



Welcome to the Year 12  
Post-18 Information Evening  
Mr White and Miss Long

# Tonight's Structure



- **Welcome**
  - Mr White - Head of Sixth Form
  - Miss Long - Head of Year 12
- **PG Exams** and influence on **university choices**
- **UCAS process and university**
- **Personal Statements**
- **Timeline**
- **Apprenticeships**
- **Questions**

# Predicted Grade Examination



- When?
  - Monday 17th June - Friday 28th June
- Why?
  - An accurate view of each student's progress
  - Learning the process (A levels are terminal exams)
  - To provide the most accurate information from which teacher will make a judgement about the students' predicted grades for UCAS
- What if...
  - The deadline for applications is in January.
  - October Assessments may provide evidence for Revised Predicted Grades.



# Predicted Grade Guidance

A predicted grade is the grade of qualification an applicant's school or college believes they're likely to achieve in positive circumstances.

## The Principles

- ✓ aspirational but achievable – stretching predicted grades can be motivational for students
- ✓ determined by professional judgement
- ✓ data-driven

Predicted Grades should not be:

- affected by student, parental, guardian, or carer pressure
- influenced by university or college entry requirements or behaviours
- affected by student behaviour or background – predicted grades should be made objectively and disregard external factors.



# Applying to UCAS

May 2024

# STARTING POINT



- Definite or possibility?
- Clear subject choice?
- Location:
  - City / Campus Russell Group?
  - Oxbridge?
- Start with Unifrog and use UCAS Hub (all students should have signed up)
- Research. Research. Research. Research.
- CPD lessons have been allocated for students
- Can now start looking for courses



We are going to take a look at the UCAS Hub and what it has to offer students:

- <https://www.ucas.com/dashboard#/>
- <https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate>
- <https://www.unifrog.org/student/universities/subject-results>

They should all have an account on UCAS Hub. If they haven't they need to get one.



# Registering with UCAS - ALL

- A UCAS CPD session after PGE's we will expect all students to log into UCAS and will be talked through how to fill in application form
- This is really easy. (Choices are much harder)
- It doesn't cost anything until you actually 'Submit'- £30
- Good practice to write about self
- Use the guide. Use the sessions.



So long as  
students follow  
it, they will be  
fine.

# Talk to staff about...

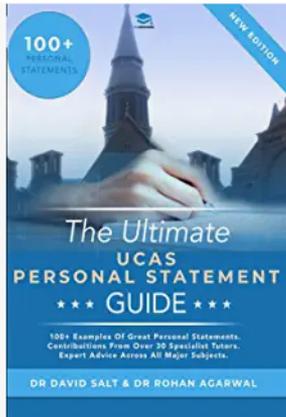
- Choosing courses to fit with grades.
- Where students are and they want to be.
- 5 choices
  - They will need a range
  - The insurance should be one they would accept
- And personal statements...

# Personal Statements

*It is hard for them to write about themselves but we are here to support!*  
*Personal Statement sessions to sign up to in July 2024*

# What do they need to write?

- Why study the course / job. (If they can't explain why, consider changing their course choice.)
- What experiences they have had that will show why you are a good fit for the course / job. (If they can't find any, consider changing their course choice.)
- Wider reading that shows you are passionate about subject / job area. (If they haven't done any... well, you get the general idea.)
- Use the structure given by the school. It's available on the '2023 Starters' Google Classroom. They will have a session on this in the summer term



Sponsored ⓘ

The Ultimate UCAS Personal Statement Guide: 100+ examples of great personal statements. Contributions from over 30 specialist tutors. Expert advice across all major...

by Rohan Agarwal and David Salt | 3 Jun 2021

★★★★★ ∨ 142

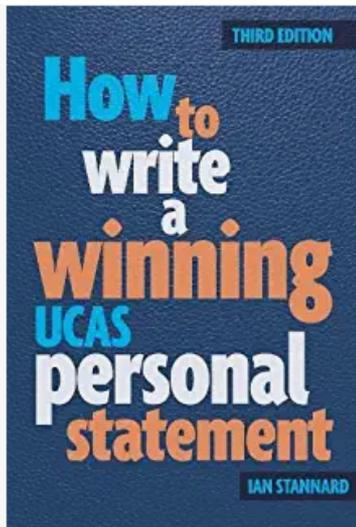
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*What if they haven't decided what to apply for?*

Write one for each area... The best one is probably the best area to apply for!

