



Welcome POST 18 DAY

- Today your child has been informed of all the choices open to them post 18
- Providing this information to expand their horizons and give them to the opportunity to hear from experts and ask questions will to help them make an informed decision about next steps.
- This is the first of many information sessions for them.

Exploring future pathways – who can you hear from and talk to today?

Option 1: CEO Huub fitness wear - starting and running a successful business

Option 2: **Professor of Stem Cell Glycobiology**

Option 3: Interior design company owner

Option 4: Brewery and owning a business

Option 5 Author and writing for a living

Option 6: Army

Option 7: Careers in teaching

Option 8: Detective from Derbyshire police

Option 9: Study and career in psychology from practising counsellor

Option 10: E.on apprentice

Option 11: Medicine and doctors in NHS

Option 12: Rolls Royce Apprentices

Option 13: JCB apprenticeships

Option 14: Property development

Option 15: Filming and production from tech company

Following two
of those they
all heard
from.....

- Eon apprentice six months in
- Nottingham Trent University – how to chose, what to consider and where to find further information

They could then chose to attend further sessions or start their UCAS hub account and research with specialist Year 12 tutors

- ASK apprenticeships – how to start applications, letters and CV's
 - Simon Bucknall – apprenticeships and personal branding
 - Careers in law
 - Medical talk
 - Early entry talk
-
- In all we had 10 ex students in school supporting with their experiences and advice as well as industry experts.

A University or College course gives you the opportunity to gain valuable skills and a qualification.



Going straight to work gets you on the first step of your career, can help build confidence and enable you to meet new people.

Post 18 options

- Under-graduate degree at university**
- Further education**
- Degree Apprenticeship**
- Higher Apprenticeship**
- Internships**
- Employment (not linked to apprenticeship)**
- Gap year travel / volunteering**

An internship gives you the opportunity to work at a company to learn new skills and gain experience in a particular industry or job role.



Apprenticeships are a great way to gain skills and experience needed to get into many careers



Gap years can be used to enhance your CV, travel, learn new skills, undertake voluntary work and much more

Destination	Yr 13 students 2023 (%)
University	75
Apprenticeship	12
Employment	3
Gap year	6
Armed Forces	1
FE College	2
Other	1

**Sheffield
Hallam
University**



UNIVERSITY OF
PORTSMOUTH



US
UNIVERSITY
OF SUSSEX



**University of
Sheffield**



UNIVERSITY OF
LINCOLN



UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE



Nottingham Trent
University

UNIVERSITY OF
EXETER



Areas of study	Numbers of students
Business and Economics related courses	25
Medicine, Dentistry, veterinary and Allied Health Professions	18
Law	5
Psychology/ criminology	15
The arts – Art, music, English, journalism and languages	33
Computer Sciences, maths and engineering	13



Nottingham Trent
University

The UCAS Process

What is UCAS

University and Colleges Admissions Service

Central organisation where all applications are processed

It has multiple features:

Course search | Advice and guidance | Apply | UCAS Hub

The logo for UCAS, featuring the letters 'UCAS' in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The letter 'A' is stylized, with its top two strokes forming a red triangle pointing upwards.

How to apply

Register your UCAS account online from June

- Five choices
- Apply from September
- UCAS charge a fee of £27.50 to send your application (for multiple choices)



Application deadlines

Check your course deadline in advance

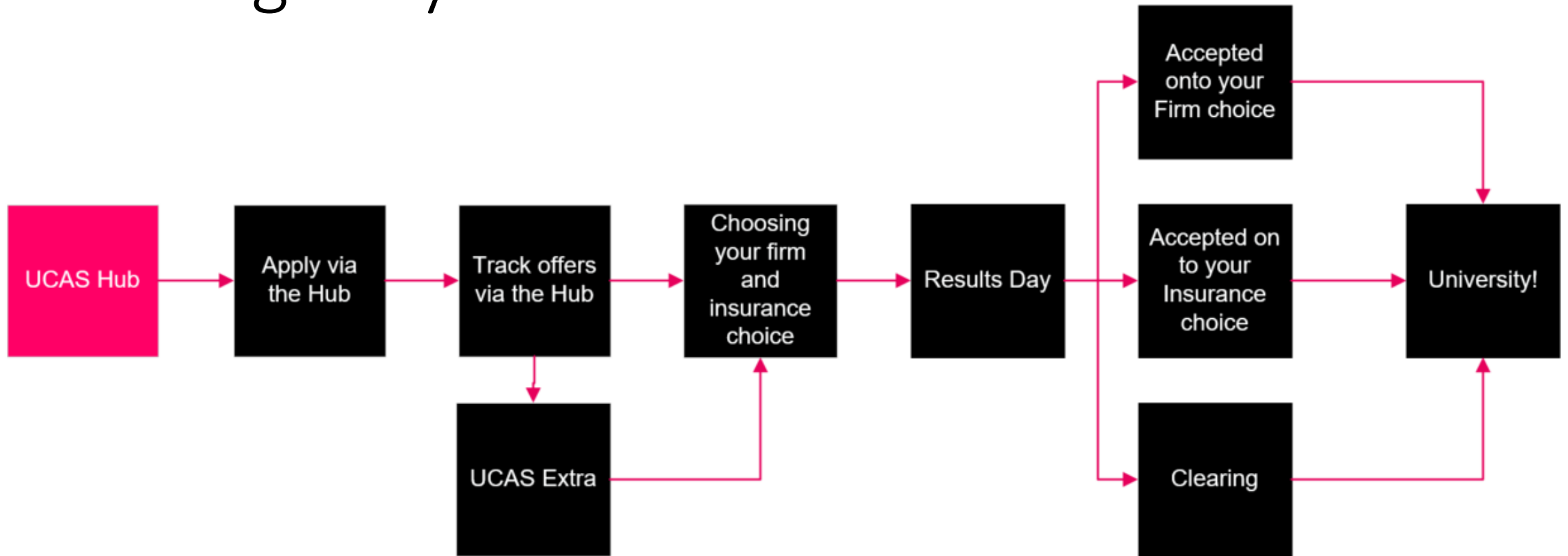
16 October - This is the deadline for Oxford, Cambridge, Medicine, Veterinary Science and Dentistry

31 January - This is the deadline for applications for all courses except those listed above

Art and Design courses – Universities can vary. The deadline for Art and Design courses at NTU is January 2025.



