



# UCAS Information Evening

Mr Larter - Assistant Headteacher & Joint Head of Sixth Form

Mr Finn-Kelcey - Joint Head of Sixth Form

Mrs Butterly - KS5 Student support and Careers



# In the next hour ....

- What is UCAS?
- What should students already be doing?
- The application process
- Key dates for the 2027 UCAS cycle
- Personal statements
- What happens on the teacher side (predicted grades and references)
- Resources for Parents and Carers



# UCAS Updates 2027 entry

- Care Leavers Post 16 - UCAS fee waived
- Uploading documents

## **Key date changes**

The January equal consideration date will be 13 January 2027.

UCAS Extra will open on 25 February 2027.

The reject by default (RBD) will be 12 May 2027. (During Yr13 exams)



# What is UCAS?



UCAS is an **independent charity** providing information, advice and admissions services. We're there to help people **discover** what their next step might be.

## UCAS **does**:

- provide information, advice, and support
- process applications
- complete fraud and verification checks
- take part in education sector engagement

## UCAS **doesn't**:

- make decisions or offers
- set entry requirements
- advise on finance
- advise on immigration or visas

# Completing the **ucas** application



Student registers for a UCAS Hub account to carry out research and start an application.



Student completes all sections of the application and sends it to their school/college.



Teacher or adviser reviews the application and adds reference and predicted grades.



Applications are sent to UCAS by the school of college on behalf of the student.



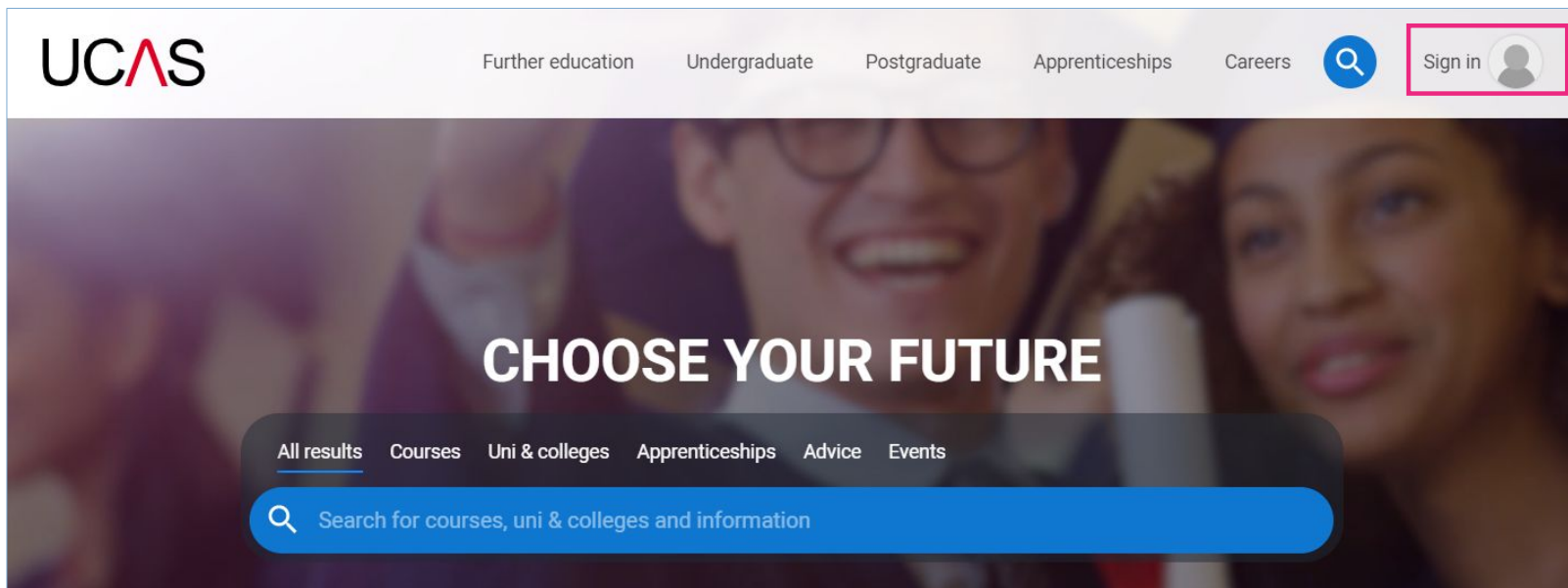
Universities and colleges make their decisions on the application.

# Registering for an account



# Registering for an account

Head to [ucas.com](https://ucas.com) and select **Sign in**.

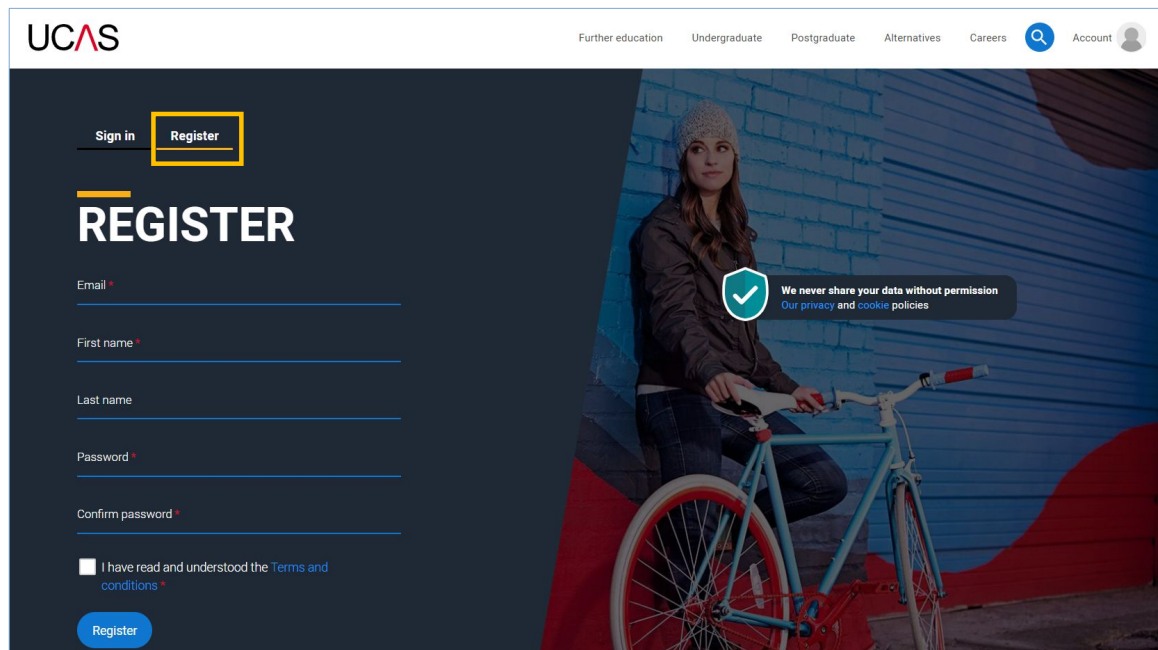


The screenshot shows the UCAS website homepage. The UCAS logo is in the top left. The navigation menu includes: Further education, Undergraduate, Postgraduate, Apprenticeships, Careers, a search icon, and a 'Sign in' button with a user icon, which is highlighted with a red box. Below the navigation is a large banner with the text 'CHOOSE YOUR FUTURE' and a search bar. The search bar contains the text 'Search for courses, uni & colleges and information'.

