

A white computer keyboard is visible in the top left corner, partially obscured by a black stethoscope. The stethoscope is positioned diagonally across the frame, with its chest piece resting on the keyboard and its earpieces extending towards the bottom right. The background is a plain white surface.

Welcome POST 18 DAY

- Today your child has been informed of all the choices open to them post 18
- We have provided 14 talks from a variety of job including apprenticeships, businesses and careers needing degrees.
- We have also heard from Sheffield Hallam University and apprenticeship opportunities as well as being introduced to potential gap year activities

Post 18 Day Thursday	
Registration: 9.00-9.15am	Year group welcome assembly in Forms Outline of the day ahead.
Period 1 Two sessions: 9.20 – 9.45 am 9.55- 10.20am	Exploring future pathways.
	Option 1: Oliver Lowery +2 – Atkins Realis apprenticeships
	Option 2: Joel Able – Crime Scene Science
	Option 3: Pedro Menon – Brewery and owning a business
	Option 4 Tracey Blythe - author
	Option 5: Jon Fearnehough and James Cokayne – Property
	Option 6: Fluid – Strategy and creative campaigns and content team
	Option 7: David Wallwork – Making a difference and earning money
	Option <u>8</u> : Ella Kew–Nuclear engineering apprentice Rolls Royce
	Option 9: Chris Graves – Engineering careers
	Option 10: Onnig Tamizian -Medicine and roles in NHS
	Option 11: Honey Brown –Business management apprentice RR
	Option 12: Fiona Hallas - Finance and accountancy
Option 13: Kath Handley – Psychology – possibilities and roles	

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 2025 (%)
University	82
Apprenticeship	7
Employment	6
Gap year	4
Armed Forces	0
FE College	1
Other	0

**Sheffield
Hallam
University**



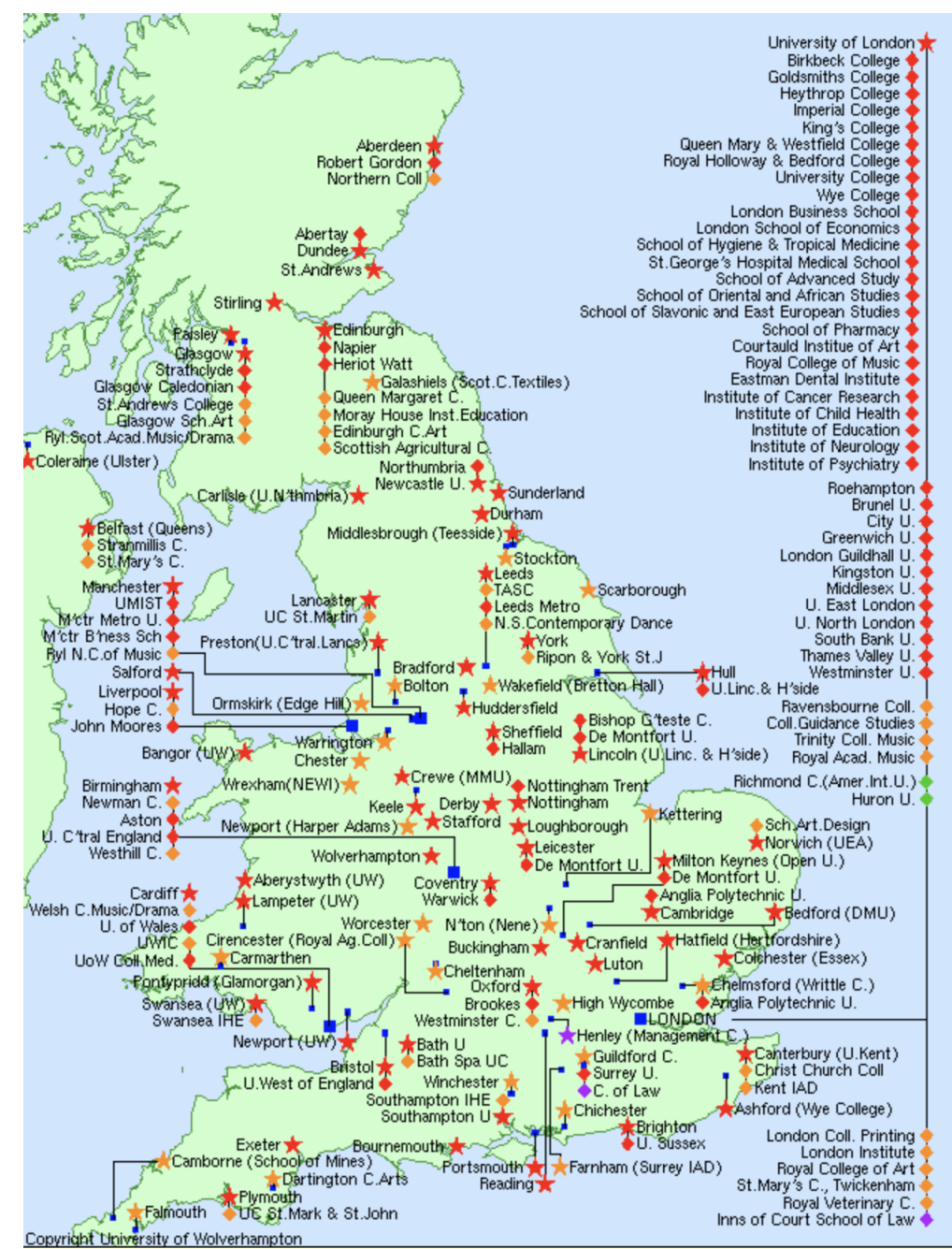
UNIVERSITY OF
PORTSMOUTH



UNIVERSITY OF
OXFORD

US

UNIVERSITY
OF SUSSEX



**University of
Sheffield**



UNIVERSITY OF
LINCOLN



UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE



Nottingham Trent
University

UNIVERSITY OF
EXETER





BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Post-18 Pathways

WHAT CAN YOU STUDY?

