

Did the Future Just Happen?



These Jobs Will Fall First As AI Takes Over The Workplace



Welcome to our
Next Steps
Evening.

POYNTON



THE CENTRE
OF EXCELLENCE



Please meet...



Mr Bennett
Director of
Sixth
Form



Mrs Hardicre
Head of
Year 12



Mrs Bibby
Sixth Form
Support
Officer



Faye Newton
Manchester Metropolitan
University



Student Recruitment Officer -
Apprenticeships

Freya Smith
Class of 2024



Ben Valentine
Class of 2024



Hannah Johnson
Class of 2024

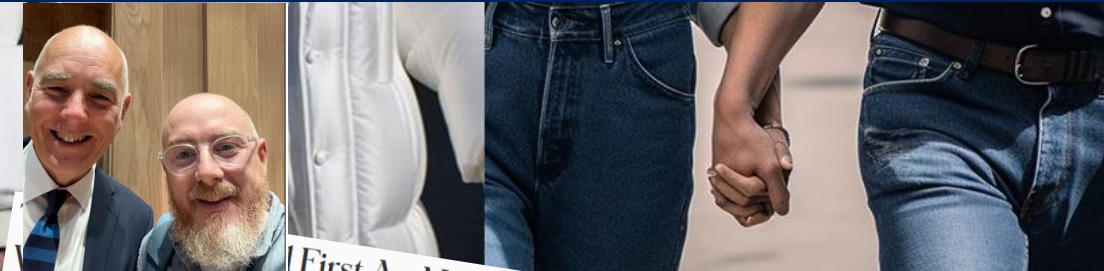


ATTACK OF THE ZOMBIE JOBS





Did the Future Just Happen?



Dr Paul Redmond – Director of Student Experience, University of Liverpool



12CGM		12CGM		12CGM
12CRK		12CRK		12CRK
12SCH		12SCH		12SCH
12SBU		12SBU		12SBU
12GF		12GF		12GF
12RL		12RL		12RL
12KMG		12KMG		12KMG

Front row

Unexpected item in the bagging area



NEWS

Spotify Co-President says AI-generated music is welcome on the platform – but it won't generate music itself

"If creators are using these technologies and are successful, we should let people listen to them."

Artificial Intelligence created the lyrics and melody to this three-track EP: Listen

Can AI make good music by itself?



NEWS

FEATURES

MUSIC

TECH

VIDEO

TOP 100

NEWS

JAMES KEITH | 24 APRIL 2025, 11:13

60 million people used AI to create music in 2024, IMS Business Report 2025 finds

10% of consumers surveyed said they had used generative AI to create music or lyrics in 2024



AI models are here. Can they actually improve fashion representation?

Brands experimenting with AI are finding ways to represent people from marginalised groups in digital form — with mixed responses from consumers and industry insiders. Here's how to get it right.

BY MALIHA SHOAIB

April 25, 2023



How to avoid becoming a zombie



1. Build skills
and
experiences.
Stand out from
the crowd.

2. To recognise
that we are in a
fast changing
landscape and
that being
reflexive is key.

3. Emotional
intelligence is
more
important than
ever.

NOW is the time for students to be engaging in experiences which allow them to stand out in an evolving market.

Making informed choices about the future is important.

Pathways

University (Higher Education)

Apprenticeship
(Level 3 up to Level 7 Masters equivalent)

Conservatoire
(Performing Arts)

Employment

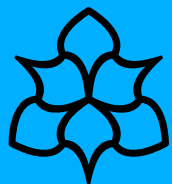
Gap Year

It is important our young people choose the next step that is best for them



‘The average UK employee changes jobs every 5 years.’ (LV insurance 2024)

By this time next year students will have completed almost ALL of their exams, they will have heard back from their universities and some will have secured apprenticeships.