# Registering for an account

Complete the short form. Make sure the **password is memorable**.

We recommend you use a **personal email address** so you always have access to updates.



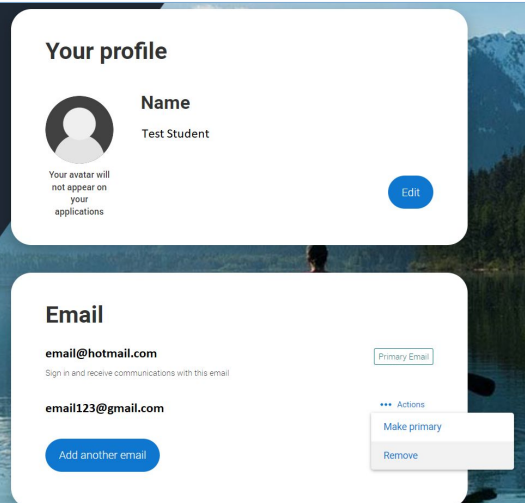
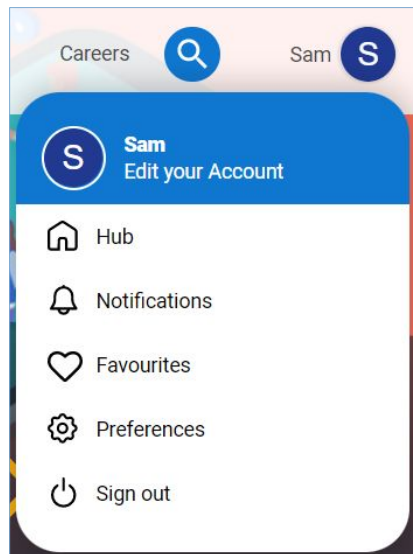
The screenshot shows the UCAS registration page. At the top, the UCAS logo is on the left, and navigation links for 'Further education', 'Undergraduate', 'Postgraduate', 'Alternatives', 'Careers', and 'Account' are on the right. The 'Account' link is accompanied by a magnifying glass icon and a user profile icon. Below the navigation, there are two buttons: 'Sign in' and 'Register'. The 'Register' button is highlighted with a yellow border. The main heading is 'REGISTER' in large, bold, white letters. Below the heading are five input fields: 'Email \*', 'First name \*', 'Last name', 'Password \*', and 'Confirm password \*'. Each field has a blue underline. At the bottom of the form, there is a checkbox with the text 'I have read and understood the [Terms and conditions](#) \*'. Below the checkbox is a blue 'Register' button. On the right side of the form, there is a blue shield icon with a white checkmark and a dark grey box containing the text: 'We never share your data without permission. Our privacy and cookie policies'.

# Your email

It's important your contact details are kept up to date throughout your application.

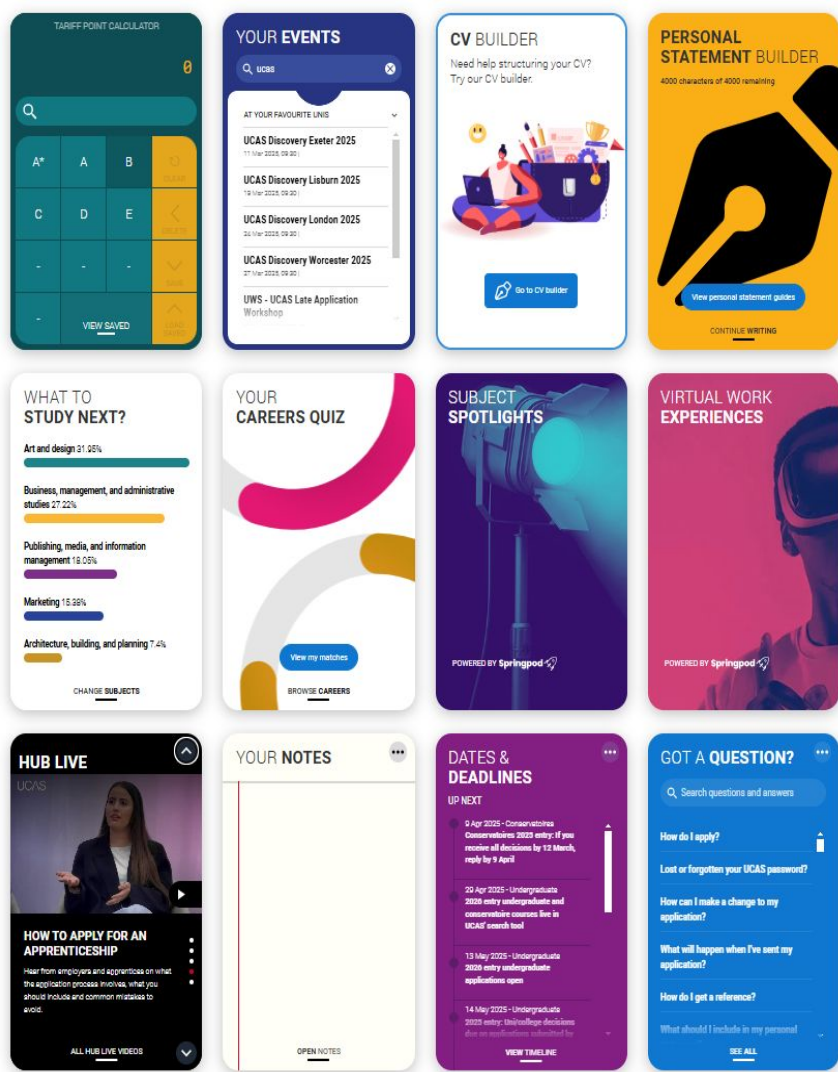
We recommend using a **personal email address** as your primary email, rather than a school/college one, so that you have access to it throughout your application journey.

To update your email address, go to 'Edit your account' from drop-down, where you can change your email.



# Tools for success

- Explore the Careers Quiz, What to Study Next, Subject Spotlights and Virtual Work Experiences for **career and course inspiration**.
- Use the Tariff Calculator, Personal Statement Builder, and CV Builder to stay on track and **plan your path**.
- Search for events, open days, videos to get expert help and **questions answered**.



