

A group of students sitting on a concrete bench outdoors. In the foreground, a young woman with long pink hair is smiling and looking towards a young man with a beard and a denim jacket. They are both holding books. Other students are partially visible in the background.

Wallingford Sixth Form Parents evening presentation

Welcome
UCAS



The Next Steps Journey So Far...

- PSE Sessions on Post 18 Pathways, Researching Next Steps, MOOCs.
- 'Introduction to Higher Education' Talk from Uni of Sheffield in January.
- UCAS Fair Trip to Farnborough in April.
- Uni Open Days.

Unifrog - platform we have subscribed to.
Offers guidance and info about:
careers, university and apprenticeships.

Students are able to keep track of their research

- Shortlists
- Filters

Students use it to research

Students write their personal statements on it

Staff use it to access this info write references

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

The Unifrog logo is displayed in white lowercase letters on a teal rectangular background. The background of the entire slide features a large black triangle on the right side that points towards the top right corner.

Futures Week

8th-12th July



Opportunities

Opportunities

- To learn about jobs and careers
- To speak to people from a broad range of industries and sectors, performing a variety of roles
- To hear from people who have 'done it'
- To visit a university

Monday 8th

- Guest Speakers
- Interview Technique/Etiquette
- Oxbridge Talk (for early entry students)
- Human Library
- Time for Individual Research (Unifrog/MOOCs etc)

Tuesday 9th

- **Apprenticeships Talk**
- **UCAS Sign Up**
- **Sports Day (PM)**

Wednesday 10th - Thursday 11th

- **Trip to Nottingham University**
- **Sessions on Applying to University, Personal Statement Writing & Student Finance.**
- **Staying in a halls of residence on campus**
- **Free Time in Nottingham Town Centre**

Friday 12th July

- Explanation of Higher Education Process
- Talk from ex students
- Trip to Apprenticeship Provider (for those considering this route)
- Begin Personal Statement/CV Writing
- Barbecue & Games in the afternoon

Nottingham University Trip - Key Info

- Arrive at school for 8:20am on Wednesday 10th July.
- Students need to bring lunch for the Wednesday.
- Students need to bring money to buy food in the evening on Wednesday & lunch on Thursday.
- Breakfast on Thursday is included.
- Staying in a halls of residence - all have own rooms.
- Return to school for 3:05pm on Thursday 11th July.

What Next?

Discovery with UCAS

Decisions, decisions...

UCAS



Is it **right** for you?

There's things to consider with your next step

- something you enjoy – you're investing time and effort
- whether it's right for your career path – check with employers and professional organisations
- location – city or rural, transport links
- a study and assessment style that suits you
- environment including extracurricular, clubs, and societies
- finances

What is UCAS?