**Manchester
Metropolitan
University**

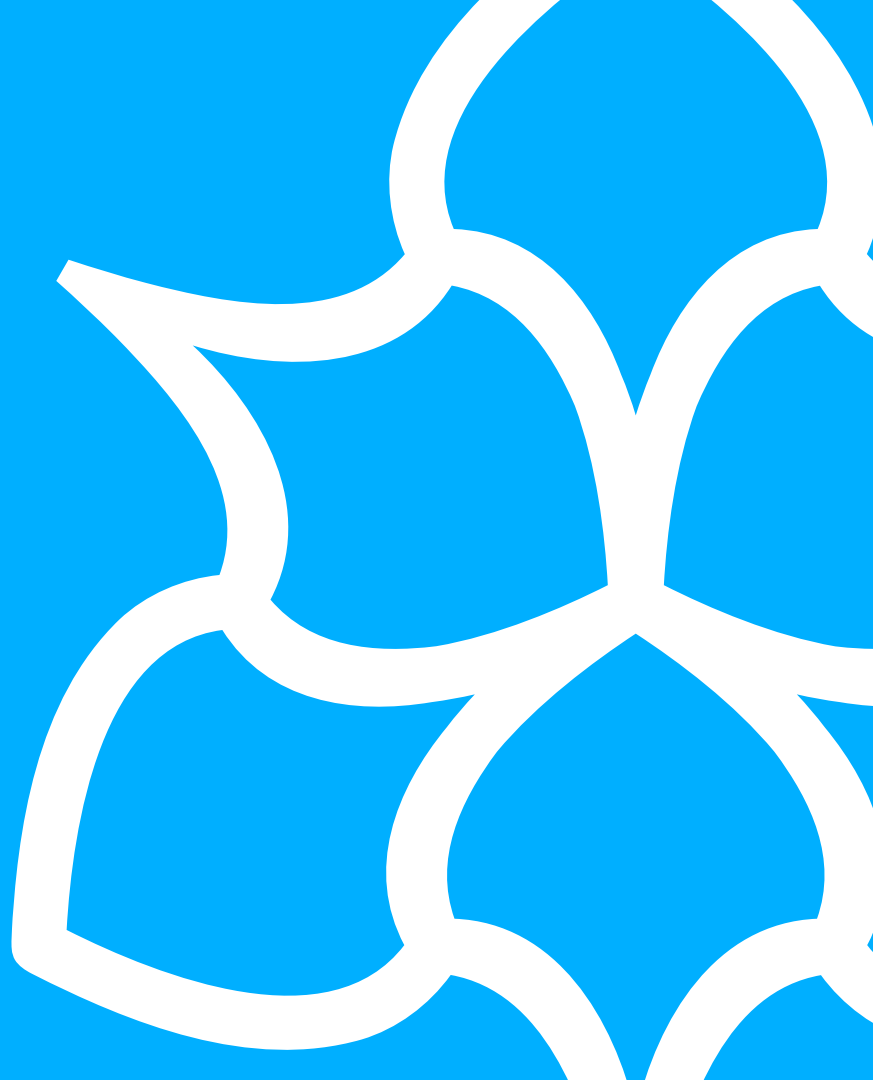
Introduction To Degree Apprenticeships

Student Recruitment Officer

Email: apprenticeships@mmu.ac.uk

Twitter: @MMUapprentice

Facebook: @MMUapprenticeships



APPRENTICESHIP
**DIVERSITY
CHAMPIONS
NETWORK**
MEMBER



OFSTED
OUTSTANDING
PROVIDER 2022



**RATED AN
EXCELLENT
TRAINING
PROVIDER**



BY EMPLOYERS
ON GOV.UK

PARTNERED
WITH

20%

OF THE TOP 100
APPRENTICESHIP
EMPLOYERS 2023

RateMyApprenticeship

34%
STEM
APPRENTICES
ARE WOMEN

NAT. AVERAGE 22%

92%



DISTINCTIONS
AND MERITS
AT END-POINT
ASSESSMENT

110+

APPRENTICES
RECOGNISED AT
REGIONAL AND
NATIONAL AWARDS



**UNIVERSITY
OF THE YEAR**

MULTICULTURAL
APPRENTICESHIP
AWARDS 2022 & 2023

2,500+
DEGREE
APPRENTICES

on 17 apprenticeship courses

600
EMPLOYERS

**TOP
UNIVERSITY
IN THE UK**
FOR DEGREE
APPRENTICESHIPS



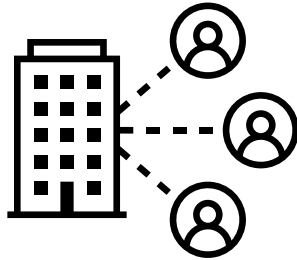
Manchester
Metropolitan
University

RateMyApprenticeship
Awards 2019 - 2023

LEVELS OF APPRENTICESHIPS

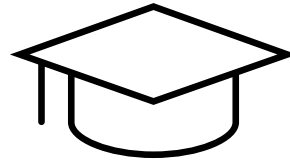
Level	Apprenticeship Type	Entry Requirements	Qualification Equivalents
Level 6	Degree	University requirements	Bachelor's degree
Level 5	Higher	5 x GCSEs + Level 3 (A Level, BTEC)	Years 1 – 2 of degree
Level 4			Foundation degree HNC, HND
Level 3	Advanced	5 x GCSEs	A Levels BTEC Level 3 Diploma NVQ Level 3
Level 2	Intermediate	2 x GCSEs	GCSE grades 4 – 9 BTEC Level 2 Cert/Dip NVQ Level 2

WHAT ARE DEGREE APPRENTICESHIPS?



**Full-time
employment**

+



**Full honours degree
BA/BSc/BEng**

WHAT ARE DEGREE APPRENTICESHIPS?

COMMON SUBJECT AREAS

Typically

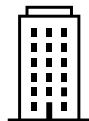
4

year programmes

104 - 112

UCAS points

GCSE English and
Maths grade C/4



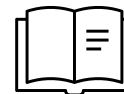
Building and
Surveying



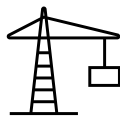
Finance



Policing



Paralegal &
Solicitor



Construction



Food Technology



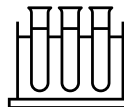
Health Care
& Nursing



Engineering



Business &
Management



Chemical
Science



Digital
Marketing



Digital &
Technology

BENEFITS OF DEGREE APPRENTICESHIPS



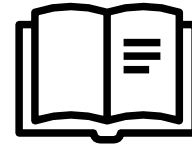
**No tuition
fees**



A paid salary



**Significant
employment
experience**



**Contextualises
learning**



**Opportunities
for fast career
progression**

BENEFITS OF DEGREE APPRENTICESHIPS



**Attend University
approximately 30 days
per year**



**Combination of
assignments and work-
based projects**



**Study time allocated by
employer during the
week**

SUPPORT FOR APPRENTICES



**Fellow
apprentices**



**Lecturers/
Programme
Leaders**



**Students'
Union**



Skills Coach



**Workplace
mentor**



**Transport
support**

OUR COURSES

Accounting Finance Manager
Chartered Manager
Creative Digital Design Professional
Digital and Technology Solutions
Digital Marketing
Digital User Experience (UX) Professional
Healthcare Science Practitioner
Scientist (Chemical Science)
Scientist (Bioscience)

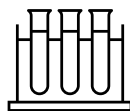


OUR PROGRAMMES: CAREER PATHS



Chartered Manager

Manager
Head of Department
Operations Manager



Laboratory Scientist

Laboratory Manager
Scientific Team Leader



Digital and Technology Solutions

Software Engineering
IT Consultant
Data Analyst
Cyber Security Analyst



Digital User Experience (UX) Professional

UX Researcher
UX Architect
UX Analyst



Digital Marketing

Digital Marketing Executive
Digital Campaign Manager
Social Media Manager



Creative Digital Design Professional

Creative Director
Studio Manager
Front-end designer



EMPLOYERS OFFERING DEGREE APPRENTICESHIPS



SEARCHING FOR VACANCIES



SEARCHING FOR VACANCIES

Find an apprenticeship

Find an apprenticeship in England.

You can apply for apprenticeships in [Scotland](#), [Northern Ireland](#) and [Wales](#).

Search >

You can also:

- [sign in](#) to your account

The screenshot shows the careerfinder.ucas.com website. At the top, there's a navigation bar with the Manchester Metropolitan University logo and links for 'Apprenticeships home' and 'Information for students'. Below this is a blue navigation bar with links for 'Apprenticeships home', 'Information for employers', 'Information for students', and 'Apprenticeships Research Unit'. The main content area features a large banner with the text 'Search for apprenticeships, graduate jobs and internships'. Below the banner are two search input fields labeled 'Keyword' and 'Location'. There are also two smaller images: one for 'Degree Apprenticeship Roles' and another for 'All Apprenticeship Roles'. At the bottom, there's a section titled 'Become a degree apprentice' with a sub-headline 'Register your interest, find an apprenticeship or learn how to apply.' and two buttons: 'Register for vacancies' and 'Vacancies and events'.

Degree Apprenticeship Application Process



1. CV/online application
Submitted directly to the employer



3. Test or in-tray exercise
Not widely used/for more senior roles



5. Interview
This will probably be online in the current climate



2. Telephone interview
Used by employers to filter initial applications



4. Assessment centre
Held at the employers offices or sometimes at the University



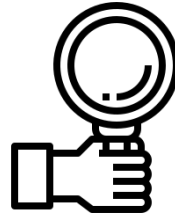
Applying for Degree Apprenticeships at Manchester Met



Step 1: Register

Receive direct alerts by entering your details at

mmu.ac.uk/study/apprenticeships

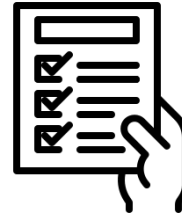


Step 2: Look

Visit our website and employer websites

Peak vacancy time:

March - June



Step 3: Apply

Processes vary but usually involve a CV and cover letter or online application form. You may also have to attend an assessment centre and/or interview

Applying for Degree Apprenticeships at Manchester Met



Step 4: Success

Congratulations! You've got the job. You'll sign a contract with your new employer setting out the terms of the apprenticeship



Step 5: Enrol

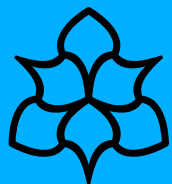
Complete your university application and enrol onto your course. This usually takes place a few months before you start



Step 6: Begin

Apprenticeships usually start with an induction week, where you'll get an introduction to the course and meet other apprentices





**Manchester
Metropolitan
University**

Getting real with finances

Student finance



Overview

- What financial support is available?
- Scholarships and bursaries
- Repaying student loans
- When and how to apply?



Costs of university – full-time courses

Tuition Fee

Full-time Undergraduate degree courses **£9,535**

Foundation Year: **£5,760*** - **£9,535***

Placement Year: **£1,850**

Nothing to pay upfront

Living costs

Accommodation, food, social, travel etc.

On average: **£1,104 per month****

More if studying in London

**Figures correct for 2025/26. Fees are regulated by the Office for Students and are conditional on the University having an approved Access and Participation Plan in place. For further information visit: officeforstudents.org.uk

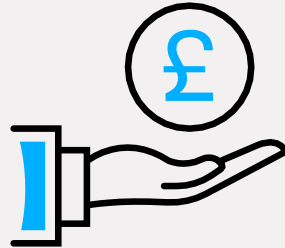
**National Student Money Survey 2024 [Student Money Survey 2024 – Results - Save the Student](#)

What financial support is available?

