

**If you could visit anywhere in the world...**

**... without having to worry about money or time...**

**...where would you go? Why?  
For how long?**

# What is a gap year?



Traditionally – Deferring entry to university for a year to allow for travelling and volunteer work.

Currently – Taking a break in, or just after, education to allow for an informed decision to be made about the future.

# ***“Does taking a gap year put me at a disadvantage when applying?”***

Aside from a few select courses (such as Medicine), no.

There is no rule that says you have to go straight from school to university.

Many of the best students are the ones who haven't - especially if they have actually worked during the time in between.

A gap year is perfectly okay, particularly if you've gained some useful and worthwhile experience.

# ***“How does applying to university work if I take a gap year before?”***

You would either

1). Go through the UCAS application during your gap year  
(be mindful of a January deadline)

- You would contact the school for support and guidance

or

2). Apply in Y13, but put yourself down as ‘deferring’ when selecting your options, whilst also explaining your plans in your personal statement. If you get an offer, it will be for the year after other applicants.



# ***“What could I do?”***



You should choose activities to build the skills you think you'll need in your future career. Popular skills include teamwork, leadership, problem solving and independent learning.

Depending on your circumstances you could:

- get a paid job
- volunteer or find work experience, including online
- do a year in industry placement
- travel or work abroad
- learn a language or take online courses
- resit your exams

# ***“I want to travel... ..but what about costs?”***



- Work for half a year before travelling
- Travel locally – there’s a lot of activity and beautiful scenery outside of Lincolnshire!
- Organise a fund raising event
- Sell some of your possessions at a car boot sale or online e.g. eBay or Facebook Marketplace
- Work abroad as part of a gap year program, or taking on seasonal jobs as you travel such as teaching English as a second language
- Consider cheaper accommodation e.g. using hostels or through couchsurfing.com, and stay with locals, including other travellers.

# ***“Is now a good time to travel?”***

Many countries have now relaxed travel and tourism restrictions following the peak of the global pandemic.

Most gap year programs are back up and running and potentially there are more volunteering opportunities, given the events of recent times.

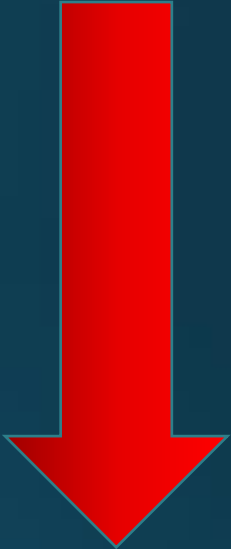
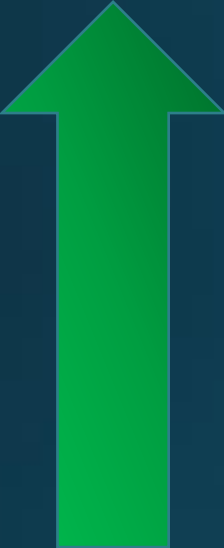
Priority number one is safety when travelling. For any plans that involve going abroad, be sure to check the latest foreign travel advice relating to specific countries by visiting:

**<https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice>**



# Balancing the PROS and CONS

PROS	CONS



# Advice from professionals...

[Should I take a gap year? - BBC Bitesize](#)

More information to be sent out.

# Gap Years



“I would rather look back at my life and say ‘I can’t believe I did that’ instead of saying ‘I wish I did that’ ”

“The world is a book, and those who don’t travel only read one chapter” – St Augustine

“Your direction is so much more important than your speed” – Richard L. Evans