



LYMM
HIGH SCHOOL

Welcome to Lymm High Sixth Form Year 12

Information, Advice and Guidance Evening: The UCAS Process June 2023



MICROPHONES OFF:

We ask you to switch your microphone off to help everybody to hear the lesson and concentrate fully. If you switch your microphone on to ask a question, or I ask you to switch it on, please switch it off again immediately afterwards.



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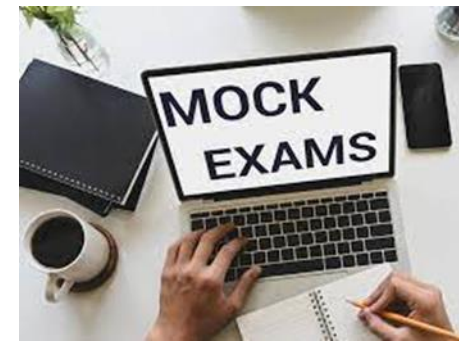


Purpose of this evening

- To explain how the grades from the mock examinations will be used
- To advise you how best to support your child over the summer holidays
- To provide you with the information, advice and guidance needed to help you support your child throughout the UCAS process.



Mock Examinations



- UCAS Predicted grades – the mock exam results will help form the bulk of the evidence for these
- Emerging grades – best indicator of what the UCAS predictions are likely to be
- UCAS Predictions will be finalised in September
- Assessments next year



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Over the summer

- Keep a routine
- Organise files
- Compile revision notes
- Recap topics covered during Yr12
- Pre-reading for Yr13 work
- Summer work will be set in all subjects





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Progression – thinking ahead



- Students need to consider their next steps after they have finished their A Level / BTEC Courses
- 85-90% of our students typically apply to university
- Apprenticeship support – CV sessions, guest speakers, The Sixth, Careers Fair, Mock assessment centre (Jan 2024)
- 1:1 meetings with Mrs Littler/ Mr Brown are available
- Careers advisor meetings – each Tuesday



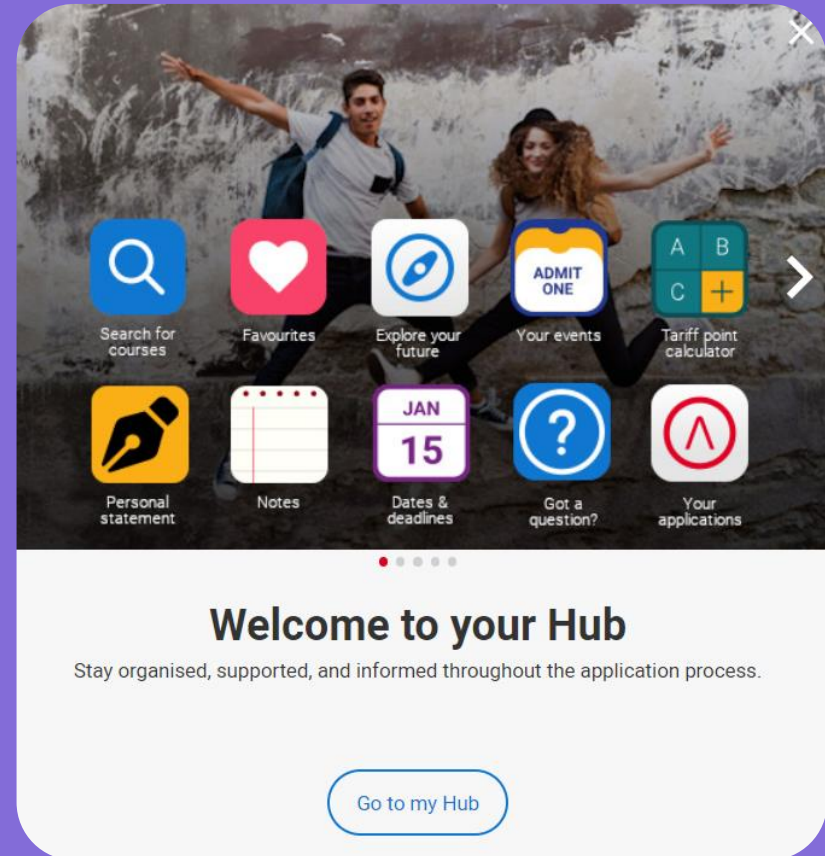
The UCAS Process

- Online application process for UK universities
- Students have 5 choices – they can apply to multiple courses at the same university.
- A range of choices with a variety of entry requirements is essential
- Students
 - ✓ Have already been asked to think about their personal statement - Unifrog
 - ✓ Have been asked to choose a referee
 - ✓ Will begin their online application on 6th July – step by step help video

