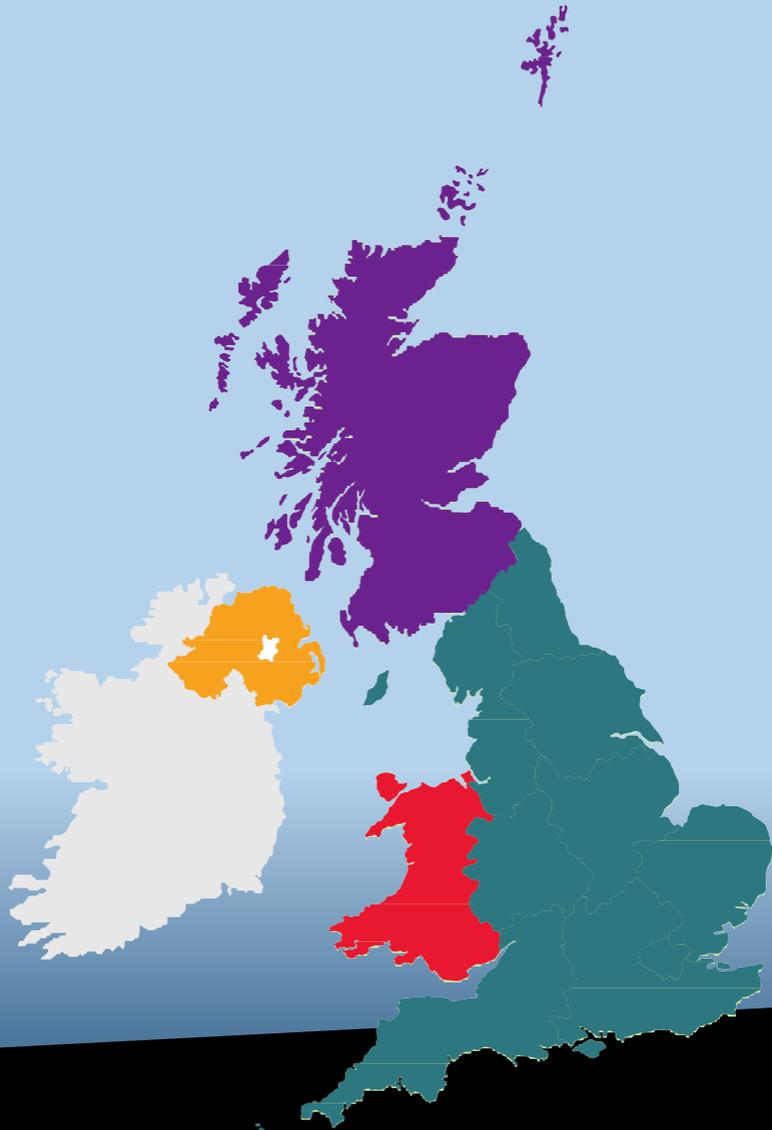




Applying to Higher Education
Entry 2021

Course providers



350+ universities and colleges:

- **4** in **Northern Ireland**
- **15** in **Wales**
- **19** in **Scotland**
- **324** in **England**
- **one** in mainland **Europe**

at the time of checking

• **35,000+** courses available

UCAS

Choices available



Higher education



Apprenticeships/traineeships



Studying abroad



Gap year



Getting a job

Understand the options available: ucas.com

Apprenticeship advice

UCAS has [apprenticeship advice](#) to help students make informed decisions about their post-16 and post-18 opportunities.

Find out about:

- the different types of apprenticeships
- how to find and apply for apprenticeships
- preparing for the application and interview process

Go to ucas.com/understanding-apprenticeships.

25%

of applicants declining all offers in 2019 told UCAS they had chosen an **apprenticeship** instead.

Why higher education?

Opportunities while studying:

- ✓ Chance to study a subject they are passionate about.
- ✓ Achieve a qualification that could lead to their chosen career.
- ✓ Grow in confidence, make lifelong friends, and gain independence and important life skills that will widen their prospects.

With a degree, they'll have:

- ✓ the opportunity to follow their career path
- ✓ better job prospects, as many employers target graduates
- ✓ higher earning potential

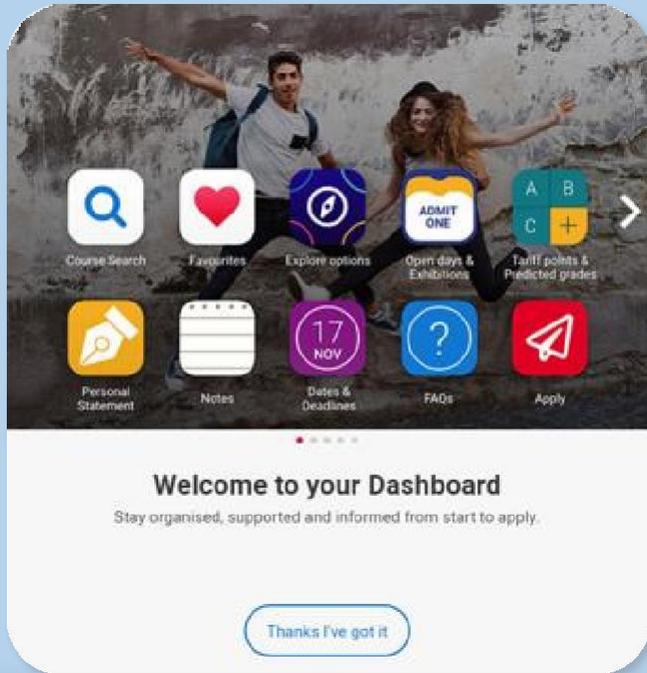
Choosing the right university for you

- **Style** – from traditional, with a focus on subject-based courses and research, to modern universities with a greater focus on vocational courses.
- **Location** – some are based in large cities, others in smaller towns. This can have a major influence on the environment and lifestyle on offer.
- **Size** – larger universities can have more than 20,000 students, whereas some of the smallest have only a few thousand.
- **Culture and facilities** – influenced by a range of factors, including the diversity of students who attend.
- **What graduates do** – all universities collect destination statistics. It can be interesting to find out the types of jobs or further study students go on to.
- **Tuition fees** – vary between course providers. Check if there are any scholarships/bursaries available.
- **Living costs** – accommodation, transport, and food can vary enormously.

