

ENFIELD COUNTY SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

# PROGRESSION BOOKLET

SIXTH FORM



# INTRODUCTION

At Enfield County School for Girls, our UCAS support begins in Year 12 and continues into Year 13, where we have a clear focus on progression to Universities, Apprenticeships or Traineeships. We aim to make our students aware of the plethora of choices and paths that they can choose from once finishing Sixth Form, and with the help and guidance from our Sixth Form Team, Form Tutors and Specialist staff, our students feel confident that they will receive the support that they require for whichever path they choose after completing their Post 16 Studies. We assist the students in developing their initiative and independence. We actively encourage them to aspire to apply to Universities and Apprenticeships that suit them both academically. We seek to support our pupils in developing their resilience and character through providing them with a rich and varied Enrichment Program.

## POST 16 TEAM

MR LLOYD  
MISS COWELL  
MR MATTHAI

[POST16@ENFIELDCS.ENFIELD.SCH.UK](mailto:POST16@ENFIELDCS.ENFIELD.SCH.UK)

02083633030

# HOW TO WRITE A PERSONAL STATEMENT

## Writing a Personal Statement

The personal statement is a chance for you to articulate why you'd like to study a particular course or subject, and what skills and experience you possess that show your passion for your chosen field.

1. The first very important step is to research the course description and identify the skills, experience and qualities it requires. It also helps to look up what skills are needed for the chosen profession you want to enter, and to mention these skills in your personal statement. It should be around 80% Academic and 20% personal.

2. Why do you want to study this subject area?

The University that you are applying to will receive thousands of applicants for the same course who are all passionate about their subject. In-fact, some tutors actually ban the use of 'passionate' in their statements! The best way to show that you are passionate about your subject or chosen course (without actually using the word!) is to let it become obvious from the things that you've done and by talking about what you have picked up from them. You wouldn't have done a lot of wider reading unless you were keen on something, so you can quote what you've read and say that it "led you to read" or "inspired you to read" more and then mention what that was.

3. Why are you the best person for the course? What experience, skills and achievements have you gained from education, work or activities that link with the career, course or subject area you want to continue with?

If you've done something like appropriate work experience, work shadowing, attended a special course, etc. don't just mention it, but reflect on what you got out of it and on any follow up you've done or will be doing.

4. What clubs or societies do you belong to? What skills have you developed from these? Again, you can link back to the skills that your course are looking for.

5. Have you done any work experience? Attended any taster courses? Placements? Duke of Edinburgh? Workshops? Put all these in!

# WHICH STATEMENT IS WHICH?

Look at the following examples and say what you think the strengths and weaknesses are.

Statements are usually put into piles according to the likelihood of an offer being made :

- a **DEFINITE** pile
- a **PROBABLE** pile
- a **POSSIBLE** pile
- a **REJECT** pile

The following examples show snippets of real statements that were submitted to Oxford Brookes. Which pile would you put each in?

## **Application for Business Studies and Marketing**

*I have always enjoyed Business Studies but have become interested in marketing specifically since working in a local supermarket, where the use of marketing techniques (attractive packaging, positioning of goods, advertising etc.) is all pervasive.*

*In Year 12 I have been Marketing Manager of a Young Enterprise group, a role which has tested my powers of persuasion, taught me team work and organisational skills. In Business A-level I particularly enjoy modules on advertising and human resources & taking A-level ICT now enables me to generate & analyse lots of data, including spreadsheets & sales information.*

*At school I help younger students with reading & outside school work in an old peoples' home, both of which help me develop my communication skills & understanding of other people. My main hobby is football & I play drums in a band, both of which I hope to pursue at university. I think I am a reliable & enthusiastic person & will enjoy the independence of being at university.*

## **Application for Marketing**

*I didn't do very well in my GCSEs as I wasn't very organised. I got level 5s but am working a bit harder now & hope to get Cs in my A-levels.*

*My main hobby is watching T.V., although I like Socialising & Shopping. I sometimes read books but I usually don't have much time for anything bigger than a magazine. I have a part time job on a checkout. Its really boring and people can be really rude but it pays quite well.*

*I started the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award last year but gave up when I found out that you had to go camping. If we could of stayed in hotels I would have carried on. I am a keen mountaineer & last year made the fastest ever ascent of Ben Nevis, which I enjoyed. I am generally reliable & try to get homework in on time. I want to study marketing as I want a career in marketing & to earn lots of money.*

