



UCAS  
&  
Positive Destinations  
Information Session

24<sup>th</sup> September 2024





# What are our main destinations?

- ◉ University
- ◉ College
- ◉ Modern Apprenticeships
- ◉ Graduate-level Apprenticeships
- ◉ Employment
- ◉ Volunteering or training





# Key Support Staff for UCAS

- ◉ Mr Campbell - S6 Pupil Support Leader
- ◉ Mr Macleod - DHT
- ◉ Fiona Lafferty - SDS Careers Advisor
- ◉ Selected school staff - mentor support for applications





# Key Support Staff for Positive Destinations

- ◉ Miss MacVicar - Principal Teacher Partnerships
- ◉ Fiona Lafferty - SDS Careers Advisor
- ◉ Mr Kerr/Ms Curwen/Mr Campbell - Pupil Support Leaders
- ◉ Mr Macleod/Mr Snedden - DHTs





# UCAS Timeline & Key Dates

August

- Students register with UCAS

September -  
October

- Students assigned a Mentor
- Students begin the next stages of their UCAS application
- Start the first draft of their personal statement

October

- Pre-October holiday is the deadline for Oxbridge, Medicine, Veterinary, Dentistry

October - start  
of November

- Pupils meet with Mentors and work on finalising choices and developing statements etc.
- Oxbridge candidates sit entry exam

November 29th

- Mentor references sent to office & final check of applications & personal statements;
- Mock interviews (in school) for Oxbridge candidates

December 16th

- Applications submitted (school deadline)





# UCAS Timeline & Key Dates

February-June

- Offers issued by Universities

February

- UCAS Extra\* is available

June

- Final UCAS offers MUST be accepted

July-October 2025

- Clearing\* opens

**It is the student's responsibility to meet all deadlines. Failure to do so can result in a delayed application.**

\*Further information about *Extra* and *Clearing* is available in the FAQ section





<https://sites.google.com/view/wallacehighseniorphase/home>



This website has been designed to help support you through your senior years at Wallace High School.

It will give advice to reduce anxiety and stress, provide resources to help plan and support revision and help you progress towards a positive destination beyond school, whether that be further study, training or employment.



**Choose your future**  
At the heart of connecting people to higher education.  
Click on the image to access the UCAS website.

### UCAS & School Deadlines

- June 2022 - Start application process on Induction Day
- August 2022 - Choose a mentor - fill in google form for this
- September 2022 - Start meeting with your mentor & writing your personal statement
- 15th October 2022 - Oxford, Cambridge, Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary applications completed and sent off.
- Nov 2022 - All other personal statements completed and checked by mentors
- Dec 6th 2022 - School deadline for applications to be completed, paid and sent off
- Jan 2022 - UCAS deadline for applications





# Choices

- The majority of offers will be based on Higher results although some Universities will give a conditional offer requesting a grade at Advanced Higher.
- We would recommend that students contact the university to make enquiries regarding their subject choices.
- Some universities count a subject twice - achieved at Higher and then Advanced Higher; whilst some do not.
- **Students cannot “drop” a subject during the school year as this may impact their application - universities and UCAS expect completion of all courses declared at application stage.**







# Entry Requirements

Each course has different entry requirements that students should have achieved or be working towards in school this year.

Students should check the University prospectuses for course entry requirements. Fiona Lafferty and Mr Macleod/ Mr Campbell can offer advice on this, if required.

This is where the option to apply for up to five courses is helpful - students can choose courses with higher and lower requirements so that they have backup options.





The table below details exemplar S5 Standard Entry Requirements and Minimum Entry Requirements, and the cumulative grades required for applicants who receive a Conditional Offer for entry to the University after S6.

Subject Area	Qualification	S5 STANDARD Entry Requirements	S5 MINIMUM Entry Requirements	S6 Entry Requirements	Other Mandatory Requirements
Accounting	BA	AAAA or AAABB (first sitting) AAAABBB (two sittings)	ABBB	AAAAAB	Higher English and Maths at A
Arts/Modern Languages/ Theology/ Ministry	MA, BD	AAAA or AAABB	ABBB	AAAAAB	English and a Humanities subject
Engineering	M.Eng	AAAAA including Maths and Physics	AAABB to be reviewed for S6 offer	AAAAAA	Higher Maths and Physics National 5 English
Engineering	B.Eng	AAAAA	AABB To be reviewed for S6 offer	AAAAA	Higher: Maths and Physics National 5 English





# How & When Decisions Are Made

- The following information contained within the UCAS application is used to help make decisions:
  - Qualifications – subjects & grades
  - Personal Statement
  - Reference
- Interviews are commonly required for the following programmes:
  - Art, Design, Teaching/Community Education, Music, Veterinary Medicine, Dentistry, Physiotherapy, Medicine
  - Not all applicants will be called to interview
- Portfolios are required for Art & Design (sometimes Architecture)
- UCAT test – Medicine & Dentistry only
- LNAT test – Law – Glasgow and English universities





# Offers

Offers will either be:

- *Unconditional* - this is when the requirements have been met for the course
- *Conditional* - this is when additional qualifications will be required (it can be specific e.g. a B at Higher Maths or general e.g. BB in any subjects)
- *Unsuccessful* - this is when no offer will be made





- Decisions are made at different times by each university.
- After the UCAS deadline (January) some applicants will hear quite soon, for others it can be up until June before courses issue their offers. This does not mean to say that they will be unsuccessful; it is simply about the individual working practices of university faculties and can vary significantly.