Starting your research

Register with the UCAS Hub to:

- explore careers, subjects, places, and apprenticeships
- find and favourite over 35,000 courses
- search for open days, online events and virtual tours
- turn predicted grades into UCAS Tariff points
- 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 2024 entry (from May 2023)

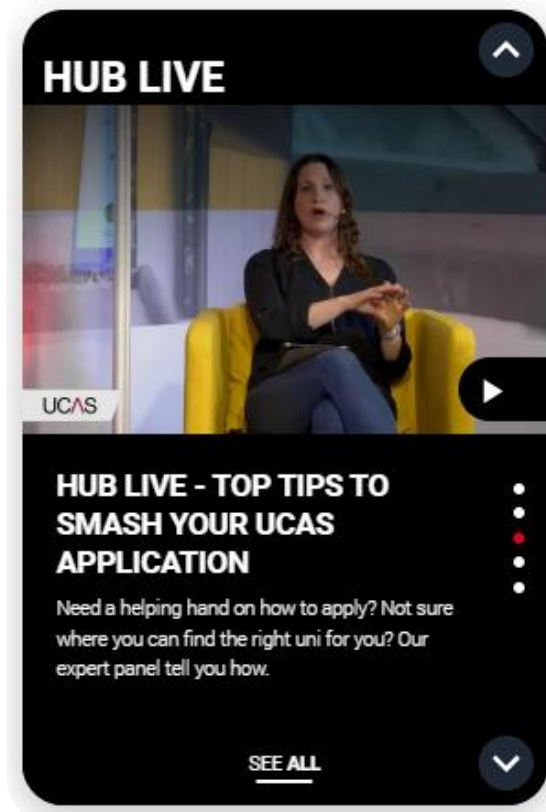


Tools to help

UCAS Hub lives

Join our [live sessions](#) hosted by expert panels.

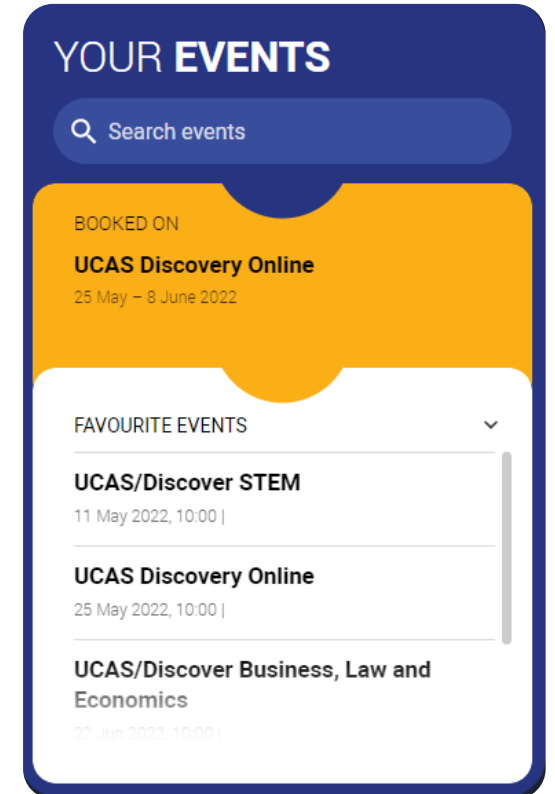
Ask questions to help you make an informed decision.



UCAS Discovery

Talk to subject and admissions experts, discover apprenticeships, find advice on applying, and more!

[Discover](#) a world of opportunities.