University and Colleges Admissions Service

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

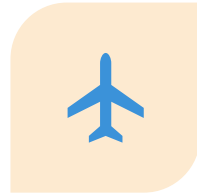
Discover options



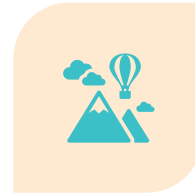
HIGHER
EDUCATION



APPRENTICESHIPS



STUDYING
ABROAD



GAP YEAR



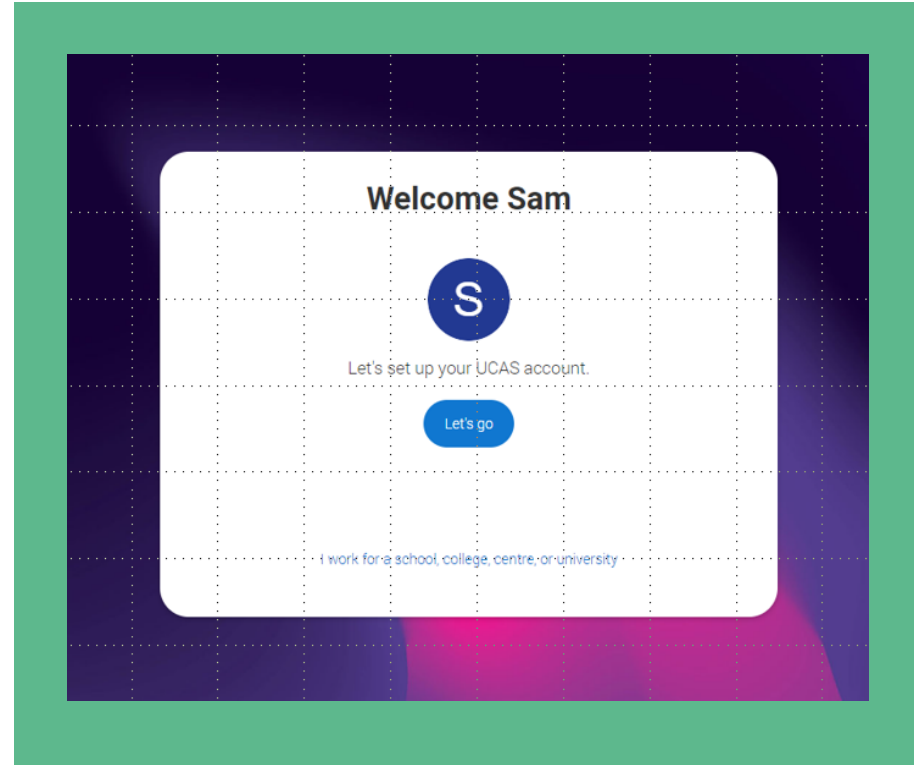
GETTING A JOB

Register for the UCAS Hub to understand all your options and make the right choices for you: ucas.com/hub

Discover options

Register with the UCAS Hub to:

- explore careers, subjects, places, and apprenticeships in one place
- find and favourite over 35,000 courses
- search for open days, events and virtual tours
- turn predicted grades into UCAS Tariff points
- speak to those in the know using [Unibuddy](#)
- try before you apply with [Subject Spotlights](#) from Springpod.
- Understand the accommodation available
- take the [UCAS Quiz](#) to find career matches
- start your application



Discover pathways Side by side

You can see apprenticeship opportunities alongside undergraduate courses.

The UCAS Hub enables you to explore all your options and build your profile in one place.



Dental Nurse Apprentice

MR DEVANAND ISUKAPATLA

📍 South Shields

Apprenticeship level	Industry
England - Advanced Apprenticeship - Level 3	Medicine, dentistry and nursing
Start date	Duration
30/10/2023	18 Months
Date posted	Closing date
06/03/2023	29/10/2023
Salary	
£10,982.40	



AAT Apprenticeship - Audit, Accounts and Tax (March 2024)

MOORE KINGSTON SMITH GROUP SERVICES LIMITED

📍 LONDON

Apprenticeship level	Industry
England - Higher Apprenticeship - Level 4	Accounting and Finance
Start date	Duration
04/03/2024	2 Years
Date posted	Closing date
05/07/2023	30/10/2023
Salary	
£25,000.00	

Apprenticeships

What are
apprenticeships?

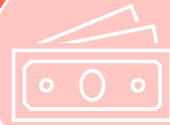
UCAS



Study



Job



Wage*

www.ucas.com/apprenticeships

* Foundation apprenticeships in Scotland are unpaid

The A – Z of apprenticeships

There are **over 600** possible apprenticeship 'standards' (training programmes) which exist. It's probably easier to name an industry that doesn't have an apprenticeship than to list all that do. Here are just a few

- Accounting and Taxation
- Architect
- Boat Builder
- Building Surveyors
- Civil Engineer
- Cyber Security Technician
- Data Analyst
- Doctor (from 2023)
- Early Years
- Ecologist
- Farrier
- Food Technologist
- Game Programmer
- Geospatial mapping
- Harbour Master
- Historic Environment Adviser
- Internal audit professional
- Intelligence analyst
- Journalist
- Junior 2D artist (visual effects)
- Knitted product manufacturing
- Laboratory scientist
- Licensed conveyor
- Midwife
- Marketing Manager
- Nuclear Scientist and Engineer
- Nursing
- Operational firefighter
- Orthodontic therapist
- Paralegal
- Physiotherapist
- Quality practitioner
- Rail engineer
- Research scientist
- Social worker
- Software Developer
- Teacher
- Town planning assistant
- Utilities engineering
- Veterinary nurse
- Vehicle damage assessor
- Water process technician
- Workplace pensions consultant
- Youth worker

www.apprenticeships.gov.uk/#

What am I doing now?

For example, in England, Northern Ireland and Wales:



GCSE grade 9-4 is a Level 2 qualification



A level or T level is a Level 3 qualification

Did you know?

An apprenticeship offering a degree may also be called a Level 6 or Higher Apprenticeship

Apprenticeships work in levels too!