Tuition Fee Loan



Maintenance Loan*



Scholarships/Bursaries*



* Can be dependent on Household Residual Income (HRI)

Tuition Fee Loan – for all students

- No one has to pay fees upfront
- Up to £9,535* to cover the cost of Tuition Fees
- Paid straight to the University by the Student Loan Company
- Repayments start April after graduation and earnings over £25,000.*
Entitlement not based on household income

* Figures correct for September 2025 starters



Maintenance Loan – for all students

**Up to
£8,877***

Living at
parental home

**Up to
£13,762***

Living in London

**Up to
£10,544***

Living elsewhere
(not London)

- Receive 3 instalments: Sept/Oct, Jan and April
- Repayments start April after graduation and earnings over £25,000*.
- Entitlement is based on household income.

*Figures correct for September 2025 starters



Maintenance loan – how will students be assessed?

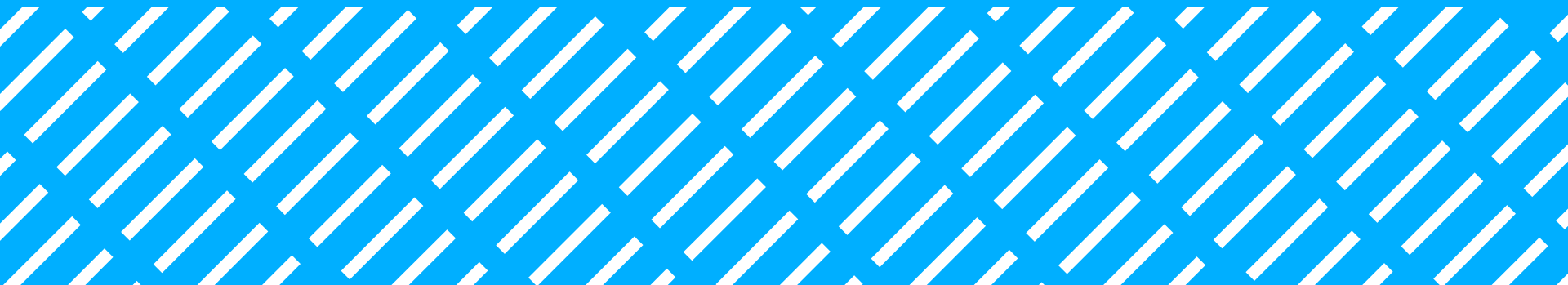
Household residual income is...

- **The joint, gross, taxable income** of parent(s), guardian(s), step-parent or partner with whom the student lives
- **Based on previous tax year**
Student's own income (earned) is not taken into account
- Minus allowances for:
 - Any private pension fund payments
 - Any business/professional costs on which parents can claim tax relief
 - Any other child fully dependent on parents



02

Scholarships and bursaries



Scholarships and bursaries – for some students

Many universities and colleges offer financial support to their students through scholarships and bursaries

Scholarships

Often linked to academic results or outstanding ability in sport, music or art
Can be subject specific and limited in number

Bursaries

Linked to personal circumstances and often household income
Awards can include fee waivers or cash

mmu.ac.uk/study/scholarships/apply

Scholarships and bursaries – for some students

Manchester Metropolitan University
Student Success Fund

A non-repayable bursary of up to £1,500 per year of study

Available to full-time and part-time UK undergraduate students starting their course in September 2025 or later.

To be eligible, you must:

- Have a household income of £42,875 or less, as verified by your Student Finance application.
- Demonstrate an evidenced need for support, which will be assessed when you apply.
- You must also belong to at least one key group. A list of these can be found on our website: mmu.ac.uk/successfund





Additional funding – for some students

Disabled Students' Allowance

- Non-repayable, non-income assessed
- Can help with the cost of additional study related support

[gov.uk/disabled-students-allowances-dsas](https://www.gov.uk/disabled-students-allowances-dsas)

University Support Fund

- Provides help for students through a range of schemes including Day to Day Support and Accommodation Fee Support
- The fund is discretionary, so eligibility depends on your individual circumstances

[mmu.ac.uk/student-life/finance/support/support-funds](https://www.mmu.ac.uk/student-life/finance/support/support-funds)

What will I get?

Find out the amount you are entitled to here: [gov.uk/student-finance-calculator](https://www.gov.uk/student-finance-calculator)

Other sources of help:

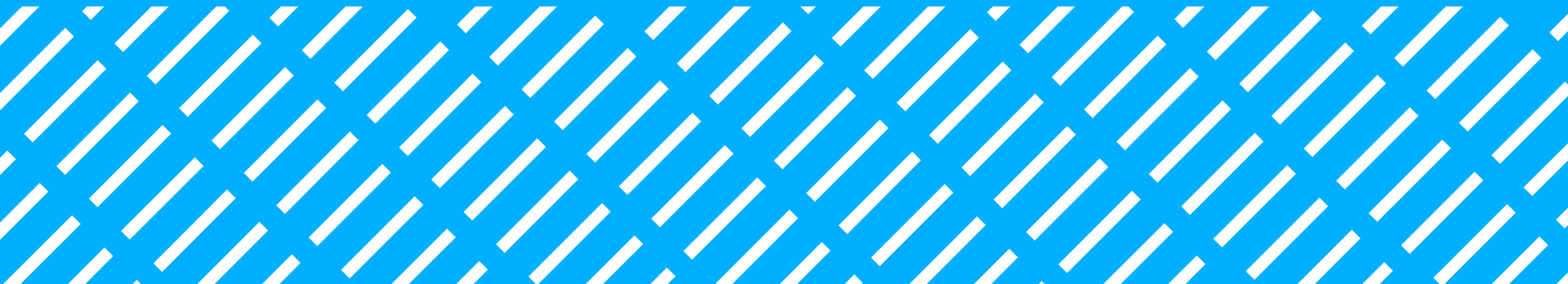
[gov.uk/guidance/cost-of-living-student-finance-support](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/cost-of-living-student-finance-support)

[ucas.com/finance/managing-money/budget-calculator](https://www.ucas.com/finance/managing-money/budget-calculator)



03

Repaying student loans



Repaying student loans

- Begin the April after finishing course if your earnings exceed £25,000*
- If earnings fall below £25,000 or you cease working, repayment stops
- Interest is applied to loans
- Any unpaid loan left after 40 years is written off
- Early repayments can be made at any time (with no penalty) if a student wants to reduce their loan balance early

* Figures correct for September 2025 starters



Repaying student loans

Annual income before tax (Gross)	Monthly repayment (Approximate)
£25,000	£0
£28,000	£22
£29,500	£33
£31,000	£45
£33,000	£60
£25,000	£0

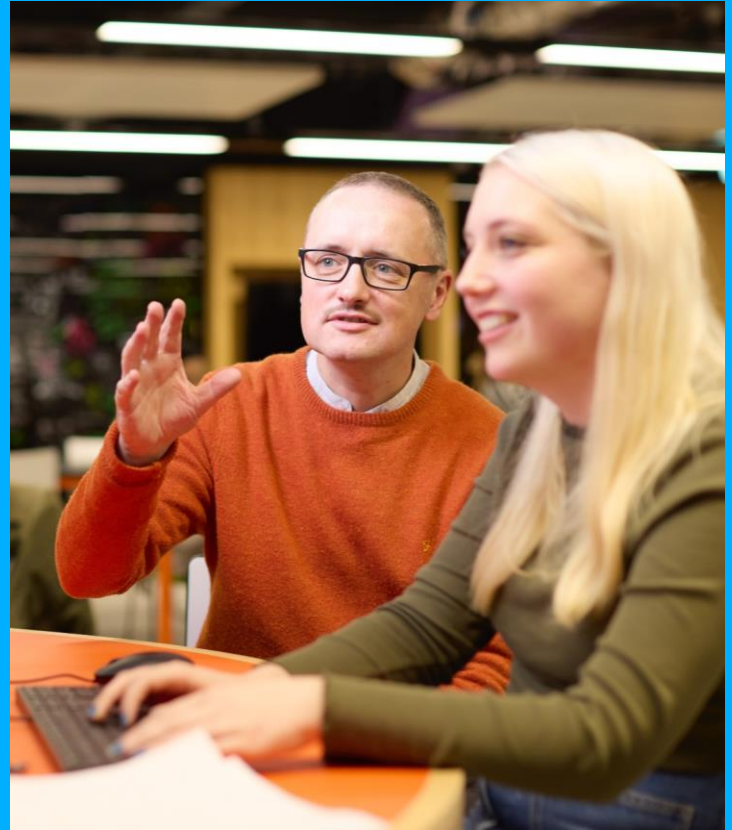
You'll repay 9% of any income earned over the threshold and if employed in the UK, the deductions will be made from your pay through the tax system.