We offer a wide range of undergraduate courses across dozens of subjects, as well as foundation years and degree apprenticeships.

In fact, our degree apprenticeship portfolio is one of the widest in the country!

OUR COURSES

ACCOUNTING,
BANKING AND
FINANCE

ACTING,
SCREENWRITING
AND FILM

ARCHITECTURE

ART AND DESIGN

BIOSCIENCES
AND CHEMISTRY

BUSINESS,
MANAGEMENT
AND ENTERPRISE

COMPUTING

CONSTRUCTION,
REAL ESTATE
AND SURVEYING

CRIMINOLOGY

DIAGNOSTIC
RADIOGRAPHY

DIGITAL MEDIA
ECONOMICS

ENGINEERING
ENGLISH

EVENT
MANAGEMENT

FOOD AND
NUTRITION

GEOGRAPHY AND
ENVIRONMENT

HEALTH AND
SOCIAL CARE

HISTORY

LANGUAGES

LAW

MARKETING

MATHEMATICS

MEDIA PR AND
JOURNALISM

NURSING AND
MIDWIFERY

OCCUPATIONAL
THERAPY

OPERATING
DEPARTMENT
PRACTICE

PARAMEDIC
SCIENCE

PHYSICS

PHYSIOTHERAPY

PSYCHOLOGY

RADIOTHERAPY
AND ONCOLOGY

SOCIAL WORK

SOCIOLOGY AND
POLITICS

SPORT AND
PHYSICAL
ACTIVITY

TEACHING
EDUCATION AND
CHILDHOOD
STUDIES

TOURISM AND
HOSPITALITY

What do our students love about Sheffield?

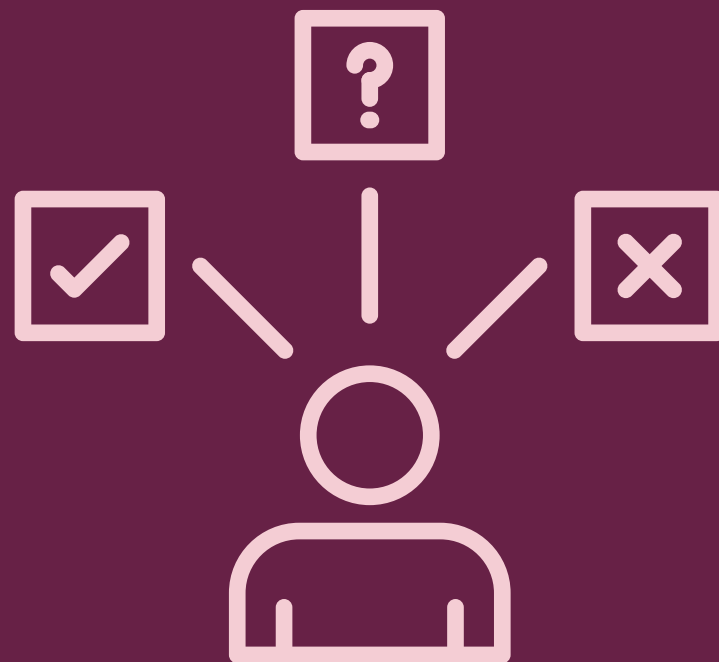


SO MUCH CHOICE!

How many degree courses are currently available within the UK?

50,000+

There are two approaches when it comes to deciding...



Interest based approach

Interest based experience

**Where to apply these skills - University,
Degree Apprenticeship etc**

**What am I good at? What are my interests?
What subjects do I enjoy?**

**I really want to know
more about a subject
but don't have a career
in mind!**

**I want to go to
university but have no
idea what to take!**

Career based approach

I know exactly what I want to do but have no idea how to get there!

Career Goal!

I know I want to be in a certain profession but what is the right route?

A-level choices? subject specific requirements? Interviews?

What actions can I take now?

What are my HE choices?



**It's good to research
into different options
into HE before making a
decision!**





What are my HE choices?

Undergraduate degree

- Specific subject area
- 3/ 4 years long
- Student Finance available
- Placement years available
- Apply through UCAS



What are my HE choices?



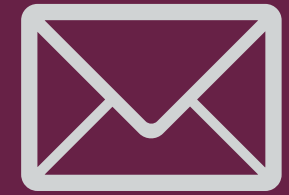
Foundation Year (Level 3-4 – depending on the course)

- An extra year at the start of an undergraduate degree.
- Offers a great starting point if you don't quite meet the entry requirements for a degree.
- Typically takes 1 year to complete – followed by a 3-year degree

Foundation Degrees (Level 5)

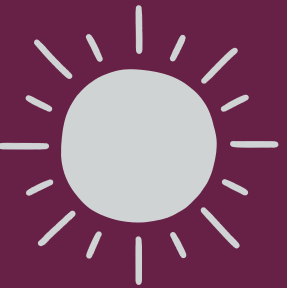
- A standalone vocational qualification that combines academic study with practical skills.
- Designed with employers to prepare students for specific careers. Can be “topped up” to a full undergraduate degree with an extra year.
- Typically 2 years to complete

University Application Timeline



Summer of Y12

Research options,
courses & universities



Nov/Dec

School & College
internal deadlines



March

Student Finance opens /
Accommodation applications



August

Results Day /
Confirmation / Clearing

Start of Y13

Begin UCAS
application



January

Equal Consideration Deadline
NOTE: Some courses and
institutions have earlier
deadlines!



May

Respond to offers



September

University courses
start



WHICH INSTITUTION?

With almost 300 registered HE institutions in the UK,
how do you pick the right one?

Consider the following:

- *Distance from home*
- *Accommodation or commuting*
- *Campus or City institution*
- *Opportunities and facilities*



WHICH COURSE?

