

Year 12 Parents' Information Evening

Welcome 26 March 2025



- Work experience deadlines for Year 12
- Post 18 destinations for King's students in 2024
- A timeline of events from now to A-level results in August 2026
- 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 7th July for four days, unless they have already completed an approved work placement during Year 12.

The students' deadline was Friday 7th 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.



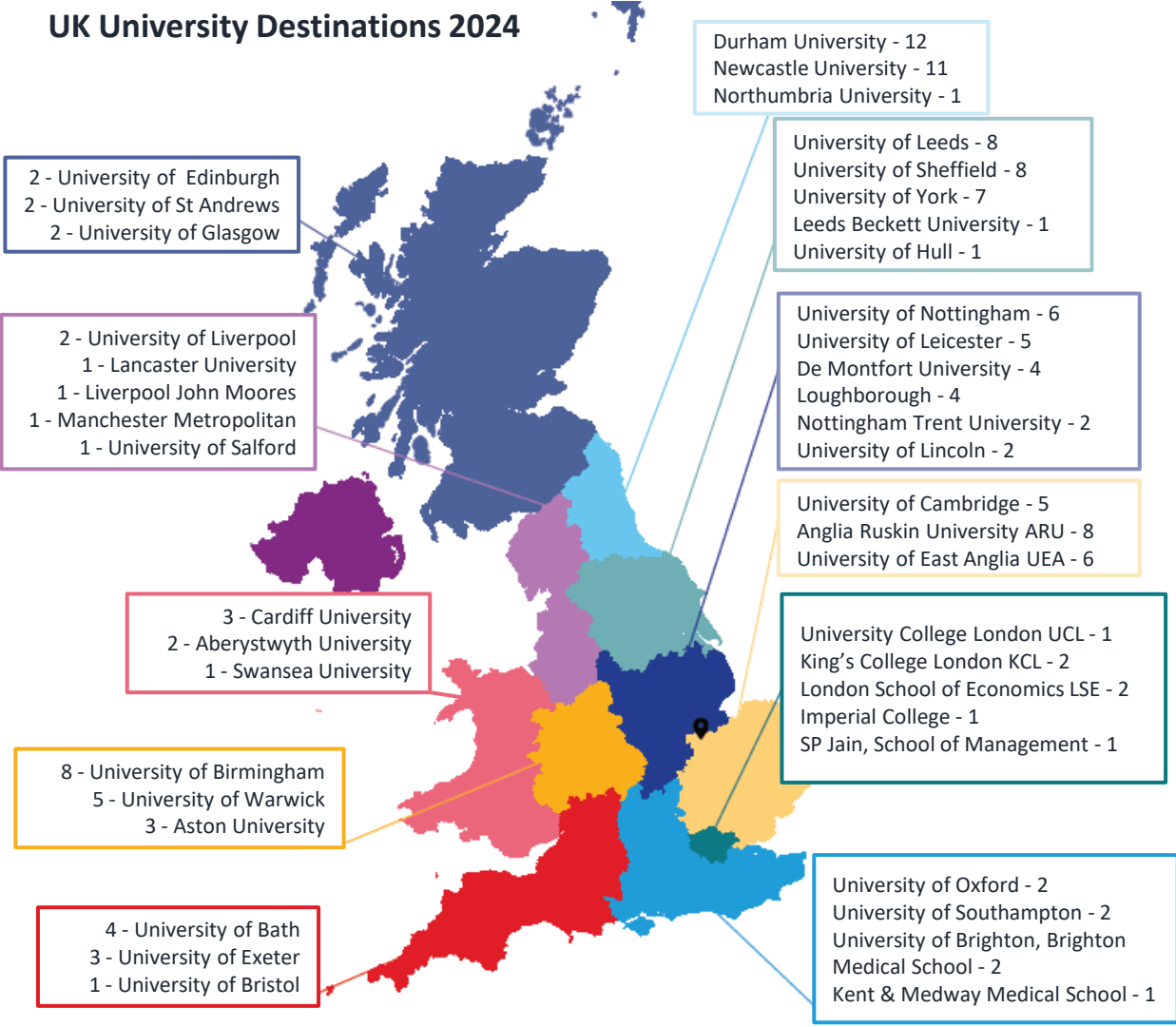
Make sure the employer knows of any medical issues and ensure that these are added to the Unifrog form.

