

UCAS – your journey

September 2025





Apply

How to apply to universities for 2026 entry

Key dates for 2026



(18:00 UK time) Application deadline for conservatoire music applications

Applications for dance, drama, and musical theatre courses may have a different deadline – check conservatoires' websites for information.



(18:00 UK time)Deadline for most undergraduate courses and most conservatoire undergraduate dance, drama, or musical theatre courses

Applications can be sent after this, but providers cannot guarantee they'll give it equal consideration.



(18:00 UK time) Deadline for applications to the universities of Oxford and Cambridge, and for most courses in medicine, dentistry, and veterinary medicine/science

Application can be sent after this, but universities and colleges concerned cannot guarantee they'll give it equal consideration.



Clearing opens

Clearing vacancies are shown in the UCAS search tool.



School Deadlines – undergraduate courses

 Personal Statement first draft: Friday 10th October 2025

• Final Application to be submitted to school: Friday December 5th 2025

Find your best fit uni or college

Style and focus

✓ From research-intensive to practical, careerorientated learning.

Location and size

Ranges from small campuses to large city-based universities with over 20,000 students.

Culture and facilities

Environment, resources, and student life.

Graduate outcomes

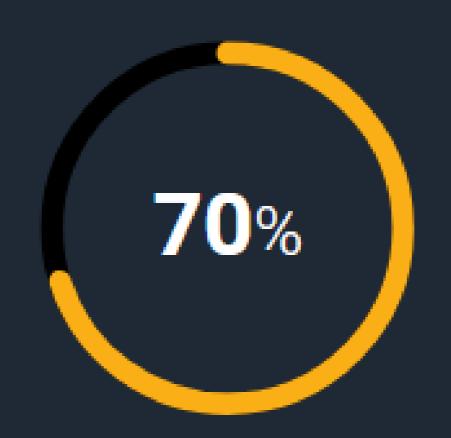
What careers have recent graduates gone on to?

Costs

✓ Include living costs, accommodation, and transport.

Student Outcomes

Operated by the Office for Students



Employment after 15 months (Most common jobs)



Go onto work and study

The number of student respondents and response rates can be important in interpreting the data — it is important to note your experience may be different from theirs. This data will be based on the subject area rather than the specific course. Read more about this data on the Discover Uni website.



The course matters

Teaching & learning

✓ Teaching hours, self-study, lectures, and group work.

Assessment & structure

Coursework, exams, practical work, and module choices.

Entry requirements

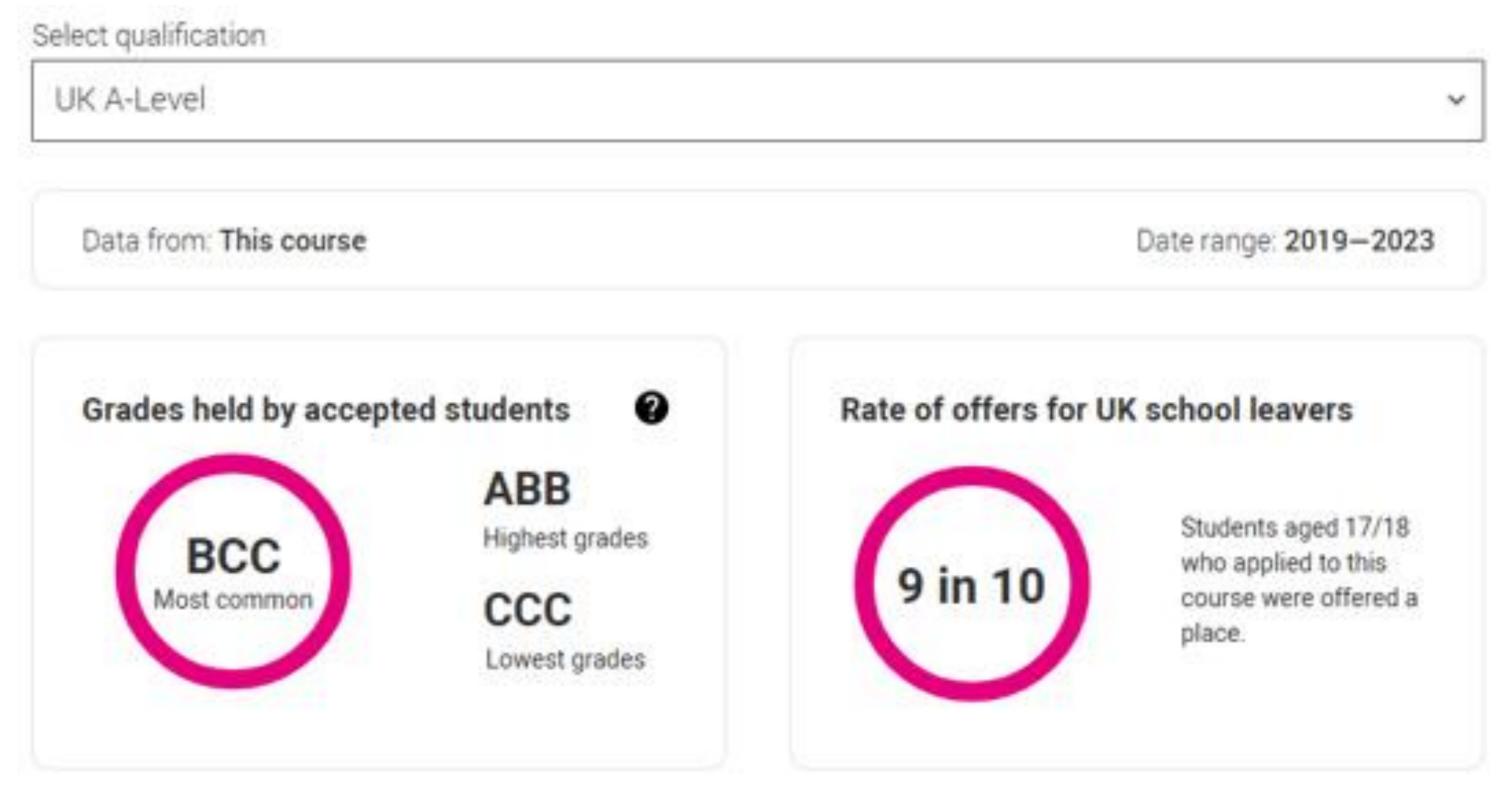
✓ Grades, skills, interviews, or auditions.

