

# Year 12 Parents' Information Evening

Welcome



- Work experience deadlines for Year 12
- Post 18 destinations for King's students in 2025
- A timeline of events from now to A-level results in August 2027
- Preparing for Post 18 choices
- Applications for degree apprenticeships
- University choices and UCAS applications
- University admission tests and interviews
- A brief overview of university student finance



# Work Experience in Year 12

Students will undertake a work placement in w/c 6<sup>th</sup> July for four days, unless they have already completed an approved work placement during Year 12.

The students' deadline was Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March, for their placement to be uploaded and fully approved on Unifrog



# How can I help?



Talk to your young person about what interest them and what placements might be relevant to their career choices.



Support them with contacts you and your friends may have. If possible, work with other parents to “swap” contacts.



Make sure the employer knows of any medical issues and ensure that these are added to the Unifrog form.

unifrog

HOME FAVOURITES LOCKER APPLY HELP

Hello Rich, here's a summary of your progress so far...

69% complete

96th in year group

Want to move things forward? We recommend you...

Exploring pathways

Careers library  
✓ Careers favoured  
Go to tool >

Subjects library  
✓ Subjects favoured  
Go to tool >

Know-how library  
✓ Guides favoured  
Go to tool >

Courses  
✗ No courses added  
Go to tool >

MOOC  
You have 1 shortlist  
Start >

Webinars  
Hear directly from the experts  
Go to tool >

Read, Watch, Listen  
✓ Profiles favoured  
Start >

Placements  
✗ No placements added  
Go to tool >

# Destinations 2025



1 – University of Guelph, Canada

4 - University of Edinburgh  
2 - University of Glasgow  
1 - University of Stirling  
1 - University of Strathclyde

6 - University of Liverpool  
2 – University of Manchester  
2 – Manchester Metropolitan  
1 – Lancaster University

3 - Aberystwyth University  
1 - Cardiff University  
1 - Bangor University  
1 Cardiff Metropolitan

9 - University of Warwick  
7 - University of Birmingham  
3 - Aston University  
1 - Wolverhampton University

5 - University of Bristol  
2 - University of Bath  
2 - University of Exeter  
1 – Royal Agricultural Uni  
1 – Falmouth University

Durham University - 10  
Newcastle University - 8  
University of Sunderland - 1

University of Leeds - 9  
University of York – 7  
University of Sheffield - 4  
Leeds Beckett University - 1  
Sheffield Hallam University - 1

University of Nottingham - 21  
University of Leicester – 7  
University of Lincoln - 4  
De Montfort University – 2  
Nottingham Trent University - 2  
Loughborough University - 1

University of Cambridge - 4  
Anglia Ruskin University ARU - 3  
University of East Anglia UEA – 3  
University of Essex – 2  
Norwich Univ of the Arts - 1

University College, London UCL - 3  
King's College, London KCL - 1  
London School of Economics LSE - 1  
Imperial College, London - 1  
St. Mary's University – 1  
Royal Central School Speech Drama - 1

University of Southampton - 2  
Royal Holloway University - 2  
West Dean College – 2  
University of Reading – 1  
Medway School Pharmacy – 1  
Buckinghamshire New Univ - 1