Searching for your courses



Entry requirements

Usually in UCAS points

'A-levels or equivalent' e.g. most universities accept BTECs, Diplomas, Access courses

Some courses will also require

- Specific subjects (or exclude subjects)
- Grades in certain subjects
- A portfolio of work
- An interview
- Evidence of work experience
- A test



A Level	Points Score	BTEC Extd Diploma
A*A*A*	168	D*D*D*
A*A*A	160	D*D*D
A*AA	152	D*DD
AAA	144	DDD
AAB	128	DDM
BBC	112	DMM
BBC	104	
	96	MMM
	80	MMP
	64	MPP
A*	56	
A	48	PPP
B	40	
C	32	
	28	
D	24	

Understanding UCAS tariff points

So, what does this mean?

A grade B at A level = 40 points

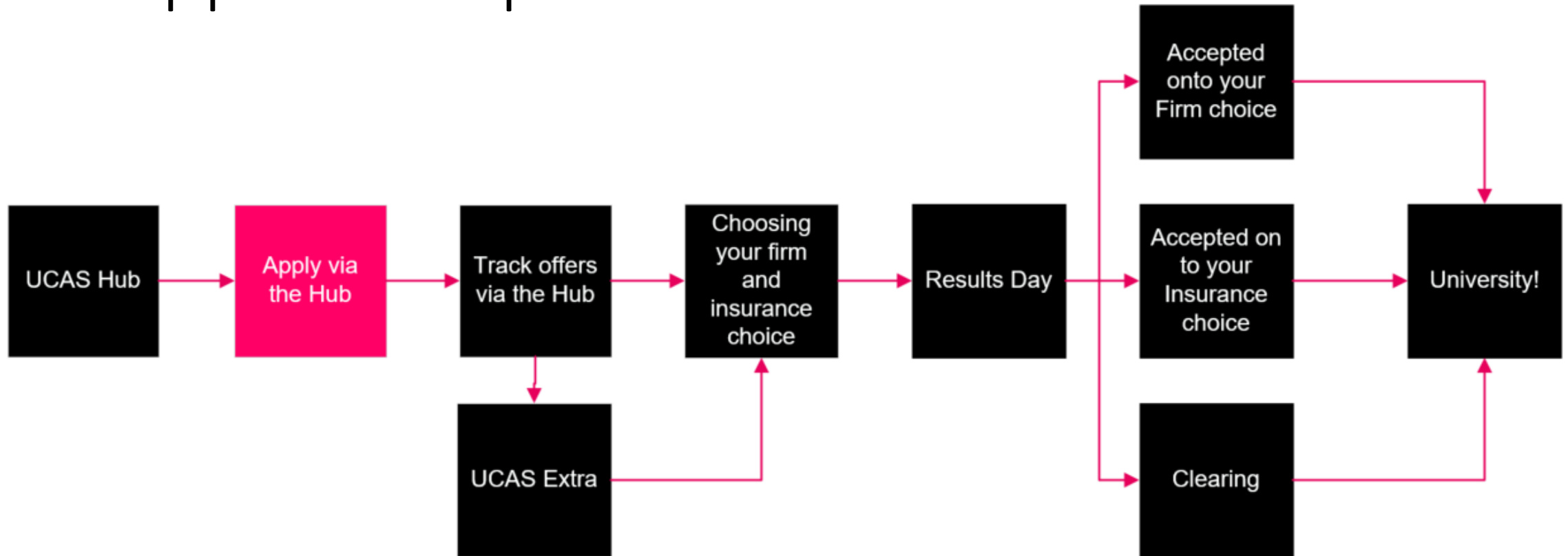
So, two B's = 80 points

A grade C at A level = 32 points

So two B's and a C at A level = 112 points



The application process



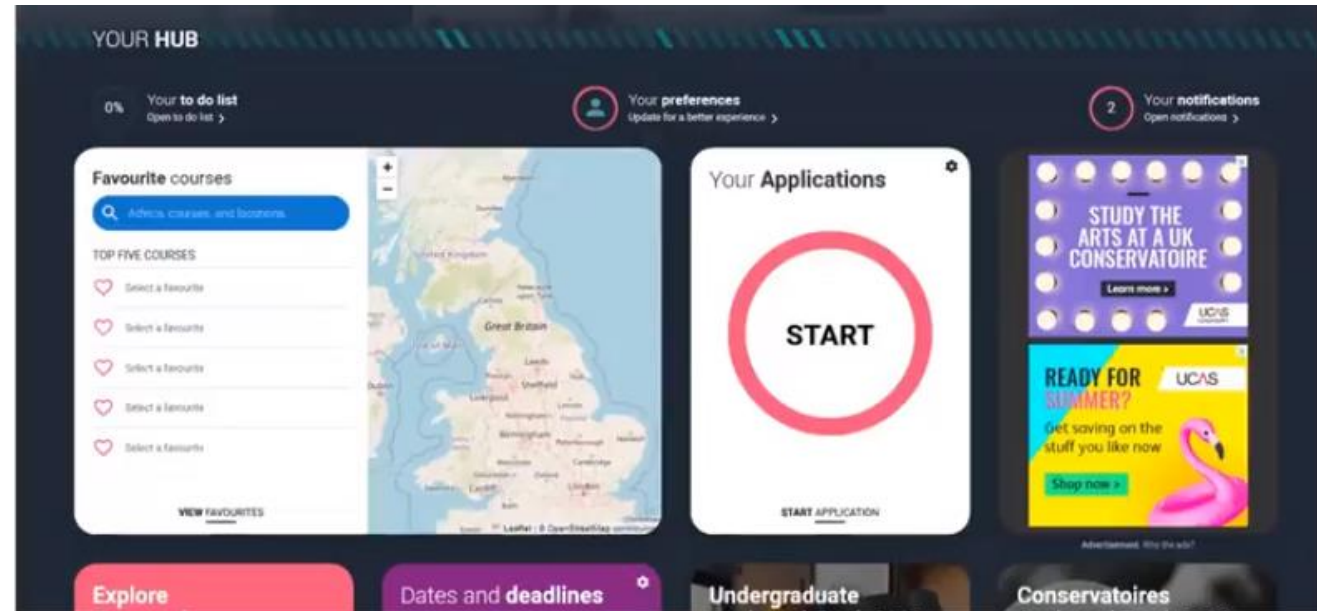
How to apply

How to apply for your choices



The application form

- Click “start” on your UCAS Hub
- Electronic application process through UCAS Apply
- Add the buzzword your school, college, or center gave you. They can then assist with your application and view its progress



The UCAS application

You will have different sections to complete

- Registration
- Personal details
- Work experience
- Education
- Nationality details
- Supporting information
- English Language skills
- Finance and Funding
- Diversity and Inclusion
- **Personal Statement**
- **Choices**
- **Reference**
- Declaration
- Pay and send

The screenshot displays a grid of application sections, each with a 'Section complete' indicator. The sections are:

- Personal details (Name, age, title and gender)
- Contact and residency details (Address, email, telephone and where you live)
- Work experience (Employment, paid, unpaid, or volunteer work)
- Education (Qualifications and periods of study)
- Nationality details (Birthplace and nationalities)
- Supporting information (So that providers know how to support you during your studies)
- English language skills (Is English your first language?)
- Finance and funding (Tell us how you'll fund your study)
- Diversity and inclusion (Only shared with a provider once you have a place or your application is archived)

Below the grid, there is a section for 'Your personal statement' with a 'Personal statement' card that says 'Why do you want to study this subject?' and a 'Start this section' button. A search bar for courses is also visible in the top right corner.



