



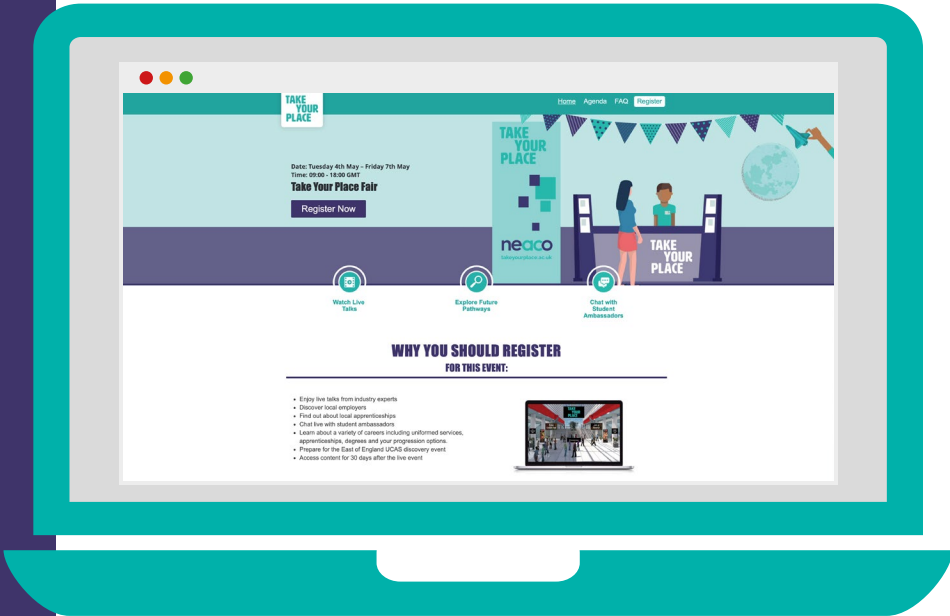
WHAT TO EXPECT

The 'Take Your Place' Fair is a series of virtual events designed to help those currently in Y12-Y13 or on a L2/3 course explore different routes from your current study to higher education.

Our virtual talks are led by experts from colleges, universities and employers giving you the chance to:

- Discover local employers
- Find out about local apprenticeships
- Hear from current higher & degree students and ask questions
- Prepare for the East of England UCAS event running on 11th-12th May 2021

This event has been brought to you by The Network for East Anglian Collaborative Outreach (neaco) – Explore your options, discover your potential!



NEACO PARTNERS:



QUESTIONS, QUESTIONS, QUESTIONS!

To get the most from an Education Open Day or Fair, you need to think about what you want to know! Here are some common questions divided into key areas – which ones would you want to ask?

Routes

- How do I choose the best route for me?
- Can I start on one path and change my mind?
- Where can I find out about different careers?
- What apprenticeships are available in my area?
- Is there more than one route to the job I want – differences?

Courses

- How do courses vary in the same subject?
- How do I work out if a course is for me?
- What is a sandwich year and why would I do one?
- What career can I do with certain courses?
- What if I don't know what I want to do?

Universities

- How do Universities differ?
- How can I compare Universities?
- What types of courses can you do?
- How long will it take to do a degree?
- Can I work while I am at University?

Student finance

- How much will going to University cost me?
- When do I have to pay the loans back?
- When do I apply for a loan?
- When will I get the money?
- How can I apply for a bursary or grant?

Getting ready for Uni

- What will I need to take with me?
- What support can I get?
- What accommodation types are there?
- Where can I find part-time work?
- How can I make my money go further?



AGENDA

SPORTS, EDUCATION,
CHILDCARE & EARLY YEARS,
MEDICAL CAREERS



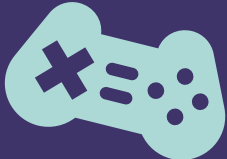
TIME	ROOM 1	ROOM 2
10:00	Brett Sallach - Tackling Environmental Challenges for a Sustainable Future	Molly Gillick - Childcare and teaching
10:30	////	Esther Trehearn - Overview of the early years
11:00		Specsavers - Optometry Overview
11:30	LIVE - Alex Walpole - Physical education and sports coaching	LIVE - Helen Gregory - NHS Radiography
12:00	////	WORLDSKILLS - Overview of NHS Careers
12:30	Student Ambassador Panel - Live Q & A	////
13:00		////
13:30	LIVE - Ferdi Ahmed - Higher & Degree Apprenticeships	Rowan Triffitt - Primary and Early Years
14:00	Brian Ennis - Preparing for UCAS	////
14:30	Gavin Spoors - How to research courses	////