# Subject spotlights

All filters

Subject

University or College

- Anglia Ruskin University
- Bangor University
- Bournemouth University
- Canterbury Christ Church University
- City St George's, University of London
- Coventry University
- Coventry University London
- Edge Hill University
- Johnson & Wales University
- Leeds Beckett University
- Liverpool Hope University
- Manchester Metropolitan University
- New England Institute Of Technology
- Queen's University Belfast
- Teesside University

Show more



**Teaching: A Profession And A Passion**  
with Damien Maguire from Liverpool Hope University



**Cancer, Brain Tumours & Rogue Cells: The Science Behind The Killer Disease**  
with Dr Shafiq Ahmed from University of Sunderland



**Computer Science: Is Generative AI The Problem Or The Solution?**  
with Dr Aminu Usman from the University of Sunderland



**Understanding**  
with Dr Aminu Usman from the University of Sunderland



**And Breathe: The Respiratory System Explained**  
with Charlotte Anderson from the University of Sunderland



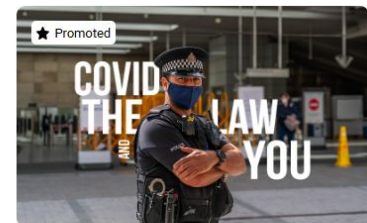
**Computer Science: Space Exploration And Beyond**  
with Dr Paul Sant from The University of Law

Reset filters

POWERED BY **Springpod**  
UCAS Media Service





**Biotechnology: The Rise Of Radical Healthcare**  
with Prof. M. Safwan Akram from Teesside University



**Covid: The Law And You**  
with Mike Meehan from University of Law

# Virtual work experience

POWERED BY   
 UCAS Media Service



**Defy the limits with Amazon: Careers Experience**

Digital, IT and Computing


This programme will explore an array of career opportunities available at Amazon

Available 31/07/2025 - 21/05/2026


**Start now**

Allianz  
 Amazon  
 Arcadis  
 Asda  
 Atkins Realis  
 BDO  
 Barclays  
 British Geological Survey  
 CIPFA  
 Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development  
 Chartered Insurance Institute  
 Coventry Building Society  
 Drax  
 EDF Energy  
 Forvis Mazars  

[Show more](#)



**FIND OUT MORE**




**Key Skills**

Construction & Trades

This programme will explore an array of career opportunities available at Vistry

Available 14/10/2024 - 01/11/2026

**Start now**



**Vistry's Careers in Housebuilding**

Construction & Trades

This programme will explore an array of career opportunities available at Vistry

Available 14/10/2024 - 01/11/2026

**Start now**



**Academic Publishing with Taylor & Francis**

Publishing & Journalism

This programme will explore an array of career opportunities available at Taylor & Francis

Available 14/11/2024 - 30/09/2026

**Start now**



**Accountancy and Advisory Services**

Accounting, Banking & Finance



**Accountancy Work Experience with BDO**

Accounting, Banking & Finance



**Amazon Career Tour: Robotics Fulfilment Centre**



**AtkinsRéalis Virtual Work Experience programme**

# Chat to students


POWERED BY  UNIBUDDY  
 UCAS Media Service

Search for filters

- Abertay University
- Bangor University
- Birkbeck, University of London
- Brunel University of London
- Buckinghamshire New University
- City St George's, University of London
- Coventry University
- Durham University
- Edinburgh Napier University
- Goldsmiths University
- King's College London
- Lancaster University
- Leeds Beckett University
- Leeds Trinity University
- Liverpool John Moores University


Show more






**Aadil**  
Manchester Metropolitan University  
Product Design

Hi everyone! My name is Aadil and I am a second-year student studying...




**abdeldjouad**  
University of Westminster  
Finance and Business Management BA Honours

Hi everyone! my name is Abdeldjouad, I'm an international...




**Abdul**  
University of Lincoln  
Architecture - BA (Hons)

"Hi! Feel free to ask me any questions about the courses here i...




**Abdullah**  
University of Reading  
Computer Science, BSc (Hons)

Currently in my second year, I'm focused on making the most of m...




**Abhishek**  
University of Strathclyde  
MSc Forensic Science

Hey there! I'm a doctor who spent six incredible years in Ukraine...



**Abi**  
King's College London  
Digital Media and Culture

I am an enthusiastic creative, who is always motivated to develop my...



**Abi**  
University of Reading  
BSc Business and Management (Marketing)

Hi, I'm Abi! I am a part of the University of Reading; however, I a...

# SCHOLARSHIPS, BURSARIES & grants UCAS

## Search

Scholarships, bursaries & grants

Hub For you Favourites What to do Where to go Search

Search for items

Not all scholarships, bursaries, and grants are on UCAS.com. Check directly with your chosen university for all available options. [Learn more](#)

Search All | 901 results | Page 1 of 46

Sort by: Relevance Grid List

All filters Level of study University or College Domicile

Reset filters



**Global Futures Scholarships - North America - Undergraduate**  
Funding application deadline: 05 Mar 2026  
University of Manchester  
£10,000.00

**Rest of UK (RUK) Bursary 2026-27**  
Funding application deadline: 27 Aug 2026  
University of Dundee  
£2,000.00

**Sir Thomas White Scholarship**  
Funding application deadline: 31 Mar 2026  
University of Northampton  
£4,500.00

**(RUK) Academic Excellence Bursary - 2026-27**  
Funding application deadline: 27 Aug 2026  
University of Dundee  
£3,000.00

**2025-26 Business Scholarships**  
Funding application deadline: None  
Hartpury University  
Between £2,000 to £3,500

**2025-26 Postgraduate Country Scholarship**  
Funding application deadline: None  
Hartpury University  
Up to £5,000

**2026-27 Alumni Discount**  
Funding application deadline: None  
Northumbria University, Newcastle  
20%

**2026-27 PGT International Scholarships for South Asian Applicants**  
Funding application deadline: None  
Northumbria University, Newcastle  
£3,000.00

**2026-27 UG International Scholarships**  
Funding application deadline: None  
Northumbria University, Newcastle  
£3000

**2026/27 Postgraduate International Scholarship**  
Funding application deadline: None  
Northumbria University, Newcastle  
£3,000.00

### Care Leavers and Experience of Care Scholarship

Manchester Metropolitan University

**Scholarship information**

**Value**  
£6,000 in years one and two, £8,000 in your final year for two undergraduate students.

**Study level**  
New, full-time undergraduate students in their first year only.

**Aim of the scholarship**  
Supported by a number of donations over the years, this Scholarship offers support to undergraduate students who are care leavers and care-experienced to help improve social mobility.

**Details**  
Amount: £6,000.00 to £8,000.00  
Domicile: UK  
Study level: Undergraduate  
Awarded by: Manchester Metropolitan University  
Funding application deadline: 31 Jul 2026

[Apply](#)

Funding application deadline:  
**31 Jul 2026**

To apply for this scholarship you must submit your application on the scholarship provider's website by this date.

