

Applying to  
University

UCAS Apply  
2023

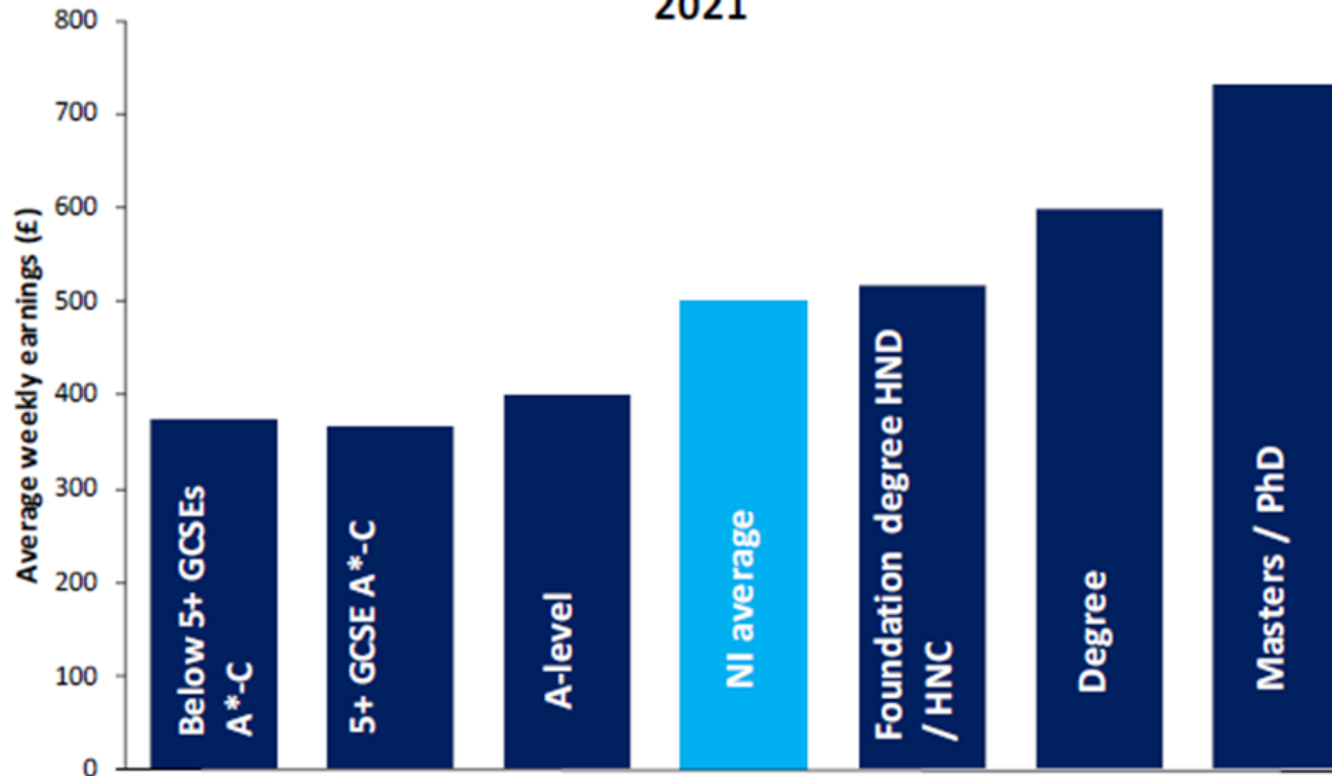
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Great by  
Choice



