

UCAS Applications

The Process at KES

Welcome and thank you for joining us!

There has never been a better time to apply to university!

- ✓ More places, with more courses
- ✓ Fewer students – lower birth rate
- ✓ A good degree is still the best investment
- ✓ Potentially higher graduate earnings

Our Approach

- All students prepare applications
- All students receive individual advice
- All students explore their options

The UCAS Form

- Personal details – name, address, disabilities
- Additional information – ethnic origin, summer schools
- Student finance – permission to pass details on
- Choices – details of up to five universities and courses
- Education – all qualifications taken
- Employment – student's part-time job
- Statement – up to 4,000 characters, 47 lines
- Tutors write a reference for each students of the same length

- **June/July** – Students are advised to attend open days, summer schools and taster days in order to research courses and universities. This can be done during school time, on Saturdays and over the summer holidays.
- **June** – Today, students began the process of preparing UCAS applications. They registered with UCAS and attended workshops on how to complete the UCAS form. They received guidance on choosing courses and writing their personal statements. By the end of term, most parts of the form will be complete. Students must keep their username and password safe and to hand!

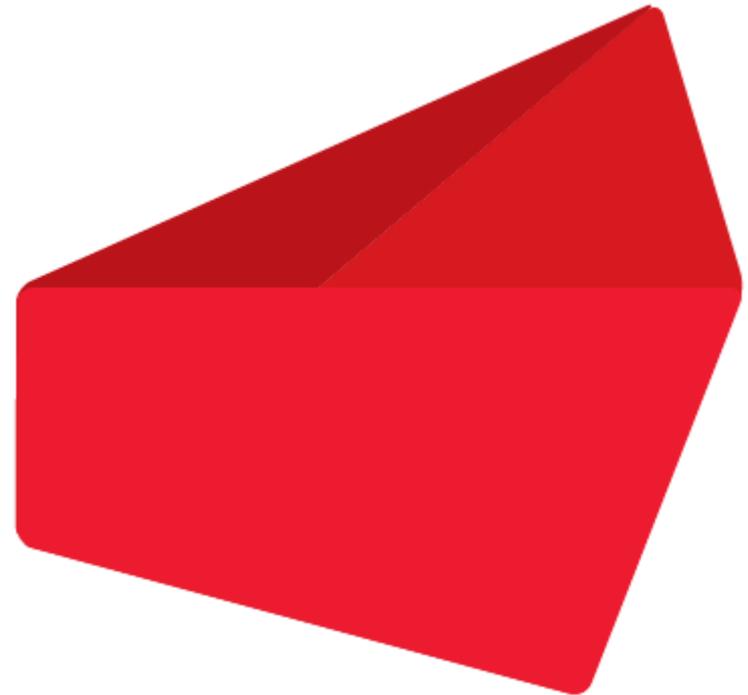
- **August/September** – All students will be expected to have completed the majority of their UCAS form, and attached a draft personal statement, guided by me.
- Students should speak to subject teachers and me about predicted final grades so that they can base their university choices on their expected grades.
- They finalise personal statements, choices of universities and courses. Once complete, they pay fee and ‘send’.
- Throughout the process Mrs Cooney, Heads of Year, Mrs Jones and their tutors will be available to advise students on all aspects of their application.
- I proofread and attach the reference and I send the form to UCAS, once the student has paid and sent to me. Forms can be sent from early September.

- **15 October** – Deadline for Oxford and Cambridge and courses in Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary Science
- **15 January** – UCAS deadline for applications for most courses (except some Art and Design courses). Applications that arrive late may not be considered.
- Student receives an acknowledgement email from UCAS and then waits for offers. May be invited for interview.
- Once all universities have replied, student decides on a firm choice and an insurance choice, by given date.

- **August 2019** – A Level results day.
Universities confirm offers.
Students need to be available on the day.

Key features of the UCAS scheme

- Your son or daughter can make up to five choices in one application.
- The 2018/9 applicant fee is:
 - £18 for one choice
 - £24 for up to five choices.
- Applications received by the key deadlines are given equal consideration.
- ‘Invisibility’ – universities cannot see where else students have applied.



Research – it's free and important to do

- **Start at www.ucas.com**
- **Research** – career options, universities, courses and minimum entry requirements.
- **Attend a UCAS event** – even if your son or daughter doesn't know what they want to do, speaking to those in the know will help.
- **Learn from others** – student videos are available to watch at UCAS.tv.

Find us on:



Other things to consider

- Work experience – professional bodies, charities or at events
- Finance – course fees, grants, travel and living costs
- Travel – to and from home
- Accommodation – uni halls or private residences?



Living away from home...

- <http://www.ucas.com/> the main UCAS site for course searches and information for parents and students.
- <http://www.ucas.com/students/> gives complete guidance on all aspects for students.
- <http://www.ucas.com/parents/> fully explains all aspects for parents.
- <http://www.ucas.tv/> excellent video guides for students and parents to help with all aspects of the UCAS process.

- http://www.ucas.com/students/choosingcourses/choosin_guni/map/ a virtual map to see where Universities are geographically
- <http://www.opendays.com/> an excellent site for details of open days, students can apply on site via email.
- <http://unistats.direct.gov.uk/> a good site to find out about courses and universities.
- <http://www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk/single.htm?ipg=6605> another good site for information on courses and universities

- <https://www.gov.uk/student-finance/overview> student finance website
- <http://www.guardian.co.uk/education/universityguide> comprehensive guide in The Guardian newspaper
- Mrs Cooney's email address:
lucycooney@kes.essex.sch.uk

Please fill in the feedback form and return to me. Thank you!

A word on apprenticeships.....

- Very competitive at degree level
- Different application process
- Gruelling interview process
- Fewer places available, candidates may be in competition with others who already work for the company
- Means juggling work and study.



Now..

Over to Paul Dunton!