# UCAS Course Search

< Search All | 54452 courses | Page 1 of 834

All filters Year Study type University or College

Search for filters

- ACM (The Academy of Contemporary Music)
- ARU London
- ASU London
- Abertay University
- Aberystwyth University
- Academy of Live Technology
- Activate Learning
- Amity University [IN] London
- Anglia Ruskin University
- Architectural Association School of Architecture
- Arden University
- Arts Educational Schools
- Arts University Bouenmouth
- Arts University Plymouth
- Associated Studios Performing Arts Academy

Show more

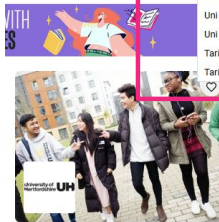


### 2D Animation and Stop Motion

Teesside University  
BA (Hons) - Full-time - 2 study options - September 2025  
Teesside University Middlesbrough Campus

UCAS Tariff: 96 - 112 points

See all 798 courses at this provider



### 2D Digital Animation

University of Hertfordshire  
BA (Hons) - Full-time - 2 study options - September 2025  
Main Site

UCAS Tariff: 112 - 120 points

See all 1738 courses at this provider



### 2D Digital Animation and Design Production

Bournemouth and Poole College  
FSA - 2 years - Full-time - September 2025  
Poole Campus

UCAS Tariff: 48 points

See all 19 courses at this provider

Sort by: Relevance  
Course title (A to Z)  
Course title (Z to A)  
Uni or college (A to Z)  
Uni or college (Z to A)  
Tariff requirements (High to low)  
Tariff requirements (Low to high)



### 3D Animation

Ravensbourne University London  
BA (Hons) - 3 years - Full-time - September 2025  
Main Site

UCAS Tariff: 64 points

See all 139 courses at this provider



### 3D Animation & Visual Effects

University of Chichester  
BA (Hons) - 3 years - Full-time - September 2025  
Bognor Regis Campus, University of Chichester

UCAS Tariff: 104 - 112 points

See all 538 courses at this provider



### 3D Animation and Games Development

Grwp Llandrillo Menai  
FSA - 3 study options - September 2025  
Colap Llandrillo - Rhos on Sea

UCAS Tariff: 72 points

See all 171 courses at this provider



### 3D Animation and Games Development (Top up)

Grwp Llandrillo Menai  
BSc (Hons) - 3 study options - September 2025  
Colap Llandrillo - Rhos on Sea

UCAS Tariff: N/A

See all 171 courses at this provider

# UCAS Course SEARCH

## Top Tips for Using the UCAS Search Tool

1. **Explore broadly** first to avoid missing great courses you may not have considered.
2. **Use filters** to refine results by year, study type, or university/college.
3. **Sort results** in the way that works best for you, such as alphabetically or in a way that helps you compare courses.
4. **Check course details** (entry requirements, placement options, study modes) to see how well they match what you want.
5. **Favourite courses** you like so you can easily return to them later; save time and keeps everything organised.

**Filters**

**Course type and year**  
Select the year you'd like to study, and the type of course you're interested in to filter your results.

2023-2024 | 2025-2026 | 2026-2027

Accelerated | Conservative | Degree Apprenticeship | Higher technical qualifications | Postgraduate

Research | Taught | Teacher training courses in Scotland and Wales | Undergraduate

**Start date**  
Select the start month for the course you're interested in.

April | August | December | February | January | July | June | March | May | November

October | September

**Study mode**

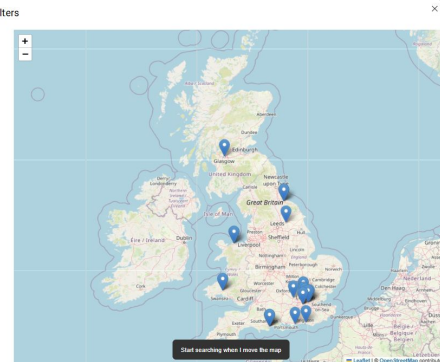
Distance learning | Full-time | Part-time

**Qualifications**

Bachelors | Doctoral degrees | Foundation degrees | HNC or CertHE | HND or DipHE | Masters

Other qualifications | PG Certificates or Diplomas

Show 54452 Courses | Reset filters



**University or college**

Q

**Subject**

Q

**Duration**  
How long do you want to study?

- Select a duration -

**Country**

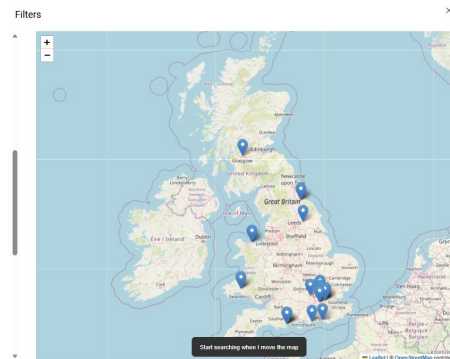
England | Northern Ireland | Outside of the UK | Scotland | Wales

**Region**

East Midlands | East of England | Greater London | North East England | North West England

South East England | South West England | West Midlands | Yorkshire and the Humber

Show 54452 Courses | Reset filters



A Level	Points
A*	56
A	48
B	40
C	32
D	24
E	16

# The course matters

## Teaching & learning

- ✓ Teaching hours, self-study, lectures, and group work.

## Assessment & structure

- ✓ Coursework, exams, practical work, and module choices.

## Entry requirements

- ✓ Grades, skills, interviews, or auditions.

## Career links

- ✓ Placements, internships and study abroad.

## Class size & experience

- ✓ Student numbers and learning environment

Select qualification

UK A-Level

Data from: This course

Date range: 2019–2023

Grades held by accepted students ⓘ



**ABB**  
Highest grades  
**CCC**  
Lowest grades

Rate of offers for UK school leavers



Students aged 17/18 who applied to this course were offered a place.

How do you compare?

Add three of your UK A-Level grades, predicted or those you've already achieved, to see how they compare to the grades previously accepted.

UK A-Level grades

B

B

C

By using 'Accept & show results' you acknowledge that the result indicates how you compare to previously accepted students. It is not an indication of success if you were to apply.

Accept & show results

Cancel

# Apply



How to apply to universities and colleges for 2027 entry.

# Application key facts



Invisibility - Universities and colleges **can't see** your other choices



Apply by the relevant **equal consideration date**.