**Average weekly earnings (£) by qualification level, NI, Q3  
2021**

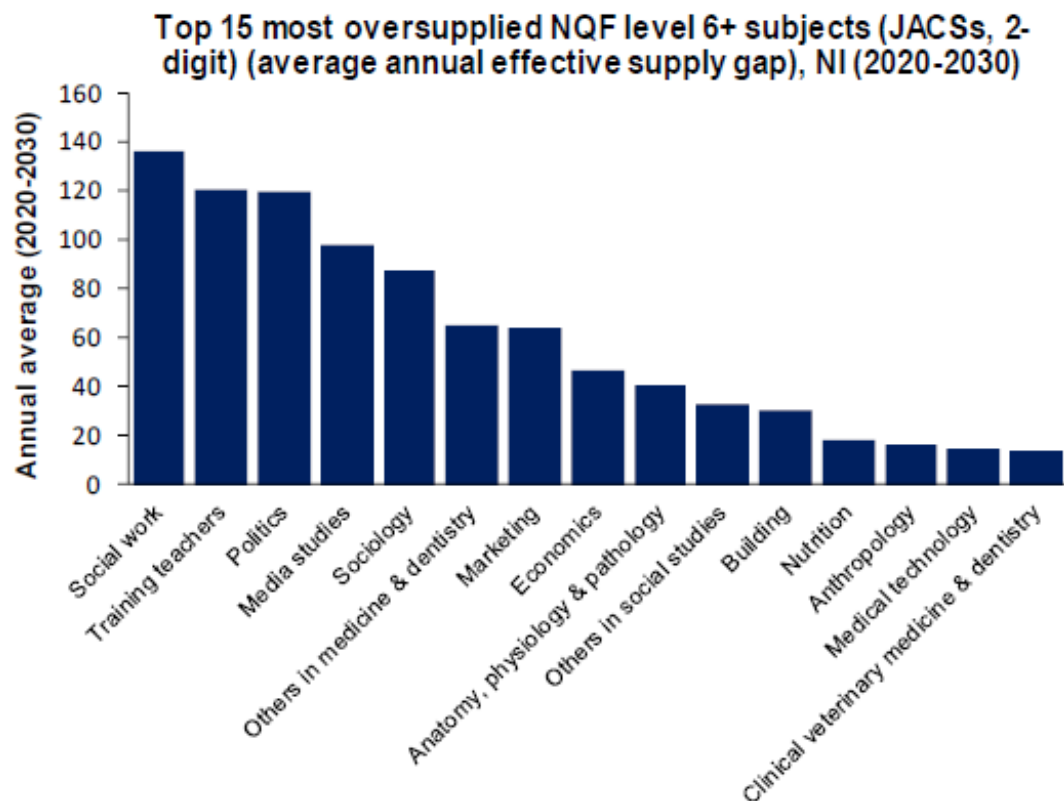


*Source: Labour Force Survey, UUEPC analysis*

*Note: Figures are based on a 4-quarter rolling average*





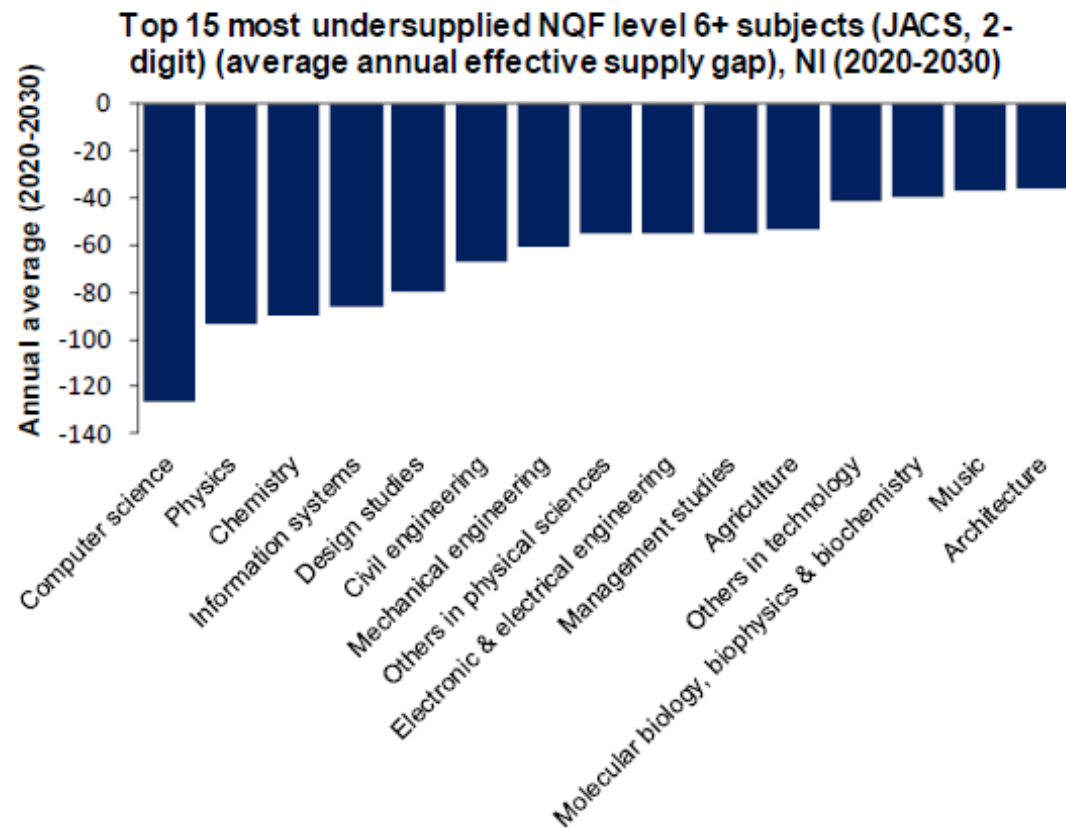


The social work category includes health and welfare; childcare; youth work; community work; careers guidance; probation/after-care; and social work not elsewhere classified.

*Source: UUEPC analysis, HESA*

The top 5 oversupplied subjects (JACS, 2-digit) account for 52% of total oversupplied subjects.





Source: UUEPC analysis, HESA

The top 5 undersupplied subjects (JACS, 2-digit) account for 25% of total undersupplied subjects.



# CAREERS PROGRAMME IN U6TH AND L6TH

Virtual and In-  
person  
Workshadowing  
Events

University Talks

UCAS  
Exhibition

Lower 6 UCAS  
Programme

Individual  
Interviews in  
L6th and in U6th

Open Days at  
Local  
Universities

PATHWAYS  
2023 – 15<sup>th</sup>  
September

UNIFROG





# ADMISSION TESTS

- UCAT – all medicine applicants
- LNAT – some law applicants
- BMAT – Medicine at Oxbridge & few others