Choosing the right course for you

- What does the course cover?
- Courses with the same title may be very different.
- Look carefully at the core course content, and the range of optional studies/modules available.
- Which modules are the most interesting and relevant to career aspirations?
- See if the course or university/college offers any internship, placement, or study abroad opportunities.
- How is the course taught – structured teaching, or more independent research? How many lectures are there, and how much group work will be done in seminars?
- How is the course assessed?

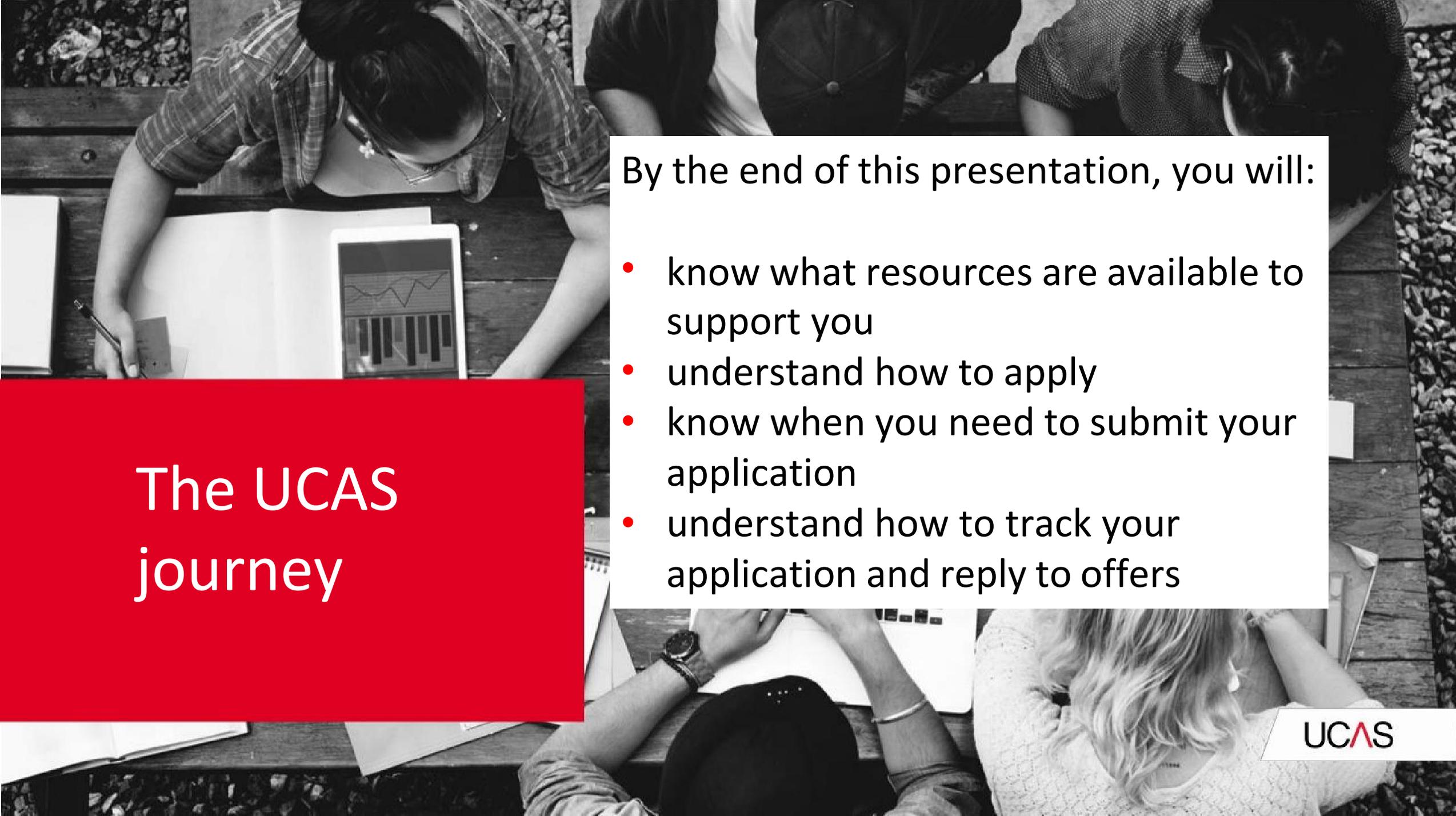
Before you apply...



Register in the UCAS Hub to explore your options, such as:

- find and favourite over 35,000 courses
- search for virtual tours and online events
- turn predicted grades into Tariff points

Go to: ucas.com/hub



The UCAS journey

By the end of this presentation, you will:

- know what resources are available to support you
- understand how to apply
- know when you need to submit your application
- understand how to track your application and reply to offers

Application process

- 1 Applicant researches and chooses courses.
- 2 Registers online with UCAS Undergraduate Apply.
- 3 Completes application, and processes payment.
- 4 Reference added by referee (subject teachers/mentors).
- 5 Centre/applicant sends application electronically to UCAS.
- 6 UCAS processes application and sends to chosen provider(s).
- 7 Decisions made (offer or unsuccessful).
- 8 Applicant views decisions in Track.
- 9 Applicant replies to offers.
- 10 Place confirmed.