## Application for Geology

*My early interest in Geology was fuelled by reading Down to Earth & I became an obsessive collector of the Treasures of the Earth series. When I was 14 I attended "Scottish geology Week", a fascinating 5 days of geological discovery, visiting the BGS in Edinburgh, viewing a cretaceous-tertiary boundary & looking for grapholites in Dobbs Lynn. As my school did not offer Geology GCSE, I found a private tutor & we had two years of great 1:1 study. My coursework involved a study of faulting & folding & involved two great areas for study, the North York coast & Peak District. My lab experiment investigated the different effects of acid rain on limestone & granite. "Rock Shops" have always lured me & I have collected a wide variety of specimens, my current pride & joy being a section of a Brazilian geode with amethyst crystals. I am currently looking at a study of a quarry face section of the Cleveland Dyke, near my home, & at investigating the alignment of phenocrysts & the degree of metamorphism in the host rocks.*

*I am a keen First Aider, have received four awards in National Maths competitions & play golf off a 4 handicap. My aim however is to take Geology as far as possible.*

## The Outcomes

**No 1: PROBABLE** – Not only was this application focused on the subject that they applied for, but they have shown that they are aware of what qualities are needed and what is involved. The statement is fluent and well structured, the applicant clearly picks up on things and can see their relevance and you really get the impression that this is someone who is reliable (and can spell it!), self-aware, self-disciplined and is likely to respond well to a university environment.

**No 2: REJECT** – Displays next to no knowledge about marketing and what it's really about, not even committed enough to check the form over and claims such as the Ben Nevis one (unless confirmed in the reference) can't be taken seriously.

**No 3: DEFINITE** – The student shows enthusiasm for the subject not by writing that they are passionate, but by talking about independent learning they have done, and focusing on specific areas of Geology that they enjoy, showing their knowledge of the subject (outside of their lessons and in)





# SOME MORE TOP TIPS...

## Where can I get help with my Personal Statement in School?

**UCAS surgery**– An opportunity for Sixth Form students to ask for help and advice from Ms Evans, our UCAS co-ordinator. In these sessions students can address and questions or queries about the application process and interviews. Held every Monday morning and afternoon.

**Personal Statement Workshops**– Run by the Head of Sixth Form and Head of Year 13, the workshops assist students in refining their personal statements, going through the 'Do's and Don'ts' of what to include, the best language to use and how to make you the best candidate.

**One-to-One support from Form Tutors and the Sixth Form Team**– Through form time, break times, after school and drop in sessions, students have the opportunity to gain advice and support from their form tutors and the Sixth Form Team about the UCAS application process, interview techniques and how to write an outstanding personal statement.

**Alumni Students**– Talks, Lectures and support from Alumni Students who have attended University or have completed an apprenticeship.

**Careers Clinic every Tuesday afternoon**– Led by our Careers Lead Ms Bastienne, students have the opportunity to attend a one to one careers clinics to assist them with Apprenticeships, University choices, Traineeships and interview techniques and practice. We also have a growing variety of connections with external agencies who deliver in school seminars and workshops for pupils interested in entering a wide range of vocations from banking, medicine, law, business and the arts.

**Start early**– Universities are looking to recruit good candidates and, if a strong application comes to them early, they are quite likely to want to influence that applicant to go to them by making a generous offer. In addition to this, the earlier you start, the more people you can get to read over your personal statement to check that they can follow it and feel impressed by it. If both are true, it clearly reads well.

Always talk about **SKILLS** that you have acquired and link them back to the subject/course/job that you want to do in that area.

**Don't lie**– If you haven't done something, don't put it in.

**Don't put in things from Primary School**– The University don't want to know that you were a team leader in Year 3!

**Don't direct what you say at just one University**– it may make other universities reject you because you implied you didn't want to go anywhere else.