The screenshot displays the Unifrog website interface. At the top, the navigation bar includes links for HOME, FAVOURITES, LOCKER, APPLY, HELP, and a search icon. A user profile icon and a 'TEACHER' button are also present. The main content area greets the user with 'Hello Rich, here's a summary of your progress so far...'. A circular progress indicator shows '69% complete'. To the right, a star icon indicates the user is '96th in year group'. Below this, a recommendation message states 'Want to move things forward? We recommend you...'. The 'Exploring pathways' section features a grid of six cards: 'Careers library' (yellow), 'Subjects library' (purple), 'Know-how library' (dark red), 'Courses' (red), 'MOOC' (teal), and 'Webinars' (orange). Each card has a 'Go to tool' button. A red rectangle highlights the 'Placements' card, which is currently greyed out and shows 'No placements added' with a 'Go to tool' button.

Destinations 2024



UK University Destinations 2024




2024 Post 18 Destinations

3% Degree Apprenticeships 

1% 
Further Education

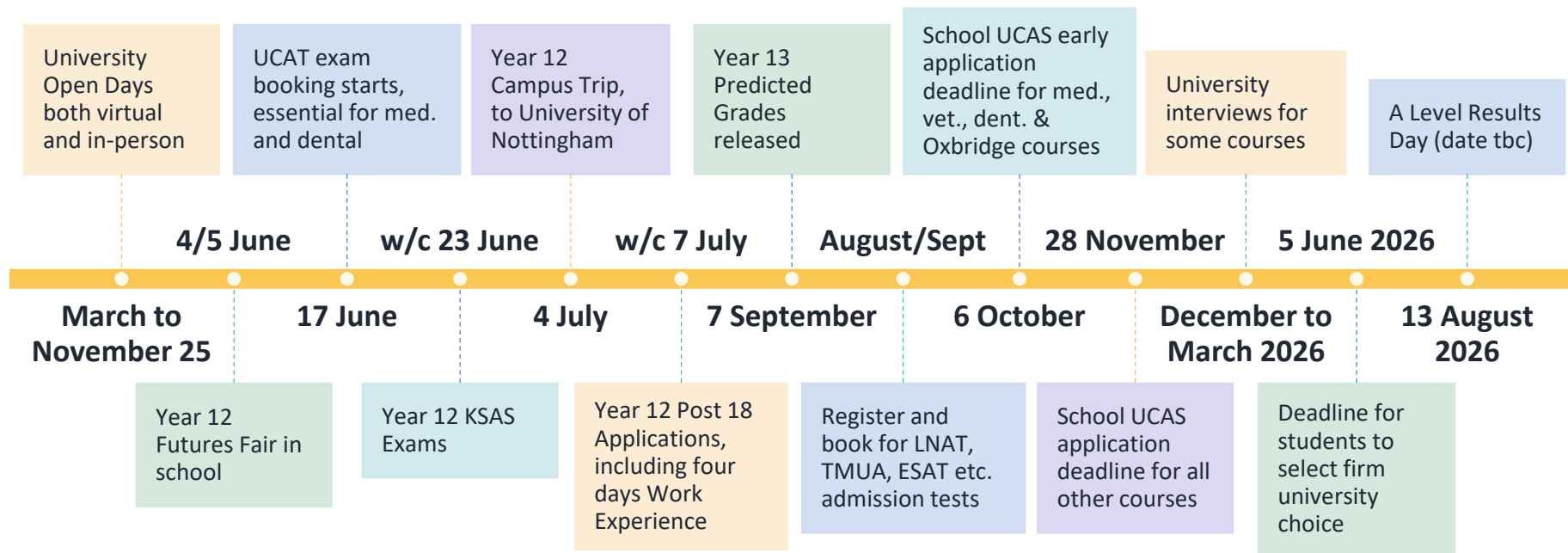
1% Employment 

10% Gap year 

86% Accepted a University place 

57% of these within the Russell Group

Timeline of events to August 2026



Optional 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 level.