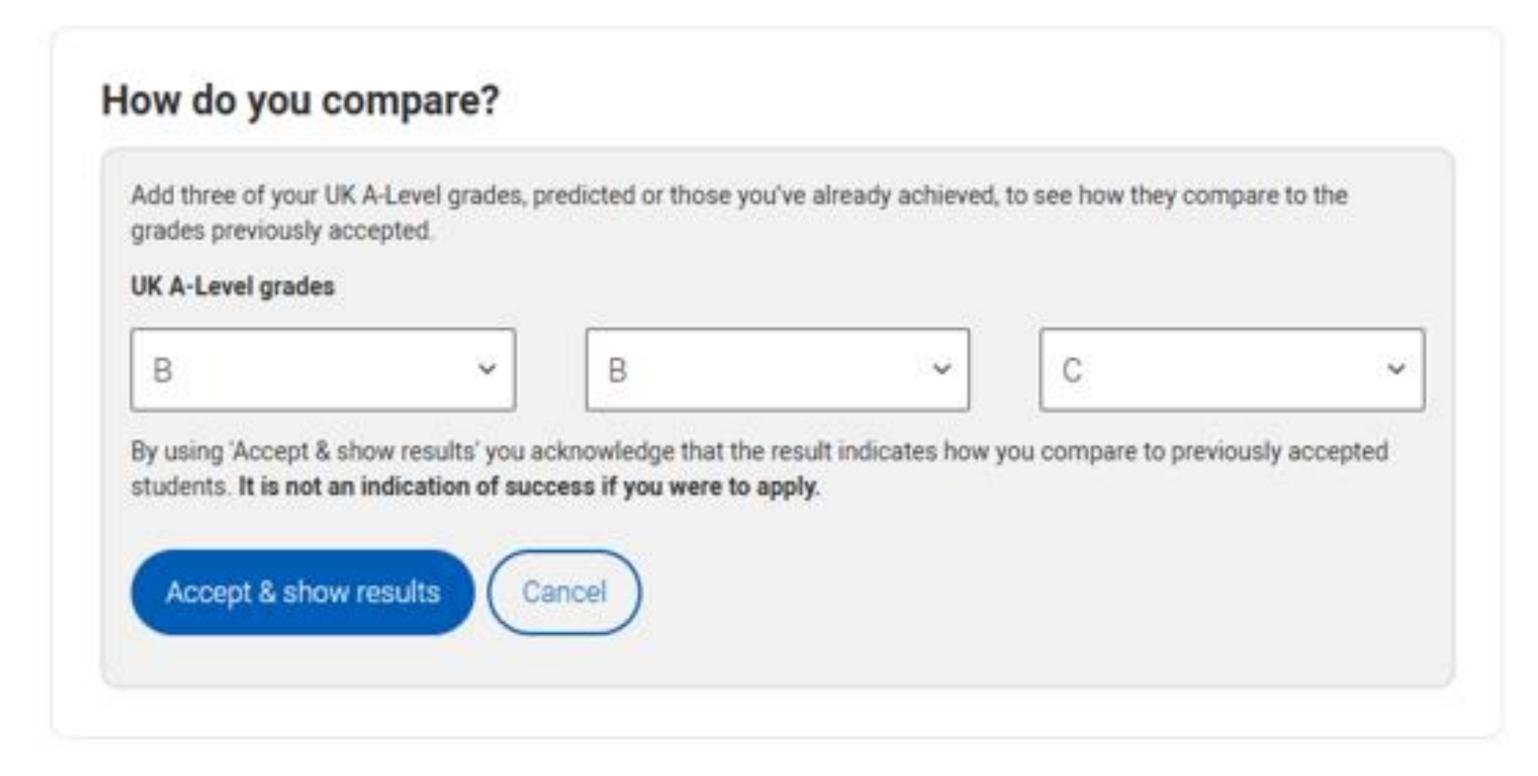
Career links

Placements, internships and study abroad.

Class size & experience

✓ Student numbers and learning environment







Invisibility - Universities and colleges can't see your other choices



Apply by the relevant deadline date.



Five choices, with some restrictions (medicine, veterinary, dentistry, Oxford and Cambridge).



Research is key to a successful application.



Applying costs £28.95.



Completing the ucas application



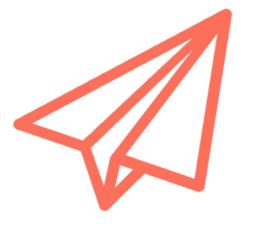
Student registers for a UCAS Hub account to carry out research and start an application.



Student completes all sections of the application and sends it to their school/college.