[gov.uk/repaying-your-student-loan](https://www.gov.uk/repaying-your-student-loan)

* Figures correct for September 2025 starters

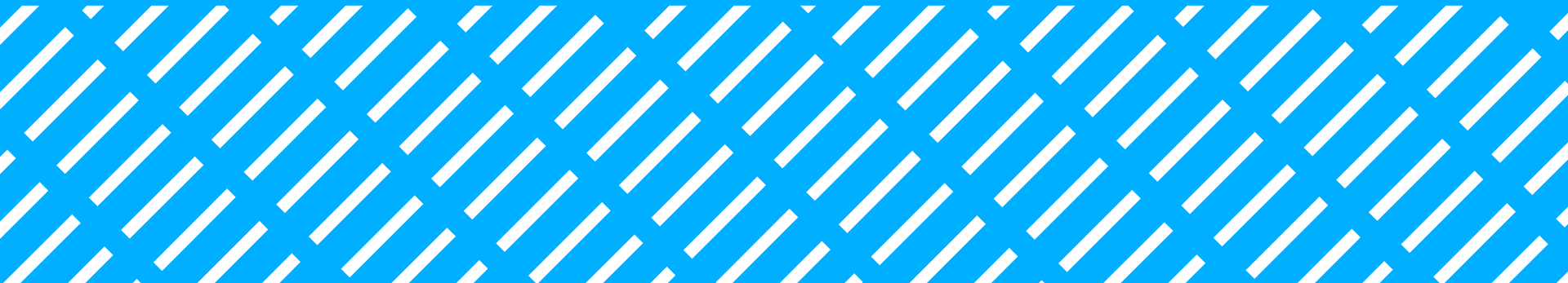


Manchester
Metropolitan
University



04

When and how to apply



Applying for Student Finance

via Student Finance England
[gov.uk/student-finance](https://www.gov.uk/student-finance)

- Apply online for student finance from Spring 2025 – Sign up for the SLC mailing list
- You do not need a confirmed place to apply – simply put down your preferred choice and amend online if needed
- Deadline by which to apply – Usually late May
- Students and sponsors (e.g. parents) can register and apply in one session
- Can access an online calculator to work out estimated entitlement



Find out more

Manchester Met University website:

student success package and other scholarships and bursaries

mmu.ac.uk/funding-your-studies

Student Finance England:

to make an application

www.gov.uk/student-finance

Student Loans repayment:

gov.uk/repaying-your-student-loan

Advice on finance and budgeting:

moneysavingexpert.com/students





Find out what you really need to know at an open day

Wednesday 18 June 2025

Saturday 11 October 2025

Saturday 18 October 2025

Saturday 22 November 2025

Book your place and plan your day at mmu.ac.uk/openday



Manchester
Metropolitan
University

When do you apply for an apprenticeship?

The answer is that it's different from other forms of education and the deadlines can vary depending on the type of apprenticeship you're applying for. Generally, the best time to apply for apprenticeships is between January and March. This is when many employers start advertising their apprenticeship vacancies, but it's a good idea to start your research early so that you can find the right opportunities for you. Here are the three broad categories of application timelines:

Annual recruitment cycle

Many large employers, particularly those offering higher apprenticeships, degree apprenticeships and accountancy-related school leaver programmes, follow an annual recruitment cycle. In this case, applications usually open between September and March, with closing dates from late October to early May. The start date for these apprenticeships is often in early autumn.

Immediate start apprenticeships

Some employers, especially smaller ones or local branches of national chains, recruit apprentices for immediate start. In these cases, it's more prudent to wait until you finish school or college. These apprenticeships are available to start work without delay.

Ongoing recruitment

A few employers describe their apprenticeship recruitment as ongoing, accepting applications throughout the year. Even if a company hires you, there may not always be a position available to start immediately, so be ready to wait. This approach is more common amongst larger employers.

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship> Students should set up their profile and register for new vacancy alerts on the Government portal.

Employment Readiness Group

Our process supporting apprenticeship applications.

TODAY
Employ Group
Established
following
session from
Macclesfield
Pledge.
Manchester
Met guide to
apprenticeships

1st July
Attend Festival
of
Apprenticeships
at MMU

Year 12
Student
Development
Day 5
Session 1:
What is an
apprenticeship
? Meet alumni.
CV Writing
Workshop

Year 13
Student
Development
Day 1
Session 2:
LinkedIn
Creating a Good
Profile

Year 13 Student
Development
Day 2
Session 3:
Preparing for
Interviews and
Assessment
Centres

Year 13
November –
December.
Submit First
Draft CV to Mrs
Bibby for review

Year 13
December.
Use enhanced
CV to apply for
place at Mock
Assessment
Centre provided
by Careers Hub

January 2026
Participate in
Mock
Assessment
Centre.

Applications to Apprenticeships - Ongoing throughout process.
Building your profile on Unifrog in order to stand out in their Talent Pool – Ongoing throughout the process.

What is UCAS?

UCAS is an independent charity providing information, advice and admissions services. They're there to help people discover what their next step might be.

UCAS does:

- provide information, advice, and support
- process applications
- complete fraud and verification checks
- take part in education sector engagement

UCAS doesn't:

- make decisions or offers
- set entry requirements
- advise on finance
- advise on immigration or visas for individuals

What's right?



There are a number of things to consider with their next step :

- something they enjoy – they are investing time and effort
- whether it's right for their career path – check with employers and professional organisations
- location – city or rural, transport links
- a study and assessment style that suits them
- environment including extracurricular, clubs, and societies
- finances, tuition fees, living costs, bursaries (often not income related)



POYNTON



THE CENTRE
OF EXCELLENCE

Please meet our Alumni...

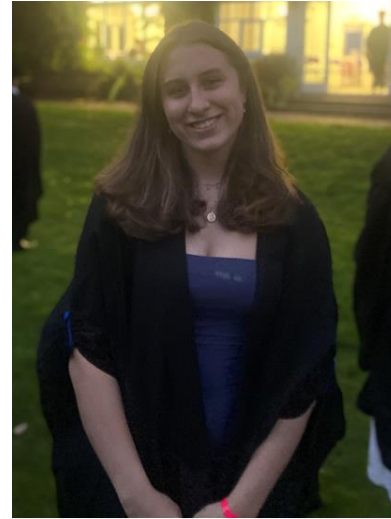
Freya Smith
Class of 2024



Ben Valentine
Class of 2024



Hannah Johnson
Class of 2024





University of
Salford
MANCHESTER



Freya

University
of Salford

BA
Multimedia
Journalism



Ben

Apprenticeship
with First Actuarial



Hannah

University of
Cambridge

BSc
Architecture



Open Days and Student Finance

■ www.opendays.com

opendays.com
university and college open days



Home Search for a university/college Browse open day calendar Advice My Open Days



17-Jun Open Day



1-Jul Open Day



26-May Open Day



10-Jun Open Day

Opendays.com Advice

University and college open day and application advice

This section contains loads of advice on what to do at open days, how to apply to university and college year, and university subject/course advice.

All advice articles have been written either by careers advice professionals or experts in their field.



How to choose a university

Heading to university is one of the most exciting moments in life, but choosing where to go can also seem like one of the most difficult. Find out some of the best



What questions should I ask at open days?

