

This evening's agenda

1. Post-18 Options:

- i) *Apprenticeships*
- ii) *University*

2. Year 12 MOCK exams

3. Term 6 events / dates

Q&A: Please ask questions through the Teams function

‘This time next year ...’



Apprenticeships – where can I get information, advice and guidance?

- UCAS convention
- Career Pilot
- [An introduction to apprenticeships : Unifrog Blog](#)
- Look out for opportunities as they arise from sixth form team (via e-mail)
- Alumni talks
- [Parent and guardian guide to apprenticeships | UCAS](#)



Exploring Apprenticeships

[Find an apprenticeship - GOV.UK](#)

[Careerpivot : Find a course or apprenticeship](#)



[Home](#) > [Education and learning](#) > [Apprenticeships, 14 to 19 education and training for work](#)

Find an apprenticeship

Use this service to search and apply for apprenticeships in England.

During an apprenticeship, you'll:

- work and get paid
- train and gain a qualification

Art and design
Childcare, education and training
Construction - on-site
Construction - property management
Construction - surveying
Energy
Engineering - design
Engineering - maintenance
Engineering - manufacturing
Engineering - transport

Select a job sector

Enter a postcode or town (optional) Distance (optional)

Enter a postcode or town Select a distance

Search vacancies

Exploring Apprenticeships through UCAS

Apprenticeships in South West

Apprenticeship

< [Search All](#) | 400 results | Page 1 of 20

Sort by: [Relevance](#) ▾

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[🗑️ Reset filters](#) [UCAS Media Service](#)



Not sure if you want to go?

Start looking / researching – you're not losing anything apart from your time at this point!

Why **shouldn't** I go?

'It's just the next step, isn't it?'

'I don't know what I want to do.'

'My parents / siblings went.'

'I'll need a degree for most jobs, won't I?'

Why **should** I go?

To further develop academic interests.

Opportunity to develop independence within a supportive environment

Social opportunities – meet new people and have new experiences.

Average post-degree salary

Some jobs do require a degree as *the most common entry point.*

Points to consider



Accommodation:
Self-catering, halls,
distance from site.

City or Countryside?

campus or non-
campus university?

Ranking and
reputation in your
chosen field

Study facilities – good labs,
new buildings, space to work



Points to consider (continued)

Social and Sporting facilities



Transport links – how will I get home?

Support services – learning support, wellbeing, medical, financial,

Your Wellbeing



Will I be able to get a job?

International universities



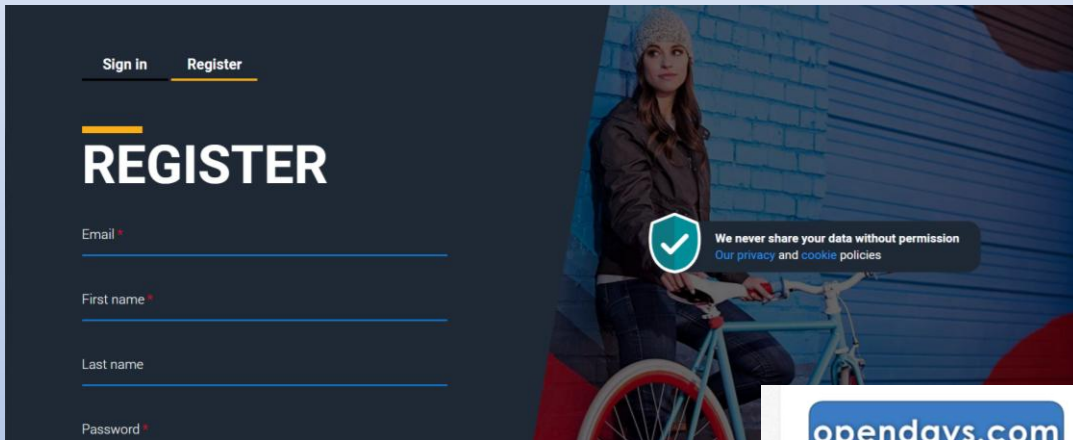
- 1 It's cheaper:** Higher education in the UK isn't necessarily the most cost-effective choice. A recent study conducted by HSBC found that Germany was the least expensive place to study at less than half the annual cost of a degree in the UK, with France coming a close second.
- 2 Stand out from the crowd:** There are thousands of graduates with similar qualifications seeking jobs every year. Studying abroad will help you stand out – it'll give you more life experience, cultural awareness, and perhaps a different perspective on life to your fellow graduates.
- 3 Study at a top ranking course provider:** According to the [QS World University Rankings](#), six of the top ten universities on the planet are abroad, with five of those being in America. Although four of the top ten are UK-based course providers, why not try something a little different and experience the same high level of tuition but in completely different surroundings?
- 4 Get international savvy:** In our global economy, an awareness of the wider world can go a long way. Just think of all those international businesses looking for clued-up employees, with an understanding of different cultures and how the world works.
- 5 Whet your appetite for adventure:** Want to see the world but can't justify an extended holiday? Combine the two and study abroad where you can explore as extensively as you like!