In England:

Level 2	Level 3	Level 4-7
Intermediate Apprenticeship	Advanced Apprenticeship	Higher Apprenticeship

In Wales:

Level 2	Level 3	Levels 4-7
Foundation Apprenticeship	Apprenticeship	Higher Apprenticeship

In Northern Ireland:

Level 2	Level 3	Level 4-7
Level 2 Apprenticeship	Level 3 Apprenticeship	Higher Apprenticeship

When can I apply?

- Not one deadline
- Advertised throughout the year
- Larger organisations with multiple application processes may recruit earlier than smaller local organisations
- Higher apprenticeships with a Sep/Oct start tend to recruit in the previous academic year

www.ucas.com/apprenticeships

UCAS



UCAS Applications

How to apply

UCAS



Key facts



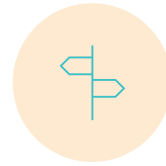
Start your application from
14 May 2024



Universities and colleges **can't see** your other choices when you apply.



Apply by the **equal consideration date**.



Five choices, unless applying to study medicine, veterinary, medicine/science, dentistry – then it's **four choices**.



You **can't apply to both** Oxford and Cambridge.



Applying costs **£28.50**.

Why 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.



Choosing the right **place** for you

- **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.
- **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.

Choosing the right course for you

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

Completing the UCAS application



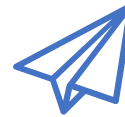
Student registers for a UCAS Hub account to carry out research and start application.



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.

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Student completes personal statement on [unifrog](#) first.

References

Subject teachers write a reference



Tutor uses these to write a UCAS reference



One of the 6th Form team checks the reference
as part of checking the application

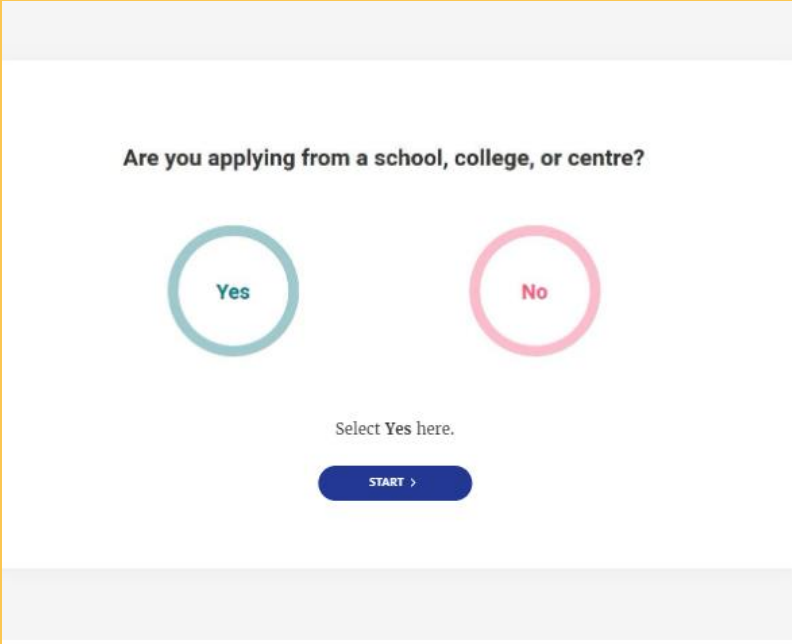


Mr Marston reads all the references



Linking to a centre

- If you're applying with the help of a school, college or centre you should enter their 'buzzword' to link your application to them.
- The buzzword is a unique code set by your school, college or centre.
- By linking your application you're giving your school, college or centre permission to view and track your application.
- It also means they'll provide you with a reference and send your application to UCAS on your behalf.



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

Yes No

Select Yes here.

START >

Application profile

- Personal details
- Nationality details
- Where you live
- Contact details
- Supporting information
- Finance and funding
- Diversity and inclusion*
- More about you

* (for students with a UK home address)

<p>Personal details</p> <p>Name, age, title and gender</p> <p>Start this section</p>	<p>Nationality details</p> <p>Birthplace and nationalities</p> <p>Start this section</p>	<p>Where you live</p> <p>Tell us about your address history</p> <p>🕒 Section in progress</p>
<p>Contact details</p> <p>Address, email, and telephone</p> <p>🕒 Section in progress</p>	<p>Supporting information</p> <p>So that providers know how to support you during your studies</p> <p>Start this section</p>	<p>Finance & funding</p> <p>Tell us how you'll fund your study</p> <p>Start this section</p>
<p>Diversity & inclusion</p> <p>Additional equality information</p> <p>Start this section</p>	<p>More about you</p> <p>Tell us about any circumstances that you might need support for during your studies.</p> <p>Start this section</p>	

