



Year 12 Post-18 Education Information Evening



What options do I have after Sixth Form?





What is UCAS?



At the heart of connecting
people to higher education

'UCAS is an independent charity providing information, advice and admissions services'

- **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 for individuals



What information can you find on UCAS.com



Higher education



Apprenticeships/
traineeships



Studying abroad



Gap year



Getting a job

UCAS

**Click Here
For More Information**



Why University?

- More job opportunities. Having a degree can give you access to more of the jobs market.
- Increase your earning potential.
- Widen your career choices.
- Gain important skills.
- Study something you enjoy.
- Become more independent.
- Access new opportunities.





What should you be doing now?

Research:

The university itself:

- Where is it?
- What would it be like to live there?
- Can you commute?
- What is accommodation like?

Research the course:

- What are the modules?
- Is this a course you'd be happy with across 3 years?
- What options does the course offer in the second/third years?
- What other modules in other courses catch your eye?





What are UCAS Tariff points?



UCAS Tariff points translate your qualifications and grades into a numerical value. This numerical value is used by Universities to assess whether you meet their entry requirements for a particular course.

<https://www.ucas.com/ucas/tariff-calculator>

UCAS TARIFF POINTS A LEVEL TABLE

BRITANNIA STUDYLINK MALAYSIA

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



BTEC Nationals: (first taught September 2016) Ucas Points



National Extended Certificate		National Diploma		National Extended Diploma	
D*	56	D*D*	112	D*D*D*	168
D	48	D*D	104	D*D*D	160
M	32	DD	96	D*DD	152
P	16	DM	80	DDD	144
		MM	64	DDM	128
		MP	48	DMM	112
		PP	32	MMM	96
				MMP	80
				MPP	64
				PPP	48



End of Year Exams – 23rd-26th April

- These exams are shortly after the Easter break, so you need to be preparing now!
- These exams are used to evaluate your progress so far:
 - They provide you with an overview of your strengths and areas to focus on
 - We will use these to review your progression into year 13
 - These form the basis of your predicted grades!





How do the KS5 team recommend you choose your University options?



Option 1& 2 – ‘Aspirational’ – This may include a course at a specific university that is one grade higher than your predicted grades.

Option 3& 4 – ‘Realistic’ – This may include a course at a specific university that is IN LINE with your predicted grades .

Option 5 – ‘Safe/Back Up’ – This may include a course at a specific university that is SLIGHTLY BELOW your predicted grades.



Completing the UCAS application



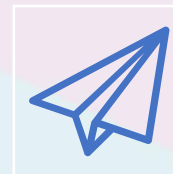
Student registers for a UCAS Hub account to carry out research and start application.



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 or college on behalf of the student.



Universities and colleges make their decisions on the application.



When to apply for 2025 entry

30 April 2024: UCAS search tool displays 2024 courses.

14 May 2024: Undergraduate applications open for 2025 entry.

21 June 2024: St John's Deadline for 1st Draft of Personal Statement to your tutor

3 September 2024: Completed undergraduate applications can be submitted to UCAS

15 October 2024: Applications for Oxford, Cambridge and most courses in medicine, dentistry, and veterinary medicine/science

25 October 2024: Completed Applications paid for and submitted to KS5 team for checking

29 January 2025: Applications for the majority of undergraduate courses should arrive at UCAS



Medicine/Veterinary/Dentistry??

UCAS

15th October 2024

That's only 6
months away!!!





Key facts – Essential for ALL Applications



- To start an application, you need a **UCAS Hub account**.
- Register for UCAS Hub at any time.
- Applying **costs** = £28.50
- Universities and colleges **can't see** your other choices when you apply.



What's the 'buzzword'?

UCAS

STJEDUCATION25



The Personal Statement



The only section students have full control over



Students only chance to market themselves individually



The same for all choices



A maximum of 4,000 characters, or 47 lines



A minimum of 1,000 characters



There isn't a spelling or grammar check



No formatting is allowed

UCAS' similarity detection service: every personal statement is run through software to check for plagiarism.



What options do I have after Sixth Form?





What is an apprenticeship and why choose one?

- Earn while you learn.
- Gain practical and relevant work experience.
- Boost career prospects by having hands on 'field' experience.
- Earn sector specific qualifications
- Avoid student debt (which can equate to +£50,000 in some cases)



An apprenticeship is a paid job which offers hands-on work experience alongside off-the-job training.



