

## Supporting Competitive Higher Education Applications

**Helping Sixth Form students across the South West achieve  
places on the most selective university courses**

---

The Colyton Foundation exists to widen access to the most competitive higher-education opportunities for young people in the South West, particularly those who have faced disadvantage. Colyton Grammar School has a long track record of success with **34 Oxbridge offers in 2024/25**, alongside strong outcomes each year for **Medicine, Veterinary Science, Dentistry** and leading **US universities** (including two recent scholarships to Harvard).

Many schools in the region have only a small number of competitive applicants each year. Our programme provides **direct support for students** and **long-term capacity building for schools**, ensuring that the expertise required for sustained success becomes embedded throughout each school's Sixth Form and subject departments.

---

### What the Programme Offers Students

Participating students benefit from expert, personalised guidance aligned with the rhythms of Colyton Grammar School's own highly successful support model.

#### Students receive:

- **Three 1:1 mentoring sessions** with a subject specialist experienced in competitive admissions.
  - **A coached practice interview** plus a **full mock interview** with an external course expert.
  - **Webinars at key points in the application cycle**, providing targeted advice and guidance.
  - **Access to course-specific resources**, enrichment materials and extension opportunities.
- 

### Building Sustainable Expertise in Schools

A core aim of the programme is to strengthen schools' **long-term** ability to support competitive applicants, by developing teaching, curriculum, challenge and enrichment **across all Key Stages**.

#### Teachers and advisors benefit from:

- A **half-day training course** early in the programme.
- **Webinars and mentoring sessions** designed specifically for Sixth Form teams and subject departments.
- Opportunities to **shadow student sessions**, gaining insight into what high-quality competitive-application support looks like in practice.
- A focus on **embedding the knowledge, culture and systems** needed for long-term success **across the whole school**, ensuring that staff feel confident supporting future cohorts.

The approach is strengthened by the Foundation's connections with world-class universities – including **Cambridge University** and the **Harvard Club of the UK** – ensuring that schools benefit from up-to-date understanding of global admissions expectations.

---

### Programme Structure

The programme runs from **Spring of Year 12 to December of Year 13**, mirroring Colyton's well-established approach to supporting competitive applications. Students and staff participate in structured activities at key stages of the application cycle, ensuring timely, well-guided preparation.

---

**For more information email: [info@colytonfoundation.org](mailto:info@colytonfoundation.org)**

---

# ColytonFoundation

Supporting Competitive Higher Education Applications 2025/26

Medicine Veterinary Science, Dentistry	Oxford and Cambridge	US Universities
<b>December:</b> 20 minute introductory student talk (pre-recorded) – available to all		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>January:</b> Introductory MVD Webinar: Application process, maximising chances of success.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>January:</b> Introductory Oxbridge Webinar: Application process, maximising chances of success</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>January:</b> Introductory US Webinar: Application process, maximising chances of success</li> </ul>
<b>February/March: <i>Beyond the Interview: Developing Deep Academic Thinking from KS3–5</i></b> Half-day course for <b>subject leaders, Heads of Sixth Form and advisors supporting HE applications:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Practical <b>interview workshops</b> equipping staff to develop a clear understanding of what universities are looking for and support students by <b>delivering high-quality practice interviews</b>, and training colleagues to do the same.</li> <li>• How to embed <b>long-term challenge and enrichment</b> within teaching and curriculum design <b>at every Key Stage</b>, building the <b>deep knowledge, disciplinary reasoning and thinking skills</b> required for competitive HE success.</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>January-November:</b> Access to online preparation resources</li> <li>• <b>January/February:</b> Introductory mentoring meeting: understanding application process</li> <li>• <b>January/February:</b> Online Webinar: A reflective approach to work experience</li> <li>• <b>March/April:</b> Online Webinar: UCAT admissions test preparation</li> <li>• <b>May/June:</b> Online Webinar: NHS Core Values</li> <li>• <b>June:</b> 1:1 Online mentoring: choosing universities &amp; reflecting on teaching styles</li> <li>• <b>July:</b> 1:1 Online mentoring: personal statement advice &amp; feedback</li> <li>• <b>September:</b> Online Webinar: Medical Ethics</li> <li>• <b>September:</b> 1:1 Online interview with Colyton mentor practice 1 (including MMIs)</li> <li>• <b>November/December:</b> 1:1 online interview with Colyton mentor practice 2 (including MMIs)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>January-November:</b> Access to subject specific online preparation resources and potential to join Colyton subject specific preparation sessions.</li> <li>• <b>January/February:</b> Introductory mentoring meeting: understanding application process &amp; making informed choices.</li> <li>• <b>March/April:</b> 1:1 online mentoring meeting with subject specialist: enrichment, personal statement advice, admissions test and interview preparation.</li> <li>• <b>July:</b> Webinar: final course/college choice. Summer preparation.</li> <li>• <b>September:</b> 1:1 online mentoring meeting with subject specialist: admissions test and interview preparation.</li> <li>• <b>October:</b> Coached practice interview with Colyton mentor.</li> <li>• <b>November:</b> Formal practice interview with external interviewer.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>January-November:</b> Access to online preparation resources.</li> <li>• <b>March:</b> Introductory mentoring meeting: understanding application process &amp; making informed choices.</li> <li>• <b>May/June:</b> 1:1 mentoring meeting: crafting applications, ACT &amp; SAT advice.</li> <li>• <b>September/October:</b> 1:1 mentoring meeting: completing applications</li> <li>• <b>October:</b> Coached practice interview with Colyton mentor.</li> <li>• <b>November:</b> Formal practice interview with external interviewer.</li> </ul>