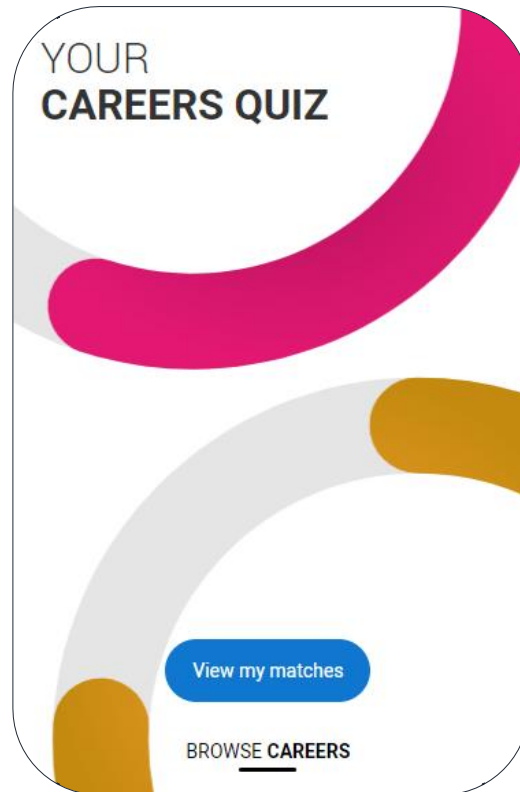


Tools to help

UCAS Quiz

Find job and career ideas matched to your personality.

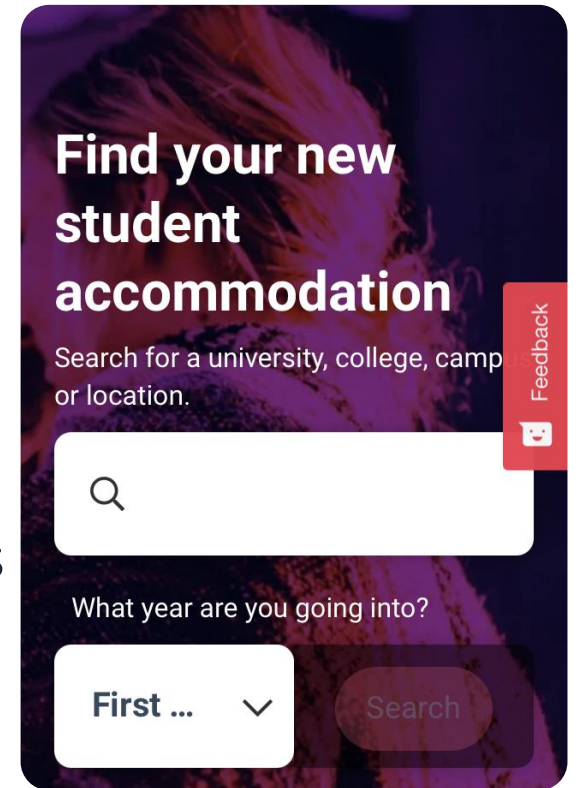
Plus a list of courses previous students studied in order to get there.



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](#).



