

Next steps

What are the options?

What options do you have....

- ▶ Apprenticeships
- ▶ Gap year
- ▶ Employment
- ▶ Internship
- ▶ University

<https://www.ucas.com/careers-advice>

Apprenticeships

Taking an apprenticeship in the UK

- ▶ **Work while you study** - an apprenticeship is a way to gain the skills, knowledge and experience you need to get into many careers. They combine work, training, and study, letting you 'earn while you learn'.
- ▶ There are many different apprenticeships available across a wide range of industries, and for a wide variety of job roles. As a paid employee, each apprentice works alongside their studies. There are no student fees - your training costs are funded by the government and your employer.
- ▶ **It's an ideal option if you have a clear idea of the career path you want to follow, providing you with practical, on-the-job training, and classroom-based instruction.**
- ▶ How to apply and which apprenticeships are available to you will depend on where you live - find out more by selecting where you are based in the UK.

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>

Gap Year

Why take a gap year?

- ▶ 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.
- ▶ A productive gap year can be valuable on your CV - many employers value the experiences students have gained if they've actively managed their time, set themselves goals, and stretched themselves.
- ▶ If you decide to apply for uni, you could tailor your gap year to relate it to the subject area you plan to study.

Things to consider

- ▶ What do you want to do with your gap year? Careful thought and planning is essential.
- ▶ How will you fund your travels?
- ▶ Don't forget to keep in mind what you want to do afterwards. This will make it easier to transition to work/study when you return.

Employment

Why go into work?

- ▶ You can start **developing essential skills and experience** while increasing your employability. Having work experience and building your CV will make you more attractive to employers, and will open up more job opportunities in the future.

Things to consider

- ▶ Are you ready for work?
- ▶ What are the advantages and disadvantages of going into work now?
- ▶ Do your research - explore the job profiles, industries, and employers offering the kind of work and job roles you're interested in.
- ▶ Where do you want to start? Would you like to get a part-time or full-time job, take on voluntary work, become self-employed, or set up your own business?
- ▶ Job scams and internet fraud are on the rise – read the tips on how to protect yourself. <https://www.ucas.com/article/job-scams-and-internet-fraud>

Internship

What is an internship?

- ▶ **An internship allows you to spend time in a company, to learn new skills and gain experience in a particular industry or job role.** Think of an internship programme like a fixed period of work experience - this work experience gives you the opportunity to improve your understanding of a particular job or industry.
- ▶ You can either shadow a professional, or work for a company.
- ▶ Some internships are unpaid - particularly if competition is high.
- ▶ You'll understand what a particular role is like, and gain real life work experience.

Things to consider

- ▶ What do you want to get out of it?
- ▶ Will you be paid or unpaid? Understand your situation from the start.
- ▶ Competition for places is high, so you need to apply early.

University

The possibilities

- ▶ **University or college - gain valuable skills and a qualification to help you follow your chosen career.**
- ▶ UK higher education (HE) offers a diverse range of courses and qualifications, such as first degrees, Higher National Diplomas (HNDs), and foundation degrees. It includes any qualification at Level 4/SCQF Level 7 and above. A BA or BSc (Hons) degree is a Level 6/SCQF Level 9 qualification.
- ▶ Most courses are taught in universities, but plenty are taught at colleges, and specialist course providers such as conservatoires, business schools, and agricultural colleges.
- ▶ UK higher education is world-class - four of the top six universities in the world are in the UK. Over three quarters of research activity at UK universities is rated as world-leading or internationally excellent.
- ▶ You can study full-time or part-time. There are also distance and blended learning courses, as well as many accelerated degree programmes.
- ▶ Work - apply for jobs now, or start your own business, with the aim to work up to your future goals.
- ▶ Training - prepare for the world of work, or learn on the job while you work.
- ▶ Volunteering - gain experience to help you towards your work or study aspirations.
- ▶ Travel - get cultural insights during working holidays, learning, conservation or teaching.

UCAS website

- ▶ Not just for information on university all of the discussed pathways
- ▶ <https://www.ucas.com/>

Next steps

- ▶ In your tutor time think about your pathway/s that you would like to take.
- ▶ Speak to your AFT and myself about these options in more detail.
- ▶ ALL of you to register yourselves on the UCAS website, fill out the basic details that you can so far.
- ▶ ALL students to have a draft personal statement in place before the summer break.



