

Nothing lasts forever.... Including your time at PHS

Post-18 pathways
including UCAS
Nuts & Bolts



It's time to think about moving out

- ▶ Post-18 pathways including the UCAS process
- ▶ Park expectations
- ▶ Important dates

Starter Poll

Hands up if ...

- A. 100% certain about course and university for next year.
- B. Some ideas but need more research.
- C. I am overwhelmed by the choices in front of me.

Step 1: Do you want to go to university?



Step 0:

What do you want your life to be like?



Obviously this is a massive questions which you will grapple with for years. But, it cant hurt to start thinking like this.

Deciding to go to university can feel like a huge task.

Here is how we support

- ▶ PSHCE lessons up to Easter
- ▶ Access to Unifrog
- ▶ UCAS week in June
- ▶ PSHCE lessons in term 1 of Year 13

PSHCE lessons

Spring Term 2 - 6 lessons

UCAS

1. Introduction to UCAS assembly
2. Choosing a University
3. Unifrog - search function
4. Student finance and budgeting part 1
5. Student finance and budgeting part 2
6. UCAS action plan

UCAS Timeline

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| PSHCE Spring Term | The UCAS process, taster courses, open days |
| 16 th June | Park High Post-18 pathways Week |
| 3 rd September | Schools can start to submit completed applications to UCAS |
| 14 th October | Oxbridge & Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary - Park High Application Deadline |
| 27 th November | Park High UCAS deadline |
| Autumn Term | Offers made - Interviews, applicant days |
| Spring Term | Student Finance, Replies to offers |
| 30 June 2021 | Applications after this date held for Clearing |
| 19 th August 2021 | A-level Results Day |

UCAS Week June 2020

- ▶ Opportunity to solidify our thinking around Post 18 options
- ▶ 4 full days dedicated to your future
- ▶ Range of activities and visits- lots of information to digest
- ▶ Keep UCAS to UCAS week if at all possible- do not let it drag!
- ▶ *More information to come*

Should I go to university?

▶ Pros

▶ Cons

Pros

- ▶ Become an expert in a subject you love
- ▶ Prepare for a specific career path
- ▶ Graduates earn more (?)
- ▶ Gives you time to gain work experience
- ▶ Get a taste of independence
- ▶ Gain high-level transferable skills
- ▶ Broaden your mind

Cons

- ▶ May not gain technical skills required for employment
- ▶ May not develop employability skills
- ▶ Contact time is limited
- ▶ Leave with a lot of debt
- ▶ You have to commit 3 or more years of your life
- ▶ Not guaranteed a graduate job

Applying to university

UCAS

University & College Admission Service

- ▶ Only way to apply to university
- ▶ Handle all applications
- ▶ Link between students and institutions
- ▶ Applications are digital

UCAS

Application Process

UCAS Application

Student Parts

- ▶ Online application form
- ▶ Personal statement

- ▶ 4000 characters including spaces and punctuation

School Parts

- ▶ Predicted grades
- ▶ Academic reference

- ▶ 4000 characters including spaces and punctuation



UCAS APPLICATION PROCESS

A QUICK GUIDE

Making a UCAS application

Begin your application at www.ucas.com/apply

Below are the sections that need to be completed:

- Personal details
- Additional information (UK only)
- Student finance (UK and EU only)
- Choices - make up to 5 choices
- Education
- Employment
- Personal statement
- A reference

References are written by someone who knows you well, usually by a teacher or form tutor

Decision-making by institutions

An admissions tutor can make one of three decisions:

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

Or they can offer a place on an alternative course.

Institutions can also request an interview, ask to see your portfolio or ask you to take an admissions test.

Replying to offers

- Once you have decisions on all your choices, you can hold a maximum of two offers:
 - One as a ‘firm’ acceptance - your first choice
 - The other as an ‘insurance’ acceptance - acts as a back-up if you do not get into your ‘firm’ choice.
- You can then decline any remaining offers.

When all decisions and replies are made and you are not holding an offer, you may be able to use Extra or Clearing to find available places

Extra

If students don't get offers from any of their choices, they may be able to use Extra.