Apply for everything and keep doors wide open!

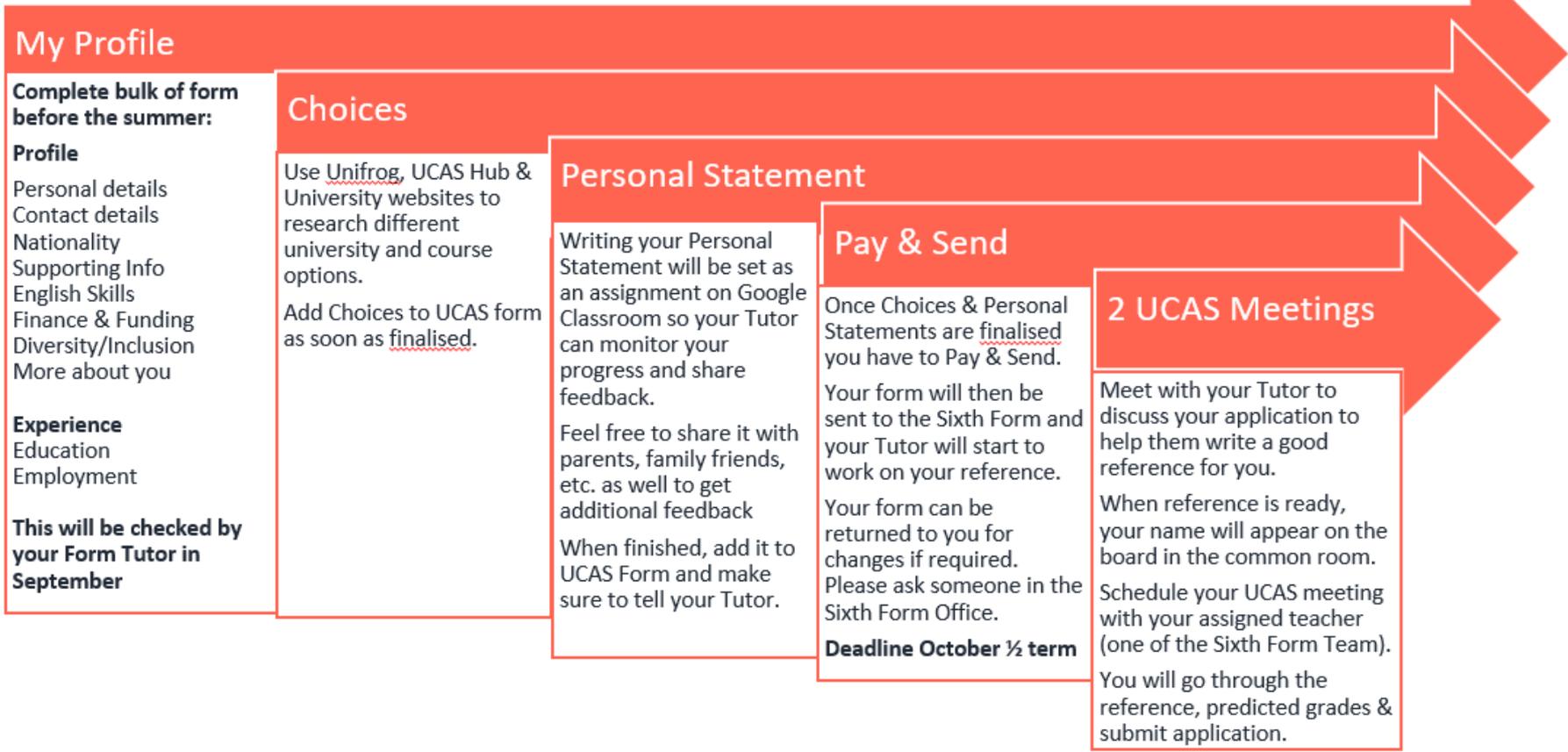


# UCAS timeline

## What happens next:

### UCAS Application Process at Arden

UCAS





# Deadlines

	<b>DEADLINES</b>		
	<b>Recommended date for submission</b> (to maximise your chances of success)	<b>Arden deadline for submission</b> (You need to Pay & Send before the UCAS deadline as we need to write your reference and check your form before sending it to UCAS. If you Pay & Send after the Arden deadline we cannot guarantee that your application will be processed on time.)	<b>Final UCAS deadline for submission</b> (Universities and colleges do not have to consider applications received after the deadline.)
<b>Conservatoires (Music)</b>	11 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2024	<b>18<sup>th</sup> Sept 2024</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Oct 2024 at 18:00
<b>EARLY ENTRY (Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary, Medicine, Oxford, Cambridge)</b>	24 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2024	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Oct 2024</b>	15 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2024 at 18:00
<b>All other courses</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2024	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Dec 2024</b>	29 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2025 at 18:00