**Don't leave it to the last minute!**

## HANDY WEBSITES

[WWW.THEUNIGUIDE.CO.UK/ADVICE/PERSONAL-STATEMENTS/WRITING-YOUR-PERSONAL-STATEMENT](http://WWW.THEUNIGUIDE.CO.UK/ADVICE/PERSONAL-STATEMENTS/WRITING-YOUR-PERSONAL-STATEMENT)

[WWW.THECOMPLETEUNIVERSITYGUIDE.CO.UK/STUDENT-ADVICE/APPLYING-TO-UNI/TIPS-FOR-WRITING-YOUR-PERSONAL-STATEMENT](http://WWW.THECOMPLETEUNIVERSITYGUIDE.CO.UK/STUDENT-ADVICE/APPLYING-TO-UNI/TIPS-FOR-WRITING-YOUR-PERSONAL-STATEMENT)

[WWW.UCAS.CO.UK](http://WWW.UCAS.CO.UK)

# EVIDENCE LOG

As mentioned before, it is important to research what skills are needed to be good at what you're applying for (a good doctor or historian etc.)

**Here are a few examples:**

**Mathematician:***logical, enjoys problem solving, patient, determined, wants to know how things work.*

**Historian:***sceptical, curious to know why things happened as they did, open-minded, empathetic, argumentative and a keen reader.*

**English specialist:***empathetic, open-minded, imaginative, avid reader, good communicator and independent thinker.*

**Scientist:***keen to know why things work as they do, to test things out, patient, determined, with good practical skills and an eye for detail.* These can easily be found by typing into google 'What skills are needed for.....' followed by your subject area and/or job profession that you want to go into

**Where can I get evidence from?**

**This is important to include in your statement as it shows that you are passionate about that subject area without writing 'I am passionate about....'**

- Reading
- Website research
- TV/radio programmes/podcasts
- Newspaper articles and editorials
- Work experience
- Work shadowing
- Free Online Courses (MOOCS, Future Learn , Coursera)
- EPQ
- The Week
- University workshops and lectures

**Once you have collected evidence to include in your personal statement remember to reflect on what you have done and what you have learned or gained from them (such as skills, knowledge about how a type of machinery or technology works e.t.c)**

## Evidence Log

Below is an evidence log for you to fill in to assist you with your personal statement writing. Remember to add what you have gained from the lectures/courses/podcasts e.t.c that you have attended or listened to. **You can also include things that you have done in school, such as been part of the Medic society or Book club.**

<b>What I have done</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>As a result I have</b>



Use the template below as a starting point for your personal statement.

PERSONAL STATEMENT NOTES	WHAT YOU HAVE DONE	WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNED/SKILLS DEVELOPED
Interest in subject – be specific about how it began/developed.		
Skills, knowledge and understanding of subject/subject area developed within school – Take each A level subject in turn. Do they link to what you want to do at University?		
Outside school – reading (most important for academic subjects), courses, work experience (important for vocational courses)		
Extra-curricular activities beyond your subject – voluntary work, local community activities, DofE, competitions, clubs		
Anything else relevant – part time work, hobbies e.t.c (only mention these if you can make them relevant to your application)		

# OXBRIDGE & RUSSELL GROUP UNIVERSITIES



At Enfield County School for Girls, we are incredibly proud of the students who have successfully joined either Oxbridge or Cambridge.

Our network of Oxbridge and Russell Group Alumni provides students with the opportunity to learn about the application and refine their personal statements according to the University course they are applying to. Students applying to these universities get 1-2-1 support from recent graduates who proof read and provide feedback on Personal Statements. These graduates, and experts in their fields, coach our pupils in the formats of Admissions Tests and interviews. This helps our pupils to develop the skills and techniques needed to excel in the admissions process for the top universities and secure offers for the most competitive places.

## **What grades do I need to get at GCSE/A Level?**

Both Oxford and Cambridge will expect you to have got mainly 7s and above at GCSE. The standard offer of a place will then be something like A\*AA at A2. There is no point applying if you are not going to get in that region of results or are not interested or committed enough to compete for them. Most who apply to Oxford and Cambridge will be predicted to get three, four or even more As at A Level. Most will still be rejected as there are on average four people applying for each place.

The Russell Group Universities published a list of skills that they wanted to see in students who applied to them.

They included –

1. Evidence of being an independent learner
2. Evidence of an ability to do research
3. Evidence of an ability to write a clear and coherent essay
4. Evidence of an ability to think critically and solve problems
5. Evidence of an ability to contribute ideas to a discussion or debate

# APPLYING TO MEDICINE



Medicine is one of the hardest subjects to get accepted for and the qualities looked for in a potential medic are personal as well as academic. A strong academic background is essential and any less than four or five 7's at GCSE would put you at a considerable disadvantage. You need to take Chemistry at A Level and preferably Biology as well, as without it there will be a number of medical schools you won't be able to apply to. You need excellent results at the end of Year 12 to remain competitive and then the potential for AAB at the end of Year 13.