Key

Black- applicant

Red-school

Green- UCAS

Blue-University/college

Apply 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:

- One choice – £20
- Two to five choices – £25

UCAS Deadlines

- 15 October 2020 for 2021 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.
- 15 January 2021 for 2021 entry at 18:00 (UK time) – for the majority of courses.



Entry requirements

- Available on University websites
- Available on UCAS

Requirements and how to apply

Entry requirements

Typical offers require one of the following:

- 'A' Level
 - Grades ABB (Computer Science, Mathematics and Physics preferred) or 128 UCAS tariff points
 - Reduced offers may be available to some applicants.
- Tariff
 - 120 UCAS tariff points
- IB
 - 32 points, including 6 in all higher subjects.
- BTEC
 - IT/Numerate Subjects only. IT (Software Development) preferred at D*DD.
- Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)
 - We welcome applications that include the EPQ. Where relevant, this may be included in our offer, resulting in an 'A' Level offer reduced by one grade.
- Mixed qualifications
 - We do accept applications from students who are completing a combination of qualifications. For this course, this would be something like: D* in IT with a grade B in 'A' Level Computer Science and a grade B in another 'A' Level. We may also take 'AS' Level grades into consideration.

In addition, the following is required:

- GCSE English Language at grade 4 and Mathematics at grade 6 (C in English, B in Mathematics) or equivalents.

For help with the new UCAS tariff please visit the [UCAS Tariff Calculator](#)

Tariff Points

A Level v's Cambridge Technicals Tariff Points



A Level		Cambridge Technicals	
Grade	Tariff Points	Grade	Tariff Points
A*	56	D*	56
A	48	D	48
B	40		
C	32	M	32
D	24		
E	16	P	16

Grading – Pass, Merit, Distinction, Distinction*

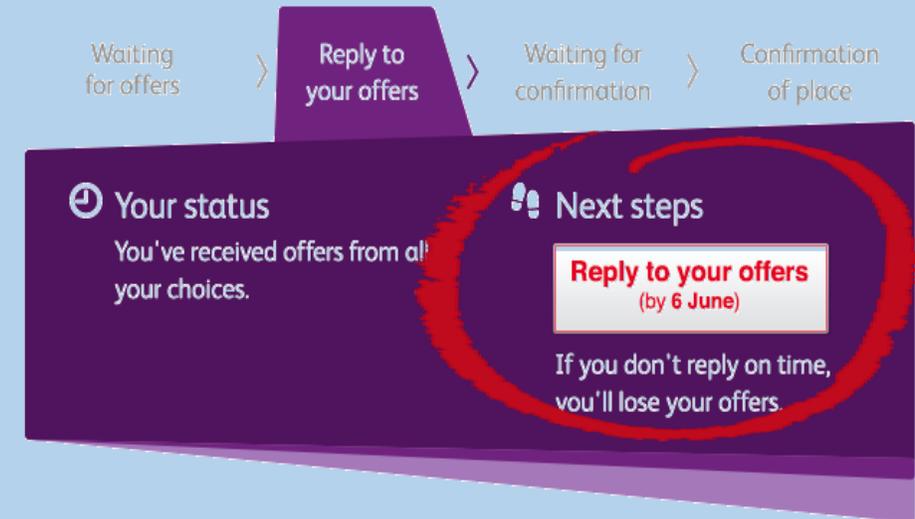
What happens next?

- Universities will read and review applications
- If successful, applicants normally receive a Conditional Offer because they are still completing qualifications.
- They can be expressed in:
 - UCAS tariff points (50 points)
 - Grades (ABB in A-levels)
 - Specific Subjects (A in Biology)
- Combination of all (50 points, including an A in Biology)

Tracking applications

Track allows applicants to:

- follow the progress of their application 24/7
- see their choices and personal information
- view their offers
- reply to offers online



In Track, a student can hold up to two offers:

- **firm** – if they meet the conditions of the offer they will be placed here
- **insurance** –if they are not placed with their firm choice, they may be placed with their insurance choice

Replies to offers

Once you have decisions on all your choices, you can hold a maximum of two offers:

- one as a 'firm' acceptance – your first choice
- the other as an 'insurance' acceptance. This acts as a back-up if you do not get into your 'firm' choice

You must then decline any remaining offers.

Once all your decisions and replies have been made, if you are not holding an offer, you may be able to use Extra or Clearing to find available places. See www.ucas.com for more information.

Other options

Extra (25 Feb – 4 Jul)

- Used all five choices and had no offers.
- Add Extra choices for consideration one at a time in Track.

Clearing (5 Jul – 19 Oct)

- Apply after 30 June, receive no offers, decline all offers, not met conditions.
- Find vacancies from July, and add one choice in Track.

Adjustment (up to five days in Aug)

- Placed with firm choice, and did better than expected.
- Register in Track, then find another university or college. The new university or college adjusts the record.



Completing the UCAS application

2021 apply Welcome

<Log out

Welcome

Welcome

Your Personal ID is:

Please make a note of this number and keep it handy. You will need to quote this number if you call our Customer Contact Centre.

Need guidance? Watch the video advice below [\[Hide video\]](#).

Apply 2021 English < Share

HOW TO GUIDES

APPLY

UCAS

(Unable to view videos here? You can watch them at www.ucas.com/connect/videos instead)

Verify your email address
Your email address needs to be verified as valid before you send your application to us.
[Please click here to verify your email address](#)

Before starting your application, please read through the relevant information below regarding:

- [completing your application](#)
- [applicants applying through a school, college or organisation](#)
- [applicants applying as an individual](#)
- [deadlines for submitting your application](#)

Sections

1. Personal details
 2. Additional information
 3. Student Finance
 4. Choices
 5. Education
 6. Employment
 7. Personal statement (on word for now).
 8. Pay/send
 9. mentor adds reference
- UCAS
- Universities/colleges

Initial deadlines before the summer holidays

- Sections 1,2,3, 5 and 6 will need to be completed by June 12th- the sixth form team will be checking this on the 13th June.
- Your first draft of your personal statement will need to be emailed to your mentor by July 8th.

