

Parents' evening UCAS presentation



The Role of UCAS

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

It guides students through the whole process providing valuable information and supporting services for applicants and their parents.



Why higher education?

Opportunities whilst studying

- Chance to study a subject they are passionate about
- Achieve a qualification that will lead to their chosen career
- Gain confidence, independence and important life skills that will widen their prospects
- Making lifelong friends

A level and Advanced VCE

Official title: Advanced GCE and Advanced VCE

Grade	Tariff points
A*	56
A	48
B	40
C	32
D	24
E	16

AS and AS VCE

Official title: Advanced Subsidiary GCE and Advanced Subsidiary VCE

Grade	Tariff points
A	20
B	16
C	12
D	10
E	6

Researching courses


← → ↺

search.ucas.com

☆ ☰

Apps ★ Bookmarks G Google Classroom PSYA3 A - Institution Suggested Sites (101) Suggested Sites (103) Suggested Sites (104) >>

...and we'll send it to your chosen unis.



UCAS

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Search tool

Search courses

Where do you normally live?:

Search courses available in*: ☒ 2016 ☐ 2017

*This helps us to show courses that are available to you. [Click here for more info](#)

Search by **any** or **all** of the following

Course:


Provider:

Location:

Search >

Don't know what to study?

Need help finding courses? Browse subjects and find out what's available.




Browse >

UCAS Search tool

Use our new search to find undergraduate courses and courses at conservatoires.

We'll be adding all our other courses soon – until then, click the links below.



Other things to consider

- Finance – course fees, grants, travel and living costs
- Travel – to and from home
- Accommodation – uni halls or private residences?
- Extra curricular activities



Visit, visit, visit ...



Introducing the new UCAS open days search tool – get some dates in your students diaries:
www.ucas.com/open-days

UCAS

www.opendays.com

ucas.com/virtual tours

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At the heart of
connecting people
to higher education

Next event: **Ayrshire higher education convention**

Ayr, 8 Sep 2015 - [More events](#)

[Exploring university](#)[Conventions and exhibitions](#)[Conferences](#)[Training for advisers & providers](#)

[Home](#) > [Events](#) > [Exploring university](#) > [Virtual tours](#)

[Find open days](#)[Learn about uni on a taster course](#)[Open days tips](#)[Virtual tours](#)

Virtual tours

[View published](#)

We realise that not everyone can attend an open day, but it's pretty important to see where you'll be studying and possibly living.

So here's a list of virtual tours and videos from universities and colleges so you can see what it's like on campus and what facilities are available.

If the uni/college you're interested in isn't listed, take a look at their website or YouTube channel instead.

UCAS Events on Twitter



about 45 days ago

[#UCASDesign](#) welcomes some new exhibitors in November @[LondonAtelier](#) @[UoW](#) @[AmandWycCollege](#) @[WSofArchi](#) Find out more [ow.ly/DRM0h](#)

about 74 days ago

Thank you to @[PH_Hotels](#) The Met Hotel [#Leeds](#) for hosting another conference for us.

about 74 days ago

Thank you to all who attended [#UCASCompetitive](#) Admissions in [#Leeds](#). It's been a great conference! What were the best bits for you?

[Follow us on Twitter](#)

Click on a university or college to view their virtual tour or video.

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

A
[University of Aberdeen](#)
[Aberystwyth University](#)
[Anglia Ruskin University](#)
[Arts University Bournemouth \(formerly University College\)](#)
[Aston University, Birmingham](#)

B
[Bangor University](#)
[University of Bedfordshire](#)
[Birmingham City University](#)

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CLEARING
TEAM
01227
540980



Key features of the UCAS undergraduate scheme

One application per admissions cycle

Application is entirely online

Application fee £25 / £20

Maximum five choices (some restrictions)



