

An introduction to:

UK Universities

Deadlines for applications:

5th October - “Oxbridge”

- Medicine
- Dentistry
- Veterinary Medicine
- Veterinary Science

(The above applications must be in the hands of UCAS by 15th October)

Deadlines for applications:

30th November - most other UK courses

(The above applications must be in the hands of UCAS by 15th January)

- **Please understand that, though you may be applying to the UK only, the School has to deal with at least three additional university systems (US, Netherlands and Germany) with their own deadlines. You must, therefore, meet the above deadlines.**

UK universities require:

- a high standard application (through UCAS), which will include:
 - (i) up to five courses at universities / colleges (most subjects)
 - (ii) up to four courses at universities / colleges (Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Medicine, Veterinary Science)
 - (iii) details of your Secondary Schools (including qualifications: IGCSE grades etc.)
 - (iv) IB Diploma subject details and English language qualifications (ESL students)
 - (v) details of paid employment
 - (vi) an essay written by you (“Personal Statement”, including relevant work experience, CAS & Service Learning projects, skills, personal qualities, extra reading around subject)
 - (vii) a reference written about you by one of your teachers
 - (viii) predicted grades (what we think you will attain in each subject, as well as a total points score)
 - (ix) an interview with you at the university(?)
 - (x) the attainment of certain IB points / grades you are “offered” by the university per subject, as well as a total points score
- UK applications take a long time to complete – by you and by the School. Therefore, you need to start the application process during the summer vacation of Grade11. If you are late, the School cannot guarantee meeting the deadline for you. Please note that the UK has the earliest deadlines.
- All applications for UK universities and colleges (except some private Art, Music and Drama colleges) have to be submitted to a central admissions organisation “UCAS” (Universities and Colleges Admissions Service).

- Therefore, you fill out one application form (UCAS form) and list your chosen five / four courses and universities / colleges on that form.
- You may only enter one UCAS application per academic year.
- Make contact with UCAS to start your research:

Website www.ucas.com

- All universities and courses offer entry requirements in IB points.
- It is very important to be realistic. If you are rejected from all your chosen UK universities/colleges, it is because you have not researched thoroughly enough and have applied for universities/colleges too far above your academic standard. It is safest to apply to a range of colleges – with different (but realistic!) grade requirements.
- Oxford and Cambridge (Oxbridge) have special requirements, rules and deadlines. Be clear on these by researching thoroughly.
- Hard to get into subjects (law, medicine etc.) and Oxbridge will almost certainly require interviews and/or tests. It is your responsibility to check this although the school can help you with this.
- The School has a lot of work to do for UK applications (e.g. references, predicted grades). You must allow us enough time to get this done, by being early with your applications and giving us enough notice of your requirements.
- The UCAS application form you will be completing is online (www.ucas.com)

By the beginning of September 2018, you need to have drafted your "Personal Statement" & typed up your "Information to be given to referees".

Useful websites

- www.ucas.com – The central university admissions system in the UK (also has a course search that allows you to see how many IB points you need for specific courses), also provides information for students and parents on a whole range of topics related to studying in the UK
- http://www.internationalstudent.com/study_uk/ - overview of student living costs in the UK
- <http://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk/> - official government site for apprenticeships and vocational training
- www.unistats.com – a university and course ranking website for the UK
- www.saas.gov.uk – information on student fees for Scotland (and how to get them covered by the Scottish government)
- <http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/EducationAdLearning/UniversityAndHigherEducation/StudentFinance/StudentsFromOtherEUCountries/index.htm> - information on student fees in England and Wales
- <http://www.ukcisa.org.uk/> - the government agency responsible for international students
- <https://www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk/> - everything you need to know about studying in the UK