

# Year 14 Parents' Information Evening 2016



## **Decisions .....**

### **Higher Education**

UCAS, CAO (Republic of Ireland)  
*(CAO – November)*

### **Further Education**

Full-time/part-time study  
Can also lead to university

### **Higher Level apprenticeship**

- PWC:** Accounting Technicians Ireland qualification
- Flying Start programme; QUB Management School; Newcastle, Nottingham & Reading Universities (Chartered Accountant qualification)
  - Graduate & Undergraduate programmes
  - All with job security
- 
- **BDO** Scholarship programme (BSc Hons Accounting at QUB or UU)
  - Higher Level Apprenticeship – SRC or Belfast Metropolitan College

- **EY:** Assurance Scholarships at Lancaster Management School
- **KAINOS** – software company
  - Earn as you Learn scheme: Junior Software Engineer – work 4 days, 1 day in UU over 4 years
  - 240 UCAS points – Maths, Chemistry, Physics, Computer Science, ICT, Economics
- **Deloitte Brighstart Apprenticeship programme:**
  - Fully funded up to Masters level
  - Hands-on experience, mentoring, salary, training contract up to 5 years
  - Professional or business qualification
  - Audit, restructuring services, tax consulting, technology consulting [www.bdoni.com](http://www.bdoni.com)

# Why higher education?

- Chance to study a subject they are passionate about.
- Achieve a qualification that will lead to their chosen career.
- Gain confidence, independence, and important life skills that will widen their prospects.
- Making lifelong friends.
- Many employers target graduates
- Higher earning potential

# Researching courses

Your son or daughter can use the UCAS search tool  
[search.ucas.com](http://search.ucas.com)

**UCAS** Search tool

**Search courses**

Where do you normally live?\*:  ▾

Search courses available in\*:  2015  2016

\*This helps us to show courses that are available to you. [Click here for more info](#)

Search by **any** or **all** of the following

Course:

Provider:

Location:

## Don't know what to study?

Need help finding courses? Browse subjects and find out what's available.



### UCAS Search tool

Use our new search to find undergraduate courses and courses at conservatoires.

We'll be adding all our other courses soon – until then, click the links below.

- [Postgraduate courses](#)
- [Postgraduate teacher training courses](#)
- [Foundation degrees](#)



# Other things to consider

- Finance – course fees, grants, travel and living costs
- Travel – to and from home
- Accommodation – uni halls or private residences?
- Extra curricular activities
- University visits
- [www.ucas.com/open-days](http://www.ucas.com/open-days)



# ucas.com/virtual tours

UCAS

UCAS Advisers Providers Corporate Events Connect

**UCAS** At the heart of connecting people to higher education

Next event: **Ayrshire higher education convention**  
Ayr, 8 Sep 2015 - [More events](#)

Keyword search

Exploring university Conventions and exhibitions Conferences Training for advisers & providers

Home > Events > Exploring university > Virtual tours

## Virtual tours

View published

We realise that not everyone can attend an open day, but it's pretty important to see where you'll be studying and possibly living.

So here's a list of virtual tours and videos from universities and colleges so you can see what it's like on campus and what facilities are available.

If the uni/college you're interested in isn't listed, take a look at their website or YouTube channel instead.

**Click on a university or college to view their virtual tour or video.**

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

**A**

- [University of Aberdeen](#)
- [Aberystwyth University](#)
- [Anglia Ruskin University](#)
- [Arts University Bournemouth \(formerly University College\)](#)
- [Aston University, Birmingham](#)

**B**

- [Bangor University](#)
- [University of Bedfordshire](#)
- [Birmingham City University](#)

Find open days

Learn about uni on a taster course

Open days tips

Virtual tours

**UCAS Events on Twitter**

about 45 days ago  
[#UCASDesign](#) welcomes some new exhibitors in November [@LondonAtelier](#) [@\\_UoW](#) [@AmandWycCollege](#) [@WSofArchi](#) Find out more [ow.ly/DRM0h](#)

about 74 days ago  
Thank you to [@PH\\_Hotels](#) The Met Hotel [#Leeds](#) for hosting another conference for us.

about 74 days ago  
Thank you to all who attended [#UCASCompetitive](#) Admissions in [#Leeds](#). It's been a great conference! What were the best bits for you?