# Timeline



What we have already done:

September 2023	Goal Setting
November 2023	Unifrog and UCAS launch
November 2023	CPD Futures: University
December 2023	CPD Futures: Apprenticeships
February 2024	Work experience week
February 2024	UCAS Hub launch
March 2024	Futures - time to look, prepare and plan
March 2024	Edgbaston Career and Apprenticeship fair
April 2024	Futures Conference
May 2024	How to prepare for Predicted Grade Exams

# What's next?



June 2024	PGE's
July 2024	Mock Interviews
July 2024	UCAS workshops and CPD sessions
July-August 2024	Writing personal statements
September 2024 - December 4th	Apply for University and UCAS meetings

# Timeline



## Other events and support:

- ✓ How to manage your mental health during A levels
- ✓ How to prepare for examinations
- ✓ Oxbridge and MediVets sessions (early entry)
- ✓ Character and Personal Development (CPD) and Form Time
  - Finance and budgeting
  - Health
  - Futures support and UCAS
- ✓ Futures notice board
  - On Google Classroom
- ✓ Future Fridays
- ✓ Career advisor (Mrs Butcher Johns)
- ✓ Personal statement and UCAS support
- ✓ Apprenticeship support

# Year 13- May 2025



We'll talk about replying to offers / firm & insurance / clearing and adjustment during Year 13.

- For now students need to focus on PGE's and revision

# What is an Apprenticeship?



- An apprenticeship is a real job, with hands-on experience, a salary and the training while you work.
- Treated just like all the other employees, with a contract of employment and holiday leave.
- Get paid and train at the same time, with at least 20% of time spent in off the job training, often at a college, university or with a training provider.
- Train to be fully competent in chosen occupation some offer a career path to higher qualifications - with lots of future potential
- Apprenticeship can take between one and six years to complete, depending on which apprenticeship chosen, what level it's at, and previous experience.

# What is an Apprenticeship



<b>NAME</b>	<b>LEVEL</b>	<b>EQUIVALENT</b>
Intermediate	2	5 GCSE passes at grade A*– C or 9 – 4
Advanced	3	2 A level passes/Level 3 Diploma/ International Baccalaureate
Higher	4, 5, 6 and 7	Foundation degree and above
Degree	6 and 7	Bachelor's or master's degree

# Benefits



- 1** Receive on-the-job training by industry professionals
- 2** Earn while you learn
- 3** There are over 200 different apprenticeships to choose from
- 4** Gain specialist skills
- 5** High street discount card available for all apprentices
- 6** No student loan!
- 7** Excellent career progression
- 8** Paid holiday
- 9** Gain a range of qualifications while you work
- 10** Good relationships with employers means better job prospects

# There is an Apprenticeship for everyone



Construction,  
Contracting  
Operations,  
Stonemasonry,  
Plumbing,  
Electrical Installation,  
Bricklaying, Painting  
and Decorating,  
Site and Bench  
Joinery

Accounting, Business  
Administration,  
Professional Cookery,  
Hospitality industry roles,  
Customer Services.

Sport Coaching  
and management,  
Public service  
roles- police,  
armed forces,  
RAF.



Engineering(Civil,  
electrical and  
Mechanical ),  
Motor Vehicle

Digital Marketing,  
Infrastructure  
Technician &  
Software  
Developer,  
Social Media and  
Public Relations.

Dental Nursing, Clinical Health  
Care, Hairdressing, Childcare,  
Beauty Therapy, Laboratory  
Sciences, Animal Care

# Applying



- Apprenticeships are competitive to get, and each has its own entry requirements.
- Most require that at least a grade 4 in Maths and English GCSE.
- Degree apprenticeships usually require A Levels or equivalent level 3 qualifications.
- Employers will also want to know that candidates are keen to learn, have a positive attitude, can get on well with colleagues and have excellent attendance and time keeping.
- They will usually check these things by taking a character reference from school or employer from a part time job
- Volunteering and extracurricular activities are other ways to demonstrate potential.