A degree apprenticeship

is the equivalent of a traditional university degree and the degree is awarded by a university.

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.



IfATE

Shaping skills training

OUR TOP TRENDS

Trend 1

Interests in apprenticeships is soaring

Trend 2

Supply not always matching demand

Trend 3

Apprentices are dropping out of programmes

Trend 4

Salary is a top concern for school leavers



OUR TOP TRENDS

Trend 5

Socioeconomic disparities from interest to entry

Trend 6

The digital wave: AI creating opportunities

Trend 7

Gen Z seeks hybrid working and work-life balance.

Trend 8

Parents lack information on apprenticeships



Apprenticeships

unifrog.org

amazingapprenticeships.com

ucas.com/apprenticeships

notgoingtouni.co.uk

ratemyapprenticeship.co.uk

[gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship](https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship)



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!

You can sign up for it too at **unifrog.org/code**
Our code is TKTCparents

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
Hear directly from the experts

Go to tool >

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.

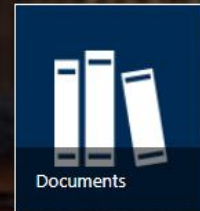
[Sixth Form Handbook](#)

[Sixth Form Permissions](#)

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

[King's Instagram](#)

[King's LinkedIn](#)



House Captains at King's



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

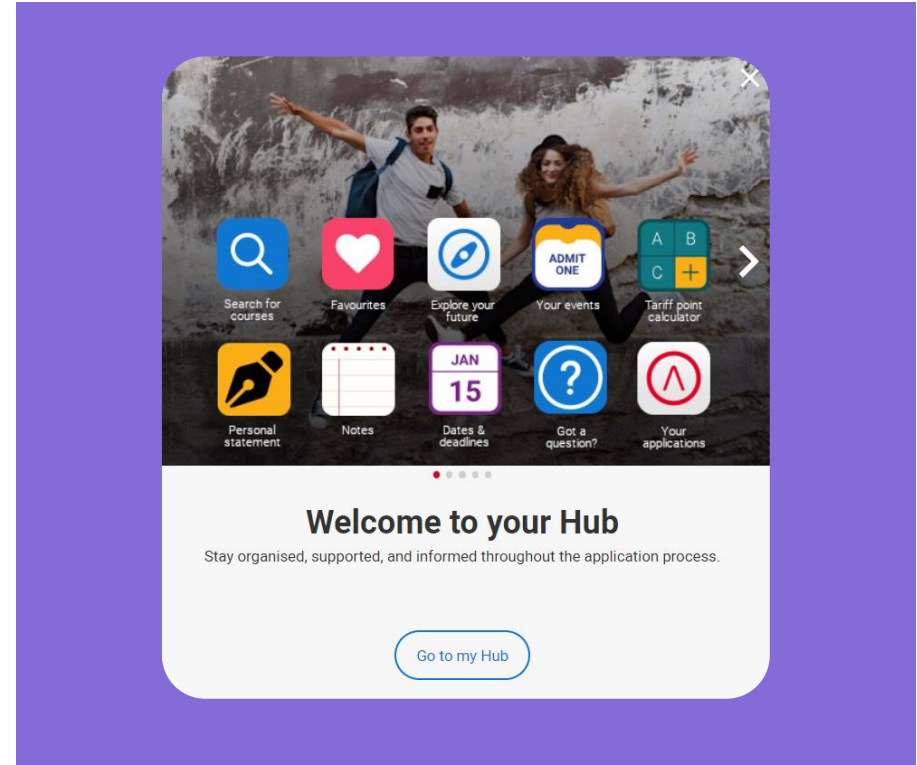
- What does the course cover?
- Courses with the same title may be very different.
- Look carefully at the core course content, and the range of optional studies/modules available.
- Which modules are the most interesting and relevant to your career aspirations?
- See if the course or university/college 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 registered charity that coordinates UK university applications

Using **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 2026 entry (from May 2025)



Completing a UCAS application



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



Student completes all sections of their application and sends it to their school.



The school reviews the application and adds a reference and predicted grades.