15.00-17.00 STUDENT AMBASSADOR LOUNGE OPEN

Please note, while every effort has been made to make this event accessible, this may not be possible with all content including any technical difficulties on the live days

AGENDA

FASHION DESIGN, PHOTOGRAPHY, DIGITAL
MARKETING, CONCEPT ART, ANIMATION,
JOURNALISM, BROADCASTING



TIME	ROOM 1	ROOM 2
10:00	Nicky Payne - (Balfour Beatty) Introduction to construction	Daniella Munteanu & Paul McGrath - Software Engineering
10:30	Nial Inman & Luke Thomas - Construction design manager	WORLDSKILLS - FoxDog - Games Development
11:00	James Potter & Roma Agrawalj - Structural Engineering	Army - Trusted Guardians
11:30	The Merchant Navy - Careers at Sea	Daniella Lord - Policing and public services
12:00	LIVE - George Hones & Adrian Martin - Hospitality and events management	////
12:30	Student Ambassador Panel - Live Q & A	LIVE - Leisa Nichols Drew - Interview with a Forensic Scientist
13:00		Hayley and Paul Sermons - Coronors Officer
13:30	////	////
14:00	Rio Godfrey & Luci Collins - Which is the right route for me? Exploring degrees & higher apprenticeships	WORLDSKILLS - Royal Navy Careers
14:30	LIVE - Charlotte Beach - What it is like to be an apprentice?	WORLDSKILLS - RAF Careers

15.00-17.00 STUDENT AMBASSADOR LOUNGE OPEN

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AGENDA

THEATRE/ACTING, DANCE, FILM,
MUSIC PRODUCTION, BUSINESS,
ACCOUNTANCY, LAW



TIME	ROOM 1	ROOM 2
10:00	Adam Morley - The future of theatre	Emily Ringe - Careers in TV
10:30	Sally Hardcastle - Theatre design	Paul Ridd - Film Acquisition
11:00	Millie Mayhew - Dance and musical theatre	Camilla Stone - Accountancy
11:30	Hayley Cameron - TV script development	Anthony West and George Hinds - Financial advisory
12:00	Victoria Maitland - National Centre of Creative Writing	Flagship - Overview of Business roles
12:30	Student Ambassador Panel - LIVE Q & A	Andy Dunlop – Life of a PM
13:00		Phil Simmonds - Songwriter, instrumentalist & Music Producer
13:30	LIVE - Trisha Seecharan - All you need to know, Apprenticeships from ASK	Pirate Studio - Music Production Producer
14:00	Emilie Dufrense - How to choose the right degree pathway for you? University or Futher Education College?	LIVE - Carmen McLean - What is a conservatoire and how is it different from Universities?
14:30	Tiffany Evripidou & Becky Powles - Student Finance	LIVE - Clifford Chance UK - Law

15.00-17.00 STUDENT AMBASSADOR LOUNGE OPEN

17.00-19.00 PARENTS AND CARERS

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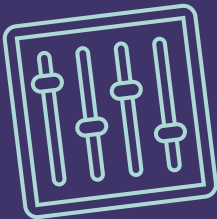
AGENDA

PARENTS & CARERS EVENING



TIME	ROOM 1
17:00	Welcome Talk
17:05	Why go to an Open Day?
17:10	Student Perspective: Benefits of Attending an Open Day
17:15	Parent and Carer Perspective: Open Days
17:20	Subject Taster Session Snapshot - ARU
17:25	Subject Taster Session Snapshot - NUA
17:30	Subject Taster Session Snapshot - UEA
17:35	Subject Taster Session Snapshot - UOS
17:40	Higher Education at an FEC
17:40 - 18:00	BREAK
18:00	Parent and Carer Perspective: Higher & Degree Apprenticeships
18:05	Parent and Carer Perspective - Settling Young Person in to HE
18:10	Life as a University Student
18:15	Exploring Universities
18:20	Student Perspective: Support at University
18:25	Parent and Carer Perspective: UCAS Applications
18:30	Parent and Carer Perspective: Student Finance
18:35	Q & A + Closing remarks (20mins)

