



**FORT  
PITT**  
GRAMMAR  
SCHOOL

**UCAS  
Information  
Evening  
2020**

# Plan for this evening ...

- To outline the UCAS application process
- To give advice on how to find the best university for your child
- Provide guidance for assisting your child to write their Personal Statement
- To explain how the school will support your child's application
- To outline what happens to your child's application once it is sent

# The application process

- Students have registered and set up their UCAS account
- Applications are now linked to the school - buzzword **classof2014**
- Students should have their log in and Personal ID number which they need to remember
- The rest of the application needs to be completed over the next few weeks/months
- <https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate>

# The application - online only

## Cost - £25 for 5 choices

- **1. Personal details** – This will already contain the information they gave when registering, and there will be more questions about student support and where they live.
- **2. Additional information** – If your child has a UK address, they'll be asked a few equality questions, and details about any preparation they've done for higher education.
- **3. Student finance** – Here they can sign up to receive an email from UCAS letting them know when they can apply for student finance.
- **4. Choices** – They can make up to five course choices (but only four for courses in medicine, dentistry, or veterinary medicine/science).
- **5. Education** – They'll need to provide a list of all the schools they've been to since the age of 11, including the dates they were there, all their exam results (pass or fail), and details of any exams still to be taken.
- **6. Personal statement** – This is their opportunity to convince the university or college to offer them a place. See page 17 for guidance on how to write a personal statement.
- **7. Employment** – If they have a part-time job, they should include the basic details here. They can talk more about this in their personal statement.

# What sort of universities should we be looking at?

- Oxbridge
- Russell Group
- Top 40 universities
- Other universities

# Oxbridge Universities

- University of Oxford and University of Cambridge
- Deadline for applications - **October 15<sup>th</sup> at 6pm**
- Apply for College rather than university
- Interested in super-curricular activity
- Additional Admissions tests (BMAT/LNAT/ELAT)- many can be sat here.
- Cambridge - Admissions Questionnaire
- College Admissions Tests
- Rigorous interview process
- Will need 7-9 grades at GCSE
- Typical offer A\*A\*A (Science/Maths), A\*AA (Arts)

# What Oxbridge are looking for ....

- Interest/aptitude in the chosen subject
- Ability to think independently, critically and analytically
- Enthusiasm for complex and challenging ideas
- Motivation, commitment and organisation
- Intellectual flexibility
- Vocational/ professional commitment
- New Government targets re state schools that they are not yet meeting

# Medicine, Veterinary Science, Dentistry

- Deadline – **October 15<sup>th</sup> at 6pm**
- Support available from Mr Blight and Mrs Huntley
- Support provided during Enrichment
- Will need to research the best university FOR YOU



# Russell Group Universities

- University of Birmingham
- University of Bristol
- University of Cambridge
- Cardiff University
- Durham University
- University of Edinburgh
- University of Exeter
- University of Glasgow
- Imperial College London
- King's College London
- University of Leeds
- University of Liverpool
- London School of Economics and Political Science
- University of Manchester
- Newcastle University
- University of Nottingham
- University of Oxford
- Queen Mary University of London
- Queen's University Belfast
- University of Sheffield
- University of Southampton
- University College London
- University of Warwick
- University of York

# International Study

- European – Netherlands
- USA
- Will need to contact universities
- School will support in whatever way we can

# How to find the best university ...

- All students have had training on Unifrog
- Unifrog helps students to find aspirational/solid/safe courses that they may consider applying for
- You should ensure you apply for a range of all 3!
- You will then need to use UCAS website to find exact entry requirements

# unifrog

## Searching for opportunities

### UK universities

You have 2 shortlists  
[View shortlists](#)

Start >

### US universities

Sorry, your school doesn't yet have this tool

### European universities

Sorry, your school doesn't yet have this tool

### Oxbridge

Make your first shortlist

Start >

### Apprenticeships

You have 1 shortlist  
[View shortlist](#)

Start >

### College / Sixth Form

Sorry, your school doesn't yet have this tool

### Canadian universities

Sorry, your school doesn't yet have this tool

1 Start

2 Subjects

3 Longlist

4 Shortlist

5 Complete



Search our database of every University Course in the UK to find the best 5 Courses for you

Where do you normally live?