Applicants are eligible for Extra if:

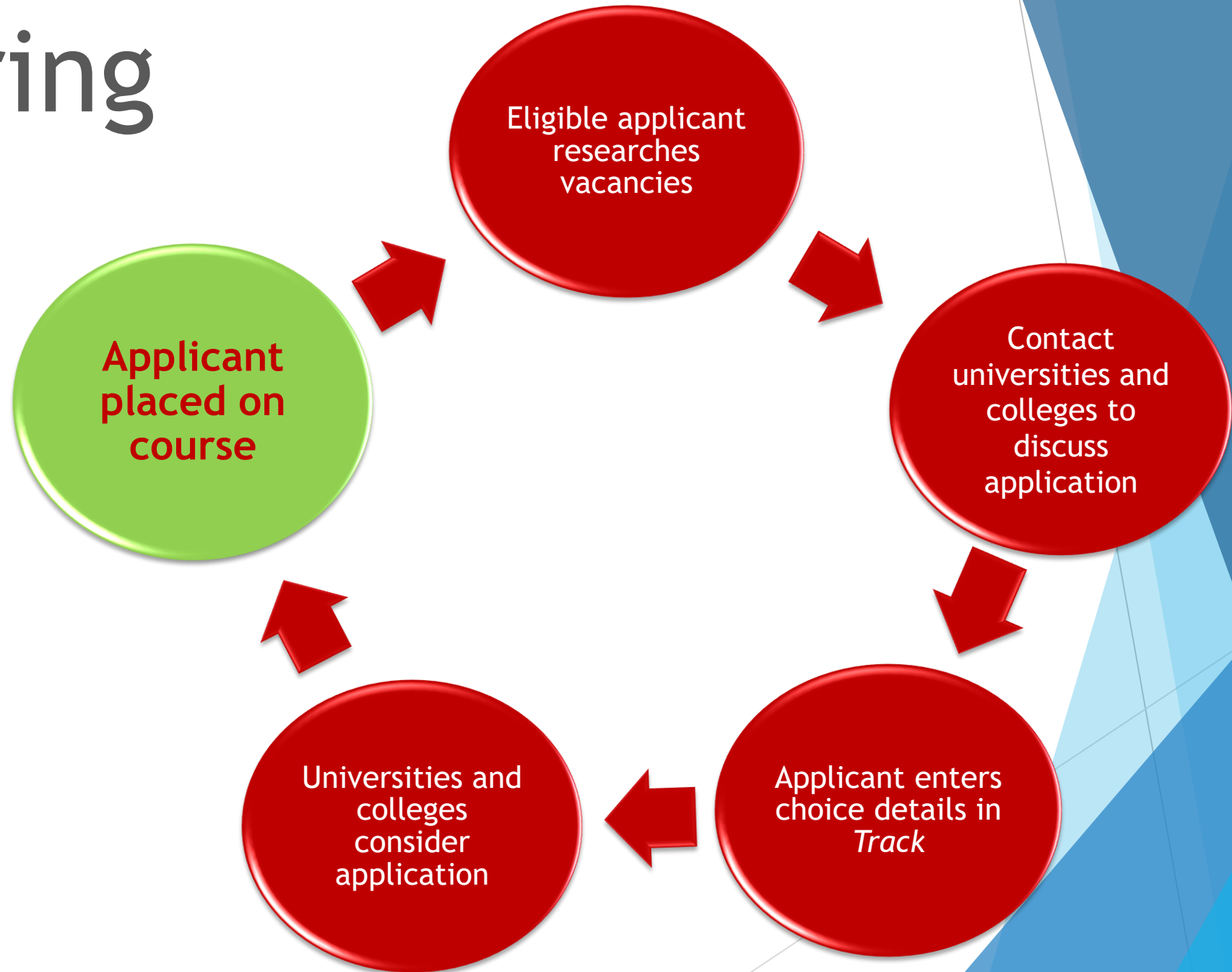
- they have used all five choices
- all their choices were unsuccessful, cancelled, or they declined their offers

If using Extra:

- there is no option for an insurance choice
- the universities have 21 days to respond
- an applicant's existing Apply information is used

Extra is available between February and July
Course vacancies are listed on the UCAS website.

Clearing



Adjustment

- Each year, some applicants pass their exams with better results than expected.
- This may mean some will have not only met the conditions of their firm choice, but will have exceeded them.
- The Adjustment process is for these applicants - it provides an opportunity for them to reconsider where and what to study.

For full details go to www.ucas.com/adjustment

Entry Criteria

Varies course by course, institution by institution

Can change during an application cycle based on demand

Can change on results day if spaces still available

Predicted Grades

Based on End Of Year exam results

Park High will make predictions - conventionally 1 grade above your Y12 grade.

You have 5 choices - we recommend 1 or 2 aspirational choices, 1 or 2 safe choices and 1 solid choice.

Lots of information!

Tips for staying ahead...

- ▶ You should have questions
- ▶ You should speak to lots of people- tutor, parents, Mrs Foster
- ▶ You should research as widely as possible
- ▶ You should actively engage with this process
- ▶ You should contact universities you are considering
- ▶ You should visit universities you are considering
- ▶ You must meet all the deadlines set out for you

What next?

- ▶ Log into Unifrog
- ▶ Next week: choosing a university

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Other routes? Degree Apprenticeship

T:\4) Pastoral\1. Sixth Form\5. Careers\Apprenticeship
talk

<https://www.law.ac.uk/study/apprenticeships/for-students/>