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Q & A



AGENDA

FASHION DESIGN, PHOTOGRAPHY,
DIGITAL MARKETING, CONCEPT ART,
ANIMATION, JOURNALISM, BROADCASTING



TIME	ROOM 1	ROOM 2
10:00	Laura Noble - Photography, Curating and Gallery Directing	Savio Thomas - Fashion Design
10:30	Georgia Hardcastle - An overview of Videography	Rosie Jenkins & Jen Lou - Digital marketing & Social Media
11:00	Jordan Grimmer - Concept artist in the video game industry	Kevin Maddams - Journalism
11:30	Ignite - Animation	Anthony Isaacs - Broadcasting at BBC Radio Norfolk
12:00	////	LIVE - Luke Drozd - Fine Art
12:30	Student Ambassador Panel - LIVE Q & A	////
13:00		////
13:30	LIVE - Trisha Seecharran - All you need to know, Apprenticeships from ASK	////
14:00	Daniel Hall & Jennie Grove - Wellbeing support in higher education	WORLDSKILLS - Gabrille Omar - Architecture to entrepreneurship
14:30	Peter Bakare - Creating a mindset of an Olympian	WORLDSKILLS - Aidan Ridyard - Royal Institute of British Architects

15.00-17.00 STUDENT AMBASSADOR LOUNGE OPEN

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GETTING READY FOR A UCAS EVENT

A UCAS Fair is a large conference where many Universities have stands to advertise what they can offer. The conferences give prospective students the chance to talk to staff from the University about the facilities they have and advertise special features of that University. Some UCAS events are now virtual but the main idea remains the same – this is your chance to find out a bit more about your options. Some tips to make the most of your visit:

- Make sure you know who is at the Fair and when things are happening – this can be found in the event guide which is usually available in advance on the UCAS website.
- Bring a bag if you go in person – there will be lots of take-away booklets/leaflets etc.
- If you are online, consider having a notepad/note file open to record useful answers, links, ideas etc. Don't forget to keep an eye on the chat area for different presentations and maybe social media too during the event.
- Have an idea of some Universities you want to talk to *before* the event. This means you should do some research about possible courses first. There is no point asking a question about something that you can find out on the University website!
- Know what you are interested in: sports facilities, options to study abroad, work placements etc. Prepare your questions in advance and have a way to note key information.



LOOKING FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU TO THE TYP FAIR FROM 4-7 MAY!

PRE-EVENT PREPARATION TOP TIPS

Three is the magic number!

Are you ready?

Three actions before attending:

1 Check out the agenda and choose at least three employer talks to attend - add them to your calendar or write them down below so you don't forget!

1

2

3

2 Decide on at least three questions you would like to ask at the event-write them down and have them handy on the day.

1

2

3

3 Tell your friends and family about the event and encourage them to attend with you so you can discuss afterwards. Who are you going to tell, write their names below:

1

2

3

NOTES

Write Any Notes Here:



NOTES

Use these pages to make notes when you attend a session at this fair or a future one!

Session:

Topic:

What do I want to know?

Notes:

Main things I have learnt from this session:

What extra info do I need & what should I do next?



NOTES

Session:

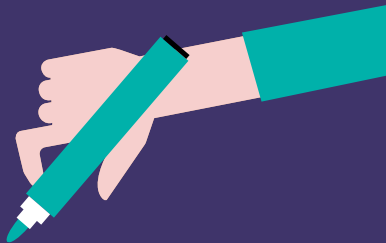
Topic:

What do I want to know?

Notes:

Main things I have learnt from this session;

What extra info do I need & what should I do next?



NOTES

Session:

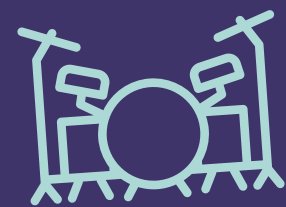
Topic:

What do I want to know?

Notes:

Main things I have learnt from this session:

What extra info do I need & what should I do next?