- NSAA, MAT, PAT etc – Oxford and Cambridge
- TMUA - Durham University, Lancaster University, the University of Warwick, the University of Sheffield or the University of Southampton,





Over the summer, students were advised to have researched what they want to study and where to study.

They have been told that the most important thing is the **COURSE**.

UNIFROG is a great tool for research for both courses and universities.





## Things they should consider:

Make sure they are on target to meet the entry requirements required

Check A Level or equivalent of requirements as well as those at GCSE level

Are they required to sit an entrance exam, aptitude test or attend an interview?

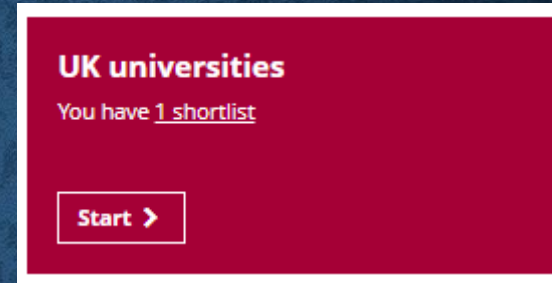
Are they aware of what qualification you will achieve from your chosen degree?






# USING THE UK UNIVERSITIES TOOL

- Unifrog has a tool that allows them to search for universities in the UK based on the factors most important to them
- Log into Unifrog and scroll down to the 'UK universities' tool.



 What do you need to know about **UK universities**?

