



# Whilst you are waiting....

**Match the numbers to the questions –  
Answers come up through the day!**

- Number of courses in UCAS
- Number of UK universities
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- Earnings threshold above which you have to have to start paying your loan back
- Number of applications per one place for Economics at LSE
- Amount of choices you can make on UCAS
- Average starting salary for graduates 2021
- Amount of days before the first AES major UCAS Deadline (Competitive Universities)
- Number of universities offering MFL degrees

## Numbers

25,600

56

130,000

307,000

145

130

15

25,375

5



**ANGLO EUROPEAN SCHOOL**

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**UCAS Parents' Evening  
16th June 2022**

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**'Making a World of Difference'**

# Tonight's Presentation

- The Future – the options available
- Our Focus – Higher Education and UCAS
- How UCAS works – an overview
- How to choose a Course
- How to choose a University
- The UCAS Application – the Four Parts
- Student Finance
- How Parents can help
- Key Deadlines



# Their Future – the Options

- Get a Job – range of school leaver schemes
- Apprenticeships – different levels, HL or Degree
- Take a Year Out – Gap year talk coming
- Join the Services – sponsored degree
- Scrounge off of their parents indefinitely
- Go into Higher Education

Note: Unifrog as the prime resource





# How we help students get there

- **Get a job** – Students do the research, applications etc. We give advice, references, mock interviews. They can also use the Careers service and look at <https://www.allaboutcareers.com/jobs/school-leavers>
- **Take a year out** – Students arrange it all themselves or use a Gap Year organisation (e.g. Gap Challenge or others). We can offer advice regarding how to make the experience add to their UCAS application
- **Join the Services** – Students contact the relevant sources and organisations – we provide references, mock interviews etc.
- **Scrounge off their parents** – You do the research – we stay well away. Good luck.
- **Go into Higher Education** – Students research Universities and courses and apply through UCAS – we monitor, advise and provide references. Heap Guide.
- Really not sure? [https://www.careerfitter.com/free\\_test/careerbuilder](https://www.careerfitter.com/free_test/careerbuilder) / Unifrog interests and personality profile





# Apprenticeships

- **Apprenticeships** - A way of learning skills and a trade, on the job. Govt organises, students apply direct, we can offer help and advice
- What types are available? <https://www.ucas.com/understanding-apprenticeships>
- Case studies to help you explore : <https://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk/>
- More advice on this is available in school via Mr Knights and the careers team or you can use:  
• <https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk/home>

Recent Anglo students have secured Apprenticeships at organisations such as: BBC, UBS, JP Morgan, Rolls Royce, Astra Zeneca





# Higher Education

1. An opportunity to study in depth a subject of their choice
2. Life chances will improve – creates opportunities
3. Future earnings will be enhanced compared to non-graduates (on average £115k or 20% more over lifetime)
4. For some University will bring the chance to live \ study \ work abroad.
5. Helps develop their independence
6. The social life – but not too much
7. Sporting interests
8. The chance to spend a year in industry
9. Although the cost has increased significantly, bursaries and scholarships have improved
10. It avoids work for another 3 or 4 years – maturity

Here are some personal perspectives:



# However, why students shouldn't go...

- Students have had enough of education
- Students are likely to finish their degree with considerable debt (average £50k)
- No guarantee of a good job at the end of it
  - earnings figures are an average
- Studying at University might not suit them
- It can simply be putting off a decision and taking the easy option, following their peers
- Some careers do not require graduate entry







# UCAS – what is it?

## The role of UCAS

UCAS processes applications for full-time courses at higher education providers in the UK.





# How UCAS works – the basics

- Applications are submitted using the UCAS online system called **APPLY**
- Students can apply to up to **FIVE** University courses (Four for Medicine/ Dentistry/ Veterinary Science)
- Applications need to be completed by a range of deadlines between September and December (given later)
- Early applications have an advantage over later ones.
- Students should not underestimate how time consuming the process can be – it is very important that they get it right but the rewards are great





# How UCAS Works - details

- All applications go through UCAS who then pass applications on to the relevant institutions (handful of private institutions)
- Universities use **four** things to make their selections:
  - GCSE grades
  - U6 predicted grades (L6 exam results are a factor)
  - Personal Statement
  - Our Reference
- The institutions consider an application and does one of **three** things:
  - i) Offers a place (this is likely to be 'conditional' – on condition the student achieves certain grades or points in their U6 public examinations / However, growing move towards offer of an unconditional" place, but beware!/ Also incentivised offers)
  - ii) Rejects the student– if they do not consider them suitable for their course (change of language – unsuccessful!)
  - iii) Call the student for interview, or a test – after which they will do one of the above.

