

# The UCAS journey at The Regis Sixth Form



# The Year 12 journey so far.....

- ✓ University vs apprenticeship
- ✓ Why go to University?
- ✓ What is a Russell group University?
- ✓ How do I attend an Open day?
- ✓ UCAS Exhibition Trip at Winchester University
- ✓ UCAS hub registration
- ✓ Introduction to Unifrog
- ✓ How can I make my Personal Statement the best?
- ✓ Sussex university trip: Find your Future which included Personal Statement workshop, along with student finance talk.
- ✓ Mentoring sessions dedicated to Personal Statement completion along with feedback from Mentors.
- ✓ Personal Statement workshop

# The journey so far.....

## YEAR 12 SUMMER TERM:

RESEARCH, RESEARCH,  
RESEARCH

FIRST DRAFTS OF  
PERSONAL STATEMENT

## SEPTEMBER AUTUMN TERM:

FINAL DRAFTS COMPLETED  
WITH TUTORS

## NOVEMBER AUTUMN TERM:

PERSONAL STATEMENTS  
FINISHED  
APPLICATIONS SENT

## YEAR 12 INTO 13 SUMMER BREAK:

VOLUNTEERING  
SUPER CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES TO BOOST  
YOUR CV/ PERSONAL STATEMENT

## OCTOBER AUTUMN TERM:

ONE TO ONE MEETINGS WITH MRS  
POTTER

**EARLY ENTRIES SENT!**



# UCAS Hub

## 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](#)



# Which University? Which Course?

**How many Higher Education providers are there in the UK?**

**How many different courses do you think there are in the UK?**

**What do they need to consider when looking at university and course options?**





# Higher Education

There are over **37,000** courses and **395** providers in the UK.

Many different routes available including:

Foundation Degrees

Joint/Combined Courses

Sandwich/Placement Courses

Degree Apprenticeships

They can also...

Continue a current subject

Develop a personal interest

Start something completely new



# Research

There are a number of things applicants must consider when researching Universities, such as:

- Ensuring it is a subject they **enjoy** – investing time, money, and effort.
- Do they have the **correct entry grades, including GCSE's?**
- Ensuring it is right for their **career path** – check with employers and check graduate jobs.
- Location – city/rural, transport links, accommodation, shops.
- Location- city vs campus? *For example UCL vs Sussex.*
- Location – course? *For example Nursing vs sport.*
- Extra-curricular activities?
- Finances? Cost of living?



# Choosing the right course

## How is the course taught?

- Most courses combine lectures, seminars, tutorials, and practicals. They should research this.
- They should think about their preferred learning styles – structured teaching or more time completing research?
- How much group work will be done in seminars?
- How many lectures are there?
- Who are the tutors?
- What subject areas do tutors specialise in?

Universities use a whole range of assessment methods including exams, project work, presentations (individual or in groups), practical assessment, and dissertations.



# Choosing the right course

Course subject area	% time in lectures / seminars – ranges from	
Business	12%	44%
Engineering	19%	36%
History	12%	26%
Law	14%	39%
Physics	20%	45%
Psychology	13%	28%

Course subject area	Lowest % coursework	Highest percentage coursework
Computing	47%	91%
Engineering	10%	74%
English	34%	86%
Law	16%	60%
Physics	22%	72%
French	21%	82%

# UCAS Apply



UCAS



# Key facts

- Application is entirely online.
- Maximum of five choices.
- Some choice restrictions:
  - medicine, veterinary science, dentistry (maximum of four)
  - Oxford **or** Cambridge
- Simple application cost:
  - Up to five choices – £28.95 (*\*Students in receipt of free school meals will have this fee waived. They must include this on their application form and notify Mrs Potter.*)

# When to apply?

- **15 October 2025 for 2026 entry at 18:00 (UK time)** – any course at the universities of Oxford and Cambridge, or for most courses in medicine, veterinary medicine/science, and dentistry. You can add choices with a different deadline later, but don't forget you can only have five choices in total.

- **14 January 2026 for 2026 entry at 18:00 (UK time)** – for the majority of courses.

Some course providers require additional admissions tests to be taken alongside the UCAS application, and these may have a deadline.



# When to apply?

**Because they are applying through Sixth Form, they are strongly advised to follow the internal deadlines.**

This gives us enough time to read their application, check they have entered their qualifications correctly, write and attach their reference, and submit your application to UCAS in plenty of time.

All applications must be considered before the national deadlines, however this does not stop Universities giving out offers beforehand.

Now...

UCAS tutor sessions with support and guidance from mentors.  
Personal statements.