# 2025 Post 18 Destinations

5% Degree Apprenticeships 

1% 

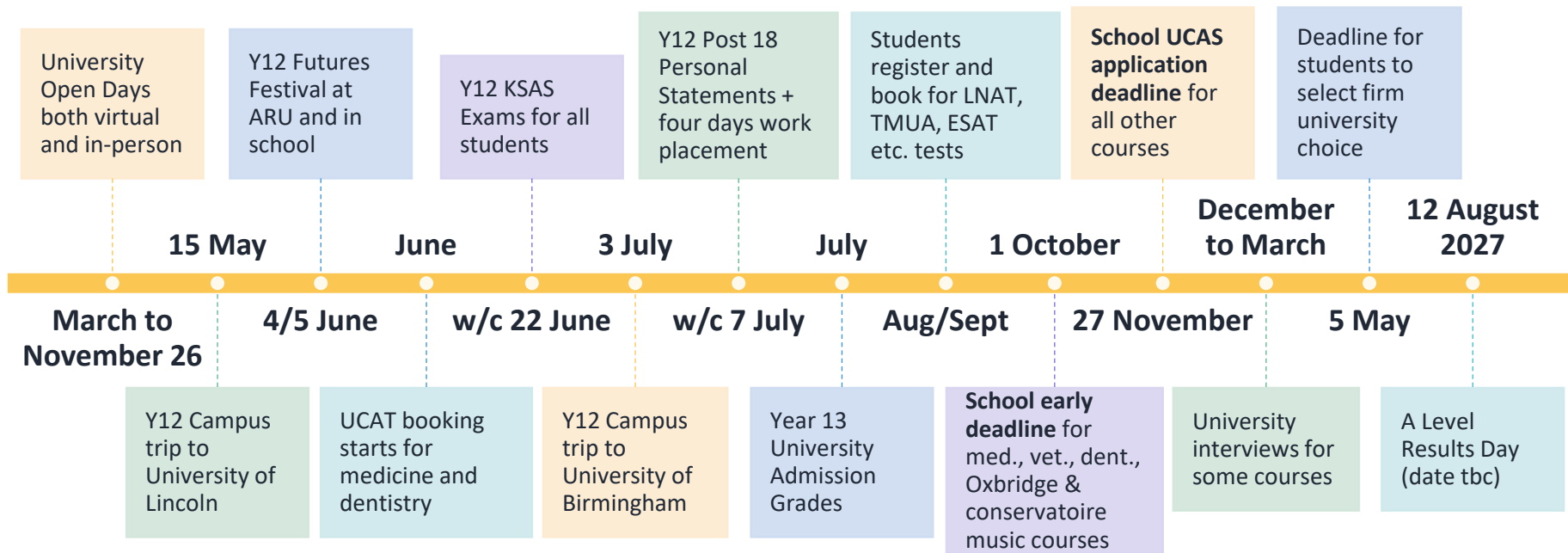
Other employment

12% Gap year 

82% Accepted a University place 

67% of these within the **RUSSELL GROUP**

# Timeline of events to August 2027



Optional 1-1 Careers Meetings continue to be available on request

# Preparing for Post 18 choices



# Post 18 Career Choices

- Acquiring essential qualifications
- Developing new transferable skills and subject knowledge
- Increasing confidence and independence
- Broadening experiences
- Meeting new people
- Increasing job prospects
- Creating a higher earning potential





Employment  
Apprenticeship  
Uniformed Services  
Further Education  
Study Abroad  
Gap Year  
University

# Some higher education study options

- **Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE) / Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE):** first and second year of a degree course.
- **Higher National Certificate (HNC) / Higher National Diploma (HND):** HNC is a one-year industry specific course, and the HND is a two-year industry specific course.
- **Higher apprenticeships:** provide an opportunity to gain Level 4 qualifications or above, e.g. HND, or foundation degree while you work. Can take from one to five years to complete, depending on the course level.
- **Foundation degree:** flexible vocational qualification, combining both academic study and workplace learning. It usually takes two years to complete.
- **Bachelor's or undergraduate degree (BSc Hons or BA Hons):** a three to four-year course which can also be available as a part-time option, allowing you to study and work. Students can also apply at some universities for some courses with an integrated masters degree resulting in an MSc or MA award.
- **Degree apprenticeships:** enable you to gain a full undergraduate or master's degree while you work (Level 6 or 7). Degree apprenticeships take three to six years to complete, depending on the course structure and level.

# A degree apprenticeship

is the equivalent of a traditional university degree and the degree is awarded by a university; usually a Level 6 qualification.

You apply directly to employer offering the apprenticeship. The employer pays the university tuition fees, pays the apprentice's salary and also allows them paid time to study for their degree.



Skills England





Unifrog is a complete careers platform that we provide for our students.

