

# Rossett Sixth Form UCAS Information Presentation

June 2022



**Rossett School**  
Success for everyone

UCAS

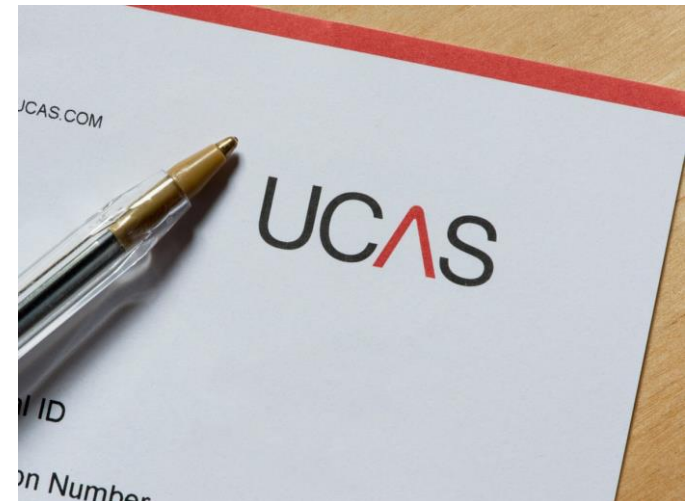
# Presentation Purpose

- Students considering applications to:
  - Universities
  - Further Education Colleges
  - Music Conservatoires
- Not apprenticeships or employment
  - Specific support for these pathways
  - Independent Careers Team
  - <https://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk/>



# Key Points

- What is UCAS?
- Deadlines for applications
- Personal statement
- References
- Supporting your child



# What is UCAS?

- Universities and Colleges Admissions Service
- Centralised service for applying for undergraduate degrees across the UK
- Link between schools, applicants and Higher Education providers



# What is UNIFROG?

- Internal software system
- School uses to collate personal statements, choices and references
- Unrelated to UCAS application
- Administrative tool

The logo for unifrog, featuring the word "unifrog" in a green, lowercase, sans-serif font.

# How do students apply?

- Select course
- Select 5 institutions
- Application form including GCSE grades
- Personal statement
- Predicted grades
- Reference



# How to Choose a Course?

- What does the course cover?
  - Courses with the same title may be very different.
- Look at course content including optional studies/modules
  - Interesting modules? Relevant to career aspirations?
  - Internship, placement, or study abroad opportunities?
- How is the course taught?
  - Structured teaching? Independent research?
  - Lectures? Seminars? Group work?
  - How is the course assessed?



# How to Choose a University?

- **Style**

- Traditional - subject-based courses and research
- Modern - vocational courses.

- **Location**

- Large cities
- Smaller towns

- **Size**

- Larger universities - more than 20,000 students
- Smaller - only a few thousand.

- **Culture and facilities**

- Clubs, societies, amenities

- **What graduates do**

- Destination statistics
- Employment statistics

- **Tuition fees**

- Vary between universities and colleges
- Scholarships or bursaries available.

- **Living costs**

- Accommodation, transport, food





# UCAS Tariff

- Grades are assigned 'UCAS points'
- Some courses offer places based on points, others on grades
- If points based – utilise multiple qualifications e.g. Core Maths, EPQ, Music Exams to supplement three course subjects



# UCAS Tariffs

A Levels		BTEC Extended Cert.		BTEC Diploma		EPQ		AS Levels & Core Maths	
A*	56	D*	56	D*D*	112	A*	28		
A	48	D	48	D*D	104	A	24	A	20
B	40			DD	96	B	20	B	16
C	32	M	32	DM	80	C	16	C	12
D	24			MM	64	D	12	D	10
E	16	P	16	MP	48	E	8	E	6
				PP	32				



# Online Application Form

- Sections to be completed:

- Personal details
- Contact and residency details
- Work experience
- Education
- Nationality details
- English language skills
- Supporting information

- Personal statement
- Choices – make up to five
- References (not visible for students linked to centres)
- Finance and funding
- Diversity and inclusion (for students with a UK home address)