According to the Dean of Medicine at Cardiff in a talk at a UCAS conference, the qualities being sought in a prospective medic are:

- 1 The potential for high academic achievement.
- 2 Evidence of a caring and committed attitude toward other people.
- 3 An understanding of the demands of medical training and practice.
- 4 An ability to communicate effectively.
- 5 A willingness to accept responsibility.
- 6 A broad range of social, cultural and/or sporting interests.

A medic must be able to cope with the academic, physical and emotional pressures of the training and the job, have strong integrity and some humility.

Anyone who applies for medicine will probably have to take one or both of the BMAT and UKCAT tests. They are taken in the autumn term of Year 13 and there will be chances to practise before the actual test. The results are usually put together with your other scores and A Level predictions to decide who will be interviewed. Whereas the interviews that take place for most other subjects are relatively straightforward and informal, the ones for medicine can be quite daunting, sometimes being conducted by a panel of interviewers rather than just on a one-to-one or now, very often, in the form of multiple mini interviews. They are a vital part of the chance to gain an offer and are the real opportunity to prove that you have the communication skills – the ability to achieve a ready rapport with others - that they are looking for.

On a UCAS application form you can usually apply for up to five courses, all of which can be the same subject. With medicine however, you are only allowed to apply for four medical courses. The fifth choice is left for a possible alternative, if you want one. This can in theory be anything, but is usually a para-medical course such as a biomedical science or pharmacy.

# HOW CAN WE HELP?

## **Links with St Georges University and Royal Free in Barnet**

St Georges University provides us with interview guidance through webinars and workshops for our medical applicants. We have alumni from ECSfG who come into school to share their experiences of success in their medical applications and studies and provide support for our next cohort of medical applicants. The Royal Free are developing a new program to assist pupils into medicine through ECSfG. This year they are beginning a Work Experience Program and Application support Program for ECSfG pupils. The program will include support with Personal Statements and Applications for aspiring medics. It will also include the offer of a weeklong work experience in the Royal Free shadowing doctors, surgeons and consultants.

## **Medics Society**

A student run, self-help society for students applying for Medicine, Nursing, Dentistry or Veterinary Science. An opportunity to share experiences, knowledge and provide peer support for pupils negotiating the medical application process.



## **Alumni Students**

Talks, Lectures and support from Alumni Students who have attended University or have completed an apprenticeship.

## **LNAT and BMAT support–**

Guidance, resources and links to external agencies provided to enable students to negotiate their way through the different processes for these Admissions Tests. In addition we deliver workshops designed to familiarise pupils with the format of the tests and to develop their skills in completing the tests to increase their chances of success. Advice is always at hand from our Careers Lead, Head of Sixth Form and former LNAT or BMAT students.

## **OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND ON:**

[WWW.UCAS.CO.UK](http://WWW.UCAS.CO.UK)

[WWW.MEDSCHOOLS.AC.UK](http://WWW.MEDSCHOOLS.AC.UK)

[WWW.PREMEDPROJECTS.CO.UK](http://WWW.PREMEDPROJECTS.CO.UK)

[WWW.THEMEDICPORTAL.COM](http://WWW.THEMEDICPORTAL.COM)

[WWW.BMA.ORG.UK](http://WWW.BMA.ORG.UK)

[WWW.HEALTHCAREERS.NHS.UK](http://WWW.HEALTHCAREERS.NHS.UK)

THE COMPLETE UNIVERSITY GUIDE

# UCAS

## TRACK OFFERS, INTERVIEWS AND TESTS

### Track

The Track system is part of UCAS: it is a way of finding out how your application is progressing and will enable you to reply to any offers you receive.

You can log into Track once you have received your welcome email from UCAS. It can be accessed via a link on the UCAS website.

You will need your ID Number, Username and Password to log onto the Track system. Please check this regularly, as all offers you get will appear on Track. UCAS will email you to the email address provided with any updates.

No one else has access to your Track, so if you need any help with the system please bring along your log in details.

### Receiving Offers

UCAS will begin to send your application to your chosen colleges or Universities as soon as they receive it. No university will know where else you have applied.

The universities/colleges will reply to your application at different times. Please do not worry if you haven't heard from a university/college straight away, some will take longer to reply than others. Some will reply within a couple of weeks, it may take others a couple of months.