Now it's time to register. For each section follow the information on each slide and watch the video if necessary.

How to apply – what you have to do?

Follow the below link and click on **‘Register’**. Read each section and click next.

<https://2021.undergrad.apply.ucas.com/appreg/SecurityServlet>

Give your own personal email address and one you will look at regularly. Ensure you have a sensible email address as Universities will be seeing this eventually.

Make sure when asked how you are applying that you select **‘Through my school/college’** you will then be asked for the schools Buzzword which will link your application to the school.

The buzzword is: **Solomon21**

Make sure you keep a record of your Personal ID given to you.

The screenshot shows the UCAS 2021 apply website. At the top, there is a red banner with '2021 apply' and 'Register and log in'. Below the banner, there is a navigation menu with 'Home > Register and log in'. The main content area is divided into two sections: 'Log in' and 'Register'. The 'Log in' section has a heading 'Log in' and a sub-heading 'If you have already registered, please enter your username and password below to log in. You must enter your username in lower case and your password in the same case you used to register.' There are input fields for 'Username' and 'Password', a 'log in' button, and a link for 'Forgotten login?'. The 'Register' section has a heading 'Register' and a sub-heading 'If you have not registered for 2021 entry, please click the 'register' button to use this service. You only need to register once. If you apply more than once in a cycle your application fee will not be refunded.' There is a 'register' button. On the left side, there is a sidebar with 'What is Apply?', 'Help', and a language dropdown set to 'English'. Below that is a 'Key' section with a 'Help' link. At the bottom, there is a footer with 'Version 16.0.1-master-2', 'About us | Terms & conditions | Privacy policy', and '© UCAS 2020'.

1.

Personal details

- Very straightforward to complete this section.
- You do not need to put in your passport details or complete the 'References number' section.

Student support: please select-

Fee code 02 UK, ChI, IoM or EU student finance services

Student support arrangements select 'Redbridge'

Make sure you only tick section completed if the whole section is complete, otherwise click on save

The screenshot shows a 'Student support' section of a form. It includes a dropdown menu for 'Fee code*' with the selected value '02 UK, ChI, IoM or EU student finance services' and a help icon. Below it is a text input field for 'Student support arrangements' containing 'Redbridge', with a 'see list' button and a help icon. A note explains that this field is only available for the selected fee code. Two questions follow, each with a dropdown menu and a help icon: 'Have you ever lived or worked in the EU (excluding the UK), European Economic Area (EEA) or Switzerland?' and 'Do you have a parent, step parent, spouse or civil partner who is an EU (excluding the UK), EEA or Swiss national?'. Both questions are marked with an asterisk.

2.

Additional information

- Activities in Preparation for Higher Education:
- You all attended an open day at the City University of London on the 11th December 2019- this can be mentioned in your application.
- If you have attended any further open days or University lectures please mention this.



3.

Student Finance

- Read this section carefully and click 'yes'



4.

Choices

- It is important that you start looking at different courses and Universities now.
- If there are some Universities you are certain you will be applying to feel free to add them into this section however do not rush, the application will not be sent off until October 2020 (medicine & dentistry students) or January 2021(all remaining students).
- Ensure you check the entry requirements very carefully. For example if a course mentions you need a grade 6 in English at GCSE but you got a grade 5 do not apply, you will be wasting a choice as you will be declined.
- <https://www.optimisingfutures.co.uk/single-post/2020/03/24/Choosing-what-to-study-at-university---its-not-an-impossible-challenge>