**UK Universities**

<b>World class</b>	In the Q5 world university rankings, four UK universities feature in the top 10, while a further 26 rank in the top 200. Generally the UK is considered second only to the US in terms of the number of top universities.
<b>Earning potential</b>	In the UK jobseekers without a degree earn up to £12,000 a year less than their graduate peers entering the job market, the equivalent of more than £500,000 over an average working life.
<b>Sweet deal</b>	British students studying at UK universities can get government loans to cover fees and living costs; the loans don't have to be paid back until after they are earning at least £26,575 a year, and even then the loans are paid back only gradually. EU students are (for the moment) entitled to the same treatment. Students from elsewhere in the world pay more to study at UK universities.
<b>Applications</b>	Students apply directly for specific degree programmes, eg 'History at Birmingham University'. This is unusual compared to other university systems, where students often only decide what they will major in in their second or third year of study.
<b>Hierarchy</b>	In the UK some universities are widely perceived as more prestigious than others, and have higher entry requirements. Unifrog gives you all the data you need to assess how prestigious universities are perceived to be - but our advice is to take this into consideration along with other factors, such as how your chosen subject area is taught.
<b>UCAS</b>	You can apply to a maximum of 5 degree programmes per year, all via one form on UCAS. Although it takes some effort to make your application as strong as possible, the process is straightforward compared to most other university systems.

[next](#) [or go back](#)










# USING THE UK UNIVERSITIES TOOL

- Enter the potential grades and select up to 10 subjects related to what they wish to study.

Select courses below

Pick the best courses for you by ranking, filtering and searching. Click next when you're done.  
Stuck on a strange term? Check out the [glossary](#) ▾

Rank ▾ Filter ▾

Aspirational (4) Top of your range	Solid (11) In the middle	Safe (70) At the bottom
 <b>Liberal Arts - 3FT BA (Hons)</b> Durham University A Level: A*,A,A	 <b>Liberal Arts - 3FT BA (Hons)</b> King's College London, University of London A Level: A,A,A	 <b>German and Russian Studies - 4FT MA (Hons)</b> The University of Edinburgh A Level: A,B,B-A,A,A
 <b>European Social and Political Studies (4 years) - 4FT BA (Hons)</b> UCL (University College London) A Level: A*,A,A	 <b>Liberal Arts - 4FT MLibArts</b> Queen's University Belfast A Level: A,A,A	 <b>Liberal Arts - 3FT BA (Hons)</b> University of Bristol A Level: A,B,B-A,A,A
 <b>German and Beginners' Russian - 4FT + Abroad BA (Hons)</b> University of Oxford	 <b>Liberal Arts - 3FT BA (Hons)</b> University of Nottingham A Level: A,A,A	 <b>Liberal Arts With Study Abroad - 4FT MLibArts</b> University of Bristol

- The longlist will show every relevant course. It's sorted into **Aspirational**, **Solid**, and **Safe** options.





# Daisy's UCAS Application

## Personal details

Title	Ms	Preferred name	Daisy
First name	Matilda Daisy	Date of birth	19/10/2004
Last name	White	Gender	Female
Previous name(s)	Not provided		

## Contact and residency details

Mobile telephone number	Not provided	Postal address	2 Hillside Drive Belfast County Antrim BT9 5EJ
Other telephone number	Not provided		
Email address	mdwhite861@yahoo.com		

## Nominated access

Do you want someone else to be able to act, or speak on your behalf, about your application? e.g. A parent, teacher, other	Yes	relative or guardian. If you are using an agent, you can choose to enter their details.	
		Full name of nominee	Jamie White
		Relationship to you	father

## Residency details

Is your home address the same as your postal address?	Yes	Please select your area of permanent residence	Belfast
		Residential category	UK Citizen - Northern Ireland

## Nationality Details

# Daisy's UCAS Application

## Finance and funding

What will be your main source of funding for your studies?	UK, Chi, IoM or EU student finance services	Student support arrangements	NIBd - Belfast
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## Diversity and inclusion

### Equality monitoring

Ethnic origin	White	Do you identify as transgender?	I prefer not to say
What is your religion or belief?	No religion or belief	National identity	British
What is your sexual orientation?	I prefer not to say	Dual national identity	Irish

### Care support information

Have you been in care?	No	Parental education	No
		Occupational background	Retired (unspecified)

