

A photograph of three young adults walking across a green lawn in front of a large, multi-story brick building with white window frames. On the left, a young woman with long brown hair is wearing a grey ribbed sweater and blue jeans, carrying a black bag. In the middle, another young woman with long dark hair is wearing a black leather jacket over a green dress. On the right, a young man with short blonde hair is wearing a navy blue long-sleeved shirt and black pants, carrying a backpack. They are all smiling and looking towards each other.

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**UCAS 2022: Parent meeting  
Ellen Walkinshaw Associate Director  
(Progression)**

## This session will cover

- Basic overview of the UCAS process ... but remember this is the student's responsibility!
- Advice on helping your son or daughter make their university choices
- The advice and help that is available to students in College to support them with applying to university
- Key UCAS deadlines
- Agreements we have with particular universities
- Where you can find information about student finance

# The UCAS process – the basics

- UCAS = Universities and Colleges Admissions Service
- Students make **five choices** on their UCAS form.
- To help the College manage the UCAS process we have an internal form called the **UAF** – this enables Careers and tutors to keep track of applications
- Once they have received all of their offers they have a set amount of time to choose a **firm** and **insurance** choice
- After they have received their offers universities invite students to “offer holder” or “applicants” days to help them decide which offers to accept.
- On results day universities will accept students who meet their offers. If a student doesn't meet either their firm or insurance offer they will be placed in clearing
- College staff are in College all week in results week to offer support

# Review of the UCAS cycle 2021

- 2021 950 applications sent ( applications still being made) increase of 100 + again on 2020
- 2021 we processed 142 former students' applications and we anticipate this number to increase again
- 84.8% placed at firm choice university

# Advice on choices

Students should be considering:

- Course content and method of assessment
- Opportunities for years abroad/placement years
- Entry requirements – A level/BTECs, but also GCSEs and other requirements such as admissions tests or work experience
- Location – distance from home, campus or city, accommodation, what else the area has to offer!
- Extra-curricular opportunities/opportunities for part time work
- Reputation and surveys – various league tables, National Student Survey (NSS) and Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF)

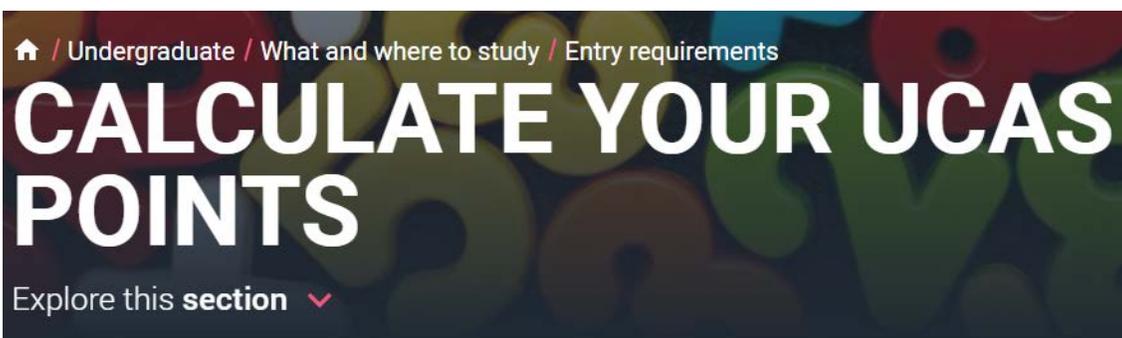
# Selecting the final five choices

- Students don't have to choose 5 choices before sending to UCAS – they can add more in Track on UCAS up to 26 January
- General advice is for students to have an aspirational, solid and safe choice amongst their five choices – They can use the Unifrog shortlisting tool but it is important to also check the university websites for entry requirements

# Predicted grades

- Predicted grades are based on work in the Lower Sixth
- The [predicted grade policy](#) is on the portal
- Predicted grades are on the UAF forms that students have all been e mailed
- Predicted grades for Fresh Start Courses and EPQ are added once forms are submitted by Careers

# The UCAS point calculator



Home / Undergraduate / What and where to study / Entry requirements

## CALCULATE YOUR UCAS POINTS

Explore this **section** ▾

Work out how many UCAS points your qualifications are worth.