### There are 5 types of reply/offer you will receive:

**Unconditional Offer**—you are offered a place regardless of what grade you achieve on your current course. This is a rare reply and normally only given when you have already gained the qualifications you need to meet the entry requirements of that course.

**Conditional Offer**— this is a common reply, where the university would like to offer you a place on the course as long as you gain the needed points/grades asked for.

**Unsuccessful**— the university is unable to offer you a place. Your Track page may give feedback to explain this decision.

**Referred**— this is a common reply, all this means is that your university is still considering your application, and has not yet made a decision.

**Withdrawn**— this will appear on Track if either you or the university has withdrawn from a course. The reason for this should be on Track – for example, not replying to correspondence from universities or not attending an interview

### Replying to Offers

You can only reply to your offers once you have received decisions from all of your choices.

**Firm acceptance**— This is your first choice. If you are holding an unconditional offer you don't have to do anything further, you're in regardless of your grades/points. If you have a conditional offer you are accepted onto that place but depending on you achieving the entry requirements.

**Insurance acceptance**— This is your second choice and is a back-up option if you don't get the grades/points you need to get into your first choice. You should not choose an insurance choice that has a higher offer (higher grades, more points) than your firm choice. However be realistic and make sure this is somewhere you would be happy to go to.

**Decline**— Once you have made your decision about your first and second choices, you will then need to decline any other offers you are holding.

Please think carefully about these decisions. You must be happy with both of these choices as you are entering into a contract situation at this point.

You can then reply via Track. You will have a deadline shown in Track to do this by – you must reply by this date. If you do not reply by the deadline then your application will automatically be rejected.

There are deadlines for replying to offers. Your reply date will depend on when your last university makes their decision, see Track for your personal reply date.

# INTERVIEWS

Applicants to Oxford or Cambridge, Medicine, Dentistry and Vet Medicine/Science will be interviewed before being made an offer.

For Social Work, Nursing, Midwifery, Healthcare Professions, Teaching and Art and Design courses it is also highly likely that you will have an interview before you are made an offer. Some other universities and courses may interview you.

If you do not attend an interview the university will withdraw their offer.

It is a good idea to research the type of questions you will be asked and to prepare some answers. Read over your personal statement and remind yourself what you have said about your experience and knowledge.

The following websites offer useful interview advice but you may wish to tips that are more specific to your course

<http://www.allaboutcareers.com/careers-advice/university-interviews/how-to-prepare-for-a-university-interview>

<http://university.which.co.uk/advice/ucas-application/university-interviews-as-told-by-students>

<https://www.studential.com/university/applying/UCAS-application-guide/interviews>

**If at this stage you don't get any offers... don't panic! You can still go to uni!**

## Admissions Tests

Some universities or courses will require you to pass a specific admissions test before you are given an offer of a place. They will inform you if this is necessary and will give you details of how to register to take the test. Each one is different so please check your information carefully and ask for help if needed.

Guidance on these tests and recommended preparation and practice tests are available online.

[www.admissionstesting.org](http://www.admissionstesting.org) – The Cambridge Assessment Admissions Tests website includes links to the BMAT and the TSA Cambridge and the TSA Oxford – Thinking Skills Assessments

[www.bmat.org.uk](http://www.bmat.org.uk) – Biomedical Admissions Test

[www.lnat.ac.uk](http://www.lnat.ac.uk) – The National Admissions Test for Law

[www.ukcat.ac.uk](http://www.ukcat.ac.uk) – UK Clinical Aptitude Test

## UCAS EXTRA

UCAS offers the Extra service for students who hold no offers before 30th June. That means you have already applied to all 5 choices, and either had 5 rejections or declined all offers you have received. Extra gives you the opportunity to add one more choice to your application.

You apply for one course at a time, through Track, and if you are unsuccessful with that place, you can apply for another.

Extra is available from the end of February until early July.

Track will let you know if you can use Extra.

## UCAS CLEARING

Clearing is a service offered by UCAS for applicants who have no offers from their course choices, have rejected any offers or do not gain the required grades.

Universities or colleges that still have places available will advertise them, and you will then be able to apply for these courses one at a time.

If you are eligible for Clearing UCAS will automatically send you Clearing details and instructions of what to do. Track will advise you if you are eligible for clearing. Clearing starts from mid-July, any late applications after the 30th June will automatically go into Clearing.

