

Y13 Parent Information Evening 2020

The final few weeks

Responding to university offers



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Purpose

1. **Supporting students** in the final few weeks before A-Level;
2. Explaining the process for **responding to offers from universities**, and the options open to students when they get their results.



The final few weeks



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The timeline

- Students will sit **mock exams** between **Thursday 12** and **Friday 20 March**.
- Year 13 students will have their final day in school on **Friday 15 May**.
- That makes **42 school days** to make a difference.



How to approach the time left

- What are the **strengths and weaknesses** revealed by the mock exams?
- **How will these weaknesses be addressed?**
- What **support** is needed from subject staff and the Sixth form team?
- What is your action plan? **Be strategic** – plan what needed to be done, and when it will be done.



Effective revision

- This is different for different students, and different subjects.
- However, there are common principles:
 - **Secure understanding of subject knowledge** is important, but constant rewriting of notes/making flash cards is not enough.
 - **Applying the knowledge to exam questions** is essential – without assessing knowledge it is easy to convince yourself that you know the information.
 - **Avoid distractions:** be honest, when you sit down to work for 2 hours, how much time are you actually working for?



How much is enough?

- **Use all study time in school for work** – this will be 9 hours per week for most (3 hours per subject).
- The **ILA** (main school) and **study room in the Jo Cox Centre** are silent study areas.
- Now plan for **20 hours work at home** – a couple of hours after school and then the rest at the weekend.
- Build this around some time to **relax**



Keys to success

- Put in the **time**
- Be **organised** – know what you want to get out of each session, and make sure you complete it
- **Attend revision/study sessions** offered by teachers
- Organise **group revision** – with people who will take it seriously.
- Purposeful Practise – **exam questions to develop technique.**



Support

- Subject teachers
- Form tutors
- Sixth Form Leadership

- And of course, **parents**.



Supporting Students

- Ensure **full attendance** to lessons and ISPs.
- Ask students what they are working on – **allow them to talk through what they are revising** as this helps to secure knowledge
- **Monitor time** spent working at home – and distractions such as phones
- Ensure an appropriate bedtime – **enough sleep** is a vital component of successful revision
- **Contact school** if you are concerned about anything
- **Be positive** – believe in them!



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Types of offer



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Unconditional offers

- **The place is the student's** if they want it!
- Even though **they've already met the academic requirements**, they might also need to get a DBS check, provide proof of qualifications or meet some financial/medical requirements.

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Unconditional offers

- If a student accepts an unconditional offer, **their A-level results** won't affect whether or not they get accepted to the course, but they **will still have an impact on future life chances**.
- For example, **graduate employers normally take A level and other qualifications into account** when reviewing job applications, so it's important students take this into consideration when preparing for their exams.
- More generally, **choosing to study a course or attend a university simply because the offer is unconditional is not sensible**.



Conditional offers

- **Most offers** received are conditional.
- These **set out conditions that need to be met**, almost always A-level grades or Ucas Tariff points.
- For all applicants in 2019-20, **you will need to meet these conditions by August 2020** unless otherwise stated (including applications for deferred entry in 2021).

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Common types of conditional offers

- **A levels** – e.g. ‘AAB with A in chemistry and at least two other sciences or mathematics.’
- **Ucas Tariff points** - e.g. ‘120 Ucas Tariff points’
- **Weighted Tariff points** - e.g. 104 points with at least 80 coming from two A-level subjects, excluding general studies.
- **Alternative offer** – e.g. AAA, or AAB with a B in EPQ; e.g. AAB, or BBB with completion of Access to Leeds modules.
- **‘Nudge’ offer** – e.g. AAB or CCC if the offer is made a firm choice.



Tariff points

Grade	Points if achieved at A-level	Points if achieved at AS-level (only including subjects not continued to A-level)	Points if achieved in the EPQ
A*	56	-	28
A	48	20	24
B	40	16	20
C	32	12	16
D	24	10	12
E	16	6	8
U	0	0	0



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Responding to offers



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Responding to offers

- **Firm Choice** - students will progress to this course, pending meeting any conditions.
- **Insurance Choice** - students will enter this course, pending meeting any conditions, if they do not meet the terms of your Firm Choice
- **Decline** – students decline the offer.
- **Withdraw** – students decide not to go through with their application before receiving a response.



