



# newsupdate

A Social Enterprise serving Young People in their Community

## ARE YOU CONSIDERING HIGHER EDUCATION AFTER YEAR 13?

Are you considering applying for a University Course?

Do you want to find out what you need to do to apply to a Conservatoire?

Are you interested in a Degree Apprenticeship?

Want to know what the deadlines for application are?

Are you, perhaps considering a Gap Year?

Your School, College or 4YP Careers Adviser will be able to support you with this, however, why not familiarise yourself with the UCAS website.

**It is never too early to start researching!**



You can see more information about us here [www.4ypuk.com](http://www.4ypuk.com)

# UCAS

## What is UCAS?

The Universities and Colleges Admission Service (UCAS) provides support and guidance to those considering that first step in Higher Education and those opportunities for graduates through the following:

## Undergraduate

When you hear the term Undergraduate, they are referring to the first level of study in higher education. UCAS help guide prospective students (plus parents) along the right route, giving them the support and advice, they need to make an informed decision about their future.

## Conservatoires

A Conservatoire is a provider of performance-based music, dance, screen, and drama courses. UCAS hosts the application service for both undergraduates and graduates looking to study practice-based music, dance, screen, production, and drama courses at the eight UK conservatoires in the scheme.

## Teacher Training

UCAS Teacher Training is an admissions service for graduates (those who have completed their first level of study at higher education eg already have a degree) interested in becoming teachers. It covers full-time and part-time training programmes at universities, colleges, School-Centred Initial Teacher Training (SCITT) providers, and School Direct providers in England and Wales.

## Post-Graduate

A Post-Graduate course is higher education study for graduates who have already completed an undergraduate course eg a degree. UCAS allows students to search and apply for postgraduate courses, and track the progress of their applications

<https://www.ucas.com/about-us/our-services>



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## So what information is on the website?

You might be feeling a little overwhelmed by all the different parts to the UCAS website and what is available to you. In this newsletter we hope to help you navigate the website and support available a little easier.

Take a look at the flow chart shown here (right) to see where the different information is on the UCAS website.

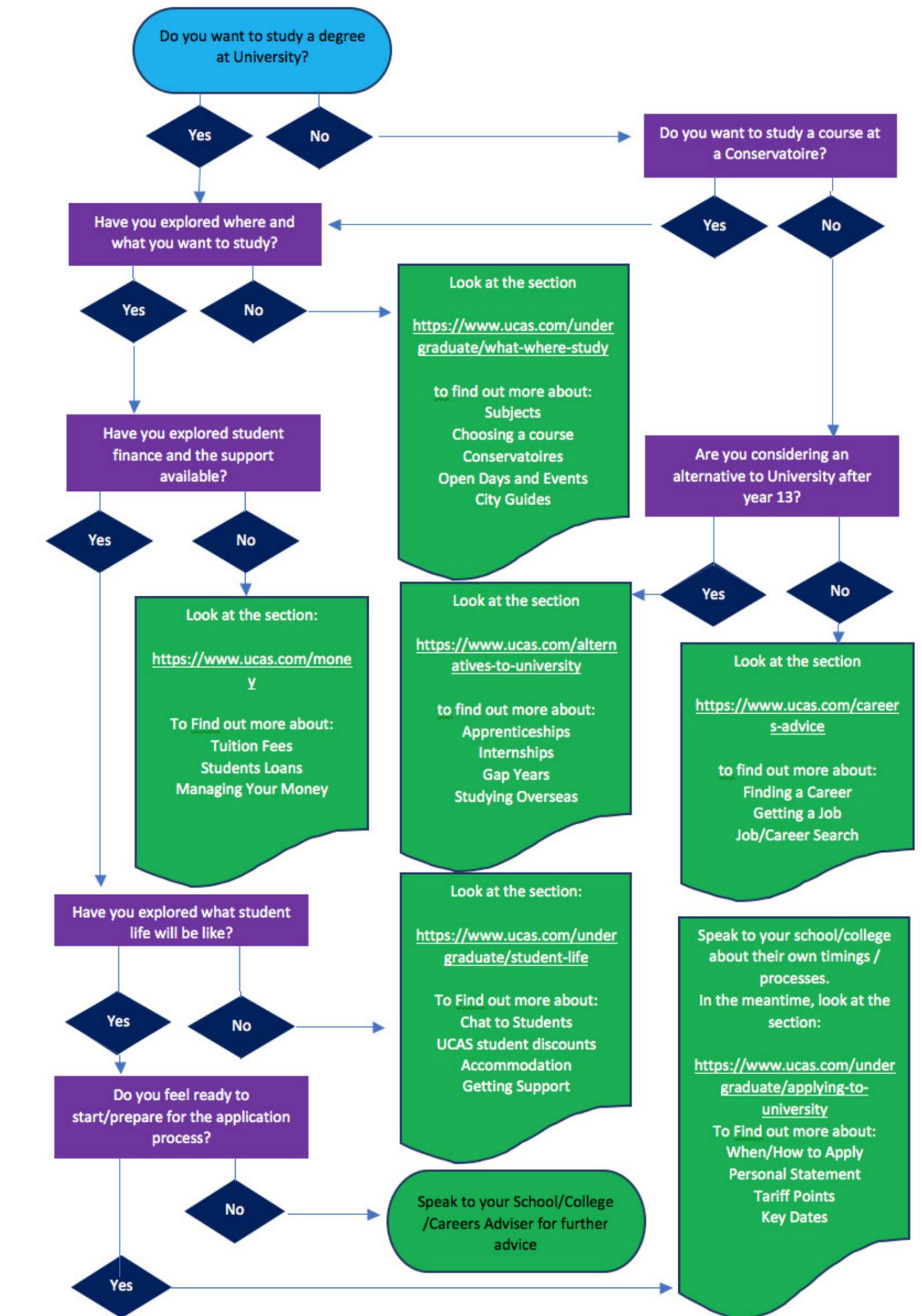
## What is there on UCAS to support me through the Application Process?