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OCTOBER HALF TERM

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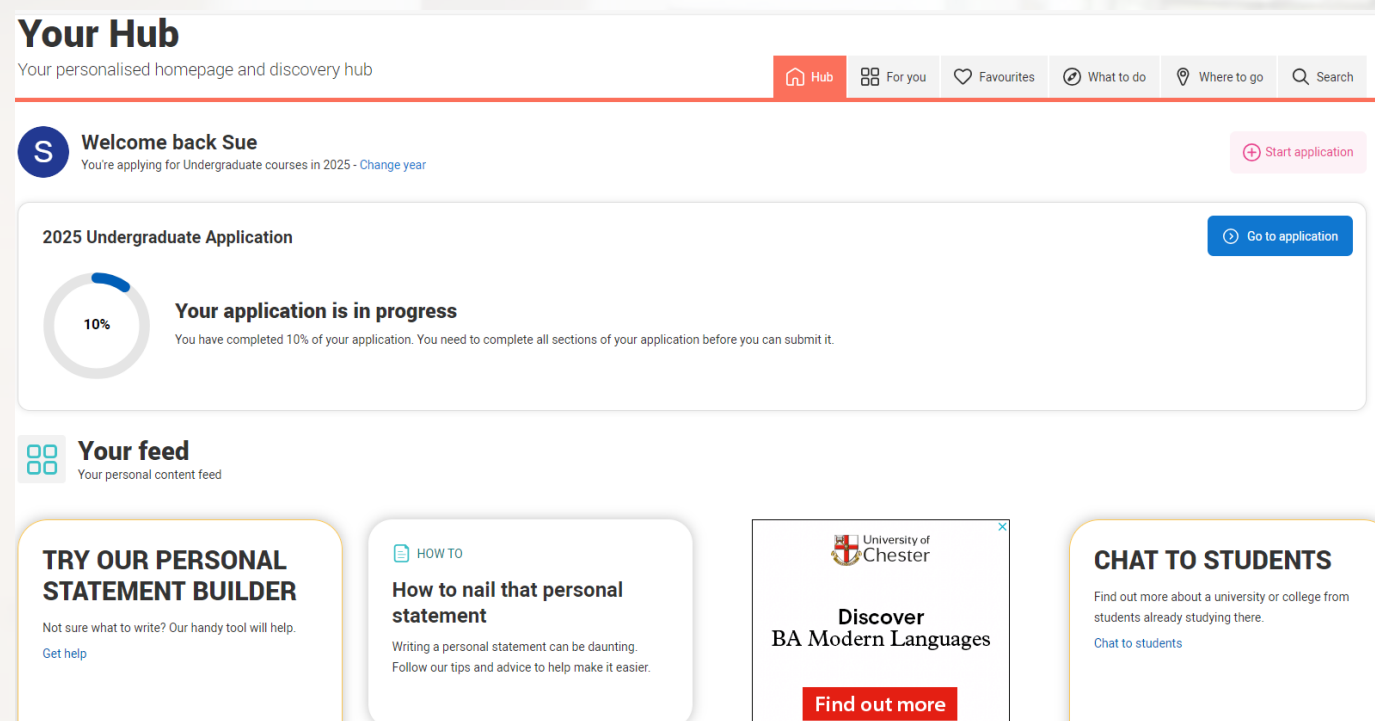
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# Completing the UCAS application



**Your Hub**  
Your personalised homepage and discovery hub

Welcome back Sue  
You're applying for Undergraduate courses in 2025 - [Change year](#)

2025 Undergraduate Application

**Your application is in progress**  
10%  
You have completed 10% of your application. You need to complete all sections of your application before you can submit it.

**Your feed**  
Your personal content feed

**TRY OUR PERSONAL STATEMENT BUILDER**  
Not sure what to write? Our handy tool will help.  
[Get help](#)

**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.

**University of Chester**  
**Discover BA Modern Languages**  
[Find out more](#)

**CHAT TO STUDENTS**  
Find out more about a university or college from students already studying there.  
[Chat to students](#)

## Six sections to complete:

1. Personal details
2. Additional information
3. Choices
4. Education
5. Employment
6. Personal statement

↓  
Tutor adds reference

↓  
**UCAS** → Universities/colleges

**UCAS**



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# Personal Statements


- Length – up to 4,000 characters or 47 lines of text (including spaces and blank lines)
- Make sure you don't copy – our software detects any similarities and this could jeopardise your application




# Guidance



  
Home

  
Create

  
Advice


## Need to write your personal statement?

### Not sure where to start?

Your personal statement is your chance to describe the ambitions, skills and experience that will make you right for your choices. We've developed this tool to get you thinking about what to include.

[Get started >](#)

Please view this web app in either Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox, Safari or Internet Explorer 10 and above.



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# Guidance

For 2026 entry, personal statements use a new, three-question format, replacing the previous single-page text to provide structure and clarity for applicants.

The questions are:

- 1) Why do you want to study this course/subject? (focus on specific motivations and interests),
- 2) How have your qualifications and studies prepared you for this course? (demonstrate relevant skills and knowledge gained from your academic work), and
- 3) What else have you done to prepare outside of education, and why is it valuable? (discuss relevant work experience, volunteering, or hobbies).