Teacher or adviser reviews the application and adds reference and predicted grades.



Applications are sent to UCAS by the school of college on behalf of the student.



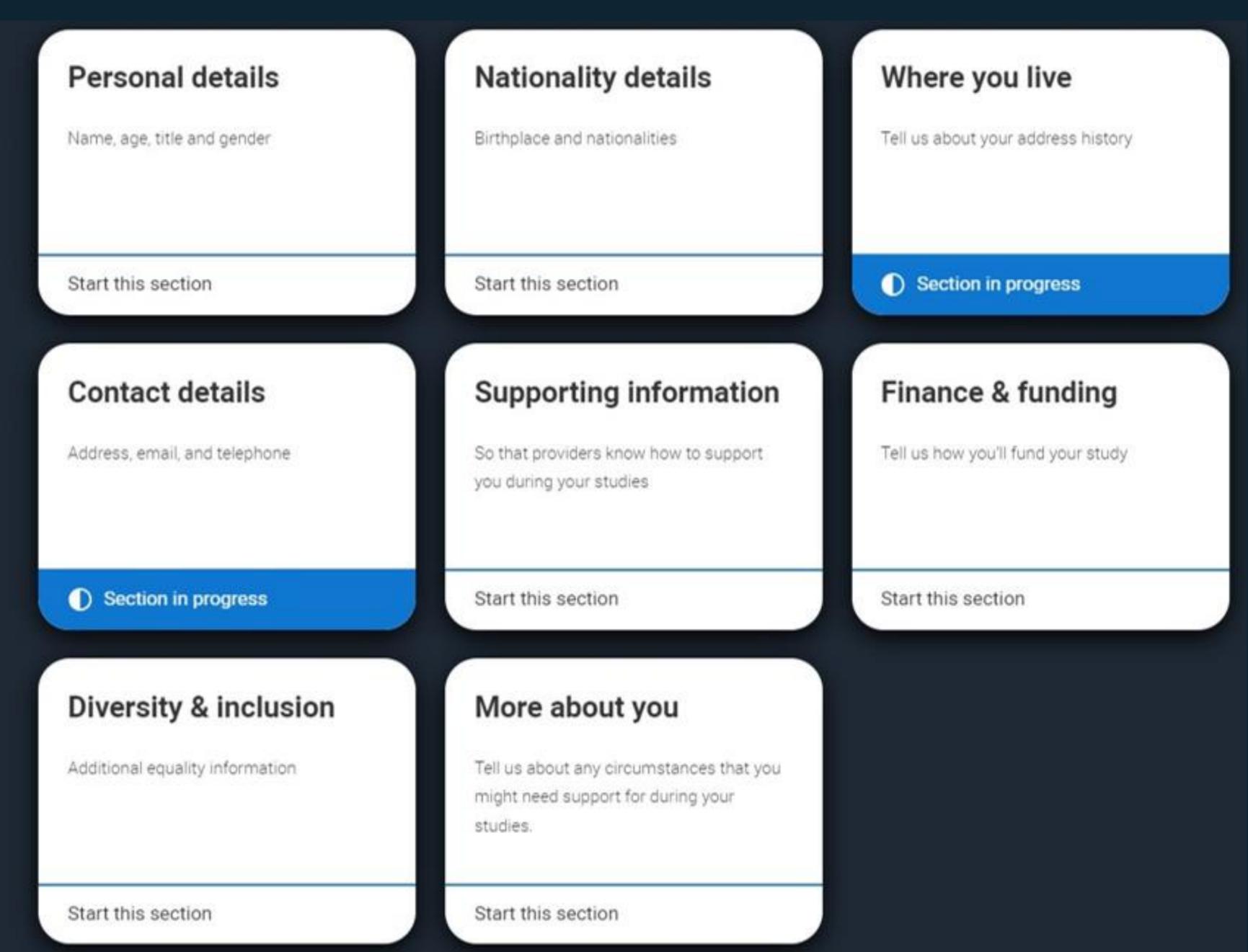
Universities and colleges make their decisions on the application.





application profile

- Personal details
- Nationality details
- Where you live
- Contact details
- Supporting information
- Finance and funding
- Diversity and inclusion*
- More about you
- * (for students with a UK home address)