It's more than just location and the courses taught. Ask the right questions to help decide whether an institution is right for you.

- <https://www.ucas.com/sfe>
- <https://www.gov.uk/student-finance-register-login>
- <https://www.gov.uk/student-finance-calculator>

PARENT'S GUIDE TO STUDENT FINANCE ENGLAND

sfe

Student Finance England (SFE) relates to English domiciled students studying higher education courses at universities or colleges in the UK

What is Student Finance?

Student Finance is a combination of loans, grants and other financial support available to help students pay for higher education courses at university or college. www.ucas.com/sfe

To be eligible for SFE support, students must be undertaking an eligible Higher Education (HE) course at university or college and meet the set nationality, residency and previous study criteria.

For a comprehensive overview please visit: www.gov.uk/student-finance/who-qualifies

There are two core parts of the SFE student finance package, a Tuition Fee Loan and a Maintenance Loan.

Tuition Fees

Providers who meet government standards can charge full-time undergraduate students a maximum tuition fee of £9,250 a year (up to £11,100 for Accelerated Degree courses).

A non-means tested Tuition Fee Loan is available to eligible students, which SFE pay directly to the university or college once your child has started their course.

Maintenance Loan

A Maintenance Loan can help with a student's living costs, such as rent, food, travel and other costs. The amount paid will depend on where a student will live while they study, including if they live in the parental home, live away from home or study an approved year abroad as part of their UK based course.

Check how much student finance you could get

This calculator is for students living in England starting a new undergraduate course in academic years:

- 2024 to 2025
- 2025 to 2026

Choosing the right course

- 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 your 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?

Choosing the right next step for YOU

Research, research, research... We have made significant investment in the best platform to support this process. There is no 'one-size-fits-all' approach, you need to make your research and actions fit YOU.

Search careers that your current courses may lead to. Find out what they entail and what you need to do next to get there.

Search subjects at university that your current courses may lead to. Find out more about where they may lead you – employment etc...

Personality profile ✓ Quiz last taken 30 Jun 24: INFJ and INTJ	Activities ✗ Recorded at least 10	UK universities 1 shortlist
Quiz profile ✓ 4 of 4 quizzes complete	Skills ✗ Completed all 12	European universities 0 shortlists
Exploring	Interactions ✗ Missing 5 Interaction types	Oxbridge 0 shortlists
Careers library ✗ Careers favoured	Academics ✗ No Classes selected	Apprenticeships 0 shortlists
Subjects library ✗ Subjects favoured	Materials	College / Sixth Form 0 shortlists
Know-how library ✗ Guides favoured	UK Personal Statement ✗ Subject added	Irish universities 0 shortlists
Courses ✗ No courses added	Subject References ✗ No References selected	Applications
MOOC You have 3 shortlists	CV / Resumé ✗ Write CVs tailored for each roles	Post 18 Intentions ✗ Plan A and Plan B complete
Unifrog events Interact directly with experts	Notes for Reference writers ✗ 1 notes missing	Talent pool ✗ Not joined

unifrog

Search for university courses based on the grades you believe you might get. Compare them with each other. Look at student satisfaction ratings, employability following the course etc..

Research apprenticeships, get links to connect with the employers. Look at location, wages, what you need to apply etc...

UK universities

1 shortlist



European universities

What are the **best grades** you're likely to get by the time you leave school / college?

* Qualification 1

Qualification 2

What do you want to study?

* Subject

Or want to see [all courses at a single university](#) v

[next](#) or [go back](#)

Direct matches (1)

Law

Subjects you might like (23)

SINGLE HONOURS	JOINT HONOURS
	Accounting and Finance and Law
	Criminal Law and Justice
	Digital Marketing and Law
	Economics and Law
	English Literature and Law
	History and Law
	Law and Africa and Black Diaspora
	Law and Business

The UK universities tool on Unifrog is key to exploring your options.

You can add the grades that staff are predicting you are capable of into the search feature alongside a subject area.

You will find different courses with a range of entry requirements. You can then 'shortlist' these.



Aspirational (260)

Top of your range

- Law - 3FT BA (Hons)**
University of Cambridge
A Level: A*,A
- Law - 3FT LLB (Hons)**
Durham University
A Level: A*,A,A
- Law - 4FT LLB (Hons)**
The University of Edinburgh
A Level: A*,A,A-A*,A*,A
- Law - 3FT LLB (Hons)**
King's College London, University of London
A Level: A*,A,A
- Law (Bachelor of Laws) - 3FT LLB (Hons)**
London School of Economics and Political Science

Solid (63)

In the middle

- Law - 4FT BA (Hons)**
University of the West of Scotland
A Level: B,C,C
- Law - 3FT/4SW LLB (Hons)**
University of Brighton
A Level: B,C,C-B,B,B
- Law - 3FT LLB (Hons)**
Liverpool Hope University
A Level: B,C,C-B,B,B
- Law - 3FT LLB**
ARU London
A Level: B,C,C
- Law and Practice - 3FT BA (Hons)**
Coventry University
UCAS Points: 104

Safe (97)

At the bottom

- Law with Foundation - 4FT LLB (Hons)**
Durham University
Foundation year
- Law with Foundation Year - 4FT LLB (Hons)**
University of Sheffield
Foundation year
- Law (with integrated foundation year) - 4FT LLB**
Aberystwyth University
Foundation year
- Law Senior Status - 2FT LLB (Hons)**
University of Greenwich
Requirement: Not given. Check their site (Avg UCAS points 103)

<https://www.unifrog.org/student/know-how/uk-universities> – 5 min guide clip

Here you can make comparisons between unis and courses...

Law - 3FT LLB (Hons)

Durham University
 Durham, England



- [Website](#)
- [Open Day](#)
- [Course page](#)
- [Finance page](#)
- [Disabilities](#)
- [Contextual offers](#)
- [Scholarships](#)
- [Visa info](#)
- [Accommodation](#)

Upcoming events

Subject Taster Sessions

Ongoing

[Book](#)

These subject tasters are an ideal way to get a taste for what university might be like!

Discover Durham Live!

Ongoing

[Book your spot!](#)

We're running a series of Discover Durham Live virtual sessions covering everything from our colleges to sports and societies!

Open Days and Visits

Ongoing

[Find out more](#)

If you are interested in applying to Durham or already have an offer, we have plenty of ways for you to find out more.

University facts

Guardian overall rank 6th	Complete University overall rank 6th
QS world rank 89th	Teaching Excellence (TEF) Silver
THE Impact rank 36th	People and Planet rank 48th
Guardian subject rank Law: 6th	WhatUni Student Support rank -
Full-time undergrads 17,075	International undergrads 25%
Ethnic minority 1st years 14%	Disabled 1st years 18.5%
Difficulty Aspirational - Out of your predicted range	WhatUni Student Life rank -

Getting in

2026 A Level entry requirements

A*,A,A

Full-time 3 Years: All applicants are also required to sit the LNAT (www.lnat.ac.uk).

Admissions test

Law National Admissions Test (LNAT)

Last year's successful applicants for Law

The average UCAS tariff for last year's successful applicants was 197, and you fall in the 0-10th percentile. This means that 0-10% of the students who were on this course last year achieved lower grades at school than the ones you entered.

79% of successful applicants did the same qualification types as you, and of these a typical result was:

A Level: A*A*A*

Research apprenticeships at different levels, find out how to apply



How far do you want to travel?

Narrow down your search by [state and change terms](#), check out the [glossary](#), [distance limits](#) below.

