

UCAS, apprenticeships & planning ahead

Mr Abbott

UCAS



Discover your options

Last updated April 2024

UCAS



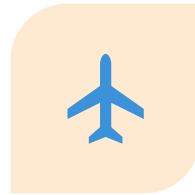
Discover your options



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 your pathways

- **Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE) and Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE):** first and second year of a degree course.
- **Higher National Certificate (HNC) and Higher National Diploma (HND):** HNC is a one-year industry specific course, and the HND is a two-year industry specific course.
- **Higher apprenticeships:** provide an opportunity to gain Level 4 qualifications or above, e.g. HND, or foundation degree while you work. Can take from one to five years to complete, depending on the course level.
- **Foundation degree:** flexible vocational qualification, combining both academic study and workplace learning. It usually takes two years to complete.
- **Bachelor's or undergraduate degree:** a three to four-year course which can also be available as a part-time option, allowing you to study and work.
- **Degree apprenticeships:** enable you to gain a full undergraduate or master's degree while you work. Degree apprenticeships take three to six years to complete, depending on the course.

Your UCAS journey

Last updated April 2024

UCAS





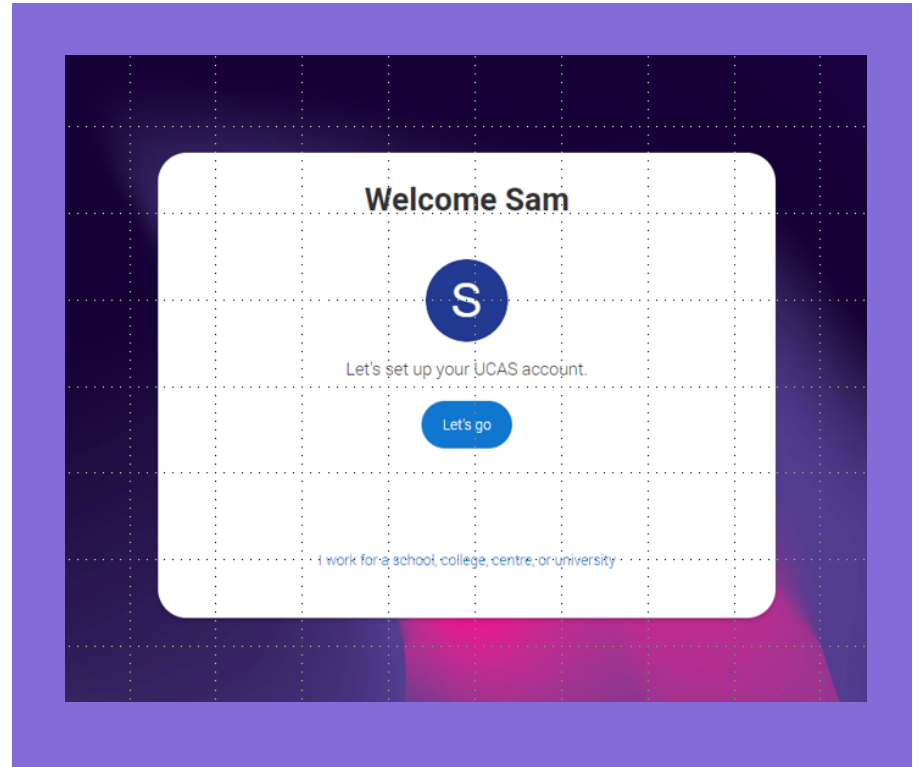
By the end of this, you will be able to:

- identify the tools to **help** you
- explain how to **apply** to a UK university or college
- list key application **dates**
- know how to **track** your application

Discover your 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.
- take the [UCAS Quiz](#) to find your career matches
- start your application



Your next steps [Open legacy to do list](#)

DISCOVER WHAT TO DO

Browse subjects and careers with related courses and apprenticeships.

[Discover more](#)



FAQS

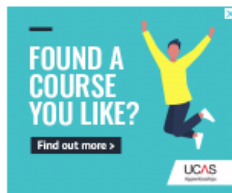
What subject should I take?

Read our subject guides to see what might be right for you.

HOW TO

How to apply

All you need to know about applying to university, college or an apprenticeship.



DISCOVER CAREERS

Try our quiz and get recommended careers that match your skills and personality traits.

[Take the quiz](#)



FAQS

Key application dates

Find out what you need to do and when.