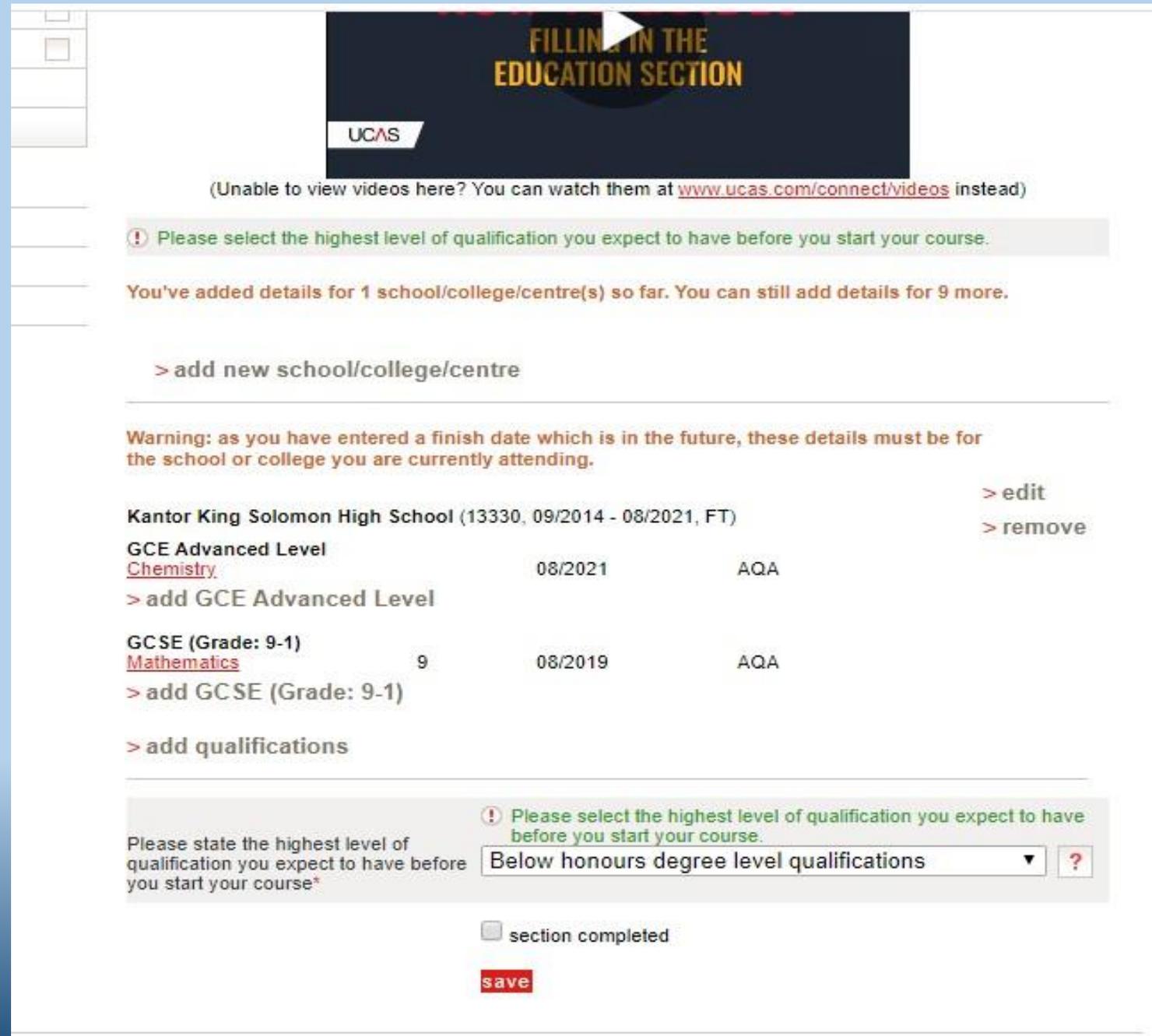
5.

Education

- This information needs to be accurate: all qualifications will be checked. Ensure the exam board is correct e.g AQA/OCR etc
- If you completed your GCSE's at a different school this must be listed.
- Your start date would have been September 2014 and your completion date is August 2021 if you studied at KS since Year 7. If you joined in the Sixth Form your start date will be September 2019 and completion date August 2021. You must then add in your previous school with a start date of September 2014 and end date of August 2019 and list your GCSE results.
- Finally you must list your three a-level subjects (four if you study four) and when asked for your grade please select '*pending*' I will add your predicted grades once subject teachers have passed them onto me. Ensure the exam boards you list are accurate, if you are unsure of the exam board please look on the KSHS website:
<https://kshsonline.uk/sixth-form/curriculum/>
- **Please see the next slide with an example of how this section should look.**

Education

- You will notice I have listed the school with the start year and completion date.
- As mentioned if you did not attend KS during Years 7-11 you must select your previous school and list the GCSE's under this school.
- I have listed one of The GCSE results, grade and completion date.
- For the A-level subject you will notice no grade, this is because you must select pending allowing me to add your predicted grade at a later date.
- For the last section please select 'Below honours degree level qualifications'



FILL IN THE EDUCATION SECTION

UCAS

(Unable to view videos here? You can watch them at www.ucas.com/connect/videos instead)

⚠ Please select the highest level of qualification you expect to have before you start your course.

You've added details for 1 school/college/centre(s) so far. You can still add details for 9 more.

> add new school/college/centre

Warning: as you have entered a finish date which is in the future, these details must be for the school or college you are currently attending.

Kantor King Solomon High School (13330, 09/2014 - 08/2021, FT)				> edit
GCE Advanced Level				> remove
<u>Chemistry</u>		08/2021	AQA	
> add GCE Advanced Level				
GCSE (Grade: 9-1)				
<u>Mathematics</u>	9	08/2019	AQA	
> add GCSE (Grade: 9-1)				
> add qualifications				

⚠ Please select the highest level of qualification you expect to have before you start your course.

Please state the highest level of qualification you expect to have before you start your course* ?

section completed

save

6.

Employment

- If you've had any paid jobs – full-time or part-time – here's where you can enter details for up to five of them. Include company names, addresses, job descriptions and start/finish dates.
- Mention any unpaid or voluntary work in your personal statement.

7

The personal statement

You will complete your personal statement on Word and will not add it to UCAS until the personal statement is complete so therefore do not write in this section for now.

UCAS' similarity detection service: every personal statement is run through software to check for plagiarism.



The only section you have full control over



Your only chance to market themselves individually



The same for all of your choices



A maximum of 4,000 characters, or 47 lines



A minimum of 1,000 characters



There isn't a spelling or grammar check



No formatting is allowed

Why is the Personal Statement important?

- Provide evidence of skills needed for the course
- Prove interest in the subject
- Demonstrate your abilities as an independent learner
- Show your passion for and commitment to your subject area
- Stand out from the crowd
- Could be the basis of an interview



What do admissions tutors look for?