NOTES

Session:

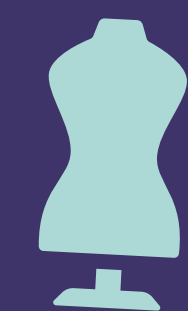
Topic:

What do I want to know?

Notes:

Main things I have learnt from this session:

What extra info do I need & what should I do next?



POST-18 STUDY PATHWAYS



Qualifications at the same level are of a similar difficulty, but vary in content, learning style and assessment.

ACADEMIC PATHWAYS

Academic pathways are the most common route to university. Most students take this pathway via A-levels, to an undergraduate degree and sometimes a Masters or PHD.

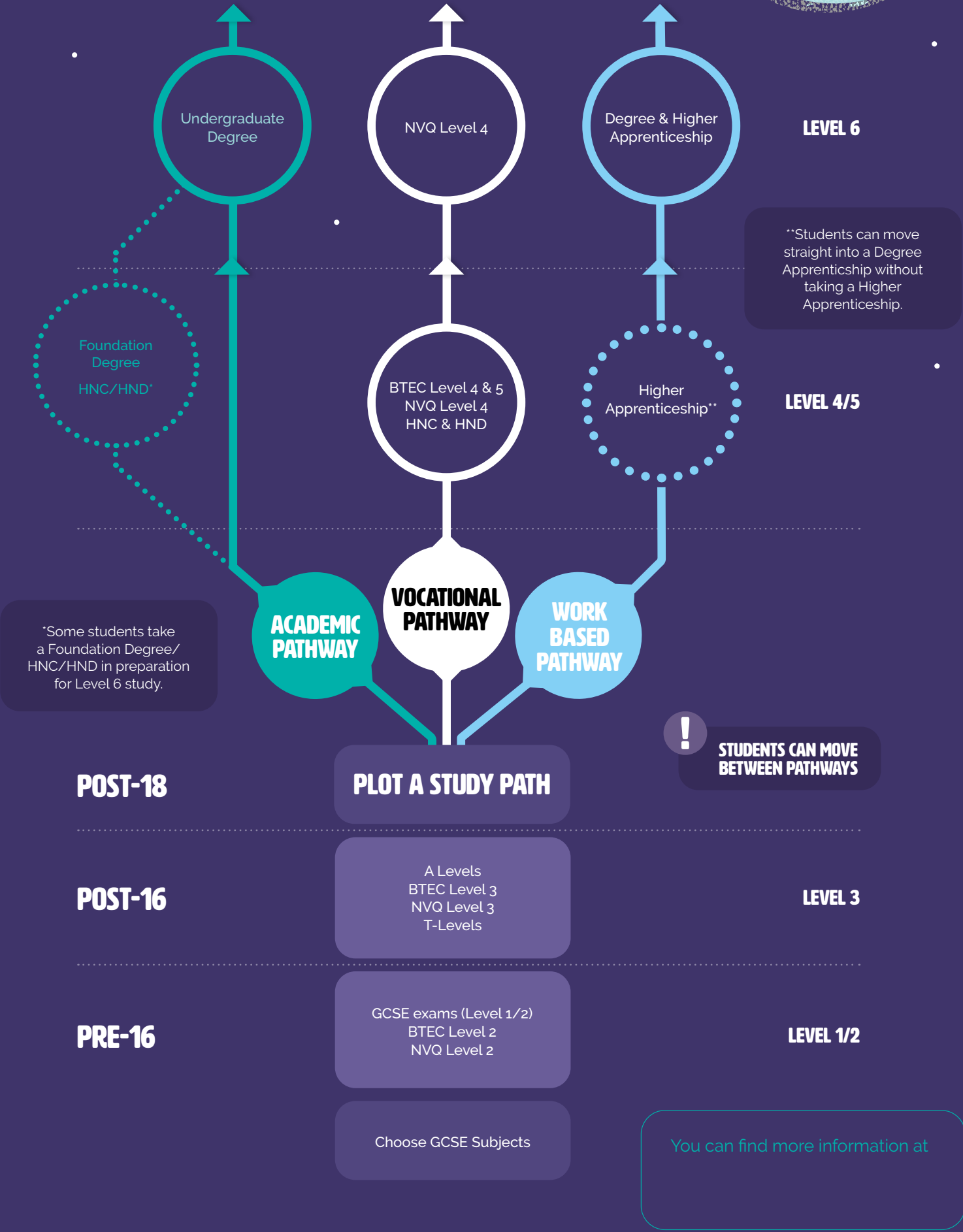
Foundation degrees suit students who are unsure about their final destination, those who wish to study as they work and those who want more work experience as they study.

