

University Applications 2021 Entry



Timeline

Applying to University:

The first draft of the personal statement should be completed ASAP – there are normally 3 drafts.

For general applications the completed UCAS form including your final personal statement must be submitted to the school by **Friday 13th November 2020**.

The school will then attach their academic reference.

A complete timeline will be issued after you return in August .

Applying to College:

For courses that start August 2021 – apply **December 2020 / January 2021**. Some college course are applied for through UCAS and open earlier e.g HNC Animal Care at Sruc – you are responsible for checking and meeting deadlines .



UCAS

(Universities & Colleges Admissions Service)

- Administration body who co-ordinate the process of applying to University. They will distribute your application to the Universities you have chosen.
- You complete your UCAS application online.
- All pupils even considering University as an option **MUST** be registered with UCAS before the summer break.
- You can make up to 5 course choices.
- You input all your details including a personal statement.
- School will complete & attach academic reference.

Admission Features & Deadlines

- UCAS Conservatoires: Music
(Deadline: **1st October 2020**.)
- Medicine, Veterinary Medicine / Veterinary Science
Dentistry.
Deadline: **15th October 2020**
- Oxford or Cambridge
Deadline: **15th October 2020**
- Other courses:
Deadline: **15th January 2020**

Always Check Your Deadlines!!!

KNOW
YOUR
DEADLINE DATE !

Calendar of Events

- **Register & Log on to Use “Apply 2021” (now)**
- **Research NOW!**
- **Follow @JYHSSupport on Twitter for events and up to date information**
- **Attend virtual open days (ongoing)**
- **Deadline for Submission of online application**
- **UCAS sends your application to each of your choices.**
- **Offers: Unconditional / Conditional / Unsuccessful.**

How Can I Complete Research?

- **UCAS** : Use the UCAS website - it has guides, course search facility, entry profiles, personal statement advice.
- **Institution website** - all universities and colleges have information on their courses online.
- **Open Days** : Due to COVID 19 these are currently virtual but are happening now. You will be able to get subject presentations, have virtual tours and the opportunity to ask questions. The benefit of virtual open days is you can attend more!
- **LEAPS** : For eligible students you can get help and advice through a 121 appointment with an adviser , course checks and more.
- **Ask For Advice** : Get help from SDS (Charlene Duncan) our school careers adviser, your House Head, your subject teachers, someone who is already doing what you want to do and even your parents.

Entry Requirements

- When thinking about what to apply for you need to check the entry requirements and make sure that you will have the right subjects and are able to get the grades required by the end of S6
- What subjects & grades are required? Entry Requirements should make it clear if a subject is required or recommended.
- Usually expressed in Highers

Example: ABBC

(may ask for certain subjects, may ask for specific grade for a subject)

- Some Universities use UCAS Tariff
Higher A = 80 points B = 65 points C = 50 points
- “First Sitting” - usually expressed in S5 qualifications. (University may ask for more if you did not meet entry requirements from your S5 results)
- Some subjects or universities have additional requirements e.g. the UCAT for medicine

Example Entry Requirements for an MA In History at Edinburgh University

Standard entry requirement

- The standard entry requirement is:
- SQA Highers: AAAA-AAAB by the end of S5 or AAAA-AAAB by the end of S6. BBB must be achieved in one year of S4-S5. (Revised 15/04/2020 from AAAA-AAAB and to include alternate grades to be achieved by end of S6 and to require BBB to be achieved by end of S5.)

Minimum entry requirement

- The minimum entry requirement for widening access applicants is:
- SQA Highers: ABBB by end of S6. BBB must be achieved in one year of S4-S6.

Required subjects

The grades used to meet our entry requirements must include:

- SQA: Highers: no specific Higher subjects required. National 5s: English at C

Example Entry Requirements for a BEng (hons) in Chemical Engineering at Heriot Watt University

Highers

Standard entry requirements*:

AAAB

(Maths A, Chemistry B, Physics B)

Minimum entry requirements:**

AABB

(Maths, Chemistry and Physics)

HNC/HND

HNC/HND in Chemical Engineering or a degree in a related discipline plus relevant work experience; other qualifications may be considered; applicants with prior industry experience can enter the course at the equivalent to Year

Entry Requirements – Top Tips

- Do your research as entry requirements for the same subject can vary significantly for different universities.
- Read the requirements carefully as they may also vary if you have achieved the required grades by the end of S5.
- Widening access criteria can vary between universities so check out the information for each university you apply for.
- If you find out you are not able to get the minimum entry requirements for your ideal course by the end of S6 check what college courses are accepted for it.

Year Out

If you decide to take a gap year there are various things you can do:

Deferred Entry

Same deadline, need to apply this year.

Check with University (ie. may not consider deferrals or course may not be available in 2022).

Apply next year

- Apply through school / independently
- Spend a year doing related activities to course (job, voluntary work)
- Employment
- Travel

A YEAR OUT NEEDS TO BE PLANNED



Colleges

College qualifications allow progression to University if you want:

- HNC / HND: You need around 2 Highers for entry
- HNC/D can provide articulation to University.

Articulation: Entry Requirement Agreements between Colleges & Universities

(Can allow entry into 2nd or 3rd year sometimes).

- Look at database: www.elrah.ac.uk
- Find out what HNC/D is relevant for your course:

Look at

- prospectuses
- college / university websites
- ask university

Applying to College

- This normally is completed in December /January
- You need to watch for applications opening and apply as soon as possible as the courses fill up quickly.
- SRUC and Forth Valley applications open in September/October – some are through UCAS so make sure you check!
- Anyone applying to university who does not hold an unconditional offer will be expected to apply for college as a back up
- You can accept offers for University and Colleges at the same time

Applications

- Your application is YOUR responsibility!
- Your Head of House will support you but it is up to you to ensure all deadlines are met
- Each Head of House will have up to 40 applications to support.
- Personal statements will be looked at in the order they come in.
- Heads of House use their own time to check applications and personal statements so remember to be courteous

Next Steps

- Make sure you have completed your online S6 Intentions form - <https://bit.ly/LEAPS-2020>
- Make sure you have completed your online LEAPS eligibility form - <https://bit.ly/S6-2020>
- You will be issued with instructions for signing up for UCAS Apply soon.
- If there is a possibility that you will be applying for university then you **MUST** register with UCAS.
- All pupils intending to apply should register on UCAS Apply by Wednesday 17th June.
- All early applicants – Medicine, Dentistry, Vet Medicine, Oxford/Cambridge and Conservatoire please let your House Head know ASAP.