HOW TO

How to nail that personal statement

Writing a personal statement can be daunting. Follow our tips and advice to help make it easier.

DISCOVER WHERE TO GO

Browse universities, colleges and employers and learn more about cities and regions in the UK.

[Find out more](#)



What's happening

Replying to your offers - your questions answered

Getting ready to reply to your offers? We've got all your questions answered.

[More info](#)



Chat to students

Chat with UK and international students who are already studying the courses you've applied for at universities and colleges across the UK, on UniBuddy.

[More info](#)



University course tasters

Experience what a university course would be like with Springpod's Subject Spotlights. These interactive, virtual university course tasters feature real-life lectures, seminars, and academics.

[More info](#)



Live now: Studying in the UK

There's a lot to consider when moving to a new country. We explore accommodation, visas, scholarships and everything in between.

[More info](#)



Your 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	

Build your profile. Favourite as you go.

Browse by

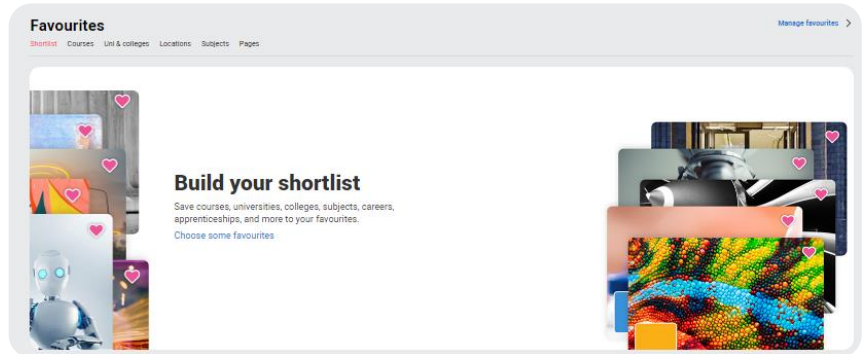


Explore your future

What to do? Where to go? **Discover** all the options with our subject, industry, and career guides. **Explore** city, employer and accommodation information. **Compare** apprenticeships and course opportunities for you.

Build your shortlist

Save for courses, universities, colleges, subjects, apprenticeships and more! Use to shortlist your top 5 choices, manage, keep those favourite information pages to hand.



Subject Spotlights

- Learn from some of the UK's finest academics as they give you a genuine, insightful, and engaging experience of studying their courses at their universities.
- On-demand interactive video [experiences](#)
- Have a go at [interactive quizzes and activities](#)
- Get [feedback](#) on how you've done.
- [Try](#) university degrees before you apply.
- [Certificate](#) of completion
- Explore more Springpod [Subject Spotlights](#).

University course tasters

Experience what a university course would be like with Springpod's Subject Spotlights. These interactive, virtual university course tasters feature real-life lectures, seminars, and academics.

[More info](#)



Chat to students



A peer-to-peer chat facility hosted on ucas.com powered by Unibuddy.



An opportunity to connect with current students, ask questions and learn about their experiences



Over 4,900 active ambassadors, with unlimited chats available

Chat to students

Chat with UK and international students who are already studying the courses you've applied for at universities and colleges across the UK, on Unibuddy

[More info](#)