# Points to remember

- They will need a strong opening paragraph which shows excitement, understanding and reasons for studying the course.
- Their research into the course will help them link their skills, qualities and interests.
- 80% academic, 20% extra curricular. Volunteering is vital: especially for certain course like nursing.
- Be honest- they are likely to be found out if they are not!
- Don't use AI!
- It will take time- they will need to draft, redraft, and proof read.



# Most common opening lines

1. From a young age, I have (always) been [interested in/fascinated by]... [1,779]
2. For as long as I can remember, I have... [1,451]
3. I am applying for this course because... [1,370]
4. I have always been interested in... [927]
5. Throughout my life, I have always enjoyed... [310]
6. Reflecting on my educational experiences... [257]
7. Nursing is a very challenging and demanding [career/course]... [211]
8. Academically, I have always been... [168]
9. I have always wanted to pursue a career in... [160]
10. I have always been passionate about... [160]



# Encourage good habits

Get into the habit of being ~~very~~ critical with the ~~number of~~ words you use ~~in each sentence~~. Once you have written something, ~~go back and~~ decide if ~~each and~~ every word ~~you recently wrote~~ deserves to be there.

# Decisions





# Decisions

Universities and colleges will review the:

- personal statement
- reference
- qualifications
- admissions test result
- interview
- portfolio
- audition

They'll get one of three decisions:

- **unconditional** offer
- **conditional** offer
- **unsuccessful**



# Decisions

Some institutions may give grade offers e.g. AAB, BBC or, ABC.

Some institutions may specify a particular grade in a particular subject e.g. ABC (with A in History)

Some institutions may ask for a certain number of points.

Grade	UCAS Points
A*	56
A	48
B	40
C	32
D	24
E	16

# Applicant replies

Wait for all decisions from all choices, then they can choose one:

- **firm** – if all conditions are met, where they will be **placed**
- **insurance** – usually lower conditions in case firm conditions are not met

Any other offers must be **declined**.

They don't have to have an **insurance**.



# Gap Year?

- Make it worth while, ensure it has a purpose.
- Many organisations, many opportunities
- Universities do value Gap Years
- **However, apply now!**



# Track

English [Cymraeg](#)

Hello Rebecca Chen

[Log out](#)

UCAS

Track

**Your choices**

Your application

Your details

Help

Contact us

Welcome back Rebecca

Today's date: 13 March 2013

Frequently asked questions

Waiting  
for offers



**Reply to  
your offers**



Waiting for  
confirmation



Confirmation  
of place

## Your status

You've received offers from all  
your choices.

## Next steps

**Reply to your offers**  
(by 6 June)

If you don't reply on time,  
you'll lose your offers.

- Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet
- Consectetuer adipiscing elit sed diam
- Nibh euismod tincidunt ut
- Laoreet dolore magna aliquam erat
- Ut wisi enim ad
- Minim veniam quis nostrud exerci
- Ullamcorper suscipit lobortis nisl
- Ut aliquip ex ea commodo
- Duis autem vel eum

UCAS

# On A Level results day

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> August 2026 *TBC*

Students will get an email from UCAS that morning confirming if they have either:

- met their 1<sup>st</sup> choice,
- met their insurance or
- are in clearing.

The email won't tell the students their A Level grades.

Results are available from 8am. This is to support students who may go into clearing.



# Finance

***Myth 1: "You will be in debt for the rest of your life"***

***Myth 2: "The student loan will affect your credit score."***

***Myth 3: "You have to pay your tuition fees to your university yourself"***



# Finance

**University is an investment in yourself.**

**Student loans do not go on your credit file.**

**You repay 9% of everything earned above the (currently £26,065) threshold. They work more like a tax than a loan.**

# Finance

## Example

You have an income of £33,000 a year, meaning you get paid £2,750 each month.

### Calculation:

$£2,750 - £2,172$  (your income minus the threshold) = £578

9% of £578 = £52.02

This means the amount you'd repay each month would be £52.



# More support and guidance

Visit [www.ucas.com/advisers](http://www.ucas.com/advisers) to:

- understand more about the application process
- access Apply for advisers
- download [guides and resources](#)
- access information on [training](#) and [conferences](#)
- access [Adviser Track](#) and [reports guidance](#)
- see examples of [applicant letters](#)

STUDENT FINANCE:

Government scheme

March

Visit their website for more information

The logo for Student Finance England, featuring the words "student finance" in a dark blue sans-serif font above the word "england" in a lighter blue sans-serif font. A dark blue swoosh underline is positioned beneath "england".

student finance  
england

Mrs Potter: [Susan.Potter@theregisschool.co.uk](mailto:Susan.Potter@theregisschool.co.uk)

The UCAS logo, consisting of the letters "UCAS" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The letter "A" is stylized with a red triangle pointing upwards from its center.

UCAS



# Ensuring Success

Experienced team.

Dedicated UCAS advisor available

Monday-Thursday every week.

Structured programme of support with  
experienced, dedicated tutors.