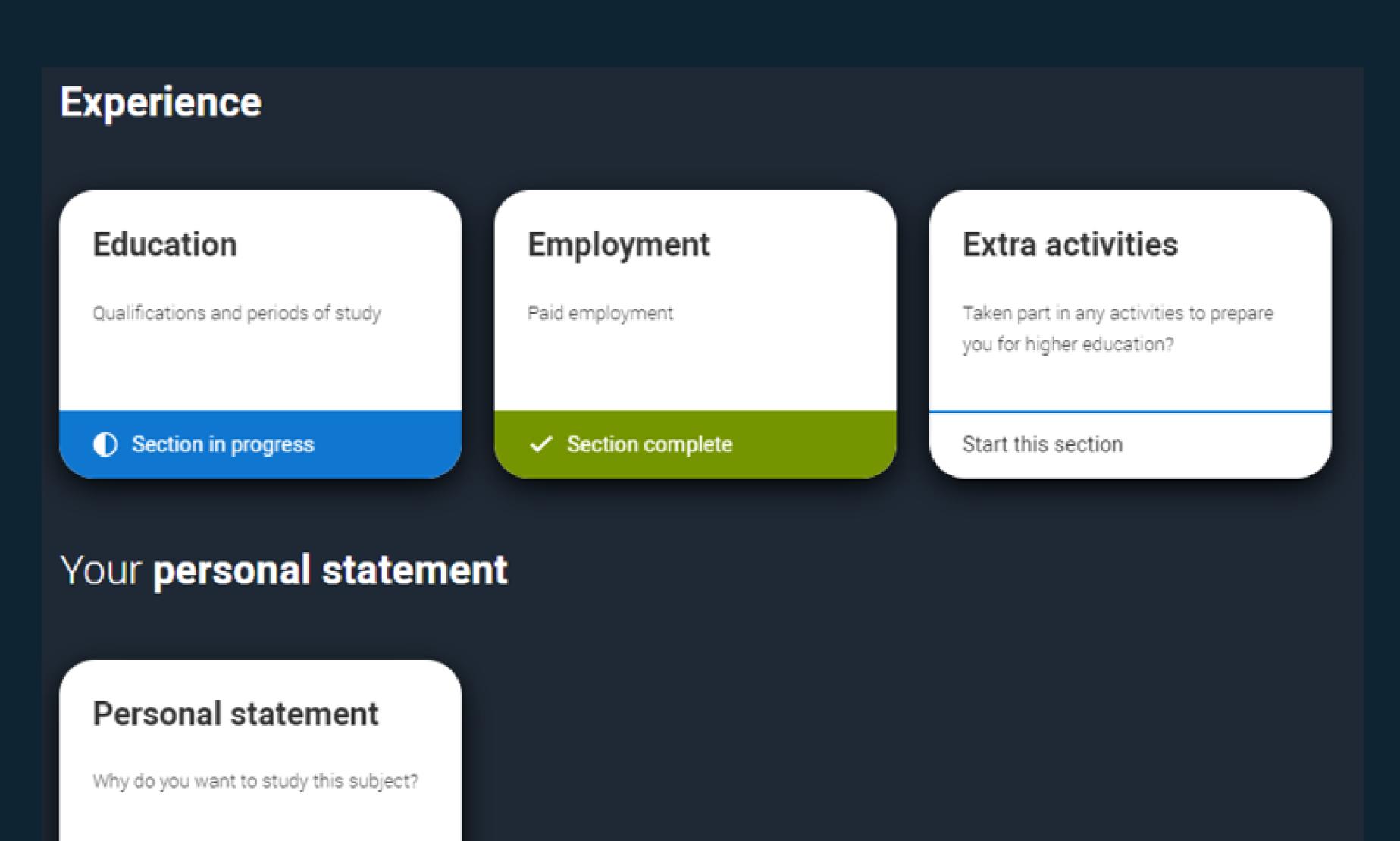


application experiences

- Education
- Employment
- Extra activities*
- Personal statement
- Reference**

*(for students with a UK home address)

**(not visible if linked to your school/college)



Start this section

the personal Statement

Why do you want to study this course or subject? * This is your opportunity to showcase your passion and knowledge of your chosen subject area and to demonstrate to universities and colleges why they are a good fit for you and your future ambitions.



Your chance to show your passion, curiosity, interest.

Please use a minimum of 350 characters in this section (350 needed)



Three separate sections with question prompts.



A maximum of 4,000 characters, minimum of 350 characters per section.



The same for all your choices.



There isn't a spelling or grammar check.



No formatting allowed.



Every personal statement is run through similarity detection software.



the personal Statement

How have your qualifications and studies helped you to prepare for this course or subject? *

This is your chance to shout about the relevant or transferable skills you've gained from your education and highlight your understanding of how they will help you succeed in this subject area.

Please use a minimum of 350 characters in this section (350 needed)

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

This is your chance to reflect on any other activities you have undertaken outside of your education, or personal experiences which further demonstrate your suitability for the course. This section is likely to be deeply personal to you, so anything you include should be meaningful and relevant to you.

Please use a minimum of 350 characters in this section (350 needed)



What are the questions?



Why do you want to study this course or subject?