There are currently over 50,000 courses available in the UK!

Consider the following when deciding which course to pick:

- *Course title*
- *How you learn*
- *Careers*
- *Facilities*
- *Entry requirements*
- *Modules*



Prospectus and guides

Find out more about our courses and living in Sheffield



Digital prospectus

Hear from students, take a virtual campus tour, and find your ideal course in just a few clicks.

[View our digital prospectus](#)



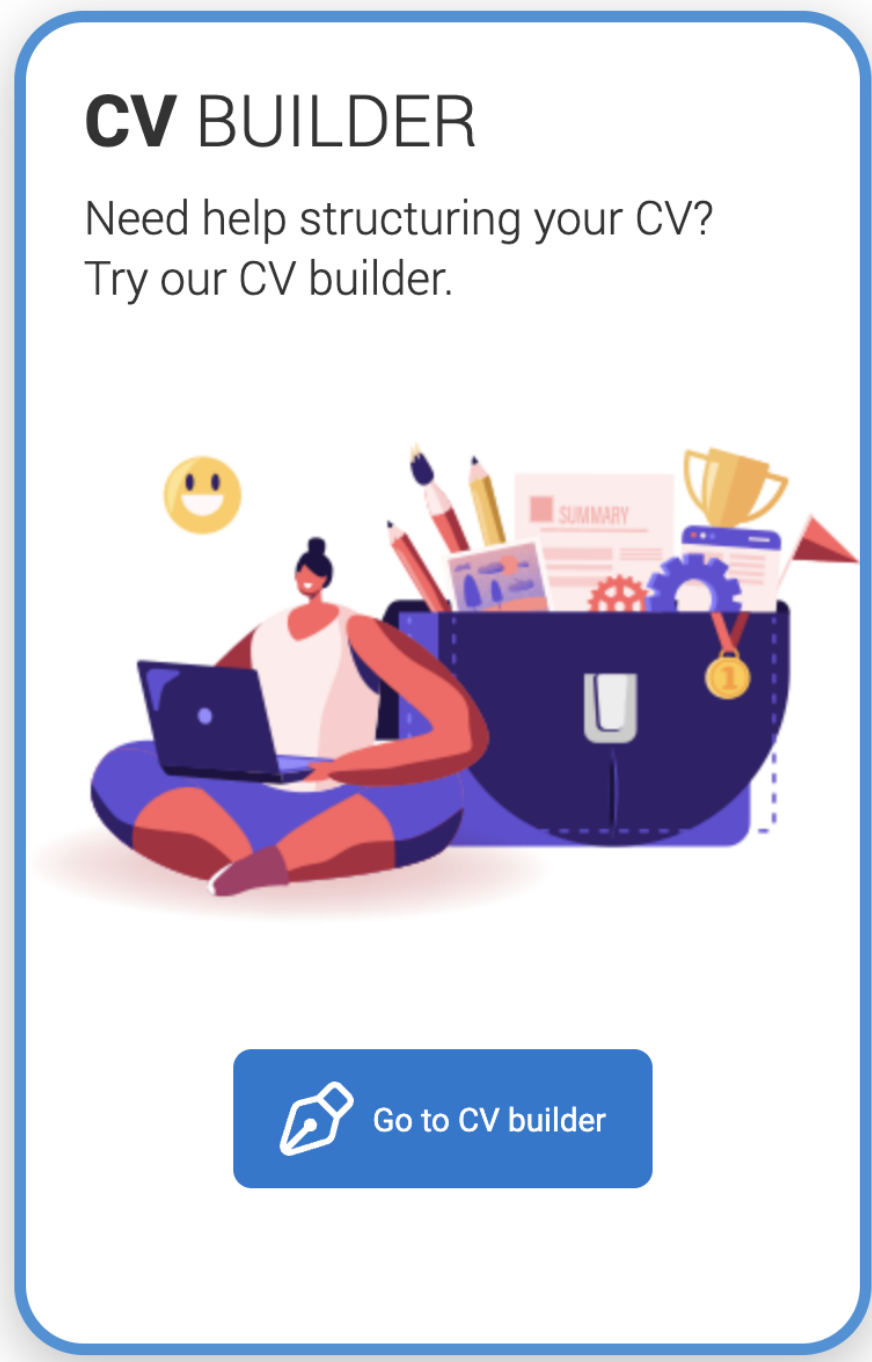
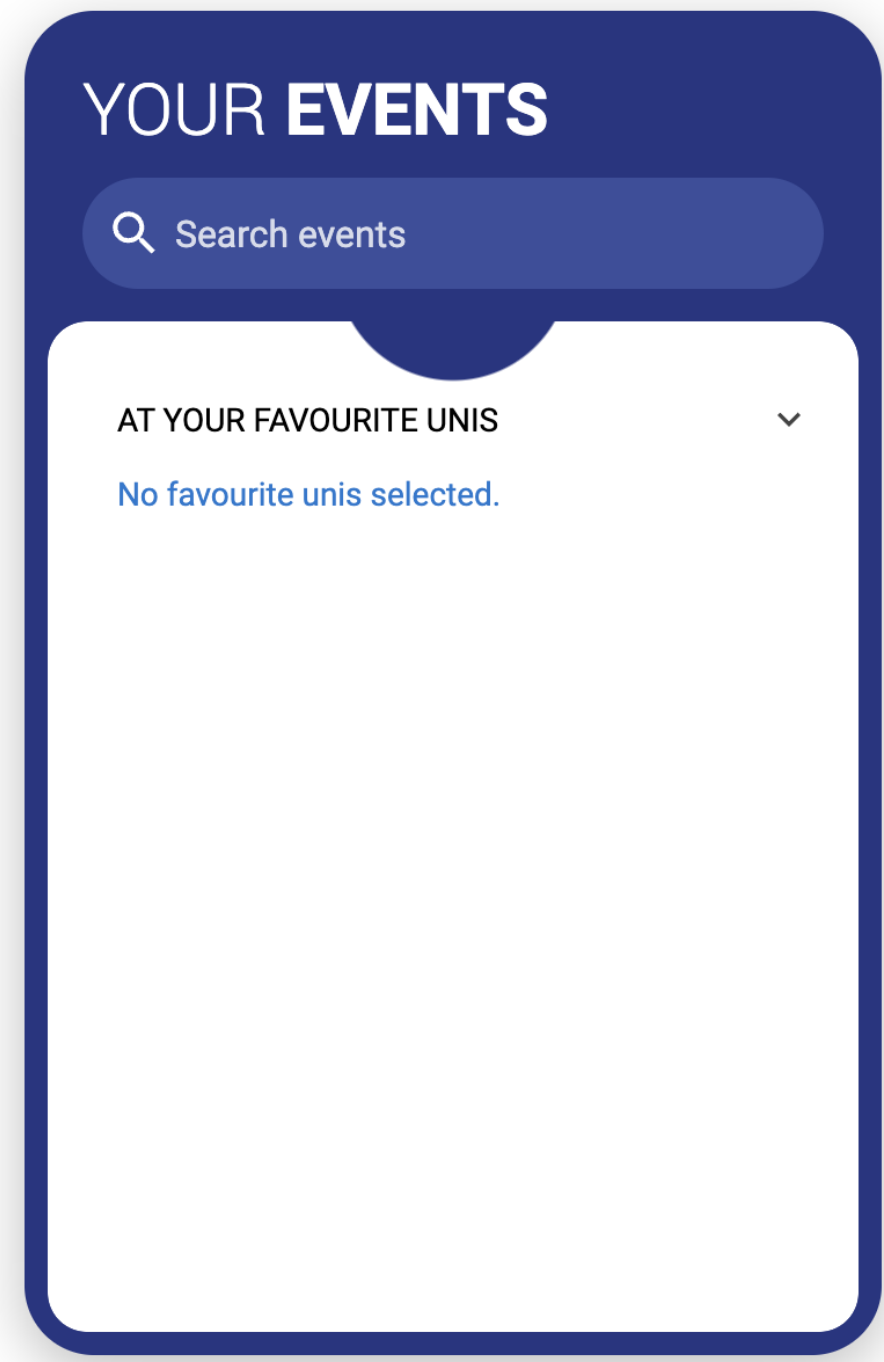
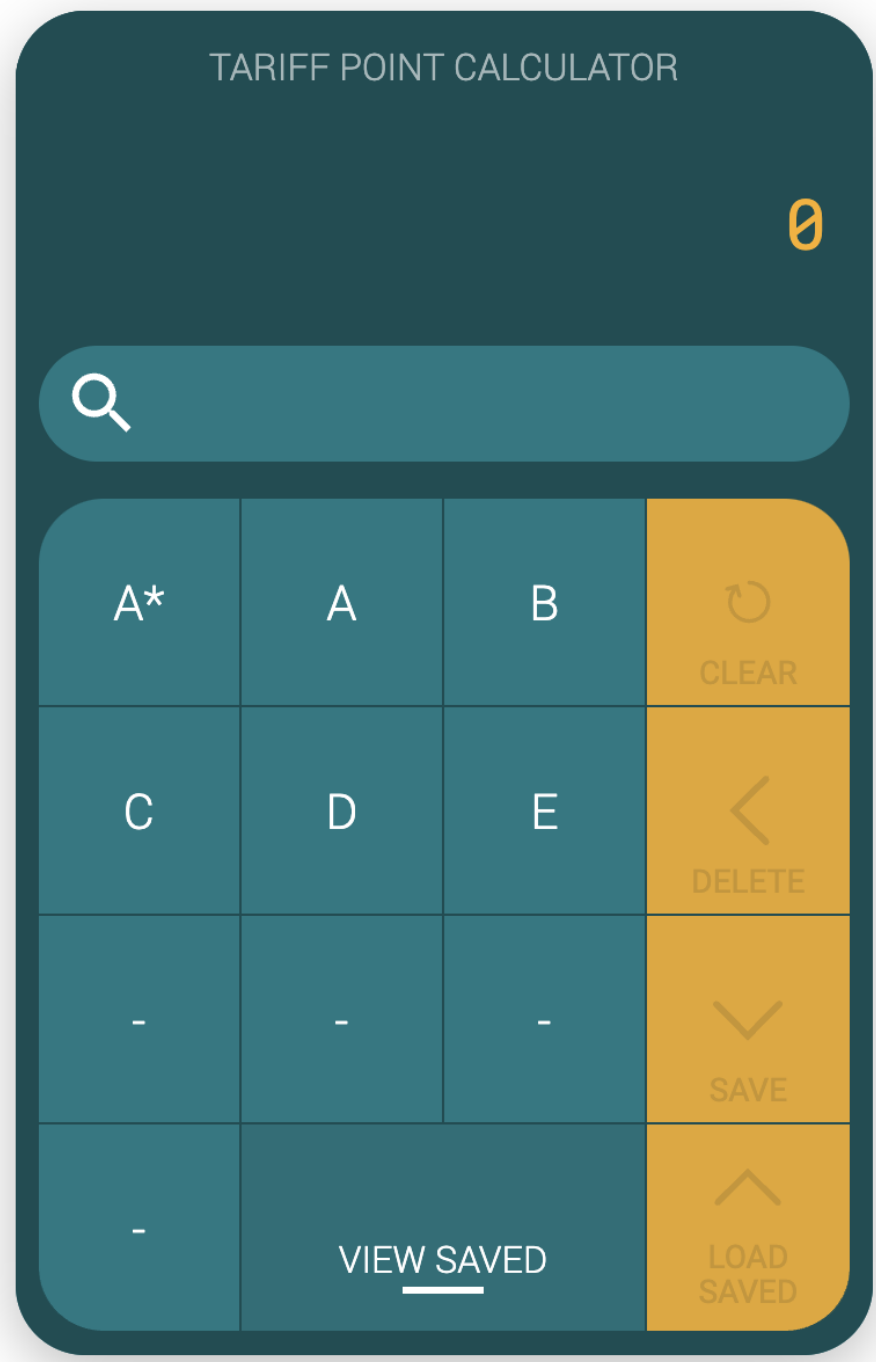
[View our digital prospectus](#)

The tariff calculator lets you convert A level and BTEC grades to UCAS points

A useful place to search for open days and look for up and coming events.

