

KS4 Parents' Information Evening

Test Valley School
October 2022

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University of Winchester



What I will cover

- University
 - Why go to uni
 - What you can study
 - Other benefits/opportunities
- Student finance
- Alternatives to university
- What they can do now



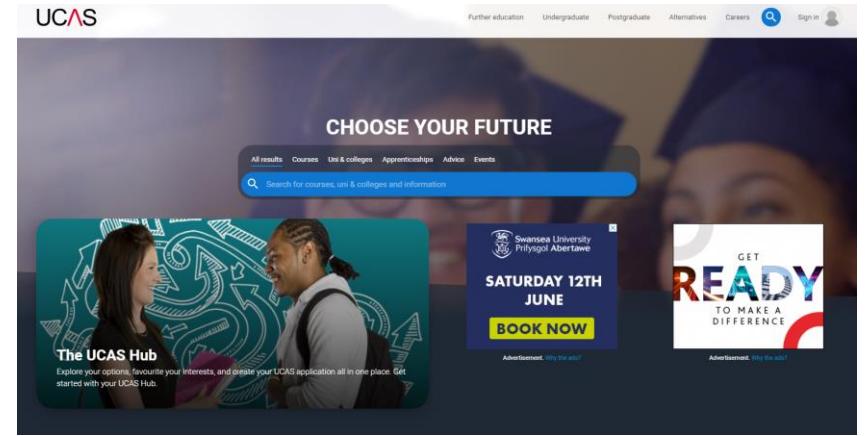
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Before we start,
let me introduce
you to UCAS...



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www.ucas.com



Provides an online search, application and tracking service for students looking to go to university.

Provides videos and information to support students through the application process AND all their post-18 options.



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University



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Why do people go to university?

Around 1/3 of 18-year-olds go to university

- Qualify for their chosen career
- Increase their employability/earning power
- Study a subject they love or learn a new one
- Meet a variety of people
- Experience new opportunities
- Increasing independence – commuting or living in



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Vocational accredited courses

These qualify students to work in a particular career - people employed in this industry must have the relevant qualification

- Primary Education
- Nursing
- Social Work
- Physiotherapy



Courses with a career focus

They do not need to do this degree to go into the field of employment, but it would help them learn the skills required

- Accounting and Finance
- Marketing
- Film Production
- Sport Management
- Journalism
- Forensic Investigation and many more



Courses with an academic focus

These degrees give students the opportunity to study a subject that they love while learning important transferrable skills which will help them in their career

- History
- Drama
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Geography
- English Literature and many more



Other opportunities

These can be:-

- Fun and rewarding
- A great way to boost a CV
- An accredited part of the course

Volunteering

Work Experience

Study Abroad

Student Union Societies

Student Union Representational Networks

Student Union Sports Teams



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Timescales and application process

- Year 12 – start their research on courses and universities, attend large UCAS exhibitions and smaller HE/Careers Fairs, attend advice talks or use UCAS advice
- End of year 12/summer/early in year 13 – attend open days, narrow down their choices
- Year 13 September to January – they apply
- Year 13 October to June – they receive offers and make final decisions
- Summer after year 13 – results, final preparation before starting uni
- Late Summer/early Autumn – begin their course



Student finance



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What students have to pay

The 2 main expenses they will have whilst at university are:

- **Tuition fees** - £9,250* per year for UK and EU students starting full-time undergraduate courses in September 2022
- **Living costs** – accommodation or commuting, food, travel, study materials e.g., books, and other course costs, leisure, social etc. Living costs will vary according to the lifestyle choices they make.



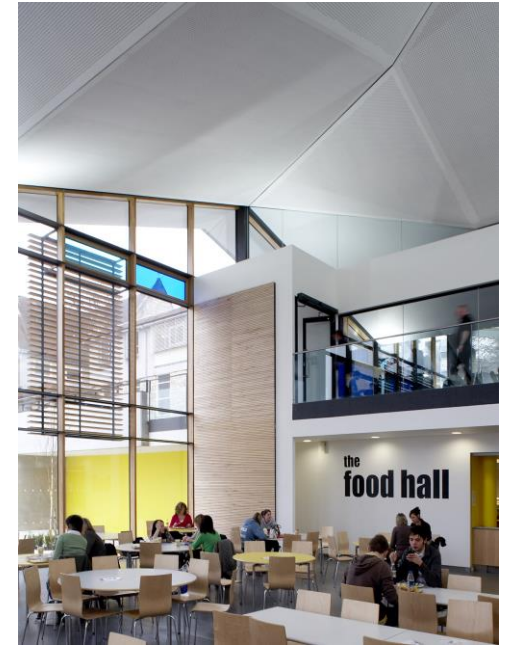
Financial Support – loans that need to be repaid

Tuition Fee Loan

- Covers the full fees
- Most UK students eligible
- Not means tested

Maintenance Loan

- Aims to help cover the living costs
- Amount paid depends on household income and where your student is studying and living



Current Repayment terms

Once they leave university they do not need to start repaying until the April after.

Repayments are based on income not amount borrowed.

After 30 years, the remaining debt is wiped.

If they never get a job earning over the threshold (currently £27,295), it means they won't have repaid a penny.