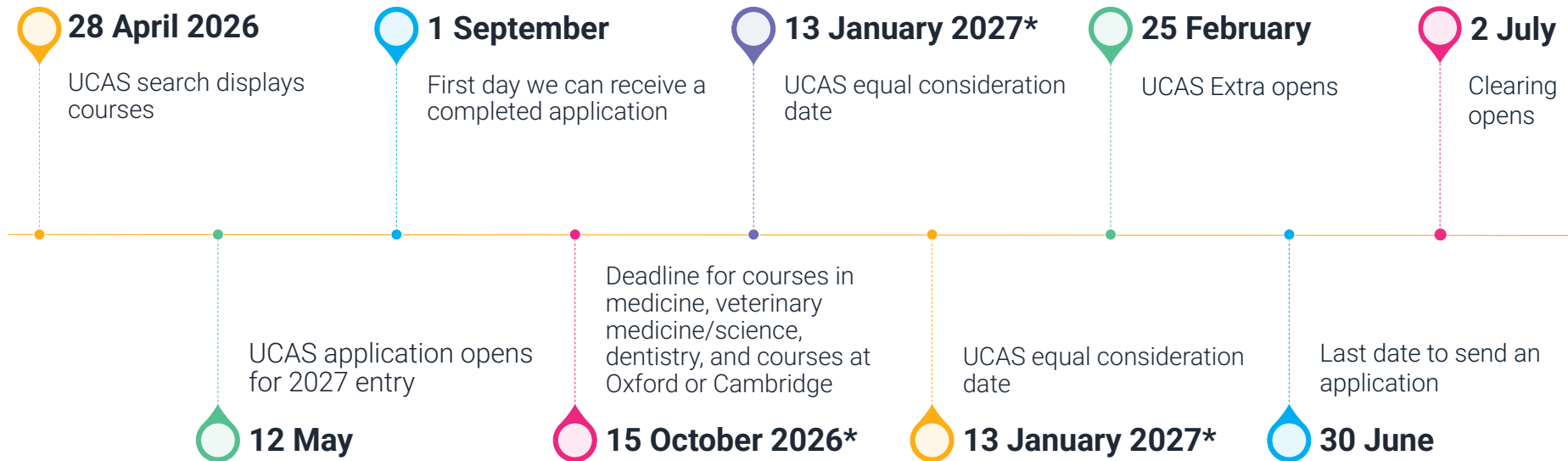


**Five choices**, with some restrictions (medicine, veterinary, dentistry, Oxford and Cambridge).



Research is key to a successful application.

# Key dates for 2027



**12th November School  
Deadline for completing the  
form.**

\* 18:00 UK time

# Starting your application

Choose the year you want to start your studies, level of study (it's **Undergraduate** if you are still at school/college) and type of application you wish to make.

Make sure you choose **2027** if you want to start next year, including if you want to defer your start date.

## YOUR APPLICATIONS

### Start an application

You can only apply once in a cycle - Do not apply more than once in a cycle, or submit a new application if you are holding a deferred place, as your new application will be cancelled and you won't receive a refund.

In which year do you want to start your studies?

2027

Select the main level of study you are interested in

Undergraduate (Uni and college degrees, and ap... ▾



#### Undergraduate

Degrees, HNDs, and HNCs

Start 2027 application ›



#### Conservatoire

Undergraduate or postgraduate music, dance, drama, or musical theatre.

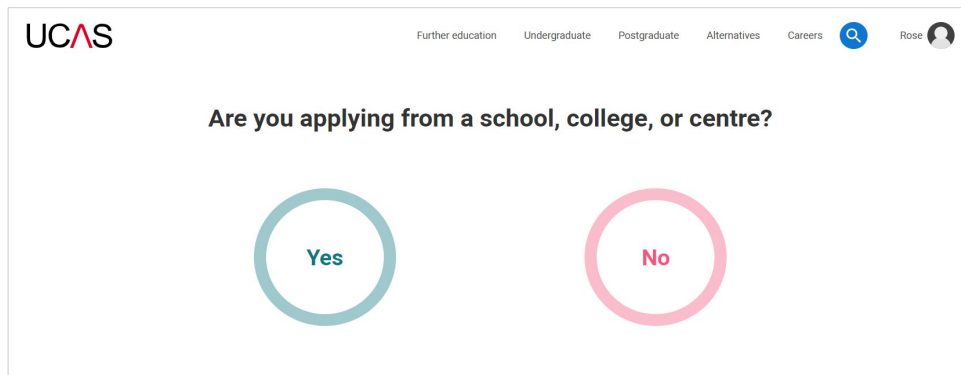
Start 2027 application ›



# Linking to your school, college or centre

If you're applying with the help of school, college or centre then select 'Yes'.

You will then need to enter the **Buzzword**.

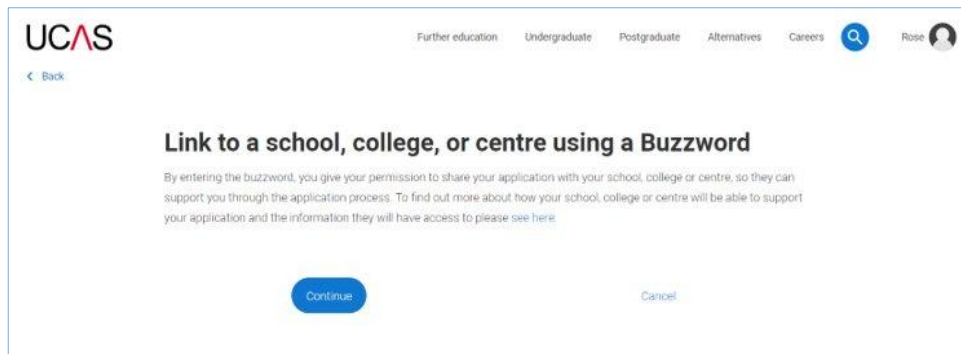
**Lurcher**





UCAS Further education Undergraduate Postgraduate Alternatives Careers  

Are you applying from a school, college, or centre?

Yes No



UCAS Further education Undergraduate Postgraduate Alternatives Careers  

[Back](#)

Link to a school, college, or centre using a Buzzword

By entering the buzzword, you give your permission to share your application with your school, college or centre, so they can support you through the application process. To find out more about how your school, college or centre will be able to support your application and the information they will have access to please see [here](#).

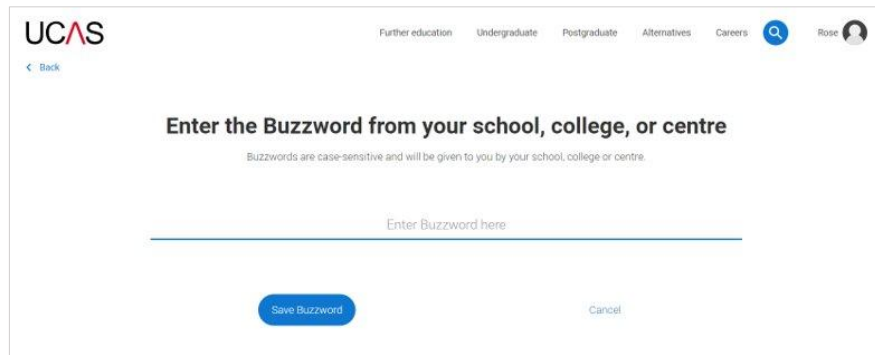
Continue Cancel



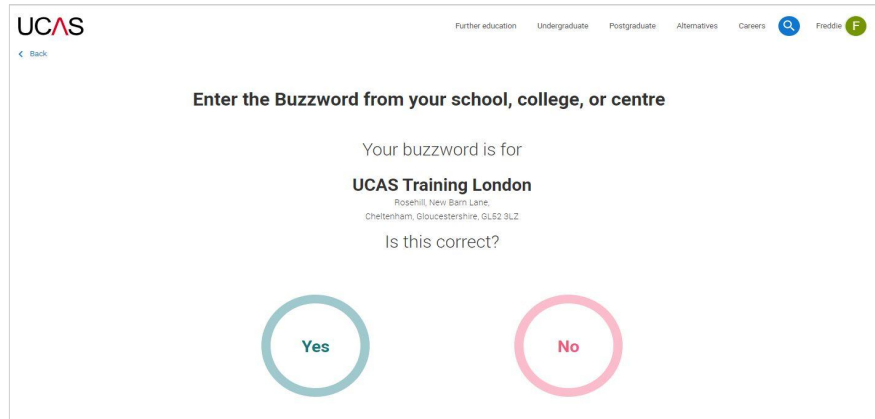
# Linking to your school, college or centre

Enter the **buzzword**, and **confirm** the details are correct.