Additional guidance on CV's

Personal statement advice – examples of what tutors are looking for in different subjects and what you can be doing to prepare for this.



WHAT'S INVOLVED IN A UCAS APPLICATION?



Information about you

(Contact info, academic info, additional awards, disability disclosure)



Personal Statement

(Motivation for study, academic and transferable skills, extra curricular experience)



References

(Written by your tutor, a reflection of your academic experience)

Key things to note:

- Apply through the University & Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS) at www.ucas.com
- You can choose up to five different courses/ institutions in your application
- Pay an application fee of £28.50



Information about

*(Contact info, academic
additional awards, dis
disclosure)*



References

*Written by your tutor,
reflection of your academic
experience)*

You will answer 3 questions to create a personal statement...

1. Why do you want to study this course or subject?
2. How have your qualifications and studies helped you to prepare for this course or subject?
3. What else have you done to prepare outside of education, and why are these experiences useful?

Hearing back from institutions



Unconditional



Conditional

(On your chosen course or an alternative)



Firm choice = First choice

Invited to interview



Unsuccessful application



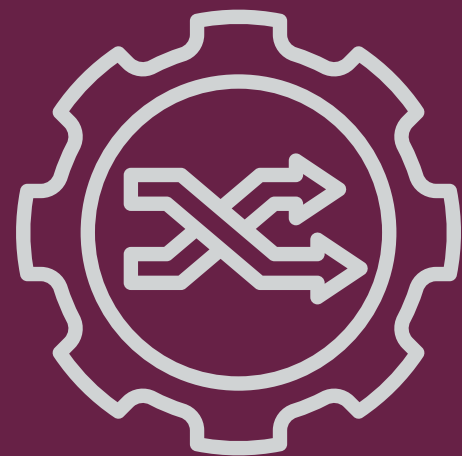
Insurance = Second choice

If things don't go to plan...



**What happens if I miss the
Equal Consideration Deadline?**

What happens if I don't have any offers?



**What happens if I don't get the grades
or I change my mind?**

Main costs to university





The tuition fee is the cost of your course and services related to student wellbeing and experience at the university

Tuition Fee





Tuition Fee

Most universities now charge a tuition of £9790 (increasing with inflation)

A Tuition Fee Loan is available to cover this fee

The Tuition Fee Loan is paid directly to your university



Living costs refer to your everyday expenses while studying at university, including things like accommodation, food, travel, and other essentials you need to support your lifestyle



Living costs



**A Maintenance Loan is available to help
students with their living costs**

**The Maintenance Loan is
means-tested**

**Your Maintenance Loan is paid directly
into your bank account each term**



Living costs

So how much maintenance loan do I receive?



1. Where you live while studying



Live at Home.



Live and study away from home
outside London (elsewhere)



Live and study away from home,
in London.

2. Based off Household income

Household Income	Home (£58,387)	Elsewhere (62,410)	London (70,131)
£25,000 & under	£9,118	£10,830	£14,135
£35,000	£7,589	£9,285	£12,563
£45,000	£6,060	£7,739	£10,991
£55,000	£4,531	£6,194	£9,419
£65,000	£4,013	£5,048	£7,846
£70,000+	£4,013	£5,048	£7,039

With this in mind, what are the three main costs students spend their maintenance loan on?



Accommodation



Travel



Food



Accommodation

Average cost for UK student
accommodation - £166 pw
(The complete university guide, 2024)

Hallam has 11
different properties
with various price
points starting
below the national
average at £81 per
week!



Here's some examples...



Central Quay

£81 pw



The Trigon

£95 - £115 pw



The Gate

£151 - £185 pw





SHEFFIELD HALLAM ACCOMMODATION

Sheffield's central location makes it an ideal hub for transport, offering excellent connections across the UK.



Travel

Average cost for uk
student travel - £65 pw
(*SaveTheStudent.Org, 2024*)

Sheffield is a student friendly city with plenty of affordable cafes and restaurants.



Food

Average cost for UK student food shop - £144 per month
(*SaveTheStudent.Org, 2024*)



Cambridge Street Collective, opened in 2023



Mythbusting Student Finance Repayments



You won't have to make repayments until your income is over a set threshold of £25000 (to rise with inflation from April 2027)



Your repayments will be taken automatically from your payslip



You will be required to start repaying from the April after completing your course



If your income drops below the threshold, your repayments stop

Any outstanding balance is cancelled after 40 years of completing your course.

REPAYMENTS - WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR ME?