Once an applicant has heard back from all 5 Universities.....





# How UCAS Works - details

- Applicant selects from the offers received and accepts **TWO** (some applicants will get five offers, in theory some might not get any).
- Applicants with no offers can use the “**UCAS EXTRA**” system – allowing them to make further individual applications.
- Students normally accept one high (**firm**) and one lower (**insurance**) offer.
- If after publication of Exam results an applicant has met the offer they are guaranteed a place on that course.
- Applicants who fail to reach an offer by a small margin can contact the University and it may still be possible to get a place on the chosen course, less likely the more competitive though.
- Those who fail to meet their first choice, but meet their second are guaranteed a place on that course. It is assumed that they will accept that place.
- Applicants who do not meet either of their offers or who change their mind may still get a place at University through “**CLEARING**”.



# How to choose a course

Consider what subject(s) they would like to study at University based upon factors such as:

- What subjects really interest them and they would like to explore further?
- What are they good at? A levels, IB or outside interests
- Do they have specific career ambitions? Employability
- What is a realistic assessment of their potential ?  
(use Term 2, Term 3 reports, L6 PPEs and final PG in late September for guidance)
- NB: Joint Honours, Non-Sixth Form Courses, Scotland, year overseas, sandwich courses
- NOTE: Research tasks have already been issued!





# UCAS Search Tool

- Researching Courses:
- The UCAS Hub has all the information you need to find out about courses, you can also search for apprenticeships

**EXPLORE YOUR FUTURE**

[COURSES FOR YOU](#) [RELATED SUBJECTS](#) [UNI & COLLEGES](#) [APPRENTICESHIPS](#) [BBC BITESIZE](#)

**Mathematical sciences**

View all **Mathematical sciences** courses

Suggestions are based on your **favourites** [GO AND EXPLORE](#)

# The Anglo comparative Advantage...

Languages!!!

Alex and Olly story





# How to choose a University

- Using UCAS, compile a **list** of Universities that offer courses in the subjects that interest you
- Draw up a shortlist of those with realistic **entry requirements** (Grades, IB Points or UCAS tariff points Unifrog can help to shortlist)
- **Research** - How do they rank? (overall and by subject)  
How are the courses taught? QAA, Employability, Links to industry, Languages, Year abroad
- Find out about the **locations** of the Universities (City v Campus) and visit realistic choices on Open Days (but not too many!)
- Overseas universities an option? – Netherlands, US, HK (upcoming assembly)
- Bursaries/ Scholarships/ Contextual Offers
- Culture and facilities
- Living costs





# The best way to narrow choices

Visit, visit, visit ...

UCAS

This covers both  
physical and  
virtual tours





# How to Apply

The application is made online and is made up of 5 parts:

- ◆ Your profile
- ◆ Your experiences
- ◆ Course Choices
- ◆ Personal Statement
- ◆ Reference

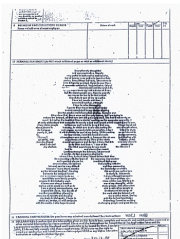
Note: Your profile and your experiences will be completed in school on Wednesday 22nd June..





# The Personal Statement

- Must be well written and carefully prepared (it can and does make a significant contribution to an applicant's success or failure)
- Roughly an A4 sheet which must cover the following:
  - Why chosen course or subject?
  - Academic qualities relevant to chosen subject
  - Other relevant personal qualities and achievements
  - Why me?
- Detailed advice is given in the Student UCAS Pack (exemplars are available for students in Shared Area)  
I
- Please help us with PS Minimum revision Dates: (given in key deadlines slide)





# Resources



## Personal Statements

In both the UCAS hub and Unifrog there are resources to help with personal statements.

