimbursed with proof of receipt.

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



UNIVERSITY OF WORCESTER

CRIMINALS, THE LAW, CONVICTIONS AND PSYCHOLOGY

NON-RESIDENTIAL

LOCATION

University of Worcester, Farrier St, Worcester WR1 3BZ.

DATES

Sunday 3rd to Tuesday 5th July 2022

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, Forensic Biology, 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. 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 presenting evidence collected 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, Criminology, Forensic Biology 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 first day will be delivered virtually, the second and third days will be in person on campus.

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 your child 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.



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). 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 AND WORK 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 dietary requirements.

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.



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



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 Additional Information" outlines things in more detail. Visit aimhigherwm.ac.uk/unifest or email aimhigher@contacts.bham.ac.uk for more information.

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/unifest or contact Aimhigher at aimhigher@contacts.bham.ac.uk



@aimhigherwm



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All information correct at time of printing (December 2021). 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