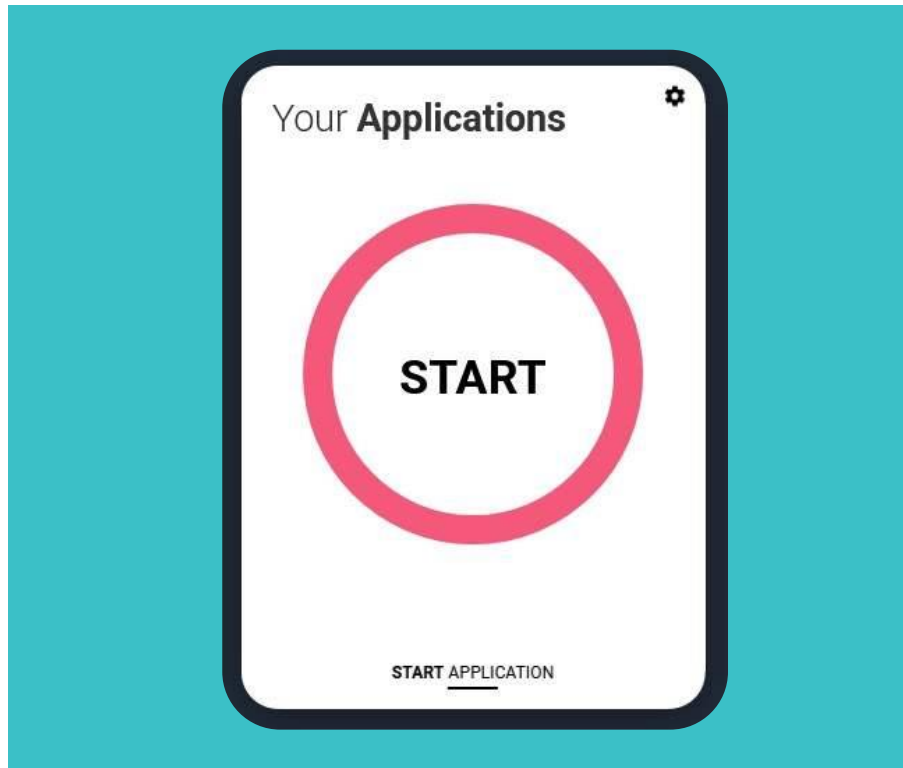
Applications are sent to UCAS by the school on behalf of the student.



Universities make their decisions on the application.

Key facts

- To start an application you need a **UCAS Hub account**. You can register for a UCAS Hub account at any time.
- From **May 2025** you'll be able to start your 2025/6 application in your UCAS Hub.
- You have up to **five university choices**, unless applying to study medicine, veterinary, dentistry – then it's **four choices for these courses**.
- You **can't apply to both** Oxford and Cambridge.
- Applying costs **£28.50 (2025/6 entry)**, unless you qualify for free school meals.
- For this school, the 'early application' deadline is **6th October** and the 'standard application' deadline is **28th November 2025**.
- Each universities **can't see** your other choices on UCAS when you apply.



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

Three questions for 2025 to 2026

The three new personal statement question prompts were chosen by UCAS following extensive research, testing and validation with students, teachers and advisers, and universities and colleges:



Why do you want to study this course or subject?

This is an applicant's opportunity to showcase their passion for and knowledge of their chosen subject, to demonstrate to universities and colleges why they are a good fit, and to outline any future ambitions.



How have your qualifications and studies helped you to prepare for this course or subject?

In this section applicants can describe relevant or transferable skills they've gained in education, and demonstrate their understanding of how these will help them succeed in their chosen course or subject area.



What else have you done to prepare outside of education, and why are these experiences helpful?

Here applicants can reflect on their personal experiences, and any other activities they have undertaken outside their education to further demonstrate their suitability for the course.

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 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

Any remaining offers the student holds are automatically declined.



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 on Unifrog
- focus on this year's studies!



How can you support them?

Research

Use Unifrog and the UCAS website at www.ucas.com/parents.

Sign up

Sign up for parent updates from UCAS and get everything you need to know about the application process direct to your inbox.

Open days

Attend virtual events and open days with them – you may have a different perspective.

Be proactive

Make sure they carefully read everything that is sent to them and don't book holidays at key times!