It's got the latest information about career pathways, university and apprenticeship choices – invite your young person to show you how it works!

## Quizzes

**Interests profile**  
✓ Quiz last taken 1 Feb 23: 5 and I and E

Start >

**Personality profile**  
✗ Quiz not taken

Start >

**Work environments profile**  
✗ Quiz not taken

Start >

**Skills profile**  
✓ Quiz last taken 17 Jan 23

Start >

## Exploring pathways

**Careers library**  
✓ Careers favourited

Go to tool >

**Subjects library**  
✗ Subjects favourited

Go to tool >

**Know-how library**  
✓ Guides favourited

Go to tool >

**MOOC**  
You have [1 shortlist](#)

Start >

**Webinars**  
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**Read, Watch, Listen**  
✓ Profiles favourited

Start >

**Placements**  
✗ No placements added

Go to tool >

# Sixth Form Central

Welcome to the Sixth Form at The King's (The Cathedral) School Peterborough

Please use the documents folder to access the dates, permissions and other documents that were previously available on the school website.

[Sixth Form Handbook](#)

[Sixth Form Permissions](#)

[Becoming a Leader at King's](#)

[King's Instagram](#)

[King's LinkedIn](#)



Documents



Recycle Bin

## House Captains at King's



Unifrog



My Tutor



MOOC



Seneca



UCAS



Uni Compare

# University choices, UCAS applications



# Choosing the right place

- **Style** – from traditional, with a focus on subject-based courses and research, to modern universities/colleges, with a greater focus on vocational courses.
- **Location** – some are in large cities, others in small towns, by the coast or in the countryside – it's all a major influence on the environment and lifestyle.
- **Size** – larger universities can have more than 20,000 students, whereas some of the smallest have only a few thousand.
- **Culture and facilities** – influenced by a range of factors, including the diversity of students who attend.
- **What graduates do** – all universities collect destination statistics; it can be useful to find out what jobs or further study students go on to.
- **Tuition fees** – can vary between universities and colleges; check if there are scholarships or bursaries available.
- **Living costs** – accommodation, transport, and food can vary enormously.

# Choosing the right course

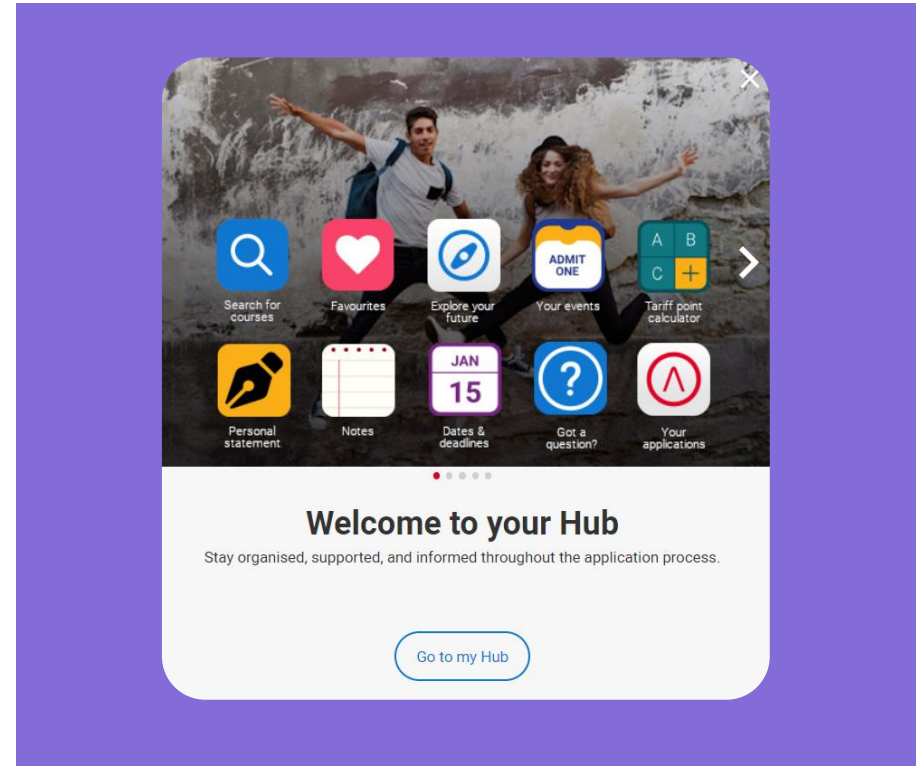
- What does the course cover?
- Courses with the same title may be very different.
- Look carefully at the core course content, and the range of optional studies/modules available.
- Which modules are the most interesting and relevant to your career aspirations?
- See if the course or university/college offers any internship, placement, or study abroad opportunities.
- How is the course taught – structured teaching, or more independent research? How many lectures are there, and how much group work will be done in seminars?
- How is the course assessed?

