Spalding High School

UCAS Information Evening
Thursday 8th May 2025



What is UCAS?

- * UCAS Universities and Colleges Admissions Service
- * UCAS is responsible for managing applications to almost all full-time undergraduate degree programmes at universities and colleges in the UK.

Research - Academics

- * What are the entry requirements?
- Are any of the following required as part of the application process
 - assessment tests
 - a portfolio
 - an interview
 - an audition
 - submission of assessed work
- * How is the course taught and assessed?



Research – Location & university size

- *Where do you want to live in the UK?
- * Do you want to go to a campus or city university?
- * How big or small is the university?



Research – Graduate prospects

- * How many students are in employment after graduating?
- * How many students go on to postgraduate study?



Research – Extracurricular opportunities

- * Which societies are there?
- * What is the student union like?
- *Which types of events does the university run?



Research – Open Days

- *Try to visit in person to get a feel for a university and see what it has to offer
- * Virtual tours/webinars



Applying

- * Start online applications in the UCAS Hub in May 2025
- * Up to 5 course choices
- * Exceptions: Medicine/Dentistry/Veterinary Medicine (4 of these course choices allowed plus one other discipline, e.g. Biomedicine)
- * Charge payable to UCAS £28.95



Applying – two deadlines for every student

- * Applications can be sent from school to UCAS from the end of September 2025
- *There is an internal school deadline and a UCAS deadline.



UCAS Deadline Dates

	SCHOOL	OFFICIAL
 Medicine Veterinary Medicine/ Science Dentistry Oxbridge 	Friday 26 th September 2025	Wednesday 15 th October 2025
All other UCAS applications	Friday 7 th November 2025	Wednesday 14 th January 2026

A Level results day – Thursday 13th August 2026



Applying – References

* Applications are linked to school and references and predicted grades are added by Mrs Bushell



Applying – References

- * Staff write academic references and set UCAS predicted grades. References are collated by Mrs Bushell in the autumn term
- * Predicted grades are based on overall progress and attainment, assessments and projected attainment.

Applying - References

* Please let us know of any extenuating circumstances by filling in the questionnaire in the summer term.



Applying – Conservatoires

- * Specialist institutions which have a similar application process –also found on the UCAS website
- * Application deadlines can be earlier than the UCAS application scheme.



Post-application

- * Students wait for universities to respond
- * Depending on the course, the following may be needed:
 - interview/audition
 - assessment test (e.g.UCAT pre-application)
 - examples of marked work
 - portfolio
- Student finance applications in March



Decisions from universities

- * 'Conditional offer'
- * 'Unconditional offer'
- *'Unsuccessful'



Contextual Offers

- * Adjustments made to the usual offer
- * Vary across the sector
- * Look into this when researching courses



What next?

- * Students decide on a 'firm' choice and an 'insurance' choice
- * Offer holder days



Results day in August

Students are placed at one of the following:

- * firm choice university
- * insurance choice university
- *a university through 'clearing'



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