
UCAS AND CAREERS EVENING 2022

SUPPORTING YOU THROUGH THE UCAS PROCESS

A solid blue horizontal bar at the bottom of the slide.

Welcome

Mr Elphick - Head Teacher

Mr Auckland - Assistant Head/Head of Sixth Form

Ms Leffen - Head of Year 12

Miss Roberts - Head of Years 12 and 13

Mrs Stoddard - Director of Learning KS5

Mrs Caley-Gardiner- Careers Advisor

Why University?

Mary Curnock Cook, Chief Executive of UCAS

Graduate employability

Student loan

Need for 'brain-workers'

Don't sleep-walk into University

It's a buyer's market

Delve and dig



What's right for you?

THINGS TO CONSIDER



Think about:

Course content - very important

- University websites
- WhatUni is a great website that allows you to search Universities by your subjects and predicted grades

Teaching

- Research ratings move universities up league tables but what about the teaching
- Importance of student-staff relationship

Engagement and extra opportunities – start building habits now

- Sense of community
- Opportunities to engage
- Placement/Study abroad



UCAS

Universities and Colleges Admissions Service

Manages centralised system for applications to
Higher Education in the UK

£26.50 for 2-5 choices



Single online UCAS application contains:

Personal details (contact details, residency status*)

School(s) attended

Details of qualifications already gained

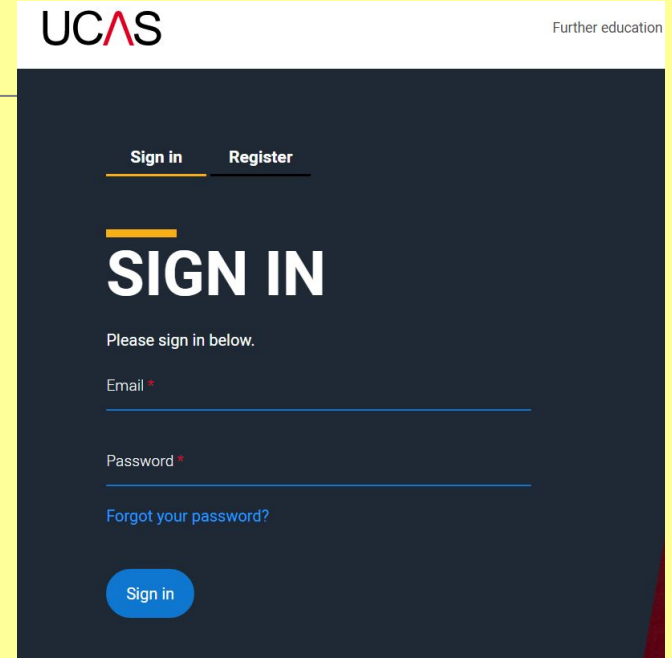
Details of pending qualifications (currently being studied)

University choices

Personal statement

Reference (includes predicted grades)

*Residency status makes a difference to fees and can affect applying for student loan

A screenshot of the UCAS 'Sign In' page. The page has a dark blue background. At the top, the UCAS logo is on the left and 'Further education' is on the right. Below the logo, there are two links: 'Sign in' (underlined) and 'Register'. The main heading 'SIGN IN' is in large white letters. Below it, the text 'Please sign in below.' is displayed. There are two input fields: 'Email *' and 'Password *', both with blue outlines. Below the password field is a link 'Forgot your password?'. At the bottom, there is a blue button with the text 'Sign in'.

University choices

Maximum 5 choices

Universities do not see other choices

Alphabetical order (no order of preference)

Range of entry requirements

Same or similar course at each university



Entry requirements

Be aspirational but realistic – take advice

Entry requirements vary between courses and universities – choose a suitable range

Research carefully, especially individual IB subjects (not just overall points score) eg

Required grades

35 points overall (including TOK/EE) and three Higher Level subjects at 766

More on personal statements and references to follow

Timescale- What to do now...

1. Begin research now
2. Power Day on 14th June - Register and start Personal Statements – bring GCSE certificates/grades & NI number
3. First Draft of Personal Statement to reference writer by **the end of term**
4. Long-list universities in July/August
5. Parents' Evening and predicted grades after Y13 mock exams in Autumn term: these will go on your UCAS Application
6. Finalise choices September/October
7. Complete application October/November and send ASAP!
8. Final Deadline- Power Day November

Timescale – Oxbridge/Medicine

Different for these students

Please remain in the Hall for a talk with Ms Stoddard for further information on this at the end.