- Do they meet the entry requirements?
- Genuine interest
- Enthusiasm for the course
- Will they be able to cope with the academic demands of the course?
- Skills developed



Personal statement checklist

- ✓ Reasons for course/subject choice
- ✓ What you enjoy in any related subjects now
- ✓ Interests/current affairs/reading around the subject
- ✓ Career goals/what hope to gain
- ✓ Extra curricular activities/hobbies
- ✓ School/college experience – positions of responsibility
- ✓ Involvement in Higher Education activities
- ✓ Work experience/employment
- ✓ Skills relevant to the course
- ✓ Gap year information, if applicable

Personal statement

Please click on the link and read each section carefully, this is the most important part of your application:

- <https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/applying-university/how-write-ucas-undergraduate-personal-statement>
- Please click on the below link and read carefully, this will really support you well with your personal statement and how you can stand out from the rest.
- <https://www.optimisingfutures.co.uk/single-post/2020/04/06/Writing-your-Personal-Statement-during-the-COVID-19-Lockdown-%E2%80%93-impossible-Of-course-not>

Personal statement examples

- <https://www.studential.com/personal-statement-examples>
- <https://universitycompare.com/personal-statement-examples/>
- ***** You will have plenty of support with your personal statement as long as you stick to the school deadlines of when you need to submit each draft to your mentor *****
- Your first draft will be due on July 8th.

A guide to student finance



UCAS

Security marking: PUBLIC

Student Finance England

Student Finance England (SFE) provide financial support on behalf of the UK Government to students from England entering higher education in the UK.

- The two main costs you'll have while studying are **tuition fees** and **living costs**
- There's student finance available to help students with both*
- Depending on your circumstances, course and where you study, you may be able to get a range of financial help and support

**Full time students. Part-time students can get tuition fee and DSA support from SFE*

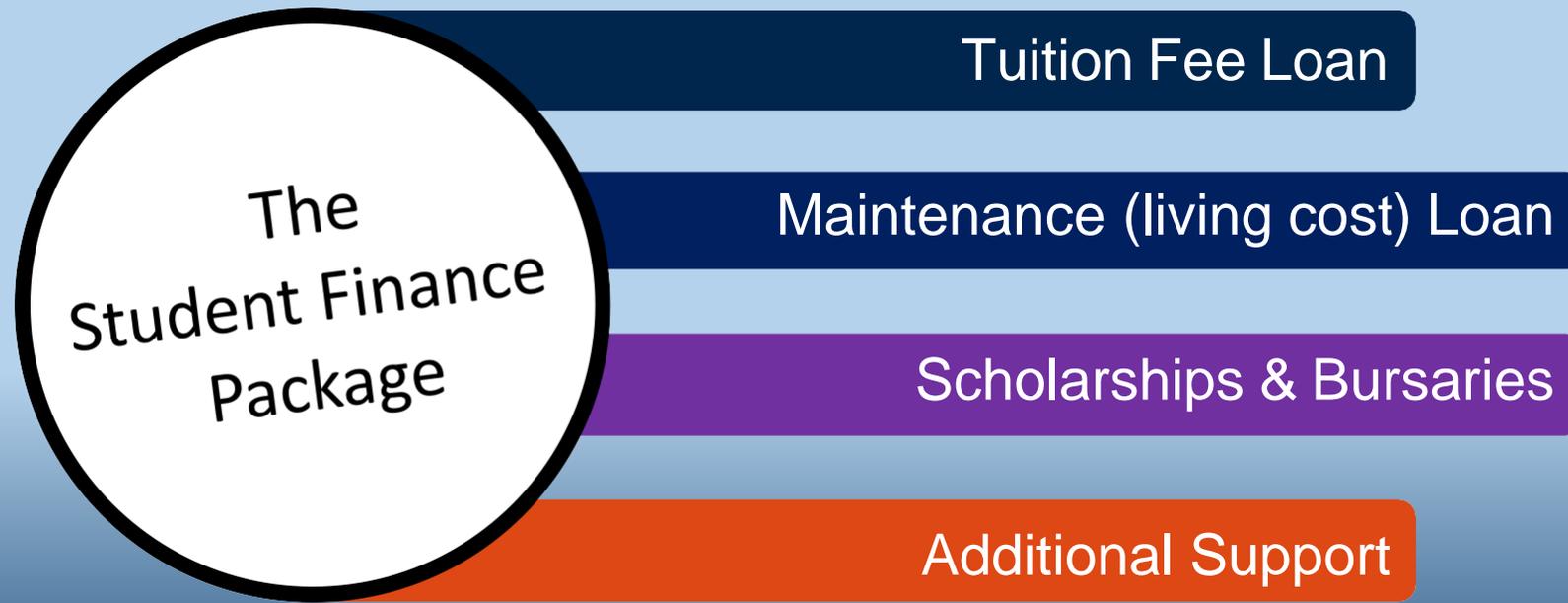
Student Finance England

Students need to meet certain residency criteria in order to be eligible for financial support from SFE:

- **Settled status** – can live in the UK without any Home Office restriction
- **Ordinarily resident** in England on the first day of the first academic year of their course
- Been living in the **UK for the three years** immediately prior to this date
- Tuition Fee Loans only for European Union (EU) students, who do not meet the **five year** UK residency requirements for maintenance support
- EU students must have lived **within the EEA or Switzerland for 3 years** prior to the first day of the first academic year of their course

- You can call SFE on **0300 100 0607** if you are unsure

The Student Finance Package



Tuition Fees in the UK

- Tuition fees for 2019/20 have been confirmed as a maximum **£9,250** for the first year
- This **could** change year by year throughout the course
- Fees are **different** in every country of the UK
- Tuition fees are covered by a tuition fee **loan**.



Tuition Fee Loan

- Eligible students **won't** have to pay any tuition fees up front
- You **don't** have to borrow the whole amount
- A **Tuition Fee Loan** is available to cover the fee charged by a university or college*
- A Tuition Fee Loan **does not** depend on household income
- SFE pay the Tuition Fee Loan directly to your university or college
- The loan is **repayable**, but only when your income is over £26,575 a year

**Up to £9,250 for full-time courses at a publicly-funded university or college or up to £6,935 for approved courses at private providers.*

Maintenance Loan

- A **Maintenance Loan** is available to help with your **living costs** while in higher education e.g. accommodation, books, clothes, travel etc.
 - All eligible students can get some maintenance support – it is up to the **student** how much you borrow.
 - The amount of Maintenance Loan you can get depends on where you live and study, and sometimes the income of your parent(s)
 - Maintenance Loan is paid directly into your bank account **each term**
 - The loan is **repayable**, but only when you have left university and you're income is over £26,575 a year.