\* Country

England or Wales

next ▶

or go back

**1 Start**

2 Subjects

3 Longlist

4 Shortlist

5 Complete

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

\* Qualification 1

A Level



A (48 points)



Qualification 2

A Level



A (48 points)



Qualification 3

A Level



B (40 points)



Qualification 4

Extended Project (stand alone)



A\* (28 points)



Qualification 5

--- please select a qualification ---



Qualification 6

--- please select a qualification ---



next ▶

or go back



1 Start

2 **Subjects**

3 Longlist

4 Shortlist

5 Complete

What do you want to study at university?

\* Subject

law

next ▶

or go back

# unifrog

Direct matches (1)

Subjects you might like  
(51)

Any of these interest you?

Select up to 10 at a time by clicking on the subjects you like

Law

Accountancy and Business Law

Accounting and Law

Archaeology and Law

Business Law

Business Management and Law

Commercial Law

Corporate Law

Criminal Investigation and Psychology and Law and Criminology Foundation Year

Criminology and Criminal Law

English Language and Law

English Literature and Law

Human Resource Management and Law

International Law

next: 1 subject ▶ or go back















## Select courses below

Pick the best courses for you by ranking, filtering and searching. Click next when you're done.

Rank ▾ Filter ▾ Search ▾















### Aspirational (64)

Top of your range

 <b>Law - 3FT BA (Hons)</b>  University of Cambridge <small>RG</small> A Level: A*,A,A <span style="float: right;">!</span>
 <b>Law - 3FT LLB (Hons)</b>  King's College London, University of London <small>RG</small> A Level: A*,A,A <span style="float: right;">!</span>
 <b>Law (Bachelor of Laws) - 3FT LLB (Hons)</b>  London School of Economics and Political Science, University of London <small>RG</small> A Level: A*,A,A <span style="float: right;">!</span>
 <b>Law with German Law (4 years) - 4FT LLB (Hons)</b>  UCL (University College London) <small>RG</small> A Level: A*,A,A <span style="float: right;">!</span>
 <b>Law - 3FT LLB (Hons)</b>  UCL (University College London) <small>RG</small> A Level: A*,A,A <span style="float: right;">!</span>
 <b>Bachelor of Laws (UCL) and LLB Bachelor of Laws (University of Hong Kong) - 4FT LLB (Hons)</b>  UCL (University College London) <span style="float: right;">!</span>













### Solid (148)

In the middle

 <b>Law - 4FT LLB (Hons)</b>  University of Edinburgh <small>RG</small> A Level: A,B,B-A*,A,A
 <b>Law with Business - 3FT LLB (Hons)</b>  University of Exeter <small>RG</small> A Level: A,B,B-A,A,B
 <b>Law with Mandarin - 4FT LLB (Hons)</b>  University of Aberdeen <small>TT</small> A Level: A,B,B
 <b>Law and German Law (5 yrs) - 5FT LLB (Hons)</b>  University of Aberdeen <small>TT</small> A Level: A,B,B
 <b>Law - 4FT LLB (Hons)</b>  University of Aberdeen <small>TT</small> A Level: A,B,B
 <b>Law with Computing Science - 4FT LLB (Hons)</b>  University of Aberdeen <small>TT</small> A Level: A,B,B
 <b>Law (Scots) - 4FT LLB (Hons)</b>  University of Dundee <small>TT</small> A Level: A,B,B

### Safe (110)

At the bottom

 <b>Law - 4FT LLB (Hons)</b>  Abertay University A Level: B,C,C
 <b>Law - 4FT LLB (Hons)</b>  Edinburgh Napier University A Level: B,C,C
 <b>Law - 3FT LLB (Hons)</b>  York St John University A Level: B,C,C
 <b>Law and Practice - 3FT LLB (Hons)</b>  Coventry University (2 locations) UCAS Points: 104
 <b>Law - 3FT LLB (Hons)</b>  University of Central Lancashire (2 locations) UCAS Points: 104-112
 <b>Law - 4FT MLaw</b>  University of Central Lancashire UCAS Points: 104-112
 <b>Law - 3FT BA (Hons)</b>  University of Bolton A Level: B,B,D

next ▶ or go back

# Best advice ...

Research:

- Course – most important factor
- City – can you see yourself living there?
- Visit the university – campus or city?
- Check the destinations data – will you get a job afterwards?
- Jobs – is there part time work available for students?
- Accommodation – how expensive is it?
- Tuition Fee cost – is the course worth it?
- Cost of living – London or elsewhere?

# Personal Statements

- 4000 characters (includes spaces)
- Students need to sell themselves
- 70% should be about the course:
  - Inspiration – reading/teacher
  - Features of A Level they have found interesting
  - Features of the course they are applying for that they are looking forward to studying
  - Career destination
- 30% should be extra-curricular – link skills to the course (not Oxbridge)

# How can you help: [www.ucas.com/planyourstatement](http://www.ucas.com/planyourstatement).

- Most difficult part of the process
- 17/18 year olds having to convey all that is great about them!
- To get started:
  - think about what makes them interesting, and what makes them stand out in a positive way
  - write down a whole load of words – anything that shows why they're excited about the course(s) they're applying for
  - remember why they chose the subject
  - list work experience or other activities as supporting evidence, to show why they'd make a great student
  - think about skills they could use on the course, such as leadership, communication, and time management
  - ask you, their teacher, and their friends for ideas and feedback

# Help and support in school

- Enrichment programme
- Personal Statement checking – Form Tutor/ Subject Teacher/  
Mrs Lingham/Mrs Huntley/ Mr Blight/ Mrs Doran
- References:
  - Written by subject staff
  - Put together by Form Tutor into ‘one voice’
  - Additional contributions noted
  - Students can read and ask for amendments/changes
- School deadline – **Friday November 20th**

# Predicted grades

- All grades that have been achieved externally have to be included
- Staff have to complete predicted grade information
- Predicted grades will not be changed to suit the application, the application must be guided by predicted grades
- Not the overriding feature of the application – PS more important
- Predicted grades are updated termly, students need to complete additional work of a higher standard in order to change predicted grades

# Once application is complete ....

- Students should get the application checked
- You will need to Pay and Send - £25 for 5 applications
- The application then gets sent to the school
- Students will need to see Mrs Lingham once it is ready to send
- The application is double checked and the student signs the reference to make sure they are happy.
- The application gets sent off together – very tense moment!!
- Students can then track their applications

# What happens next?

- UCAS forward the application onto the universities
- Admissions Tutors consider the applications
- 3 possible responses:
  - Unconditional offers
  - Conditional offers
  - Reject the application



# What happens next?

- Once all offers have been received from universities, students then need to choose two:
  - Firm Offer – if the entry requirements are met, this is where your child will go
  - Insurance Offer – if they don't get the entry requirements for the Firm Offer but they have met them for Insurance, this is where they will go
- No offers – can apply through 'Extra'

# Student Finance

- <https://www.ucas.com/connect/videos/ucas/undergraduate?v=/student-finance>
- Tuition Fee Loan
- Maintenance Loan
- Will need to get a job!!
- Bursaries
- Scholarships

# Results Day

If students achieve their grades, they will get into Firm Offer university.

If they don't , they are likely to get Insurance Offer

If they get higher grades than they need for Firm Offer, they can go into Adjustment

If they get lower grades, they can go into Clearing – they need to do this.

# Be prepared ....

- Can be a stressful time
- Process takes a long time
- Huge decision for young people to make
- The school will support as much as possible

# Thank you for listening ...

- Please remember that the Sixth Form Team are here to help and support your child through the whole process:
  - Mrs Doran
  - Mr Blight
  - Mrs Lingham
  - Mrs Huntley
  - Form Tutors
- For further information -  
<https://www.ucas.com/file/185091/download?token=4Pf51fWt>