CHOICES



PROFILE



PERSONAL STATEMENT



Submit >

Supporting Information - Disclosure

You will be invited to disclose any specific requirements you might have in terms of support or equipment/facilities you need by asking if you have:

- a physical disability or sensory impairment
- specific learning difficulty (e.g. dyslexia)
- mental health difficulties
- autism spectrum condition

This information will **not** affect your negatively



Tracking your application

What happens once you submit your application?



UCAS Hub

- UCAS Hub also allows you to follow the progress of your application
- Once your application has been submitted, it will show your choices and the current status of those
- When each institution makes a decision about your application, the details will be updated on the Hub
- You'll receive an email when a decision has been made.





Firm and Insurance choices

Institutions offer either:

- C: Conditional Offer
- U: Unconditional Offer
- R: Rejection

You will need to reply to each of your offers in one of the following ways:

- Firm acceptance (one only)
- Insurance acceptance (one only)
- Decline (all other offers)



Your insurance choice must have lower entry requirements than your firm choice



Deadline to choose your Firm and Insurance choices

- Your reply date will be displayed in UCAS Hub (majority of cases this will be May 2025)
- If you don't reply before the deadline your offers will be declined
- Wait for all offers before confirming your choices



UCAS Extra

Plan B



What is UCAS Extra?

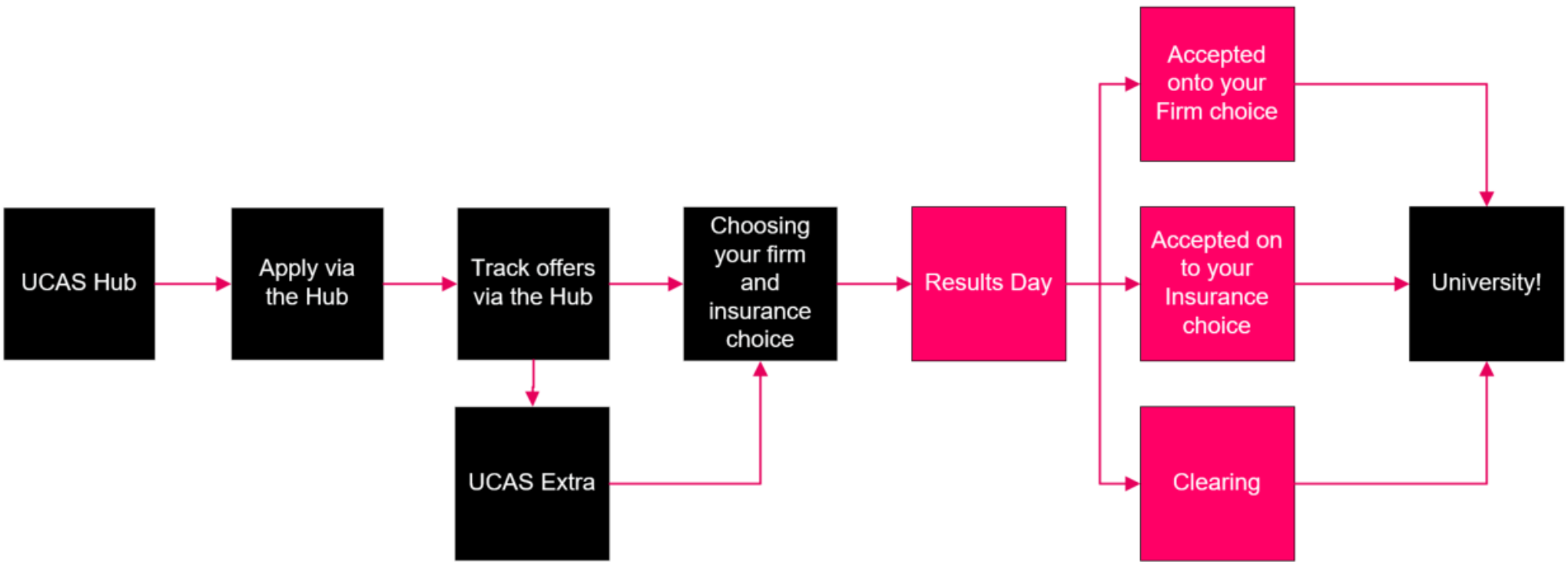
Extra is open between February and July

UCAS Extra can be used when you have:

- Already made five choices
- Received decisions from all these choices, and either had no offers or declined all the offers you have received

In Extra, you can apply for any course with vacancies and you apply for one course at a time using Track

Results day



Results day

Make sure you're around on results day – don't go on holiday

Once you receive your results, you will either be:

- Accepted by your firm choice
- Accepted by your insurance choice, if you don't get the grades for your firm choice
- Automatically entered into Clearing, if your results don't meet the conditions of any of your choices.



Clearing

Plan B



Who is Clearing for?

Clearing is available from results day (or before if you're a BTEC student)

If your results do not meet the entry requirements for any of your choices, or you decline them all, you will be released into Clearing



What is it?

- Clearing enables you to contact other universities and see if there are places available on alternative courses.
- Course vacancies in Clearing are published on university and UCAS websites and are updated continually



If you are flexible and you have reasonable exam results, there is still a good chance you will find another course through Clearing