Maintenance Loan – 2020/21

Household Income	Home (£58,222)	Elsewhere (£62,249)	London (£69,977)
£25,000 & under	£7,747	£9,203	£12,010
£30,000	£7,095	£8,544	£11,340
£35,000	£6,442	£7,884	£10,670
£40,000	£5,789	£7,225	£10,000
£45,000	£5,137	£6,565	£9,330
£50,000	£4,484	£5,905	£8,659
£55,000	£3,831	£5,246	£7,989
£60,000	£3,410	£4,586	£7,319
£65,000	£3,410	£4,289	£6,649
£70,000	£3,410	£4,289	£5,981

Extra Support

Bursaries:

- Usually linked to personal circumstances and often, household income
- Awards can include discounted tuition fees, accommodation or cash

Scholarships:

- Usually linked to academic results or ability in an area such as sport or music
- Can be subject specific and are usually limited in numbers

Check the university's website to find out more about what you can apply for.

If you leave the **'share my information with the university'** box ticked on your SFE application, you will be automatically considered for most bursaries.

Extra Support

- If you have a disability, learning difficulty or mental health condition you may be able to get financial support from SFE called the **Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA)**
- This money is not usually given directly to you - it is there to **pay for the services or equipment** you need to study e.g. 1 to 1 support
- There have been cuts to DSA - universities are now putting in place their own support to replace the cuts so check their websites
- This **does not have to be paid back**
- Full details can be found at www.gov.uk/studentfinance

Repayments

- You won't make repayments until your income is over **£26,575** a year
- If you study a full-time course, you will be due to start repaying in the April after graduating or leaving higher education
- You'll repay **9% of your income** over £26,575 and if you're employed deductions will be made from your pay through the HMRC tax system
- If your income falls to £26,575 or below your repayments will stop
- Any outstanding loan balance will be **cancelled** 30 years after entering repayment

Repayments

If you are earning under £26,575, you will not have to pay any money back.

Income each year before tax	9% will be deducted from	Monthly repayment (Approx)
£26,575	£0	£0
£30,000	£3,425	£25
£40,000	£13,425	£100
£50,000	£23,425	£175
£60,000	£33,425	£250

Average graduate salary = **£22,750** (HESA 2016-17)

Interest

- Interest is charged on the loan **even while the student is studying**
- The amount charged is based on RPI
- **RPI** - The Retail Price Index, RPI, is a measure of UK inflation. It measures changes to the cost of living in the UK
- The interest rate is updated once a year in September, using the RPI from March of that year
- <https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/news/loans/2018/08/student-loan-interest-rates-and-repayment-thresholds-to-rise>

Interest



The interest rate is updated once a year using the RPI figure from March which is carried forward and applied in September

How to apply

- Apply online www.gov.uk/studentfinance from the beginning of February in Year 13
- **Apply by around 25 May at the latest**
- Apply as soon as possible – you do not need to wait until you have a confirmed place to apply as you can change your details later
- You can cancel your application easily if you decide not to go to university or defer your entry
- Students fill out their section and then their parent(s) will fill out their part

Parents will need

If supporting an student finance application that depends on household income, SFE will need details of your taxable income and National Insurance number:

If you're the parent of a student and live with your partner, they'll also have to give us details of their taxable income and National Insurance Number

Taxable earned income includes:

- wages, salaries, tips, and other taxable employee pay
- net earnings from self-employment

Taxable unearned income includes:

- interest from savings (only the annual summary is required)
- benefits and pensions

Ask student finance if you are not sure what counts in these categories

Managing your money

- Buy a 16 to 25 Railcard/Student Bus Pass/NUS Card
- If you are taking a car, be aware some universities charge a lot of money to rent a parking space or don't allow them at all
- Create a budget and stick to it -Plan incoming money and outgoings, including things like accommodation, phone bills, books, course costs e.g. materials, birthday and Christmas money, part time jobs
- Use two bank accounts, one for your student loan and one for spending -transfer yourself money weekly
- Put some money away over the summer for Freshers' Week

Top tips for students

- Largely ignore the media
- Seek out expert, non-partial advice (someone like Martin Lewis)
- Remember that Student Finance can change every year
- Check out what you're eligible for
- Make sure to share details with universities – there may be more free money than you know about!
- Stick to Student Finance deadlines

Student Finance contacts

Student Finance England

T: 0300 100 0607

W: www.gov.uk/studentfinance or
www.thestudentroom.co.uk/studentfinance

City, University of London

W: www.city.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/funding-and-financial-support

UCAS- KSHS deadlines

Timeline

- 20th May deadline for all subject references (subject teachers)
- 12th June- The following sections of your application should be completed- Personal details (1) , additional information (2), student finance (3) Education (5) and for now current employment if any (6)
- Personal statement 1st draft- Oxbridge, Medicine, dentistry, veterinary and selected students to Ms Shutz – Wednesday 8th July.
- Personal statement 1st draft- to your sixth form mentor- Wednesday 8th July (see email addresses on next slide)
- Personal statement- Friday 11th September- 2nd draft to sixth form mentor
- Personal statement- Friday 11th September 2nd draft to Ms Shutz- selected students (Ms Shutz to set final deadline for this group of students)
- Personal statement- Thursday 1st October 3rd draft to sixth form mentor
- Personal statement- Tuesday 3rd November- 4th draft/final draft- sixth form mentor
- Personal statement & application- Monday 9th November- Final check- mentor/ SLT/ Head of Sixth Form
- UCAS application complete Friday 4th December