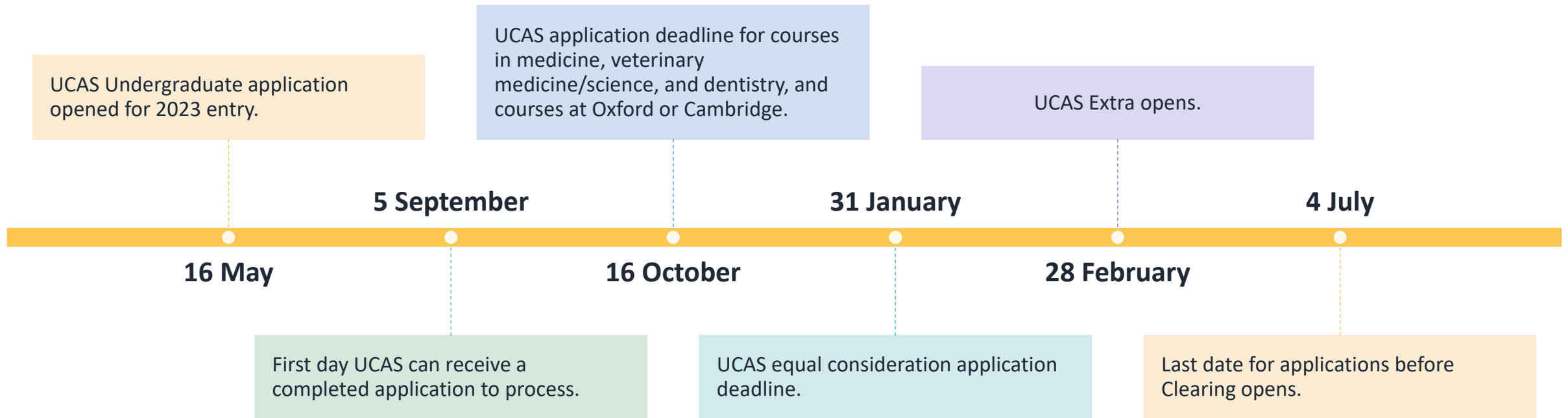
Choosing the right place for you

- **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?