Admissions tests

Most university courses do not require additional Admissions Tests.

Please check each university website carefully where they are required for particular courses, for deadlines and details of how to apply to undertake the tests.

Cambridge Admission Tests

Imperial College, London Admissions Tests

Oxford Admissions Tests

In addition to the more widely used pre-application Admissions Tests listed here, Oxbridge colleges also run a number of post-application Admission Tests too. Full details of these are on their websites.

Engineering, Sciences, Vet Med. (Cambridge, Imperial)
Engineering and Science Admissions Test (ESAT)

Law (certain universities)

National Admissions Test for Law (LNAT)

Maths, Computer Science, Econ. (Oxbridge and others)
Mathematics Admissions Test (MAT)

Test of Mathematics for University Admissions (TMUA)
Sixth Term Examination Paper (STEP)

Medicine & Dentistry (all)

University Clinical Aptitude Test (UCAT)

PPE, Econ. (Oxford)

Thinking Skills Assessment (TSA)

Student finance

All eligible students resident in England 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 finance between March and May.

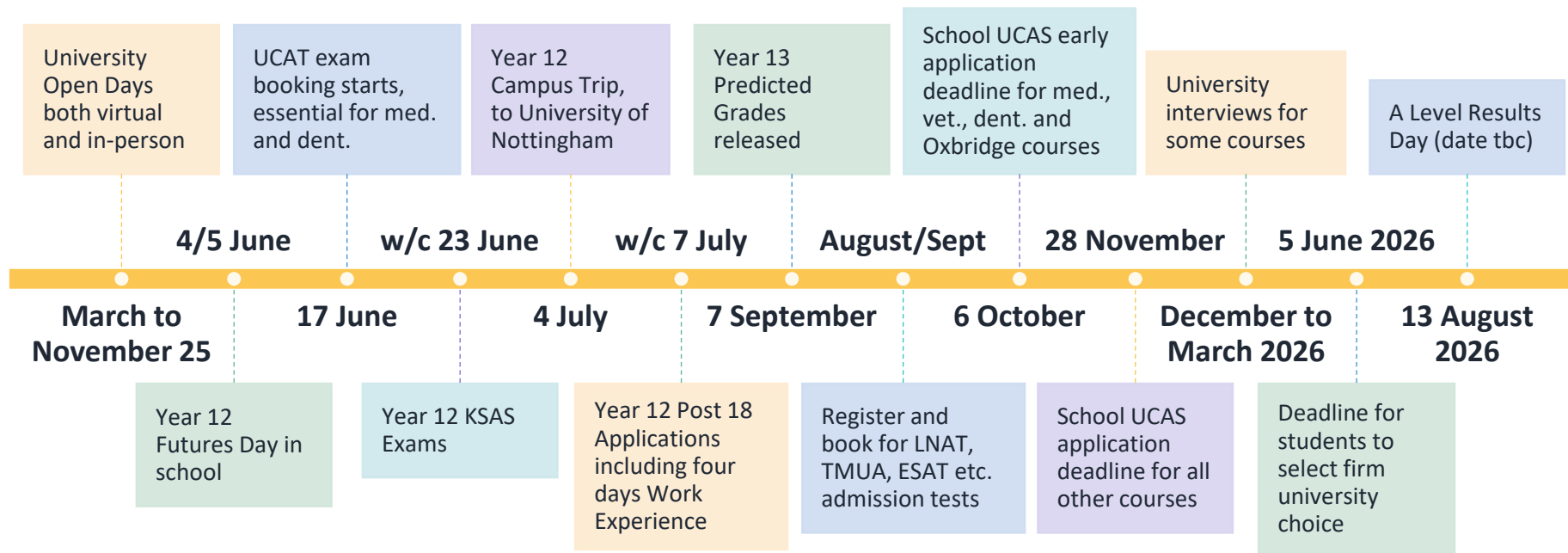
Students simply [create an account](#) on gov.uk. Depending on your household circumstances, as parents and carers, you may subsequently receive a link from Student Finance England to create an account yourself and submit your personal details including your household income.

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

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



Timeline of events to August 2026



Optional Careers Meetings continue to be available on request