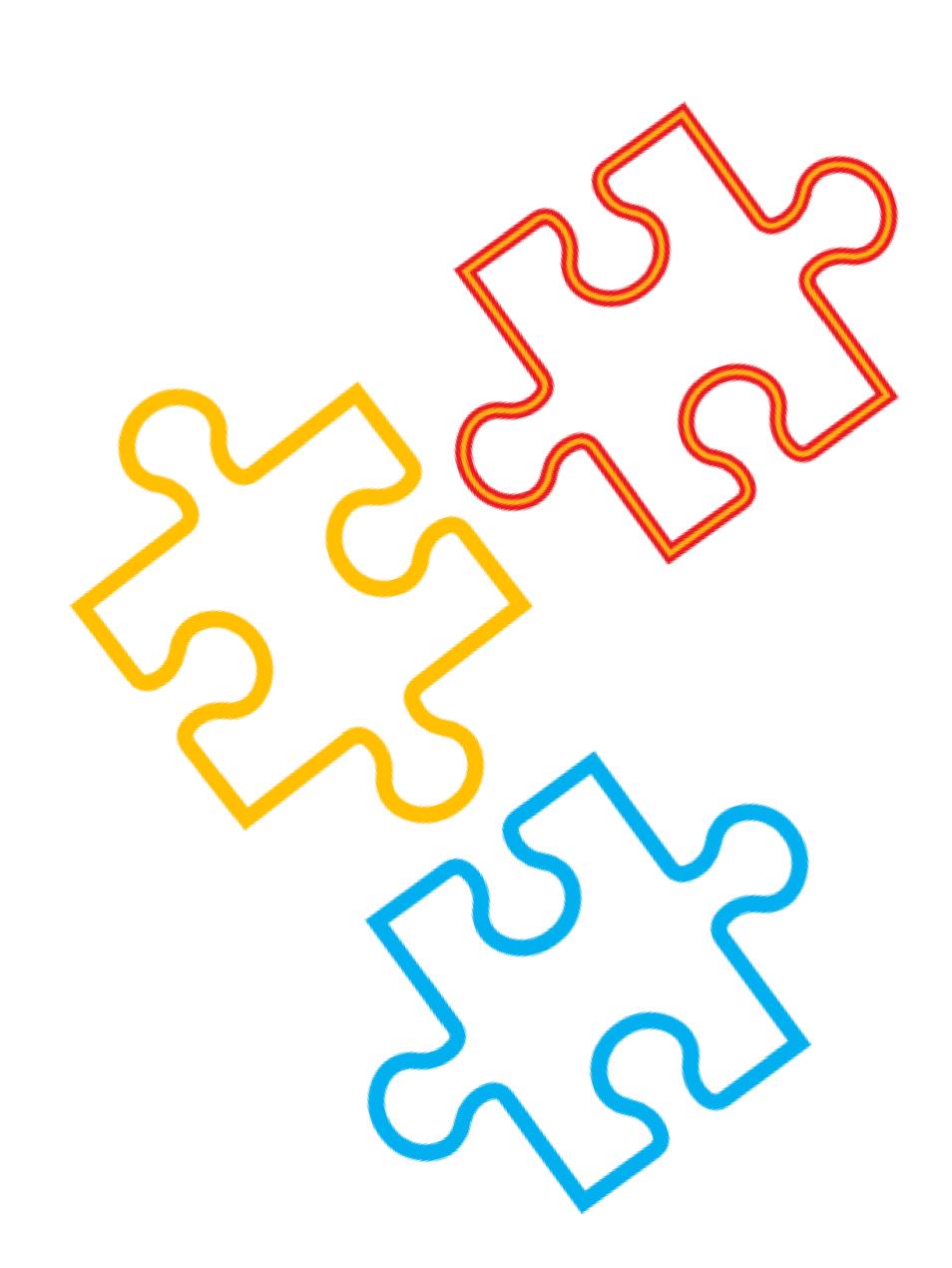
How have your qualifications and studies helped you to prepare for this course or subject?