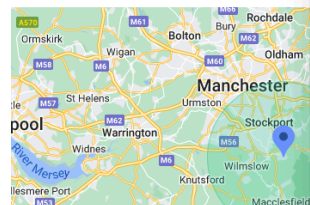
* Your postcode SK12 1PU ([change?](#))

* Choose radius 2 miles - 0 vacancies 5 miles - 0 vacancies 10 miles - 0 vacancies

50 miles - 36 vacancies 100 miles - 59 vacancies

No Limit - 145 vacancies

and 6 nationwide vacancies



Rank ▾ Filter ▾

Intermediate (1)

Equivalent to GCSEs

Apprentice Junior Estate Agent
SIMPLE MOVE MCR LIMITED
Distance: 8 miles

Advanced (4)

Equivalent to A-levels

Apprentice Account Handler
ARDONAGH ADVISORY HOLDINGS LIMITED
Distance: 11 miles

Apprentice Mechanical Design Engineer - Manchester
JOHNSON CONTROLS BUILDING EFFICIENCY UK LIMITED
Distance: 11 miles

Apprentice CAD Technician
EM3 SOLUTIONS LTD
Distance: 18 miles

Higher / Degree (13)

Equivalent to Foundation / Bachelor's

Apprentice Cost Consultant
Arcadis
Distance: 10 miles

Actuarial Apprenticeship
Willis Towers Watson
Distance: 11 miles

Higher Apprentice: Functions
Barclays
Distance: 11 miles

Higher Apprentice: Functions
Barclays
Distance: 11 miles

Apprentice Cost Consultant - Degree

Employer: Arcadis
 Training Provider: Arcadis

Employer website earlyyearscareers@arcadis.com

1st floor, Suite 1a, 4 Piccadilly, Manchester M1 3BN

As a cost consultant you can work in any of our sectors and you will work across cost, commercial and tra projects. At its core, Cost Consultancy involves estimating and advising on the cost of construction works, providing advice on project finances and contractual relationships. Working in a fast-moving industry mea transformation is key.

Apprenticeship facts

Deadline
14 June 2024

Start date
1 September 2024

Hours per week
35

Number of vacancies
1

Applications open
May

Weekly wage
£420

Duration
18 Months

Distance from home
11 miles

Training provided
You will work towards your:

- Insurance Practitioner Level 3 Apprenticeship
- Certificate in Insurance (Cert CI)
- Level 2 Functional Skills in English and Maths (if required)

Employer & Training facts

Employer description
One of the world's leading independent insurance brokers.

Training provider Ofsted rating
Requires improvement
[Read report](#)

The screenshot shows the Unifrog website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for HOME, FAVOURITES, LOCKER, APPLY, HELP, a search icon, a settings icon, an email icon, and a TEACHER button. Below the navigation bar, there are two main sections: 'Upcoming Events' and 'Past Virtual Events'. The 'Upcoming Events' section features a video thumbnail and a title 'Is Alexa listening? Data surveillance in the UK' with a 'Virtual' tag. The description mentions 'Big brother is watching!' and discusses data surveillance. Below the description are links for 'sign up' and 'Share'. The 'Past Virtual Events' section features a video thumbnail and a title 'Future-proofing your business idea: Masterclass' with a 'Virtual' tag. The description mentions Professor Daniel Rukare and discusses navigating innovation. Below the description are links for 'sign up' and 'Share'.

Discover academic recommendations based on areas of interest, reading, listening and super-curricular studies that help you stand out against peers applying for courses and bolster your wider subject knowledge.

- MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses) affiliated and accredited by universities.
- Podcasts, journal articles, books created and curated for you by leading academics.
- Masterclasses from key universities for you to attend online.
- ...there is so much to help you stand out.

The screenshot shows the Unifrog website interface for course selection. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for HOME, FAVOURITES, LOCKER, APPLY, HELP, a search icon, a settings icon, an email icon, and a TEACHER button. Below the navigation bar, there is a progress indicator with steps: 1 About, 2 Topic, 3 Longlist (selected), 4 Shortlist, and 5 Complete. Below the progress indicator, there is a section titled 'Select courses below' with a subtext 'Pick the best courses for you by ranking, filtering and searching. Click next when you're done.' Below this section, there is a search bar with a 'Rank' dropdown, a 'Filter' dropdown, and a 'Keyword search' input field. Below the search bar, there are three columns of course recommendations: 'Starting soon (2)', 'On demand (43)', and 'Already started (73)'. Each column has a subtext: 'Sharpen your pencils', 'Start any time', and 'Catch up / get notified of next start' respectively. Below each column, there are three course cards with icons, titles, university names, and workload information.

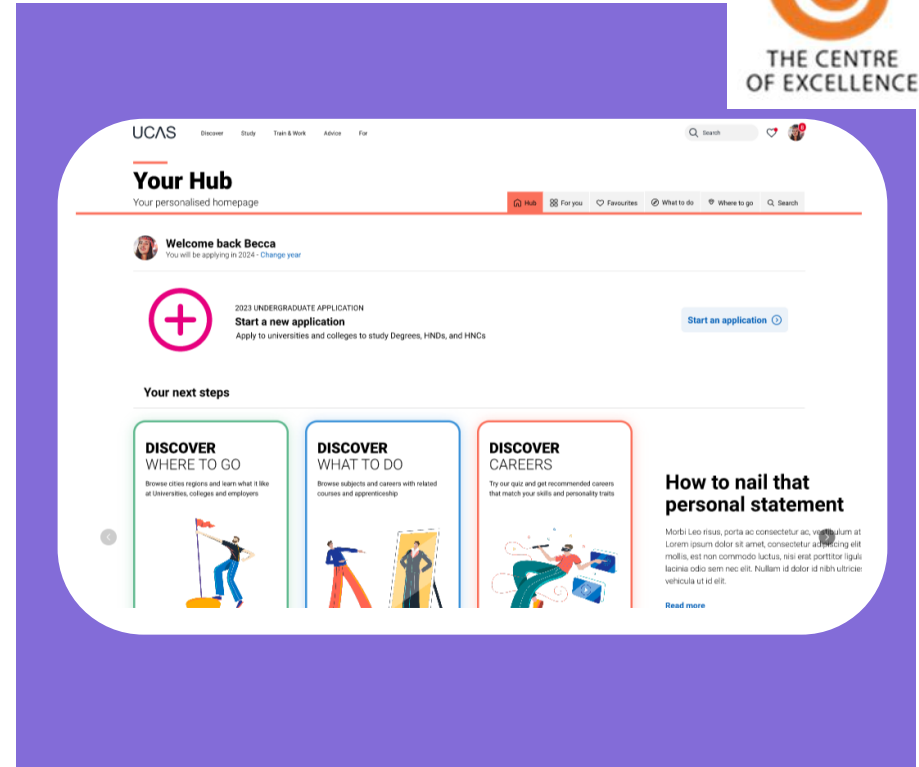
Starting soon (2) Sharpen your pencils	On demand (43) Start any time	Already started (73) Catch up / get notified of next start
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Behaviour Change Interventions: Introductory Principles and Practice UCL (University College London) Workload: 3 hours per week Buyer Behaviour and Analysis Curtin University Workload: 12 weeks to complete 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refugees in the 21st Century University of London Workload: Six weeks of study, 4-6 hours per week Fandom, Community, and Identity in Popular Music University of Colorado Boulder Workload: A few hours a week, flexible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nutrition Science: Food Choice and Behaviour University of Aberdeen Workload: 5 hours per week One Health: Connecting Humans, Animals and the Environment University of Basel Workload: 5 hours per week

All important places to reference
for our SUPER-CURRICULAR
SUMMER!

Starting research

Students are already registered with the UCAS Hub to:

- explore careers, subjects, places, and apprenticeships
- find and favourite over 35,000 courses
- search for open days, events and virtual tours
- turn predicted grades into UCAS Tariff points
- speak to those in the know using [Unibuddy](#)
- speak to career, higher education, and application specialists by attending [Hub lives](#)
- take the [UCAS Quiz](#) to find your career matches
- start their application – we have already tasked them with this today!



UCAS advice and events

UCAS Hub lives

Join [live sessions](#) hosted by expert panels.