VOCATIONAL PATHWAYS

Vocational pathways are focused on developing work-based skills while studying. Vocational qualifications can offer a pathway to a full-time degree course in the same way that A-levels do. See page 6.

WORK-BASED PATHWAYS

Higher level apprenticeships and degree apprenticeships suit students who want to be employed while studying. They are open to anyone over the age of 16 and can take anything from one to four years to complete. With both higher and degree apprenticeship routes you can achieve a full degree qualification. See page 6.



CHOOSING A UNIVERSITY OR COLLEGE

In East Anglia alone there are five universities and eight further education colleges right on our doorstep. Your child may prefer to choose a local option rather than moving too far from home.



Map not to scale.

Choosing the right place to study isn't easy – here are a few factors to consider:

The course

Courses can vary widely – look at **descriptions** in **prospectuses on websites**, your child can then start to refine their choices.

Look at **entry requirements** – does your child's predicted grades meet the essential requirements (such as minimum UCAS Tariff Points or grades in particular subjects). Entry requirements for similar courses will vary between Universities. Some also have Foundation Years which have lower entry requirements but mean it will take longer to get a full degree.

Look at **other possibilities** available – opportunities to study abroad or strong connections with your future industry.

The location

Another way of narrowing down the options is to look at where your child wants to live.

- How far from home?
- Campus or city-based university?
- Cost of travel?
- Accommodation types
- Employment options

Reputation

A university or college's reputation will change subject to subject. The goal is to find a university or college that offers a course they enjoy, with teaching staff who inspire.

University rankings list (search 'league tables')– thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk theguardian.com

Student rankings – thestudentsurvey.com

Employability

While studying it is a good idea for students to try and get work experience. This can help them stand out from other graduates and will support their career journey after completion of their studies.

Does the university have good industry links that are incorporated into the course?

Look at the careers department and see what guidance is provided – do they help secure internships?

Finding their passion

With thousands of higher education courses on offer there really is something for everyone. Your child will have the opportunity to study a subject they love – taught by experts – with fantastic results.

"Be supportive of your child's decisions and encourage them to ask questions and find out as much as they can about their chosen course/institution so they can make an informed choice"

Holly Bowden
Admissions Manager,
University of Suffolk

Employment prospects:

88%

graduates are employed
vs 72% non-graduates

APPLYING FOR UNIVERSITY

All students make their applications to university or college through an online system called UCAS.

As a parent/carer you don't need to provide anything to UCAS as part of the application.

Students can choose up to five courses for most subjects. These can be to five different universities or to the same university on a different course.

When your child presses 'send' on their application, it is first sent to their school or college, not directly to UCAS. There are several sections for the school to complete, such as references, so it is important not to leave applications to the last minute.

Find helpful info for parents & carers on

"As a parent you can be listed as a 'nominated name' on the UCAS application (the university can speak to this individual about the application), but generally universities will prefer to speak directly to the applicant "

Holly Bowden,
Admissions Manager
University of Suffolk

Students apply to university or college through

What's included in the application?

- 1. Register to 'Apply'
- 2. Personal details
- 3. Additional information – about your child's background
- 4. Student finance – a general overview, your child will apply for student finance through the 'Student Loans Company', slc.co.uk
- 5. Course choices – institution and course
- 6. Education history – qualifications from secondary school onwards
- 7. Employment history – for paid jobs
- 8. Personal Statement – your child's description of their ambitions, skills and experience
- 9. Reference – a written recommendation from a teacher, adviser or professional. For school or college applications, this section won't show up in 'Apply' because it will be arranged by your child's school.



Personal statements

A personal statement is the chance your child gets to show the university or college who they are as a person and write in their own style. It is the most time consuming part of the application and there are lots of people who can help your young person with this.