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



Build A personal Statement

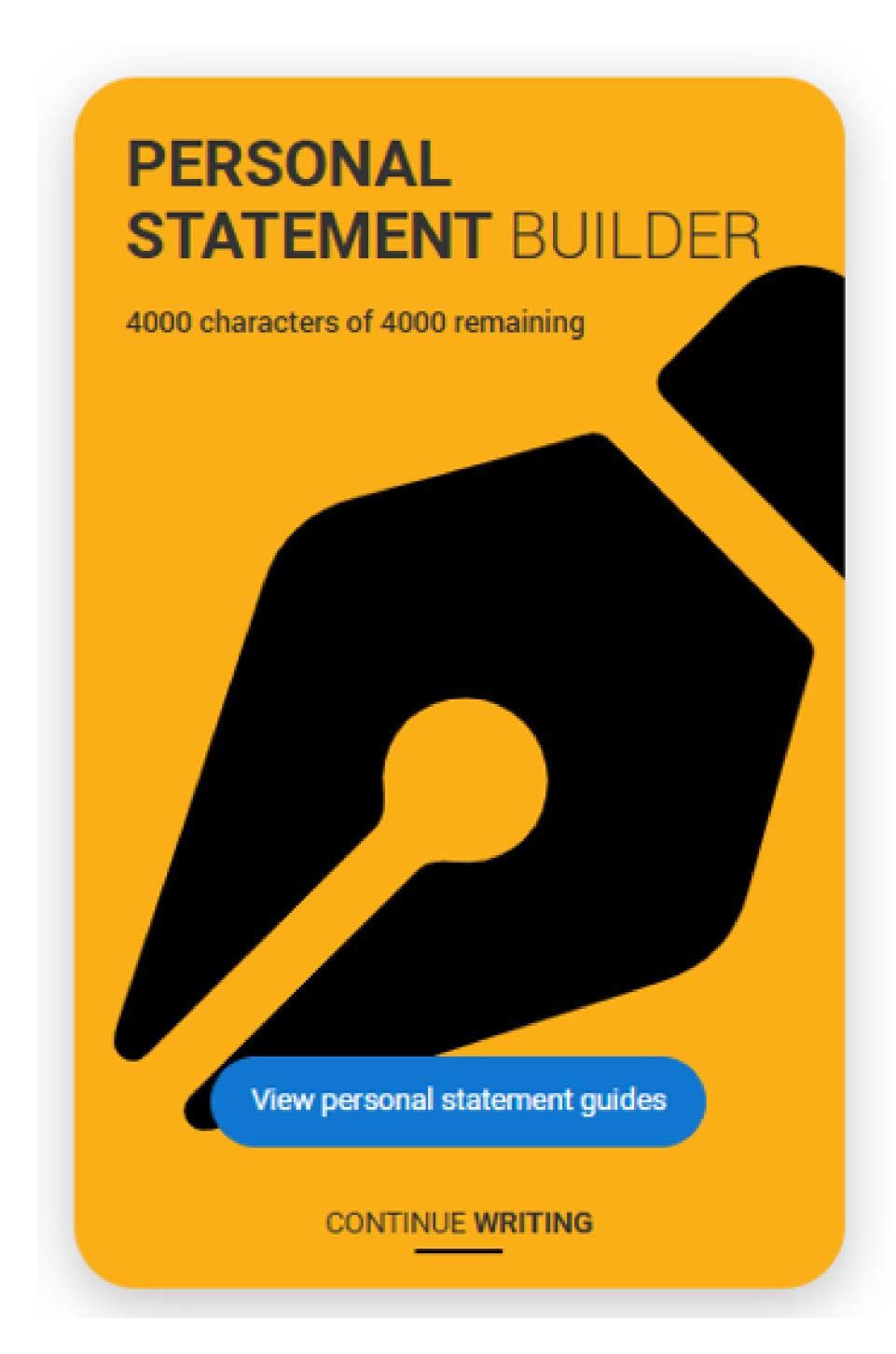


Ultimately, think of it like a jigsaw.

Each piece is reflective evidence.



personal Statement support





What to include in your achitecture, planning or building personal statement



What to include in your animal science personal statement



What to include in your art and design personal statement



What to include in your biology personal statement



What to include in your business management personal statement



What to include in your chemistry personal statement



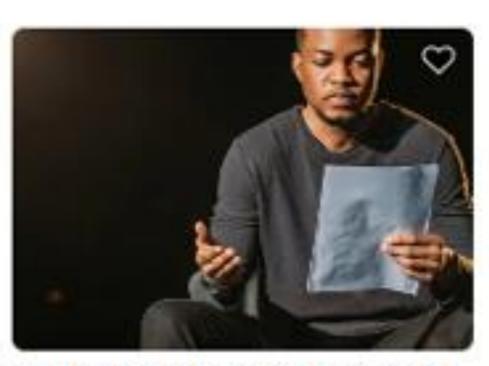
What to include in your computer science personal statement



What to include in your dance personal statement



What to include in your dentistry personal statement



What to include in your drama personal statement



What to include in your economics personal statement



What to include in your engineering personal statement



Offers and Decisions



decisions

Universities and colleges will review the whole application including:



Qualifications



Personal statement



Reference

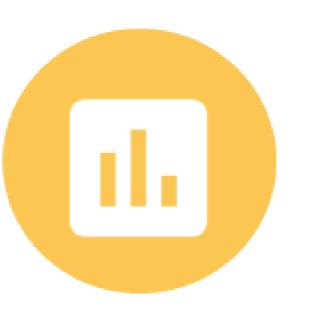
They may also require:



Admissions test



Interview



Portfolio / audition

Tracking your application

Follow your application to:

- check progress
- see your choices
- update contact information
- view and reply to your offers

One of three decisions:

- unconditional offer
- conditional offer
- unsuccessful



Submitted to your school or college

Your application has been sent to your school or college and is being checked by your adviser. Once they have approved it your application will be sent to UCAS.



Your application has been returned by your adviser

Your adviser has returned your application, go to your application to see what amendments they are recommending for you.



Waiting for decisions

Universities or colleges are considering your application.

Providers have until dd-mm-yyyy to respond to your choices.



All decisions received

You've received a decision from all of your choices. You can now reply to your offers at any time.

Reply by dd-mm-yyyy

Start application

Go to application

UCAS



Personal ID: 1280033960



All decisions received

You've received a decision from all of your choices. You can now reply to your offers at any time.

RESEARCH YOUR OPTIONS MEET UNIS AND COLLEGES EMPLOYERS AND MORE AT A UCAS EVENT



Your feed

Your personal content feed



Replying to your offers

Find out when you need to reply and about the different replies you can make.

Find out more



UCAS terms explained

We break down what all the terms and phrases mean that we use, from DipHE to deferral.



Invited for interview?

Here's all you need to know about the interview process at university.



Get prepared for your results

Make sure you know what to expect when it comes to your results.

Read more

Replies to offers

- Once you've made your decisions, choose a 'firm' and 'insurance' choice.
- Decline any remaining offers.
- If you're not holding an offer, use Extra or Clearing to find available places.