## UCAS ADJUSTMENT

When the results are announced UCAS provides a facility called Adjustment for students who exceed their offer grades. This allows students to apply to a different university/college, one you previously may not have considered as you did not think you would achieve the required grades, while keeping your original place on hold.

You have 5 days to use Adjustment from the time your original offer is confirmed.

You need to register on Track to be able to use it; the Register for Adjustment icon will only appear if you are eligible.

# FAQS

## **I've changed my mind! What can I do now?**

You are able to swap a choice for a different one in Track within 7 days of the date of your welcome email from UCAS. After these 7 days, you cannot change your choices.

If you wish to apply for somewhere completely different and you are sure you do not want any of your original choices, you can withdraw yourself from your choices and are then able to add on 1 more choice at a time through Extra. Extra is only available from 25th February to 5th July. However, once you have withdrawn from your choices you cannot return to these. This is a risky choice – you need to consider this carefully!

## **I've sent my application off, but now I want to add another choice...**

If you haven't used all of your 5 choices you can add more in Track up until 30th June. You may have to pay an extra amount to add more choices if you originally only applied for 1 choice.

If you have used all of your 5 choices you will need to wait until Extra becomes available from February onwards. You will only be able to use this service if you have either had no offers or have declined all of your 5 choices

## **I've accepted my firm and insurance offers, but now I've changed my mind about my universities. Can I do anything?**

You need to contact the universities directly to discuss this with them. If you wish to withdraw your offer of a place you need to talk about this with the university directly. Staff at school cannot do this for you. For further, more detailed advice about what you can do next contact UCAS on their student helpline number: 0871 468 0 468

## **I've got my results and they were better than predicted. Can I go to a better university?**

It's totally up to you! You can choose to use the Adjustment service available through UCAS which is for students who exceed their offer grades. This allows you to 'shop around' for an alternative course whilst still keeping your original place on hold and safe. Adjustment is available from results day and you only have 5 days to use Adjustment from the time your original offer is confirmed. To register for this you need to register for

Adjustment in Track.

## **I've got enough UCAS points for my first choice but I want to go next year instead of this year. What do I do?**

You need to contact the university directly and ask if they would consider you for next year instead and accept you as a deferred entry. (UCAS Student helpline 0871 468 0 468)

## **Can I choose to cancel a choice on my Ucas application?**

If you would like to withdraw just one of your choices, you can cancel it in Track (as long as the university has not made a decision yet). However, you cannot replace this with another choice.

## **I haven't applied, but now I've got my results I've decided that I should go to uni after all. What to do?**

You still need to apply through UCAS and fill in a complete application form to be sent to UCAS. Your application form will then go through clearing automatically. Clearing can help you to find courses with vacancies if you've applied late or your results are not as expected. Or you can Apply early in next year's application cycle (September 2021) for entry in the following year, September 2022



**I've got an offer from my first choice uni, but I want to do a different course there now?**

You can swap a choice for a different one in Track within seven days of the date on your welcome letter/email. However you can't swap a choice after 30 June, unless for exceptional reasons (like a change in family circumstances or personal problems).

If you're happy with the university or college but you'd like to change the course details, you'll need to get in touch with the university or college rather than us. You are not able to change your UCAS form once it has been sent to UCAS, but you can contact the universities you have applied to by phone to ask if they would offer you a place on a different course. The university can then put in a change of course offer through UCAS, which should show up on your Track page. If you have not used all of your 5 choices you can add on other courses to the maximum of 5 choices. You might, however, need to write a new personal statement if you are changing courses radically. As previously stated you cannot change the UCAS form, so will have to write a new personal statement which will need to be sent to each university directly. The university will also get a copy of your original personal statement on their UCAS form, so you will need to justify the change of course.

**As a BTEC student, I already know my result. Do I tell my university?** BTEC qualifications are passed on to UCAS by the examination body, but as and when they receive them rather than on a particular date. They will start receiving batches of results from BTEC at the beginning of July and this will go on until September. This means that universities will receive BTEC results on an adhoc basis. The student will receive their certificate between July and September and can pass these on to their university of choice when they receive them rather than waiting for them to be passed on by UCAS, but they will need to be verified by UCAS.

**As a BTEC student, when can I go into Clearing?**

It's available July-September each year, when a specific Clearing course vacancy search will be available. If you already have your results certificate, but you have no offers, you can use Clearing from July. If you had conditional offers, but your exam results failed to meet these, you can use Clearing as soon as you get your results from July.

