

# **WEALD OF KENT GRAMMAR SCHOOL SIXTH FORM**



## **UCAS APPLICATION GUIDE 2027**

## **Important Deadlines**

**Closing date for Oxbridge, Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary Medicine Applications:**

**Weald deadline: 14 September 2026**

**UCAS deadline: 15 October 2026**

**All other UCAS applications:**

**Weald deadline: 19 October 2026**

**UCAS deadline: 13 January 2027**

**Deadline for applications to UCAS Conservatoires (music, art, drama, dance, musical theatre, film and production courses):**

Please note, conservatoires can have different deadlines, so please check each conservatoire's website.

If you are applying to a conservatoire via UCAS Conservatoires, please contact the relevant Head of Department for a reference.

**Please allow 2-3 weeks for the processing of applications from the point you pay for your UCAS application (see point 15).**

## **Additional Admissions Tests**

**Please remember, some courses require admissions tests, which have their own registration deadlines.**

If you apply for a course that requires an admissions test, you'll need to check:

- the registration deadline for the test
- when and where you will sit it
- what it includes

Most admissions tests happen between August and November the year before you're due to start your studies. Some have a registration deadline before you need to submit your UCAS application.

Some of the key admissions tests are listed below. You should check the UCAS course search to check whether the course you are applying for requires an admissions test.

**LNAT – National Admissions Test for Law**

**UCAT - University Clinical Aptitude Test**

**ESAT - Engineering and Science Admissions test**

**TMUA - Test of Mathematics for University Admission**

**Admissions tests at University of Oxford**

University of Oxford use a number of admissions tests, including UCAT, LNAT, and University of Oxford specific tests for the majority of their courses.

**Admissions tests at University of Cambridge**

University of Cambridge use a number of admissions tests, including UCAT, TMUA, ESAT, and LNAT, alongside a University of Cambridge College admissions assessment, which applies to most other courses and colleges at University of Cambridge. Applicants will also need to complete a My Cambridge Application.

**Admissions tests at University College London**

University College London is introducing a new admissions test for various mathematics and social science programmes from 2026 entry. UCL will require all applicants to sit the TARA (The Test of Academic Reasoning for Admissions) run by University Admissions Tests UK.

## **UCAS Applications:**

### **Aim High:**

It is important to make the most out of your university experience and to secure a place at the best university you possible can. You will have 5 choices available to you (except for medicine where it is 4 + 1 non-medicine choice) and you should use these wisely to reflect your predicted grades and include a realistic insurance choice. Remember that your insurance choice is called insurance for a reason and should have lower entry requirements in case you do not achieve the grades required. It is worth keeping in mind that your UCAS Predicted Grades will be aspirational. So, the Entry Requirements for your five choices should reflect a spread from your aspirational Predicted Grades to the Current Attainment grades staff have included on recent reports.

## **Research your courses:**

### **1. Identify Your Priorities and Goals**

Before looking at specific universities, determine what matters most to you:

- **Subject Passion:** Choose a subject you enjoy, as this will motivate you for three to four years of study.
- **Career Aspirations:** Research which courses offer placements, internships, or sandwich years that can enhance your employability.
- **Location and Lifestyle:** Consider if you prefer a city (urban) or campus (more self-contained) environment and decide how close you want to be to home.
- **Entry Requirements:** Be realistic about your predicted grades to ensure you have a mix of "stretch" (higher), "target" (matching), and "safety" (lower) options.

### **2. Search for Courses (The "What")**

- **UCAS Search Tool:** Use the [UCAS website](#) to find courses, compare entry requirements (UCAS points/grades), and check for subject specialisms.
- **Compare Modules:** Do not just look at the course title. Examine the specific modules in the course description to ensure they match your interests.
- **Teaching & Assessment:** Investigate if the course is assessed by exams, coursework, or practical projects, and check the amount of contact time.

### 3. Research Universities (The "Where")

- **University Websites & Prospectuses:** These provide detailed information on facilities, accommodation, and student life.
- **League Tables:** Use resources like [The Complete University Guide](#), *The Guardian*, or *The Times* to compare rankings, but look beyond overall ranking to specific subject performance.
- **Student Reviews & Forums:** Use *The Student Room*, *Discover Uni*, or *StudentCrowd* to get an honest, peer-to-peer perspective on the university experience.
- **You can try before you apply:** You can explore your options in the UCAS Hub and can now access subject tasters thanks to a new collaboration with Springpod. The new feature allows you to explore, interact and sample university subjects and courses online before you apply.

