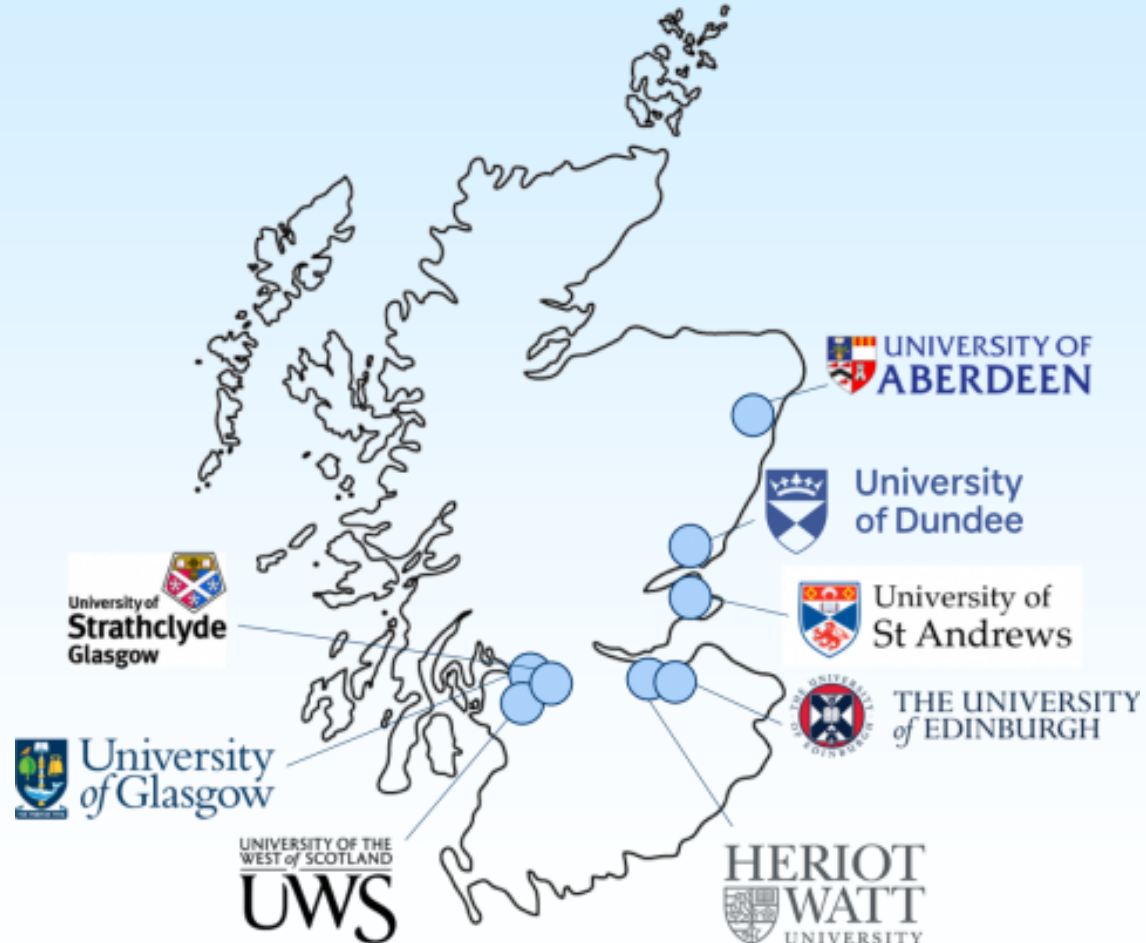
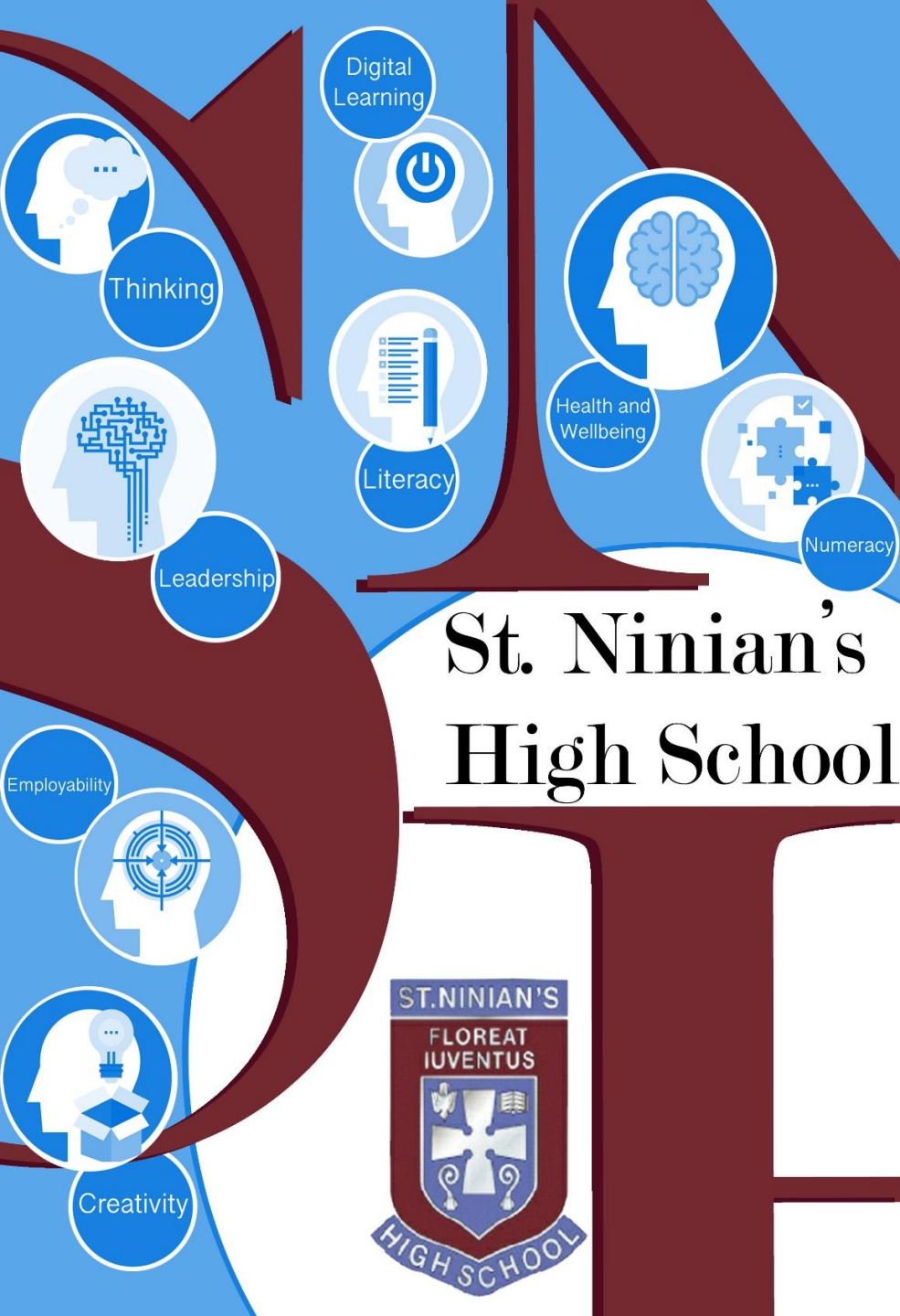