**What do I do if I've missed something off my application form and need to get it back?**

Once it has been sent to UCAS, you cannot get it back, or make any changes. Make sure you check and recheck, before you send it. If you have noticed a serious mistake then please speak to us and we will advise you how to proceed.

**UCAS STUDENT HELPLINE 08714680468**

# APPRENTICESHIPS

University is not the right pathway for everyone, but sometimes it takes courage to take an alternative route. You may have heard a great deal about apprenticeships, but are not convinced that it is a viable alternative. Doing your homework may change your mind.

## What is an Apprenticeship?

It is a real job where you learn as you earn, often at a college, University, or with a training provider. You can start from the age of 16, but there are no age limits. It can take one to six years to complete, depending on the apprenticeship. There are hundreds of different apprenticeships across a wide range of industries.

Deciding what to do before embarking on an apprenticeship, it is worth taking the time to talk to your young person about what interests them. Going to events such as WorldSkillsUK and Big Bang Fairs can open their eyes to a whole world of careers and jobs they may not even know exists. Getting inspired and being passionate is the key to success. You don't know what you don't know.

For many young people, going to University just does not appeal. Rather than falling in step, investigate what the options are. If it is inspiration you need, CareerMap publishes CareerMag with plenty of quality independent information about different careers and qualifications, dispelling many myths that exist. And if wearing a cap and gown is important, consider a Degree Apprenticeship. A Degree Apprenticeship offers training on the job whilst gaining a full diploma, but without the debt. Once the apprenticeship is completed, most get a job straight away with their employers. Imagine competing for a job with up to six years' work experience with a degree and no debt! It will make your young person very employable in a competitive market.

## How do I find an apprenticeship opportunity?

The Government has set up the Register of Apprenticeship Training Providers to ensure universities, colleges and learning providers provide quality apprenticeship training. The full list of available apprenticeships available near you can be found at [www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk](http://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk). You can either apply for Degree Apprenticeships on the UCAS website or direct with an employer or learning provider.

Careers are no longer a linear path. A young person will typically have five or more careers in a lifetime. Whichever path you take, the more experience and skills you gain along the way, and the more successful future you will have.

## LINKS

<https://careermap.co.uk/CareerMag>  
<https://worldskillsuk.org> Big Bang Fairs  
<https://nearme.thebigbangfair.co.uk>  
[www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk](http://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk)  
<https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk>  
<https://www.getmyfirstjob.co.uk>