Final points

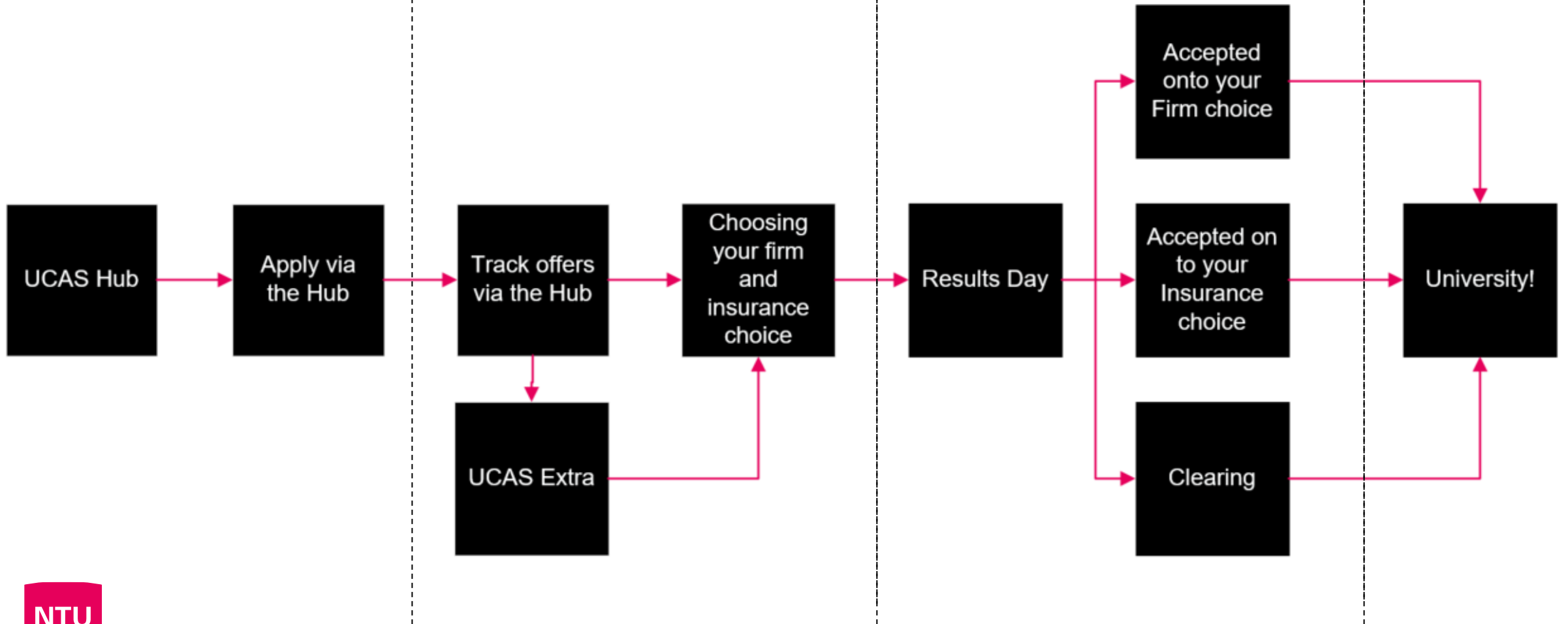


June - January

January – May

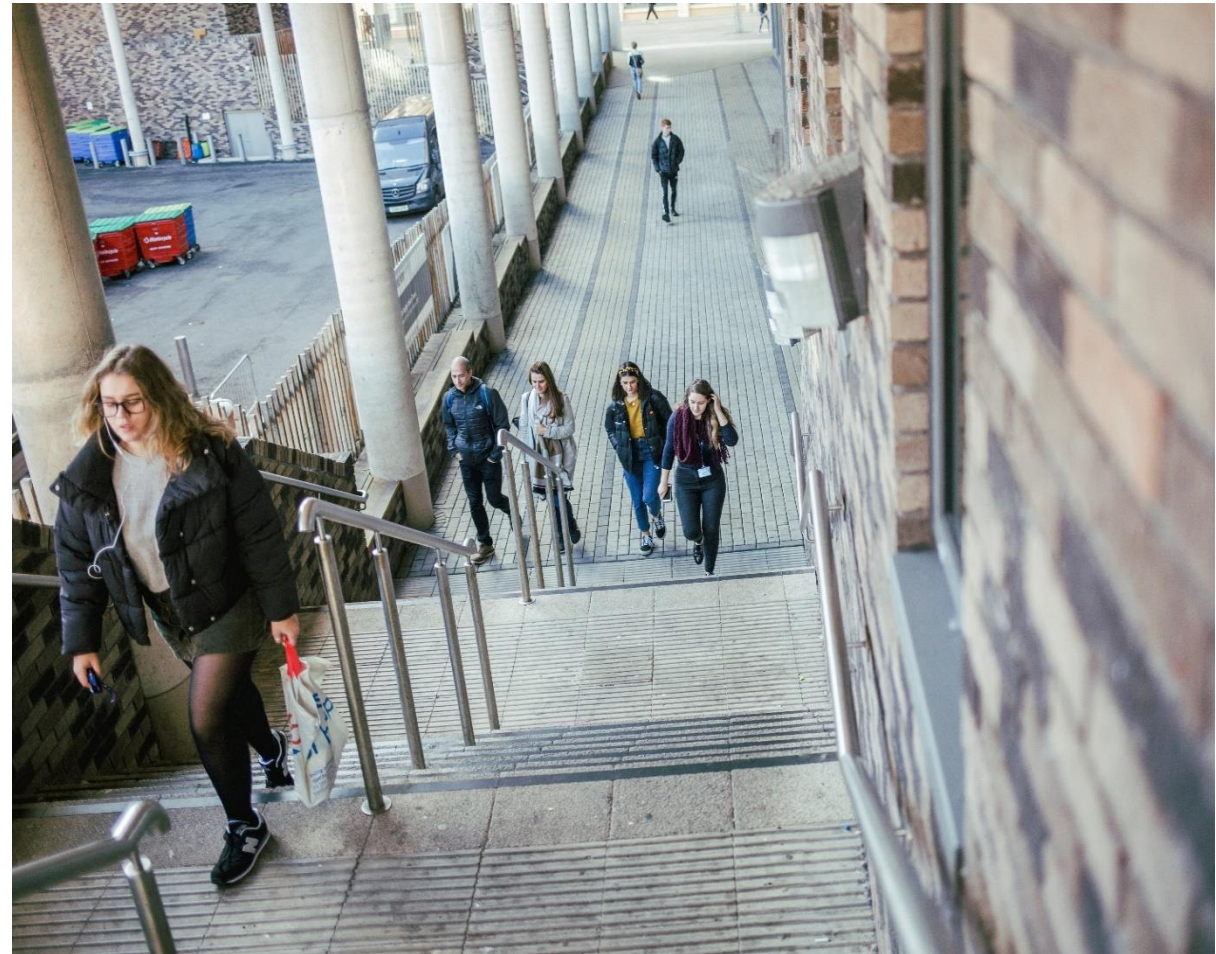
July - August

September



Top tips

- Research courses properly before applying
- Build your skills bank to improve your application
- Get your application in before Christmas
- Visit post application open days
- No benefit in accepting offers early so don't feel rushed



Student Finance

An Overview



Main costs

Main costs

- Tuition fees
- Living costs



Loans

- Tuition fee loan
- Maintenance loan
- Not obligatory
- Low rate of interest

Tuition Fees

Tuition Fees

- University fees can be up to £9,250
- Placement year £1,385
- No upfront costs



Tuition Fees Loans

- Covers the full cost of your tuition fees
- Apply each year of your course
- Goes direct to the university