Check out Martin Lewis' videos on YouTube



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Financial Support – that normally does not need to be repaid

From the government

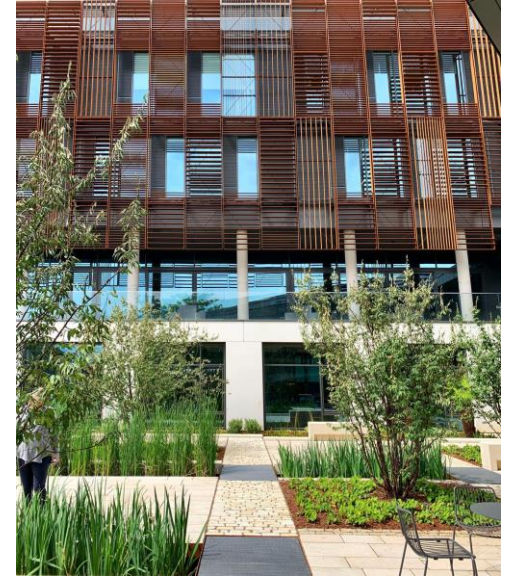
NHS courses

Personal circumstances (mainly for mature students)

University bursaries and scholarships

These vary between universities

Funding can apply due to academic achievement, the course, personal circumstances etc.



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Alternatives to university

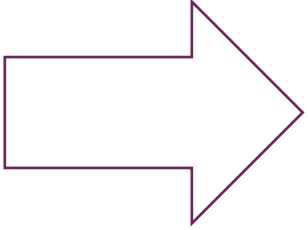


Gap Year



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Gap Years: the basics

- A good choice if they are undecided about the future or would like a break from studying
 - Employment
 - Travel
 - Volunteering
- 
- Or a combination of all three
- Opportunity to build skills and experience
 - University application before or during



www.ucas.com/undergraduate/student-life/gap-year

The screenshot shows the UCAS website interface. At the top left is the UCAS logo. The navigation menu includes 'Further education', 'Undergraduate', 'Postgraduate', 'Apprenticeships', 'Careers', a search icon, and a 'Sign in' button with a user icon. A heart icon is visible on the right side of the page. The main heading is 'GAP YEARS – IDEAS AND THINGS TO THINK ABOUT' with a breadcrumb trail: 'Home / Undergraduate / Student life / Gap year'. Below the heading is a sub-link 'Explore this section' with a dropdown arrow. The main content area features a paragraph: 'Gap years can be used to enhance your CV, travel, learn new skills, and much more. Find out more and get some inspiration here.' This is followed by a section titled 'How could coronavirus (COVID-19) impact gap year plans?' with a sub-paragraph: 'Coronavirus (COVID-19) is likely to have an impact on your gap year, whether you plan to travel, or stay local and get a job. It's likely that as guidance from UK governments, and other countries change you might need to review or, in some cases, reschedule your plans. Keep checking the GOV.UK website for the latest advice.' Below this is another paragraph: 'A gap year offers you the opportunity to gain skills and experiences, while giving you time to reflect and focus on what you want to do next.' To the right of the text is a video player showing a woman on a laptop screen, with the text 'Give your team IT support from anywhere' and a 'Learn More' button. Below the video player is a small text 'Advertisement. Why the ads?'. At the bottom of the page, there is a purple banner with the University of Winchester logo and name.



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Degree Apprenticeships



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www.ucas.com/apprenticeships

UCAS

Further education

Undergraduate

Postgraduate

Apprenticeships

Careers



Sign in



APPRENTICESHIPS

Everything you need to know about UK apprenticeships



Interested in an apprenticeship?



Careers Quiz

Find your ideal job matched to your personality and a list of courses previous students studied in order to get there.



Apprenticeships in England

There's a wide range of apprenticeships for over 1,500 job roles. Find out more about what's available, what to consider, as well as how to find and apply for vacancies.



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Not going to uni at 18



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Do they have to go to uni at 18?

Simple answer: No!

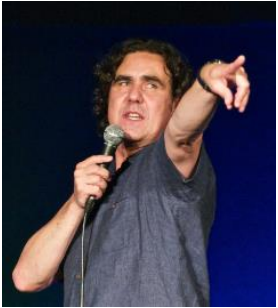
Around $\frac{1}{4}$ applications to university are made by mature students.

Apply with existing qualifications/work experience/one year Access to HE qualification.



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Famous mature students



Micky Flanagan, comedian

Left school at 15 with no qualifications

Restarted education at 25 and gained a degree in his 30s



Steven Spielberg, film director



Went to California State University

Gained his degree in film and electronic arts age 55



www.ucas.com/careers-advice

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Further education Undergraduate Postgraduate Apprenticeships **Careers**  Sign in 

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RIGHT
DECISION
FOR YOU

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What your children can do now/next



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What you they do now/next

Explore your post-16 options, your post-18 options and your career options.

Make the most of your work experience opportunity to make their applications strong.

Attend Careers/HE Fairs at your school and college and make the most of being able to ask questions of employers and education providers.



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Keeping their options open

- Do your research and narrow down your choices
- BUT you can pursue more than one option
- University AND apprenticeship
- Consider a gap year AND apply to university
- Defer your university place before the start of term



Remember: www.ucas.com
for advice about all your options

UCAS

Further education

Undergraduate

Postgraduate

Alternatives

Careers



Sign in



Choose your future

Explore your options, apply to university, and more



Find courses, information, and more

Other great websites to get you started

Prospects – www.prospects.ac.uk

Discover Uni – www.discoveruni.gov.uk

Student Finance England – www.gov.uk/student-finance

The Student Room – www.thestudentroom.co.uk

Martin Lewis/Money Saving Expert – www.moneysavingexpert.com/students

National Careers Service Skills Assessment – www.nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/skills-assessment

University of Winchester Information for Parents and Carers - www.winchester.ac.uk/accommodation-and-winchester-life/student-life/information-for-parents-and-carers-/



Find out more

Ask questions on whatever platform you'd prefer if you are unsure about anything, we are here to help.



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Live Chat to us – use **ask** on our website
winchester.ac.uk



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