- 1 Select your qualification from the drop-down list.
- 2 Enter the subject you're studying (this is optional).
- 3 Select your grade from the drop-down list – the Tariff points for this qualification will display.

Some universities publish their entry requirements as UCAS Tariff points. Students can work out how many points their predicted grades are “worth” using this [calculator](#) on UCAS

# Gap years

- In most cases it is best for students to apply this year for deferred entry in 2023
- Students can apply for 2022 entry and then contact the universities and ask them if they can defer once they have their results .. but universities are under no obligation to do this – this year has been exceptional
- If students apply once they have left we still write their references and they can access advice on the website, but our ability to offer one to one advice is obviously limited

# Help and advice for students in College

- **Get Ahead Day** - 2 February
- **Progression Day** – 29 June
- **Unifrog** – On line destinations platform, students all have log in details
- **OSCAR** – help with personal statements – Aspire students automatically have log ins, other students were told to e mail [careers@reigate.ac.uk](mailto:careers@reigate.ac.uk) if they would like a log in
- **Student UCAS guide** – has been e mailed to students and can be viewed at [Student UCAS Guide](#)
- **Careers Bulletin** – e mailed to students every Monday, and can be viewed at [Careers bulletin](#) (first one for this term out on 20 September)
- **General UCAS queries and Personal Statement Workshops in Careers** – will be run this term at lunchtimes and advertised via tutorial and the Careers Bulletin
- **Upper Sixth Tutorial Pathways** – starting next Tuesday, which is Community Morning, students will receive help and support with applications through their U6 tutorial pathway

# Progression Agreements

- **University of Exeter** – Reigate College students are guaranteed an offer (not a place!) on their non-capped courses
- **University of Bristol** – If made an offer Reigate College students will be made a contextual offer that is two grades below the standard offer
- **University of the Creative Arts (UCA)** – Reigate College students do not have to be interviewed
- **University of Law** – Offer a scholarship to two Reigate College students who meet certain widening participation criteria

# Key UCAS Deadlines

- Oxbridge and Medics, Vets and Dentistry applications: **Friday 17th September** (*This is an internal college deadline*)
- Deadline for 10 college working day turn-around of applications: **Monday 25 October** (*This is an internal college deadline*)
- All other UCAS applications in order to be guaranteed to meet UCAS January deadline: **Friday 26 November** (*This is an internal college deadline*)
- Final UCAS deadline: **Wednesday 26 January** (*This is the deadline that UCAS set for equal consideration*)

# Student Finance

- Most students take a loan out for the cost of their fees, and we advise students to say they will do this on their form, even if they think they may not
- Student finance applications take at least 6 weeks to be processed - we advise applying in the spring – see the UCAS website for more information [UCAS Student Finance](#)
- Parents also find the Money Saving Expert website useful - [Money Saving Expert - Funding Uni](#)
- Additional support – bursaries, scholarships etc. Russell Group bursaries – see next slide

# Russell Group Bursary Directory

- This is a resource aimed primarily at advisors, but parents or students can create an account using this link [Russell Group Bursary Directory](#)
- It is a way of checking which Russell Group universities offer bursaries, and what criteria students need to meet
- Some bursaries might be available to all students who meet certain criteria, in other cases it is a competitive process and not all students who apply for the bursary or scholarship will be successful.

# Questions?

The [Student UCAS Guide](#) can be viewed on the portal, please read this before contacting Careers with questions!

A recording of this presentation will be available

The presentation will be on the portal under “Careers Resources” in the Careers and Progression Section

Careers@reigate.ac.uk