THE

SWEYNE PARK

SCHOOL

SIXTH FORM



Post 18 Options Evening



Higher Education and the UCAS process



Degree and Higher Apprenticeships and Employment



Gap Years





UK Higher Education in 2025: current context

- ☐ Sector faces financial and demographic shifts
- ☐ Increasing focus on skills, employability and flexibility
- ☐ Technology and regulation are reshaping how universities operate



UK Higher Education in 2025: current context

□ Rising number of 18 year olds =more applications
 □ Geopolitical factors and international growth
 □ Institutions face budget cuts (potential for mergers)
 □ Value for money is a top concern and student support
 □ Students want more than a degree
 □ Expansion of apprenticeships and modular learning
 □ Digital transformation: reshaping how universities operate



Why University?

- ☐ Essential for some career paths
- ☐ Love of learning
- ☐ Financial reasons
- ☐ Develop new transferable skills and subject knowledge
- ☐ Increase your confidence and independence
- ☐ Broaden your experiences
- ☐ Invest in your future
- ☐ Give time to decide on your chosen career path





Considerations

- ☐ You will commit a long time to your studies
- ☐ Employability skills alongside academic study
- ☐ Contact time
- ☐ Life changes
- ☐ You may earn less than an apprentice initially
- ☐ You will have an intense workload
- ☐ It requires high levels of self-discipline
- ☐ You won't be guaranteed a job



Russell Group

- The Russell Group is made up of 24 world-class universities
- The group receives the majority of the research funding in the UK.
- These institutions share a strong reputation for teaching and learning and attract staff and students from around the world.
- Popular with graduate recruiters and highly rated by many major UK firms.



The Russell Group defines themselves as:

"A group committed to maintaining the very best research, an outstanding teaching and learning experience and unrivalled links with business and the public sector".



Early Applicant Group

Oxbridge, Medics, Vets, Dentists, Optometrists Entrance exams.

University Clinical Aptitude Test (UCAT)

The Law National Aptitude Test (LNAT)

Cambridge TSA (Thinking Skills Assessment)

Oxford TSA (Thinking Skills Assessment)

Maths STEP (Sixth Term Examination Paper)

Interviews / Portfolios
The personal statement
The school's reference
Dr Clements' support **now**.



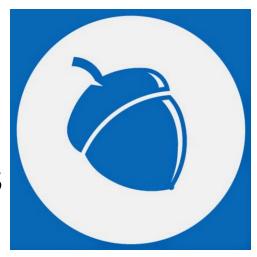
Choosing the Right University for you

- Style traditional and subject based, modern universities, more vocational
- Location cities or rural
- Size more than 20,000 to 2,000.
- Culture and facilities influenced by a range of factors e.g age, nationality, interests including the diversity of students who attend.
- What graduates do destinations after university
- Course content
- Tuition fees can vary. Check for scholarships or bursaries.
- Living costs accommodation, transport, and food can vary enormously.



Support throughout

- ☐ Early Applicant Group
- ☐ Blue Acorns: workshops for students
- Mock interview(s)
- ☐ Conference opportunities
- Personal Statement Support
- Tutor Monitoring
- Permission to attend Open Days
- ☐ Art/Creative portfolio support





UCAS Plan 2025-2026

Date	Staff	Students 2026 entry	Students 2027 entry
2-6th June	Tutors guide student sign up	Year 12s set up UCAS account	
12 th June	UCAS fair Essex university		
14 th July	Tutor deadline to collate info Subject Reference 1st Deadline on unifrog	Year 12s complete admin side of UCAS app	
17 th July	Personal Statement Writing workshop. Preliminary predicted grades	First finished draft of personal statement submitted on unifrog	
27 th September	Subject reference 2 <u>nd deadline</u> on Unifrog		
15 th October		Early Applicant Deadline	
17th October		Second review of personal statement uploaded on Unifrog.	
21st November tbc	UCAS predicted grades	Deadline for student application submission. Students meet with pathway advisers for final reference.	
14th January	Final references immovable UCAS deadline 6pm	Final immovable UCAS deadline 6pm	
9th February			Aspirations Week- Intro to Unifrog
14th May			Year 12 Post 18 Pathway Evening
18 th May- 19th July			University Open Day visits



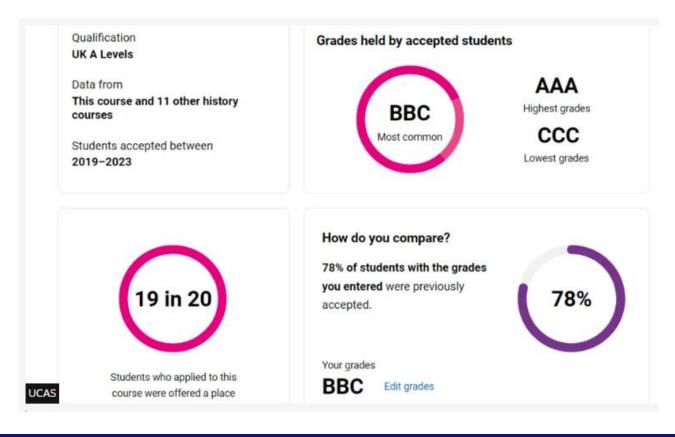
university websites

- www.ucas.com
- www.unifrog.org (parent coc PABZparents
- unistats.direct.gov.uk
- www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk
- www.opendays.com



UCAS TOOLS

- https://www.ucas.com/discover/advice-parents-guardians-and-carers
- https://www.ucas.com/discover





UNIFROG

Parents & guardians, get signed up!