Typical student response combinations

Unconditional firm (UF)	You're in!
Conditional firm (CF)	You're in if you meet the conditions.
Conditional firm (CF) and conditional insurance (CI)	You've made a first and second choice – you'll be in at the first if you meet the conditions. If not, you might have met the conditions of the second – if so you'll be on that course instead.
Conditional firm (CF) and unconditional insurance (UI)	You've made a first and second choice – if you meet the conditions of the first you'll be on that course. If not, you'll definitely be on the second.

Some students- be careful!

Very few students – be careful!

Most students

Few students

Making choices

- Students should **make their firm choice the course and institution that they most prefer.**
- Their **insurance**, however, needs to be **more tactical.**
- In a nutshell, the entry requirements need to be **lower than their firm choice, ideally by about 2 grades** while still **being an offer they'd like to take up.**

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An example

Predicted/achieved grades:
AAA, with a B in the EPQ.

Latest projected grades: A(Ph)
BB

Further information:

She really wants to go to
Leicester, but isn't sure of an
insurance choice.

(L14) Lancaster University	(GN1J) Financial Mathematics (Industry)	Conditional offer	This offer is subject to you obtaining GCE A level Grades AAA including Mathematics Alternative conditions Grades AAB including Grades AB in Maths and Further Maths
(L34) University of Leicester	(GN1H) Mathematics and Actuarial Science	Conditional offer	This offer is subject to you obtaining Grades AAB at A-Level in 3 subjects, including an A in Maths or grades ABB at A level with grade A in Maths plus grade B in EPQ.
(L41) The University of Liverpool	(NG31) Actuarial Mathematics	Conditional offer	This offer is subject to you obtaining GCE A level Grades AAB including GCE A level Grade A - Mathematics Alternative conditions GCE A level Grades ABB including GCE A level Grade A - Mathematics and Extended Project Grade A
(N21) Newcastle University	(G1N3) Mathematics with Finance	Conditional offer	This offer is subject to you obtaining GCE A level Grades AAB including Grade A - Mathematics excluding General Studies Alternative conditions GCE A level A*BB including at least A in Mathematics excluding General Studies Accommodation information to follow from institution See also www.ncl.ac.uk/accommodation The institution regards you as home for fees purposes
(N77) Northumbria University	(G100) Mathematics	Conditional offer	This offer is subject to you obtaining A minimum of 120 UCAS Tariff points including at least 2 GCE or VCE A levels, one of which must be Mathematics. Remaining points can be made up from any level 3 qualification in the UCAS Tariff. We wish you every success in your examinations.

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How and when to respond to offers

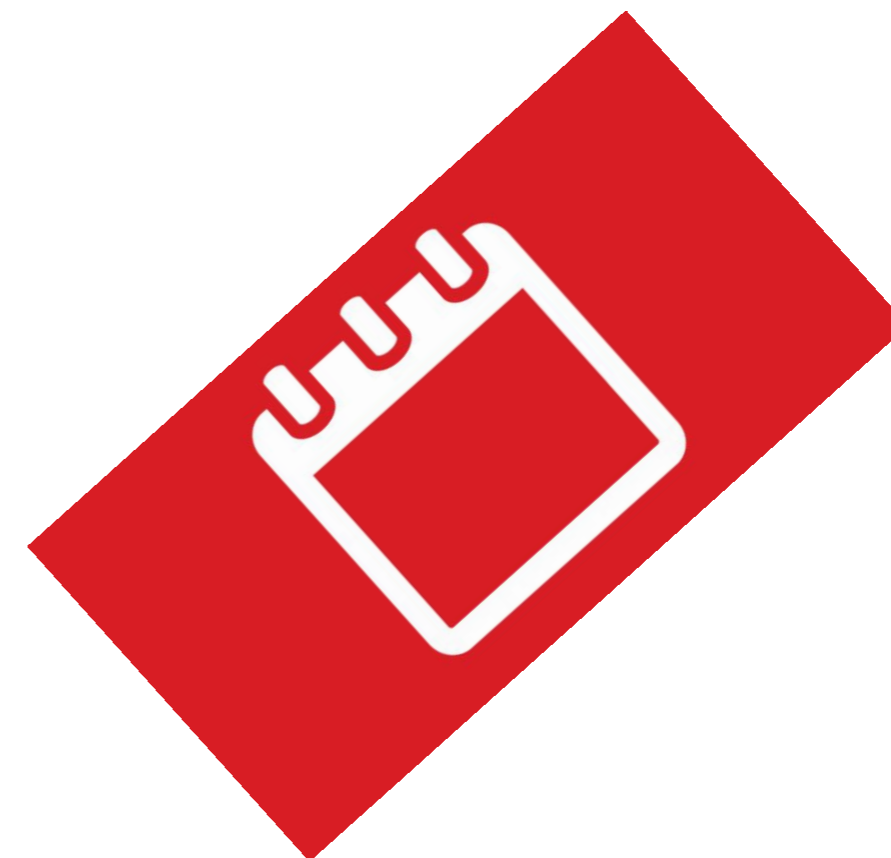
- Use **Ucas Track** to reply to offers
- The student's reply date will be clearly displayed on Track
- The **reply date** is based on receipt of the last decision; it **may not be the same for everyone**