Follow us on Twitter

CALL OUR CLEARING TEAM  
01227 540980

 Canterbury Christ Church University



# When to apply

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| Mid September | Applications can be submitted to UCAS                             |
| 15 October    | Medicine, veterinary, and dentistry<br>Oxford <u>or</u> Cambridge |
| 15 January    | Advisory application deadline                                     |
| 24 March      | Some Art & Design courses<br>(check each course)                  |
| 30 June       | Applications held<br>for Clearing                                 |



# Completing the application

- One application per cycle
- Maximum of five choices – challenging but realistic grade/tariff point requirements

## **Some choice restrictions:**

- Medicine, veterinary, dentistry – max. four
- Oxford **or** Cambridge
- Universities cannot see other choices
- Nominated access option
- Simultaneous consideration
- Application is entirely online

## **Application cost:**

- One choice – £13
- Two-five choices – £24



# The personal statement

- The only section your son or daughter has control over.
- Their only chance to market themselves individually.
- One personal statement for **all** choices.



Max. 4,000 characters, 47 lines

Min. 1,000 characters

No spelling/grammar check

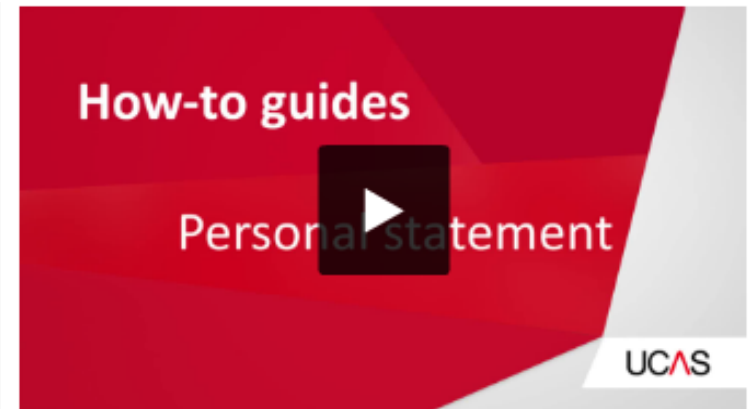
No formatting

# Where to start

- Think about what makes them **stand out** in an exciting and positive way.
- Show **enthusiasm** for the course they are applying for and list supporting **evidence** to back this up.
- Extra curricular activities and **relevant** work experience.
- **Skills** they can use on the course – leadership, communication, team work for example.
- Encourage them to ask you for more **ideas**.
- Allow plenty of **time**.

# Personal statement resources

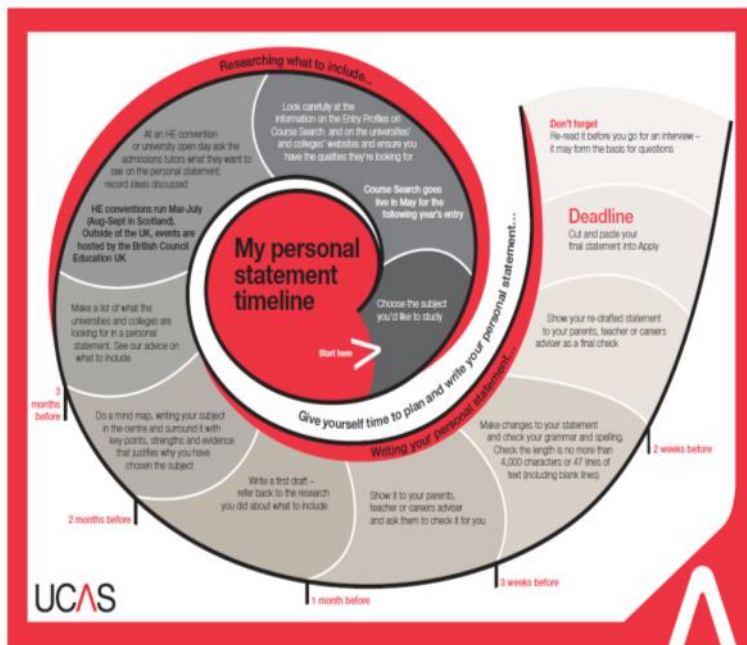
[www.ucas.com/personalstatement](http://www.ucas.com/personalstatement)



## How to write your personal statement

This video looks at how to get started, as well as common fears and concerns.