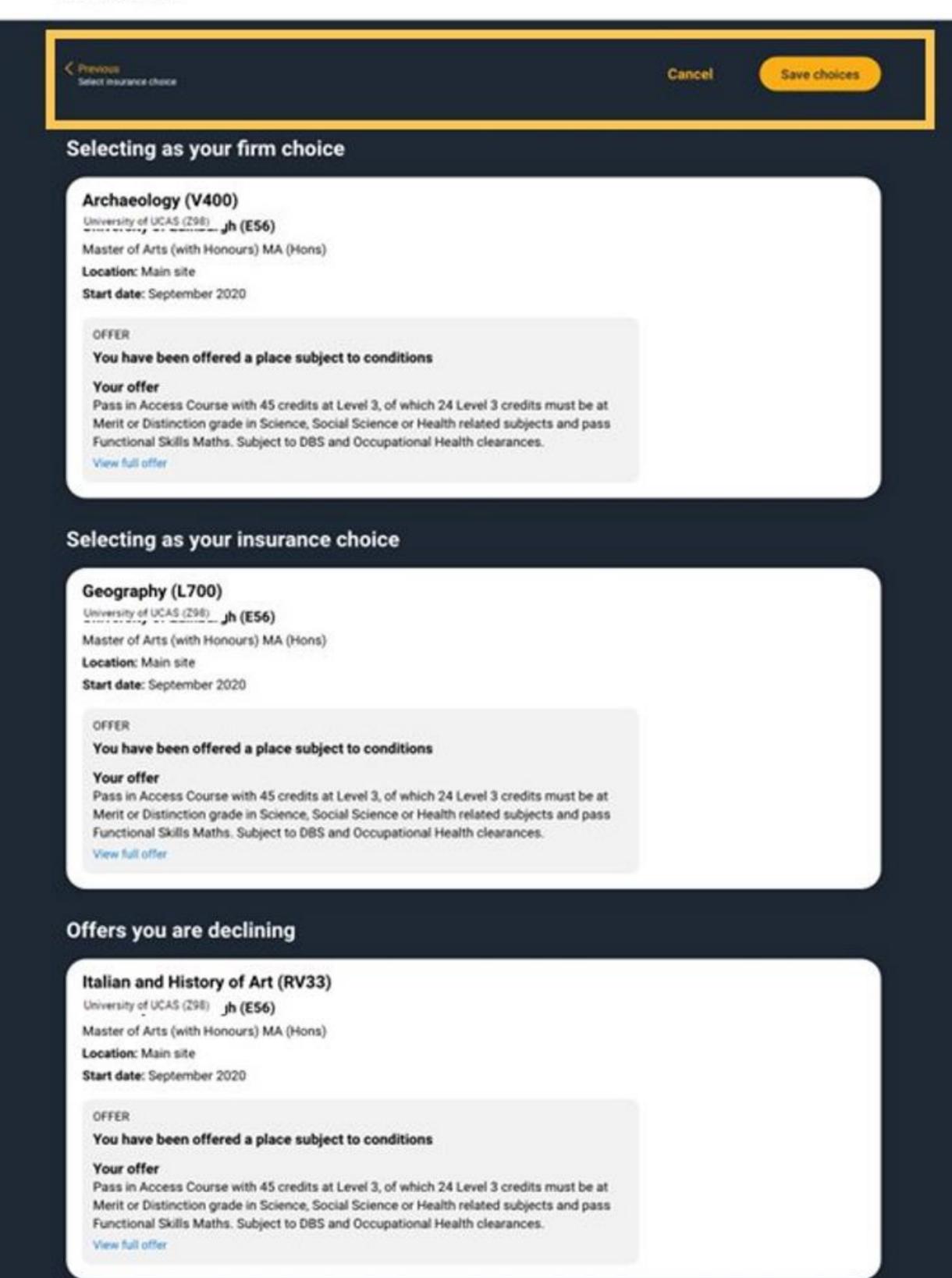






CONFIRM YOUR CHOICES

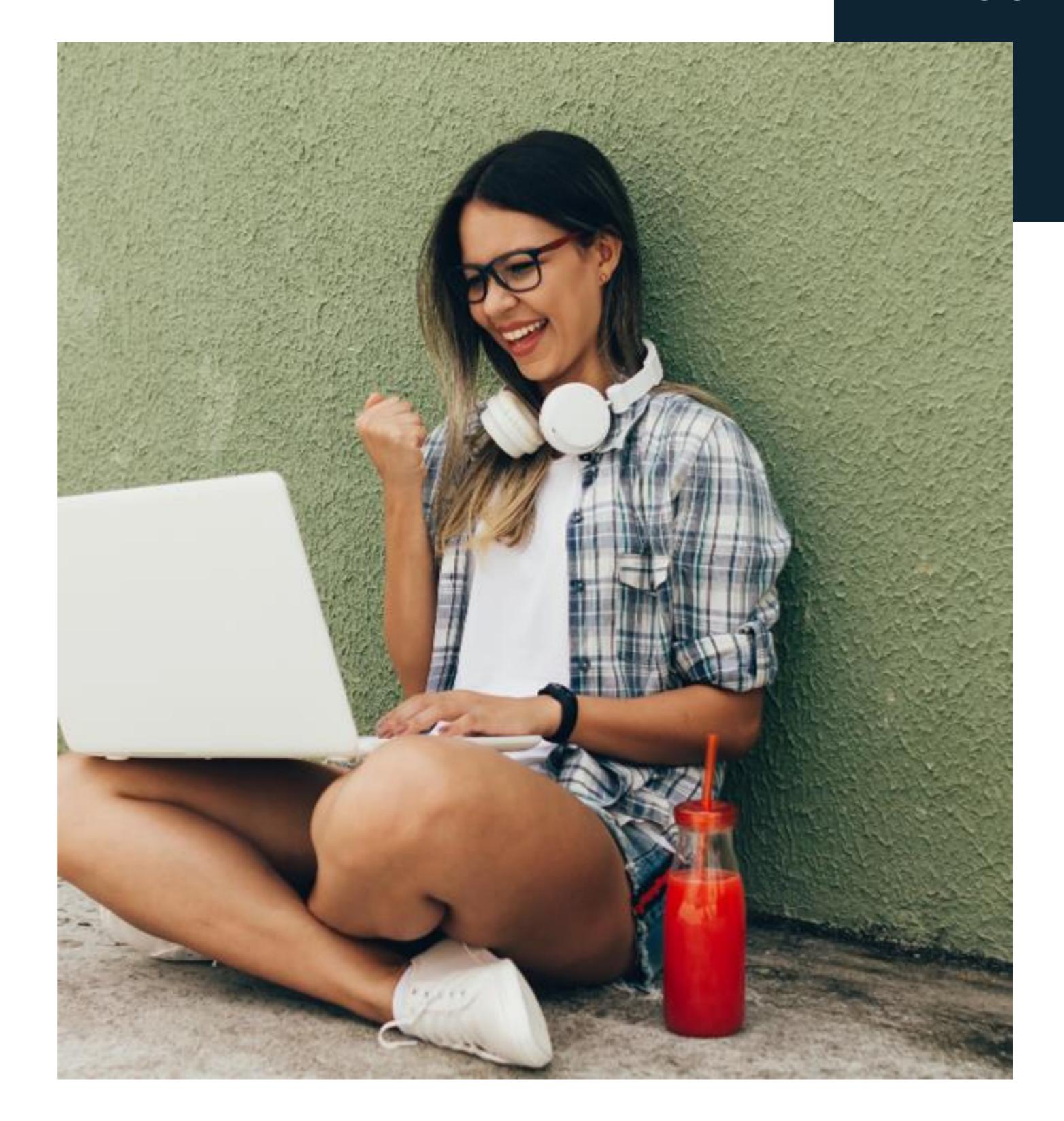
Your Personal ID number 116-000-7564



Other options

Clearing (2 Jul – Oct)

- Clearing is for students in various situations.
- Whether you've exceeded expectations, changed your mind, or don't have a place.
- Understanding the process helps you take control of your options.





Next steps

UCAS Support

What to be doing

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

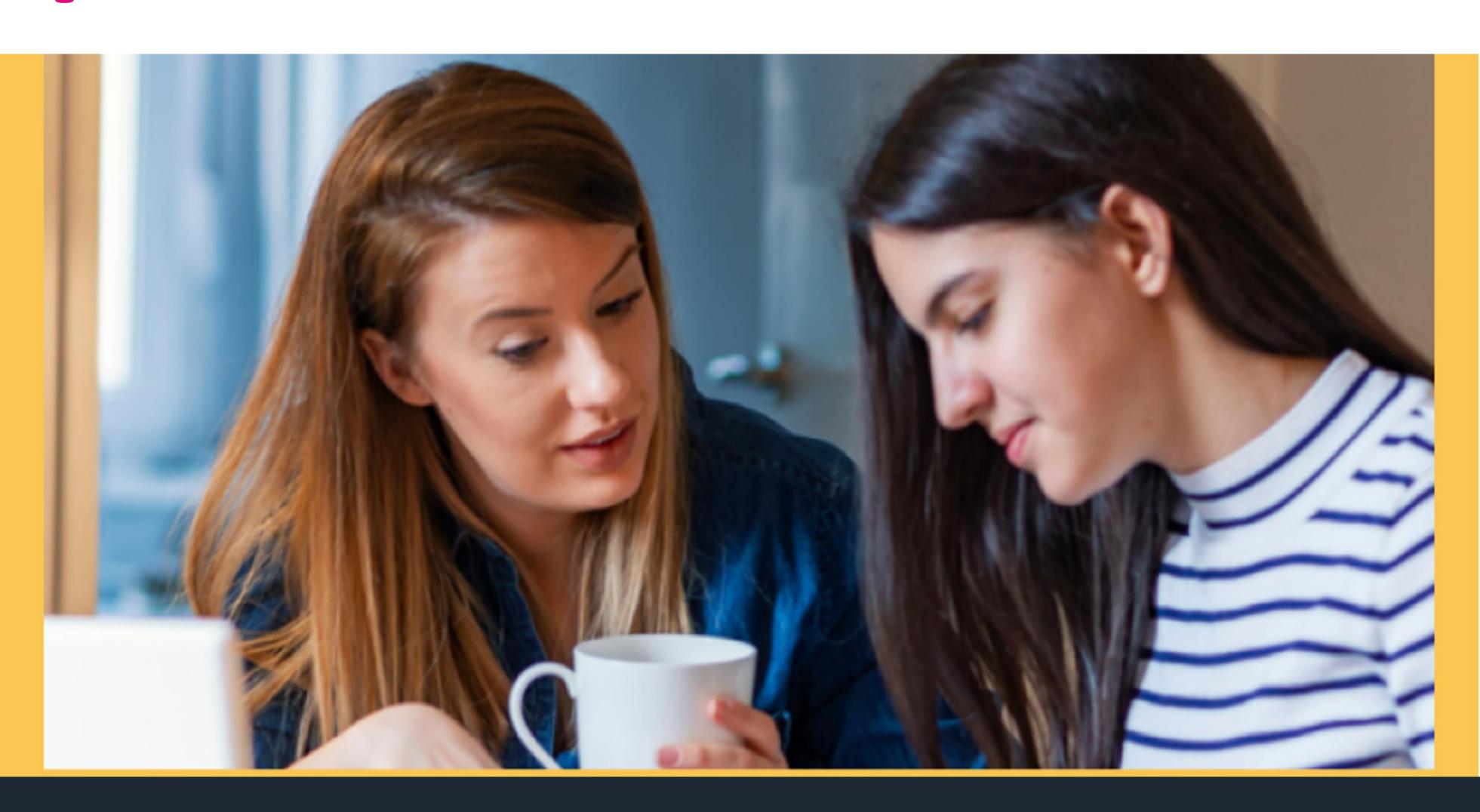


www.ucas.com/parents

Parent, Guardian and Carer Guide

Download our free guide, containing everything you need to support a young person with their options and decision-making, and help them through the UCAS application process.

Parent, Guardian and Carer Guide





Sign up for our parent newsletter

Whether your child is set on going to uni, or still looking into their options – including apprenticeships, gap years, or conservatoire courses – we can help. Sign up and we'll send you everything you need to help them make an informed decision.

Thankyou