Additional information

Apprenticeship Levels:

Level 2
5x GCSE's

Level 3
2x A-levels

Level 4
Higher

Level 5
Higher

Level 6
Degree

Level 7
Degree

Where can you find opportunities?

- Company websites
- Government apprenticeship site (& Mrs Murray's emails!)
- Unifrog
- **UCAS** – current plan is to host degree apprenticeship opportunities from September
- LinkedIn



What are HTQs (Higher Technical Qualifications)?



- These sit between university and apprenticeships.
- Courses are developed with industry/companies - academic study, most courses have employer engagement
- HNC & HND options - study 1 year at a time & gain a qualification each year
- Option to 'top up' to a full degree

Apply via UCAS or directly to the training provider.





Why Employment?

- No debts.
- Many companies offer their own internal training programmes or will fund qualifications.
- Student Loans data shows over 40,000 students dropped out last year.





Why A Gap Year?

- A chance to save some money up.
- A chance to travel / work abroad.
- A chance to do something different, charitable, or worthwhile before beginning your career.
- You can apply to university this year with a 'deferred entry' to Sep 2026 for many courses.
- You may consider a gap year after graduating.





Why do we request you complete a UCAS application regardless of current plans?

- You might change your mind.
- UCAS covers all university courses, many HTQ courses, and will cover some degree apprenticeships.
- The application format is similar across all pathways - the steps you complete on here prepare you for every route.



UCAS

At the heart of connecting
people to higher education



Support in school

**Friday Lesson 7 & 8
room P15**

**We can work on
statements, discuss
choices, build CV's,
work on UCAS etc**

- Mrs Murray = school careers advisor.
- Make use of all the tools on Unifrog.
- Ask your form tutor to check your personal statement – they will help.



Final Messages

- **Work Experience** – needs to be uploaded to Unifrog via 'Placements' tool or you'll be in school doing virtual work with me.
- **April 22nd** – Assembly with University of Kent = 'Choosing the right university & course' and 'Degree apprenticeships'
- **April 24th – UCAS fair** – 100 seats – a chance to ask universities & employers questions, to find out more etc
- **Exam Dates – 23, 25-26th April**



Thank you





Website Links - UCAS

UCAS Parent and Carer Guide:

<https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/applying-university/advice-parents-guardians-and-carers>

UCAS Degree Apprenticeships:

<https://www.ucas.com/apprenticeships/degree-apprenticeships>

UCAS Apprenticeship Guide:

<https://www.ucas.com/apprenticeships>

UCAS Higher Technical Qualifications:

<https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/what-and-where-study/choosing-course/higher-technical-qualifications>

UCAS Personal Statement Writing:

<https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/applying-university/writing-your-personal-statement>

UCAS Tariff Points:

<https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/what-and-where-study/entry-requirements/ucas-tariff-points>



Website Links – Admissions Tests

UCAS admissions exams

<https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/applying-university/admissions-tests>

UCAT tests

<https://www.ucat.ac.uk/about-ucat/universities/>

LNAT tests

<https://lnat.ac.uk/>

MAT tests

<https://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate/applying-to-oxford/guide/admissions-tests/mat>



Website Links - Careers

UCAS – General Advice

<https://www.ucas.com/careers-advice>

CV Writing:

<https://www.ucas.com/careers/help-and-advice/how-write-cv>

Unifrog:

<https://www.unifrog.org/>

Apprenticeships:

<https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk/#>



FAQ

Please see on the following slides the 'Frequently Asked Questions' that usually arise from students and parents at this stage of the post 18 option choices.

If you are unable to find any of the answers to questions you may have, please feel free to contact the school and speak to a member of the KS5 team. You can find our email addresses and contact numbers on the school website.



Why choose Higher Education?

- Essential for some career paths.
- Develop new transferable skills and subject knowledge.
- Increase confidence and independence.
- Broaden experiences.
- Meet new people.
- Investment in the future.
- Increased job prospects.
- Higher earning potential.





How do I choose the correct University?



- **Style** – from traditional, with a focus on subject-based courses and research, to modern universities/colleges, with a greater focus on vocational courses.
- **Location** – some are in large cities, others in small towns, by the coast or in the countryside – it's all a major influence on the environment and lifestyle.
- **Size** – larger universities can have more than 20,000 students, whereas some of the smallest have only a few thousand.



How do I choose the correct University?



