

**University
Applications:
Information
Evening for Parents
2017**

Programme

Welcome

Post 18 Pathways/UCAS Overview

Ms Makowski, Head of Sixth Form

Personal Statements and timeline

Mr Aplin, Deputy Head of Sixth Form

Student Finance Briefing

Ms Menard, Student Finance Support
Manager, Imperial College.

Questions



Is university the right
option for your son or
daughter?

Previously 3 main options at 18:

1. University
2. Job (with or without training)
3. Gap year

Globalisation + vocational agenda + rise in tuition fees = more complex landscape

Now potentially 20+ options

Post 18 Options

Degree

1. Fully vocational
2. Semi-vocational
3. 'Academic'
4. Joint/multi-disciplinary
5. Two year degree/
FD/HND
6. Private sector

Employment

1. University/employer partnership degree
2. Degree with year in industry
3. Apprenticeship
4. Salaried school leaver programme
5. Job with training
6. Armed Forces
7. Self employment
8. Temping/seasonal/
portfolio work

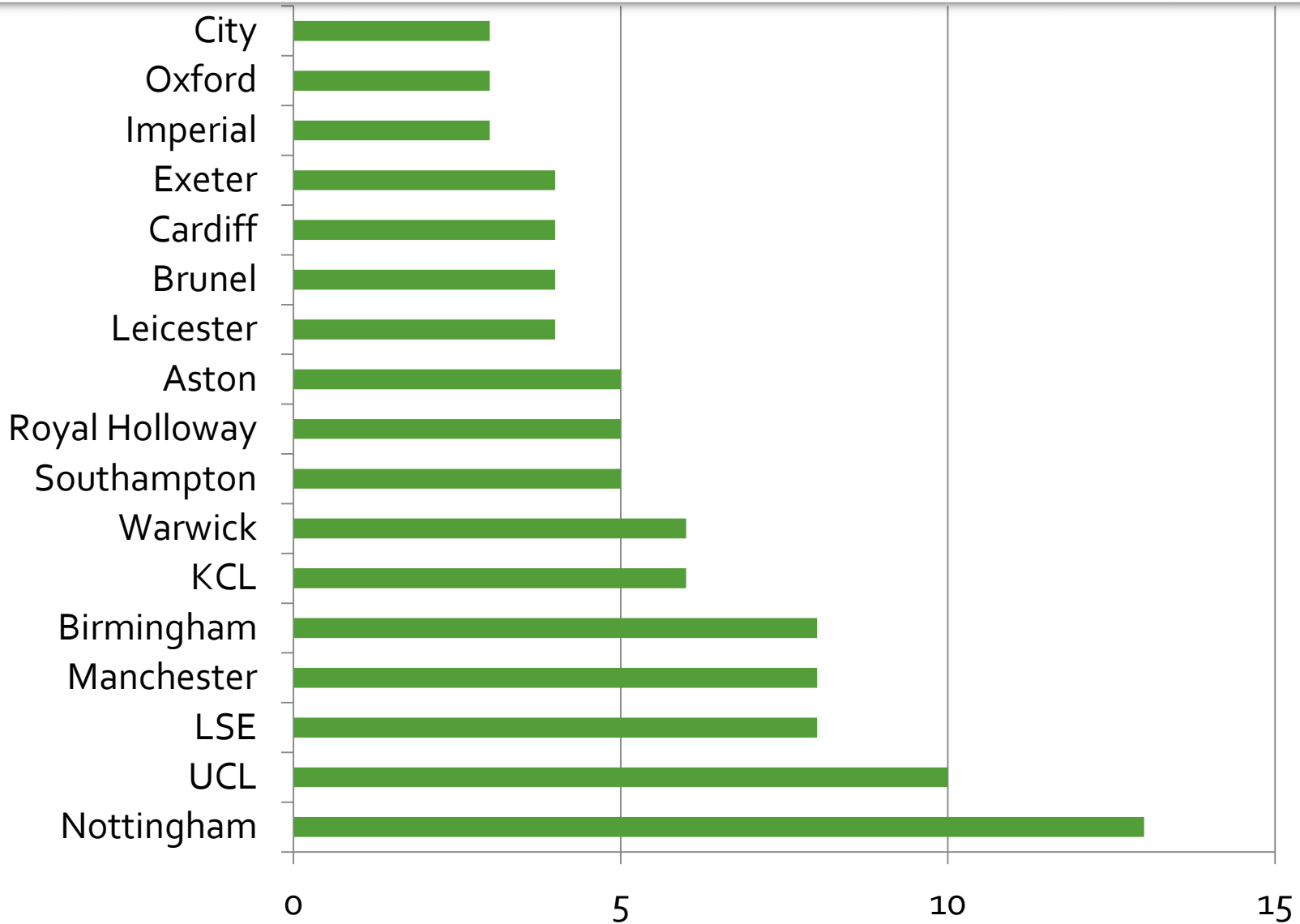
International

1. University overseas
2. UK university + year abroad
3. UK university with overseas campus

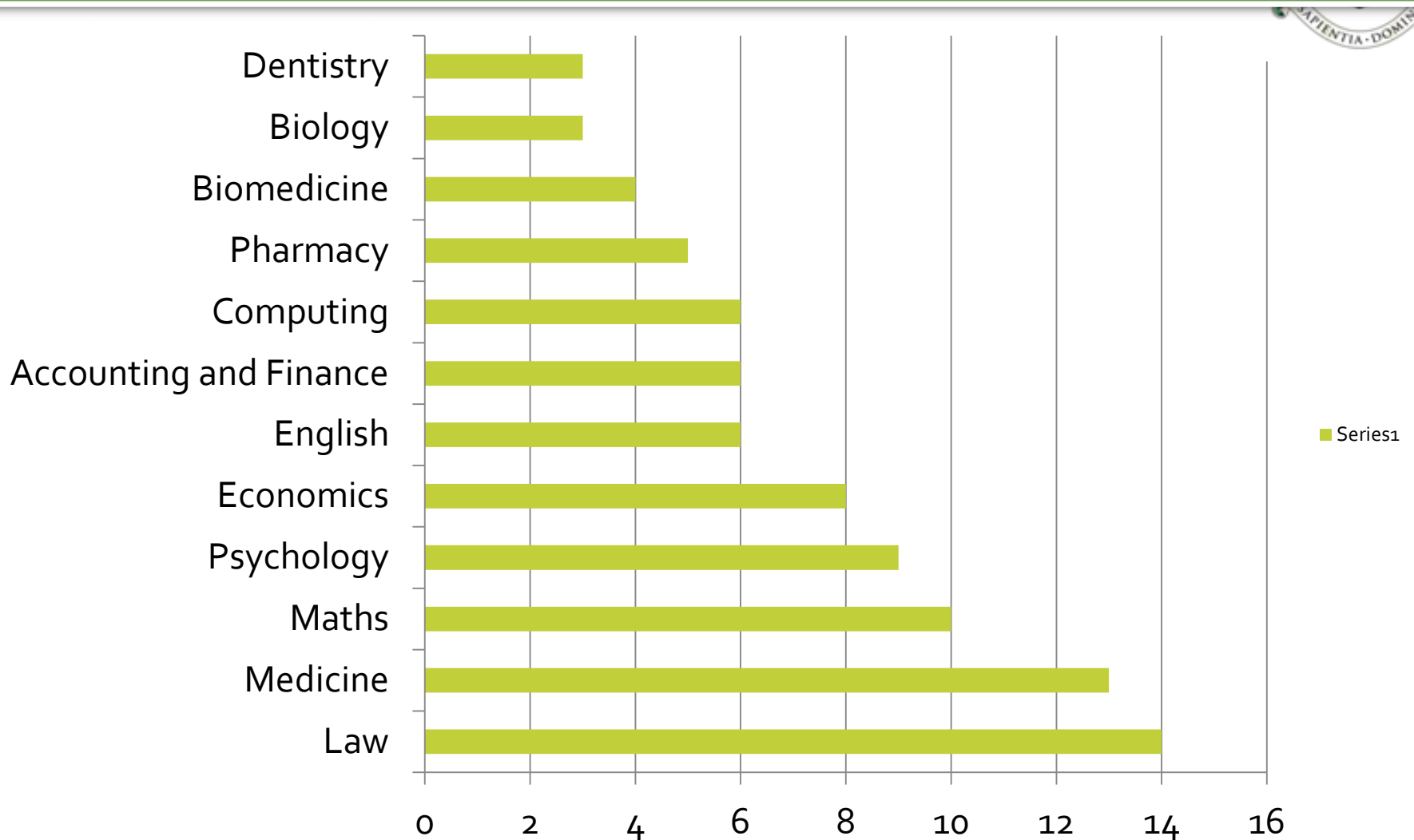
Gap year

1. UK and/or abroad
2. Paid and/or unpaid
3. Volunteering
4. Travelling
5. Further education:-
re-sits, more A Levels,
Art Foundation,
foreign language, TEFL

Where are our students going?