When to apply for 2024 entry



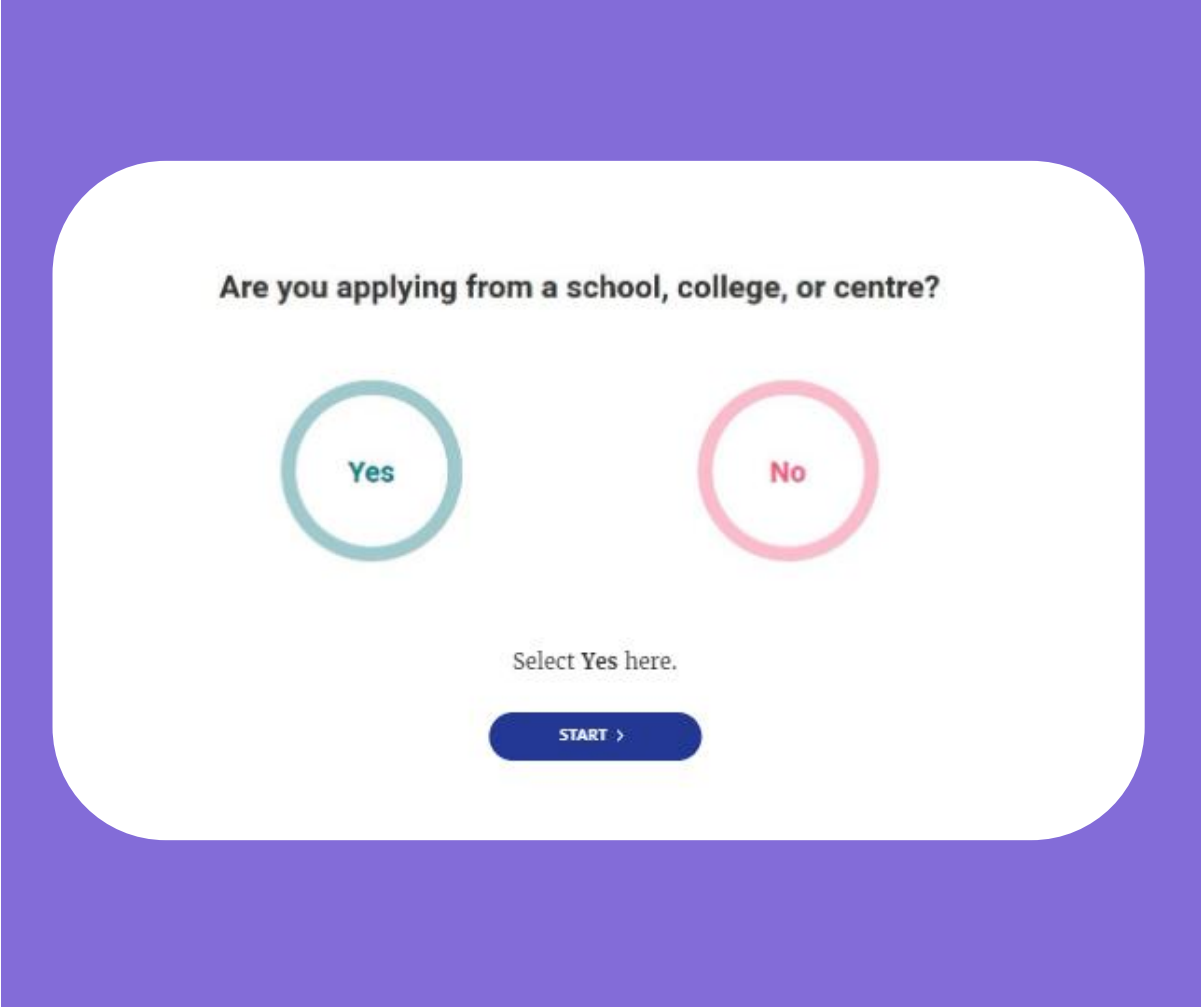
Key facts

- To start an application you need a **UCAS Hub account**.
- Register for a UCAS Hub account at any time.
- From **16 May 2023** you'll be able to 'Start' your application in your UCAS Hub.
- You have up to **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** £27.50 for up to FIVE choices. There is no longer a single choice application fee.
- Apply by the **equal consideration date (31 January 2024)**.
- Universities and colleges **can't see** your other choices when you apply.



Linking to a school

- 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 >

References

- Change in format for this cycle
 - Section A – Contextual statement
 - Section B – Extenuating circumstances*
 - Section C – Suitability for the course

- *Extenuating circumstances which you wish to be declared in the reference MUST be stated in the ‘notes for reference writers in Unifrog’.

References

- Extenuating circumstances may include –
- **Individual circumstances** e.g. disability, serious illness, bereavement, significant adverse personal circumstances (with applicant consent).
- **Context as to why there is a disparity between the grades** they have achieved at GCSE level (or equivalent) and their predicted grades, where applicable at A-level (or equivalent).
- **Support the university or college should consider putting in place** to ensure the applicant can thrive on their course (with applicant's consent) e.g. highlight the measures the school, college or centre put in place to ensure the student's inclusion/experience.
- **Declared on Unifrog in 'notes for reference writers.'**
- **If circumstances are declared on Unifrog, students are giving their permission to use this.**
- It is likely we will know, but please **do not make assumptions** and check with your child whether they have declared anything you think is relevant.

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)

The screenshot displays a 'Profile' dashboard with eight sections arranged in a 3x3 grid (with the bottom-right cell empty). Each section includes a title, a brief description, and a status indicator at the bottom.

