

Higher Education/ UCAS



Is University right for you? Are there any alternatives? Choosing the right pathway to Higher Education can be a difficult decision. These days there are alternatives, for example did you know that you can study up to Masters Level via an apprenticeship? There are many pros and cons for both options.

A good start would be to do some research. To begin with, have a look at the following links which give advice on choosing a university and the differences between the traditional academic route and the higher-level apprenticeship route.

<https://mailchi.mp/successatschool/applying-to-university-2020>

<https://successatschool.org/advisedetails/926/pros-and-cons-of-university>

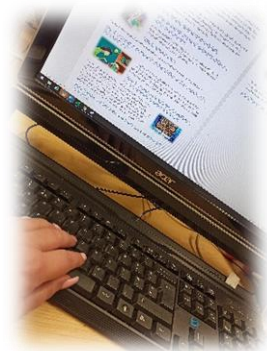


If you do decide that university is for you, you will need to apply through a system called UCAS. Here you can apply to different Universities and track your application.

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

The link below will provide video and written advice on using this method of application.

<https://successatschool.org/advisedetails/81/Five-Top-Tips-on-Applying-to-Uni-Through-UCAS>



A major part of the application is your personal statement. This gives you the opportunity to show who you are, and it is vital that you get this right. The link below gives you advice and top tips for writing your personal statement.

<https://successatschool.org/advisedetails/80/how-to-write-a-brilliant-ucas-personal-statement>

Our LRC stocks copies of University Prospectuses, but with the current COVID restrictions, you may prefer to visit individual University websites to view their prospectuses online. Below is a link to the 24 universities in the Russell group. These including Oxford & Cambridge, are a group of universities with a shared focus on research and a reputation for academic achievement. They will often be found at the top of the university league tables.

<https://www.theuniguide.co.uk/advice/choosing-a-course/what-is-the-russell-group>



However, you can search for any course or any university via the following link:

<https://www.theuniguide.co.uk/>

Other things to consider are the university life and student finance.



Often students choose a university that is not local to their home and so move away for the first time. First year students usually stay in halls of residence, where they have their own bedroom but share other facilities with a small group of other students. A guide to student life at university can be found here:

<https://www.theuniguide.co.uk/advice/student-life>

University can be expensive, but there are a range of financial support options from Student Loans, Scholarships, Bursaries, Hardship Funds etc. A guide to student finance can be found here:

<https://www.theuniguide.co.uk/advice/student-finance>

