



DUNBAR GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Dunbar Grammar is a caring community where you can RISE to be your best

RESPECT

INCLUSION

SUPPORT

EFFORT



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Headteacher

C Slowther

Depute Headteacher

E Offer

Depute Headteacher

R Maxton

Acting Depute Headteacher

S Hamilton

Dear Parent/Carer

The letter attached outlines a great opportunity for two of our current S3 pupils.

East Lothian – Exeter College, University of Oxford, Residential Summer School Sunday 23rd June- to Friday 28th June 2019

For the first time in Scotland, a college of the University of Oxford has offered a fully-funded residential experience, for two S3 pupils, in each of East Lothian's six secondary schools, to become an Oxford Student from **Sunday 23rd June- to Friday 28th June 2019.**

Exeter College is providing provide tuition, accommodation and food to all selected pupils who will stay at the college's historic main site for the full week. This exciting opportunity will give your son/daughter the chance to work closely with world-class tutors, who are recognised as experts in their fields of expertise. All costs for this summer camp, including travel, accommodation and food and will be covered by Exeter College and East Lothian Council.

As you read on, in the letter, you will see that the tasks set for selection are tough and will require a significant amount of commitment.

However, should your child be keen and willing, this will undoubtedly be an incredible experience.

If your child is keen, please ask them to speak with Mr Maxton (DHT) by Monday 4th March. There is nothing further to do at this point.

Mr Maxton will then liaise with you and your child about what the next steps are in terms of obtaining letters of recommendation.

The school will offer some assistance with the tasks, however it is expected that the majority of this work will be done by them.

Mr Maxton is the main contact for this initiative, so if you have any questions about this, please do get in touch with him.

Kind regards

Claire Slowther
Headteacher

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Selection for this residential experience will be a robust and competitive process, based on responses to a written assessment and a mathematical problem. The University of Oxford looks for pupils who excel in a subject that they love and who have the ability to think analytically and creatively. These skills and commitment to learning will be the key assessment criteria for selection.

Once the successful candidates have been identified, parents and pupils will be invited to an information evening and a number of sessions will be organised to enable the pupils to get to know each other, the supporting team at East Lothian Works, and members of Exeter College. In this way, the needs of the group can be fully considered and supported before the camp.

The curriculum will include individual tutorials in the following subjects:

- Science (Chemistry, Biology and Physics)
- Maths
- English Literature
- History
- Geography
- Politics and Social sciences (Modern Studies)
- Theology and Philosophy (RME)

Pupils should be demonstrating the academic potential to apply to the University of Oxford in the future. Students who are interested in taking part in this venture should:

- Submit a letter of recommendation from a teacher, to the 'Oxford-Lead Depute' at their school.
- Start to investigate the concept of 'Deconstruction' by Jacques Derrida and implications that this literary concept has on language, feminism and communication. Pupils should seek support from teachers, parents/carers and should be able to find information online and in libraries. There will be a written assessment on this subject, inviting thoughts on the practical application of this theory.
- The maths section of the assessment will test understanding of the concept of logarithms, and the pupil's ability to apply the basic laws of logarithms. Again, pupils should seek support from teachers, parents/carers and other appropriate adults. This is a Higher Mathematics concept.

Letters of recommendation should be submitted by Friday 8th March 2019.

Successful candidates will be invited to an assessment session, in their own school, on Friday 15th March.