www.educations.com/international-studies

3 things students should be doing from now until the end of Year 12 ...

1. UCAS HUB – applications can now be started

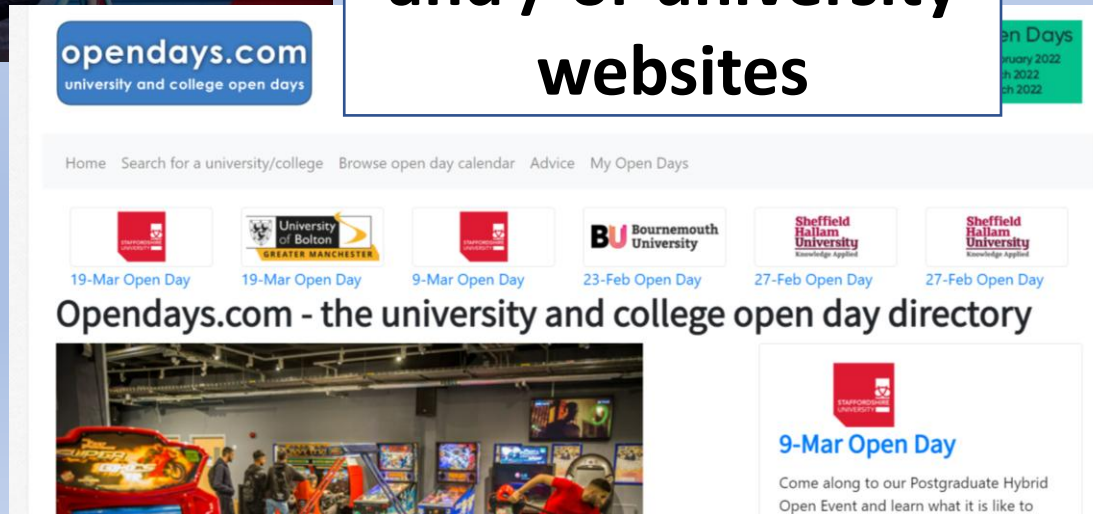
- When students are searching courses, it's worth considering Historical entry requirements for each course / university.



The image shows a screenshot of the UCAS Hub 'REGISTER' page. At the top, there are links for 'Sign in' and 'Register'. The 'REGISTER' heading is prominent. Below it are input fields for 'Email', 'First name', 'Last name', and 'Password'. A green checkmark icon is next to a privacy notice: 'We never share your data without permission. Our privacy and cookie policies'. The background features a woman on a bicycle.

2. Opendays.com and / or university websites

3. Honest conversations with teachers and had further advice and guidance meetings with tutor / Mr Heffernan



The image shows a screenshot of the Opendays.com website. The header includes the logo 'opendays.com university and college open days' and navigation links: 'Home', 'Search for a university/college', 'Browse open day calendar', 'Advice', and 'My Open Days'. Below the header, there are several university logos with their respective open day dates: '19-Mar Open Day' for University of Bolton, '9-Mar Open Day' for University of Derby, '23-Feb Open Day' for Bournemouth University, and '27-Feb Open Day' for Sheffield Hallam University. The main heading reads 'Opendays.com - the university and college open day directory'. Below this, there is a large image of an open day event and a specific event listing for '9-Mar Open Day' at Bournemouth University, described as a 'Postgraduate Hybrid Open Event'.

3 things to have done by September ...