Simultaneous consideration

Universities cannot see the other choices

Date	UCAS	St Martin's School
September	1 st – Applications can be submitted via APPLY.	<i>Subject Staff submit subject references, including grade predictions.</i>
October	15 th – Early entry – Medicine, Dentistry; Veterinary Science, Oxbridge.	<i>Early entry applicants should be discussing application with Referee and personal statements completed by the 11th Oct. Teacher reference and personal statement deadline by the 22nd Oct.</i>
November		<i>8th November – <u>All</u> Applications submitted to St Martin's</i>
December		<i>Counselling/Interview preparation re offers</i>
January	15 th – Deadline – all applications after this date are considered 'late'.	<i>Counselling/Interview preparation re offers</i>
February	EXTRA opens.	<i>Counselling re offers</i>
March	Art & Design deadline. <i>Should</i> have received replies by ...	<i>Counselling re offers Finance ... www.studentfinancewales.co.uk</i>
April		
May	Applicants <i>have</i> to have replied to offers	<i>EXAMS</i>
June	Applications go straight to Clearing	<i>EXAMS</i>
July	APPLY opens..	<i>(Year 12) UCAS Day</i>
August	August – Results Day! CLEARING and ADJUSTMENT open.	<i>(Year 12) Results Day – AS results may shape where and what they apply for.</i>

How do we support UCAS applications?

- SFT introduce APPLY and discuss other issues during 'UCAS Day'
- Teaching staff produce subject references and predicted grade
- Form Tutors check personal statements
- SFT check whole application and compile reference
- SFT offer interview practice
- SFT offer support if unsuccessful or if having problems deciding about offers.

The personal statement

- Their only chance to market themselves individually
- One personal statement for **all** choices

Max. 4,000 characters, 47 lines

Min. 1,000 characters

No spelling/grammar check

No formatting



Where to start

- Think about what makes them **stand out** in an exciting and positive way
- Show **enthusiasm** for the course they are applying for and list supporting **evidence** to back this up.
- Extra curricular activities and **relevant** work experience.
- **Skills** they can use on the course, leadership, communication, team work for example.
- Encourage them to ask you for more **ideas**.
- Allow plenty of **time**.
- **Be careful of plagiarism.**

Personal statement resources

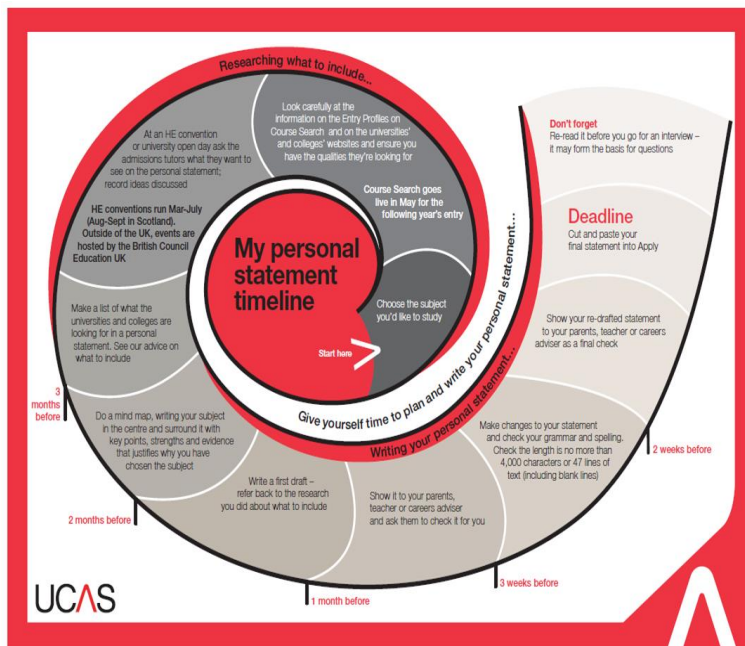
www.ucas.com/personalstatement



How to write your personal statement

This video looks at how to get started, as well as common fears and concerns.