- **Culture and facilities** – influenced by a range of factors, including the diversity of students who attend.
- **What graduates do** – all universities collect destination statistics; it can be useful to find out what jobs or further study students go on to.
- **Tuition fees** – can vary between universities and colleges; check if there are scholarships or bursaries available.
- **Living costs** – accommodation, transport, and food can vary enormously.



How do I choose the correct course? UCAS

- What does the course cover?
- Courses with the same title may be very different.
- Look carefully at the core course content, the entry requirements and the range of optional studies/modules available.



How do I choose the correct course?



- Which modules are the most interesting and relevant to your career aspirations?
- See if the course or university/college offers any internship, placement, or study abroad opportunities.
- How is the course taught – structured teaching, or more independent research? How many lectures are there, and how much group work will be done in seminars?
- How is the course assessed?



What details will I need for my application?

Profile:

- Personal details
- Contact and residency details
- Nationality details
- Supporting information
- English language skills
- Finance and funding
- Diversity and inclusion*
- More about you

* (for students with a UK home address)

Profile

Personal details > Name, age, title, and gender <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Section complete	Contact & residency details > Address, email, telephone, and where you live <input type="radio"/> Start this section	Nationality details > Country and nationality details <input type="radio"/> Start this section
Supporting information > <input type="radio"/> Section in progress	English language skills > Is English your first language? <input type="radio"/> Start this section	Finance & funding > Tell us how you'll fund your study <input type="radio"/> Section in progress
Diversity & inclusion > Only shared with a provider once you have a place or your application is archived <input type="radio"/> Start this section	More about you > Tell us about any circumstances that you might need support for during your studies <input type="radio"/> Start this section	



What details will I need for my application? (cont...)

Experiences:

- Education
- Employment
- Extra activities*

Personal statement

- Reference**
- Add choices – up to five

The screenshot displays a dark-themed application form interface. It is divided into two main sections: 'Experience' and 'Personal Statement'. The 'Experience' section contains three sub-sections: 'Education >' (described as 'Your qualifications and periods of study'), 'Employment >' (described as 'Employment, paid or unpaid, or volunteer work'), and 'Extra activities >' (described as 'Activities you have attended in preparation for higher education'). Each sub-section has a status bar at the bottom: 'Education' shows 'Section in progress' with a blue bar and a progress icon; 'Employment' shows 'Section complete' with a green bar and a checkmark icon; 'Extra activities' shows 'Start this section' with a blue bar and a circle icon. The 'Personal Statement' section contains a single sub-section 'Personal statement >' with the prompt 'Why do you want to study this subject?'. It also has a 'Start this section' button at the bottom with a blue bar and a circle icon.

Experience

Education >
Your qualifications and periods of study
☐ Section in progress

Employment >
Employment, paid or unpaid, or volunteer work
☒ Section complete

Extra activities >
Activities you have attended in preparation for higher education
☐ Start this section

Personal Statement

Personal statement >
Why do you want to study this subject?
☐ Start this section



University Open Days – Why Visit?

Open days are a great chance to explore campus.

They offer a chance to see accommodation options and to talk to staff.

Some universities also run Taster Days – these are like open days but include academic sessions. These are highly recommended!