Not sure what to do?
Explore your options.



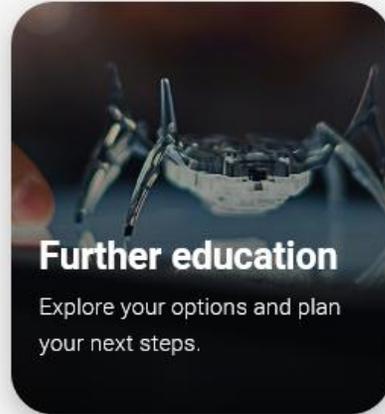
Study at a conservatoire
Pursue a career in the performing arts.



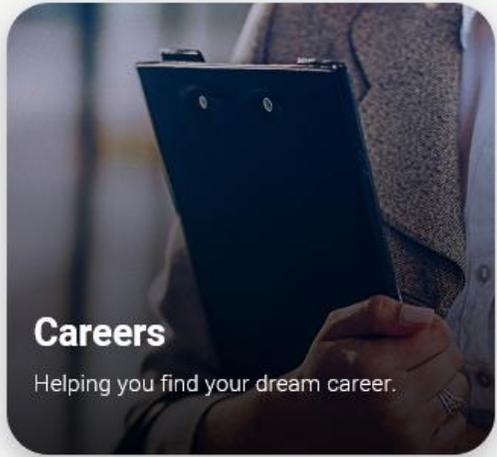
Postgraduate
Returning to study?



Alternatives to university
Apprenticeships, internships, and gap years.



Further education
Explore your options and plan your next steps.



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How to register...

- ▶ <https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/applying-university/filling-your-ucas-undergraduate-application>

2020
apply

Register and log in

[What is Apply?](#)[Help](#)English **Key**[?](#) [Help](#)[Home](#) > Register and log in**Log in**

If you have already registered, please enter your username and password below to log in. **You must enter your username in lower case and your password in the same case you used to register.**

Username

Password

[Forgotten login?](#)**log in****Register**

If you have not registered for 2020 entry, please click the 'register' button to use this service. **You only need to register once.** If you apply more than once in a cycle your application fee will not be refunded.

register

Early applications...Deadline 14th September

- ▶ Anyone applying to Oxford and/or Cambridge.
- ▶ Applying to be on a *Medicine, Veterinary medicine/science* course and Dentistry.

Personal Statement guidance

1. PREPARATION

- > You can only write one personal statement, so don't mention a uni or college by name.
- > Check uni and college websites to see what skills and qualities they'd like you to have.
- > Make a list of things you want to include.
- > Start drafting early.

2. WHAT TO INCLUDE

- > Why you're interested in the subject.
- > Your enthusiasm for the subject.
- > How your previous studies relate to the course(s).
- > Relevant aspects of jobs, placements, work experience or volunteering.
- > Activities or hobbies that show your interest in the subject.
- > Any training or achievements that show your skills.
- > Demonstrate you're a great candidate and you have skills and qualities they're looking for.

3. HOW TO WRITE IT

- > Introduction – start with an opening sentence that encourages the reader to read on.
- > Structure what you want to include in an order that's most relevant to what the unis and colleges are looking for.
- > Conclusion – reinforce your commitment, enthusiasm and skills suited to uni / college life.
- > Check your grammar, spelling and punctuation.
- > Leave time to get feedback and redraft.

4. TECHNICAL DETAILS

- > Length – up to 4,000 characters or 47 lines of text (including spaces and blank lines).
- > Make sure you don't copy – our software detects any similarities and this could jeopardise your application.

Personal Statement guidance

<https://www.ucasdigital.com/widgets/personalstatement/index.html#/main>

Other support videos

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

Next steps support timeline....

- ▶ Task 1 - speak to and inform your AFT what your current plans for the next academic year are. They will record this on a spread sheet. If/when your plan changes please let us know so we can keep the records up-to-date. Register yourselves on the UCAS website.
- ▶ Task 2 - fill out the basic details on your UCAS application. Look into all of the information on the UCAS website - there is so much helpful guidance and support.
- ▶ Task 3 - Personal statement - all of you regardless of your chosen pathway start drafting your personal statement! This must be sent to your AFT and myself by Wednesday 24 July.