Go to www.unifrog.org/student and click 'Sign in for the first time'

You'll be asked for some details and a Sign up Code. This is what you need:

PABZparents

After signing up, log into Unifrog using your email address and password via the student sign-in page!

www.unifrog.org/code



unifrog

- Students enter predicted grades and subject of interest. (predicted grades are typically based on Year 12 mock performance)
- Aspirational, solid and safe
- Filter by location, students satisfaction, hours of lectures, price of accommodation etc
- Direct links to university pages and open days
- Save shortlists and share with families and staff

Unifrog University Shortlist





This three-year programme, accredited by the British Psychological Society, exposes you to a

very wide coverage of the field of psychology. It includes the opportunity for a measure of specialisation within your studies, so you can make informed and rational decisions about your future career.

C800

Uni sessions per week Independent study per week

20 hours

2023 annual fees

3 years full-time

Students say good / great value exceeded

16 hours

Placements / field trips etc per week Graduate jobs

Getting in

A*AA

Full-time 3 Years: To include at least one, preferably two subjects from: Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics and Psychology. Contextual Offers: please visit the course webpage for further details about our Access

You're taking more than one type of qualification, so on the course page double check that you will still meet the entry requirements.

Last year's successful applicants

66.9% of successful applicants did the same qualification types as you, and of these a typical result was:

A Level: A*A*A

Subjects allied to Medicine

University facts

Guardian overall rank OS world rank 8th

101-200

Psychology: 5th 102nd

Full-time undergrads International undergrads 21,700

Aspirational - Out of your predicted

£26,309

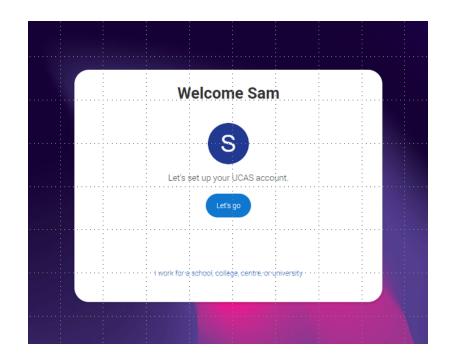
Disabled 1st years 76% after 6 months

Further information

Discover options

Register with the UCAS Hub to:

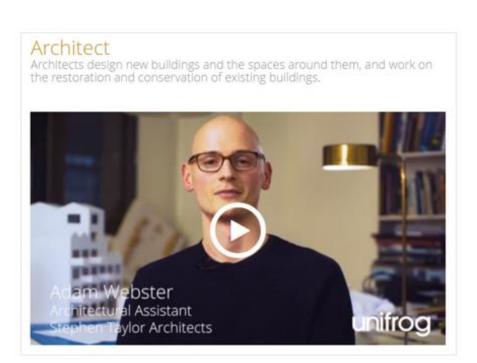
- explore careers, subjects, places, and apprenticeships in one place
- find and favourite over 35,000 courses
- search for open days, events and virtual tours
- turn predicted grades into UCAS Tariff points
- speak to those in the know using <u>Unibuddy</u>
- try before you apply with <u>Subject Spotlights</u> from Springpod.
- take the <u>UCAS Ouiz</u> to find career matches
- start your application





What if I'm not sure what career I would like?

- Over 1000 career profiles
- Presents information from a range of sources, including local and national LMI
- Includes qualifications and skills needed, interviews with industry professionals and labour market information
- Explores progression opportunities and what a working week really looks like





What if I'm interested in apprenticeships?

Apprenticeships



- Students can find live apprenticeship vacancies
- Vacancies are updated daily
- Rank and filter opportunities by factors like distance from home, weekly wage and application deadlines
- Direct link to the 'apply' page
- Each apprenticeship vacancy includes practical information about the opportunity, employer and training
- Save unlimited shortlists to refer back to later





Year 12 Important Dates





14th May: Post 18 Information Evening for students and parents at 6.00pm in History Block



2- 6th June: UCAS sign up for students in tutor times



12th **June**- UCAS Fair- visit to Essex University to explore post-18 options



9th **June onwards**- Personal Statement writing and pathway meetings with tutors.



23-27th June: Work Experience



30th June: personal Statement writing workshop tbc





Gap Year-transferable skills

- Extremely useful if used in the right way. Make it count!
- An opportunity to research future career paths.
- Build your personal profile.
- Maturity and Independence, soft skills, cultural capital

Work Experience.

High Quality Employment.

Volunteering &/or Travel.

• Study an interest.

Deferred Entry (UCAS).



Useful websites

- <u>www.goabroad.com</u> Help with planning.
- <u>www.internationalteflacademy.com</u> Dedicated to teaching English as a foreign language.
- www.projects-abroad.org International volunteering projects.
- https://www.volunteerforever.com/article_post/best-volunteer-abroad-programs-organizations-projects/