Personal statements have a limit of 4000 characters and 47 lines of text, which is about 500 words. or one page of A4.



Tips for writing a personal statement:

- ✓ Focus on the student and the subject
- ✓ What makes them interesting and stand out in a positive way?
- ✓ Why have they chosen this subject? Why does it interest them? Encourage them to show their knowledge and passion for the subject.
- ✓ List work experience or other activities and how this is relevant to the subject.
- ✓ Their life experience. What interesting things they have done and why that makes them the right person for the course.
- ✓ What clubs and activities are they involved in?
- ✓ How would they contribute to university life?
- ✓ Students send the same personal statement to all five choices – it is crucial not to mention university names.
- ✓ Avoid using cliches like: "Studying English has always been my dream!"
- ✓ Include details of sporting achievements if you might apply for a sporting bursary/ scholarship.

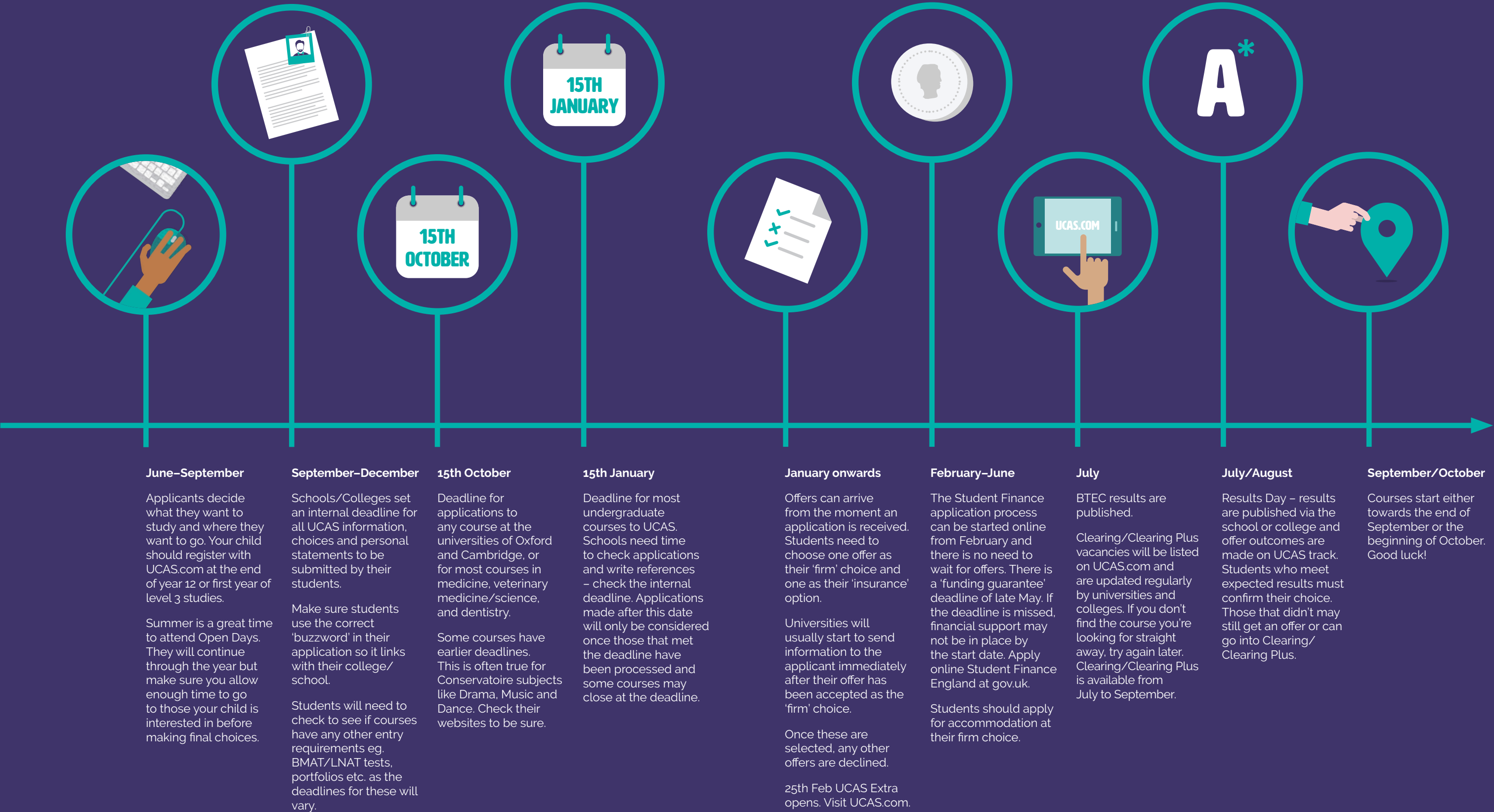
"Most creative degree courses will require you to attend an interview and take along a portfolio. The portfolio is a way to show your work and your interests and provides a talking point when you go along to the interview. It can be a physical or digital copy, for example if you are interested in games design and have games designs that you want to show.

