THESE days, going to university is pretty much a rite of passage. As soon as we begin studying for A levels we're coaxed into choosing subjects that will impress on higher education applications. We may have attended other family members’ graduation ceremonies and heard someone say: ‘It'll be you next...’ Perhaps we've walked past our parents’ cap and gown photos in the hallway more times than we can remember, and just assumed that one day we'd be up there too.

It’s not just external pressure that’s influencing the craving for higher education, however. While some young people are now opting to go straight into full-time work after school or start apprenticeship programmes, a lot want to go to university for another reason entirely. ‘Fomo’ (aka fear of missing out) is huge among the younger generation. I should know - I’ve been there.

But are we, as a society, putting too much pressure on young people to have the 'uni experience'? While studying for a degree in the UK or abroad has many...