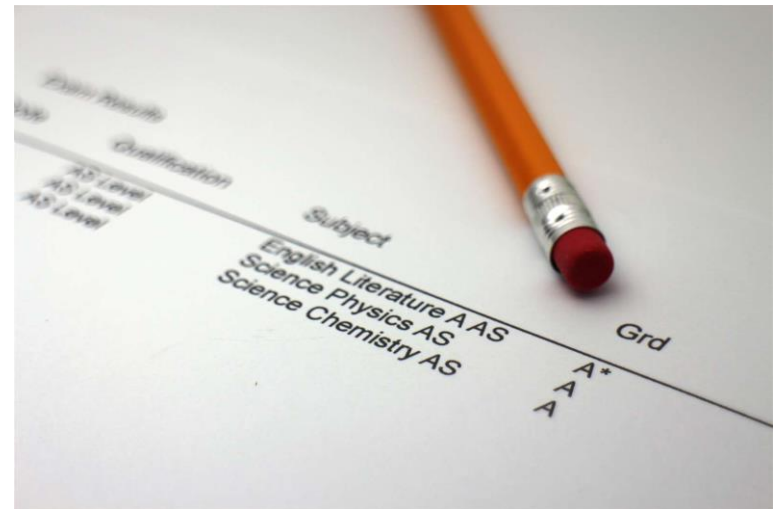
# Personal Statement

- Sell yourself as the best candidate for the course
  - Interest in the subject.
  - Engagement above and beyond academic studies.
  - Holistic individual.
- Form Tutors, Subject Staff, Mr Durbin, Templates and guidance during PD Lessons, Online resources, UCAS YouTube Channel
- One statement for all choices
- 4000 characters/47 lines
- No spelling or grammar mistakes
- No formatting errors
- Plagiarism software
  - Cannot copy