# Myth or Fact



*“Applying for an apprenticeship is like applying for a course at college. I enrol to the apprenticeship programme and they provide me with the work placement, easy and simple.”*

False- An apprenticeship is a professional vocation and it is applying for a job vacancy.

Find apprenticeship vacancies that are interested in applying for, submit application and await to hear if they gain an interview.

If successful will gain the interview and the apprenticeship, employer will then get in touch with their relevant training provider where theory of the course can be studied.

However, some training is provided in house and may not need to attend college; it is all dependent on the training provider.

Furthermore, can also seek out an apprenticeship independently by contacting companies to seek whether they would be happy to take on an apprentice, if this is the case then the employer would need to seek out a relevant training provider.

# Myth or Fact



*“Apprenticeships only pay minimum wage”*

**False-** It's also a common (and incorrect) assumption that Apprentices don't earn much and are all paid the National Minimum Wage, this isn't true.

While many employers might choose to pay their Apprentices minimum wage, unions are always negotiating higher pay rates for Apprentices, well above minimum wage.

In fact, the National Minimum Wage for Apprentices would see you earning roughly £100 per week, the average pay rate for Apprentices is £170 per week

# Myth or Fact



*“You do not gain relevant or worthwhile qualifications and it is not seen as good as a university degree.”*

False, A lot of people might think that Apprenticeships are for those that didn't choose (or couldn't get into) higher education like University, so are a step down.

For a huge amount of careers, employers will value the experience you've gained from an Apprenticeship just as much as the degree that someone gains from University.

All qualifications are relevant and are appropriate to different industries, not all are the same as not all require the same and needs different skills.

It is not that one is worth more than the other, it is all about individual personal choice and the job route that you would like engage with.

# Myth or Fact



*"I can apply for a degree apprenticeship through UCAS, just like applying for a studied degree at university."*

False. Applications to Degree Apprenticeships are for people who are in paid employment and are initiated by the employer.

Employers are encouraged to contact the Degree Apprenticeships team to discuss individual circumstances and to be provided with the application forms

Applicants need to complete an application form which will then be then sent to the course directors for consideration.

Each Degree Apprenticeship has specific entry requirements and requires the applicant to be working in a role that would enable them to have the hands-on experience, to complement the learning process and the theoretical underpinning attained through studying the Degree course.



# Apprenticeship Timeline

- ✓ Each company has their own application process
- ✓ UCAS announced that they wanted to try and streamline the application process to make it more similar to applying for Universities
  - This has not happened yet but UCAS have hugely improved their information on apprenticeships (more to come)

What should students considering an apprenticeship be doing right now:

- ✓ Research widely
- ✓ Networking
  - Futures conference, mock interviews, Future Friday's, Careers Team, friends, family...!
- ✓ Updating LinkedIn
- ✓ Fundamentally, they have to be a self starter
- ✓ Students need to start doing all of the above right away

# Apprenticeship Timeline



What support will we provide:

- ✓ We form an apprenticeship group that meets regularly to discuss:
  - What research have they done
  - How to prepare for applications
  - How to prepare for interviews including mock assessment centre opportunities
  - What they need to be doing to give themselves the best chance to get onto an apprenticeship
- ✓ We will support them with applications\*
- ✓ We will provide references when requested

