



SUMMER ACTIVITIES FOR PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

If you see university as your chosen route you need to give yourself the best possible chance of gaining a place on your course of choice and also prepare yourself for this new form / subject of study. The best way to go about this is to undertake some super-curricular studies. Not only will they give you some interesting items to talk about in your personal statement and interview (if required) but it also proves that you are prepared to go above and beyond the school curriculum and it is a step into academic study.

Universities use it to understand if a student has chosen an appropriate course for themselves. It also demonstrates to them an interest in the subject, and that you can study independently and are motivated. In addition to work experience, volunteering and participating in various clubs or societies you could also try these. **Make a note OF WHAT YOU LEARN and keep a record of everything that you do:**

ACADEMIC DISCOVERY AND SUBJECT SPECIALISMS:

GRESHAM COLLEGE

www.gresham.ac.uk/watch/

A vast number of recorded lectures on numerous subjects available to all to watch



TED TALKS

www.ted.com/talks

TED Talks are influential videos from expert speakers on ... everything. They are free, vary in duration and cover a vast array of topics.



MOOCs

<https://www.futurelearn.com/courses>
www.mooc.org

Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) are free short online courses available for anyone. There are 3000+ courses to choose from and you can search by topic / career – most are made by leading UK Universities.



ACADEMIC PODCASTS

There are so many great podcasts on every topic imaginable – easy to download and listen to on the go.

<https://mashable.com/article/best-educational-podcasts>

<https://collegeinfo geek.com/best-podcasts/>



SPECIALIST MAGAZINES

Cheshire Libraries have a fantastic new online magazine service that can be accessed for free with a Cheshire Library card. Go to Cheshire West Library homepages:

<https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/libraries/libraries.aspx>

Then click on “eBooks, eAudiobooks & eMagazines” to proceed.



STAIRCASE 12

These resources cover a wide range of topics, so they're a great place to get started if you're not yet sure where your interests lie or just feel like finding something new. Explore the resources or select a subject area such as Humanities, Arts or Social Sciences, followed by a specific subject (History, English, etc.)

<https://www.univ.ox.ac.uk/applying-to-univ/staircase12/>

<https://www.univ.ox.ac.uk/applying-to-univ/resource-hub/>

<https://www.univ.ox.ac.uk/applying-to-univ/reading-bank/>



RADIO 4

Programmes categorised on every subject and current issue....

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/category/documentaries?sort=popular>



EXPLORE

A collection of big ideas and issues to get you thinking

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/1/health>



HE+

Supercurricular resources created and written by Cambridge students and academics including challenging activities, engaging videos, reflective questions and much more. Content is aimed at school-aged students looking to go beyond the school curriculum and discover their passion for a subject. <https://myheplus.com/>



BRITISH LIBRARY

Unique collection items & expert commentary related to History, English, Religious Studies, Citizenship & a variety of other subjects.

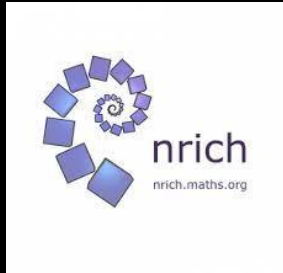
<https://www.bl.uk/learning/online-resources>



NRICH MATHS

The NRICH Project aims to enrich the mathematical experiences of all learners.

<https://nrich.maths.org/secondary>



ISAAC PHYSICS

Master Physics by Solving Problems:
from School to University! The free platform
for teachers and students

<https://isaacphysics.org/>



CUT THE KNOT

Maths Puzzles and Arithmetic

<http://www.cut-the-knot.org/>



ART HISTORY ONLINE

<https://www.openartsarchive.org/free-courses>



OpenLearn

Free learning from
The Open University

READING LISTS FOR MULTIPLE SUBJECTS

Research university websites and specific Faculties for their subject reading lists, here are a few:

- **University of Oxford**

<https://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate/courses/suggested-subject-resources>

- **Kings College Cambridge**

<https://www.kings.cam.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/reading-lists>

<https://www.maths.cam.ac.uk/undergrad/admissions/files/reading-list.pdf>

- **University of Manchester**

<https://www.manchester.ac.uk/research/impact/>

- **University of Sheffield**

<https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/research>

LOCAL MUSEUMS TO VISIT, EXHIBITIONS AND EVENTS THIS SUMMER:

- <https://www.timeout.com/liverpool/things-to-do/best-museums-in-liverpool>
- <https://www.timeout.com/manchester/things-to-do/the-best-museums-in-manchester>
- <https://chester.com/things-to-do/museums-and-galleries-in-chester/>
- <https://www.storyhouse.com/literature>

VOLUNTEERING:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/get-involved/take-part/volunteer>

CHARITY WORK AND FUNDRAISING:

- <https://www.alzheimers.org.uk/memory-walk/find-a-walk/cheshire>
- <https://www.savethechildren.org.uk/how-you-can-help/events-and-fundraising/summer-fundraising>
- https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/get-involved/do-your-own-fundraising/get-fundraising-pack?utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=social_paid&utm_campaign=fundregjunaug2022&utm_content=testb_broad_18_49_creative2&dclid=CK721pzT_gCFQfQGwod9C8B5Q&fs=e&s=cl
- <https://www.hospiceofthegoodshepherd.com/volunteering/charity-shops-retail-support/>
- <https://shareaid.co.uk/pages/become-a-volunteer>
- https://www.bhf.org.uk/how-you-can-help/volunteer/volunteer-in-our-shops?gclid=CjwKCAjw5s6WBhA4EiwACGncZWDZYhTN6JCFqm_Xgsx4SVT6OpeTK0FyTxR3E96Elz2Gz-eVvNkBGROCrQUQAvD_BwE&gclidsrc=aw.ds
- <https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/get-involved/volunteer/shop-volunteer-chester-watergate-street>

CULTURAL CAPITAL - BOOKS TO READ / FILMS TO WATCH:

- <https://www.penguin.co.uk/articles/2022/05/100-must-read-classic-books>
- <https://www.imdb.com/list/ls073396164/>

ASPIRE
LEARN
ACHIEVE