What are they going to read?



During the next six weeks at school

Passport for Life Day 1- Wednesday 21 June

Student Finance Workshops
Post 18 Pathways and UCAS registration
Unifrog
Raleigh International
Personal Statements
**Medicine/ Dentistry and Oxbridge
Pathways already fast-tracked.**

Passport for Life Day 2- Friday 30 June

- A mixture of external speakers on Post 18 choices
- A series of seminars led by alumni from a range of Post 18 routes, students choose.
- Structured Gap Year programmes

Four phases of the UCAS Application

- Research choice of course & university
- Application through UCAS, by a school deadline
- Reference written by the school
- Consideration by university admissions tutors



Applying to University

How can you support?

- Subjects - performance and enjoyment
- Match subjects to courses
- Some vocations require specific choices
- Higher Ideas, eClips

How do they start?

- Talk to students who have been through the process or are studying at chosen university
- Emotionally support by understanding the process
- Top universities are looking for well rounded, independent learners who **show** a real passion for the subject



The 'New' UCAS Tariff

Grade	A-level points	AS-level points	Extended Project Qualification points
A*	56	N/A	28
A	48	20	24
B	40	16	20
C	32	12	16
D	24	8	12
E	16	4	8

Choice of university and course factors to consider

- Course content
- Teaching methods & contact time
- Course assessment
- Career implications
- University reputation (subject specific)
- Academic requirements (including course specific tests)
- University location: distance from home
- Campus vs. non-campus
- Accommodation
- Finance: fees; living costs; bursaries



Research: external sources of Information for students



- UCAS website “Entry Profiles”
- www.ukcoursefinder.com
- Unistats, Whatuni, Which? SACU and Push
- University prospectuses, websites and admissions tutors
- Institution Open Days
- Taster Courses
- Subject specific events

ucas.com/virtual tours

UCAS

Advisers

Providers

Corporate

Events

Connect

UCAS

At the heart of connecting people to higher education

Next event: **Ayrshire higher education convention**
Ayr, 8 Sep 2015 - [More events](#)

Keyword search



Exploring university

Conventions and exhibitions

Conferences

Training for advisers & providers

Home > Events > Exploring university > Virtual tours

Find open days

Learn about uni on a taster course

Open days tips

Virtual tours

UCAS Events on Twitter



about 45 days ago

[#UCASDesign](#) welcomes some new exhibitors in November @[LondonAtelier](#) @[_UoW](#) @[AmandWycCollege](#) @[WSofArchi](#) Find out more [ow.ly/DRMQh](#)

about 74 days ago

Thank you to @[PH_Hotels](#) The Met Hotel [#Leeds](#) for hosting another conference for us.

about 74 days ago

Thank you to all who attended [#UCASCompetitive](#) Admissions in [#Leeds](#). It's been a great conference! What were the best bits for you?

Follow us on Twitter

Virtual tours

View published

We realise that not everyone can attend an open day, but it's pretty important to see where you'll be studying and possibly living.

So here's a list of virtual tours and videos from universities and colleges so you can see what it's like on campus and what facilities are available.

If the uni/college you're interested in isn't listed, take a look at their website or YouTube channel instead.

Click on a university or college to view their virtual tour or video.

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

A

[University of Aberdeen](#)
[Aberystwyth University](#)
[Anglia Ruskin University](#)
[Arts University Bournemouth \(formerly University College\)](#)
[Aston University, Birmingham](#)