This will **link your application** to QEGS, so we can track your progress and provide support, including adding your reference.



The screenshot shows the UCAS website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'Further education', 'Undergraduate', 'Postgraduate', 'Alternatives', 'Careers', and a search icon. A user profile icon for 'Rose' is visible. Below the navigation bar, the main heading reads 'Enter the Buzzword from your school, college, or centre'. A sub-heading states 'Buzzwords are case-sensitive and will be given to you by your school, college or centre.' There is a text input field with the placeholder text 'Enter Buzzword here'. Below the input field are two buttons: 'Save Buzzword' (in blue) and 'Cancel' (in grey).



The screenshot shows the UCAS website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'Further education', 'Undergraduate', 'Postgraduate', 'Alternatives', 'Careers', and a search icon. A user profile icon for 'Freddie' is visible. Below the navigation bar, the main heading reads 'Enter the Buzzword from your school, college, or centre'. The text below the heading says 'Your buzzword is for' followed by 'UCAS Training London'. Below this, the address is listed: 'Rosehill, New Barn Lane, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, GL52 9LZ'. The text 'Is this correct?' is displayed. At the bottom, there are two circular buttons: 'Yes' (in a teal circle) and 'No' (in a pink circle).

# Linking to your school, college or centre

Once your application has been linked, you can then select your form **group** or specific application group such as Early Entry.

You have linked your application to  
**UCAS Training School**

Select group

I don't know  
Default Group  
Former students  
Oxbridge  
**Tutor 1**  
Tutor 2  
Tutor 3  
Tutor 4

Need help? [Advisers](#) [Join our team](#) [Te](#)

# Contact details



# CONTACT DETAILS

Your email will be used by both UCAS and your university and college choices.

If you're using a school or college email address, make sure you can always access it, so you don't miss anything important.

We advise you to use a personal email address, which can be updated in the Hub preferences.

## Contact details

### Mobile telephone number

### Other telephone number

### Email address \*

You can update your email address in your UCAS profile

### Postal address

#### Address type \*

#### Address lookup

[Click here](#) to enter your address manually

### Nominated access

Do you want someone else to be able to act, or speak on your behalf, about your application? e.g. A parent, teacher, other relative or guardian. If you are using an agent, you can choose to enter their details.

You're able to enter details of someone you're happy to help manage your application - this is called nominated access.

Yes  No

Mark this section as complete \*

You must complete all mandatory fields in this section before you can mark it as complete. All sections must be marked as complete before you can send your application.

Save this section

# More about you



# More about you

You can share any individual needs or circumstances, such as a disability or health condition. You can select multiple conditions from the list available and provide a short bit of context in the free text box that appears.

Sharing this information helps the university connect you to the right support – they may send you more information or contact you to discuss what would help you succeed. See our support on [individual needs](#) for more advice.

If you don't have any conditions to report, you select "No disability" to mark the section as complete.

Every year, over 60,000 students with a physical and/or mental health condition, long-term illness, or learning difference apply through UCAS to study at a university or college in the UK, and access a range of support available to help with their studies, day-to-day activities, travel, or lifestyle. Would you consider yourself as living with any of the following:

- I have a learning difference  
(e.g. dyslexia, dyspraxia, or AD(H)D))
- I have a hearing impairment  
(e.g. deafness or partial hearing)
- I have a mental health condition, concern or disorder  
(e.g. anxiety or depression)
- I have a physical impairment or challenges with mobility, or dexterity  
(e.g. climbing stairs or uneven surfaces, using a keyboard or laboratory equipment)
- I have a long-term illness or health condition  
(this may involve pain or cause fatigue, loss of concentration or breathing difficulties – including any effects from taking associated medication.)
- I have a social, behavioural or communication impairment  
(e.g. an autistic spectrum condition, Tourette's Syndrome, or speech and language difficulties including stammering)
- I have a visual impairment uncorrected by glasses  
(e.g. blindness or partial sight)
- I have a condition or impairment not listed
- None of these apply to me
- I prefer not to say

# More about you

## UCAS Free Schools Meals Application Fee Waiver

You must answer, 'Yes' to this question in 'More about you' to identify you are eligible for the free school meals application fee waiver.

Read our [guidance](#) to check if you're eligible to have your application fee waived.

Your school or college will need to agree to your eligibility when reviewing your application and may require you to evidence this.

Are you currently receiving free school meals, or were you in receipt of free school meals between the ages of 11 to 18?

Yes  No  Don't know

Mark this section as complete \*

You must complete all mandatory fields in this section before you can mark it as complete. All sections must be marked as complete before you can send your application.

Save this section

<

### Help for free school meals

Young people in the UK are usually eligible for free school meals if their parents or carers are on a low income or in receipt of certain benefits. If you're not sure, ask your school – they will be able to confirm this for you. You may also be eligible if you're paid qualifying benefits directly, instead of through your parent or carer. For more information about answering this question read our FAQs.

# Education



# Education

You must enter all your qualifications from secondary education onwards – whether you have the result (even any that were ungraded) or you're still awaiting exams and results.

First you need to add details of where you've studied, or are studying, then add qualifications.

Start by clicking **Add place of education**.

You'll be asked for a 'Unique Learner Number' – if you don't have one leave the question blank.

+

Add place of education

---

**Unique Learner Number (ULN)**  
**Students in England, Wales and Northern Ireland ONLY** – This is a unique 10-digit number, which is usually printed on your qualification certificates or results slip. If you are applying from a school or college, they may also have this number. Inputting this number can help us to check the information you submit, but if you don't have one or don't know yours, please leave this blank

**English language certificates**

English language certificates are often needed for international students as an entry requirement for the course.

Not everyone will need an English language certificate. If you're unsure whether you need one, check the entry requirements for the course on the search tool.

If you have a language certificate that is not listed here, ie Pearson, Cambridge you can add these as a qualification in the section above.

**Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) Number**

**International English Language Testing System (IELTS) TRF Number**

Mark this section as complete \*

You must complete all mandatory fields in this section before you can mark it as complete. All sections must be marked as complete before you can send your application.

Save this section

# Personal statements



# What are the **questions?**



Why do you want to study this course or subject?



