



Queen Mary
University of London

RUSSELL
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Teachers and Advisers Conference 2024



qmul.ac.uk/outreach/hub

Welcome to Queen Mary University of London

We are delighted to welcome you to our Teachers and Advisers Conference 2024. This Conference provides an opportunity for us to share detailed information about the higher education sector and the latest updates and changes affecting the landscape.

This conference is also designed to support staff like you working with the graduates of the future and offer insights and advice to help you flourish in your role. This year's conference will equip teachers and advisers with information and advice to prepare students for entry to higher education and will address the key topics of: admissions reform, degree apprenticeships, AI in education, embedding careers into the curriculum, supporting student applications and career pathways.

We hope that you have a wonderful day and benefit greatly from the informative and engaging sessions on offer today. Presentations and information shared during the sessions will be made available after the conference.

At Queen Mary, we're proud to be different

We are not your typical Russell Group university. With a history dating back to 1785, Queen Mary University of London is a research-intensive university with a difference – one that is committed to removing the barriers to education and opening the doors of opportunity to anyone with the potential to succeed.

We are a leading global university with campuses across London and overseas – but we're still very much a part of our London community. Here, you and your students will be part of the most inclusive Russell Group University and become a member of our diverse family, working together to make the previously impossible, a reality.

#1

Ranked top of the Russell Group for social mobility

The English Social Mobility Index for 2022, published by the Higher Education Policy Institute (HEPI)

#5

Ranked fifth in the UK for quality of research

THE World University Ranking 2024

92%

of home undergraduate students are in employment or further study 15 months after graduation

Graduate Outcomes Survey 2020/21

Conference Programme Schedule

Time	Session	Location
09:15 – 09:45	Registration and breakfast	Graduate Centre Foyer
09:45 – 10:00	Conference welcome and plenary	Graduate Centre, Peston Lecture Theatre
10:00 – 10:30	UCAS reform - the future of university admissions	Graduate Centre, Peston Lecture Theatre
Morning Sessions (chosen when registering)		
10:35 – 11:05	a) Preparing your students for interview success	Graduate Centre, 101
	b) Degree Apprenticeships – how they work and why your students could be tailor-made for it	Graduate Centre, 201
	c) Careers in the Humanities – meet the Alumni	Graduate Centre, 222
11:10 – 11:20	Break and Refreshments	Graduate Centre Foyer
11:25 – 11:55	AI in Further Education – preparing teachers and students for tomorrow's world	Graduate Centre, Peston Lecture Theatre
12:00 – 12:40	Research showcase	Graduate Centre, Peston Lecture Theatre
12:40 – 13:40	Lunch	Graduate Centre Foyer
13:40 – 14:10	Embedding engaging and meaningful experiences into the curriculum to support career decision-making	Graduate Centre, Peston Lecture Theatre
Afternoon Sessions (chosen when registering)		
14:15 – 14:45	a) Making the most of University Outreach Schemes	Graduate Centre, 201
	b) Unifrog – supporting student progression inside and outside the classroom	Graduate Centre, 101
	c) Careers in Science and Engineering – meet the Alumni	Graduate Centre, 222
14:50 – 15:00	Closing remarks – thank you and goodbye!	Graduate Centre, Peston Lecture Theatre
15:00 – 15:30	Campus tour (optional)	Graduate Centre, Peston Lecture Theatre

Conference Sessions

Conference welcome and plenary

Jack Fox, Head of UK Student Recruitment and Widening Participation will open the conference by welcoming delegates and introducing Queen Mary and the work undertaken by the Student Recruitment and Widening Participation team.

Jack will discuss the current HE landscape and the challenges that lie ahead in the coming year both for HE institutions and teachers and advisers.

UCAS reform – the future of university admissions

Join Kim Eccleston, Head of Strategy and Reform, UCAS and Carolyn Mindos, Admissions Reform Lead from UCAS for updates on the application process and Admissions Reform.

The University Admissions landscape is undergoing extensive changes, fuelled by a range of socio-economic and political factors. This session will offer insights into the latest initiatives, challenges, and best practices relating to university admissions.

Kim and Carolyn will talk about the new personal statement format and the next phase of engagement of Admissions Reform alongside key operational updates and tips to support your students.

Preparing your students for interview success

With the right preparation, students can approach university interviews with confidence and turn what might be a daunting experience into an enjoyable one.

This session will focus on panel and MMI interviews, in-person and online. Our Admissions team will share their advice on preparing your students for admissions interviews. They will offer top tips on preparing your students before, during and after the interview and how you can help your students build their confidence and get ready for their interviews.