## More about you

	A learning difference (e.g. dyslexia, dyspraxia, or AD(H)D)	Do you have official refugee status or limited leave to remain, or are you seeking asylum?	No
Further details about your disability	I have dyslexia and I get extra time in the examinations	Do you have a parent or carer who currently serves in the UK Armed Forces, or who has done so in the past?	No
Would you consider yourself estranged from your parents (i.e. you're not in contact with and supported by your parents)?	No	Have you ever served in the UK Armed Forces?	No
Do you have any caring responsibilities?	No	Are you currently receiving free school meals, or have you been in receipt of free school meals during your secondary education?	Yes
Are you a parent or do you have parenting responsibilities?	No		



# Daisy's UCAS Application

## Education

### Methodist College

September 2016 - June 2023 (Full time)

#### GCE Advanced Level (A-Level) in Geography

Subject	Awarding organisation	Grade
Geography	NICCEA	Pending
Qualification date		
August 2023		

#### GCE Advanced Subsidiary in Geography

Subject	Awarding organisation	Grade
Geography	CCEA	Pending
Qualification date		
August 2023		

#### GCE Advanced Level (A-Level) in Mathematics

Subject	Awarding organisation	Grade
Mathematics	NICCEA	Pending
Qualification date		
August 2023		

#### Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Cert RQF (360) (2016 to Present) in Sport

Title	Awarding organisation	Grade
Sport	Pearson	Pending
Qualification date	Module(s)	
August 2023	(2 modules)	

Modules

Subject	Grade	Qualification date
Anatomy and Physiology	M	August 2022
Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Spor	M	August 2022

#### GCE Advanced Subsidiary in French

Subject	Grade	Awarding organisation
French	A	CCEA
Qualification date		
August 2022		

# Daisy's UCAS Application

## Choices

### Sport (Sports Performance)

University of Bath

Location Main Site

Start date 02 October 2023

Further details *Not provided*

Point of entry 1st year

Deferred entry No

Live at home while studying No

### Physiotherapy

University of Birmingham

Location Main Site

Start date 01 September 2023

Further details *Not provided*

Point of entry 1st year

Deferred entry No

Live at home while studying No

Criminal convictions declaration Undeclared

#### There may be an assessment

You may be required to attend an interview or audition or provide a portfolio, essay or other piece of work to help the course tutor decide if you're suitable for this course.

### Physiotherapy

Cardiff University

Location Main Site - Cardiff

Start date 25 September 2023

Further details *Not provided*

Point of entry 1st year

Deferred entry No

Live at home while studying No



# Daisy's UCAS Application

## Personal statement

### **A personal statement is:**

a brief and focused summary about your career or research goals, and is required for applications to universities, colleges, and jobs.'



# THEY ARE IMPORTANT BECAUSE

- Competition for places is very high!
- Most courses do not interview; the Personal Statement is *their* responsibility (Not their teachers', UCAS tutor, the College or their parents).
- An Admissions Tutor can see hundreds of forms in a day.
- An interesting but succinct personal statement makes all the difference.
- A good personal statement will give a student the edge over other fellow applicants.





# GOOD POINTS

Interest in  
course

Work  
experience

Voluntary  
experience

Skills

Academic  
Achievements

Clubs &  
Societies

Duke of  
Edinburgh  
Award

Personal  
experiences

Travel

Hobbies



# THESE MAY NOT BE A GOOD IDEA TO INCLUDE

- Irrelevant sob stories
  - Personal weaknesses
  - Spelling mistakes
  - Don't repeat yourself
  - Bad grammar
  - Waffle
  - Swearing
  - Indecisiveness
  - Lies
  - Excuses
- 
- "Ever since I was..."
  - Too much
  - Too little
  - Abbreviations...lol!
  - Smileys





## WHAT ARE ADMISSIONS TUTORS LOOKING FOR?

- Students with the **academic potential** to benefit from the course.
- Students who are **motivated** towards studying this particular kind of course.
- Students with **relevant experience** for the course.
- The **personal skills** a student can bring to the course.
- The **interests** that a student has.
  - Remember that although each university cannot see the student's other choices, they will all see the personal statement.