# Starting your research

UCAS is a body that coordinates university applications in the UK

Using [ucas.com](https://ucas.com) you can:

- explore careers, subjects, places, and apprenticeships
- find and favourite from over 35,000 courses
- search for open days, online events, and virtual tours
- start an application for 2027 entry (from May 2026)



# Completing a UCAS application



Student registers for a UCAS Hub account to carry out research and start their application.



Student completes all sections of the application and pays UCAS for it by card. This sends it to the school for review.



The school checks each application with the student, adding their reference and grades



The school sends the application to UCAS on behalf of the student. UCAS sends the application on to each university.




Universities make their decisions and reply via UCAS and email.


# Key facts


- To start you will need a **UCAS Hub account**. You can register for a Hub account at anytime [here](#).
- You have up to **five university choices**. If you're applying to study medicine, veterinary medicine or dentistry, then you can make **four choices**, with a fifth choice of an alternative course. For conservatoire applications you have **six choices**.
- Applying **costs £28.95 (2026/7)**, unless you qualify for **free school meals**.
- From **May 2026** you'll be able to start your application. For early applications, you can pay for and submit it to the school for checking in **September 2026**. The school will send off your final application to UCAS once it's ready.
- **Remember:** you can't apply to both Oxford and Cambridge; it doesn't matter which order you add your university choices; and each university can't see who else you've applied to.





# The personal statement

 The only section students have full control over


 Students only chance to market themselves individually

 The same for all choices

 A maximum of 4,000 characters, or 47 lines

 A minimum of 1,000 characters

 There isn't a spelling or grammar check

 No formatting is allowed

UCAS' similarity detection service:  
every personal statement is run  
through software to check for  
plagiarism

# What can students be doing now?

- research, research, research
- attend open days and events – both online and in-person
- extra-curricular and super-curricular activities, including subject tasters and summer schools
- work experience, volunteering
- independent learning outside the curriculum
- adding drafts of their personal statement and notes for reference writers to Unifrog
- focus on this year's studies!



# Decisions

Universities and colleges will review the:



**personal statement**



**qualifications**



**school reference**

They may also ask for:



**admissions test**



**interview**



**portfolio/audition**

# Replies to offers

Once decisions have been made by the universities on all their choices, students can choose two:

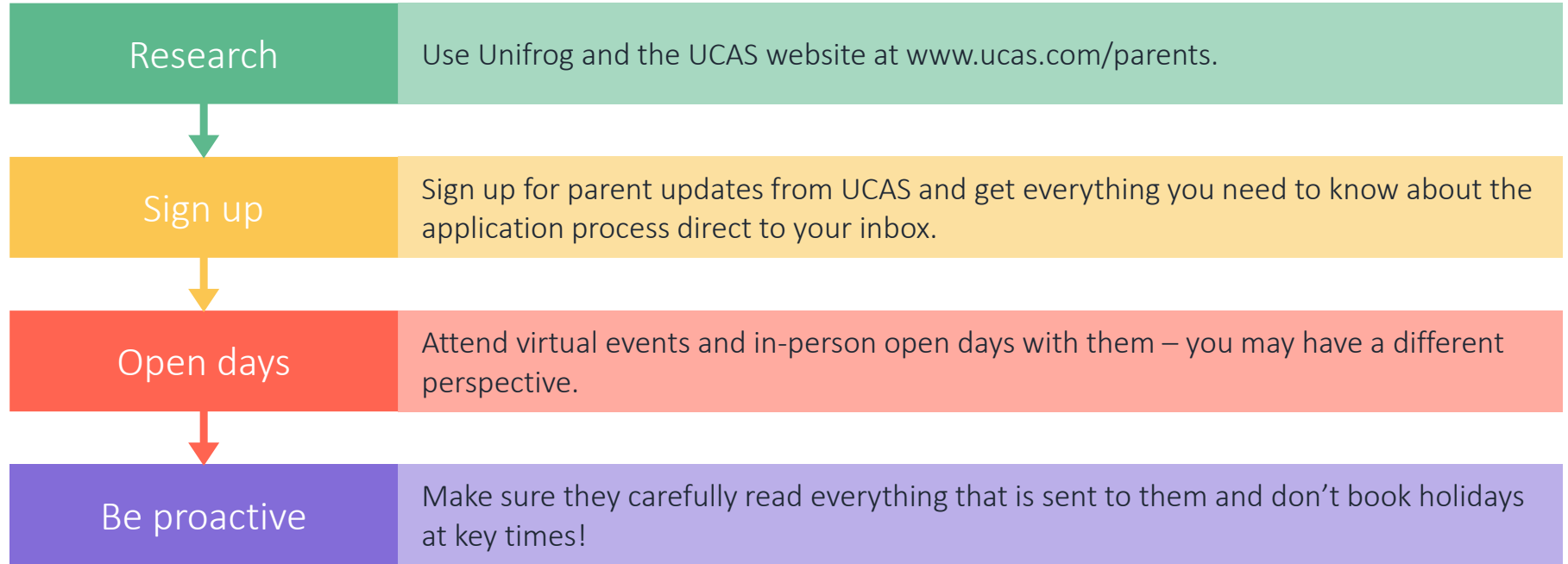
- one as a **'firm'** acceptance – their first choice
- the other as an **'insurance'** acceptance. This acts as a back-up if you do not get into your 'firm' choice

This choice is normally made after A Level mock results at the end of February and before the students reply by deadline, which will often be 5<sup>th</sup> May 2027.

Once the choice is made, any remaining offers the student holds are automatically declined.



# How can you support your child?



# Admissions tests

Most university courses do not require admissions tests. Requirements change from year to year.

Please check each university website carefully where they are required for specific courses, for deadlines and details of how to apply to undertake the tests. Here are links to some universities:

- [Cambridge Admission Tests](#)
- [Imperial College, London Admissions Tests](#)
- [Oxford Admissions Tests](#)
- [UCL, London Admissions Tests](#)

In addition to the more common pre-application admissions tests listed [here](#), there are a number for individual Oxbridge courses and colleges, administered by the colleges **post** application.

## Common pre-application admissions test 2026/27

Engineering, Sciences, Veterinary Medicine  
[Engineering and Science Admissions Test \(ESAT\)](#)

Law (nine UK universities including Oxbridge)  
[National Admissions Test for Law \(LNAT\)](#)

Maths, Computer Science, Economics (some universities)  
[Test of Mathematics for University Admissions \(TMUA\)](#)

Medicine & Dentistry (all universities )  
[University Clinical Aptitude Test \(UCAT\)](#)

Humanities (certain courses at Oxford and UCL)  
[Test of Academic Reasoning for Admissions \(TARA\)](#)

# 2026/7 selected admissions tests

## Oxford

Biomedical Sciences (ESAT)  
Computer Science (TMUA)  
Computer Science and Philosophy (TMUA)  
Economics and Management (TARA)  
Engineering Science (ESAT)  
History and Economics (TARA)  
History and Politics (TARA)  
Human Sciences (TARA)  
Mathematics/Mathematics and Statistics (TMUA)  
Mathematics and Computer Science (TMUA)  
Mathematics and Philosophy (TMUA)  
Physics (ESAT)  
Physics and Philosophy (ESAT)  
Politics, Philosophy and Economics (TARA)  
Psychology (Experimental) (TARA)  
Psychology, Philosophy and Linguistics (TARA)