- ▶ Personal details
 - ▶ Contact & residency
 - ▶ Nationality
 - ▶ Supporting information
 - ▶ English language skills
 - ▶ Finance & funding
 - ▶ Diversity & inclusion
 - ▶ More about you
 - ▶ Education
 - ▶ Employment
 - ▶ Extra activities
- ▶ Personal statement
 - ▶ Choices
 - ▶ Reference & predicted grades
 - ▶ Application history

UCAS BUZZ WORD:

Hardenhuish2027

- 1. Complete sections of application form in the green box**
- 2. Visited university open days**
- 3. Shortlist of 5-10 universities/courses.**

The (new) UCAS personal statement

Two years ago, students needed to write a personal statement as one complete text, with a maximum character count of 4000 (including spaces). This character limit is still the same but the statement is now divided into 3 different questions ...

The new personal statement questions

Question 1: Why do you want to study this course or subject?

Question 2: How have your qualifications and studies helped you to prepare for this course or subject?

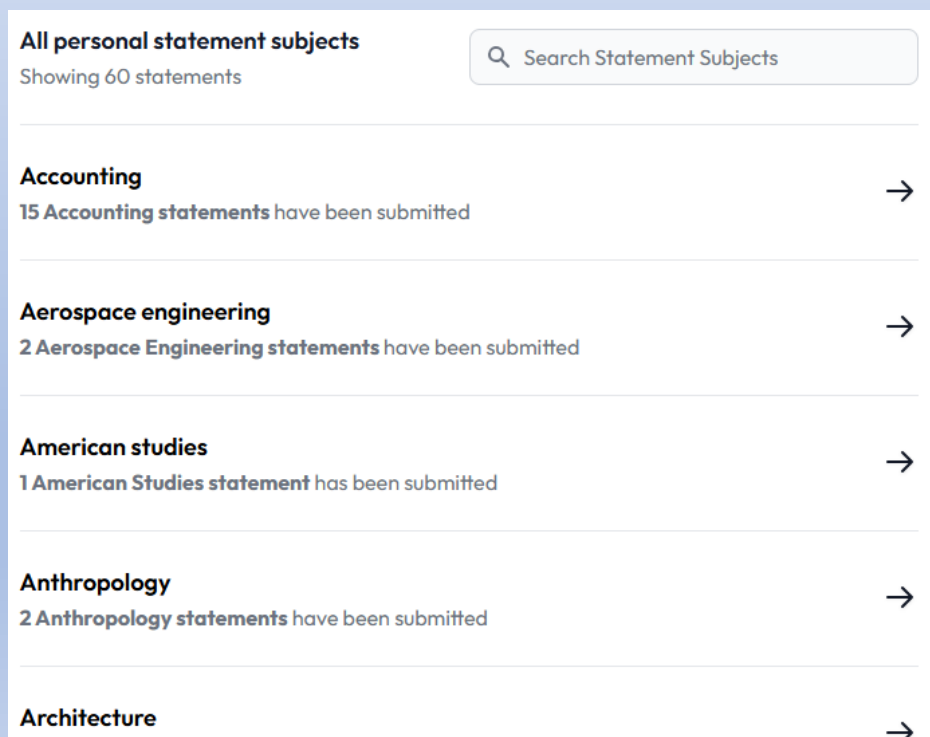
Question 3: What else have you done to prepare outside of education, and why are these experiences useful?

The UCAS website and UCAS Hub is the place to go to for all the advice and resources you need - [How to write your personal statement: 2026 entry onwards | UCAS](#)

How to write your personal statement: 2026 entry onwards

Applying for university or college to start your studies from 2026 onwards? Find out more about the personal statement format and tips on what to include.

This website has lots of good examples of Personal Statements for you to take inspiration from - [500+ Personal Statement Examples | by Subject | Uni Compare](#)



The screenshot displays a section titled "All personal statement subjects" with a search bar labeled "Search Statement Subjects". Below the title, it indicates "Showing 60 statements". The list includes the following subjects and their respective statement counts:

Subject	Number of Statements
Accounting	15 Accounting statements have been submitted
Aerospace engineering	2 Aerospace Engineering statements have been submitted
American studies	1 American Studies statement has been submitted
Anthropology	2 Anthropology statements have been submitted
Architecture	

Cost

£34.50 for up to 5 choices

There is no charge for young people if they have been in receipt of free school meals at any point over the last 6 years – just make sure you tick the box and then we verify this as a school.

Deadline for applications to Oxford/Cambridge and Medicine, Veterinary or Dentistry courses

Monday 28th September, 2026

- Drafts of personal statements need to be with tutors / me before the Summer holidays.
- Admission tests will then take place in the Autumn term with interviews in January.

Deadline for all other students

Friday 6th November, 2026

This is 9 school weeks into the new term.

The sooner the application is finished the better!