Living costs

Living costs Approximately £10,500

- Accommodation (based on halls - approx. £6,500)
- Food
- Course costs
- Socialising
- TV licence
- Bills (e.g. phone, internet)
- Travel



Maintenance Loan

- Basic loan or;
- Means tested

Maintenance Loan – living away from home

Household Income £	Maintenance Loan £ (Repayable)	NTU Bursary £ (Non-repayable)	Total funding £	Annual Shortfall of £10,500
25,000	10,227	750	10,977	+477
35,000	8,766		8,766	1,734
45,000	7,304		7,304	3,196
55,000	5,842		5,842	4,658
65,000	4,767		4,767	5,733

Maintenance Loan – living at home

Household Income £	Maintenance Loan £ (Repayable)	NTU Bursary £ (Non-repayable)	Total funding £
25,000	8,610	750	9,360
35,000	7,163		7,163
45,000	5,716		5,716
55,000	4,269		4,269
65,000	3,790		3,790

Repayments

What are the future implications of having a loan?

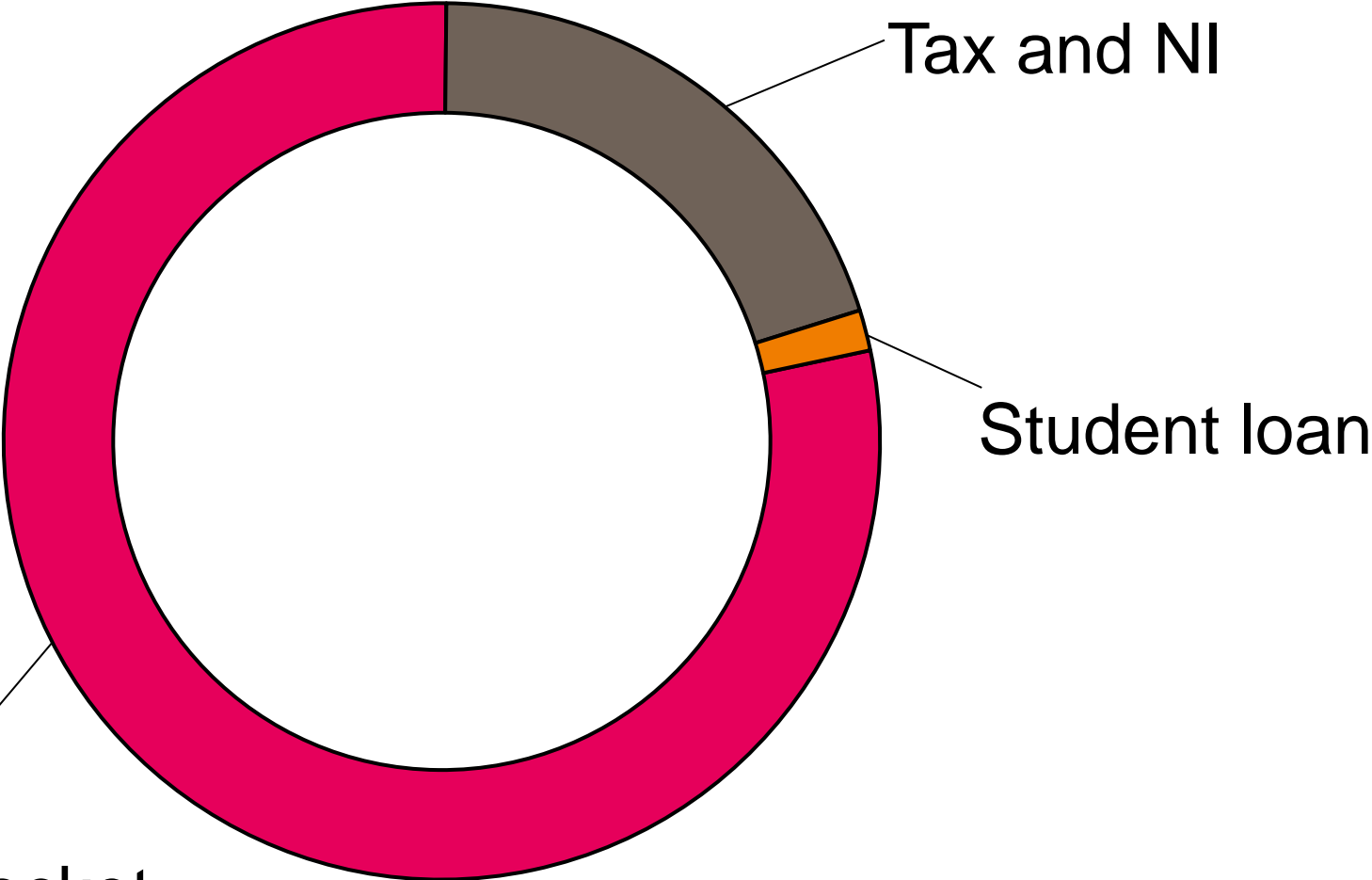


Repayments

- Based on your salary after you graduate
- Repayments are calculated at 9% of anything you earn over £25,000, divided into 12 monthly payments.

Annual earnings	Gross Monthly income (before tax)	Monthly repayment to SLC
£25,000	£2,083	£0
£30,000	£2,500	£37.50
£40,000	£3,333	£112.50
£50,000	£4,166	£187.50

Repayments on a £30,000 salary

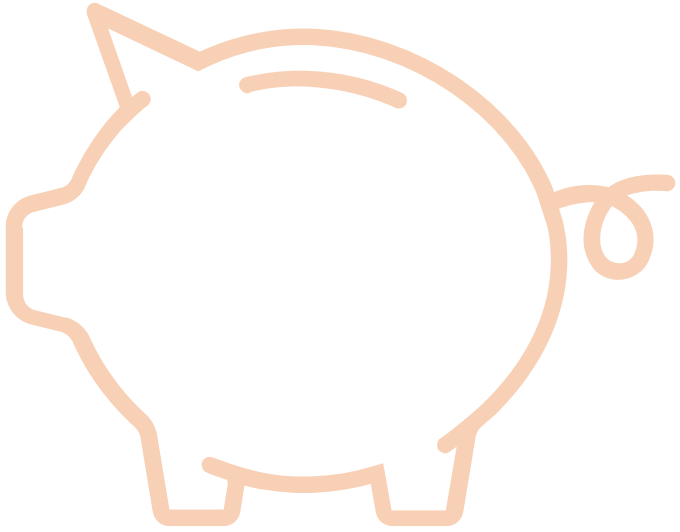


Money in your pocket

The highlights

- Repayable after graduation and only if you're earning £25,000 + per year
- No pressure to pay back your loans if you can't get a job
- If higher education has not been worth it for you, you don't pay for it
- The repayments come out of your wages like tax and national insurance

“



But what about
the debt?