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

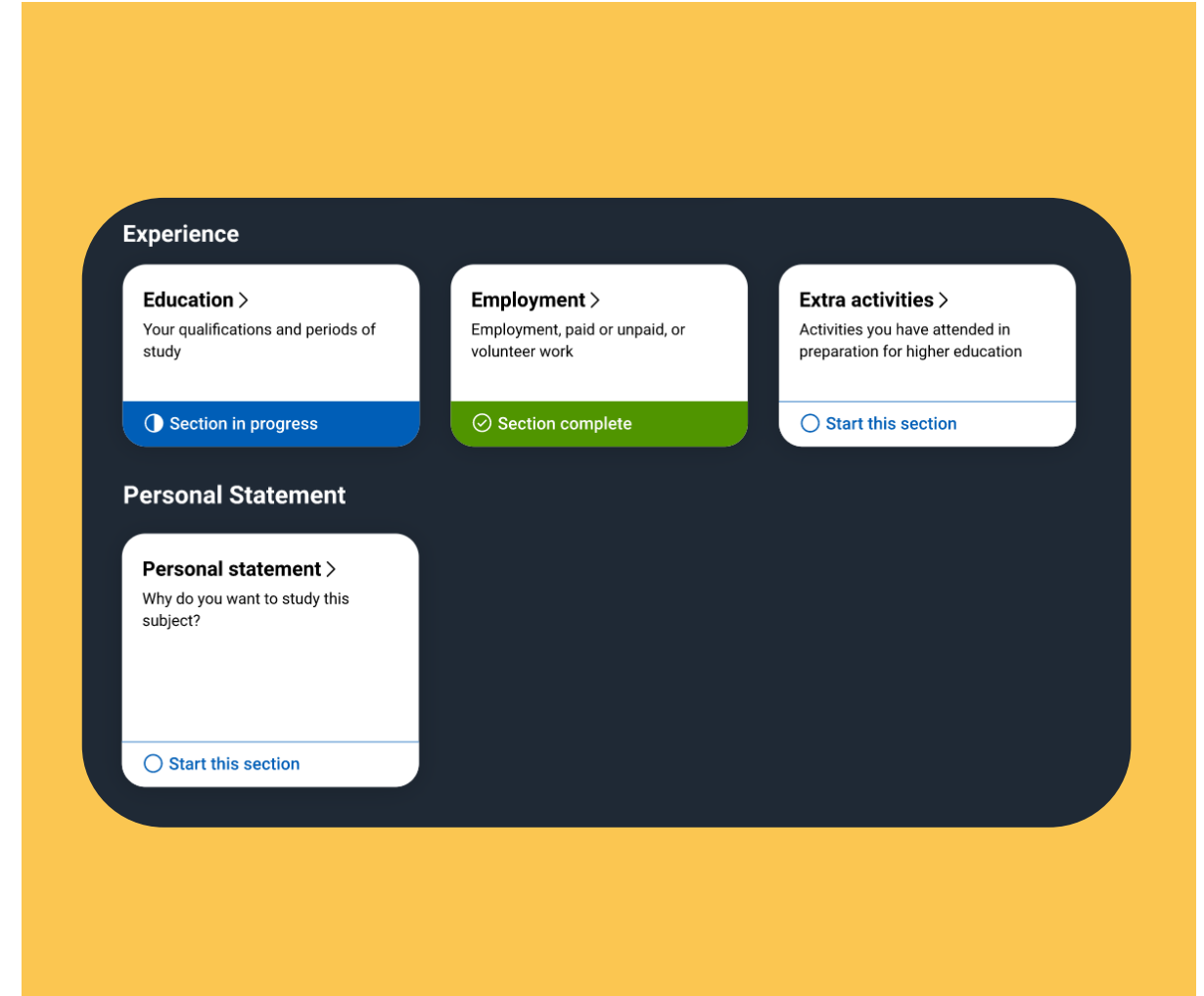
Application

Experiences:








- Education
 - Employment
 - Extra activities*
-
- Personal statement
 - Reference**
 - Add choices – up to five

*(for students with a UK home address)

** (not visible for students linked to their school/college)



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.

Students will write this in Unifrog.
Support sessions to follow on 6th July (Drop down day) and 10th July
– Chester University

Start early

Include:

- academic achievements, past and present
- why you're interested in the subject area
- your knowledge of the subject 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?



Decisions

Universities and colleges will review the:



personal statement



qualifications



reference

They may also ask for:



admissions test



interview



portfolio/audition

Tracking your application



Head to your UCAS Hub to follow your application:

- follow its progress 24/7
- see your choices and personal information
- view your offers
- reply to offers online

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 (28 Feb – 4 Jul)

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

Clearing (5 Jul – 17 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.





The UCAS Process - Deadlines

By the end of Yr12 -

- Considered which courses they may apply for
- Personal statement – first draft shown to referee
- Institutions
- Start UCAS online application

By September 2023

- Final course choices / institutions
- Final personal statement
- UCAS online complete

By October 2023

- Application sent!

UCAS

UCAS Admissions Process

Sign Up for the UCAS Parent Newsletter [here](#)

[Click here](#) for a presentation from the University of York that explains how to apply to a UK university/college, the timelines involved and top tips for personal statements.

[Click here](#) for for a presentation on the UCAS application process.

[Click here](#) for a presentation on a parents' guide to university.

[Click here](#) to read a parent's guide to university.

[Click here](#) for a guide to university for Yr 12s and Yr 13s

Students who are still finalising their personal statements may find this link helpful <https://university.which.co.uk/advice/personal-statements/personal-statement-subject-guides-admission-tutor-tips>

We were fortunate to have Durham University deliver a bespoke personal statement session with all of our Yr 13 students, the powerpoint which can be found [here](#).

Clearing and Adjustment

[Click here](#) for information about the Clearing process and Adjustment



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How can you help?

- Attend Open Days
- Encouragement / support in writing their personal statement/
CV
- Look at Unifrog together
- Come to the Careers fair – MMU, LJM and Edge Hill
- Check course requirements and any additional admissions tests (e.g. complete the UCAT over the summer!)



