

Higher Education Planner

September – December



Activity

Do your research:

- What subject?
- Where?
- Book Open Days
- Attend Open Days – ask about support for care leavers
- Talk to carers, social worker and VS
- Get your school/college 'buzzword'
- Register on UCAS
- If not at school apply as an individual
- Remember to tick the Care Leaver/in Care box
- Check for the Buttle UK Quality Mark
- If you have a disability or learning difficulty tick the disability box
- Draft your Personal Statement then redraft then ask someone you trust to read it
- Check you have a reference from your Tutor or ask an employer or responsible person who knows you well

15th October : dentistry, medicine, veterinary science and all University of Oxford and Cambridge University courses



15th January: all other courses except most art and design courses

15th January and 24th March: Art and Design

30th June : absolutely final deadline

UCAS deadlines:

- UCAS will accept applications from early September.
- For the majority of courses your application will receive equal consideration by Admissions Tutors if it is received by the correct date.
- UCAS will send your application to universities but they don't have to look at them. Anything received after this date will go through clearing.

January – April



- UCAS will confirm your application
- Keep your personal ID number safe
- Track the progress of your applications
- You may be called for interviews – Prepare!
- Any offers will be conditional or unconditional
- Accept your first choice 'firm' offer
- Choose an 'insurance' offer
- Talk to your carer, social worker, friends and mentor
- Research accommodation
- Start Student Loan application
- Focus on getting the results you need

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April – July



Activity

- Submit your student loan application by end of April
- Only choose accommodation you know you can afford and if you are disabled check disability access
- If you're staying in Halls you need to book this quickly via the university website
- If you ticked the 'in care' box you will be assessed as an independent student
- If you have a disability or medical condition you need to discuss support and complete an access form for funding to help with practical support
- You will be eligible for all the funding available through Student Finance England [SFE]
- You do not have to pay tuition fees 'upfront'
- Maintenance and tuition fee loans have to be repaid
- Maintenance grants do not have to be repaid
- Bursaries do not have to be repaid
- Study! Revise! Prepare for exams

August – October

GOOD LUCK! Stay positive and please stay in touch with VS to let us know your success stories



- If you don't get the grades you need, don't panic!
- Go through the 'clearing process' on UCAS but only look at vacant courses that really interest you, at Universities you like
- If you get the grades you'll get a letter of congratulations from your first choice University – don't forget to accept your place!
- Try to get a part time job for the summer – you'll need the extra money
- Start to plan your budget – you'll know by now how much funding you're going to get for the year and when you're going to get it