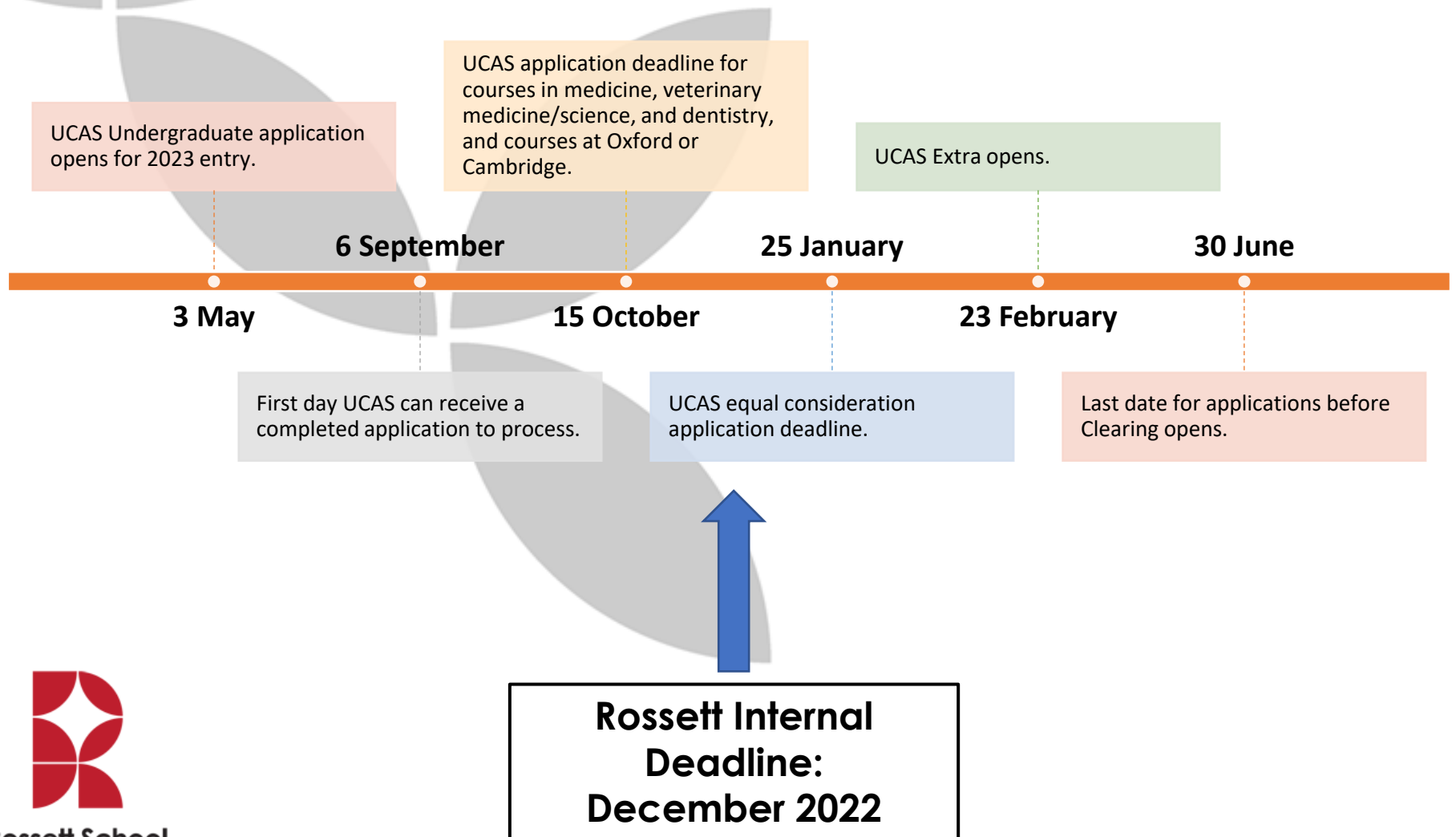


# Reference and Predicted Grades

- Subject teachers
- Form Tutors
- Extra curricular
  - Prefects, committee
  - Sporting excellence
  - Academic awards
- Predicted Grades
  - Align with chosen courses.
  - July assessment week
  - Course applications can be aspirational, but also must be realistic.



# What are the deadlines?



# DMV/Oxbridge

- Early applications – 15 October
- Only one of Oxford or Cambridge
- Applying to study medicine, veterinary, medicine/science, dentistry – **4 choices**
- Check for entry exams
- **Mrs Bulmer – AMA Coordinator**
  - Support with applications
  - Interview practice
  - Debating Club



# Key Facts

- Register with UCAS via the **Hub**
- Use **username and password** to apply online
- Students can add up to **5 choices**
- Applying to study medicine, veterinary, medicine/science, dentistry - **4 choices**
- Students **can't apply to BOTH** Oxford and Cambridge
- Applying costs £22 for 1 choice, or **£26.50 for 5 choices**
- Apply by the **equal consideration date**
- Providers **can't see** other choices when you apply





# Has my child registered?

- Yes (hopefully!)
- PD sessions dedicated to registering with the UCAS Hub
- Students to contact Mr Durbin or their form tutors if they have any issues
- Guidance available



# What happens after the application is submitted?

- Tracking
- Offers
- Replying to offers
- Accepting firm and insurance choices
- UCAS Extra
- Clearing

UCAS Track / Your choices / Your application / Your details / Contact us

Reply to offers Today's date: 10 Dec 2015 Frequently asked questions

Firm choice > Insurance choice > Confirm

You still have 148 days to reply to your offer(s). Think carefully about your decision. You must submit your reply by 4 May 2016.

Please select your firm choice

**Note:** You are making a commitment when you choose a firm choice. If the offer is conditional, you are agreeing to take up the place if you meet the conditions of the offer. If the offer is unconditional, you are agreeing that you will attend the course at that university or college.

University of Bristol Veterinary Science	The university or college has offered you a place subject to conditions. (Conditional offer)
Start date: 1 Oct 2016 Start from: Year One	



# Tracking Applications

## UCAS Hub

- View offers
- Reply to offers online



Students receive one of three decisions from universities:

- Unconditional offer – no grade requirements
- Conditional offer – specific entry requirements
- Unsuccessful – place not offered



# Replying to Offers

- Once decisions sent from all universities, students can hold a maximum of two offers:
  - **'Firm' acceptance** –first choice
  - **'Insurance' acceptance** - back-up if do not get into your 'firm' choice
- Must then decline any remaining offers.
- Once all decisions and replies have been made, if you are not holding an offer, you may be able to use Extra or Clearing to find available places.



# Other Options

## **Extra** (Feb – Jul)

- Used all five choices and had no offers.
- Add Extra choices for consideration one at a time in Track.

## **Clearing** (Jul – Oct)

- Apply after 30 June, receive no offers, decline all offers, not met conditions.
- Find vacancies from early July and add a Clearing choice to your application.



# Next Steps – Parents/Carers

- Discuss courses, institutions
- Encourage MOOCs, work experience, volunteering etc.
- Promote drafting (and support redrafting) of personal statements
- Consider University Open Days – virtual or face-to-face



# Any Questions?

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