

Hello, my name is George Turner, a past pupil from Ansford Academy. This year I received an offer from the University of Cambridge to study Veterinary Medicine at Emmanuel College, so I am writing to tell you a little bit about my experience.

I have just finished studying Maths, Chemistry and Biology at Strode College. I chose these subjects as they provided me with an insight into the breadths and depths of our world. At Strode I found myself being equally pushed and supported during my education, which allowed me to reach my full potential and be constantly improving.

My Cambridge application involved an entrance exam and two interviews. And whilst it was arduous, it was a lot less pretentious and more down to earth than what I was expecting. Especially during the interviews because at the end of the day the interviewers want you to succeed, and will help you out, allowing you to show them everything you have to offer. It is definitely not something which aspiring applicants should fear; there were many things that I said in my interviews which I look back at and cringe, but I was still able to get an offer. The important thing is that you are resilient and able to carry on even after things don't go to plan in your application.

For anyone who is interested some of the questions I was asked in my interviews were:

- "If you were given the power to do so, how would you revolutionise the field of veterinary medicine?"
- "Give me an example of when something unexpected happened during your work experience, and what you or someone else did to resolve it"
- "What would you do if you were a baby deer?" *(Questions like this are simply asked to show them your thought process, because there is obviously no real right or wrong answer)*
- "Explain the function of the organelles labelled in this diagram of a cell, and explain the importance of cell compartmentalisation?"
- "You wrongfully injected insulin intravenously into a diabetic patient, what can you do that would allow you to save the patient's life?"

To help improve my application and prepare for the interviews I completed a week of work experience at a veterinary practice as well as manage my own small sheep flock, over the last 5 years, doing all the lambing and delivered injections to all the sheep. This provided me with first-hand experience which I was able to relate to many of the questions that I was asked in the interviews. I also completed a 3-week online course on antimicrobial stewardship, this allowed me to learn about the ethics and responsibilities involved in the profession.

At the beginning of Ansford I was graded a bronze in pretty much all my subjects, and during my time there I was taught to have faith in my abilities and trust myself. Ansford is where I began to enjoy learning, I would never have been able to achieve my dream without Ansford. So, for that I am eternally grateful.