

Admissions days

What did/do you do?

Computing Science hold admissions days for prospective students, with a focus on conversion rather than selection.

Who is involved?

The Head of School suggests that all staff take part. Strong applicants and their parents are invited.

How do you do it?

The day begins at lunchtime to give applicants and their parents time to arrive. A sample programme for the day includes:

- a tour by current students for prospective students, and a facilities tour for parents. Prospective students then have an icebreaker session (details below) whilst the Head of School gives a presentation to parents focussing on employability
- an activity where prospective students sit in groups, introduce themselves to their group, then write questions about anything to do with the course on cards. They pass the cards around and stick stickers on the questions they think are important, then current students answer the questions
- opportunities for prospective students to meet one-to-one with staff. These meetings fulfil the function of interviews but are set up as pairs of chairs in a large room to make the atmosphere less intimidating. In most cases a student's interviewer then becomes their Personal Tutor when they register.

Why do you do it?

The day is about the conversion of applicants to registered students. Events focus on prospective students and the questions want to ask, rather than on the School. Meeting with Personal Tutors gives prospective students a personal link with staff in the School as a point of contact before registration, and a familiar face when they begin their Programme.

Does it work?

Students attend with their parents. Admissions days have been running for 6 admissions cycles and intakes of students have approximately trebled over this time; in recent years 60% of prospective students who came to the admissions day went on to register as students.

Teaching and Learning Case Study

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Coherent Curriculum themes:

- Student induction

Other keywords:

Admissions