Last decision by

31 March 2020
6 May 2019
4 June 2020
13 July 2020

Your reply date

5 May 2020
4 June 2020
18 June 2020
20 July 2020



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Extra, Clearing and Adjustment



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Ucas Extra

- If **students hold no offers or have changed their plans** Ucas Extra allows them to apply for courses with vacancies.
- Extra is available from the **25 February to early 5 July 2020.**
- If students qualify for Extra, a button will appear on their home screen on Ucas Track. **Students may apply for one course at a time.**
- Please **arrange a Careers appointment for advice** before using Extra.

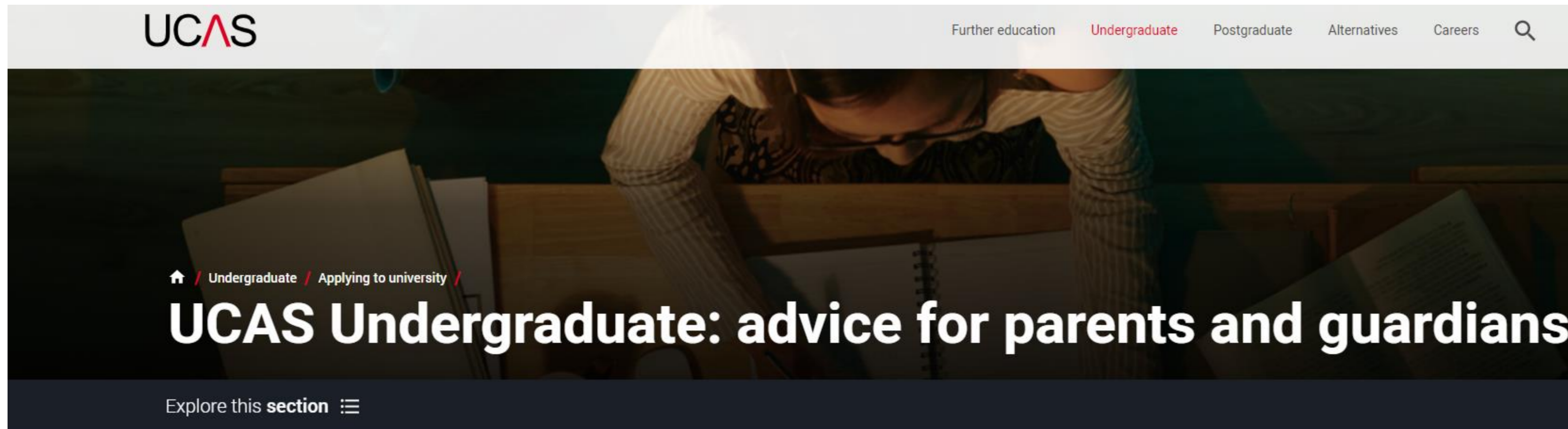


Clearing and Adjustment

- Clearing and Adjustment **start on A-level results day (13 August)**.
 - Clearing is a process used by applicants who have not managed to secure a place at university for the current year. They can apply for courses with places still available.
 - It is to be considered a safety net, not part of the plan; students should make their choices wisely to avoid Clearing.
 - Adjustment is for students who have exceeded the requirements of their firm choice and wish to 'trade up' to a course with higher entry requirements.
- **Support will be available in school** on results day and the days following results day.



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Helen, a UCAS adviser whose son is making his

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Thank you for listening



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