How will my child be supported at school?

Assemblies and the
Aspire Tutor programme

1:1 Tutor Mentoring / Advice
& Guidance with the sixth
form team

Personal Statement
guidance

Ex-student talks

Visit to Cardiff University –
Thursday 18th June



Oxford / Cambridge / Medicine / Veterinary Medicine / Dentistry

Specific support group established

Specialist talks
and workshops

University of
Oxford trip



Ex-student talks

MOCK interviews

UCAS reference

James has been a pupil at Hardenhuish since 2020 and next summer will sit A Level examinations in Biology, Physics and Maths. Having already achieved 10 GCSEs at Grade 7 or above, he has thrived with the depth of A Level study. We are confident that he will continue to progress in his remaining time and be ready to take on the challenges of an undergraduate degree.

In the last year in particular, James has impressed us, both with his focus and commitment to academic studies. He has independently organised his own work experience in a range of healthcare settings, each one instilling in him the values of a Doctor and broadening his knowledge of the field. A mature and reliable student, he has managed to excel every year he has been at the school, achieving a host of accolades for his academic successes such as receiving both the Biology and Maths prize at the end of Year 12. He is reputed as the most intelligent and diligent of individuals by both his teachers and his peers. James' desire to become a Doctor started in Year 3 and it shows. Every aspect of his life seems to be angled towards this career. As the president of Biology Society, leader of Dissection Club and a primary voice in Medical Ethics Society, he has immersed himself well in preparation for a career in Medicine. He regularly performs at the top of his academically strong cohort, in all of his classes, consistently achieving above 90% in topic tests.

It has been a pleasure to teach such a conscientious and inquisitive young person and we have no doubt that he will be an asset to any university.

**What would you like yours to say?
Write it and then make it happen!**

UCAS Predicted Grades



‘The most likely grade you will achieve in positive circumstances’

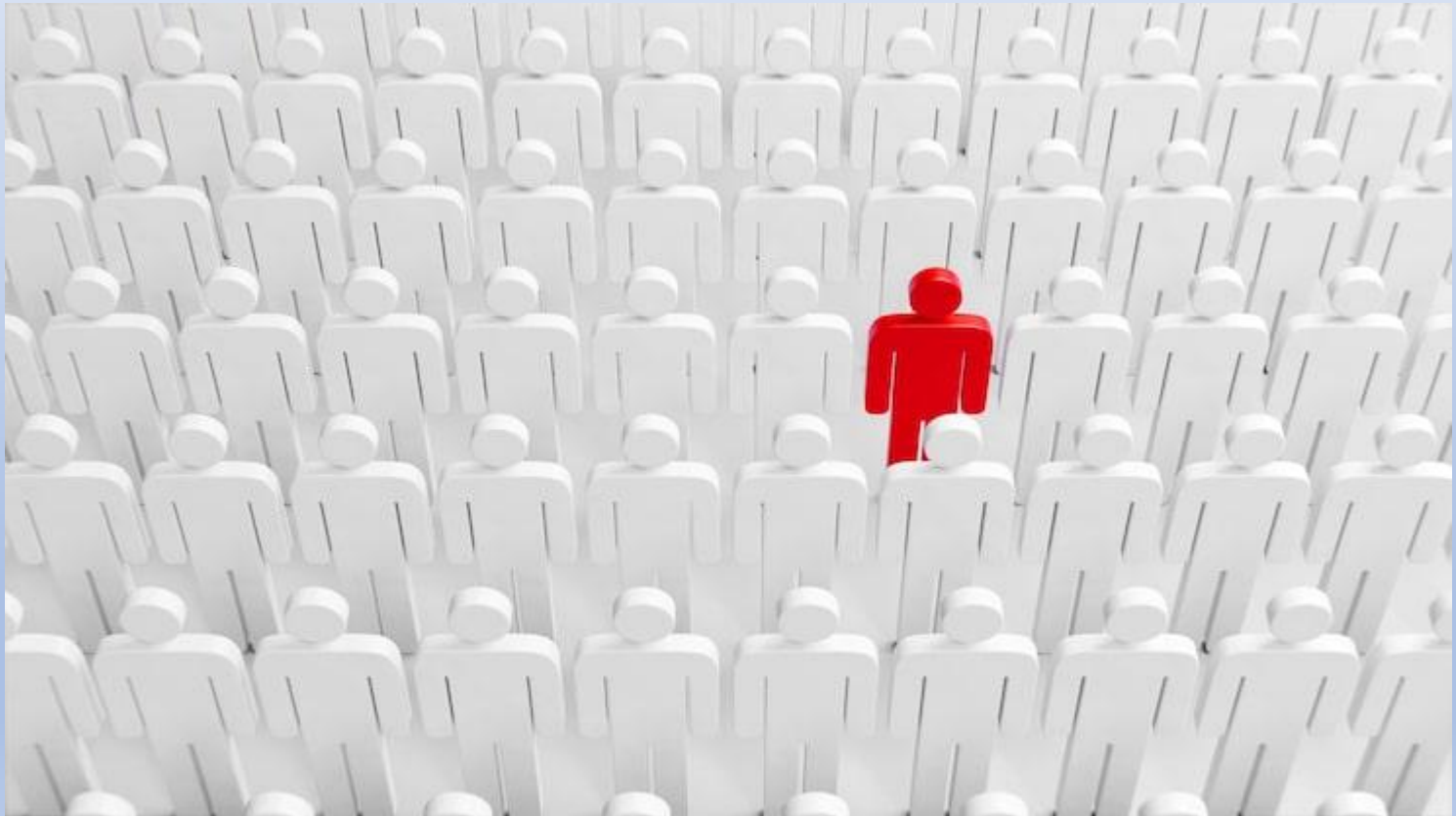
UCAS predicted grades should be:

- **in the best interests of applicants** – fulfilment and success at university is the end goal
- **aspirational but achievable**
- **determined by professional judgement**
- **data-driven**

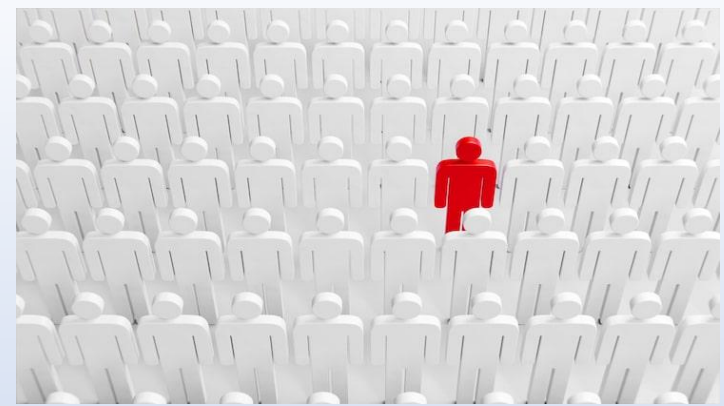
UCAS predicted grades should not be:

- **affected by student, parental, guardian, or carer pressure**
- **influenced by university or college entry requirements or behaviours** – predicted grades should be set in isolation of an applicant’s university or college choice(s)
- **affected by student behaviour or background**
- **more than one grade higher than a student’s current attainment**

Whatever your next steps ...



How do I stand out?



Work Experience

Enrichment

Student Leadership Team

Additional volunteering

MDSA /
club leadership and support

Duke of Edinburgh

MOOCs

Summer schools

‘This time next year ...’



Year 12 MOCK exams

Monday 8th – Wednesday 17th June

- Exams will take place in all subjects (unless subject teachers have said otherwise).
- Most subjects have 2 x exams.
- Exam timetables have been published to students.
- Students should now be revising.
- No lessons will take place at Hardenhuish during this time and therefore all Year 12 are on study leave (note: Sheldon lessons will continue)
- These mock exams will be a key data point for teachers when deciding on UCAS Predicted grades.

Work Experience

- Students have had multiple reminders and support re: Work Experience and the majority have now secured a placement.
- Anyone who has not arranged work experience will be required in school during the week to complete online work experience and independent study for their subjects.



Key dates

Date	Event
Wednesday 20 th May	Year 12 PIAG
Friday 21 st May	Last day of Term 5
Monday 8 th – Wednesday 17 th June	Year 12 MOCK exams
Thursday 18 th June	Successful Lives Day trip to Cardiff University
Thursday 25 th June	Year 12 MOCK interview day
Friday 26 th June	Sports Day
Wednesday 1 st July	Celebrating Success
Week beginning 6 th July	MOCK results published
Thursday 9 th July	Last day in school for Year 12 lessons
Monday 13 th – Friday 17 th July	Work Experience
Thursday 13 th August	AS and Core subject Results Day

School resumes for Year 13 on Thursday 3rd September