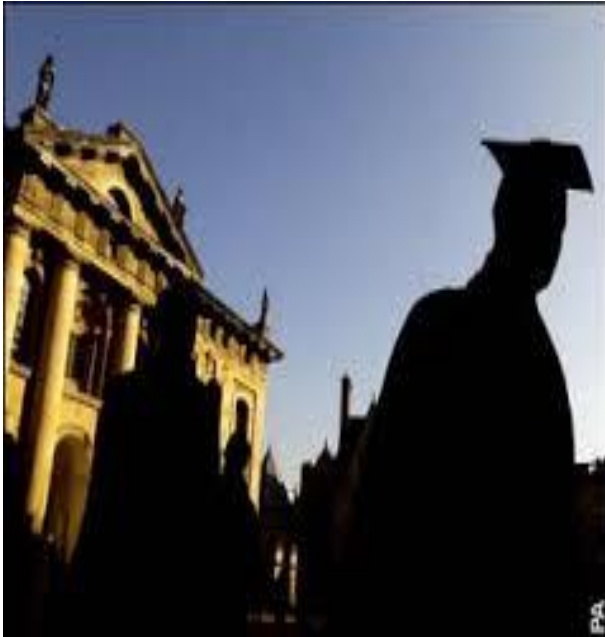
B

[Bangor University](#)
[University of Bedfordshire](#)
[Birmingham City University](#)

CALL OUR
CLEARING
TEAM
01227
540980



Research: Resources for parents



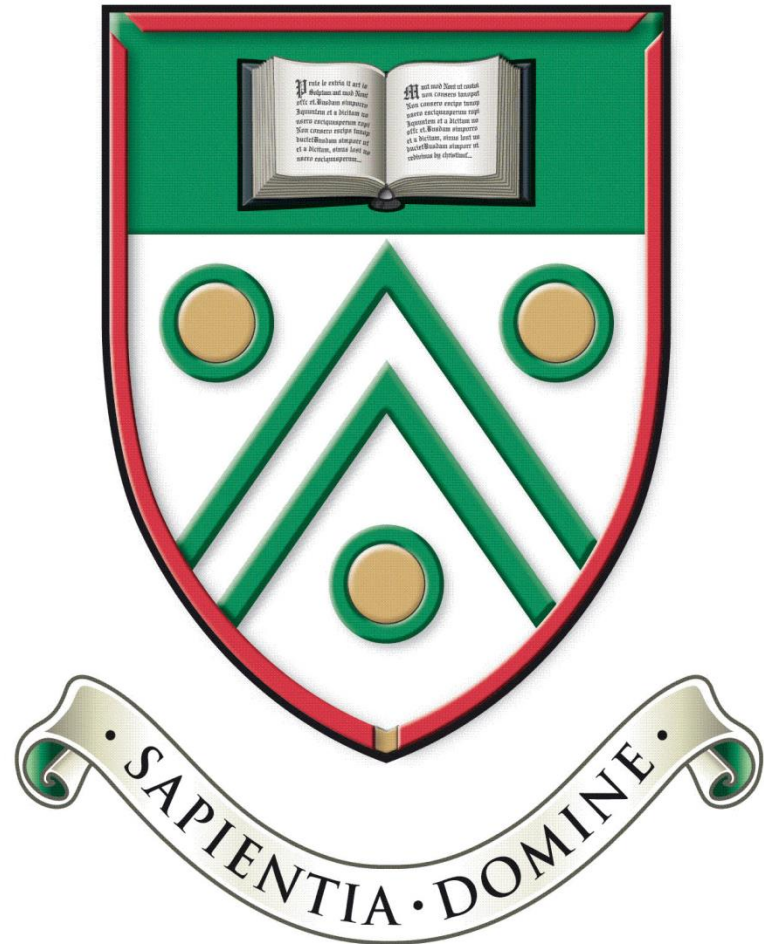
- **Parents Guide to University at:**
- **UCAS Parent guide**
- <http://university.which.co.uk>

- www.parentalguidance.org.uk

- www.careersadviceforparents.org

Research: School support

- Careers library
- Careers interviews-
Ms Ray
- Guidance & advice –
Tutor, subject teachers,
family & friends
- Morrisby online/ Unifrog
- UCAS Career finder tool
careerfinder.ucas.com
- Higher Ideas and EClips
- Passport for Life Days



The UCAS Application

UCAS Advisers Providers Corporate

UCAS At the heart of connecting people to higher education

Information and advice

Search articles, informa

- Seven sections to be completed by student**
- Personal details
 - Additional information
 - Student finance
 - Choices
 - Education

Must enter all qualifications taken (GCSE & AS level) and dates
Enter A level qualifications to be completed in 2018
("pending")

