

Visiting Universities

We highly recommend visiting a variety of universities. These are great opportunities to view the university you could be attending, where you'll be learning and living. It will give you a chance to:

- Picture yourself living at the university and see if you think you'll be happy there
- See what the course provider's facilities are like
- Ask students and staff anything you'd like to know more about

Attending an open day helps you see if the place feels right for you. It also gives you a chance to get any answers you need before applying to study there.

Preparing for open days

1. **Shortlist Universities** — Shortlist the universities you are interested in attending through the courses and subjects you want to study, and through University ranking. Use the Open Day links below and university websites to research and book your open days.
2. **What to expect** — Each university will have planned an itinerary of activities that will run throughout the day — such as tours, talks, meet and greet sessions, and more. Check university websites or speak to them to see if they have a planned timetable of activities.
3. **Plan ahead** — It is a good idea to have your own agenda in mind when attending an open day. Consider what you'd like to find out more about, which departments, courses, subjects, facilities, accommodation you'd like to take a look at. Prepare and ask plenty of questions on the day to find out more from staff and students about courses, accommodation and university life.
4. **Taster courses** — Some universities offer taster courses. These are designed to give students a flavour of the course they're interested in applying to. Often they will include a number of workshops and seminar sessions, led by academic teaching staff at the university, as well as campus and accommodation tours.
5. **Higher education exhibitions** - UCAS hold over 50 exhibitions each year, across the UK. They are an excellent opportunity for you to meet numerous universities and colleges in the same place at the same time. They're worth attending even if you're considering other options.

<https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/what-and-where-study/events-and-open-days>

Calendar for University open days, taster courses, events and exhibitions:

Open Days:

https://www.ucas.com/ucas/events/find/type/open-day?keywords&sort_by=field_event_date_value

<https://www.opendays.com/>

Taster Courses:

<https://www.ucas.com/events/exploring-university/learn-about-uni-taster-course>

Events and Exhibitions:

https://www.ucas.com/ucas/events/find/type/exhibition?keywords=&sort_by=field_event_date_value

Virtual Tours

Many universities offer virtual tours so you can get a feel for the university ahead of time and plan your open days.

Please see link below to view university virtual tours:

<https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/what-and-where-study/open-days-and-events/virtual-tours>



University Ranking

It is always good to check and keep updated with the university rankings, in relation to your course but also university campuses and employment rates too.

<https://www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk/league-tables/rankings>

<https://universitycompare.com/rankings/all/>