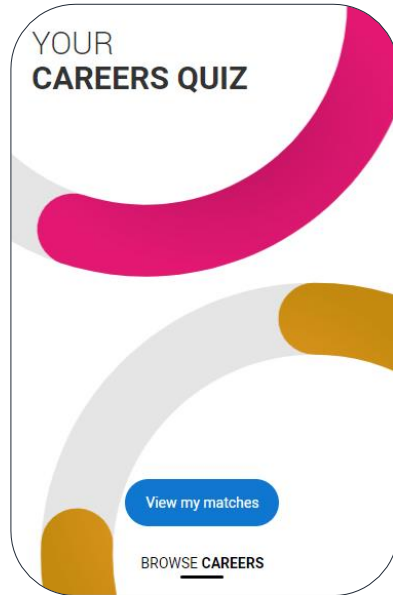


Personalised tools to help

UCAS Quiz

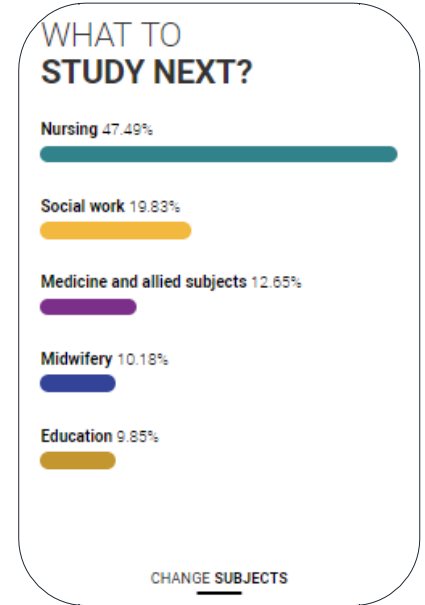
Find job and career ideas matched to your personality.

Plus a list of courses previous students studied in order to get there.



What to study next?

Broaden your horizons by exploring another subject area, that student's who did your qualification went on to study.

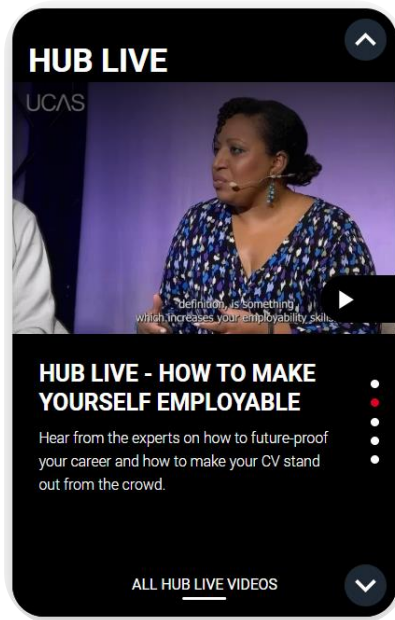


Advice and events

Hub lives

Watch expert interviews [on demand](#).

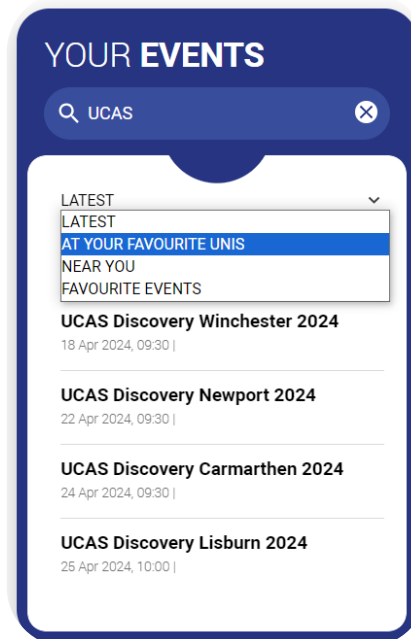
Make an informed decision about the right path for you. University, apprenticeships or the world of work.



Your events

Filter to explore events, open days and tours to suit your needs.

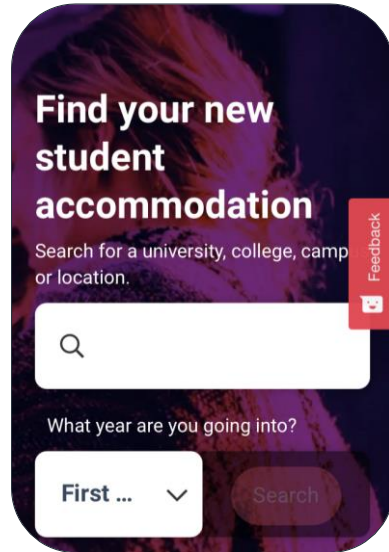
Register straight from the Hub for our UCAS Discovery events, with exciting new zones covering all pathways.



What else do you need?

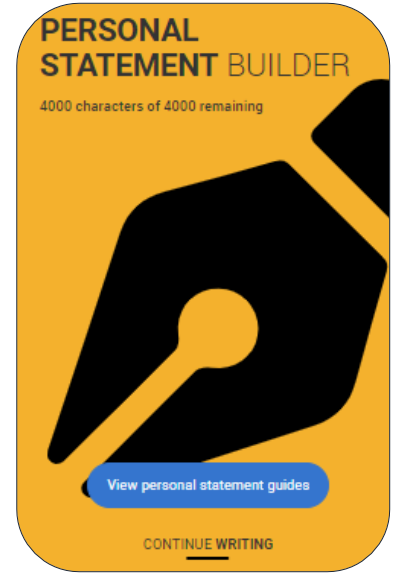
Accommodation

High on the list when considering where to study, but it's not always easy to compare what's on offer. Understand what options there are using our [accommodation search](#).