### UK Personal Statement

✕ Subject added

Go to tool >



# The Reference

- An “Open”, honest reference
- Written by UCAS Mentor
- Students know who is writing their reference and will work on their application with that person
- Mentor will consult with applicant’s subject teachers, tutor etc.
- Contains predicted grades for all subjects based on realistic expectations





# Student Finance

- Administered online at [www.direct.gov.uk/studentfinance](http://www.direct.gov.uk/studentfinance)
- Students apply for finance by May 2023 (non-assessed) but by earlier if asking for assessment of Household income
- Fees range from £6,500 to £9,250 however most £8-9,250
- Finance available:
  - **Tuition Fee Loan** up to £9,250 (everyone is eligible)
  - **Maintenance Loan** – means tested: minimum is £4.5k, max is £9.7k on a sliding scale based on household incomes between £25k -£63k. Figures are higher if a student studies in London
  - **Maintenance Grant** now not available if you study in England, but is in the rest of the UK
  - Bursaries / Scholarships from Universities have risen
  - National Scholarship Programme for households below £25k
  - Good resources: [www.Moneysavingexpert.com/students/](http://www.Moneysavingexpert.com/students/) / <https://www.ucas.com/ucas/undergraduate/finance-and-support/tuition-fees-and-student-loans> / <https://www.savethestudent.org/student-finance>



# Loan Repayments

From 2023: Repayments are made on 9% of income over £25,000 Maximum 40 years

Income	Amount of income from which 9% will be deducted	Monthly repayment
£21,000	£0	£0
£25,725	£0	£0
£30,000	£4,275	£32
£35,000	£9,275	£70
£45,000	£19,275	£145
£55,000	£29,275	£220

Note: once you start repaying interest is applied to your loan of from 2023 capped At RPI.

Source: [www.direct.gov.uk/studentfinance](http://www.direct.gov.uk/studentfinance)



# Student Responsibility

- Ensure that deadlines are met (PSs especially)
- Carry out appropriate research – Mentor Tasks
- Consult with their FT and Mentor regularly
- Tell us in advance if they are visiting Universities
- Be available in July / August when the Exam results are published just in case.
- If in doubt....ask







# How Parents Can Help

- Take an interest – UCAS Tasks/ Mentor tasks
- HE Superfairs – help with preparation
- Be aware of deadlines (4th July first PS deadline)
- Discuss courses and choices
- Read and offer advice on Personal Statement
- Open Days – sensible, self-guided, virtual
- Speak to school if you have any concerns
- But.....

Allow students to make their own choices

- UCAS Parent Guide  
<https://www.ucas.com/ucas/undergraduate/getting-started/parents-and-guardians>
- Follow UCAS on Twitter





# UCAS Parent videos...



UCAS

## New videos for parents

UCAS has developed four videos on key topics:

- The UCAS process
- Open days
- Student finance
- Clearing

**Living costs**  
Use the budget calculator on [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com)  
Maintenance loans available  
Part-time job?

**UCAS for parents in under 90 seconds**  
Helen, a UCAS adviser whose son is making his application to university this year, explains how to find out what it's going to cost.

[www.ucas.com/parents](http://www.ucas.com/parents)



# Some Key Deadlines

- Personal Statement revision deadlines:  
4th July, then 5th Sept, 26th Sep (Oxbr, Med, Dentistry, CC univ only) 3rd Oct, 17th Oct, 21st Nov
- Application Deadlines:
  - Oxbridge/ Med/ Dentistry - 05.10.22
  - Competitive Universities - 12.10.22
  - December (end of) Guarantee – 31.10.22
  - UCAS Deadline Guarantee – 21.11.22
- **Remember** – applications are submitted this Autumn for entry to university in September/October 2023
- In touch emails will be sent if deadlines are missed



# Conclusion

- This is a serious and meaningful process
- Which course and University to apply to or alternative route is a big decision.
- Students need to research their options thoroughly and seek advice from those around them
- Make sure students put significant effort into making sure their application is of high quality
- They should adhere to the timeline produced for the best chance of a successful outcome, but applications will not instantly be sent off.
- Good Luck!





# UCAS Quiz – the answers!

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