

Post 18 Options - Applications guidance sheet 2021/22



UCAS Registration

Go to: www.ucas.com

Select sign in



Select students



click on undergraduate



click apply 2022 entry (for entry straight after Y13)



click on register

It will take approximately 15 minutes to complete your personal details. You will need to enter a Buzzword. Ours is: **HolmesChapel22**. Please make a note of your Password and Username and **do not lose this**.

Complete all details

Personal Statements

Go to:

<https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/applying-university/writing-personal-statement>

The UCAS tool provides you with **step by step guidance** and prompts on how to complete the personal statement effectively. Please use this guidance and remember the following:

- Be concise: 4000 characters (including spaces) 47 lines.
- Research – What is this University looking for?
- This is an academic application for an academic HE course
- What can I offer a University?
- Link these things together

Overall structure of personal statement will include:

1. **Introduction:** what you want to study and why. This should be grabbing to the reader but not a cliché or copied from anyone else
2. In school **evidence of skills and options** (optional - link to subjects). How can you demonstrate you have the skills and experiences to study the study of your chosen subject at HE. Make this clear.
3. Evidence of **passion for the subject** (very important). Demonstrate passion, commitment and love for your chosen subject. Give specific examples to highlight and support this. Link to wider reading etc.

4. **Wider skills** Link your wider skills to your chosen subject/course and state how this might be of benefit to your success at University.
5. Conclusion Sum up, reiterate and state why you would be a successful student at their University.

Also see:

- www.ucas.com/personalstatement
- www.ucas.com/video
- www.guardian.co.uk/education/universityguide
- university.which.co.uk
- UCAS Newsletter
- Twitter: @ucas_advisors
- Twitter: @hccs_6th form
- UCAS widget on the Sixth Form area of the website
- www.therussellgroup.ac.uk –represents 24 leading universities, source of careers information & advice including ‘**informed choices**’ a **downloadable guide to making post 16 choices**
- www.prospects.ac.uk – useful for graduate labour market info & what you can do with specific degree subjects
- Degree subjects www.directgov.co.uk – student finance information



Apprenticeship Application process

For some of you, you might want to follow the dual application route whereby you apply for both Uni and an apprenticeship. This is perfectly fine to do, to keep your options open. Others may want to apply for an apprenticeship only. Again, this is also a great option for many students.

If you are interested in applying for an apprenticeship there are a few things to consider:

- Applications usually begin between November - February. Consider the start time that you will be available. This will not be before the end of your exams at the end of June 2021.
- Aptitude questions - there vary but there are examples available on the internet.
- Online testing - again these vary but examples can be found on various apprenticeship websites.
- Assessment Centre: group and/or individual interview
- Apprenticeship applications can be intense and gruelling - it is a job interview with high stakes. They will be investing a lot of money into you so they want to get it right.

Apprenticeship Applications Websites

- MMU Website
- GOV.UK
- www.getingofar.gov.uk
- www.findapprenticeships.service.gov.uk/apprenticeshipserach
- www.gov.uk/government/publications/a-guide-to-apprenticeships
- 08000 150 600
- Barclays lifeskills
- See Google Slides document on Sixth Form area of website shared with you at the Post 18 Information evening
- www.careerswales.com – general careers website and job profile database
- www.careersbox.co.uk – video based job profile information and skills explorer tool.
- www.allaboutcareers.com – career exploration, jobs and advice
- www.icould.com –info & advice to help you make the most of your potential, take ‘The Buzz’ personality profile test to highlight careers to suit your personality, job info database & career planning information.
- www.careersworld.co.uk – general & regional online careers resource includes apprenticeship vacancies
- www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship– The National Apprenticeship Service. Advice, information and advertised apprenticeship vacancies.
- www.notgoingtouni.co.uk – post 18 opportunities that exist outside of university
- www.nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk

Please also contact our very own careers adviser, Mrs Jackson, if you need further help on apprenticeship or employment applications on emma.jackson@hccs.info.