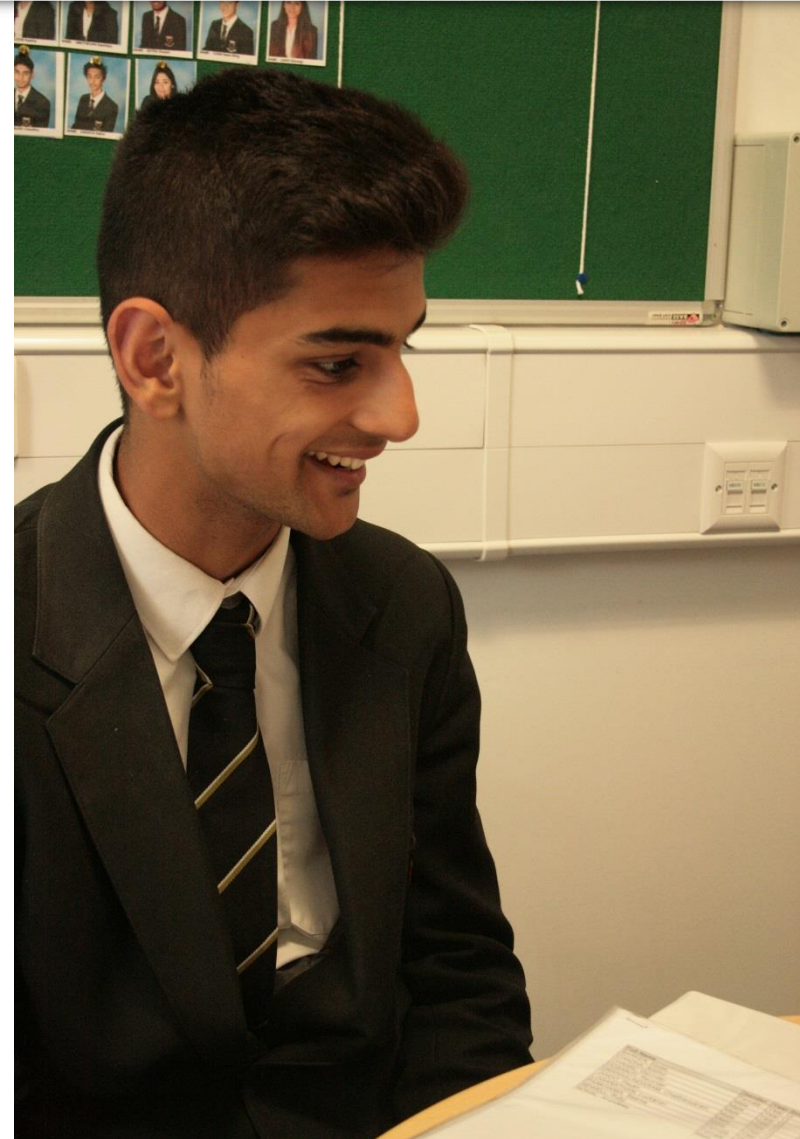
- Part-time Employment
- Personal statement

Reference from school

School enters predicted grades for pending qualifications (Alevels)

Choices

- Maximum of five choices
- **Realism:** make sure track record & predicted grades match academic requirements
- Include one “back-up” choice with lower requirements
- Some choice restrictions:
 - Medicine; Dentistry; Veterinary Science: max. 4 choices
 - Oxford or Cambridge
- Simultaneous consideration
- “Invisibility”



Personal Statement

- Applicant's opportunity to show why he or she is a good candidate for the course
- Focus should be 70% academic
- Proof read for spelling, grammar and sense
- Lots of guidance in school, one to one guidance by form tutor and by a relevant subject teacher.
- **Must be student's own work: beware plagiarism**
- **Beware asking those who are out of date.**

Personal Statement

- The only section your son or daughter has control over.
- Their only chance to market themselves individually. They need to demonstrate their interest in the course.
- One personal statement for **all** choices.



Max. 4,000 characters, 47 lines

Min. 1,000 characters

No spelling/grammar check

No formatting

Personal Statement- School support

- Personalised 1:1 support with their tutor
- Sixth Form Leadership Team
- Careers Adviser
- Academic Mentor
- Specialist subject staff
- Specialist workshops for those on the Oxbridge Pathway
- Specialist workshops for those applying for Medicine and Dentistry.