Your experiences

- Education
- Employment
- Extra activities*
- Personal statement
- Reference**

*(for students with a UK home address)

** (not visible if linked to your school/college)


Experience

Education Qualifications and periods of study 🕒 Section in progress	Employment Paid employment ✅ Section complete	Extra activities Taken part in any activities to prepare you for higher education? Start this section
--	--	--


Your personal statement

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


The personal statement


 The only section you have full control over


 Your only chance to market yourself as an individual

 The same for all of your 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 allowed

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

Start early

Include:

- academic achievements, past and present
- interest in the course area
- knowledge of the subject area
- enthusiasm to go beyond the syllabus
- details of independent study skills



Consider...

Universities and colleges will consider:

- Have you chosen the course for the right reasons?
- Can you achieve in a new learning environment?
- Do you have a range of interests and aptitudes?
- Do you have a depth of interest in the subject?
- Have you studied independently?
- Do you appear motivated and committed?
- Do you have good numeracy and literacy skills?



Personal statement **support**

PERSONAL STATEMENT BUILDER

4000 characters of 4000 remaining



[View personal statement guides](#)

CONTINUE WRITING

PERSONAL STATEMENT BUILDER
4000 characters of 4000 remaining

> Writing about the course
 Why are you applying for your chosen course(s)?

Write your text here...

Why does the subject interest you?

Write your text here...

Why do you think you're suitable for the course(s)?


Write your text here...

Do your current or previous studies relate to the course(s) that you have chosen?


Write your text here...

- > Skills and achievements
- > Work experience and future plans


[Preview](#) [Save & close](#)




