

INTRODUCTION

Sage College offers guidance during the whole access-to-university process. During the Sixth Form stage, and depending where they would like to study, our students are helped to complete the requirements and documents they need in order to be able to apply to the different universities.

Furthermore, our Sixth Form students enjoy of our excellent schedule of activities designed to complete our curriculum regarding to career advice. Talks from professionals coming from the companies in our area and professors from the best universities, volunteering and work experience programmes, projects collaborating with external organisations, etc, everything to prepare our students for their outstanding future not only with an academic excellence, but also with a range of complementary skills and a holistic view.

All the access-to-university process is led by the coordination team of Secondary, formed by our Head of Teaching and Learning, Head of Secondary, as well as our Secondary and Sixth Form coordinators.

QUESTIONS

- **Where can Sage students go for university?**

IGCSE and A level qualifications are internationally recognised, and for that reason, our students, when they finish their subjects in Year 13, have the option to access to most of the universities around the world. This fact gives them a fabulous opportunity: they can continue studying in an international environment and acquiring the abilities they will need in their future for a global and changing world.

Although they can study everywhere around the world, our students, mostly, choose universities from UK, USA, the Netherlands and Spain due to the different advantages these different alternatives offer.

o **UK**

British universities have more than 600000 international students, so that this multiculturalism is the first advantage. Moreover, having the opportunity to continue studying fully in English is highly recommended.

Universities in UK are world leaders in different areas of high education, and British degrees are worldwide recognised.

o **The Netherlands**

Dutch universities offer a wide range of international degrees for undergraduates, with the possibility of studying most of them fully in English. Furthermore, the fact that the Netherlands have a strategic location has led to develop high tech companies, even becoming the brainport of Europe. Finally, the low cost of the degrees in the Netherlands is also an important factor that must be taken into account.

o **USA**

Taking into consideration that some of the best universities around the world are in USA, it is clear that it must be a good destination in terms of the level of opportunities that students can have there.

Moreover, the multiculturalism, different kind of bachelor's degrees, variety of cities and landscapes, as well as its technological society offer a really captivating alternative to study at university.

Lastly but not least, to continue studying fully in English is one more advantage for those that prefer to choose a US university to carry on with their formation for the future.

- o **Spain**

Studying in Spanish universities is always also a good option. The level and variety of the bachelor's degrees offered in Spain is high (for instance, Spanish doctors are really valuable around the world), quality of life is fantastic, and every year more universities offer bachelor's degrees that can be studied partially or fully in English. Furthermore, the exchange programmes with other international universities, as well as the great range of opportunities to collaborate in different companies and institutions during the degree, open fantastic doors for the future of the students.

- **What do our students need to go to university?**

- o **Academic requirements:**

Most of universities around the world ask for 3 A levels and 5 IGCSEs. However, sometimes, it is possible to get a place with 2 AS and 2 A levels (or even less), where the 2 AS are used instead of one A level. The minimum entry grades in those IGCSE and A level courses depend on each degree and university, ranging from C to A* in IGCSE and from E to A* in A level.

- o **Other requirements:**

Universities really appreciate when the students that apply to them have a good complementary curriculum. Participating in volunteering and work experience programmes, collaborating with different organisations, studying other languages and arts like at conservatory, etc, are really valuable. For that reason, Sage College offers a rich complementary programme, with different volunteering and work experience activities.

In some cases, students can be also asked to complete different admission and language tests. This depends on the degree and university. Due to this fact, we help our students on an individual case basis, also giving them advice when they need to prepare one of these tests.

- **How can our students apply to go to university?**

The process to apply to universities depends on each particular case, basically, on each country and university. For British universities, the process is completely done through the system called UCAS application (<https://www.ucas.com/>), whereas for most of Dutch universities is done through the Studielink

application (<https://www.studielink.nl/>). On the other hand, US universities have two different options depending on the university, Common Application and University College Application, although some of universities have their own individual application process. Finally, if our students want to apply for Spanish universities, the process is completed by using the UNEDassis platform (<https://unedasiss.uned.es/home>). At Sage College, we offer guidance to our students when applying for university, helping them with the whole process. This guidance is led by our Sixth Form coordinator.

- **How is the grade to access to Spanish universities calculated?**

The process for all public and most private Spanish universities is done through UNEDassis platform from UNED during Spring-beginning of Summer of Year 13, and it is as follows:

- Firstly, Sage College sends the predicted grades of the different A levels student is taking during Year 13 and the grades of 5 IGCSES he/she got to UNED. After this, students get a credential, in which it is recognised their final average grade out of 10 (based on the A levels predicted grades).
- The part of the final grade between 10 and 14 can be reached in different ways:

- By using the best 2 grades in A levels, depending on the weighting tables of each bachelor's degree in each university. Different A level courses have been recognised for this: business, mathematics, biology, chemistry and physics in our school can be used for that purpose. This alternative is used for most of Spanish universities. An example of this:

One student would like to study medicine at Universidad Complutense in Madrid. This university, for this degree, recognises different subjects to gain the extra 4 points. Imagine the pupil got the next grades: maths (B), biology (A*), chemistry (A*) and physics (B). In that situation, all the subjects are recognised by the weighting table of the university to study medicine and, particularly, chemistry and biology grades can be multiplied by a factor of 0.2. In that case, the student will get the 4 extra points, since he has the maximum grade in two subjects that are recognised to get the maximum of the 4 extra points.

- By taking 2 (depending, again, on the weighting tables of each bachelor's degree in each university) PCE (Pruebas de Competencias Específicas) exams of EvAU (Selectividad). This can be done in UNED or in the university where the student wants to study, if they do not accept the situation commented in the previous point.