



**University of
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What is a Summer School Ambassador?

Find out what previous ambassadors have said about the role and the skills and qualities we look for in successful candidates!

Applying to be the a summer school ambassador was one of the best things I did last year. The role involved showing participants what my subject is all about and trying to encourage them to consider their own future in education. Despite this, I would definitely say the ability to have fun and adopt a humorous demeanour is always definitely required for the role. Having fun was key!

My favourite part about being an ambassador was the connections that it allowed me to form. Through these connections, I saw participant confidence increase which I found extremely rewarding. I also formed great friendships with other ambassadors that I have maintained ever since. Finally, to reflect on my experiments, I am grateful I had the opportunity to be the mentor that I wish I had at that age.



**Dylan Lane-Craddock
(Medicine)**

The role itself consists of a wide range of things- from initiating icebreakers to helping the students to get to know you and each other, leading activities, prompting students in academic sessions, answering their questions about university, looking out for students wellbeing, working as a team with other ambassadors to make sure everything runs smoothly and everyone's having fun, and being role models to students.

You'll need a range of skills to be a successful candidate, including leadership, teamwork, really good social skills, positivity, initiative, problem solving, independence, and attention to detail. But you will definitely build upon the skills you already have and learn new things as a result of being an ambassador. It taught me some really valuable things. It felt rewarding being able to help students at their time on the summer school with advice on university life, course choice, location, and also things like helping them to build connections with each other- you could see how genuine the friendships they made with each other were, which was lovely! It was also really fun getting to know other ambassadors too.

I applied for the position because I attended a summer school myself and it was so helpful to understand my options and whether university life was something that appealed to me. It was the summer school that made me decide I wanted to go to university! So, I wanted to be able to help give that opportunity to other students.



**Steph Barter
(Geography)**



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Being a summer school ambassador is a great opportunity to have a positive influence on a young person's life and make some amazing friends. We support participants in figuring out if the University of Nottingham is somewhere they'd like to study. It's a chance for them to try out exciting sessions within their chosen subject and we give them an insight into all aspects of university life. As an ambassador, we need to be good at encouraging participants and being there as a listening ear if anyone is struggling. Being an ambassador means not being afraid to take the lead, even if it's out of your comfort zone - we gain in confidence just as much as the participants throughout the week! Adaptability is key as every participant is different.

The best part about being an ambassador is watching participants realise that university could be a place where they could thrive. Many come in having no idea what they'd like to study and then leave having a clear plan. I applied to be an ambassador because I came to UoN via a foundation year after extenuating circumstances throughout school, so Widening Participation is something I'm very passionate about. I used to think I'd never be able to go to university so being able to help participants gain the confidence to apply is an amazing experience.



**Emily Atkinson
(Liberal Arts)**



**Emma McMahon
(Physiotherapy)**

I absolutely loved being a summer school ambassador last June. You can really see how much of a difference you make to the participants during their week at UoN. Encouraging the participants to engage in the academic sessions and get involved with their tutor groups during evening activities makes a huge difference. I particularly enjoyed when we went on a scavenger style walk around Nottingham city centre with our tutor groups because that was the first time I could see everyone having fun and working together.

To be an ambassador you must be confident, a good role model and not be afraid to take the lead - we set up a badminton court in the evenings so participants could play together and it became so popular by the end of the week, everyone was playing! Also, working with the other ambassadors made the experience even better because you make genuine friends, something which I didn't consider when applying for the role but is one of the best things about it.