### 4. Attend Open Days and Virtual Tours

- **In-Person Visits:** This is the best way to get a feel for the campus, city, and facilities.
- **Talk to Staff and Students:** Ask about specific course details, module options, and student support services.
- **Virtual Tours:** If you cannot attend in person, many universities offer online tours of their campuses and accommodation.

### 5. Create a Shortlist

- **Spreadsheet Method:** Create a table to compare your top choices based on your priorities (e.g., location, cost, course quality, entry requirements).
- **Select Top 5:** Narrow your choices down to a maximum of five for your UCAS application, ensuring a balance of entry requirements.

### 6. Consider Costs and Support

- **Financial Planning:** Check tuition fees and use a cost-of-living calculator to compare accommodation and daily expenses, particularly for big cities.
- **Support Services:** Look into the available pastoral, academic, and mental health support services.

## How to Apply:

### Registering for an account

Go to [ucas.com](https://ucas.com)

Select **'Sign In'** on the drop-down menu and click **'student'**

Select the **'2027 Entry'**; **'Create account'**

Select **'Register'** and complete the short form that appears. Avoid using an inappropriate email address at this point as it is the first thing admissions departments will see.

Please do not use your school email address for registering – it is important that you use a personal email address, as you will need to use it beyond the end of summer 2027, when your school account will be closed.

Make a note of your **password**.

UCAS will then email you a verification code which you will need to input when prompted to verify your account.

UCAS will then ask you a series of questions so it can tailor the UCAS HUB to your needs. Please ensure you choose the correct year of study: **2027** unless you wish to defer.

You will also be asked about what level of study you are applying for. Select **'undergraduate.'**

It is worth answering the questions about **'preferences'** as your answers will make the UCAS HUB more personalised to your aspirations.

Scroll to the bottom and click **'Create account.'**

### Starting your application

Click on the **'Your application'** tile

**'Linking to your school, college or centre'**. Click **'Yes'** and then **'Continue'**

Enter the Buzzword: **WOKGS2027** and **'Confirm'** it is correct

Then select your relevant Learning Community Group

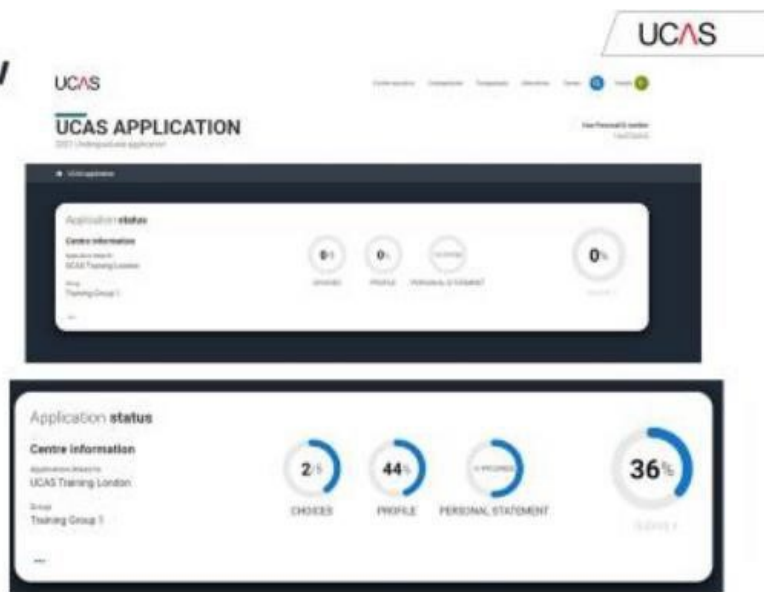
You must make a note of all of your login details as they are personal to you and the school will not be able to access them should you forget what they are. This includes your UCAS Personal ID.

## Application overview

Your homepage is where you'll see the sections that need completing.

You don't need to complete the application at once, you can log in and out at any time until you're finished.

As you add information to each tile, the **percentage complete** dial should increase each time you mark a section as complete.



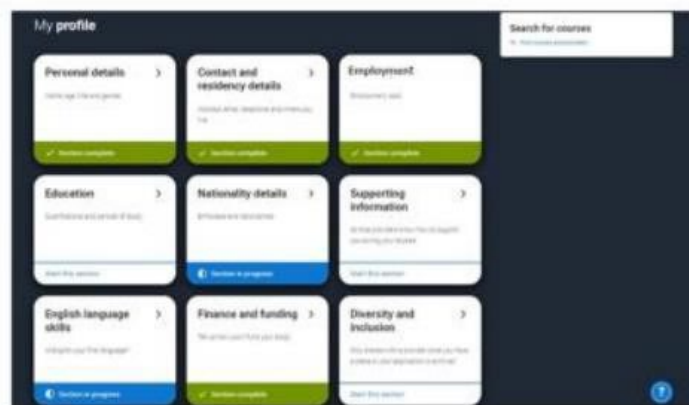
## Application overview

The second section is your **profile** - information about you.