Timescale... After you've applied

1. Universities make 'conditional' offers
2. Visit/further research universities Jan-Mar (some interviews)
3. UCAS Extra opens at the end of February
4. Reply to offers by early May (1st and 2nd choice only)
5. Apply for student finance on Power Day next March
6. IB results in July
7. First choice university place confirmed if gained necessary grades
8. Otherwise perhaps second choice university place or UCAS clearing

Do students have to choose now?

- No

- If uncertain, research university, apply – no commitment to taking up a place
- Support for those looking at alternatives:
- Speak with Mrs Caley-Gardiner
- Workshops in October (Power day)
- Join Alternatives to University Google classroom
- Check school email address regularly

Different routes

Art and design – foundation year

- Apply direct, prepare portfolio

Music, drama and dance

- Some courses through UCAS
- Most music performance courses through CUKAS (early deadline)
- Some direct application

Ask advice!



What can I do to support my son/daughter?

- Encourage extra-curricular events
- Encourage volunteering/ CAS opportunities
- Link to interests/course they are applying for

UCAS Website for Parents/Guardians & Students

[Home](#) / [Undergraduate](#) / [Applying to university](#)

UCAS UNDERGRADUATE: ADVICE FOR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

Explore this **section** ▾

We've got lots of resources and information dedicated to helping parents and guardians support students applying to uni.


What's on this page?

- [Parent newsletters – sign up](#)
- [Top ten tips](#)
- [What you need to know about the application process](#)
- [Guides to help you](#)
- [Know your rights!](#)

Parent newsletters – sign up

Get updates and all the information you need, along with timely explanations of the application process.

[Sign up for our monthly parent newsletters](#)



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Offer ends 5/31/2022. Offer applies to Premium individual. \$9.99/month after trial. Cancel anytime. Offer available for new subscriptions only. Terms apply.

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Student Finance

CAN WE AFFORD UNIVERSITY?

The logo for Student Finance England. It features the text "studentfinance" in a dark blue sans-serif font, followed by "england" in a lighter blue sans-serif font. Below "studentfinance" is the tagline "the student finance experts" in a smaller, dark blue font. A dark blue swoosh underline is positioned under "england".

studentfinanceengland
the student finance experts

Finance

Costs of university

- Tuition fees
- Living costs

Money available:

- Loans – have to be paid back
 - Tuition fee loan (paid direct to university)
 - Maintenance loan (living costs, paid to student)
- Additional scholarships/bursaries from universities - <https://www.thescholarshipuk.org.uk/>
- DSA - Disability Students' Allowance
- Certain restrictions apply to EU Nationals (must have lived in this country for the last 5 years) and non UK/EU nationals who do not yet have ILR (indefinite leave to remain)

Most universities charge £9,250 tuition fees (but not all). These are capped up until 2024/2025

Tuition fees are not paid 'up-front' by the student

MAINTENANCE LOAN SUPPORT FOR 2022/2023

Maintenance Loans in England 2022/23

Household Income	Living at home	Away from home (outside London)	Away from home (London)
£25,000 or less	£8,171	£9,706	£12,667
£30,000	£7,484	£9,012	£11,961
£35,000	£6,796	£8,318	£11,255
£40,000	£6,108	£7,623	£10,549
£45,000	£5,420	£6,929	£9,843
£50,000	£4,733	£6,234	£9,136
£55,000	£4,045	£5,540	£8,430
£58,253	£3,597	£5,088	£7,971
£60,000	£3,597	£4,845	£7,724
£62,311	£3,597	£4,524	£7,398
£65,000	£3,597	£4,524	£7,018
£70,000	£3,597	£4,524	£6,312
£70,022+	£3,597	£4,524	£6,308

Bear in mind that the household incomes we've given in this table are just examples – the Maintenance Loan you receive will be calculated using your exact household income rather than a band (e.g. £42,345 instead of £40,000 – £45,000).

Examples

Household income £25K, studying outside London, living away from home, tuition fees £9,250	Household income £40K, studying outside London, living away from home, tuition fees £9,250
Money available each year:	
£9,250 tuition fee loan (to uni)	£9,250 tuition fee loan (to uni)
+ £9,706 maintenance loan (the maximum)	+ £7,623 maintenance loan
+ further money from uni	+ maybe further money from uni

Repaying loan

9% of income over £25,000 e.g.

- Earn £30,000, pay back 9% of £5000=£450 per year (£37.50 per month)
- Earn £35,000, pay back 9% of £10000=£900 per year (£75 per month)

Deducted from earnings like tax – can be viewed as an additional tax

No deadline to repay and remaining debt written off after 40 years

Size of monthly repayments varies according to earnings, not according to size of loan

These are the rates that currently stand for September 2023 onward

Open Days

Please note that most universities offer open days in the holidays, at weekends and online. If you can only attend on a weekday though, we will authorise up to 2 days out of school for such visits.