[Watch more video guides](#)



## MY UCAS PERSONAL STATEMENT



# Tracking applications

Track will allow your son or daughter to:

- follow the progress of their application online
- see their choices and personal information
- see their offers
- reply to offers online



# Other options

**Extra** 24 Feb – 4 July

If all five choices have been used and they have no offers/rejected all offers.

**Clearing** from early-July

If there are no offers, or have applied after 30 June deadline.



**Adjustment**

(from A level results day)

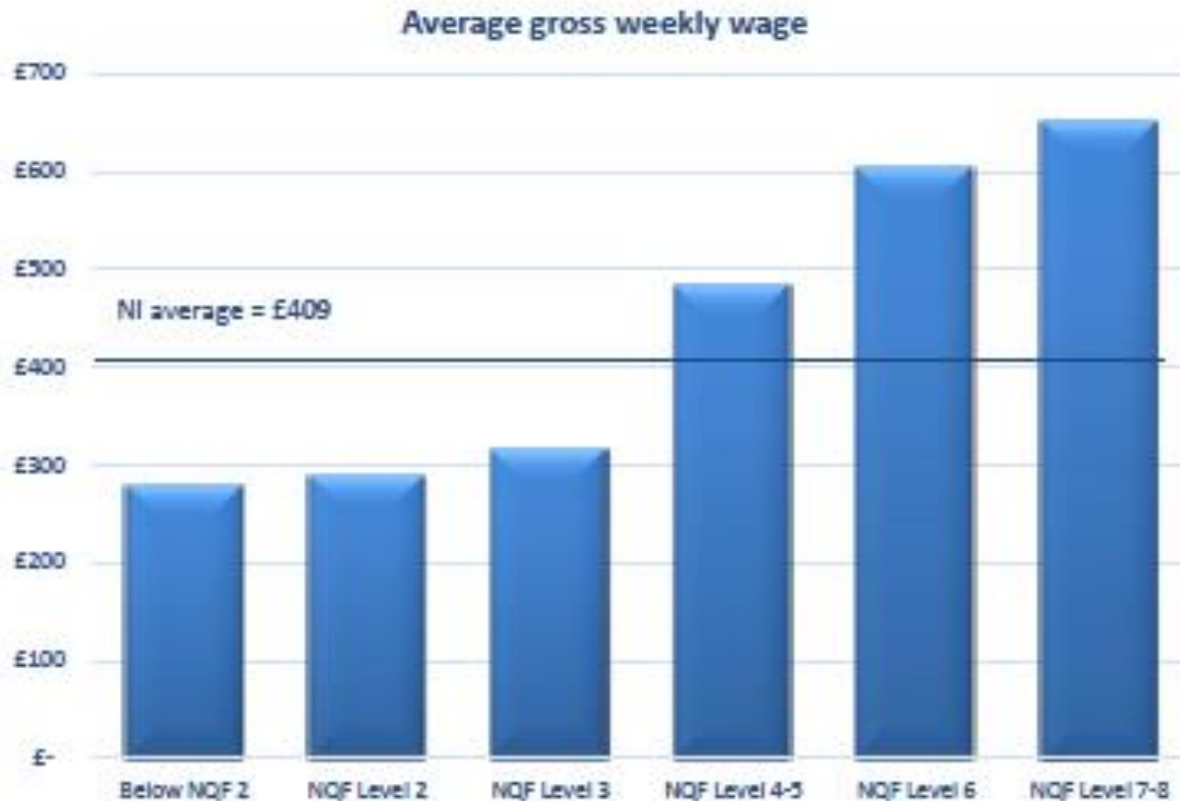
If they've gained better results than the conditional offer they hold, they could apply for a different course or university.