### UCAS Hub

This is your space where you keep a record of what you've done, ideas you may have, progress you've made and can save it and go back to it at any time. The different parts of UCAS hub are:

1. The explore tool – where you can search subjects and discover courses.
2. The notepad – so you can keep all your thoughts about your next step in one place.
3. Apprenticeship finder – for the latest vacancies, locally and nationally.
4. The personal statement builder – to help you structure your writing and introduce yourself to universities.
5. The Tariff calculator – for tallying up your UCAS points to see if you meet entry requirements.

<https://www.ucas.com/what-are-my-options/create-your-ucas-hub-today>



## Chat to Students at University

You can filter down who you speak to by subject, University or where the student is from, to enable you to get an international perspective on courses. You can find more information here.

## Read the UCAS Blogs

You can search by area of interest e.g. Accommodation, Support, Applicant as well as type e.g. Undergraduate, 16-18 choices. You can find them here.

## Sign up for UCAS updates

If you're exploring your career options, from university, to higher or degree-level apprenticeships, to gap year ideas, you've come to the right place. By signing up, you'll get everything you need delivered direct to your inbox.

[Click here to sign up for student updates](#)

## What are the UCAS deadlines for the 2020/21 academic Year?

Your School or College may have its own processes and deadlines for UCAS applications. They may differ slightly, so it's best to check with them first. UCAS Deadlines for 2021 Entry

### 19 May

UCAS Undergraduate Apply opens for 2021 entry.

### 8 September

First day for receipt of completed applications.

### 15 October\*

Application deadline for courses in medicine, veterinary medicine/science, and dentistry, and courses at Oxford or Cambridge.

### 15 January\*

Equal consideration application deadline.

### 25 February

Extra opens.

### 30 June\*

Last date for applications before Clearing.

\* All 18:00 (UK time)

<https://www.ucas.com/file/75161/download?token=CoiN1V0i>



## UCAS Tariff Points

The UCAS tariff allocates a numerical score to the results you achieve in your qualification. The higher the grade you get the higher the score and how points are allocated will vary depending on whether you study A'levels or a BTEC qualification post-16.

Universities may ask for a certain number of UCAS points as part of their entry requirements to a course. If you are considering a Higher or Degree Apprenticeships, you may also be asked for a minimum number of UCAS points before you can apply for the role.

To give you an idea of how points are allocated see below:

A LEVEL	UCAS POINTS
A*	56
A	48
B	40

BTEC EXTENDED DIPLOMA	UCAS POINTS
D*D*D*	168
D*D*D	160
D*DD	152

**Why not re-visit the flow chart to see where you can find out more about Tariff Points on the UCAS website.**

**Can I still go to university if I get lower grades than hoped?** Check out the ucas tariff point calculator. You might like to explore foundation degrees!

## Where can I find advice on my personal statement?

Your personal statement is a key part of your application. It is your opportunity to say why you want to study a certain course or subject. You can show the skills and experience you may already have developed for your chosen field.

You can find advice on Personal Statements for University Applications here and often on the University course page itself. You could make a start by exploring the page dedicated to personal statements on UCAS [here](#).

Why not refer back to our Newsletter on 'Maximising Your Time' for ideas on how to enrich your personal statement.



Photo by NeONBRAND on Unsplash

## What about parents/carers who wish to support me on my journey?

A great starting point is to sign up for UCAS parent updates [here](#).

You could also explore the parent information tool [here](#).

For more detailed information for parents/carers and how they can support their child/ward there is a whole page dedicated to them on the UCAS website. This can be found [here](#).

**Why not encourage your parents to go along to any events on UCAS/applying to Higher Education that may be running at your School or College. Why not watch some of their videos on YouTube with them?**

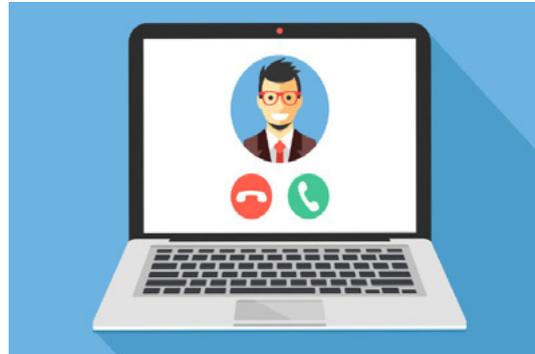
## Coronavirus (COVID-19) latest updates

During these unprecedented times you may have questions that specifically relate to the impact of Coronavirus on your application to University. UCAS are monitoring the situation closely. For support specifically during the Coronavirus outbreak they have a dedicated page on their website. Please see here.

## Ways you can follow UCAS on social Media



# Would you like a careers interview over the phone or via video?



## Do you go to one of the schools/colleges listed below? Are you considering your next steps?

You will be able to talk with a qualified Careers Adviser for an impartial, 1-1 session to help make decisions on your next steps - that could be getting advice on what to study, careers guidance, making applications, writing CVs or searching for that dream job!

### PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS/COLLEGES

- All Saints Academy ● The Academy of Central Bedfordshire
- Manshead CE Academy ● Priory Academy
- Queensbury Academy ● Samuel Whitbread Academy
- Stratton Upper School ● Vandyke Upper School ● Etonbury Academy

Funded by our school partners

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**Do stay in touch and let us know what you want to read about... and remember, you can always contact us to arrange a careers guidance appointment over the phone / video call!**

Email us on [apg@4ypuk.com](mailto:apg@4ypuk.com)



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