Personal Statement Builder

Designed to help you think about what to include, and how to lay it all out. It counts how many characters you've used, so it's easy to see when you're close to the 4,000 character limit.





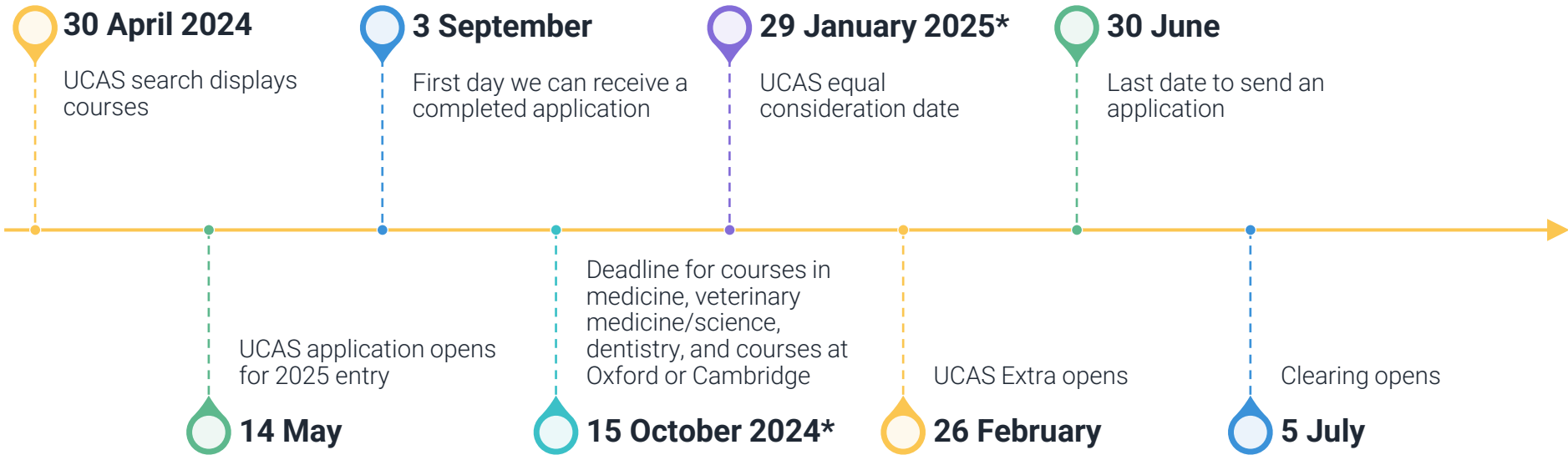
University or college

How to apply

2025 Cycle

UCAS

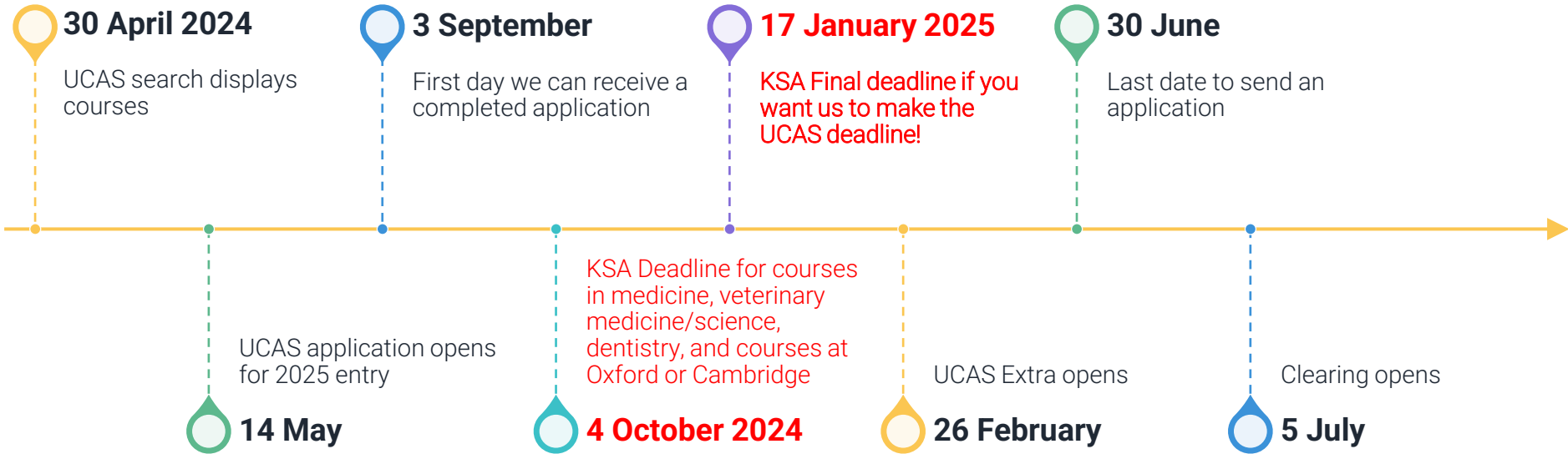
When to apply **2025** entry



* 18.00 UK time

KSA Deadlines

Mr Abbott's target: 90% by 25 October



Key facts



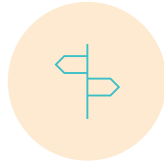
Start your application from
14 May 2024



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**.