How have your qualifications and studies helped you to prepare for this course or subject?



What else have you done to prepare outside of education, and why are these experiences useful?

# Personal statement



You can save and edit this as many times as you need to.

If it's over the character count you can't 'Complete' it until it meets the count.

If you try to navigate away without saving your work. We'll remind you with a pop-up warning.

You can expand each question box by dragging the bottom right-hand corner.

Overall character count  
0 / 4000

**Why do you want to study this course or subject? \***  
This is your opportunity to showcase your passion and knowledge of your chosen subject area and to demonstrate to universities and colleges why they are a good fit for you and your future ambitions.

Please use a minimum of 350 characters in this section (350 needed)

**How have your qualifications and studies helped you to prepare for this course or subject? \***  
This is your chance to shout about the relevant or transferable skills you've gained from your education and highlight your understanding of how they will help you succeed in this subject area.

Please use a minimum of 350 characters in this section (350 needed)

**What else have you done to prepare outside of education, and why are these experiences useful? \***  
This is your chance to reflect on any other activities you have undertaken outside of your education or personal experiences which further demonstrate your suitability for the course. This section is likely to be deeply personal to you, so anything you include should be meaningful and relevant to you.

Please use a minimum of 350 characters in this section (350 needed)

# Personal statement

Remember UCAS carry out checks to verify your personal statement is your own work.

If it looks like it's been copied from other sources, they tell the universities and colleges you applied to, and they decide what to do next.

UCAS also contact you by email to tell you this has happened.

Check out [ucas.com](https://ucas.com) for all the support in writing your personal statement.

Overall character count  
2235 / 4000

**What else have you done to prepare outside of education, and why are these experiences useful? \***

This is your chance to reflect on any other activities you have undertaken outside of your education, or personal experiences which further demonstrate your suitability for the course. This section is likely to be deeply personal to you, so anything you include should be meaningful and relevant to you.

This is your chance to talk about any other activities you have undertaken outside of your formal education or personal experiences which further demonstrate your suitability for the course. This section is likely to be highly personal to you and anything you do include should reflect on why you're including it.

Examples of what you might talk about here could include work experience, employment, or volunteering. Personal life experiences or responsibilities. Hobbies and any extracurricular or outreach activities. Post-education activities.

Minimum number of characters met

**Mark this section as complete \***

You must complete all mandatory fields in this section before you can mark it as complete. All sections must be marked as complete before you can send your application.

Save this section

# Pay and Submit



# Pay and submit

All Payments are made by card.

However - if you are eligible for the fee to be waived then do not enter any card details. There is a different route.

The UCAS fee for 2027 is **£34.50**

1 Check your application 2 Terms and conditions 3 Pay and submit

## Pay and **submit**

### Which payment option should I choose?

You cannot amend this choice later so please select the right option for you.

**Pay by card**

Select this option if you are paying the application for payment.

VISA Mastercard American Express JCB

The next screen you see may be from your card issuer for payments.

Pay by card

Back to Terms and conditions Return to application

1 Check your application 2 Terms and conditions 3 Pay and submit

## Pay and **submit**

### Which payment option should I choose?

You cannot amend this choice later so please select the right option for you.

**Paying for your application**

**Invoice**

UCAS will send an invoice to your school, college or centre for payment of the application fee. Select this option if the centre has agreed to pay your application fee on your behalf.

Invoice

# Free School Meal Application Fee Waiver

If you are eligible for the free school meals waiver you need to choose 'Apply with FSM fee waiver', when you 'Pay and submit'.

If you can't see this option but think you're eligible:

1. Check you have answered 'Yes' to the question in 'More about you'.
2. Check with your school or college BEFORE entering any card details.

Once you pay by card (even if you are eligible), this cannot be reversed; a fee waiver cannot be applied after you have completed the pay and submit process.

1 Check your application      2 Terms and conditions      3 Pay and submit

Pay and **submit**

**Which payment option should I choose?**

You cannot amend this choice later so please select the right option for you.

**Free school meals (FSM) waiver**

You have answered 'yes' to the free school meal question. You should use the 'Apply with FSM fee waiver' below.

UCAS is waiving the application fee for students who have received **free school meals funded by the UK government**; if you have received free school meals at any point in the last six years, you do not need to pay the UCAS application fee.

Your school, college or centre will need to agree you receive/have received free school meals, once you submit your application.

Check if you are eligible

Apply with FSM fee waiver

# submit

When you've paid and submitted your application comes to QEGS

We can then submit the application to UCAS once a thorough check has taken place

If there are errors then we can return it so that edits can be made. You then submit it back to us. No additional fee is required.

The screenshot shows a web interface for reviewing an application. At the top, there is a teal header with a 'Return to your Hub' link on the left, a central message: 'This is a read only version of your application which is with an adviser at UCAS Test and training centre. your adviser if you have any questions or problems with your application.', and a 'Contact' link and a 'Download as PDF' button on the right.

Below the header is a sidebar menu with the following items: Personal details, Contact and residency details, Employment, Education, Nationality details, Supporting information, English language skills, Finance and funding, Diversity and inclusion, and Personal statement.

The main content area displays two sections:

- Personal details**

Title	Ms
First name	Rose
Last name	Hill
Previous name(s)	Not provided
Preferred name	Not provided
Date of birth	08/02/1995
Gender	Female
- Contact and residency details**

Mobile telephone number	01234567890
Other telephone number	Not provided



# What happens on the teacher side?



References and Predicted Grades

# The reference and predicted grades



Subject teachers write a reference for each student



Form tutors compile into an overall reference



Head of Sixth Form completes a final edit



Headteacher reads and approves all references



A maximum of 4,000 characters, or 47 lines



# How we decide on Predicted Grades.....

## Things teachers will take into account.

- The results of Year 12 exams
- The grades scored in timed assessments during the year
- The attendance % during the year.
- The quality of work the student has produced during the year.
- The consistency of the student's work throughout the year.
- The student's ALPS prediction.
- Any personal mitigating factors.



# How we decide on Predicted Grades.....

- Any special factors which may have caused temporary underperformance will be taken into consideration.
- Predictions will not be based on what a student would like to achieve or a promise to work harder, as any university offers based on an unrealistic grade are unlikely to be met. It is an honest assessment of the student's most likely achievement based on **evidence, professional judgement** plus **a bit of optimism**
- Year 13 students are notified of predicted grades at the end of September. A student may appeal.



