

# UCAS Application

Making sense of the higher education application process.

## Session overview

Students gain an understanding of the application process for UCAS, how to use the website, and how to make a successful application.

Gatsby benchmark 7

## Session resources

PCs, laptops or tablets  
Internet access  
UCAS Extra  
Whiteboard/Projector  
Prospectuses

## Aim 1

Students understand the role and purpose of UCAS.

## Aim 2

Students are able to use the UCAS website to explore their options.

## Aim 3

Students are able to plan and make a successful UCAS application.

## Downloadable session files



[Presentation \(ppt\)](#)  
[UCAS Extra](#)  
[Applicant Guide](#)  
[Evaluation](#)

## Differentiation

As students may be at different stages in the application process, it's important to sense-check at the beginning so as not to cover what they already know. However, it is still important to ensure they have the correct information, so depending on their understanding of vocabulary and slide information, it is possible to be brief where necessary.

## Key vocabulary

UCAS Extra, Clearing, Adjustment, Personal Statement, Apply, Tariff Points, Higher Education, Pathways

Content and Timings	Description	Resource
Introduction (2 mins)	Introduce yourself and ambassadors Safety and Safeguarding Briefing Explain to students session learning objectives	PPT 1-2
What is UCAS	Use these slides to explain the purpose of UCAS and provide an overview of Higher Education	PPT 4 - 6
UCAS Tariff Points	Talk through the point system, explaining what different Level 3 qualifications equate to.	PPT 7
Activity: Entry Requirements	Get the students to use the prospectuses to find a course they are interested in. Then get them to identify what combination of grades would allow them to apply for it.	PPT 8
Activity: Discover Uni	Get the students to use the “Discover Uni” website to compare the course they are researching at different universities. Next ask them to spend 10 minutes exploring the site and comparing three of their top choices.	PPT 9-10
Apply	Explain how to use the Apply section of the UCAS website by playing the video on slide 12.	PPT 11-12 Video 3 mins 52 secs
Personal Statement	Provide a brief overview of what a personal statement is and how it fits into the application process.	PPT 13
Application Timeline	Talk through the key dates to remember when applying to university.	PPT 14
Understanding Offers, UCAS Extra, Clearing, Adjustment	Play the video on slide 15 and then talk through Extra, clearing, and adjustment and how they can be used to secure a place at university.	PPT 15-18 Video 1 min 56 secs
Further information	Talk briefly about the different websites they can use for research when choosing courses and universities to apply for.	PPT 19
Activity: Re-cap	Ask the students to discuss in pairs how they would advise a friend if they were choosing courses and universities using the information we have covered in this session.	PPT 20
Priorities	Remind the students of what they should be researching before they make any decisions – this is also a timeline of what they should be prioritising.	PPT 21



<b>Content and Timings</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Resource</b>
Summarise (2 mins)	Make sure work is saved and logged off correctly  Safeguarding de-brief  “If any questions or concerns that have come up during this session, just speak to one of us on the way out or speak to your tutor”.	
Further Reading / Suggested Links:		<a href="#">Student Stories</a> <a href="#">Sites We Like</a> <a href="#">Qualifications Chart</a> <a href="#">Find Your Career</a> <a href="#">Events &amp; Activities</a>