## Cambridge

Chemical Engineering, Biotechnology (ESAT)  
Computer Science (TMUA)  
Economics (TMUA)  
Engineering(ESAT)  
Law (LNAT)  
Mathematics (TMUA)  
Medicine(UCAT)  
Natural Sciences (ESAT)  
Veterinary Medicine (ESAT)

## Imperial College

Aeronautics (ESAT)  
Imperial Business School (TMUA)  
Chemical Engineering (ESAT)  
Civil and Environmental Engineering (ESAT)  
Computing (TMUA)  
Electrical and Electronic Engineering (ESAT)  
Life Sciences (ESAT)  
Mathematics (TMUA)  
Mechanical Engineering (ESAT)  
Medicine (UCAT)  
Physics (ESAT)

# Student finance

All eligible students resident in England can apply for finance through [Student Finance England](#), wherever they intend to go to university in the UK.

All eligible students can receive an undergraduate tuition fee loan for each year of their course. How much maintenance loan they will get depends on where they'll study and your household income. You can estimate this using the [student finance calculator](#).

Year 13 students apply for student finance between March and May.

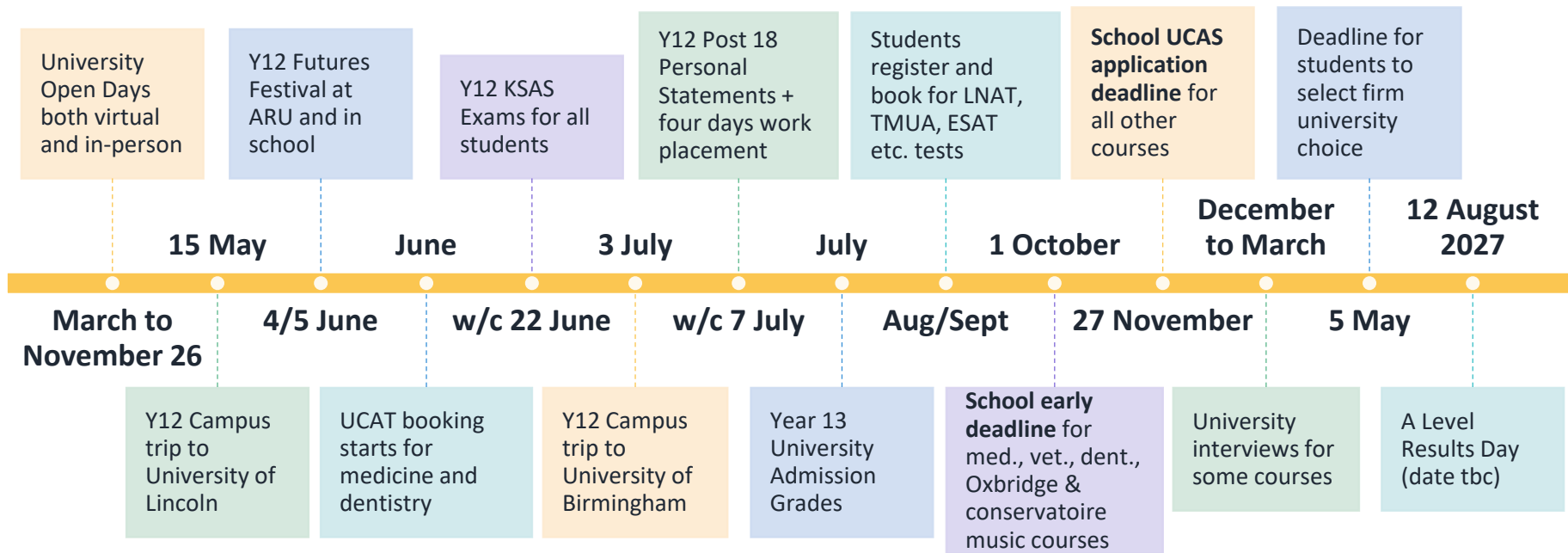
Students simply [create an account](#) on gov.uk. Depending on your household circumstances, as parents and carers, you may subsequently receive a link from Student Finance England to create an account yourself and submit your personal details including your household income.