This can be paid from the P16 bursary, for those eligible

Choosing the right **place** for you

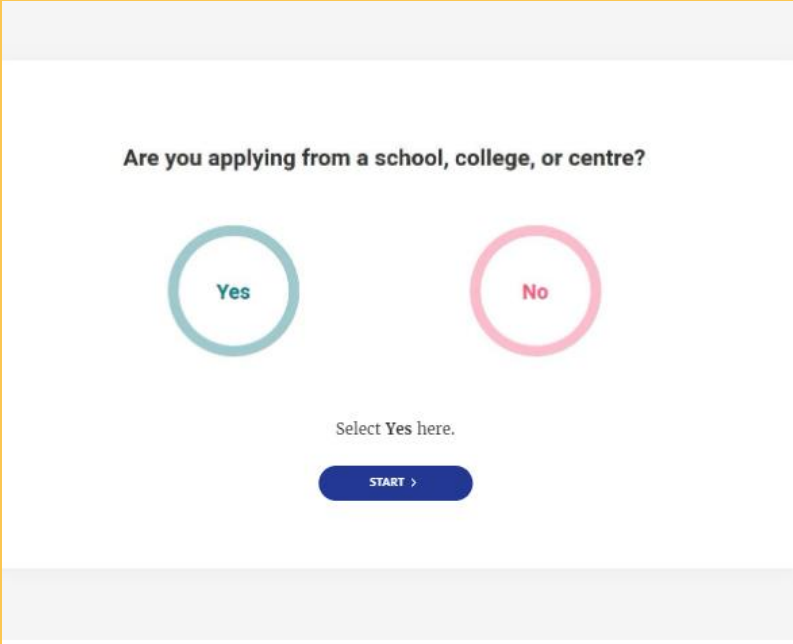
- **Style** – from traditional, with a focus on subject-based courses and research, to modern universities/colleges, with a greater focus on vocational courses.
- **Location** – some are in large cities, others in small towns, by the coast or in the countryside – it's all a major influence on the environment 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?

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?

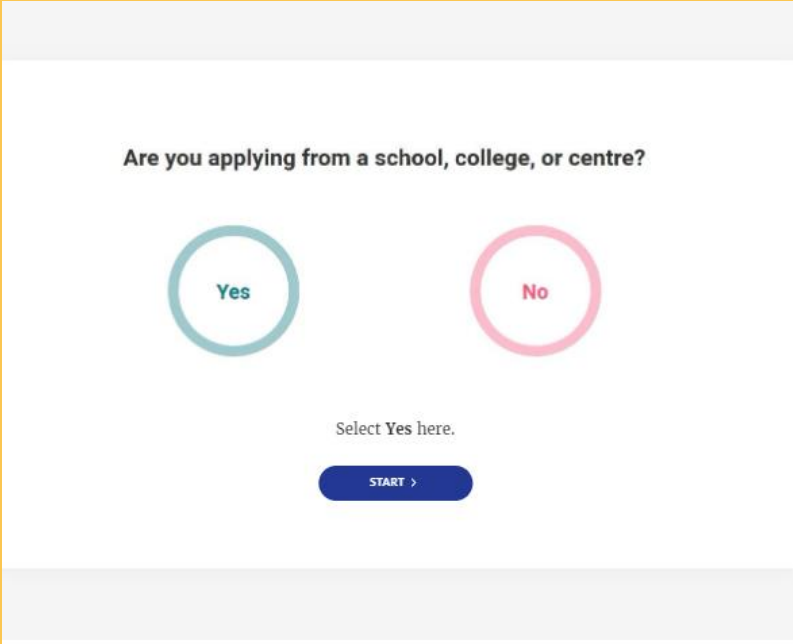
Yes No

Select Yes here.