Ask questions to help you make an informed decision about the right path for you. University, apprenticeships or the world of work.



Home / Advice for parents, guardians and carers

SIGN UP FOR OUR PARENT NEWSLETTER

Are you supporting someone who's exploring their higher education options? Whether they're set on going to uni, or still looking into their options – including apprenticeships, gap years, or conservatoire courses – we can help! Simply fill in the form below, and we'll send you everything you need to help them make an informed decision.

Email address *

Title *

Select

First name *

Last name *

Location *

Select

UCAS Newsletter for Parents

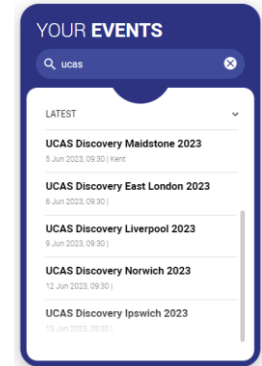
<https://www.ucas.com/parents-signup>

Whether they're set on going to uni, or still looking into their options – including apprenticeships, gap years, or conservatoire courses – we can help! Simply fill in the form below, and we'll send you everything you need to help them make an informed decision.

UCAS Discovery

Events and open days are presented based on your preferences.

Register straight from the Hub for UCAS Discovery 'The Big Q&A Tour', with exciting new zones covering all pathways.





Completing the UCAS application



Student registers for a UCAS Hub account to carry out research and start application.

Student completes all sections of the application (this is now live to complete) and asks Mrs Bibby to check form when fully complete. (Personal Statement does not need to be finalised for this)

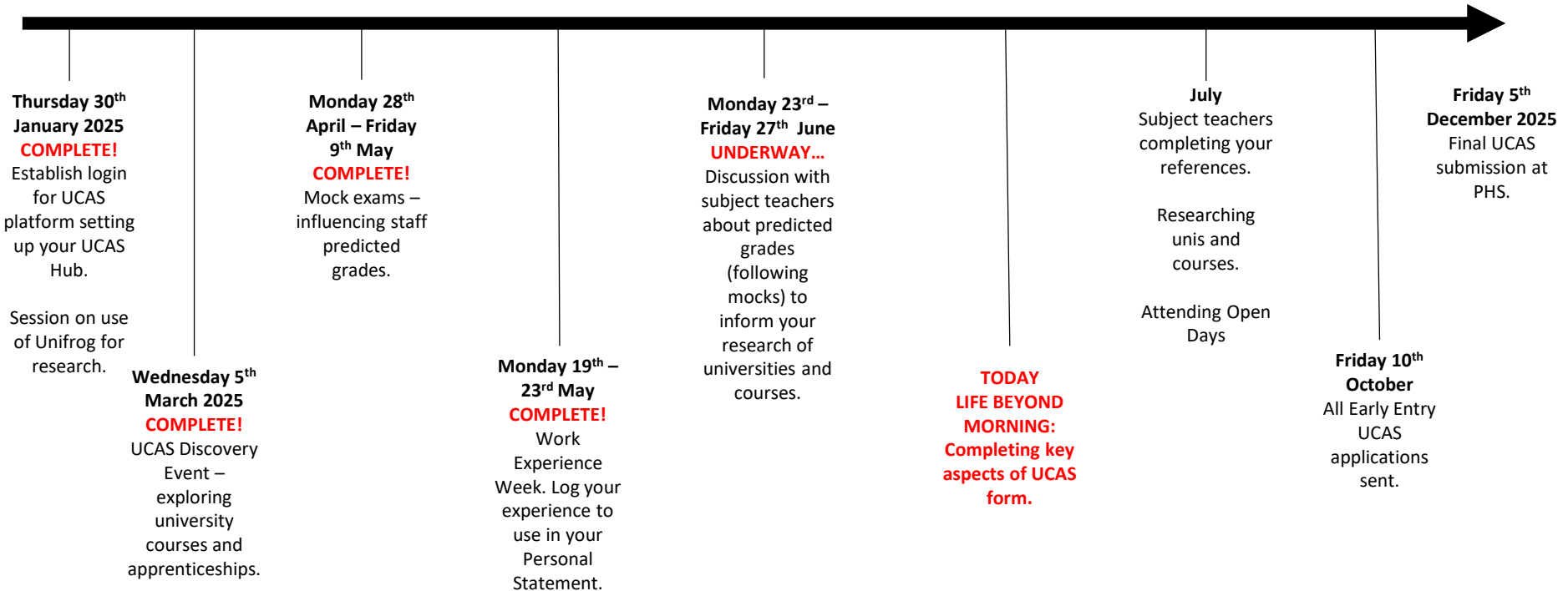
Form Teacher reviews Personal Statement via Unifrog and creates reference, predicted grades added to reference. June 2025 - Students are currently completing discussion cards with subject staff.

Final review meeting with Sixth Form Team link, student then instructed to pay for application. (£28.95, there is a FSM waiver)

Student books to see Mr Bennett to review application prior to it being forwarded to UCAS by Mr Bennett on behalf of the student.

Universities and colleges make their decisions on the application and reply via the UCAS Hub.

When to apply for 2026 entry



University Open Days – Various Dates

We will authorise two visits to University Open Days in term time. An absence request form must be submitted to Mrs Tupman.

Please keep in mind that many take place on weekends also. (a central Open Day calendar can be found here:

<https://www.opendays.com/>)

There are **two main UCAS deadlines** to be aware of when applying. Our **SCHOOL DEADLINES** are set in advance of the UCAS deadlines to ensure we have enough time to carry out all the checks needed and to write good quality references. Please make sure you observe the school deadlines.

Early Entry

***Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science,
Oxford, Cambridge.***

UCAS Deadline = 15th October

PHS Sixth Form Deadline = 3rd October

Most other degrees

UCAS Deadline = 14th January

PHS Sixth Form Deadline = 1st December

You MUST meet our PHS Sixth Form deadlines in order for us to have capacity to submit your UCAS form on time.

UCAS

POYNTON



THE CENTRE
OF EXCELLENCE

Aspire

PHS SIXTH FORM



Key facts

- Universities and colleges **can't see** the other choices when students apply, until firm and insurance courses are selected.
- Students have up to **five choices**, unless applying to study medicine, veterinary, medicine/science, dentistry – then it's **four choices** but they can use your 5th for a different course if they wish
- Students **can't apply to BOTH** Oxford and Cambridge.
- Applying **costs** £28.95. Student pays for application online when their Sixth Form Team Link gives them the go ahead – this DOES NOT send to UCAS at this time, Mr Bennett sends all applications to UCAS. ***If a student has been in receipt of Free School Meals this fee can be waived if they indicate this on their application.***

Application

A?

Experiences:

- Education
- Employment
- Extra activities

What have you done above and beyond?

