



Ballakermeen Sixth Form

Applying to university for 2023

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Why apply to university in 2022-23?

- Increase their knowledge
- Gain independence and freedom
- Gain an internationally recognised qualification
- Develop essential skills for career and working life
- Increased earning potential
 - The **average** starting salary for graduates in 2021 was £36,000, it was £26,000 for non graduates. For the 25-30 age group, the **average** salary for graduates is nearly 30% higher than for non graduates
- Impact of the pandemic on the employment market





Common dilemmas

And how to deal with them





I am not certain if I want to go...

- They need to think seriously about whether to go at all. They have to be even more committed than they are to A-Levels. University is not the right choice for everyone, nor is it a necessity.
- Students could apply anyway, this would get them into the system. If they decide they wish to apply after January 25th 2023 it is much more difficult.
- Deferred entry – a good idea?





I don't really know what I want to study.....

- This is fine! There are a lot of courses and options. It can be overwhelming.
- Plan of action:
 1. Decide on the general subject area
 2. Start to look at the specifics of the courses
 3. Make sure they meet the entrance requirements





I don't know what career I want to pursue...

- Again, this is fine!
- Are they certain that university is for them?
- Like before, they should look at strengths and favourite subjects and research the different combinations of subjects that they can combine.
- Is there an employment related training route?
- They should not 'fall into' the idea of university





I don't understand what any of the terms mean!

- Honours or Ordinary?
- The classification of degree you are awarded:
 - First-Class, Upper Second-Class, Lower Second-Class, Third-Class
- In Scotland Students will study for four years and gain a Masters degree, but this is still an undergraduate degree and is equivalent to an English BA.
- Degrees with foundation years – be careful





I don't understand the terms used!

- Single Honours – one subject, possibly with a subsidiary/elective subject
- Joint Honours – two subjects, French and Spanish or French with Spanish
- Combined Honours – usually three subjects that becomes two in Year 2 – leads to Joint Honours.





I still don't get it!!!

- BA – Bachelor of Arts
- BSc – Bachelor of Science (some courses can be both)
- BEng – Bachelor of Engineering
- BMus – Bachelor of Music
- LLB – Bachelor of Laws
- MSc
- Sandwich





I do not know where I want to go!

- Try to think wider than 'closer to home' as the initial focus
- City universities (Liverpool, LJMU, Hope Manchester, MMU, Leeds, Leeds Beckett)
- Campus universities (York, Keele)
- Smaller towns (Lancaster, Lincoln, Preston)
- Consider accommodation possibilities at each place
- They will know if it suits them when you get there – visit if possible





Where is the best place to go??

- There is no single answer.
- ‘Russell Group’ universities pay into a research group – this does not mean that they are they the ‘best’.
- Each young person will be looking for particular attributes in an institution – that is what matters.
- Perceptions of universities change yearly, and each university has its own strengths.





What to do, and when...

- **September 2022 to January 2023:** *(Apply as early as possible). Make five choices*
- **October 15th** for Oxbridge and Medicine/Dentistry
- **September onwards:** *Receive offers (Conditional or Unconditional)*
 - Go to Visit/Open Days or interviews
- **April – June:** Make two final choices: Conditional Firm and Conditional Insurance
- **April onwards:** Fill in forms requesting accommodation
- **April onwards:** Fill in forms requesting finance from Department of Education
- **17th August:** Results Day: places finalised. Please do not be on holiday.





The application process

- Applications are made via UCAS, at a cost of £27 per applicant
- Students can apply for 5 courses (4 for medicine/dentistry, an additional)
- We use UCAS apply, students apply online and can work on the application from anywhere
- The form contains the student's personal details and course choices
- There is also a **personal statement**. This is, by far, the most important part of the form.
- We then add a reference, giving predicted grades and our comments on the student's suitability for the course.





Post application





How are offers made?

- In grades: 'Subject to achieving ABB at A Level'
- There may be a specification about a grade you must achieve in a certain subject e.g. 'including at least a B in A Level Biology'
- In 'UCAS points' (based upon potential A Level/BTEC results).
 - A*/D* = 56 points
 - A/D = 48 points
 - B = 40 points
 - C/M = 32 points
 - D = 24 points
 - E/P = 16 points
- AS grades have 40% of A Level value, the Extended Project Qualification has 50% of A Level value





Visiting Universities

- Open days
- Visit Days
- Visit if you are in the area, bearing in mind that you may not get the true flavour of the place if it is out of term time





Where to find information

- UCAS.com
- Universities' websites
- Prospectuses
- Virgin Alternative Guide, newspapers' 'League Tables'
- Brian Heap's 'Degree Course Offers'
- Sites such as 'unistats'
- Get in touch with admissions tutors by email or telephone





How much does it all cost?

All subject to change

- Means tested maintenance grants available, but few qualify.
- Student borrows £2500 PA from the Government to pay towards fees.
- If parents'/carers' joint income is in excess of £112,000, they will pay an additional contribution towards your fees
- In 2021-22, the average cost for weekly rent in UK purpose built accommodation was £166. Private sector average £155 for an en-suite room.
- Courses available on Island? Will you be restricted to studying here?
 - University of Chester year
- Part time jobs - **SAVE MONEY NOW.**





What will be paid for?

- Fees up to £9,250, at any UK public institution
- Private institutions/institutions abroad at the DESC's discretion, up to £9,250
- 'Certain courses, such as clinical medicine, clinical dentistry, veterinary science and some conservatoire music courses will be eligible for support in excess of the normal upper limit as these courses have higher tuition fees' – Student Award 2022





How can you help us?

- Discuss the application, but let your young person make the ultimate decisions about where and what.
- Please avoid judging the course or institution
- Teach them to cook simple meals and how to use a washing machine.
- Talk them through budgeting.
- Be prepared to deal with some homesickness.
- Support your young person in making appropriate selections of FIRM and INSURANCE institutions.