Each university will have information on its website to say when they hold their interviews."

Lynne Simpkin,
Recruitment and Outreach Manager
Norwich University of the Arts



UCAS TIMELINE



STUDENT FINANCE

In England student loans are provided by **Student Finance England**. [Gov.uk/student-finance](https://www.gov.uk/student-finance)

Tuition fee loan

For UK students a tuition fee loan covers the full cost of tuition and goes straight to the university so your child will never see the money. Universities and colleges can charge a full-time student up to £9,250 a year for courses.

Maintenance loan

Students can apply for a maintenance loan to help with living costs, such as accommodation, food, travel, going out etc. The amount your child can borrow depends on where they will be studying and your family's household income.

This means children from lower income families receive more financial support.

Student Finance will let your child know how much they can borrow once their application is complete. This is calculated on the household income and the amount each student will get is different.

Where are you living and studying?	Maximum maintenance loan 2021/22
Living at home	£7,987
Living away from home outside London	£9,488
Living away from home in London	£12,382

(figures quoted June 2019, per year)

Make sure you let Student Finance know if you, or your partner, have **financially dependent children** as this can change your household income calculations.

This table gives you an idea of how much a student living away from home outside London should receive and how much the government anticipates parents & carers to contribute.

A family with a household income of...	Will get a student loan of...	Anticipated parent contribution is...
£25,000 or less	£9,488	£0
£30,000	£8,809	£679
£35,000	£8,130	£1,358
£40,000	£7,450	£2,038
£45,000	£6,771	£2,717
£50,000	£6,092	£3,396
£55,000	£5,412	£4,076
£60,000	£4,733	£4,755
£62,187	£4,422	£5,066

(figures quoted June 2019, per year)

Harvey is about to start his first year at university

Harvey's total income is £9,488	
Harvey's rent per university year	£5,510
Harvey's living costs	
Harvey's living costs are £104.68 per week for 38 weeks of the university year (£3,978/38).	
	£3,978
Harvey's total outgoings	£9,488

He has a **tuition fee loan** to pay for his education of up to **£9,250** each year he is at university. Based on his parent's household income of **£30,000** and living away from home outside London, he has a **maintenance loan** of **£8,809** per year.

Harvey's parents pay **£679** per year to help Harvey with living costs (including food, transport costs, social events, household goods, clothes, books).

Harvey's university accommodation is **£145*** per week for 38* weeks of the university term. This includes bills such as electricity, gas and contents insurance (against theft and damage).*

*The accommodation amount, what's included and term length will vary by university.

For more information visit



"We understand that the cost of university can be off putting but it's important to remember that your young person doesn't need to pay anything up front and their student loan repayments are linked to how much they earn once they graduate rather than how much they owe. They'll never have to repay more than they can afford."

Stefanie Copsey,
Outreach Manager,
University of East Anglia

Paying it back

Your young person will only start paying back their student loan from the tax year after they graduate and once they are earning above £27,295 (from April 2021).

- They will repay 9% on income above £27,295.
- The repayment is automatically deducted from pay cheques in the same way as taxes, so there's no need to worry about missing payments.
- If their earnings drop below £27,295 (or the weekly or monthly equivalent), payments won't be deducted.
- After 30 years any balance is written off.

Additional support

On top of student loans, your child might be able to claim extra financial help through a scholarship or bursary, a fee waiver or hardship funds. These are awarded on merit and some are based on household income.