<https://www.gov.uk/student-finance-calculator>

<https://studentfinance.campaign.gov.uk/>



# Timeline of events to August 2027



Optional 1-1 Careers Meetings continue to be available on request

# Event FAQs

Here's a summary of some key questions and answers from the event that you may find useful.

Questions	Answers
How do pupils who are on Duke of Edinburgh Gold during w/c 6th July get their personal statement support?	They will all be asked to come in to school for this support on Monday 6th July, which is before their expedition.
Will parents have access to view their completed UCAS applications before they are submitted?	Yes, just ask your child to view their UCAS application before it's paid for and submitted to the school.
Could we please have some stats as to how many children have got into Oxbridge or medicine from King's?	We typically have 5-10 students each year who secure a place at Cambridge or Oxford. Over the last three years nearly 50 King's students have secured a place to study medicine.
Can pupils apply for both UCAS and a degree apprenticeship simultaneously?	Yes, they can if they wish. There is a lot of work involved for students in making and tracking degree apprenticeship applications, as each is essentially a full job application to an employer with as many as six selection stages.
Who offers support to students for apprenticeship applications?	Students should seek support from Mr Dew ,who leads on careers and post 18 progression for the school.
What is the timeline for apprenticeship applications?	Some applications open for a day and then close in September. Others don't open until the spring. See <a href="#">Amazing Apprenticeships 25/26 vacancy listings for larger employers</a> , including dates.

# Event FAQs

Here's a summary of some key questions asked by parents and carers at the event that you may find useful.

Questions	Answers
What distinguishes a successful degree apprenticeship applicant?	Securing an apprenticeship often involves extensive research, a growth mindset, self-promotion and networking. In our experience successful applicants typically demonstrate strong time management skills, adaptability and resilience. Tailoring their application to the specific role, showcasing relevant skills and experiences and seeking and acting on feedback when unsuccessful, help them stand out in competitive selection processes.
How are Year 13 extra curricular activities and student leadership captured within UCAS applications?	As students must apply for UCAS ahead of the school deadlines either 1 October, for early applications, or 27 November, any activities they are involved in during their Year 13 Autumn term can be included in their reference and/or personal statement.
Can you have a mix of subjects within a UCAS application?	Yes you can, but it's sometimes challenging to write a single personal statement that effectively addresses multiple subjects. Choosing subjects that have some overlap would definitely strengthen an application. For some courses, universities may accept an additional personal statement at their discretion. For example, see Durham's information on Substitute Personal Statements <a href="#">here</a> .

# Event FAQs

Here's a summary of some key questions asked by parents and carers at the event that you may find useful.

Questions	Answers
<p>Do individual universities know what other university choices students have included on their application?</p>	<p>No. During the application process, each university is not aware of any of the other universities that a student is applying for. UCAS simply send the application on to each university individually for them to consider. This separation also means that the order students put their choices in on their application doesn't matter.</p>
<p>Does the university know whether student acceptances are 'Firm' or 'Insurance'?</p>	<p>Yes they do. Universities make their decisions on Firm choices initially when they receive the A Level grades in the summer. If they university rejects the student because they didn't meet their offer conditions, then their application goes back to UCAS to send on to the Insurance choice for the second university to review. If a student just misses their grades, it's possible that their Firm choice university could still accept them on results day, rather than passing the application on the student's Insurance choice.</p>
<p>How many teachers reference are required for UCAS?</p>	<p>Students have one school reference that their form tutor and subject teachers contribute to, so that we give students the most supportive university reference we can.</p>