Degree Apprenticeships – how they work and why your students could be tailor-made for it

Join our Degree Apprenticeships team to get an overview of how Degree Apprenticeships work including the application process, course places, and what the Degree Apprenticeships landscape looks like in the next few years.

You will also hear about how we work with employers to develop the programmes and support apprenticeship students plus how you can support students in making applications.



Careers in the Humanities – meet the Alumni

This session will be a chance to hear from Queen Mary alumni who studied a range of Humanities and Social Sciences subjects over the years and where it has taken them.

They will share insights into their current roles, how their degree has helped them and look back on their time at Queen Mary offering advice to support your students on their own journeys towards a fulfilling career.

AI in Further Education – preparing teachers and students for tomorrow’s world

Jeremy Samways is the founder of Your Tomorrow, an innovative not-for-profit dedicated to advancing AI literacy among the UK’s youth. Join him as he delves into how artificial intelligence is reshaping the educational landscape – from personalising student learning experiences to supporting and enriching the teaching profession.

Discover how we can empower the next generation of learners and educators to thrive in an AI-augmented future.

Research Showcase

Queen Mary attracts world-class researchers from all corners of the globe. Their work has a far-reaching impact, improving health, social and living conditions, advancing technology and innovation, and influencing public policy and debate.

In this session you will learn about some of the amazing research being conducted at Queen Mary and how our work is making a difference.

Embedding engaging and meaningful experiences into the curriculum to support career decision-making

We all recognise the challenges facing young people today as they make important decisions about their futures. What can we do to ensure that they have access to opportunities and experiences that can support them as they navigate this decision-making process?

Join Jo Bishop from Springpod as she draws upon her experience in FE of using employer and university partnerships to create a hybrid careers programme which supports, inspires and motivates students to gain experience, develop academic and employability skills and make informed choices.

Making the most of University Outreach Schemes

Find out how your school or college can get involved with university outreach schemes and support your students get a head start towards higher education.

Our speakers will share what the schemes entail and the impact that outreach schemes have on students’ progression to university and the benefits to both students and teachers.

Unifrog – supporting student progression inside and outside the classroom

Jacob Lovick is an Area Manager for Unifrog, a Careers and Destinations platform that works with more than 3000 schools and colleges in the UK.

In his session, Jacob will provide some insights into what their large cohort of student and teacher users are telling them, alongside showing how Unifrog helps students and teachers, and some of their latest developments around PSHE, Work Experience and Multi-academy Trusts.

Careers in Science and Engineering – meet the Alumni

This session will be a chance to hear from Queen Mary alumni who studied a range of Science and Engineering subjects over the years and where it has taken them.

They will share insights into their current roles, how their degree has helped them and look back on their time at Queen Mary offering advice to support your students on their own journeys towards a fulfilling career.



Working together to inspire future generations – what we can offer you and your students

Queen Mary offers a truly broad range of activities for schools including workshop sessions, multi-level programmes and campus visits.



All our activities are designed to help your students understand higher education and the range of options available to them. Our activities have been created to be used either as standalone sessions or to be developed into a sustained programme. Our activities have been phased to align with the national Key Stages and provide you with a ready-made tool to support your curriculum, while contributing to the Gatsby benchmarks.

The workshops and programmes provide support and guidance for students in Years 11, 12 and 13, while campus visits provide an opportunity to explore our thriving university. In addition, we provide extensive and targeted support for younger students from under-represented backgrounds from Year 7 upwards. All our activities are available at no cost to your school/college or your students.

We also offer CPD sessions designed to support school staff completely free of charge and can be delivered online or in-person (where possible). These are delivered through our Advancing Access partnership on the following topics: Writing effective UCAS references, Supporting students to make choices at age 16/18, Preparing students for interviews and admissions tests and Understanding contextual admissions policies.

In addition to working with our existing schools and colleges, we are keen to establish new relationships with schools and colleges across London and in key regional areas. For more information about how we could work with you to support your students’ exploration of Higher Education, please email education-liaison@qmul.ac.uk.



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Our Outreach Hub

Explore our Outreach Hub where you'll learn more about our provision for you and your students, as well as some helpful information to support the organisation of activities with Queen Mary.

Our Activity and Events Portal allows you to browse our selection of events and activities available to you and your students and request bookings.

Our Outreach Content Hub is home to a range of online courses for your students which can be used as part of classroom learning or at home. There is further information available about teacher training, our outreach projects and parental engagement.



Scan the QR code
to access the hub

**Student Recruitment and
Widening Participation Team**

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