

1.

# Parent / Carer Information Evening

Schools and Colleges Liaison Team



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# Parent / Carer Information Evening

- An introduction to HE
- The UCAS application
- Student Finance
- Q&A



3.

# Introduction to HE



## Graduate earnings

- Statistics show graduates earn on average £10,000 more per year (Gov.co.uk, 2019)
- More graduate-level jobs in the UK than ever before. Over half of all graduate jobs in the UK are open to applicants from every discipline (highflyers.co.uk 2019)

## Skills and Experience

- Independence/meeting new people
- Opportunities at University – volunteering, societies, travel abroad, student rep, Uni radio/newspaper, SU roles, Social Enterprise
- Transferable skills sought after by employers – communication, team work, time management, presenting, project management, budgeting

4.

# Choosing a course

- Over 35,000 courses to choose from across the UK
- BA/BSc / Single Honours / Joint Honours / Sandwich courses / Placements
- Consider Career Goals
- Skills and Interests
- Consider entry requirements (subject, UCAS Tariff / grades, DBS, vaccinations)
- Research

Qualification and Grade	Tariff
A Level grade A*	56
A Level grade A	48
A Level grade B	40
A Level grade C	32
A Level grade D	24
A Level grade E	16

BTEC Extended Diploma Grade	Tariff
D*D*D*	168
D*D*D	160
D*DD	152
DDD	144
DDM	128
DMM	112
MMM	96
MMP	80
MPP	64
PPP	48

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# Choosing a university

- Course
- Location
- Facilities
- Open Days / Virtual Events
- Local environment (employment during and after the course)
- Accommodation (location, budget, halls, private house, parents' home)



6.

# Open days

- Attend a campus tour
- Meet academics and current students
- Subject talks
  - Modules & Assessments
  - Timetabling
  - Placement opportunities
- Finance talks
- Application guidance
- Parent/carer sessions
- Explore the local area



## 7. Steps to applying

- Read UCAS guidance notes/watch the videos online
- Register in the UCAS Hub
  - Nominated access for parents/carers
- School / college buzzword
- Personal Details
  - Ensure name matches exam certificates
  - Is the email address appropriate?
  - Avoid using school/college email address
- Student Finance
- Choices (Max. 5)
  - Will appear in alphabetical order
  - Choices not visible to other universities
- The form does not need to be completed in one go
- Payment (£27.50)



8.

# Application Form

## Education

- Provide a list of all schools since age 11
- Exam results

## Employment

- Include all paid work

## Personal Statement

- An opportunity to convince the university to offer you a place

## Reference

- To be completed by school/college tutor

The image shows a digital application form interface titled "Profile". It features a grid of sections for completion:

- Personal details**: Includes fields for name, age, date of birth, and gender. Status: "Section in progress".
- Contact & residency details**: Includes address, email, telephone, and other contact info. Status: "Section complete".
- Nationality details**: Includes citizenship and passport info. Status: "Start this section".
- Supporting information**: Includes details on how parents or guardians support the student. Status: "Start this section".
- English language skills**: Includes a link to "Check your English level". Status: "Start this section".
- Finance & funding**: Includes a link to "Tell us how you'll fund your study". Status: "Start this section".
- Diversity & inclusion**: Includes a link to "Tell us about any disabilities that you have" and "Add to your application a document". Status: "Start this section".
- More about you**: Includes a link to "Tell us about any circumstances that you might need support for during your studies". Status: "Start this section".

Below the "Profile" section is an "Experience" section with three sub-sections:

- Education**: Includes a link to "Tell us about your previous education". Status: "Start this section".
- Employment**: Includes a link to "Tell us about your work experience". Status: "Start this section".
- Extra activities**: Includes a link to "Tell us about any activities or hobbies that you are involved in". Status: "Start this section".



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# Personal Statement

- Length = 4000 characters (approx. 600 words)
- 5 choices = Only 1 personal statement



Provides an opportunity to:

- Show commitment/passion for the chosen subject
- Stand out from other applicants
- Highlight work experience/interests and suitability for the course
- Discuss career aspirations
- Show capability for higher level study and ability to write effectively

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# Key Dates

<u>Date</u>		<u>Details</u>
June	-	Register and begin application
	-	Research course and university choices
September	-	First applications can be submitted
16 October	-	Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary and Oxford or Cambridge University application deadlines
September -December	-	Be aware of school / college internal deadlines
31 January	-	Deadline for majority of other courses
Jan – March	-	Offers: Unsuccessful / Conditional / Unconditional
February - July	-	UCAS Extra
End of March	-	Most students will have received offers by this point
July - September	-	Clearing opportunities

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# Student Finance England

- Loans are provided by Student Finance England (SFE) on behalf of UK government
- Tuition Fee Loans and Maintenance Loans available for Home/Settled EU students\*
- Extra financial help available depending on circumstances
- Taking out a student loan does not affect their credit rating or yours!

\*EU nationals must have 'settled' or 'pre-settled' status under the EU settlement scheme to get Student Finance for courses starting on or after 1 August 2021.