# How do students do in the final exams vs their Year 12 PPE results?

These are the numbers for last years cohort.... (123 students)

- Achieved **3 grades LOWER** than Yr12 PPE- 2 students
- Achieved **2 grades LOWER** than Yr12 PPE- 5 students
- Achieved **1 grade LOWER** than Yr12 PPE- 14 students
- Achieved **the same grades** as Yr12 PPE- 45 students
- Achieved **1 grade HIGHER** than Yr12 PPE- 27 students
- Achieved **2 grades HIGHER** than Yr12 PPE- 18 students
- Achieved **3 grades HIGHER** than Yr12 PPE- 9 students
- Achieved **3+ grades HIGHER** than Yr12 PPE- 2 students

# UCAS predictions nationally are massively inaccurate....

In 2014 **42 percent** of 18-year-old applicants in England with at least three UCAS predicted A levels **achieved within one grade of their predicted grades.**

This proportion has been **in decline** since 2014, **falling as low as around 30 per cent in 2024.**

The inaccurate predictions are **almost always over-predictions...** schools are far too generous with predicted grades and **universities know this.**

# UCAS now publish stats for universities on how accurate each school is at predicting grades....

What do you think the optimal position is for a school to be in....

- The school predicts **far too generously** compared to other schools
- The school predicts **a bit too generously** compared to other schools
- The school predicts **exactly in line with the average** for other schools
- The school predicts **slightly less generously** than other schools
- The school predicts **far less generously** than other schools.

# How did the 2024 cohort do compared to their UCAS predictions?

*(107 students applied)*

	QE students	National Average
Achieved 2 or more grades below predicted	45%	65%
Achieved 1 grade below predicted	29%	17%
Achieved predicted	20%	13%
Achieved 1 grade above predicted	3%	4%
Achieved 2 or more grades above predicted	2%	1%

# Results Day last summer.....

We analysed the UCAS data to see how many students were getting offers from universities where they missed the entry criteria.....

Of those that missed the criteria....

- **12 were 1 grade below- 11 of those 12 got their first choice.**
- **25 were 2 or more grades below, 12 of those got their first choice.**

# How the teacher reference works...



Enter a general statement about your school/college/centre.



If applicable, enter any information about extenuating circumstances which may have impacted the applicant's education and achievement.



Outline any other supportive information specific to the applicant and relevant to the course (s) applied for that you think universities/colleges should be aware of.



Section 2: If applicable, enter any information about extenuating circumstances which may have impacted the applicant's education and achievement.

- individual circumstances – e.g. disability, serious, acute, or chronic illness, bereavement, significant adverse personal circumstances (with applicant consent)
- context as to why there is a disparity between an individual's grades achieved throughout the school or college
- factors which have limited the individual's choice of subjects or load of study (factors which have affected the whole centre rather than the individual should be included in section 1)
- support the university or college should consider putting in place to ensure the applicant can thrive on their course (with applicant's consent) – e.g. highlight the measures the school, college or centre put in place to ensure the student's inclusion/experience

# How you can help us with box 2...

- For **box 2** we will be asking for parents to write a short supporting comment if they wish to.
- This will help us focus on the most salient points in relation to extenuating circumstances.
- There will be a link sent home during term 6 to give you the opportunity to contribute comments for this part of the reference.

## June -October- some general advice...

- 95% of the UCAS application can be completed without writing a Personal Statement OR entering University choices- so don't wait to "do the dull bit"
- Allocate a time in the week to do UCAS stuff, alongside your tutor time.
- Your personal statement will require a few drafts- so get started early.



# Tracking applications

On [ucas.com](https://ucas.com) you can

- follow the progress of your application 24/7
- see your choices and personal information
- view your offers
- reply to offers online

In Track, a student can hold up to two offers:

- **firm** – if they meet the conditions of the offer they will be placed here
- **insurance** –if they are not placed with their firm choice, they may be placed with their insurance choice.



# Decisions

Universities and colleges will review the:



**personal statement**



**qualifications**



**reference**

They may also ask for:



**admissions test**



**interview**



**portfolio/audition**



# Other options



## Extra (Feb – Jul)

- Used all five choices and had no offers.
- Add Extra choices for consideration one at a time in Track.

## Clearing (Jul – Oct)

- Apply after 30 June, receive no offers, decline all offers, not met conditions.
- Find vacancies from early July, and add a Clearing choice to their application.
- Grades are better than expected.
- Find vacancies and contact universities directly



# Student Finance

1. Applications usually open in February for courses starting the following September.
2. Students can get a Tuition Fee Loan of up to £9,535\* to cover the fees charged by their university. \*(current figure)
3. And a Maintenance Loan to help towards their living costs such as rent and bills.
4. Interest will be charged on the loan from the day we make their first student finance payment until the loan is repaid in full or cancelled. The interest rate is linked to the UK Retail Price Index (RPI).
5. A student graduating will start repaying the loan when they earn over £25,000 a year. Repayments will be 9% of income above that threshold.
6. Students don't need to wait until they have a confirmed place at university or college to apply for finance – they can use their preferred choice and update it online later if they need to.
7. They are written off after 40 years.

# Information & Support for Parents



# How can you support them?

Research

Use the parents'/guardians' section of the UCAS website at [www.ucas.com/parents](http://www.ucas.com/parents).

Sign up

Sign up for parent updates from UCAS and get everything you need to know about the application process direct to your inbox.

Open days

Attend virtual events and open days – you may have a different perspective.

Be proactive

Encourage students to read everything carefully that is sent to them.



# Next steps



UCAS Support

# THINGS TO DO

- research, research, research
- attend open days and events
- independent learning outside the curriculum
- work experience
- volunteering
- focus on this year's studies

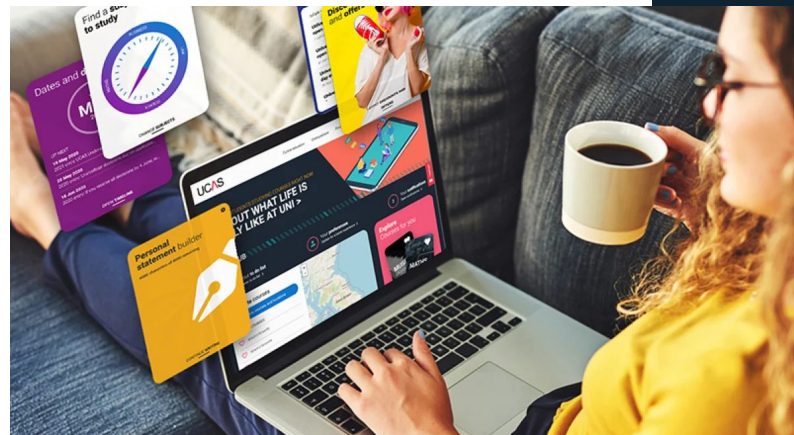


# www.ucas.com/ parents

Are you supporting someone who's exploring their options?

Whether they're set on going to uni, or still deciding, we can help!

1. Sign up for our parent newsletter - we'll send you everything you need to help them.
2. UCAS Parents' Podcast - listen to our live studio podcasts covering everything you need to know about education and careers.
3. Parent, Guardian and Carer Guides - everything you need to support a young person with their options and decision-making and help them through the UCAS application process.



# Ucas support

UCAS Customer Experience Centre:  
0371 468 0 468

From outside the UK:  
+44 330 3330 230

Monday to Friday  
08:30 – 18:00 (UK time)



@ucas\_online



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Thank you.

