

# UCAS and Careers Adviser



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A huge warm welcome to **Mrs S Sheikh** who is our new **UCAS and Careers Adviser** for the sixth form!

You can go and speak with her to discuss any of the following

- University Support
- Careers Advice
- Apprenticeship support
- Any career related question
- Book an appointment to speak to her by signing up on the sheet on her door!

Any questions, please do not hesitate to ask!



# Q1: WHY DO YOU WANT TO STUDY THIS COURSE OR SUBJECT?



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You'll want to show **evidence** of passion, curiosity and interest, this might include:

## Motivations for studying this course(s):

- Have you been inspired by a key role model or moment in your life?
- Is it a subject you love and want to pursue further?
- What is your drive?
- How has your path led you to this course or subject area?

## Knowledge of this subject area and interests:

- Is there a particular subject area you've researched?
- Something you can't wait to learn more about?
- What about a book or subject expert doing great things that's sparked your interest?

## Future plans; demonstrate why this course/subject is a good fit:

- Do you already have a particular profession in mind?
- How might you use your studies to launch your career?
- What's important to you and your future, and how might the knowledge gained from this course(s) help you achieve this?



**Remember** these are just some examples, you don't need to include it all. The key is to research the course(s) to find out what might be most relevant.



# Q2: HOW HAVE YOUR QUALIFICATIONS AND STUDIES HELPED YOU TO PREPARE FOR THIS COURSE OR SUBJECT?



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Focus on what's most **recent** and **relevant** to your subject or course(s), examples could include:

## How your studies or training relate to chosen course(s) or subject area:

- This could be your current or previous studies.
- This could be from any form of formal education – think school, college, training, or short online courses.

## What relevant or transferable skills have you got that make you a great candidate:

- Are there a couple of subjects that helped you develop a core set of relevant skills required for your chosen course(s)?
- Maybe a particular module or project helped you understand where your interests and strengths lie.

## Any relevant educational achievements

- Universities and colleges will see your grades on your application - don't waste space talking about these.
- Focus on your other accomplishments like a competition, holding a position of responsibility or representing the school/college.



**Remember** these are just some examples, you don't need to include it all. The key is to research the course(s) to find out what might be most relevant. Check out the [UCAS personal statement guidance](#).



# Q3: WHAT ELSE HAVE YOU DONE TO PREPARE OUTSIDE OF EDUCATION, AND WHY ARE THESE EXPERIENCES USEFUL?



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Examples should be **reflective** and **demonstrate** further **suitability** for your subject or course(s), this could include:

Work experience, employment, or volunteering	Personal life experiences or responsibilities	Hobbies and any extracurricular or outreach activities:	Achievements outside of school or college
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In-person or virtual work experience.</li> <li>• Paid for work or volunteering.</li> <li>• The key thing is reflection on the experiences and the skills gained relevant to your chosen course(s).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is there a situation you've personally overcome that has influenced your decision?</li> <li>• Are there personal experiences that have helped you develop essential qualities for the course?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Think sports, reading, community work, summer schools.</li> <li>• Any activities outside of core studies that help further showcase why you'd make a great student.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This could be a position of responsibility for local clubs or groups, competitions, or qualifications you've attained outside of the classroom.</li> </ul>



**Remember** these are just some examples, you don't need to include it all. The key is to research the course(s) to find out what might be most relevant.



# Once you have applied...



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1. You submit your application which includes 5 choices.
2. If you have applied for a course that involves some sort of test, assessment, interview etc. You will be contacted through emails and/or UCAS regarding when this will take place and what it will involve. You must be regularly check you emails and UCAS .
3. You then will hopefully receive an offer through UCAS/emails from each university
4. In an ideal world you might have 5 offers to then choose from. Do not worry if you do not have 5.
5. Once you have heard back from **ALL** universities you then need to decide by March time. You can only pick **ONE** of your 5 universities to select as your **FIRM(FIRST) CHOICE**. This is the one you **WANT TO GO TO** that might have higher grade entry requirements.
6. You then also select **ONE INSURANCE** (backup). This **MUST** have lower entry requirements than your first choice. This is because on the day of results if you do not get the grades for your first choice but meet the entry requirements for your insurance you will then automatically get a place at that insurance university.
7. Once you have decided you then wait until results day and focus on getting those grades!



# Results Day – Thursday 13th August



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1. At this point you will already have selected your insurance and firm choice well in advance (by March)
2. You come in on results day from 8am to get your grade results.
3. UCAS will also open from 8am.
4. Your UCAS will tell you whether you have gotten into your first choice, insurance or neither.
5. You will automatically get your insurance if you have not met the entry requirements for your first choice but meet your insurance entry requirements.
6. If you have not got the grades from your first choice or insurance there is an option for you called clearing.
7. On UCAS clearing will be open for you to look at different courses.
8. You need to be quick on the day and ensure that you get your results early as the clearing course spaces come on a first come first serve basis.
9. If you need to call clearing, I will be able to help you. You can phone up the different universities with your grades to see what courses you can get on.
10. Do **NOT** worry, last year in summer 2024 we had **NO PUPILS** in clearing as all students had got their first or insurance choice.



# Not going Uni?



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If you are not applying to university, you need to start thinking about your next steps and plans

1. Apprenticeships
2. Job opportunities

You need to be applying **NOW** for next year

**HOWEVER, You can apply to Uni AND apply to apprenticeships so I would ALWAYS RECOMMEND APPLYING TO UNI and putting in a UCAS application as a backup because you can always decide not to go on results day!**

<https://padlet.com/asandilands/preparing-for-careers-the-future-457g3tb9amdb8bz9>