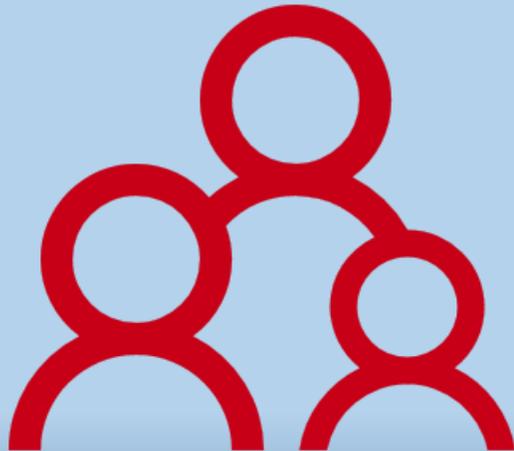
Further UCAS support

- <https://www.ucas.com/ucas/events/find/scheme/virtual-and-digital?keywords> Virtual University Open Day
- Unibuddy- as mentioned previously this gives you an opportunity to speak to students studying degrees at present that may be of interest to you: <https://www.ucas.com/chat-to-students>
- What are my options? <https://www.ucas.com/what-are-my-options>

Staff contacts

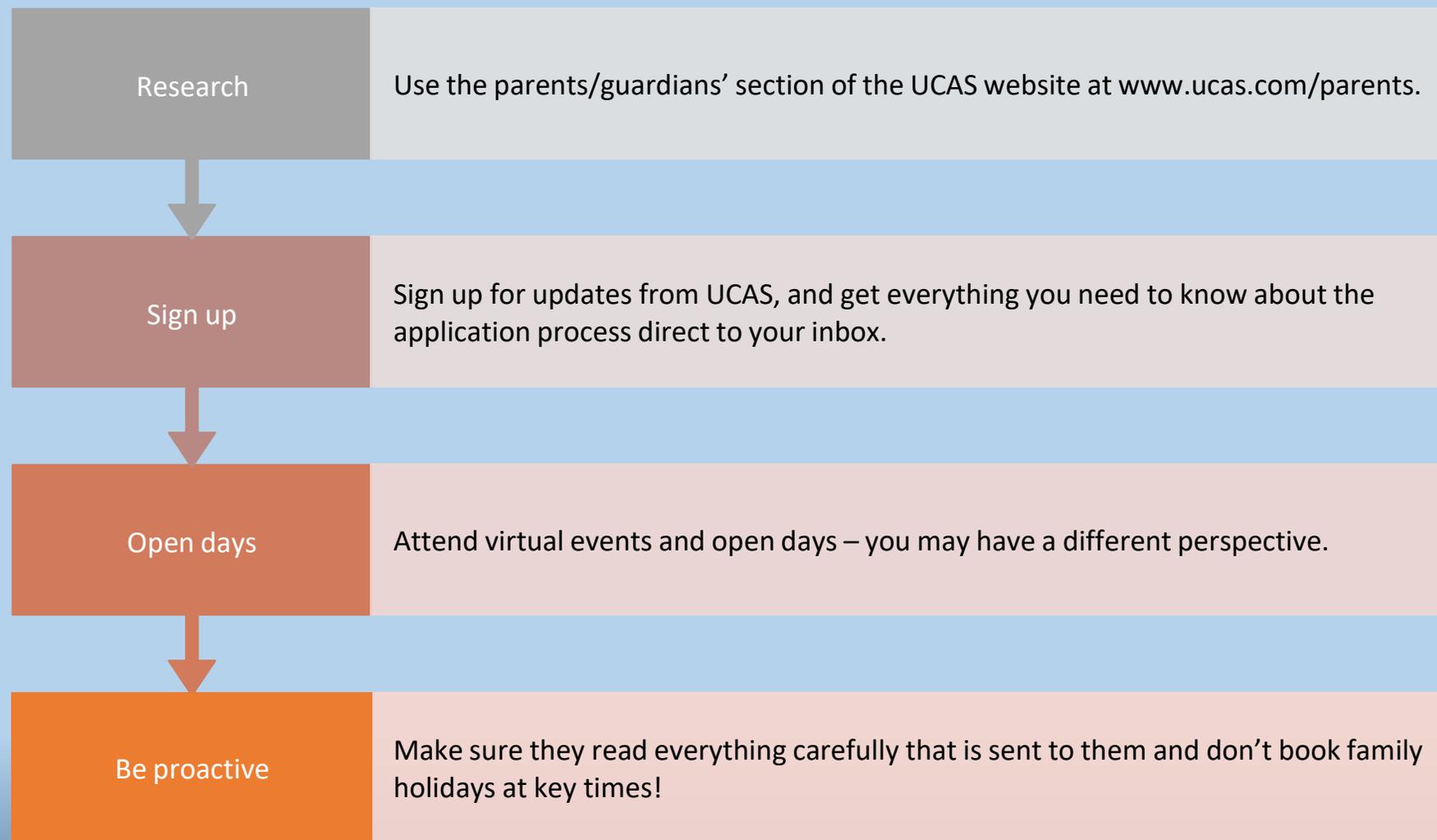
- Mr P Judge pjudge@kshsonline.uk
- Ms M Shutz mshutz@kshsonline.uk
- Ms J Aaronson jaaronson@kshsonline.uk
- Mr T Kooyman tkooyman@kshsonline.uk
- Mr R Fernandes rfernandes@kshsonline.uk
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What should your child be doing now?



- research
- extracurricular activities
- work experience
- go beyond the syllabus
- focus on this year's studies

How can you support them?



Thank you



UCAS

Security marking: PUBLIC