



UCAS Presentation

September 2020





Key Support Staff for UCAS

- ◉ Miss Christie - S6 Pupil Support Leader
- ◉ Mr Downie - S6 DHT Year Head
- ◉ Fiona Lafferty - SDS Careers Advisor
- ◉ Selected school staff - mentor support for applications





Timeline & Key Dates

August - Students register with UCAS

September - Students assigned a Mentor

Students begin the next stages of their UCAS application
& start the first draft of their personal statement

October - 15th October 2020 is the deadline for Oxbridge,
Medicine, Veterinary, Dentistry

Oct/Start of Nov - Pupils continue to meet with Mentors;
Oxbridge candidates sit entry exam

December 1st - Mentor references sent to office & final check of
applications & personal statements;
Mock interviews (in school) for Oxbridge candidates

December 4th - Applications submitted (school deadline)





January 15th: UCAS submission deadline

Mock interviews (in school) for
courses such as Physiotherapy

February - March: Offers issued by Universities

25th February: UCAS extra* is available

6th July-October 2020: Clearing* opens

It is the student's responsibility to meet all deadlines. Failure to do so can result in a delayed application.

*Further information about *Extra* and *Clearing* is available in the FAQ section





Entry Requirements

Each course has different entry requirements that students should have achieved, or be working towards in school this year.

Students should check the University prospectuses for course entry requirements. Fiona Lafferty and Miss Christie can offer advice on this, if required.

This is where the option to apply for up to five courses is helpful - students can choose courses with higher and lower requirements so that they have backup options.





Choices

- The majority of offers will be based on Higher results although some Universities will give a conditional offer requesting a grade at Advanced Higher.
- We would recommend that students contact the university to make enquiries regarding their subject choices.
- Some universities count a subject twice - achieved at Higher and then Advanced Higher; whilst some do not.
- Students cannot “drop” a subject during the school year as this may impact their application -

A number of universities, and UCAS themselves, send letters to pupils to say they must not “drop” a subject once they have an offer - increasingly common practice.





- The following slide shows examples of entry requirements for different courses.
- Different universities can have varied entry requirements for similar courses. It is a good idea to explore a range of options here before completing your form.





The table below details exemplar S5 Standard Entry Requirements and Minimum Entry Requirements, and the cumulative grades required for applicants who receive a Conditional Offer for entry to the University after S6.

Subject Area	Qualification	S5 STANDARD Entry Requirements	S5 MINIMUM Entry Requirements	S6 Entry Requirements	Other Mandatory Requirements
Accountancy & Finance	B.Acc or BSc	AAAAB	ABBB	AAAAAB	Maths and English or a Humanities at grades A/B or B/A
Arts/Modern Languages/BD Theology/Ministry	MA, BD	AAAA or AAABB	ABBB	AAAAAB	English and a Humanities at grades A/B or B/A
Engineering	M.Eng	AAAAA	AAAA or AAABB including Maths	AAAAAA	Must include Maths and Physics both at grade A
Engineering	B.Eng	AAAA or AAABB including Maths and Physics at Grades A/B or B/A.	ABBB	AAAAAB Must have Maths in S5 and Physics at Grades A/B or B/A by the end of S6.	Entry from S5 requires Maths and Physics at grades A/B or B/A. Entry from S6 will require applicants to have Maths in S5 and Physics at grades A/B or B/A by the end of S6





How & When Decisions Are Made

- The following information contained within the UCAS application is used to help make decisions:
 - Qualifications – subjects & grades
 - Personal Statement
 - Reference
- Interviews are commonly required for the following programmes:
 - Art, Design, Teaching/Community Education, Music, Veterinary Medicine, Dentistry, Physiotherapy, Medicine
 - Not all applicants will be called to interview
- Portfolios are required for Art & Design (sometimes Architecture)
- UKCAT test – Medicine only
- LNAT test – Law – Glasgow only





Offers

Offers will either be:

- ***Unconditional*** - this is when the requirements have been met for the course
- ***Conditional*** - this is when additional qualifications will be required (it can be specific e.g. a B at Higher Maths or general e.g. BB in any subjects)
- ***Unsuccessful*** - this is when no offer will be made





- Decisions are made at different times by each university.
- After the UCAS deadline (January) some applicants will hear quite soon, for others it can be up until March before courses issue their offers. This does not mean to say that they will be unsuccessful; it is simply about the individual working practices of university faculties and can vary significantly.





Alternative Routes to Degree Level Qualifications

- College HND courses can be a route into University (2nd or 3rd year)
- We would recommend that students check that they are on course for the minimum entry for University. If they are not, they can complete a college application for a related HND course. Once this is successfully completed (2 years) they can enter a degree level course at University.
- College applications are separate to UCAS and pupils can apply to colleges directly (some students do this as a back-up in case they do not get the grades at the end of S6 for University)





College

- HNC/HCD courses are offered at colleges.
- HNC are 1-year courses & HND are 2-year courses
- Entry requirements are usually 1-2 Highers
- Many careers require HNC/D qualifications





FAQs

- ◉ How much does the UCAS application cost?

£26. Students can pay using a debit/credit card.

- ◉ What are UCAS tariff points?

They are points given to grades of qualifications, but are not used in Scotland for entry.

- ◉ Where can I find out about funding?

www.saas.gov.uk

- ◉ What should I put in my personal statement?

<https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/applying-university/how-write-ucas-undergraduate-personal-statement>

<https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/applying-courses-0>

- ◉ Where can I find out about Graduate and Modern Apprenticeships?

www.apprenticeships.scot





What is UCAS *Extra*?

If you included five choices on your application, have received decisions from all five, and weren't accepted, or if you declined the offers you received, you will be able to use *Extra*.

You can ask more about *Extra* by contacting Fiona Lafferty or Miss Christie





What is Clearing?

Clearing is how universities and colleges fill any places they still have on their courses.

From 6 July - 20 October, you can apply for a course using *Clearing* if you're not already holding an offer from a university or college, and the course still has places.

You can use *Clearing* if:

- you're applying after 30 June
- you didn't receive any offers (or none you wanted to accept)
- you didn't meet the conditions of your offers
- you've paid the multiple choice application fee of £25
- you've declined your firm place using the 'decline my place' button in *Track*





Can I defer a place?

- If you decide you want to delay starting your course, you can apply at the same time as students planning to start in 2020, and defer your start date by a year. You need to select the *deferred entry start date* when adding a choice on your UCAS application.
- In your personal statement, you need to give reasons for deferring, and your plans for your year out. These will be taken into account when assessing your application.
- *Deferred entry is not guaranteed.* Students must contact the individual universities to ask if deferment for a particular course is possible.





How many courses can I apply for?

Five courses through UCAS. College applications are made direct to the colleges and you can apply to as many as you want, except for HNC/D applications to UHI and Scottish Rural University College - these should be done through UCAS.

When can I apply to college?

Applications for Forth Valley College open at the end of October. Other colleges are January.

Do I need Advanced Highers?

These are accepted/required for some courses e.g. Medicine, Vet Medicine and Pharmacy. It is important to ensure you have the required Highers first, as an Advanced Higher usually replaces the Higher grade (at an upper level) so does not count always count as an additional subject.





- Other FAQs:

<https://www.ucas.com/faqs>

- Personalised questions about your child's applications:

Please email Miss Christie at:

christiej07s@glow.sch.uk

Miss Christie will either answer directly by email or, for more detailed enquiries, arrange a phone conversation or Google Meet.