# Apprenticeship information on UCAS



UCAS

Discover

Undergraduate

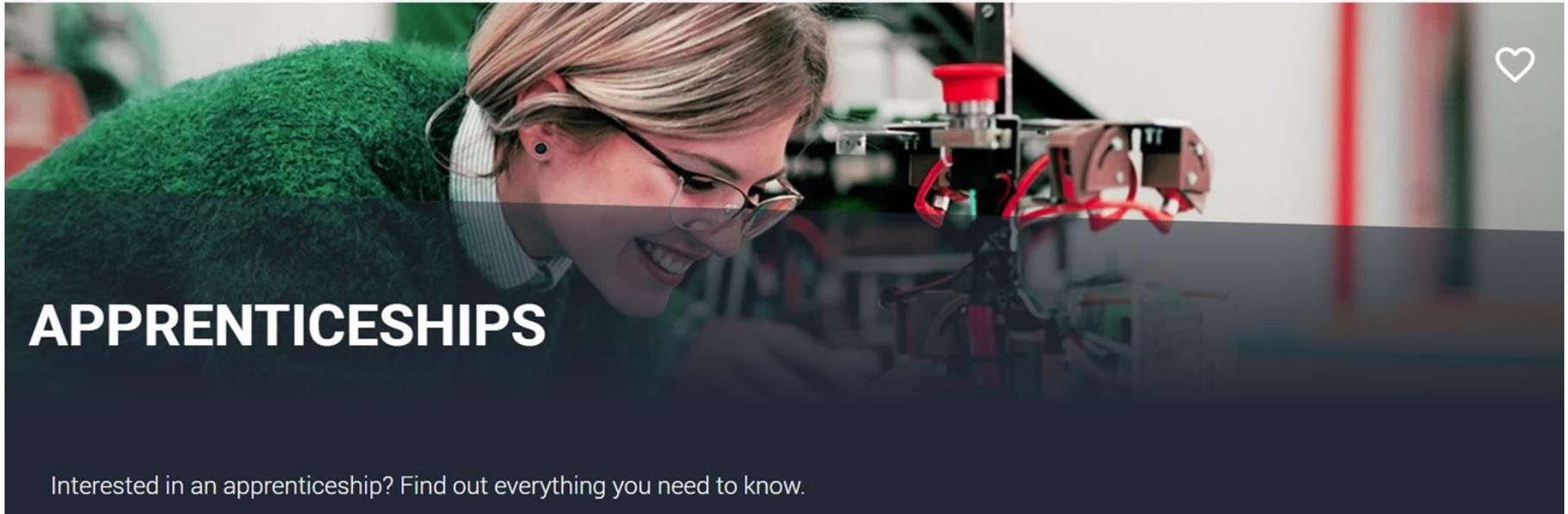
Postgraduate

Apprenticeships

Careers



Sign in



## APPRENTICESHIPS

Interested in an apprenticeship? Find out everything you need to know.



SCAN ME

# Apprenticeship information on UCAS



**Considered an apprenticeship? An undergraduate degree isn't the only option – discover more about apprenticeships, and you could learn and earn at the same time.**



## Listen to our new podcast

Find out all about degree apprenticeships in our brand new podcast series.



## Find an apprenticeship

Search and apply for apprenticeships using Career Finder.



## What is an apprenticeship?

Get the facts on apprenticeships and how they work.



## Browse by industry

From marketing to construction, business, and so much more, find out what industries might be a good fit for you.



## Degree apprenticeships

Learn how you can gain a paid-for degree while getting industry experience and earning a salary.



## Find your ideal career

Take our career quiz to find your ideal job matched to your personality type.



## Get tailored advice in the UCAS Hub

Sign up to explore your options, favourite your interests and get personal support and advice.



## Support for disabled people taking apprenticeships

Being disabled shouldn't limit your job or study choice, and apprenticeships can be a great route for you to get into your chosen career.

# Apprenticeships



<https://www.ucas.com/explore/search/apprenticeships?query=>

# Apprenticeships - Further Information



Additional sources of information include:

- ✓ The Government Website
- ✓ Unifrog
  - A portal that all students can access
- ✓ Training providers
- ✓ Company websites
  - Some of the best are not always particularly well advertised
- ✓ The Futures noticeboard on Google Classroom
  - We update this with any opportunities that get sent to the school

# So what can I do to support my child?



- Note down the deadlines for UCAS
- Encourage them to actively research university courses and apprenticeships
- Encourage personal statements to be written over summer/ early September
- Be patient, supportive and give advice but also be mindful that the onus is on them to think about their own future
- Talk to them about their aspirations and be realistic about goals/ back- up plans?
- Proofread their personal statement?
- Help with revision for PGE?

# Some Reminders



## FUTURES -

- Mock Interviews Wednesday 3rd July - Fri 12th July
  - ASPIRATIONAL / REALISTIC

## THE MOCK INTERVIEW GOOGLE FORMS CAN STILL BE EDITED

- Medicine - with no work experience, placements and without Chemistry?
- Oxbridge - preparatory sessions have been going on since September but have recently stopped due to staff absence. This will resume ASAP

# Questions



Feel free to go...

But for those with questions we will split into areas:

Mr White - PGE, Oxbridge/Medics/Apprenticeships

Miss Long- UCAS process/ UCAS support/apprenticeships