Repayments are made on 9% of earnings above the £25,000 threshold

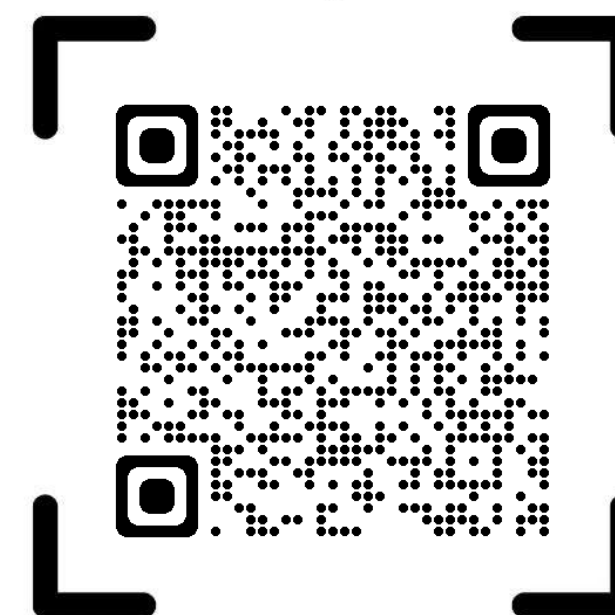
Income each year before tax	£25,000	£35,000	£40,000	£45,000
9% will be deducted from	£0	£10,000	£15,000	£20,000
Monthly Repayments (Approximately)	£0	£75	£112	£150

Student Finance: How Do I Apply?

Apply online for Tuition Fee
and Maintenance Loan from
**Student Finance
England:**
www.gov.uk/studentfinance

studentfinance **england**

SCAN ME



Student Finance England: Eligibility

To qualify for FULL financial support from Student Finance England the student must meet three main criteria:

1. You are a UK National, Irish citizen or have 'Settled Status'

2. You normally live in England and have been living in the UK, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man for 3 years in a row before the first day of the start of your course

3. You do not already hold an honours degree. There are some exceptions to this

EU students can apply for maintenance loan support if they have been a resident in the UK for five years or more.

SCAN ME



**Don't meet the criteria above?
A list of full eligibility and entitlement criteria can be found using the QR code**

Student Finance England: What do I need to apply?

Students

1. **Passport, Birth Certificate or other identity and residency evidence information (This includes valid EUSS Share Codes for EU, EEA and Swiss nationals)**
2. **UK bank account details**
3. **National Insurance Number**

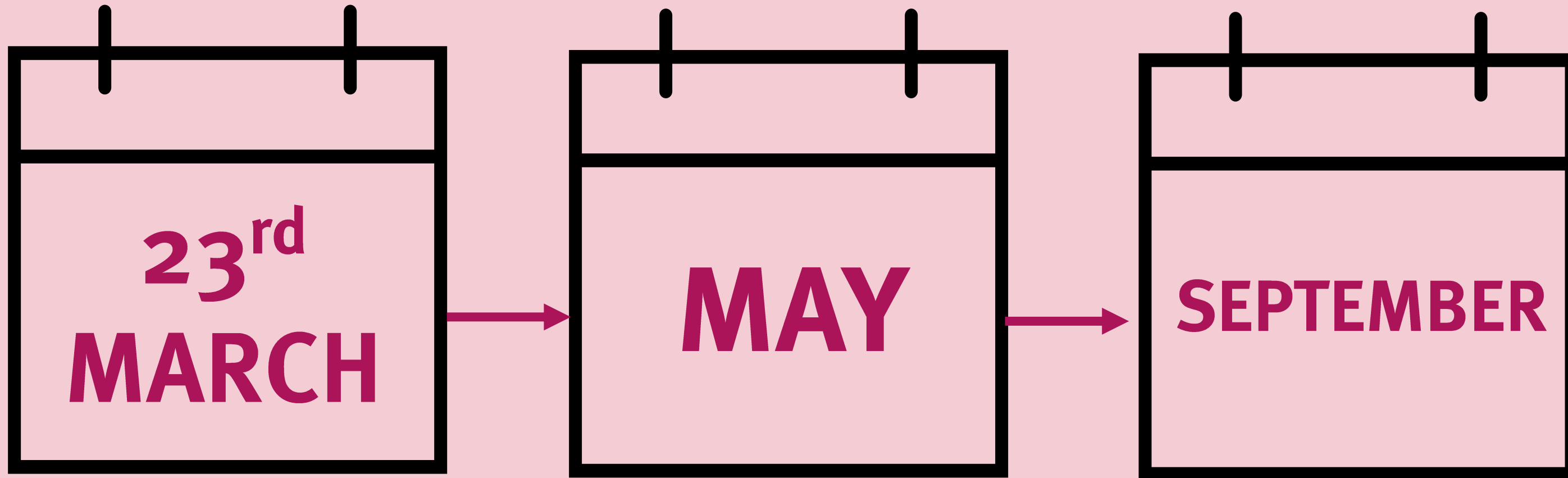


Parents/ Guardians

1. **National Insurance numbers for income verification (from the prior tax year)**
2. **Details of other child dependants**



Student Finance England: Application Timeline



**Applications
Open**

Deadline

**Enrol at
University**



Student Finance England: FAQs

Do I need a confirmed place at university to apply for student finance?

What if I change my first-choice university?

Do I need to reapply for student finance every year?

Hallam Bursaries and Scholarships

Extra sources of financial support are available in the form of university-specific scholarships and bursaries.

Unlike student loans, typically you don't have to pay these back.



**Student Success
Scholarships**

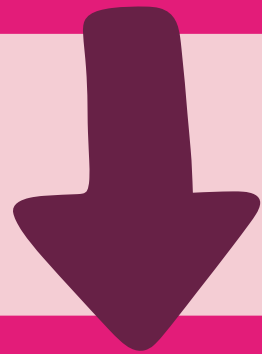
Care Leaver Package

Placement Bursary

**Performance Athlete
Support Programme**

NHS Learning Support Fund

NHS Learning Support Fund (LSF) is funding to support eligible healthcare students.



You can apply for a Training Grant of £5,000 per academic year, or a pro rata amount for part-time students.