Degree/Higher Level Apprenticeships and School Leaver Schemes

THE ALTERNATIVE TO UNIVERSITY

Alternatives to university

Three options of schemes available:

- Degree apprenticeships
- Higher level apprenticeships
- School leaver schemes



DEGREE APPRENTICESHIPS

GET YOUR FEES PAID AND FAST TRACK
YOURSELF TO A GRADUATE JOB

- Degree Apprenticeships are a relatively new option.
- Quality of the opportunities improves year on year. We are now seeing large numbers of Russell Group Universities offering Degree Apprenticeships.
- These jobs are partnerships between employers and universities, UCAS will sometimes advertise these in their Career Finder Section but the best option is to go directly to the Employers Early Careers page.
- Applicants will work and study at the same time, and will receive a salary. The employer also funds their degree so they wouldn't incur any debt.
- BGS students from our last few year 13s are currently undertaking these types of roles at employers including: EY, KPMG, Commerzbank, Bank of England, Deutsche Bank, TfL and Goldman Sachs

Higher Level Apprenticeships

- Higher Level Apprenticeships give students the opportunity to gain a Higher Level qualification (ordinarily a Level 4 qualification which is equivalent to a HND or Foundation Degree) but not a Degree.
- In some cases they may gain a Degree level qualification but not a degree. An example of this would be in Accountancy with an ACCA or CIMA qualification.
- Examples of industries that more regularly offer Higher Level Apprenticeships are Accountancy & Professional Services and Engineering.

Other School Leaver schemes

Some employers prefer to devise their own training scheme eg:

- Insurance Industry: AON, Lloyds and Hiscox all offer various school leaver roles.
- Investment/Asset Management: Investment2020 represent the Investment Management industry and offer school leaver training schemes (not an apprenticeship) one year fixed term contracts (can also be a gap year) which includes recognised industry qualifications

More information:

- For careers appointments with Mrs Caley Gardiner:
- caley-gardiner_j@bexleygs.co.uk
- Alternatives to Uni Google classroom

Personal statements and references

Personal statement

You and your subject(s) - this is the single most important element!

Single personal statement goes to all choices

Must focus on subject and skills

Needs to include 'evidence' - what have you read/watched/heard?

Only 4000 characters (approximately one page)

Draft and redraft - but don't obsess: there are other much more important elements of the application. Seek advice - but only from ONE member of staff!

Your Unique School Reference

A bespoke reference which tells the university why you are an excellent applicant

Usually written by Form Tutor/Ms Stoddard or other member of the Senior Management Team

All subject teachers provide information; the EE is prominently referenced

Predicted grades are linked to Year 12 and 13 Exams/in-class assessment, formal IAs, quality of EE and ToK, and all-round commitment

The predicted grades are to be finalised in October

Please stay seated for the Early Applicant/Oxbridge application talk with Ms Stoddard.

If you have any questions please see Mrs Caley-Gardiner, Ms Leffen, Miss Roberts or Mr Auckland in the canteen area afterwards.

Making early applications:
what you really need to
know

JUNE AND JULY

- Choose your course.
- Choose your universities (Oxford *or* Cambridge; medicine, dentistry & vet science candidates - up to four medicine places).
- For Oxford or Cambridge, choose a college or open application.
- Check whether you need to take an entrance test.
- Draft your personal statement.
- Fill in your UCAS application.
- Start preparing for Entrance Tests, if you are considering Law, Medicine or Oxbridge.

ENTRANCE TESTS

All tests have fees (prepare for £50-80 per test).

They are all popular, so book up early.

They are an important part of the process.

You need to take preparation seriously. Teachers will help, but the sustained practice must come from the students.

SEPTEMBER

- Book tests taken at school with the exam officer by the end of this month.
- Continue to prepare for tests.
- Complete your personal statement.
- Complete your UCAS application. (It is possible to make your non-early choices after 15 October if necessary.)

OCTOBER

- Your UCAS application must have gone before 15 October.
- Most tests take place this month - check booking deadlines.
- Some Oxbridge courses require sample work - check with Mrs S.

NOVEMBER

- Written work must be submitted to your Oxford college by 10 November; your Cambridge college will have emailed you the date they want it.
- Start interview preparation.

DECEMBER

- The earliest Medicine interview dates begin.
- Oxbridge interviews in the first three weeks.

JANUARY

- Medicine interviews continue through March.
- Oxbridge results are published in early January

SUCCESS RATE

Very roughly, 1 in 6 candidates for Oxford, Cambridge and Medicine etc will receive an offer, and, at this school, most achieve the required grades.

The stakes are higher for Medicine candidates: take your non-medical option seriously.