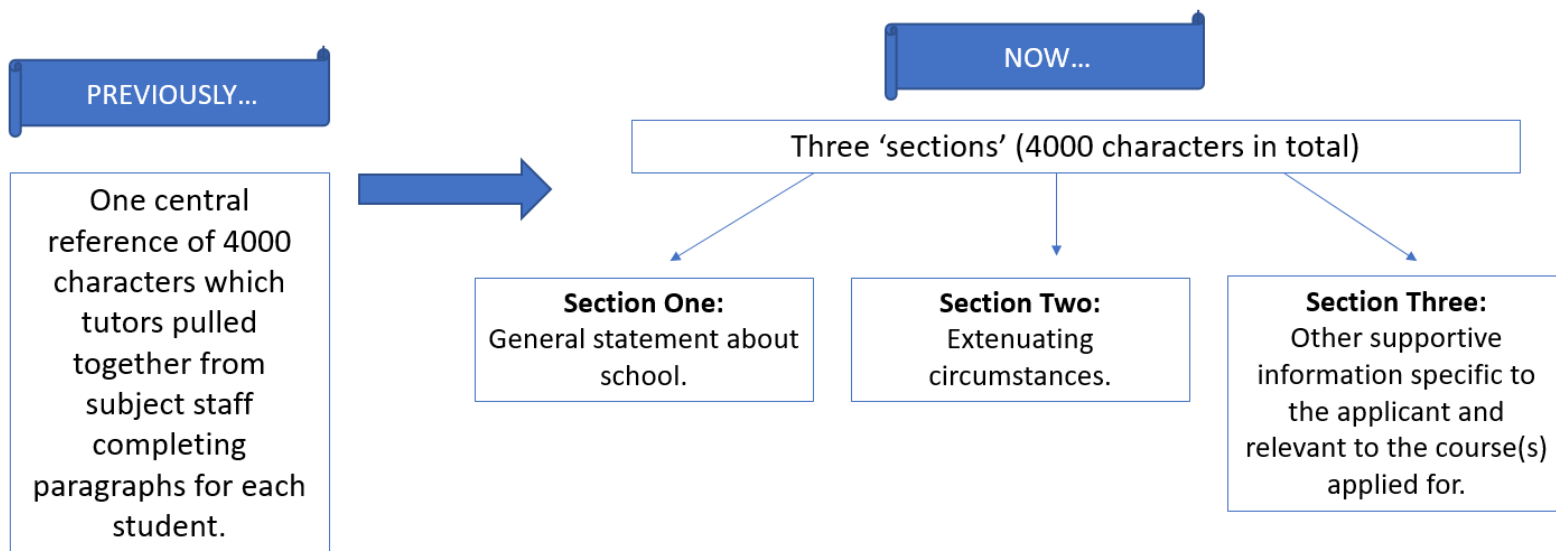
- Personal statement
- Reference**
- Add choices – up to five

** (not visible for students linked to their school/college)

The screenshot displays a dark-themed application form interface on a yellow background. The form is divided into two main sections: 'Experience' and 'Personal Statement'. Under 'Experience', there are three sub-sections: 'Education >' (with a description 'Your qualifications and periods of study' and a 'Section in progress' indicator), 'Employment >' (with a description 'Employment, paid or unpaid, or volunteer work' and a 'Section complete' indicator), and 'Extra activities >' (with a description 'Activities you have attended in preparation for higher education' and a 'Start this section' button). Under 'Personal Statement', there is one sub-section: 'Personal statement >' (with a description 'Why do you want to study this subject?' and a 'Start this section' button).

References Update

The UCAS reference system for uni applications has changed...





POINTS TO NOTE....

Our references will be much shorter than previously, as directed by UCAS.

We will still be creating a comment for ALL students – we feel this is important.

Students will have the opportunity to meet with their tutor or a member of the Sixth Form Team to discuss any extenuating circumstances that we are not already aware of. UCAS have suggested that the vast majority of students are most likely to have nothing noted in this section.

The Personal Statement

New format for 2026 entry

The new personal statement is now scaffolded around three questions...

1. Why do you want to study this course or subject?

Examples of what you might talk about here are your motivation for studying this course, your knowledge of this subject area and interests, your future plans and why this is a good fit for you.

2. How have your qualifications or studies helped you prepare for this course or subject?

Examples of what you might talk about here are how your studies or training relate to your chosen course(s) or subject area, what relevant or transferable skills you have that make you a great candidate and any relevant educational achievements

3. What else have you done to prepare outside of education, and why are these experiences useful?

This could include work experience, volunteering, personal life experiences, hobbies and extra-curricular outreach activities and achievements outside of school.

UCAS' similarity detection service:

Every personal statement is run through software to check for plagiarism.

Generating (and then copying, pasting and submitting) all or a large part of a personal statement from an AI tool such as ChatGPT, and presenting it as your own words, could be considered cheating by universities and colleges and could affect chances of an offer.

Students now have to declare that their personal statement hasn't been copied or provided from another source, including artificial intelligence software.

The UCAS Verification Team run checks to detect fraudulent applications and patterns of similarity in personal statements which are reported to universities.

Personal statement example

Why?

Lord Darzi's recent report highlights the huge challenges facing the NHS and need for stark reform. It concludes however that the NHS's 'vital signs remain strong' with a deep passion and determination from all staff to make the NHS better for patients. The NHS has always been there for my family and I, from broken bones to cancer. I'm in awe of the skills, compassion and dedication displayed by these amazing people who make the service tick. My decision to pursue medicine is formed from a love of science, research and an intrinsic desire to help others.

I love studying Psychology as I'm fascinated by the capability and workings of the human mind; in particular what motivates people to behave in diverse ways. I am particularly interested in Forensic Psychology, questioning what triggers criminals to commit crimes, and wondering if it is possible to predict behaviours and identify patterns in order to prevent criminality.

A defining moment for me was when I was able to understand the application of biochemistry to my own life. I was prescribed a brown inhaler as part of a treatment plan to help prevent my symptoms of PFAPA syndrome and thought how does this compare to my blue inhaler. During my research I found that it acts as a preventer rather than a reliever highlighting to me that the chemical structure alters the effect of each inhaler on the human body. One of the standout moments in my chemistry lessons was when I prepared a sample of aspirin.

Personal statement example

What?

As a Geography ambassador, I helped out in year 7 geography lessons once a fortnight in year 12. This was so encouraging as I was working with young students who were struggling but gradually saw them learn to understand and enjoy geography with my help. During my work experience at a high school in Altrincham, I observed geography lessons, helped students, and soon gained the confidence to teach lessons to Year 7 and 8 classes. I really enjoyed this and I wish to explore teaching further at university after my geography degree.

Outside of Sixth Form, my project led to me creating a cover for my local magazine- a peacock butterfly in colour pencil as well as an article about the importance of insects. This opportunity allowed me to further share my work with others, as well as being able to communicate my passion for these wonderful creatures. I have also spent time volunteering, both in my local library over the summer and working at my local ceramics studio over a series of months, culminating in a week spent doing work experience there.

I began a MOOC on Global Media, War, and Technology. Over a three-month period, I researched cyberspace, learned how to complete a discourse analysis on an image, became better versed in politics and, more broadly, began to understand the true power of the media in society. These were but a few of the factors that enticed me further toward a career in Journalism. My EPQ project explored the portrayal of disability in literature. Through extensive research of fourteen fictional novels, I outlined normalised but harmful stereotypes that negatively shape the cultural perception of disabled individuals.

Decisions

Universities and colleges will review the:



personal statement



qualifications



reference

They may also ask for:



admissions test



interview



portfolio/audition

[https://www.ucas.com/
undergraduate/applying-
university/admissions-
tests](https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/applying-university/admissions-tests)

May/June
2026

Replies to offers

Once students have decisions on all their choices, they can choose two:

- One as a 'firm' acceptance – their first choice.
- The other as an 'insurance' acceptance. This acts as a back-up if they do not get into their 'firm' choice.

Any remaining offers must be declined.

Once all their decisions and replies have been made, if they are not holding an offer, they may be able to use Extra or Clearing to find available places.



What should students be doing?



- research, research, research
- attend open days and events
- extracurricular and super curricular activities
- work experience
- volunteering
- independent learning outside the curriculum
- focus on this year's studies



Upcoming

- Tuesday 1st July – Festival of Apprenticeships (all students now signed up)
- Tuesday 15th July Student Development Day – Personal Statements workshop, Employment Readiness Session (Meet the Apprentices and CV Workshop)
- Wednesday 16th July – School Sponsored Walk

Any Questions?



Please meet...



Mr Bennett
Director of
Sixth
Form



Mrs Hardacre
Head of
Year 12



Mrs Bibby
Sixth Form
Support
Officer



Faye Newton
Manchester Metropolitan
University



Student Recruitment Officer -
Apprenticeships

Freya Smith
Class of 2024



Ben Valentine
Class of 2024



Hannah Johnson
Class of 2024