Nursing & Midwifery

Nursing (Adult)

Nursing (Child)

Nursing (Mental Health)

Learning Disability Nursing & Social Work

Midwifery

Allied Health

Occupational Therapy

Physiotherapy

Diagnostic Radiography

Operating Department Practice

Paramedic Science

Radiotherapy and Oncology

Social Care

Social Work

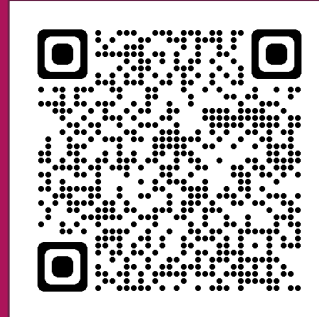
Reduced funding rate. Apply from second-year of study

SCAN ME

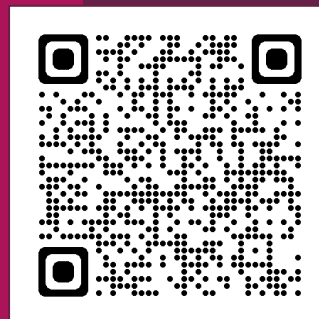


Government Grants Available

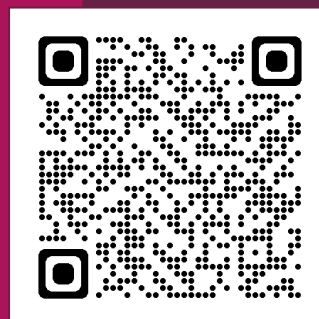
Parents
Learning
Allowance



Adult
Dependant
Grant



Childcare
Grant



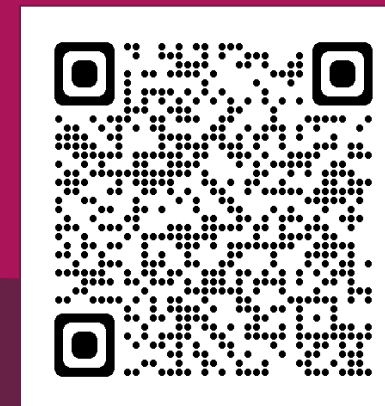
Disabled Students Allowance (DSA)

You can apply for DSA from Student Finance England before you start your course. This is applied to separately from your maintenance/tuition fee loan.

Disclosure

Disclosing a disability on your application does not impact the outcome. It is only asked so support can be recommended to you.

It can take up to three months to get your DSA support in place so you should apply for it as soon as you have applied for a course.



What are my HE choices?

Degree Apprenticeship

- 3 - 6 years (varies)
- 80% work based - 20% HE institution
- Employer covers cost of training
- Earn a wage (no student finance entitlement)
- Apply directly to the employer, not through UCAS



Degree Apprenticeships at Sheffield Hallam University



Chartered town planning

Learn how to create and shape the places of the future.



Construction and chartered surveying

Gain the skills to assess properties for defects, future issues or problems



Digital and technology solutions

Enhance your IT computing skills and learn how to provide digital solutions



Engineering

Become an engineer and learn how to operate machinery and provide technical support



Food and drink

Develop your technical skills and discover how to meet the food and drink industry standards



Health and social care

Help make a difference to others and start your career in health and social care



Leadership and management

Develop your leadership skills and learn management principles



Supply chain and packaging

Start a course in packaging supply chains and gain packaging technology

Degree Apprenticeships: Advantages & Disadvantages

- On-the-job training – learn practically**

- Earn while you learn – starting salaries on average £18,000**

- Upskill for free - no student loan, employer covers the cost**

- Kickstart your career – and retain your job after finishing your degree**

- Flexible way to learn, through a blend of practice and theory**

Degree Apprenticeships: Advantages & Disadvantages



Competitive – limited vacancies and anyone over 18 can apply.



Demanding – work must be balancing along study.



A-typical uni experience – limited access to traditional student life.



Financial implications – no student loan entitlement, consideration of living / commuting / housing costs needed.

Applying for degree apprenticeship vacancies



How do I apply?

Directly to the employer - CV, cover letter, interview.
Vacancies can go live at any time.



What are the entry criteria?

Varies by employer, but tracks in line with typical degree courses - (112-128 UCAS points).



When do apprenticeships start?

Depends on the company – no fixed start date.
DAs are typically 3 years in length – but can be longer.



Where to explore current vacancies



**Find an
Apprenticeship
(Government)**



**UCAS
Apprenticeship
Finder**



**Sheffield
Hallam
Website**

Join us at an Open Day!

**APPLICANT
OPEN DAYS**



**Sheffield
Hallam
University**

**SAT 28 FEBRUARY
SAT 21 MARCH
SUN 26 APRIL**

2017 SE APRIL

Hallam Progress – applicant support scheme

Hallam Progress provides support for applicants who might face barriers to going to university. We offer:

- **Advice and guidance** from our friendly team
- **Practical support** with key tasks, such as applying for a course, student finance and uni transition
- Monthly **newsletters**
- A personalised **contextual offer** (for eligible courses)
- Exclusive **events**
- Support with **travel costs** to uni open days and interviews

We support students who are:

- Care Leavers or care experienced
- Estranged from their parents
- Carers
- Disabled students
- Having disrupted Level 3 studies
- In financial difficulty/hardship
- Unable to move away from home
- Mature students
- Homeless/at risk of homelessness
- Refugees/Asylum seekers
- From a military family or a military veteran
- From a Black British background

**Hallam
Progress**

To join, ask a teacher/professional to fill in a short form at shu.ac.uk/progress by the end of February

Contact the team on hallam-progress@shu.ac.uk or 0114 225 4777



So how can you help your child?

- Check they have logged on and have a UCAS hub account.
- Discuss with them their thoughts and ideas for next year.
- If they want to apply for University encourage them to:
 - start to think about their personal statement.
- Book open days for Uni's and courses they are interested in.
- If they want apprenticeships – in what, with who, when do they advertise?
- Gap year – doing what and where.... Get a plan together.

What will we do next?