START >

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 KSA buzzword for KSA is:
- **KenStimpsonAcademy**
- This is case dependent with no spaces



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.**

Be wary of spellcheck!

'It was a catch
12 situation.'

'I think of
myself as a
worm hearted
individual.'

'English is like
a second
language to I.'

'Twice a week, I
attend marital
arts classes.'

Start early

Include:

- academic achievements, past and present
- why you're interested in the subject area
- your knowledge of the course area
- your enthusiasm to go beyond the syllabus
- what you enjoy about studying
- details of your 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

Mr Abbott's Personal Statement Masterclass

Next Tuesday tutor time in 4L04, open to any student who has started a UCAS application by then

STOP PRESS!

**BIG CHANGES TO THE PERSONAL STATEMENT
COMING FOR 2026 APPLICANTS...**

Decisions

Universities and colleges will review the:



personal statement



qualifications



reference

They may also ask for:



admissions test



interview



portfolio/audition

The UCAS Process

Responsibilities

Personal Statement: **Student (Tutor)**

UCAS Form Personal Details: **Student (Tutor)**

Reference: Student + Tutor

UCAS Form final check: UCAS Lead

UCAS Form submission: UCAS Lead

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**

Reply dates

These are based on when we get the last decision in from your unis or colleges. **Check your application to see your personal deadline.**

2025 entry applications

- If you receive your last decision on or before **14 May 2025**, your reply date is **4 June 2025** (except if you're using Extra to find a place).
- If you receive your last decision on or before **17 July 2025**, your reply date is **23 July 2025** (including Extra choices).

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.



Application process

- 1 Applicant researches and chooses courses.
- 2 Registers online with UCAS Undergraduate Apply.
- 3 Completes application and processes payment.
- 4 Reference added by centre/independent referee.
- 5 Centre/applicant sends application electronically to UCAS.
- 6 UCAS processes application and sends to chosen provider(s).
- 7 Decisions made (offer or unsuccessful).
- 8 Applicant views decisions in Track.
- 9 Applicant replies to offers, or uses Extra if required.
- 10 Place confirmed, or Clearing, or Adjustment.

Key:

- Applicant
- School/college
- UCAS
- Universities and colleges

UCAS

Apprenticeships


What you need to know

www.ucas.com/apprenticeships



Your pathways Side by side

When you register on ucas.com, you can sign up to be linked to relevant apprenticeship opportunities that match your profile.



Looking for Apprenticeships?

We can match you to potential employers! Sign up for Smart Alerts to receive apprenticeship opportunities directly in your inbox.

[Go to Smart Alerts](#)

6 steps to follow

UCAS

— Step 1 ————— Step 2 ————— Step 3 ————— Step 4 ————— Step 5 ————— Step 6 →

Register on
UCAS Hub

Option to sign up to receive
alerts on opportunities that
match your profile

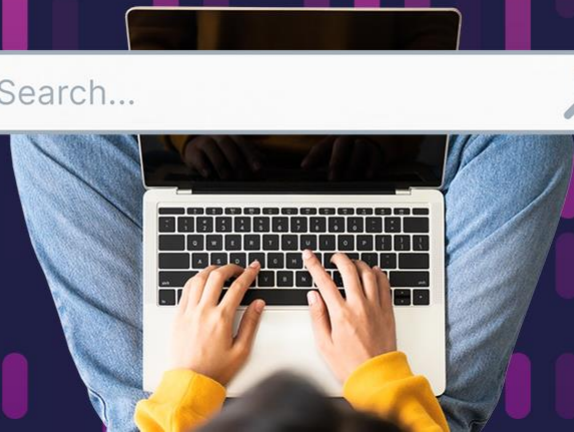
Explore subjects, courses,
industries, job roles

Build your
profile

Search
for vacancies

Make an
application

Search...