[Watch more video guides](#)



MY UCAS PERSONAL STATEMENT



Tracking applications

Track will allow the student to:

- Follow the progress of their application online
- See their choices and personal information
- See their offers
- Reply to offers online



Decisions and replies

Provider decisions:

- Unsuccessful
- Unconditional offer
- Conditional offer

Once all decisions are received, they can hold up to two offers:

- One as their **Firm** Choice (CF)
- One as their **Insurance** Choice (CI)
- All other offers are declined

Track will show the **date by which they must reply**

Other options

Extra

If all five choices have been used and they have no offers/rejected all offers

Clearing from mid-July

If there are no offers, or have applied after deadline



Adjustment

(from A level results day)

If they've gained better results than the conditional offer they hold, they could apply for a different course or university

What your son/daughter should be doing now?

- Research
- Extra Curricular
- Work experience
- Go beyond the syllabus
- Focus on this year's studies



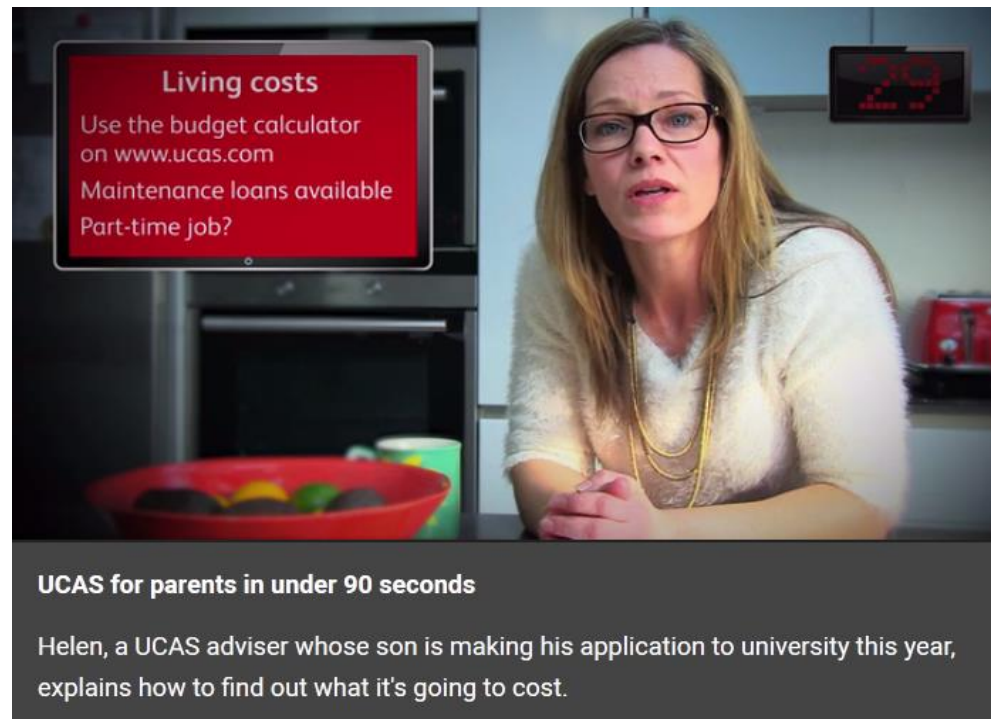
How can you support the application process?

- Use the Parents/Guardian section of the UCAS website/Parent Guide publication – www.ucas.com/parents and sign up for the newsletter.
- Offer to attend open days, you may have a different perspective.
- Don't book family holidays at key times.
- Read carefully everything that is sent to them.
- Support your son's/daughter's management of their application.

New videos for parents

UCAS has developed four videos on key topics:

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



www.ucas.com/parents

Costs?

- One course – £20
- More than one course – £25
- Pay online with credit/debit card

More information?

- UCAS website
- Newspaper Guides
- School Referees
- mccallionh@stmartins.caerphilly.sch.uk
- hopkinsl@stmartins.caerphilly.sch.uk

Additional help

UCAS Customer Experience Centre

0371 468 0468

Monday to Friday, 08:30 – 18:00 (UK time)