The tiles will give you an overview; if a section is complete, in progress, or you need to start it.

All sections must be marked as complete to send to UCAS.

You must complete all mandatory questions to mark a section as complete (they have a \*).



## A Guide to completing your application:

### Personal details

You will need to add your title and complete the other mandatory fields (marked with a \*)

This includes your nationality

Once you have completed a section you must remember to **mark the section as complete** at the bottom of each page. Click on the  throughout for help text to provide advice about what to put.

### Nationality details

If you are a UK National: Complete the ‘**Country of birth**’ and ‘**What is your nationality**’ sections.

Add Dual Nationality if applicable. Only do this if you are certain you officially have dual nationality.

If you were born in the UK, but have a different nationality, further questions will appear aimed at assessing your eligibility to study in the UK. You may need further support with these questions. If in doubt, see Mr Morgan, Mrs Pring or Mrs Swaffer or phone UCAS directly.

If you were not born in the UK, you must provide the date of your first entry to the UK. Again, further questions will appear aimed at assessing your eligibility to study in the UK.

If you require a Visa to study in the UK, you will be asked to include your passport details: passport number; valid from and expiry date; place of issue.

- Also included: ‘When does your pre-settled status expire?’. This question will only be shown to those who need to see it and have indicated settled or pre-settled status.

### Where you live

Residency details: it will ask you if your home address is the same as your postal address. If it is not, you will be asked to give details of your home address and residential category.

You will need to clarify your area of permanent residence (Kent, London, East Sussex) and residential category (most likely to be UK Citizen – England) from the drop-down boxes.

## Contact details

### Including Nominated access

Provide either a home or mobile telephone number.

Add an email address. **DO NOT USE YOUR WEALD EMAIL ADDRESS**. It is best to use the one used when you created your UCAS HUB.

Add your postal address.

Select **'Yes'** if you wish to give a nominee access – this will mean they can speak to UCAS on your behalf. If you select **'Yes'** for this, fields will appear to allow you to add a nominated individual. It is usual to add a parent and carer along with their phone number.

### Supporting information

This is where you can add additional information about whether you, or a parent or spouse, has lived and worked in the EU, EEA, or Switzerland.

### Finance and funding

You will typically select **UK, ChI, IOM or EU finance services**. This means you will be applying for a student loan in 2027.

If you wish to privately finance your degree, then select **Private finance**.

A few of you may be eligible for bursaries if applying for nursing. If this is the case, select **DHSS/Regional Health**.

If you select **UK, ChI, IOM or EU finance series** you will be prompted to state the area of your student support arrangements. This will be Kent or East Sussex, depending on your area of permanent residence.

Any doubt, see Mrs Pring, Mr Morgan or Mrs Swaffer or head here: <http://ucas.com/finance>

## **Diversity and inclusion**

This information is only shared with universities once you have secured a place. It does not influence any decision making.

They will ask some personal details about:

- Ethnicity
- Religious beliefs
- Sexual orientation
- Care support information
- Parental information, such as their education level and occupation

Please note, you do not need to answer these questions to submit your application. You can select '**I prefer not to say**'.

Complete:

Parental education (you can select 'I prefer not to say'). If your parents have not studied at degree level, this counts towards a contextual offer if other criteria are also met.

Occupational background (for the occupational background, you must type at least 3 letters into the response field, and then select an option from the menu that appears below it.)

## **More about you**

This section is for you to let us know about any extra supporting information you'd like to include on your application. (Nothing in this section is used to decide if you will be placed at your university it is purely to make everyone aware of any additional support you may need)

Some of the things to include are:

- Mental health conditions or long-term illnesses, include any access arrangements here too
- Estranged from parents
- Caring responsibilities
- Parenting responsibilities
- Refugee status
- Parent or carer who serves in the armed forces
- Whether you've served in the armed forces
- If you're in receipt of free school meals (we will confirm this section as your application will not need to be paid for)

## Education

### Including English language skills

Start by clicking '**Add place of education**'.

You will be asked for your Unique Learner Number – you can access this information from Arbor.

Type the name of where you studied and select the correct institution. If you achieved qualifications at any other school, you would need to upload these institutions as well as Weald. Make sure the dates are correct and do not overlap.

Add when you started. This is most likely either 9/2020 or 9/2025. If you are completing the Weald section, you must put the date you will finish: 8/2027.