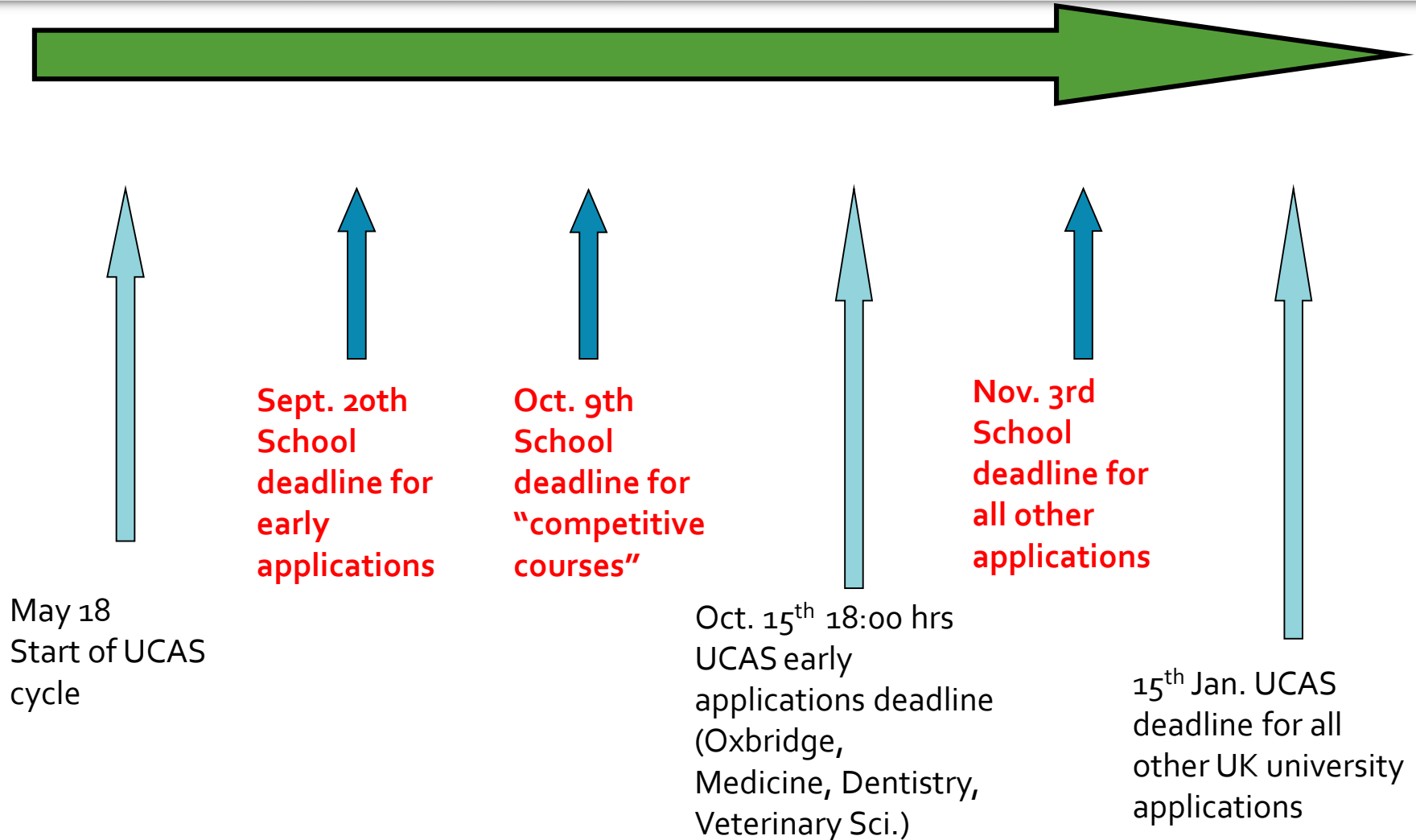


School Reference

- Written by form tutor with input from all subject teachers
- Reviewed by a team of approvers
- Positive and honest
- Predicted grades- based on evidence
- Review with student to check for errors or omissions (good practice).
- Recommendation on their suitability

This takes three weeks

Application Timeline



Consideration by universities

- Interviews for some courses
- Additional tests for some courses / universities
- Monitor through **TRACK** - Conditional offer (or unsuccessful)
- Applicant replies to offers after receipt of all responses:
 - One firm acceptance
 - One insurance acceptance
 - Decline other offers
- **UCAS Extra** available if no offers received

- **Results Day**

- **Adjustment and Clearing**

Decisions and Replies

Provider decisions:

- Unsuccessful
- Unconditional offer
- Conditional offer – qualifications and achievements and/or UCAS Tariff points

Once all decisions are received, they can hold up to two offers:

- One as their **firm** choice
- One as their **insurance choice** (if they want to)
- All other offers are **declined**

Track will show their reply date.