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



How can I apply?

- Applications are made directly through the company or the education provider.
- There is no limit on the number of applications you can make.
- The application process might vary across vacancies, you could be asked for:
 - CV and Covering Letter
 - Application Form
 - In App/Site application
- You can apply for universities and apprenticeships at the same time!



UCAS 2025 Entry?

Register today!

Use link below to register and get a UCAS ID:

<https://accounts.ucas.com/account/register>

You will be asked for a buzzword (**KenStimpsonAcademy**).

Have pen and paper ready as a **username** will be generated and you will have to create a **password**.

You will also get a **Personal ID** – the ten digit number displayed in 123-456-7890 format on every email UCAS sends you. You'll be asked for this if you get in touch UCAS Customer Experience Centre.

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

Other sixth form matters...

- School census update
- Post 16 Bursary
- EPQ
- Young Enterprise
 - Liquidation of Innova
 - Formation of 2024/25 team
- Miss Chalmers's student survey


School census

- This takes place in early October
- Why am I updating you on a boring data exercise for the DfE?
- Because it has an impact on
 - The “transfer deadline” for students joining us (or leaving us- hopefully not!)
 - **IF YOU HAVE FRIENDS WHO WANT TO (RE)JOIN, THEY NEED TO BE QUICK!**
 - Being added to courses (we can remove you at any point of the year)

Post 16 Bursary

- Things have changed since last September when I launched the 2023/2024 bursary
- We now have to follow the 4Cs MAT Bursary Policy

**Four Cs
Multi-Academy Trust**



Curiosity Confidence Courage Constancy

16-19 BURSARY POLICY

Presented to
Trustees Resource Committee
DRAFT

Date approved: ¹	23 June 2021
Date reviewed: ²	October 2023
Date of next review: ³	

Post 16 Bursary

2.0 Eligibility

- 2.1 To be eligible to receive a 16-19 Bursary, the student must be aged 16 or over and under 19 on 31 August and undertaking courses within Key Stage 5.
- 2.2 Students must also satisfy the residency criteria set out in the *ESFA Funding Guidance. *(A person on 1 September who is settled in the UK, and has been ordinarily resident in the UK and Islands for the three years preceding the 1 September.)* If students are in any doubt, they should speak with the Head of Sixth Form.
- 2.3 Students should be participating in a provision that is subject to inspection by a public body that assures quality and funded within the relevant guidelines. *(Attendance at Trust schools meets the criteria).*

3.0 Participation

- 3.1 Payment of bursaries will be conditional upon a range of factors. This will include regular attendance, satisfactory behaviour and completion of coursework. This will be assessed on an ongoing basis.
- 3.2 All young people will be expected to maintain a minimum level of attendance and will be monitored regularly. Authorised absence will be classified as attendance.
- 3.3 To receive bursary payments, students must have 0% unauthorised absences and overall above 90% attendance, with behaviour and effort satisfactory or better. Students must

Post 16 Bursary

attend all timetabled lessons (unless absence agreed in advance by the Sixth Form Team) and should have no late marks at the start of the day or for individual lessons.

- 3.4 The bursary awarded must be used for specific educational purposes, which include, but are not limited to:
- Transport (bus pass, other public transport costs, or mileage for car driver only for journeys to/from the Trust schools and to attend essential course related trips/events)
 - Examination re-sit fees
 - Meals at the Trust school
 - Uniform as described in the Trust school's Uniform Policy and Sixth Form Dress Code (up to a maximum of 50% of amount awarded)
 - Equipment, books and materials required in order to complete the course (larger items will be considered by way of a contribution of no more than 50% of the full cost, up to a maximum of £300)
 - Educational visits or work-related activities that are a compulsory element of the programme of study
 - Attendance at university interviews and open days
 - Other expenses approved by the Trust school that are related to supporting attendance and participation.
- 3.5 The assistance required must be indicated on the application form and will assist in determining the level of Bursary awarded.