Answer the question '**Is English your first or primary language?**'

If you select '**No**' you will be asked for your TOEFL or IELTS. Only answer if you have been assigned one and know the number.

If you do something incorrect in this section, **Red** and **Blue** warning texts will appear to help you.

Click '**Add qualification**'. Popular options will appear. Alternatively, search in the '**search by name**' box.

### Top tip: A-levels are GCE Advanced Level

Once you have selected your qualification you will be prompted to add the:

- **Title**
- **Qualification date**
- **Awarding organisation**
- **Result**

You need to add all the qualifications you have done – including A-levels that you will complete next year. You need to fill in the month and year of the examination and the examination board (Awarding organisation). For examinations that you have not yet sat, you must enter the date that you will sit them (i.e June 2027) and then fill in the grade as **pending**. The Sixth Form Team will enter your pending grades.

Also include other qualifications, such as practical music or speech and drama exams like LAMDA and ESB.

It is important that you are accurate when entering the examination boards to avoid any delays with your offers on Results Day. You can check Weald examination boards in the Course Guide or the subject pages on the website. For exams you have taken, the name of the exam board will be on your results certificates.

## Employment

Click to **'Add employment'** and fill in the details.

It is up to you whether you create an employment record here but irrespective ensure you mark the section as complete.

## Personal statement

Full guidance on the UCAS Personal Statement is given in the separate Weald Personal Statement Planning Booklet.

You can save and edit this section as many times as you need to. You can only select **'Mark this section as complete'** on the Preview screen.

You may wish to work on your Personal Statement on a Word or Google Document and then copy and paste a more complete copy into your application. You can also construct your Personal Statement in the Personal Statement Builder available in the UCAS HUB or in Unifrog. Whatever you do, remember to keep saving your work.

## Choices

At the time of your application, it is assumed that you will have researched all of your choices, know where you wish to apply and which course you would like to study. One of the most important things to take into consideration is 'are you going to realistically achieve the grades needed for your chosen course and institution?' Some universities ask for you to achieve specific grades and some ask for you to achieve a certain amount of UCAS tariff points. UCAS tariff points are used by some universities (around a third) when making conditional offers. Please keep in mind when making choices, that UCAS Predicted Grades are aspirational. They are there to facilitate your ambitions, but you must be realistic with some of your choices. Use your recent Current Attainment as a guide.

Instead of asking for grades (eg AAB), a university may express the offer as 136 points. However, not all universities use tariff points. The more traditional universities are more likely to make an offer stipulating grades and not points. Also, universities may not, for example, consider BBB at A Level to be the same as ABC at A Level.

Entry requirements and offers that state tariff points may also require a minimum level of achievement in a specified subject, for example '128 points from a minimum of three A-Levels to include grade A in A Level Chemistry', i.e., an A in Chemistry (48) and B grades in two other A-levels (40+40).

Although tariff points can be accumulated in different ways, not all points will necessarily be acceptable for entry to a particular course. The achievement of a points score, therefore, does not give an automatic entitlement to entry and many other factors are considered in the admissions process. All of this will be clear in Entry Requirements and any offers you are made, so read these very carefully.

Using the table below, you can calculate how to convert A-level grades into tariff points for those universities who use the tariff system:

| Extended Project Qualification | AS Level | A Level | Tariff points |
|--------------------------------|----------|---------|---------------|
|                                |          | A*      | 56            |
|                                |          | A       | 48            |
|                                |          | B       | 40            |
|                                |          | C       | 32            |
| A*                             |          |         | 28            |
| A                              |          | D       | 24            |
| B                              | A        |         | 20            |
| C                              | B        | E       | 16            |
| D                              | C        |         | 12            |
|                                | D        |         | 10            |
| E                              |          |         | 8             |
|                                | E        |         | 6             |

Other qualifications, such as practical music or speech and drama exams like LAMDA and ESB, also have a tariff value. However, it is unlikely that these tariff points will count towards your offer unless you are applying for a specialist practical music or drama course, in which case it will be the qualifications themselves and not their tariff points which will be valued:

| Grade       | 8  | 7  | 6  |
|-------------|----|----|----|
| Distinction | 30 | 16 | 12 |
| Merit       | 24 | 12 | 10 |
| Pass        | 18 | 10 | 6  |

When entering your choices, you will not be asked to put them in order of preference; they are automatically sorted into alphabetical order and are all treated the same. Universities are not aware of the other institutions you have applied for. To add a choice, click the **Choices** section.

- **Type in the name of the institution**
- **Type in the name of the course**
- **Fill in the Location; Start date and Point of entry details**
- **Select whether you will be living at home or not**

If appropriate to the course, you will be required to disclose whether you have criminal convictions.