What to include in your architecture, planning or building personal statement




What to include in your animal science personal statement




What to include in your art and design personal statement




What to include in your biology personal statement




What to include in your business management personal statement



What to include in your chemistry personal statement



What to include in your computer science personal statement



What to include in your dance personal statement

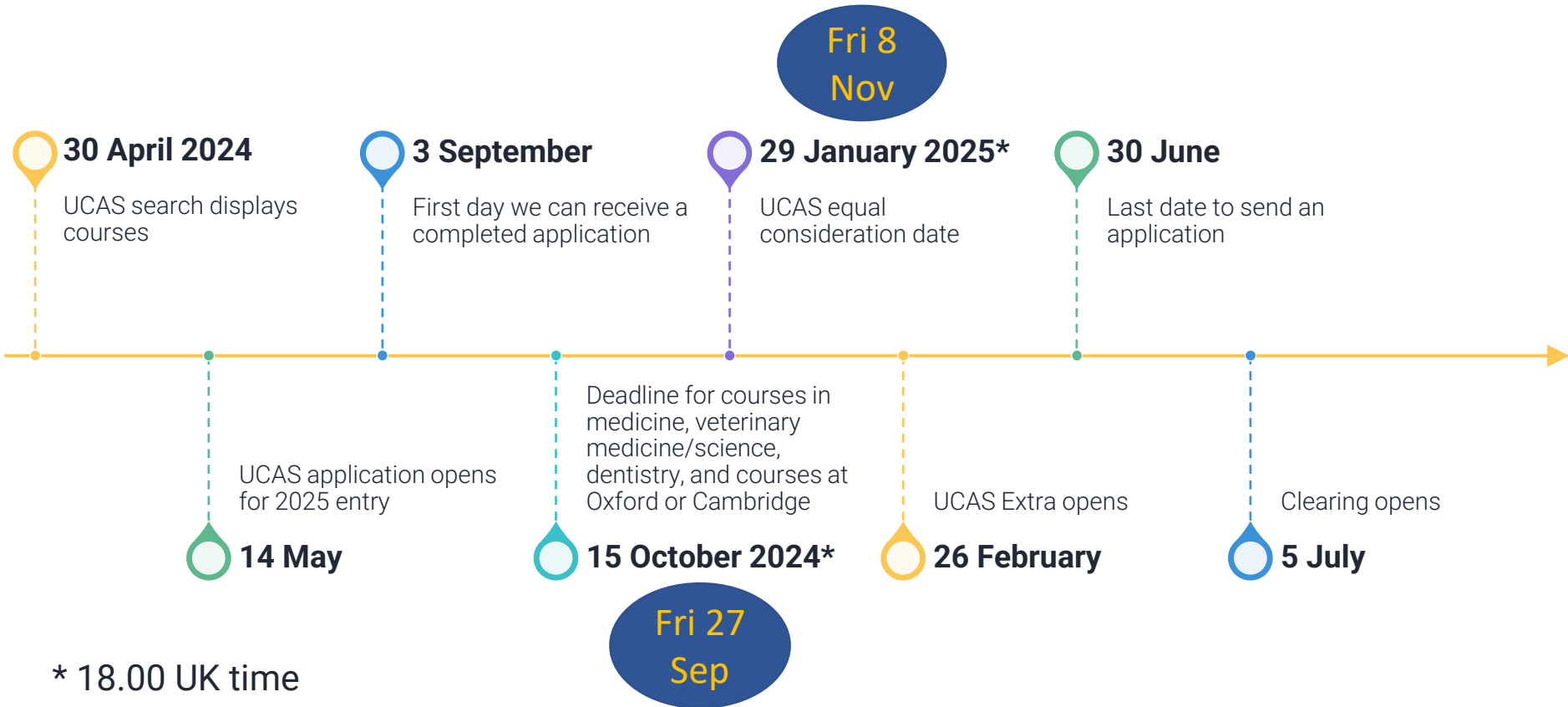


History is th-
inter-

I recently spent some time with the Environment Agency, working in their local Analysis and Reporting team. I helped process and identify some freshwater invertebrate samples, where I used a dissecting microscope and taxonomic keys. I learned about freshwater invertebrates sampling methods and how the data is used to classify rivers. This experience taught me some useful laboratory skills and showed me how biology can be applied. I plan to expand my skills and gain further experience in helping with field work.

or
bility
g
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When to apply 2025 entry



Decisions

Universities and colleges will review the:



personal statement



qualifications



reference

They may also ask for:



admissions test



interview



portfolio/audition

Tracking your application



Waiting for decisions

Universities or colleges are considering your application.

Providers have until dd-mm-yyyy to respond to your choices.



All decisions received

You've received a decision from all of your choices. You can now reply to your offers at any time.

Reply by dd-mm-yyyy



Waiting for confirmation

You're waiting for confirmation of your choices. If you meet the offer conditions, the university/college will confirm your place. Send them your results if requested.

Follow your application 24/7:

- see your choices
- keep contact information up to date
- view and reply to your offers

You'll receive one of three decisions from your choices:

- unconditional offer
- conditional offer
- Unsuccessful

Replies to offers

Once you have decisions on all your choices, you can choose two:

- One as a 'firm' acceptance – your first choice.
- The other as an 'insurance' acceptance. This acts as a back-up if you do not get into your 'firm' choice.

Any remaining offers must be declined.

Once all your decisions and replies have been made, if you are not holding an offer, you may be able to use Extra or Clearing to find available places.



Other options

Extra (26 Feb – 4 Jul)

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

Clearing (5 Jul – Oct)

- Apply after 30 June, receive no offers, decline all offers, not met conditions.
- Find vacancies from 5 July and add a Clearing choice to your application.



Next steps

UCAS



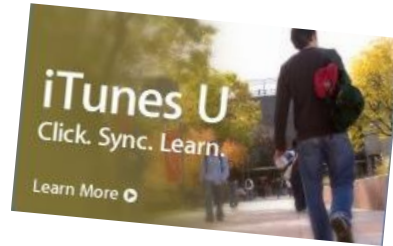
What can students be doing?

- research, research, research
- attend open days and events – including online
- extracurricular and supercurricular activities
- work experience
- volunteering
- independent learning outside the curriculum
- focus on this year's studies

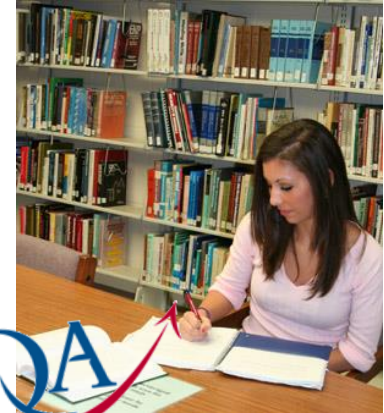




- Reading outside the syllabus
- University websites
- Newspapers
- Journals
- MOOCs
- Podcasts



Additional activities & accredited qualifications



Young Enterprise

Learning by Doing



How can you support them?

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!

Our 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



@ucas_online



@ucas_online



@ucas



@UCASonline



Thank you

Any questions?

sixthform@wallingfordschool.com

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