Table Talk – UCAS and Clearing

UCAS and Clearing Facts

- UCAS stands for Universities and Colleges Admissions Service and was formed in 1992.
- It runs the application service for:
  - All UK undergraduate degrees
  - Performing Arts admissions at UK conservatoires
  - Postgraduate teacher training schemes
  - Some Postgraduate courses
  - Post-16 education and training
- UCAS also run conventions and other university events for students to attend.
- The application fee for UCAS is £26 for multiple courses and £20 for a single course.
- You have a maximum of **five** choices with UCAS
  - These choices can be at five individual institutions **or** can include multiple choices at the same institution. For example:

1. History at Royal Holloway
2. History at Queen Mary
3. History at Kings College London
4. History at Kingston University
5. History at Brunel University

OR

1. History at Royal Holloway
2. Ancient History at Royal Holloway
3. Classics at Royal Holloway
4. History at Queen Mary
5. History at Kings College London

- UCAS Clearing is where universities advertise any remaining spaces on their remaining undergraduate courses.
- It opens on results day and is for students who miss their grades and don't have a place confirmed by either their firm or insurance choice.
- UCAS Adjustment is for when you've done better than you thought in your exams and consequently would like to move to a different course.
- As long as you have an unconditional firm (UF) offer in place from another university, you can enter adjustment on results day.

Conversation starters

- If you or a family member attended university, speak to them about your own experience.
- Ask them about the courses that they are interested in studying.
- If they are unsure, direct them to https://digital.ucas.com/search to find.
- Have they got at least three Universities in mind for their UCAS application?
- If so, have they looked at potential open days or online events?
- Have they registered with UCAS yet?

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Key Dates

Spring / summer – UCAS search tool live and Apply opens.

September - Applications can be submitted to UCAS

October - UCAS deadline for Oxbridge, Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary Medicine.

January - UCAS deadline for most undergraduate courses

February— UCAS Extra opens.

Spring - Deadline to choose your firm and insurance. There are different deadlines depending on when you applied.

July– UCAS Clearing opens.

We also have a free printable UCAS Planner to help students organise themselves during the UCAS process which takes them through the start of Year 12 to the end of Year 13.

Useful Websites

- UCAS Main-Page: https://www.ucas.com/ - lots of useful information about all this university and the application.
- UCAS YouTube Page: https://www.youtube.com/user/UCASonline - lots of useful videos about the UCAS process and how to apply.
- Royal Holloway Main-Page: https://www.royalholloway.ac.uk/
- Royal Holloway Schools and Colleges webpage: https://www.royalholloway.ac.uk/studying-here/schools-and-colleges/ - a variety of online resources available.
- Office for Student Main-Page: https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/