Once you have added your choices, select '**Confirm choices**' to mark the section as complete.

If a choice requires an admissions test (you should already know this) it will be flagged up in **Blue** on the choice card. Any problems or mistakes will be flagged in **Red**.

## **Submitting your application**

There are four steps to the submission process. The application cannot be submitted unless every section displays as 100%.

Select to **'Check your application'**. You can download it as a PDF to do this if you wish.

Once checked, you can either **'Accept and proceed'** or, if you wish to make changes, **'Return to application'**.

You will then need to answer a few questions about Marketing preferences.

Once you tick the box to accept the **'Terms and conditions'** you can once again click **'Accept and proceed'**.

## **Pay and submit**

You will then be prompted to enter your card details to pay for your application.

**Once you have paid and sent your application, it comes to the Sixth Form Team.** We will then spend time checking it for any errors. If we find errors, it will be returned to you to make amendments and you will need to resubmit it. Keep checking your emails as UCAS will notify you if we have returned your application to you. Once we are happy that the content of the application is accurate, we will begin to process your Reference and input your Predicted Grades. We deal with upwards of 200 applications a year, so this can take some time. We are just being thorough, so you do not make any silly mistakes!

**Please note, paying and submitting your application to us works as permission for us to send your application to UCAS. You will be contacted by Mrs Pring to initially meet with her to receive any feedback. Otherwise, provided everything is accurate, we will not contact you until your application is ready to be sent off where you will complete your final checks and send your application. This is irreversible, so make sure you are happy with it before sending it to UCAS.**

Once your application has been sent to UCAS, you will be informed by email. UCAS distributes your application to the universities. The universities are unable to see which other institutions you have applied for. Finally, do not forget, if you need help with anything, ask!

## **Offers and decisions**

These will be sent to you via the email address you gave in the **Contact details** section.

## **How do unis make their decisions?**

Each university has different entry requirements. You should check you meet the course and university entry requirements before you apply. However, there are other factors university admissions teams consider when making their decisions.

- What academic and non-academic achievements do you have? Have you met the required grades for the course, and what is the likelihood of you achieving the course entry requirements for any qualifications you haven't yet sat exams for?
- Do you have the experience and skills to succeed at university?
- Do you have a passion for the subject area, and does this enthusiasm come across in your application?
- Who are your references and what have they said about you?
- Is the course and uni you've applied for the right course and university for you?
- **Contextual Offers** - Have you included your individual circumstances? For example, have you been in care? Do you have a disability, such as a mental health condition? Admissions staff will want to consider your achievements in context. This is called '[contextualised admissions](#)', and the aim is to form a more complete picture of you as an individual.

Ultimately, it's the job of the university admissions team to determine whether you can succeed on the course you have applied for.

### When are you likely to hear back from unis?

Each university and college will make their decisions at different times, meaning you might hear back before your friends do, or vice versa. However, there are deadlines by which they will need to have decided.

If a uni you've applied to doesn't make a decision by the appropriate deadline, that choice will be automatically made unsuccessful. You can only reply to any offers once you have a decision back from all your choices.

Until you receive a decision your choices will show **AWAITING DECISION**.

### Decisions universities and colleges can make

- A **CONDITIONAL OFFER** - means you still need to meet the requirements – usually exam results.
- An **UNCONDITIONAL OFFER** - means you've got a place, although there might still be a few things to arrange.
- An **UNSUCCESSFUL** or **WITHDRAWN** reply removes that option, but you could add more.
- **Note – contextual offers** can fall under any of the above headings. Uni's may need additional information from you before they make a decision and provide you with their individual offer as each uni will have its own criteria.

### Conditional offers

These show the conditions you have to meet to get your place confirmed.

For most people, this means waiting for results day in summer to see if your exam results meet the conditions. They could be a combination of grades, points or subjects.

You may also get a conditional offer that will change to unconditional if you firmly accept it.

## Unconditional offers

- **These mean you've already met the entry requirements, so the place is yours if you want it! But first check the offer to see if there's anything else you need to do.**
- Check the offer carefully. Even if you've already got your qualifications and have met the academic requirements, you might still need to get a DBS or PVG check, provide proof of your results, or meet some financial/medical requirements. If it's not clear, contact the uni or college.
- Remember, by accepting an unconditional offer, you are committing to go to that uni or college, so you can't make an insurance choice.
- If you change your mind, you can decline your place and apply using Clearing.
- If you're taking exams but have been made an unconditional offer, your results won't affect your acceptance. But, although your place won't be dependent on your grades, taking your exams is really important to prepare you for uni or college and could impact your future employment.

Any questions please ask!

