



**Ramsey Grammar School**  
*Scoil Ghrammeydys Rhumsaa*

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**Re: UCM / Buildaskill Ltd**

Dear Parent/Carer

We have been working closely with University College IoM (UCM) and Buildaskill Ltd to help our Year 11 students who are not intending to come back to Sixth Form. So far we have had a UCM Taster Day and a presentation during PGE from UCM. Applications for UCM's full-time courses are now open and are all completed online, with places limited. Please find a rough guide to the process below to help you and your child understand the next steps.

**Post 16 next step guide for those not coming back to Sixth Form**

- Construction and Horticulture courses at UCM involve 2 days at UCM plus 3 days at work.
- It usually takes 4 years to become fully skilled and qualified.
- If you know the course that you want to choose apply right away online and look for a job that will take you on as an apprentice. Plumbing, carpentry, joinery and electrical courses require you to have a job.
- You should look to secure a relevant work placement for the days you are not at UCM as soon as possible. Try labouring to get a flavour of working onsite, even if this is just over the summer. College will help you find work to fit in with your timetable once you get there if you have been unable to do this yourself.
- Once you have applied you will be invited to an Information Sharing Appointment (ISA) at UCM. It is important that you find out a little about the trade you intend to pursue. A simple google search will help you here.
- If you are unsure about what area you would like to focus on, then choose the Level 1 Pre-apprenticeship Course. Here you will get a chance to sample all the different trades. After one year you can then join the area which you have enjoyed the most.
- For those not wanting to go to UCM but keen to start full time work please contact Corelli at Buildaskill Ltd to express your interest. Corelli has many contacts in the areas of roofing, plastering, groundwork, window fitting and tiling. Buildaskill Ltd will help you to gain qualifications whilst working.
- Please apply online now using your most recent report as indication of your predicted grades

I have been encouraging our year 11 students to consider their options once they leave. The advice I have given is to keep their options open. If a student is undecided as to whether to do A-Levels here or a BTEC at UCM, it is best to apply for UCM and have a place guaranteed rather than to apply in August when all the places may have gone.

Progression into Sixth Form here at RGS will be automatic provided the threshold of 5 A\* - C grades has been reached. Prospective 6<sup>th</sup> Form students who have achieved the entry requirements must choose their A-Levels based on a blocking system similar to the year 9 options.

If you have specific queries regarding UCM courses or the application process please contact UCM directly.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Shimmin', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Robert Shimmin  
Head of Year