Post 16 Bursary

Bursary Priority Group

This application for assistance from the 16 - 19 Bursary Fund is made under the priority group of (please tick only one):

High	<input type="checkbox"/>	Medium	<input type="checkbox"/>	Low	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Eligibility

I confirm that I meet the eligibility criteria set out in Section 1 of the 16-19 Bursary Policy

Free School Meals

I confirm that I am entitled to Free School Meals (please tick as appropriate) Yes No

4.0 Bursaries for the Most Vulnerable Learners – High Priority Group

4.1 The Trust schools will consider a bursary in the region of £1,200 to learners in the following categories:

- Students in care, including those placed with a foster carer by the Local Authority
- Care leavers
- Students in receipt of Income Support or Universal Credit because they are financially supporting themselves, or financially supporting themselves and anyone who is dependent on them and living with them such as a child or partner
- Students in receipt of Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payments in their own right as well as Employment and Support Allowance or Universal Credit in their own right.

4.2 The definition of a Care Leaver according to the Children (Leaving Care) Act 2000 is:

'a young person aged 16 and 17 who was previously looked after for a period of 13 weeks consecutively (or periods amounting to 13 weeks), which began after the age of 14 and ended after the age of 16; or

A young person aged 18 or above who was looked after prior to becoming 18 for a period of 13 weeks consecutively (or periods of 13 weeks), which began after the age of 14 and ended after the age of 16'.

Post 16 Bursary

5.0 Discretionary Bursaries

5.1 Students can apply for a Discretionary Bursary which must be used for specific educational purposes. To be considered for a Discretionary Bursary, an applicant must have a total annual household income of no more than £35,000. An Income Declaration form must be completed and supporting evidence provided to the Trust school as part of the initial application process, or where circumstances change.

- Mr Abbott's interpretation of the Medium and Low
 - **Medium:** You are in receipt of Free School Meals and/or on a very low household income
 - **Low:** Your household income is below £35,000 but above the FSM level

Post 16 Bursary

7.0 **Application Process**

- 7.1 All new applications must be made in writing on the Trust's application form, signed and dated by the applicant. For those young people that are not living independently there should be an additional signature from the parent/carer for those under 18.
- 7.2 The first and main closing date for applications will be as outlined on the application form (usually a date pre-set in September). Thereafter, applications will be considered on an ad hoc basis eg from students who enrol later, apply later or whose financial circumstances change.
- 7.3 Applicants will be required to provide evidence to verify their eligibility for the bursary and the applicant will need to provide relevant information to establish the household income. Evidence of total household income will include any source of income eg employment, investment, benefits for both the applicant and the adults living with the applicant. Any savings of the above parties may also be taken into account. This information can be evidenced by P60's, wage slips, Tax Credit Awards, last three Universal Credit Award Statements, and self-employment accounts and letters of confirmation of benefits from the job centre.
- 7.4 To reapply for a Bursary award in their second year, a student should complete a self-declaration form if their household income circumstances have not changed. If there has been any change in circumstance, a full application form and Income Declaration should be completed.

Post 16 Bursary

8.0 Assessment

- 8.1 Applications will be assessed by the Trust school's Finance Department in accordance with this policy and ESFA guidance in conjunction with the Head of Sixth Form. The final decision lies with the Headteacher.
- 8.2 Details of the reason and expenditure, with the amount of Bursary funding required, should be included within the application form. This will be used to make decisions on the level of award to be given.
- 8.3 Documentary evidence to support applications will be checked and copies retained by the Trust school for audit purposes. The evidence will be held in strict confidence.

Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

- The EPQ will be added to timetables from next week
- I will be a supervisor (officially) this year, alongside Mr Iqbal and hopefully Miss Costin
- Please email me (k.abbott) if you are interested and more details will follow...

Young Enterprise

- We need to close down **Innova**, last year's Regional Finalists and Prom organisers
- This means a final Board meeting to:
 - Finalise the company accounts
 - Agree to the distribution of profits, proposed dividends and Director's bonuses
- Followed by an Annual General Meeting for the shareholders to vote on the proposals and close down the business.

Young Enterprise

- I hope we can get Innova liquidated within the next 2 weeks. If the Directors can see me after this assembly, hopefully we can agree some dates
- This means the last week in September, I hope to be able to launch Young Enterprise with our new Year 12, in time to organise a lucrative Halloween disco!
- More information to follow...

Year 11 reflection survey

Year 12 students that attended Ken Stimpson last year for their GCSEs are kindly requested to complete a survey sent to their school email from Miss Chalmers.

This is a quick survey that will need completing by Tuesday 10th Sept please.

If you are new to Ken Stimpson please ignore this survey.