# USEFUL WEBSITES

18	Useful websites	University	Advanced, higher or degree apprenticeship	FE College at 18 inc further education	Work with training/study	Gap year	Internships and work placements	Free online courses run by Universities	Job
	<p><a href="http://www.bes.tcourse4me.com">http://www.bes.tcourse4me.com</a> Gives help with A level, degree and career choices.</p> <p><a href="https://my.sacu.edu/student.com/sacustudent/?p=5">https://my.sacu.edu/student.com/sacustudent/?p=5</a> <b>ACU_BROWSE:31:0</b> What A Levels do I choose and what degree course can I study with my choice of A Levels?</p> <p><a href="http://www.uca.edu.com">http://www.uca.edu.com</a> All university information and websites.</p> <p><a href="http://www.tomorrowsengineers.org.uk">http://www.tomorrowsengineers.org.uk</a></p>	<p><a href="http://www.apprenticeships.org.uk">http://www.apprenticeships.org.uk</a> Gives access to the national apprenticeships database and general information.</p> <p><a href="https://www.getmyfirstjob.co.uk">https://www.getmyfirstjob.co.uk</a> Gives information about a range of apprenticeships available in over 170 industries.</p> <p><a href="https://resources.amazingapprenticeships.com/live-broadcasts/">https://resources.amazingapprenticeships.com/live-broadcasts/</a> Live Broadcasts about potential apprenticeship opportunities.</p> <p><a href="https://findapprenticeshiptraining.sfa.bis.gov.uk/">https://findapprenticeshiptraining.sfa.bis.gov.uk/</a> A brilliant search portal for all apprenticeships and you can search for all providers on here — some national ones will deliver regionally.</p>	<p><a href="https://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk">https://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk</a> The Not Going to Uni team are here to help you find apprenticeships, college courses or work experience to start building your future.</p> <p><a href="http://www.tomorrowsengineers.org.uk">http://www.tomorrowsengineers.org.uk</a> Gives information on everything to do with engineering careers.</p> <p><a href="http://www.totaljobs.com/">http://www.totaljobs.com/</a> Paid work: <a href="http://www.monster.co.uk">www.monster.co.uk</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.cv-library.co.uk/">http://www.cv-library.co.uk/</a> Link to FE colleges <a href="http://findfe.com/">http://findfe.com/</a></p>	<p><a href="https://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk">https://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk</a> The Not Going to Uni team are here to help you find apprenticeships, college courses or work experience to start building your future.</p> <p><a href="http://www.tomorrowsengineers.org.uk">http://www.tomorrowsengineers.org.uk</a> Gives information on everything to do with engineering careers.</p> <p><b>Paid work:</b> <a href="http://www.monster.co.uk">www.monster.co.uk</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.totaljobs.com/">www.totaljobs.com/</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.cv-library.co.uk/">http://www.cv-library.co.uk/</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.gov.uk/jobsearch">www.gov.uk/jobsearch</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.jobsite.co.uk/">www.jobsite.co.uk/</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.jobsgopublic.com/">www.jobsgopublic.com/</a></p>	<p><a href="http://www.statravel.co.uk">www.statravel.co.uk</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.gapyear.com">https://www.gapyear.com</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.etrust.org.uk/the-year-in-industry">http://www.etrust.org.uk/the-year-in-industry</a></p> <p><a href="https://yearoutgroup.org/">https://yearoutgroup.org/</a></p>	<p><a href="https://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk">https://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk</a> The Not Going to Uni team are here to help you find apprenticeships, college courses or work experience to start building your future.</p> <p><a href="http://www.tomorrowsengineers.org.uk">http://www.tomorrowsengineers.org.uk</a> Gives information on everything to do with engineering careers.</p> <p><a href="https://www.pwc.co.uk/careers/school-jobs/jobs/work-experience.html">https://www.pwc.co.uk/careers/s/school-jobs/jobs/work-experience.html</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.kpmgcareers.co.uk/apprenticeship/">https://www.kpmgcareers.co.uk/apprenticeship/</a></p>	<p><a href="https://www.futurelearn.com/">https://www.futurelearn.com/</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.coursera.org/">https://www.coursera.org/</a></p>	<p><a href="https://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk">https://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk</a> The Not Going to Uni team are here to help you find apprenticeships, college courses or work experience to start building your future.</p> <p><a href="http://www.monster.co.uk">www.monster.co.uk</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.totaljobs.com/">www.totaljobs.com/</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.cv-library.co.uk/">http://www.cv-library.co.uk/</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.gov.uk/jobsearch">www.gov.uk/jobsearch</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.jobsite.co.uk/">www.jobsite.co.uk/</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.jobsgopublic.com/">www.jobsgopublic.com/</a></p>	

# USEFUL WEBSITES

	<p>Gives information on everything to do with engineering careers.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.tomorrowseengineers.org.uk">http://www.tomorrowseengineers.org.uk</a>          Gives information on everything to do with engineering careers.</p>		<p><a href="http://www.jobs.nhs.uk/ind ex.html">www.jobs.nhs.uk/ind ex.html</a>  <a href="http://www.indeed.co.uk/">http://www.indeed.co.uk/</a>  <b>Part-time education</b>  <a href="http://findfe.com/">http://findfe.com/</a></p>		<p><a href="http://www.jobs.nhs.uk/index.html">www.jobs.nhs.uk/index.html</a>  <a href="http://www.indeed.co.uk/">http://www.indeed.co.uk/</a></p>		
					<p><a href="http://www.jobs.nhs.uk/index.html">www.jobs.nhs.uk/index.html</a>  <a href="http://www.indeed.co.uk/">http://www.indeed.co.uk/</a></p>			
				<p><a href="http://www.jobs.nhs.uk/index.html">www.jobs.nhs.uk/index.html</a>  <a href="http://www.indeed.co.uk/">http://www.indeed.co.uk/</a></p>				

ANOTHER SOURCE OF CAREERS ADVICE AND GUIDANCE THE NATIONAL CAREERS SERVICE – FOR 13-18 YEAR OLDS

ONLINE THROUGH  
[HTTPS://NATIONALCAREERSERVICE.DIRECT.GOV.UK/PAGES/HOME.ASPX](https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk/pages/home.aspx)