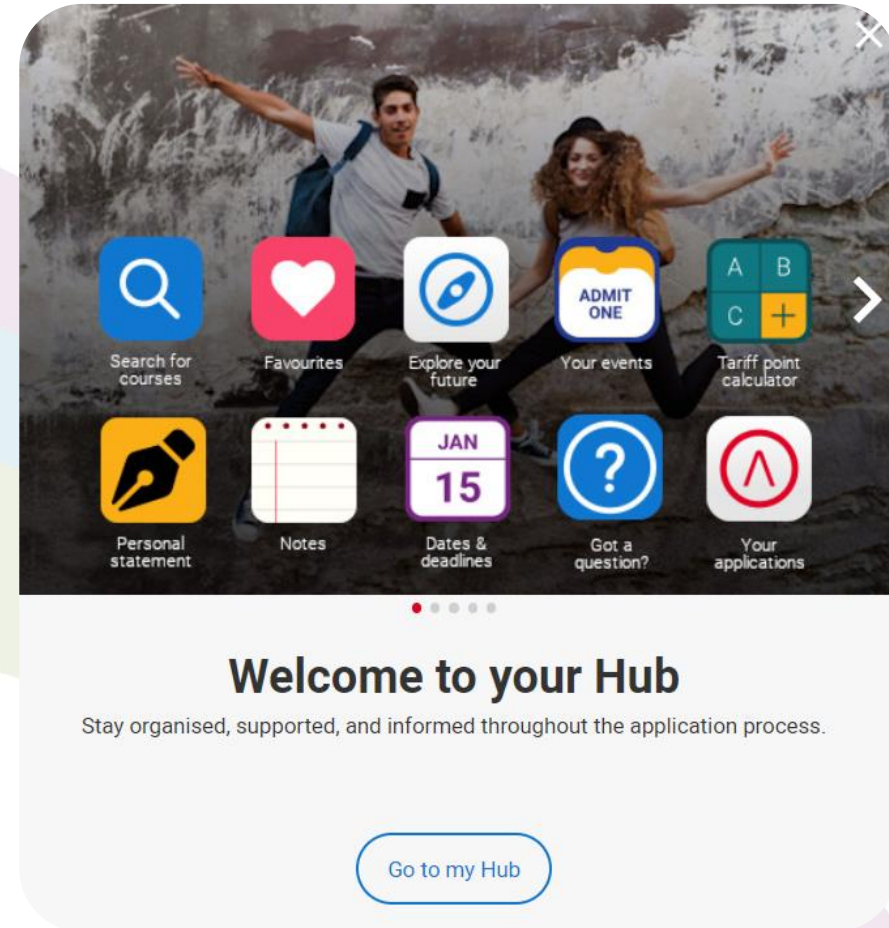




How do I register with UCAS?

Register with the UCAS Hub to:

- explore careers, subjects, places, and apprenticeships
- find and favourite from over 35,000 courses
- search for open days, online events, and virtual tours
- turn predicted grades into UCAS Tariff points



UCAS Hub

ORGANISE IT.
DESIGN IT.
MAKE IT YOURS.

[UCAS.COM/HUB](https://ucas.com/hub)

UCAS

UCAS

- speak to those in the know using [Unibuddy](#)
- speak to career, higher education, and application specialists by attending the [Hub lives](#)
- take the [UCAS Quiz](#) to find your career matches
- start an application for 2025 entry (from May 2024)

A close-up photograph of colorful wooden blocks and chess pieces on a wooden surface. The blocks are in various colors including blue, green, red, yellow, pink, and orange. Some blocks are shaped like letters or numbers. In the background, there are several dark wooden chess pieces, including pawns and a king. The lighting is warm and the focus is sharp on the blocks in the foreground.

What Extracurricular Activities can I include in my application?

- Join a club or take part in some volunteering experience!
- You can showcase a lot of useful skills from club activities, it shows you can balance your interests alongside work, and helps your application look more complete.
- School offers a wide range of opportunities but there are plenty available externally too.



What are Super Curricular Activities?

- These are activities related to the courses you study, but outside of your course content.
- Universities, especially Russell Group universities, look at your super curricular engagement as a measure of how interested you are in a subject – if you're genuinely interested then you would be doing additional reading/research outside of school.
- Make use of Unifrog to see recommendations for what you can be doing!





How can you support your child?

UCAS

Research

Use the parents/guardians' section of the UCAS website at 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

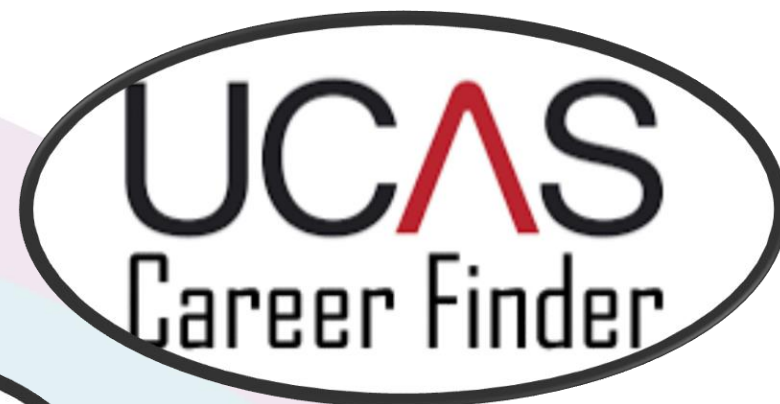
Attend virtual events and open days – you may have a different perspective.

Be proactive

Make sure they carefully read everything that is sent to them and don't book holidays at key times!