Additional support is also available for children with a disability and if you are studying a particular type of course (e.g. medicine and dentistry). Your child should apply with their preferred university or college as it may be a factor in choosing where your child goes.



Judy studied at a local college and starts a graduate job as an accountant. She earns **£22,500**. She pays back **£0** towards her **tuition** and **maintenance loan**.



Haseena has been working as a designer for two years, she earns **£30,000**. She pays back **£20 per month** in student loan repayments. The repayments will pay off both **tuition** and **maintenance** loans. Haseena's employer takes repayments directly from her salary.



'If your child needs additional help, don't let that hold them back. Universities and further education colleges have support for disabled students; have a think about what you require and ask for advice.

Disability Resource Centre,
University of Cambridge

Search and apply for UK scholarships on

Disabled Students' Allowance

The Disabled Students' Allowance is a grant to cover additional costs incurred by a student as a result of their disability. To apply, students will need to complete an application form available through:

JARGON BUSTING

For useful links check out

Adjustment Available to anyone who exceeds the grade requirements of their firm offer. Your child may be able to swap their existing uni place for one at another university.

Apprenticeship Students learn on the job and gain a recognised workplace qualification. The focus is on specific work related skills.

Clearing/Clearing Plus A way of matching universities with places to students. UCAS Clearing is a second chance of getting a place if your child didn't receive an offer from any of the universities they applied to, or didn't get the results they needed. Clearing is available from July to September each year.

Conditional Offer An offer has been made to a student but they can only attend if they meet the conditions attached. This is usually meeting the grade requirements of the university in question.

Deferral Holding an offer at a chosen university until the next academic year. Be sure to check if the university course is accepting deferred entry applications.

Degree apprenticeship Incorporates a full honours degree which facilitates both academic and on-the-job training.

Firm choice/offer A firm choice/offer is when your child has 'firmly decided to accept' a conditional or unconditional offer made to them by a university. This is your child's first choice of university and course.

Foundation year An extra year of study at the start of a university course to allow a student to meet entry requirements. This is sometimes known as 'Year 0'.

Foundation degree Two thirds of a full honours degree. Vocational and fully flexible allowing students to study full or part-time.

Higher Apprenticeship Incorporates academic and vocational qualifications and learning from Levels four to seven.

Higher National Certificate A work related course one level below a Higher National Diploma, provided by higher and further education colleges that is equivalent to the first year of an Undergraduate Degree.

Higher National Diploma. A work related course provided by higher and further education colleges that is equivalent to the first two years of an Undergraduate Degree.

Honours degree An undergraduate academic degree awarded by universities and colleges of higher education.

Insurance choice/offer Insurance refers to an offer that has been accepted as the one your child wishes to attend if their firm choice falls through.

Maintenance loan A loan students can apply for, usually through Student Finance England, to help with living and accommodation costs. This loan is repayable once earning over a threshold.

Means testing A financial assessment of the income of the students' household to determine how much maintenance loan the student is eligible for from the UK government to help towards living expenses.

Postgraduate degree Usually a Masters or PhD, a postgraduate degree is a higher level of study and qualification and is achieved after a student has obtained an undergraduate degree (their first degree qualification).

Scholarships A financial grant or benefit given to a student to support their education. Most commonly awarded on the basis of academic merit or exceptional achievement in sports or the arts.

Sponsored degree Students work whilst studying. It could be a whole honours degree with a full or part sponsorship from a professional body and can refer to higher apprenticeship, foundation degree or honours degree.

Tuition fees The amount charged to study at higher education. The maximum charge is set by the government.

UCAS The **Universities and Colleges Admissions Service** (UCAS) is a UK based organisation whose main role is to operate the application process for British Universities. Application to all universities must be made through UCAS Apply, not directly to the university.

UCAS Extra An opportunity for students without offers (after the applications have been considered) to apply to other university options.

UCAS Track Once an application has been submitted and a welcome email has been received, the application progression can be viewed through the UCAS Online System at any time throughout the process.

Unconditional Offer An offer with no requirements for the student, except completing their schooling.

Undergraduate degree Received after a three/four year course of study. A student while studying is referred to as an undergraduate and once finished is a graduate.





TAKE
YOUR
PLACE

neaco