”

Not a normal “debt”

- Written off after 40 years
- Does not affect your credit rating
- It’s highly unlikely to affect your eligibility to apply for a mortgage



Accommodation



What do you want from your accommodation?



Accommodation comparison								
	Distance from Campus	Cost per week	Rooms	Type	Beds per flat	Standard Room size	Bathroom	Max students per bathroom
Blenheim	1	£178.41	177	Flats	4-7	4x2.6 m	En suite	1
Byron	Campus	From £198.87	559	Flats	4-10	4.2x2.4 m	En suite	1
Gill Street North	Campus	From £186.48	446	Studios or Flats	1-8	4.2x2.7 m	En suite	1
Gill Street South	Campus	£220	352	Flats	5-11	4.2x2.4 m	En suite	1
Hampden	Campus	£154.84	168	Flats	6	3.6x1.8 m	Shared	2
The Maltings	2.3	£135.80	266	Flats	4-10	4x2.4 m	Shared	5
Meridan Court	2.1	From £135.82	250	Flats	2-10	3.5x2.4 m	En suite	5
Norton Court	2	£178.08	312	Flats	6	4x5 m	En suite	1
Simpsons	1.1	£137.62	226	Flats	2-12	3x6 m	En suite	1

Private accommodation

- Student Accommodation Services Team works with private providers to reserve flats solely for NTU first years.
- Lots of students = lots of private student properties
- Unipol



Support at university

Anxiety, addictions, bereavement, loneliness, eating disorders, finance, employment, accommodation...

- Counselling
- Referrals to specialists
- Silver cloud
- Puppy therapy
- Mindfulness walks
- Yoga
- Discounted gym membership





Nottingham Trent
University

Experience our subjects

If you want to find out what it's like to study at university, join us for one of our Experience Days! Find the full list of subjects and events by visiting



NTU Open Days

Come and see why we've been named
The Times and Sunday Times
Modern University of The Year 2023



- Saturday 23 March 2024
- Saturday 27 April 2024
- Saturday 6 July 2024



Nottingham Trent
University

Book your place:



ntu.ac.uk/opendays

Join our online community





Nottingham Trent
University

**Scan the QR to
download and sign
up to our parents
and carers guide**



The levels of apprenticeships



Name	Level	Equivalent educational level
Intermediate	2	5 GCSE passes at grade 4-9 (A*-C)
Advanced	3	2 A Levels / Level 3 diploma / International Baccalaureate
Higher	4,5,6 & 7	Foundation degree and above
Degree	6 & 7	Bachelor's or master's degree

How do you find apprenticeships



Register on Find
An Apprenticeship



Manage your alerts



Do your research



Contact companies



Search and apply

To find an
apprenticeship
visit [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk)

Where else to look?



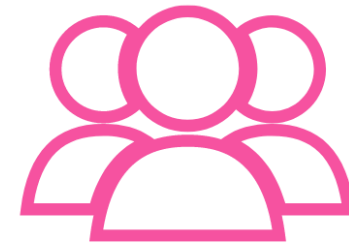
The company
website



Social media



Higher and
Degree



Your family
or friends



How to register



Find an apprenticeship

Find an apprenticeship in England.

You can apply for apprenticeships in [Scotland](#), [Northern Ireland](#) and [Wales](#).

Search >

You can also:

- [sign in](#) to your account
- [create an account](#) to manage your applications and get alerts about new apprenticeships

www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship



Where else to look



NGTU
NOT GOING TO UNI

★ **RATEMY
APPRENTICESHIP**

 **GetMyFirstJob**

BEST 
APPRENTICESHIPS

Higher and Degree Vacancy
Listing for 2023/24 Recruitment


Amazing
Apprenticeships

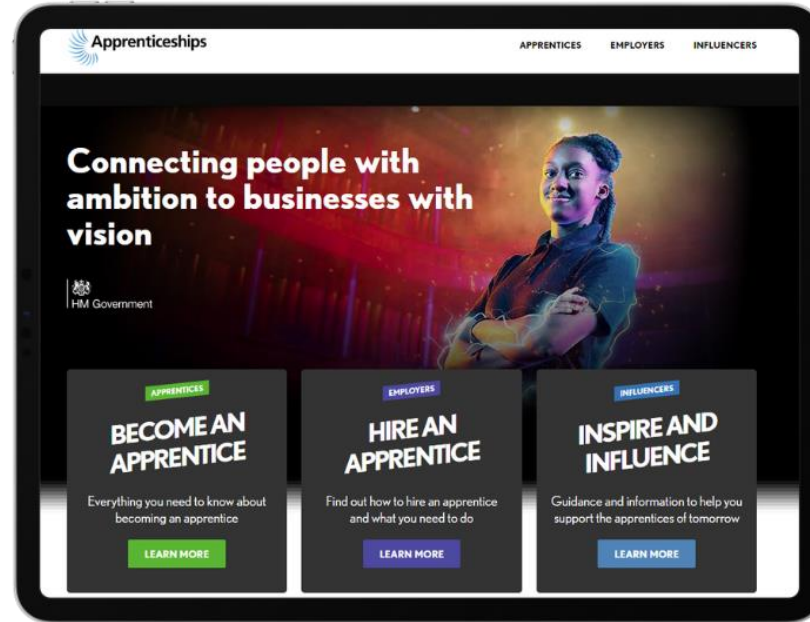
UCAS

 **Apprenticeships**

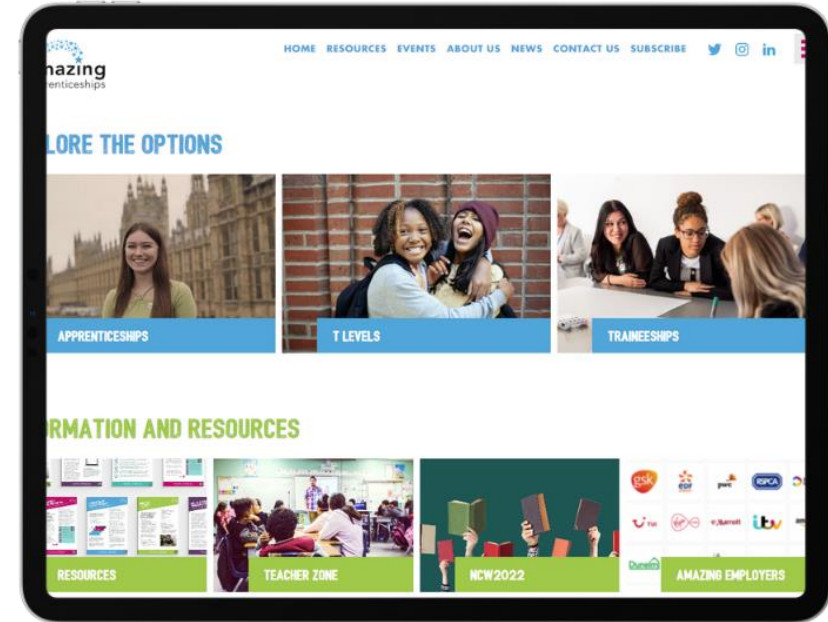
Created October 2023

Visit [apprenticeships.gov.uk](https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk)

Key Websites



Apprenticeships.gov.uk



AmazingApprenticeships.com





Degree apprenticeships in engineering, project management and business. Other level 4 apprenticeships. Open days in November. Entry requirements 3 x C at A-level or equivalent.