# How can you support the application process?

- Use the parents/guardians section of the UCAS website/Parent Guide publication – [www.ucas.com/parents](http://www.ucas.com/parents) and sign up for the newsletter.
- Offer to attend Open Days, you may have a different perspective.
- Don't book family holidays at key times.
- Make sure they read everything carefully that is sent to them.
- Support your son/daughter's management of their application.

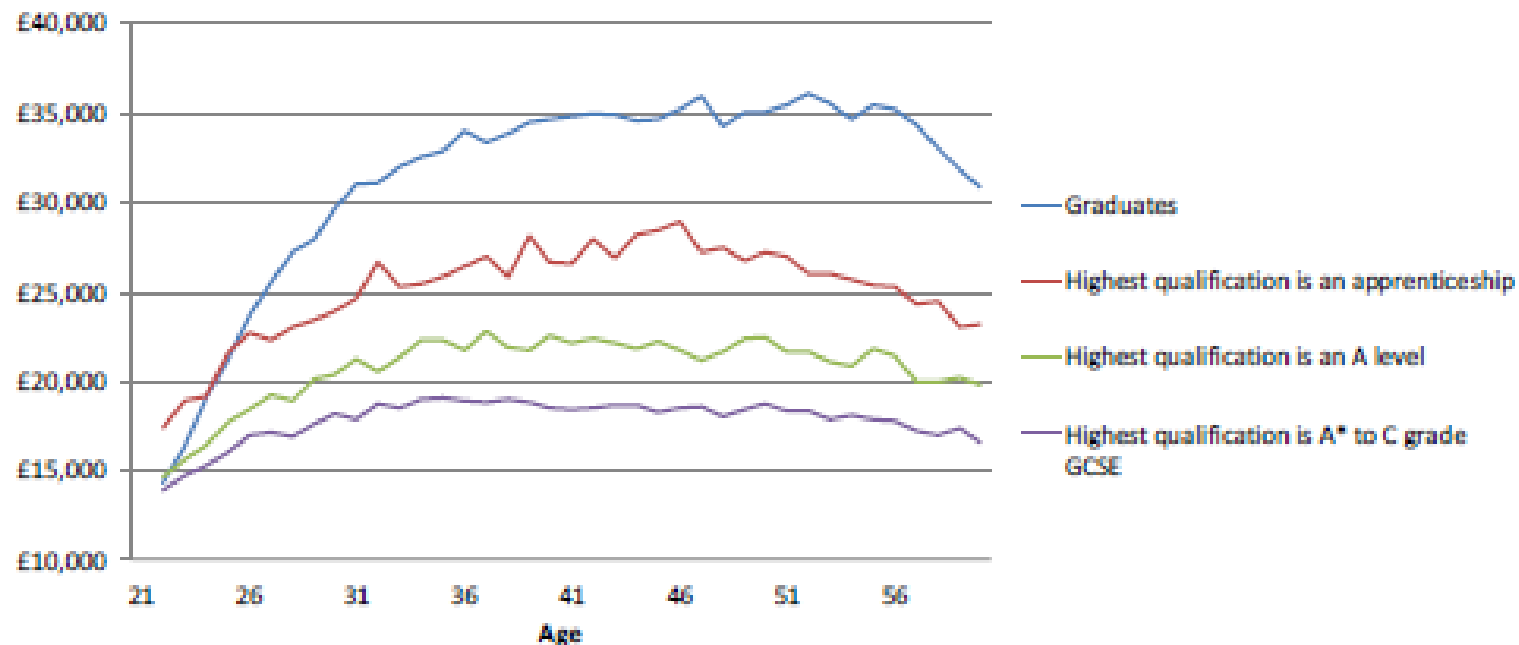


# Average earnings by level of education



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Salary progression by age and level of qualification, UK, 2012/13



Source: ONS

- 2012/13 is the latest data available from ONS in respect of salary progression. ONS currently have no plans to update this data release.

<https://www.economy-ni.gov.uk/publications/ni-skills-barometer>

# The importance of employability skills

- The definition of employability skills varies and although this is not to be considered as exhaustive, they tend to centre on the following key areas:
  - Problem solving;
  - Team working;
  - Communication;
  - People management;
  - Commercial awareness;
  - Critical/ objective thinking;
  - Professional attitude; and
  - Initiative.