# Alternative Routes to Degree Level Qualifications

- College HNC/D courses can be a route into University (1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> year)
- We would recommend that students check that they are on course for the minimum entry for University. If they are not, they can complete a college application for a related HNC/D course. Once this is successfully completed they can enter a degree level course at University.
- College applications are separate to UCAS and pupils can apply to colleges directly (it is recommended students do this as a back-up in case they do not get the grades at the end of S6 for University)





# College

- HNC/HCD courses are offered at colleges.
- HNC are 1-year courses & HND are 2-year courses
- Entry requirements are usually 1-2 Highers
- Many careers require HNC/D qualifications



# Modern & Graduate Apprenticeships

- ◉ Apprentices learn on the job - gaining skills, **experience and qualifications that'll kick-start** their career.
- ◉ Gain real-life industry skills while working towards a **qualification that's accredited by the SQA.**
- ◉ Modern Apprenticeship - similar level to HNC/D.
- ◉ Graduate Apprenticeship - study an Honours degree while working. Must be eligible for SAAS funding.







# Work Experience

- ◉ Many courses and employers require work experience.
- ◉ Developing experience, skills and knowledge within chosen industry.
- ◉ CVs and Interviews.
- ◉ Pupils can gain a week of work experience at WHS.
- ◉ See Miss MacVicar regarding Work Placement.





# Mock Interview

- Pupils in S6 will take part in the ‘Mock Interview’ programme.
- Designed to be a supportive process to prepare young people
  - FE/HE interview, apprenticeships, jobs
  - **Get the nerves out before the ‘real deal’**
- Feedback (areas of strength and development) provided.
- Monday 25<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2025





# FAQs

- ◉ How much does the UCAS application cost?

£27.50. Students can pay using a debit/credit card.

- ◉ What are UCAS tariff points?

They are points given to grades of qualifications but are not used in Scotland for entry.

- ◉ Where can I find out about funding?

[www.saas.gov.uk](http://www.saas.gov.uk)

- ◉ What should I put in my personal statement?

<https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/applying-university/how-write-ucas-undergraduate-personal-statement>

<https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/applying-courses-0>

- ◉ Where can I find out about Graduate and Modern Apprenticeships?

[www.apprenticeships.scot](http://www.apprenticeships.scot)





## What is UCAS *Extra*?

If you included five choices on your application, **have received decisions from all five, and weren't** accepted, or if you declined the offers you received, you will be able to use *Extra*.

You can ask more about *Extra* by contacting Fiona Lafferty or Mr Campbell.





## What is Clearing?

*Clearing* is how universities and colleges fill any places they still have on their courses.

From July - October, you can apply for a course using *Clearing* **if you're not already holding an offer from a university** or college, and the course still has places.

You can use *Clearing* if:

- **you're applying after 30 June**
- **you didn't receive any offers (or none you wanted to accept)**
- **you didn't meet the conditions of your offers**
- you've paid the multiple choice application fee of £27.50
- **you've declined your firm place using the 'decline my place' button in *Track***





## Can I defer a place?

- If you decide you want to delay starting your course, you can apply at the same time as students planning to start in 2025, and defer your start date by a year. You need to select the *deferred entry start date* when adding a choice on your UCAS application.
- In your personal statement, you need to give reasons for deferring, and your plans for your year out. These will be taken into account when assessing your application.
- *Deferred entry is not guaranteed.* Students must contact the individual universities to ask if deferment for a particular course is possible.





### How many courses can I apply for?

Five courses through UCAS. College applications are made direct to the colleges and you can apply to as many as you want, except for HNC/D applications to UHI and Scottish Rural University College - these should be done through UCAS.

### When can I apply to college?

Applications for College courses open in January. The actual dates will be announced nearer the time.

### Do I need Advanced Highers?

These are accepted/required for some courses e.g. Medicine, Vet Medicine and Pharmacy. It is important to ensure you have the required Highers first, as an Advanced Higher usually replaces the Higher grade (at an upper level) so does not count always count as an additional subject.





- Other FAQs:

<https://www.ucas.com/faqs>

- Personalised questions about your child's applications:**

Please email Mr Campbell at:

[campbellg07s@glow.sch.uk](mailto:campbellg07s@glow.sch.uk)

Mr Campbell will either answer directly by email or, for more detailed enquiries, arrange a phone conversation or Google Meet.