Degree apprenticeships in business and engineering. Other level 4 apprenticeships. Open day in October. Entry requirements 3 x C at A-level or equivalent.



Degree apprenticeships in quantity surveying and construction management. Applications usually open around January with an open evening in February.



Degree apprenticeships (level 7) in finance. Applications open in October. West Midlands based.



Degree apprenticeships and level 4 apprenticeships. Advertised on gov website.



Member of the SNC-Lavalin Group

Degree apprenticeships in civil engineering, digital and technology solutions, electrical engineering and nuclear engineering. Applications open but will close if full.



“Flying Start” degree apprenticeships applied for via UCAS at 6 different universities.



Apprenticeships in engineering, project management, finance, surveying and digital technology. Applications usually open in January.

Recruitment Processes

Open days / evenings

Application form and/or upload a CV

Video interviews / recorded interviews

Online tests – logic / numeracy / reasoning

Assessment centres – interview / presentation / group activity

What can I do as a parent or carer to help?

Talk to them about what they are thinking.

Encourage them to keep their options open e.g. university application and apprenticeship route.

Help them to explore the options:

Open Days [Find Open Days at universities and colleges in the UK](#)

Apprenticeship events – remind students to keep an eye on their emails.

Encourage them to use Unifrog and UCAS

They should have all signed up today for UCAS Hub and the government apprenticeship website.

Unifrog brings into one place every undergraduate university course, apprenticeship, and college course in the UK, as well as other opportunities, such as School Leaver Programmes, MOOCs and every college at Oxford and Cambridge. This makes it easy for students to compare and choose the best university courses, apprenticeships or further education courses for them.

They can also explore exciting opportunities further afield by looking at English taught undergraduate programmes available in Europe and the USA.

Additionally, the platform helps students successfully apply for these opportunities when writing their UCAS personal statement, applications and CVs and guiding them through the process, allowing teachers to give live feedback.



Parent login available

Exploring pathways

Interests profile

✓ Quiz last taken 13 Jun 21: S and I and E

Start >

Personality profile

✓ Quiz last taken 4 May 20: ISTJ

Start >

Work environments profile

✗ Quiz not taken

Start >

Careers library

✓ Careers favourited

Go to tool >

Subjects library

✓ Subjects favourited

Go to tool >

Know-how library

✓ Guides favourited

Go to tool >

MOOC

Make your first shortlist

Start >

Webinars

Hear directly from the experts

Go to tool >

Read, Watch, Listen

✓ Profiles favourited

Start >

Searching for opportunities

UK universities

You have [1 shortlist](#)

Start >

US universities

Make your first shortlist

Start >

European universities

Make your first shortlist

Start >

Oxbridge

You have [1 shortlist](#)

Start >

Apprenticeships

Make your first shortlist

Start >

College / Sixth Form

Make your first shortlist

Start >

Canadian universities

Make your first shortlist

Start >

Asian universities

Make your first shortlist

Start >

Australasian universities

Make your first shortlist

Start >

ME and African unis

Make your first shortlist

Start >

Irish universities

Make your first shortlist

Start >

Special opportunities

Make your first shortlist

Start >

The University route - Competitive applications.

Grades are important – Use UCAS historic entry grades tool.

EPQ –

- In-depth subject exploration
- Develops academic skills
- Mimics university learning

MOOCs -

- Learn new skills
- Pursue your interests
- Demonstrate commitment

www.mooc.org/courses

Work experience -

- Learn new skills
- See your industry in action
- See the day-to-day workplace
- Talk to professionals
- Explore career prospects
- Enhance your application

Virtual work experience -

<https://www.springpod.com/virtual-work-experience/search>

<https://www.speakersforschools.org/vwex/>

Sites offering excellent Insight days and virtual work experience.

The University route - Competitive applications.

Education **podcasts**

TED talks

Trade/industry press

Additional reading/suggested reading for the course.

Journals and e-journals.

Current affairs

Subject **webinars**.

Spring Pod Subject Spotlights



UCAS tariff points



A-Levels and Highers: Ucas Points

	A-Levels	AS Levels	Scottish Highers	Advanced Highers
A*	56			
A	48	20	33	56
B	40	16	27	48
C	32	12	21	40
D	24	10	15	32
E	16	6		



BTEC Nationals: (First taught Sep 16) Ucas Points

National Extended Certificate		National Diploma		National Extended Diploma	
D*	56	D*D*	112	D*D*D*	168
D	48	D*D	104	D*D*D	160
M	32	DD	96	D*DD	152
P	16	DM	80	DDD	144
		MM	64	DDM	128
		MP	48	DMM	112
		PP	32	MMM	96
				MMP	80
				MPP	64
				PPP	48

(D) Distinction (M) Merit (P) Pass

Useful web support

www.unifrog.org/ - a huge wealth of resources in one place.

www.ucas.co.uk – You can search for university courses on the UCAS website. It gives details of all courses and their entry requirements. There is also an apprenticeships section where you can search for apprenticeships based on our chosen field and location. UCAS have a parents section

The parent guide to post 18 options

www.informedchoices.ac.uk – A good starting point that outlines a few different types of degree. Put together by the ‘Russell Group’ universities.

www.nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/

Individual university websites ending with ac.uk - look at ‘undergraduate study’ for specific course information and specific faculties.

<http://university.which.co.uk/> - A useful website which gives information on universities and courses, including student satisfaction levels.

<http://www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk> - This website has lots of useful information about universities, courses and open days.

www.prospects.ac.uk – what students can do with their chosen degree.