- University and apprenticeship fayre 17th April to Derby Uni
- Work experience week 27th April to 1st May
- Post 18 afternoon
- Continued support in forms and in PDC
- Booster post 18 evening for parent Autumn term 2026
- Apprenticeship advice evenings
- Mock interviews
- Application support



UNIVERSITY OF
DERBY

UK UNIVERSITY & APPRENTICESHIP
SEARCH FAIR

University of Derby 2026 Fair

Friday 17th April 2026 – *INSET DAY*

Event Time: 9:30 AM - 2:30 PM

Students can attend with or without a parent/carer

- **Seminars** including: UCAS Personal Statement & Application Advice, Why take an Apprenticeship, Choosing a University Course, Higher and Degree Apprenticeships and Student Finance.
- The event is ideal to inspire and motivate Year 12s and 11s who are starting to make decisions about their post-18 education and career choices.
- The event is completely **free** to attend, but you need to register to attend.
See letter/email for link.

Support links

- [A parent's guide to supporting your child's university transition | Undergraduate | UCAS](#)
- [Supporting autistic students transitioning from school or college to university | Undergraduate, Conservatoires | UCAS](#)
- [Free school meals fee waiver FAQs | Undergraduate, Conservatoires | UCAS](#)
- [Acing job interviews: Top tips for students | Undergraduate, Conservatoires, Apprenticeships | UCAS](#)
- [Top ten student money tips | Undergraduate, Conservatoires | UCAS](#)

Parents can have their own Unifrog account

- They sign up on: www.unifrog.org/parent with the email account that school has for them.
- Any problems you can contact the careers office in school

UCAS 2026

Writing a personal statement

How to start..ask them..

- What excites you about the course and why do you want to learn about it more?
- Start with what's inspiring you now, not what inspired you when you were six.
- Here are just some overused phrases to avoid using in your personal statement:
- From a young age...
- For as long as I can remember...
- I am applying for this course because...
- I have always been interested in...
- Throughout my life I have always enjoyed...
- **And try not to use quotes.** Quotations are top of the list of admissions tutors' pet hates.

Encourage your child to prepare

- You'll have heard the saying preparation is key, and that's important when building a personal statement.
- Before a student starts writing anything, encourage them to do some planning by noting down the answers to some simple questions.
- Why have you chosen this course?
- What excites you about the subject?
- Is your previous or current study relevant to the course?
- Have you got any work experience that might help you?
- What life experiences have you had that you could talk about?
- What achievements are you proud of?
- What skills do you have that make you perfect for the course?
- What plans and ambitions do you have for your future career?
- Now they have a great set of notes and something tangible to get them started.

Talking about the course

When students are talking about the course and subject, they'll need to cover four main areas:

- 1. Why are they applying for this course?** Ask them to think about their commitment to study and where they want the course to take them. Do they have career aspirations this course will help them achieve?
- 2. Why does the subject interest them?** This is their chance to show their passion and really demonstrate who they are. Ask about their hobbies or volunteering experiences related to the subject and encourage them to include anything relevant.
- 3. Why do they think they'll be great on the course?** Their personal and practical skills combined will create a unique picture of who they are and why they'll be a successful student on the course.
- 4. Do their current or previous studies relate to the course?** Ask them why they enjoy their current study and how the skills and knowledge they have now can be built on with the course.

Writing the personal statement based on the current builder tool

- They'll now need to write about their personal skills and achievements. Beware, this is where the waffle detector is often needed. They'll need to be mindful to keep this part relevant and useful, so it complements the rest of the statement.
- Here's some examples of advice you could give:
- They should be bold and talk about the achievements they're proud of.
- If they have a position of responsibility either in or out of school, suggest they include it.
- Ask them about the things that make them interesting, special, or unique.

Talking about work experience and the future

- Work experience and future plans are important in a personal statement. Suggest they share details of jobs, placements, work experience, or voluntary work, particularly if it's relevant to their course.
- How can they link any experience to skills or qualities that will make them successful on the course?
- If they know what they'd like to do as a career, ask them to explain how they'll use the knowledge and experience they'll gain from the course.

The ending

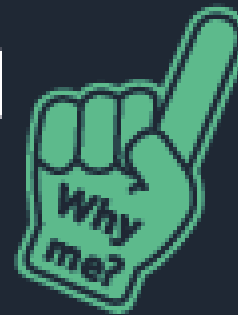
Admission
granted



ATTENTION

Students should close their statements by:

Answering “**why they should
be offered a place**”.



Connect to the beginning, reinforce
great points to make them memorable.

Apprenticeship applications guide

Five top tips to share with your students

1. Do your research

If you want to impress, you need to show you've done research into the role and the company but make it specific and relevant. It's important an applicant doesn't just memorise the date the company started or who the founder is. What employers want to know is how the company aligns to your interests, values and goals, and vice versa.

2. Make your application specific

Be sure to tailor your application to the role you are applying for. Act like a detective and pick out key words and competencies which are important to the employer, and then tailor your application accordingly. Pick out specific examples and skills you have which are relevant and avoid using generic statements like 'good team player' with no examples to back it up.

3. Remember it is competitive

Apprenticeships are not the easy alternative to university, they require equal amounts of effort and are highly competitive. Why should that employer pick you rather than someone else? Keep this in mind as you complete your application and fill it with examples of how you have completed similar activities or used the same skills they're asking for. It's not enough to say you've done those things, give examples and talk about the value you added.

4. Follow the instructions

It's always good to have a winning CV to hand in case an employer wants it but if they want you to fill out an application, write a personal statement, or send a video, follow those instructions. And if they say you can contact them in advance to discuss the role, it's always a good idea to do that. They'll remember you when you do apply, and you'll get a feel of what's really important to them in an application.

5. Tell a story

Whether it's writing a cover letter or crafting a personal statement, tell that employer the story of you. Talk about your journey so far, what relevant activities you like doing and why your experiences fit their apprentice position. The employer will be keen to find out what you can bring to the role.