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Apprenticeships / Employment Support

- CV workshops and Employability skills session
- Interview / Assessment centre practise
- Opportunities on The Sixth, including the apprenticeships vacancies advertised each week across Warrington
- Careers advisor – each Tuesday
- Careers Fair Tuesday 4th July 2024 - Degree Apprenticeships, make contacts, discover opportunities



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CAREERS FAIR

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Years 9 to 13

Tuesday 4th July 2023
5.00pm - 7.00pm

LHS Sports Hall

Students should attend with their parent / carer. Tickets must be booked in advance.

- Universities
- Employers
- Degree Apprenticeships (applications open in Nov)
- Industry insights
- Make contacts

Scan below to book tickets





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Careers Fair

Tuesday
4th July
5 – 7pm

A look inside
the Careers
Fair
Programme



EXHIBITOR INFO: UNIVERSITIES



Edge Hill
University

Edge Hill University is a campus-based university in the heart of the north west of England. It provides higher education courses in a very wide range of subject areas via active research and state-of-the-art facilities.

Opportunities: Degree Courses 18+
Find out more: <https://www.edgehill.ac.uk/>

Liverpool John Moores (LJMU) is a forward-thinking, dynamic, ambitious, university with a heritage that stretches back to 1823. LJMU is now one of the largest and well-established universities in the UK. Within its five faculties, its research is influencing policymakers, improving people's lives and finding solutions to the problems of the 21st century. Not content to rest on its laurels, it is constantly looking ahead to develop even further, with ambitious plans for the development of its campus. Visit the university to discover the courses and educational options available post-18.

Opportunities: Degree Courses 18+, work experience, volunteering
Find out more: <http://www.ljmu.ac.uk>



LIVERPOOL
JOHN MOORES
UNIVERSITY



Manchester Metropolitan University is a great, modern university, with a driving ambition to discover and disseminate knowledge, to make higher education accessible and beneficial to all those with the passion and ability to succeed. With four faculties offering hundreds of courses, Manchester Met educates and trains large numbers of legal and business professionals, scientists, engineers, teachers, health workers and creative professionals. It is also a leading provider of degree apprenticeships, partnered with over 540 national and local organisations to give apprentices the opportunity to earn while they learn and to develop the skills employers want and need. Vacancies for Degree apprentices are listed [here](#).

Opportunities: Degree Courses 18+, Degree Apprenticeships 18+
Find out more: www.mmu.ac.uk



EXHIBITOR INFO: COMPANIES



AstraZeneca is curious about science and the advancement of knowledge. It finds creative ways to approach new challenges. It's driven to make the right choices and be accountable for its actions. As an organisation centred around what makes us human, AstraZeneca puts a big focus on people. Across its business, it wants colleagues to wake up excited about their day at the office, in the field, or in the lab. Along with its purpose to create life-changing medicines, it has a promise to help you realise the full breadth of your potential.

Opportunities: Apprenticeships 18+, Work Experience – Year 11 students for next summer while in Year 12 (supply chain)
Find out more: <https://careers.astrazeneca.com/>

Balfour Beatty is a leading international infrastructure group. It finances, develops, builds and maintains innovative and efficient infrastructure that underpins daily life, supports communities and enables economic growth. The company has 30,000 employees, its revenue is £8.5 billion a year, it has over 100 years experience, and it operates across the UK, USA, Canada and South East Asia. Visit the company for information on careers, apprenticeships and work experience.

Opportunities: Apprenticeships, work experience
Find out more: www.Balfourbeattycareers.com

Balfour Beatty



A career at **Barclays** is truly unique. It can offer incredible variety, depth and breadth of experience, and the chance to learn from some of the best minds in technology and finance. Barclays has spent 11 years perfecting its apprenticeship programmes so that you can start to think differently about your future. Join Barclays at any point in your life in a well-paid, permanent job – doing real, impactful work from day one – all whilst working towards a recognised qualification up to Degree level.

Opportunities: Foundation apprenticeships 16+, Higher apprenticeships 18+
Find out more: <https://home.barclays/careers/>



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