Other options



Extra 24 Feb – 4 July

- If all five choices have been used and they have no offers/rejected all offers.

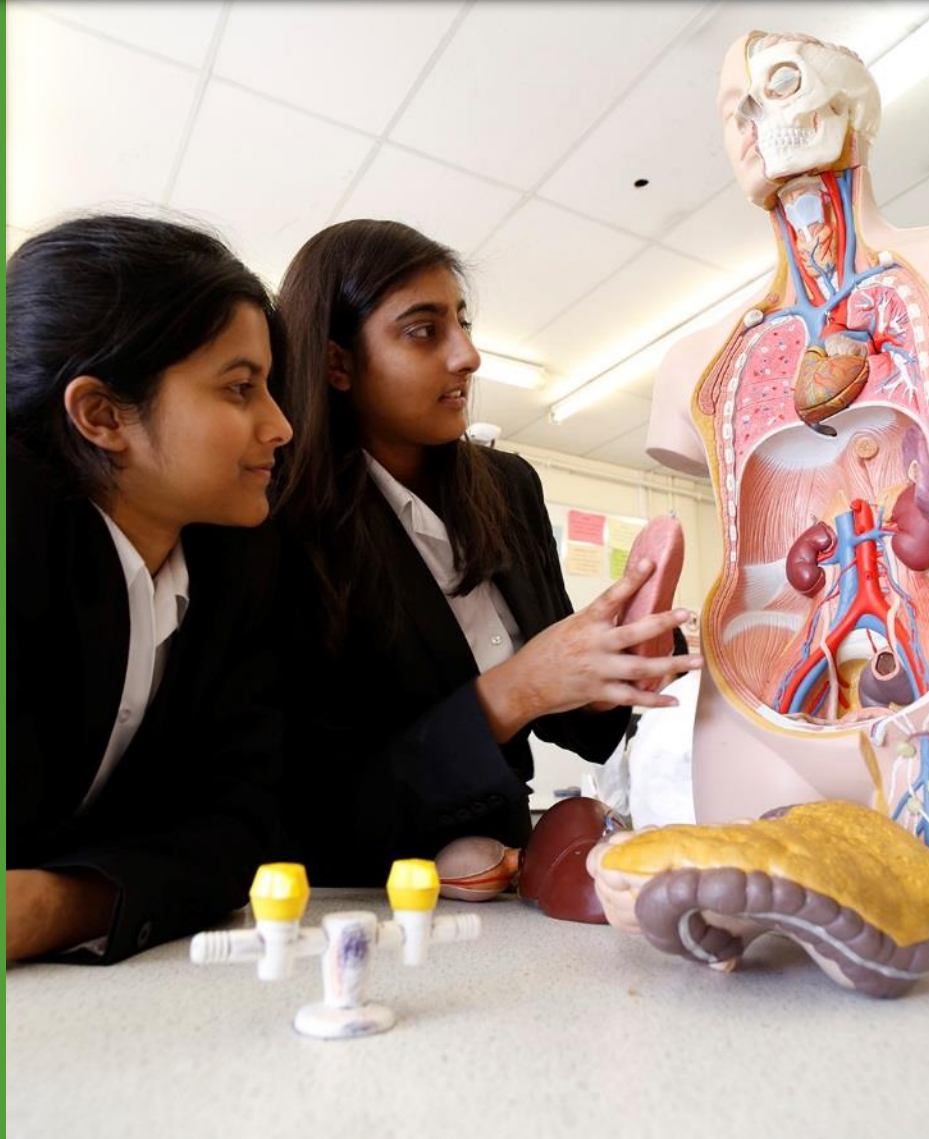
Clearing from early-July

- If there are no offers, or have applied after 30 June deadline.

Adjustment

- (from A level results day)
- If they've gained better results than the conditional offer they hold, they could apply for
- a different course or university.

What should your son/daughter be doing now?



- Research
- Reflect on super-curricular activities
- Work experience (if relevant)
- Going beyond the specification
- Focus on this year's studies

STUDENT FINANCE

QUESTIONS