Month	University preparation activities	Key dates
Mar 2024	Post 18 day	Wb 22/04/24 Work experience.
May 2024	Explore course choices & locations. Attend Open Days. Attend virtual work experience Attend super curricular exploration UCAS ' search tool displays 2025 locations	10 th May 2024 – Yr 12 reports to parents 7 th May 2024 - The adviser portal opens for 2025 entry 14 th May 2024 - Undergraduate applications open for 2025 entry
June 2024	Year 12 Exams – grades are used as one of the components informing projected grades for UCAS.	14/05/24 UCAT booking opens Year 12 mock exams - W/c 24 th June 2024
July 2024	UCAS applications begin. Early entry personal statement writing first draft deadline to SFO 19/07/24	Post 18 day afternoon 08/07/2024 10/07/23 Conservatoire applications open for 2024 entry. Mock grades to parents
August 2024	Personal statement writing and finalising course choices.	
September 2024	Early entry personal statement writing second draft to SFO 09/09/24 Early Entry final draft to SFO 27/09/24 Early entry book admissions tests.	3 rd Sept - Completed undergraduate applications can be submitted to UCAS
October 2024	Interim internal deadline for applications for all UCAS courses 11/10/24 BMAT & other Oxbridge admissions tests.	02/10/24 Conservatoire music application (Drama, Dance and musical Theatre vary – see websites) 15/10/24 Oxbridge, Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary deadline.
November 2024	Final internal deadline for all applications for UCAS courses 25/11/24	

Month	University preparation activities	Key dates
January 2025	Interviews. Offer holder days.	29/01/25 Equal consideration deadline for most undergraduate courses.
February 2025		26/02/2025 extra opens – any not holding an offer can add another choice in their applications
March 2025		
April 2025		
May 2025	A level and BTEC examinations	18 May 2025: decisions usually back from universities for 25 January applications. 8 June 2025: If you received all decisions by 18 May, applicants holding offers must have chosen a Firm and Insurance choice by this date or they will be released into clearing.
June 2025		
July 2025		
August 2025	Support for students wishing to change options or enter clearing is available from SFO on results day.	15/08/25 A level and BTEC results day.
September 2025	The next adventure begins ...	

unifrog

Post – 18

Choices, choices

Introduction

Whether you're certain of what you want to do when you leave College or Sixth Form, or you have no clue at all, it's a great idea to explore all of the options available to you.

This session will explore the options available to you post-18, and signpost parts of the Unifrog platform that will help you research them further!

University

UK universities

You have 9 shortlists

[View shortlists](#)

Start >

- Do a degree in a subject you feel passionate about
- Access cool opportunities like studying abroad or spending a year in industry
- Different qualifications available including full undergraduate degrees, foundation degrees and top-ups, post-graduate and doctoral

Read all about it! Go to the Know-how library and read...

- Hidden Gems... 5 UK universities that are under-applied to
- Lesser-known university subjects

University – Pros and Cons

Pros:

- Broaden your knowledge of a subject
- Meet lots of new people
- Increase your earning potential
- Gain independence
- Access job opportunities not available to those without a degree

Cons:

- It can be expensive to live while you're not earning a wage
- Can take a long time
- Doesn't guarantee higher earnings
- You may lack employment skills
- You may have tuition fee debt, and potentially debt from living costs

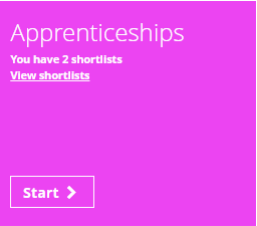
UK universities

You have 9 shortlists

[View shortlists](#)

Start >

Apprenticeship



- Doing an apprenticeship means working for a company while working towards a qualification
- The qualification you work towards depends on the industry, subject and qualifications you already have

Read all about it! Go to the Know-how library and read...

- An introduction to apprenticeships
- Apprenticeship levels in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland

Apprenticeship – Pros and Cons

Apprenticeships

You have 2 shortlists
[View shortlists](#)

Start >

Pros:

- Get real-life experience
- Earn while you learn
- Acquire new skills
- Boost your confidence
- Great lifetime earning potential – potentially better than those with a university degree

Cons:

- Could limit your future prospects (although the same could be said for degrees!)
- Compared to a graduate, you may start on a lower wage
- Can be a shock compared to school/college

FE College

College /
Sixth Form
Make your first shortlist

Start >

- Add to or repeat the qualifications you already have by going to a Further Education College
- These colleges offer a range of qualifications such as HE courses (foundation degrees with a top-up at a local university), Access to HE, GCSEs, A-Levels, Vocational Courses, Diplomas, Certificates and Adult Learning courses

Read all about it!

Go to the Know-how library and look in the UK College and Sixth Form section!

FE College – Pros and Cons

Pros:

- Meet lots of new people from varied backgrounds
- Feels more like being at university compared with a Sixth Form
- Study a range of qualifications

Cons:

- Can be large and impersonal; very different to being at school
- Courses provided can depend on what else is available in the area

College /
Sixth Form
Make your first shortlist

Start >

Gap Year

- Go travelling, work or volunteer for a year – the choice is yours!
- Two things often happen after a gap year - you return to education as planned, with a year's life experience under your belt; or you decide not to return to the originally planned route, and find a new pathway!

Read all about it! Go to the Know-how library...

- World of Work section for articles on Volunteering and Internships
- Useful Stuff section for articles on gap years and calculating out your take-home pay

Gap Year – Pros and Cons

Pros:

- Broaden your mind by travelling and meeting new people
- Get work experience before doing some more learning
- Take a break from education and take stock of what you want from your career
- Grasp opportunities as they arise

Cons:

- Unless you have savings, you'll have to work for at least some of it
- It's easy to drift away from education or a clear pathway once your year comes to an end
- You might not have the support of your tutors/advisors during this year out

Getting a Job

- Get out there into the big, wide world and see what it's all about!
- You could get an entry level job in the industry you want to be in, or just any job to pass some time while you think about your next move
- Lots of employers offer education that doesn't fall into the category of 'university' or 'apprenticeship', for example professional qualifications

Read all about it!

Go to the Know-how library for articles on acing your CV or writing a winning cover letter, as well as the low down on psychometric tests.

Getting a Job – Pros and Cons

Pros:

- Work experience to put on your CV
- Learn and develop new skills
- Earn a wage
- Take advantage of training and professional qualifications that employers offer, that don't fall under the categories of university or apprenticeship

Cons:

- Starting work is very different to being at school or university
- Your wage in an entry level job may not be very high to begin with
- Without further education, you may feel limited in where you can progress to

Unifrog task

1. Read up on each of the University, College/Sixth Form and Apprenticeship pathways and create a Unifrog shortlist for each.
2. For 'Getting a job', and 'Gap year', read about them in the Know-how library to help you understand what's involved in each.
3. Weigh up the pros and cons; can you think of any others?
4. Which two pathways are you most interested in? Update your Post 18 Intentions tool!

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unifrog.org/student