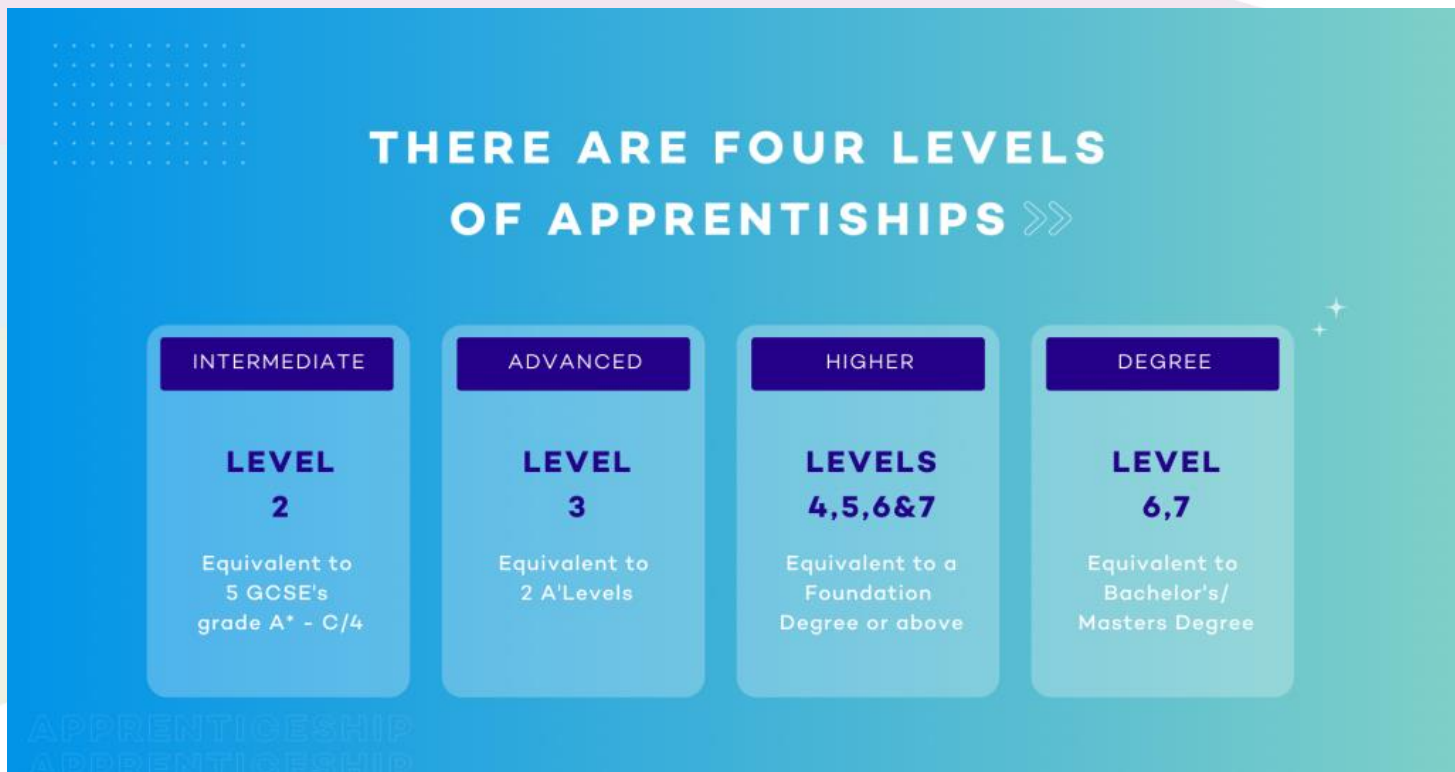


How do I find an apprenticeship?





FAQ – What are the different levels of apprenticeship?



- **Intermediate/level 2:** takes 12-18 months to complete, standard in the trade/craft sectors.
- **Advanced/level 3:** takes 2 years to complete, develops greater level of skills
- **Higher/level 4&5:** usually takes 2-5 years to complete. Learning more complex technical skills and to a higher level; may involve some university courses.
- **Degree/level 6&7:** takes 3 to 6 years to complete. This is a combination of university study and practical/hands-on work with the company



How Can Work Experience and Volunteering help me with my application?

- Use your summer productively. Get a job and save up some money, or do some unpaid experience in a field you're interested in. This could help you later down the line and really helps showcase your interest in the field.
- Look for virtual work experience opportunities!
- Volunteer work is always a valuable experience and it benefits others.
- Companies and universities actively look for evidence of this – it creates a well-rounded individual.