# UNIFROG – PERSONAL STATEMENT TOOL

The screenshot shows a web browser window with two tabs: 'hpat ulster 2021 dates - Google' and 'Personal Statement Section 1 - S'. The address bar shows 'unifrog.org/student/personal-statement-section-1'. The browser's toolbar includes various icons for apps, mobility printing, Gmail, and Maps. The Unifrog website header features the logo and navigation links: HOME, SHORTLISTS, LOCKER, APPLY, HELP, a settings gear, an envelope icon, and a 'TEACHER >' button. Below the header, a progress bar shows three steps: '1 Why this subject' (highlighted in red), '2 Your suitability', and '3 Other interests'. The main content area is titled 'Section 1: Why do you want to study this subject?' in red, with a subtext 'This part should make up 30% of the total statement'. A green 'Back' button is located to the right. Under the heading 'Examples of what you may want to write about:', there is a list of six items, each with a green plus icon: '1. Your knowledge of the subject area', '2. Why this subject area interests you', '3. What interests you the most about the subject area?', '4. Where your studies could lead', 'Personal Statement Dos', and 'Personal Statement Don'ts' (which is highlighted in green). The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the search bar and several application icons. The system clock in the bottom right corner displays '19:44' and '01/09/2020'.

hpat ulster 2021 dates - Google x Personal Statement Section 1 - S x


unifrog.org/student/personal-statement-section-1

Apps Mobility Printing Gmail Maps

unifrog

HOME SHORTLISTS LOCKER APPLY HELP TEACHER >

1 Why this subject 2 Your suitability 3 Other interests

**Section 1: Why do you want to study this subject?** 

This part should make up 30% of the total statement

**Examples of what you may want to write about:**

- + 1. Your knowledge of the subject area
- + 2. Why this subject area interests you
- + 3. What interests you the most about the subject area?
- + 4. Where your studies could lead
- + Personal Statement Dos
- + Personal Statement Don'ts

Type here to search

19:44 01/09/2020

# POTENTIAL GRADES

UCAS will request predicted grades  
– the grades that we will provide are  
potential grades.

Students will be provided with these  
grades from their UCAS tutors.

Any discussion concerning grades  
should be with the UCAS tutor and  
not the subject teacher.





# WHEN READY TO SEND

- All sections ticked
- They must agree to share information with us
- Pay fee online - £22 for a single entry and £26.50 for more than one entry
- Remember to click to allow the College access to your TRACK
- Click on “Send to Referee”
- Signed Paper copy to their Careers tutor





# SCHOOL DEADLINE

All Early Deadlines forms must be ready to hand in on Tuesday 20th September.

Tue. 20 Sep.

All other Forms should be ready for Wednesday 9th November

Wed. 9 Nov.



# WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

Writing reference and checking

Full check of application

Sort out queries with student

Corrections

Sent to UCAS





Might look to you  
that nothing is  
happening!



BUT IT IS.



Early deadline  
applications take  
priority.







UCAS sends application to universities



Some respond quickly



Some wait until after closing date before deciding



Interviews?



Offers/rejections!



Given reply date – provisional 9<sup>th</sup> June 2023



Students discuss with Careers Tutors

Students choose 2 of their offers

CF – 1<sup>st</sup> Choice

CI – 2<sup>nd</sup> Choice

Don't withdraw without seeing me!





Provisionally – second week in August

Students should be here that day and for a few days afterwards

Confirm destinations



# CAO

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Can use alongside UCAS

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Students will receive more information concerning this during a tutorial session in November – the system will not be live till 5<sup>th</sup> November 2023

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Very different system

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We have no access to it





# CAO

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CAO points system e.g. A\* 185, A 156 on first 3 A levels

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High demand courses need 4 A-Levels

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Medicine? HPAT – Ireland Date to be confirmed but probably February 2023



Their applications, their Future.  
Their responsibility!