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# Tuition Fees

The University of Northampton's tuition fees for 'Home' and EU students in **2023/24** are:

- £9,250 full-time undergraduate BA/BSc course
- £9,250 full-time undergraduate HND/Foundation Degree course
- £9,250 Foundation Framework (as part of a 4 year programme)

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# Tuition Fees Explained

- Students do not have to pay fees up front and the loan is not based on household income.
- This is paid directly to the University.
- Tuition fees are payable for each year of the course and are subject to change in future academic years due to annual inflationary rise.



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# Maintenance Loan

- Available to help towards living and course costs
- Partially means tested on household income
- Paid into the student's bank account in three instalments over the academic year
- Students will need to re-apply for their funding for each year of their course

\* 2023/24 figures, subject to parliamentary approval.

Full-time Student	Maintenance Loan
Living at home	Up to £8,400* Min £3,698
Living away from home, outside London	Up to £9,978* Min £4,651
Living away from home, studying in London	Up to £13,022* Min £6,485

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# Repayments

- Repayment is 9% on any earnings above the £25,000 threshold
- If earnings fall below £25,000 a year, repayments are suspended.
- Any outstanding balance is cleared after 40 years.
- Interest Rates: RPI

Income each year before tax	Monthly repayment (Approx)
£25,000	£0
£28,000	£22

# Additional Allowances

Students with children, adult dependants, childcare and/or disabilities may be entitled to apply for additional non-repayable allowances from Student Finance England:

- Parents' Learning Allowance (up to £1,915)
- Childcare Grant (up to £323.85 per week)
- Adult Dependants Grant (up to £3,354)
- Disabled Students' Allowance (up to £26,291)

[www.gov.uk/student-finance/extra-help](http://www.gov.uk/student-finance/extra-help)





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# NHS Funding

Additional support will be made available through the NHS Learning Support Fund:

- A guaranteed £5000 per year to help with living costs
- Additional funding of up to £3000 available for eligible students
- Funds will not need to be repaid



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# Bursaries and Scholarships

- A bursary is a non-repayable grant from the university you choose to study at, usually based on financial need
- Scholarships are similar, but usually based on ability/achievement
- Do your research – offers will vary widely between universities but there is likely to be generous funding available
- Share your details with the university!

- ✓ International Students
- ✓ Care Leavers
- ✓ Young Adult Carers
- ✓ Low Incomes

# Budgeting

Budgeting for your living costs at university....

- Maintenance loan
- Bursaries
- Part-time work
- Student Ambassador/Campus jobs
- Parental contributions
- Student Bank account\*

Provider	Interest-free overdraft	Example Incentives
HSBC	Up to £3000	£100 cash
Nationwide	Up to £3000	£100 cash
NatWest	Up to £2000	£80 cash
Royal bank of Scotland		
Barclays	Up to £1500	12 month Perlego subscription
Santander	Up to £2000	4 year 16-25 Railcard

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# Household Income



SFE will need details of a student's parents' or other sponsor's household (taxable) income and National Insurance numbers.

## **Taxable earned income includes:**

- wages, salaries, tips, and other taxable employee pay
- long-term disability benefits received prior to minimum retirement age
- net earnings from self-employment

## **Taxable unearned income includes:**

- interest from savings (only the annual summary is required)
- benefits and pensions
- rent from property or a room

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# Household Income

- Applications online
  - You will be emailed a link within 24 hours of the student submitting their application
- Income information taken from previous tax year (2021/22)
  - 'Current Year Income Assessment' available if income has changed by 15% or more
- No need to provide income information for non-means tested route
  - Only advised for household incomes of over £60,000
- For separated/divorced parents, household income is assessed on the parent that the student is financially dependent on
- Provide details of any other child dependents

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**Apply as  
soon as  
possible**

## **How to apply**

- Applications made online at: [www.gov.uk/student-finance](http://www.gov.uk/student-finance)
- Applications open March 2023 for courses starting Sept 2023.
- Assessments can take approx. 6 - 8 weeks.
- Before starting an application, have the following to hand:
  - Valid Passport or Birth Certificate
  - University and course details (You do not need a confirmed place)
  - Bank account details and National Insurance number
- Apply by 31 May to ensure funding is paid on time.



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# Parent / Carer Support

- Attend Open Days / Virtual Events
- Avoid putting pressure on the student to pursue a certain degree/career path
- Talk about all options so that your child can make informed decisions
- Encourage the student to think of their achievements, perhaps you remember some that they have forgotten?
- Proofread their application
- Motivate and guide them on how to improve their application
- Send your household income information promptly to SFE

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# Find out more

Course enquiries:

[study@Northampton.ac.uk](mailto:study@Northampton.ac.uk)

Accommodation

[accommodation@Northampton.ac.uk](mailto:accommodation@Northampton.ac.uk)

Admissions:

[admissions@Northampton.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@Northampton.ac.uk)

Financial Guidance

[money@Northampton.ac.uk](mailto:money@Northampton.ac.uk)

Additional Student Support:

[ASSIST@Northampton.ac.uk](mailto:ASSIST@Northampton.ac.uk)

Social Media

[@uon\\_uninorthants](https://www.instagram.com/uon_uninorthants)





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# Any Questions?