# St Ninian's High School

## UCAS Applications for 2023 Entry





Digital Learning

Thinking

Literacy

Health and Wellbeing

Numeracy

Leadership

St. Ninian's  
High School

Employability



Creativity



## School Prayer

Jesus, as a child you grew in learning and wisdom. Bless Saint Ninian's High School, a community of faith and love where young people learn, work and grow together. Help us to make our school a place where teachers are valued for their dedication; where pupils are encouraged to develop their talents and where all staff, young people and parents – work together in trust and friendship.  
Live among us now and forever.

**Amen**



# Format of the Evening

- **Mrs Boyle**
  - To support students to make a more informed decision about their post school route
  - To inform you of school deadlines
- **Mrs Ward**
  - To give you information on the UCAS process
  - Personal statement advice
- **Mr Low**
- **S6 Service**





# Choosing the Right Pathway

- **Employment**
- **College** – Winter and Summer courses
- **Apprenticeships**
  - **Modern Apprenticeships** - opportunity to work in a paid job while undertaking workplace training in order to gain new and enhanced skills and recognised qualifications.
  - **Graduate Apprenticeships** - provide a new way into degree-level study for individuals who want to go straight into employment. Sectors include ICT and Digital, Cyber Security, Data, Civil Engineering, Engineering, Construction and Business (up to masters level).
- **University**
- **Every young person is different and the right pathway is based on what is right for the individual**



# School Deadlines

DATE	TIMELINE
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> September 2023	All applicants should have registered on UCAS
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	All Personal Details, Education, Exam Results & Employment entered
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	First draft of applicants personal statement submitted to Pastoral teacher, <b>with parental signature</b>
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	All choices for University Courses entered
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> December 2023	Final draft of applicants personal statement submitted to Pastoral teacher with parental signature and entered online on the electronic application
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December 2023	<b>Students must submit their application to the school by this date. Applications will be checked, processed and sent to UCAS by the school.</b>  Individual applications will be checked and sent upon completion.

# University Places

- More Competition
- Funding Cuts
- Impact of Covid-19/lockdown
  - Online courses
  - Job insecurity
- Adult Students

# Consequences of more competition

- Higher entry requirements
  - Be realistic. Is it achievable?
  - Research the course entry requirements. These may differ between different universities
    - Students need to ask themselves, will they meet the requirements by the end of S6? (the accumulative grades)
    - Are there any specified subjects required?



# Consequences of more competition

- S5 attainment is often not enough. Universities increasingly want to see progress in S6
  - S6 students should be following a curriculum of **4 subjects** in addition to attending PE, PSHE and RE
  - Opportunity for vocational courses
  - S6 Service - Volunteering and Leadership
- The key is for students to develop and broaden their skills
  - Personal statements are becoming more important for many courses e.g. Teaching, Nursing, Law, Engineering, 'people centred' / vocational courses





# Choosing a Course

- Focus on your strengths
- Does the course inspire you
- Focus on your skills / areas of personal interest
- Length of Course
- Which faculty

e.g. Arts/ Social Science/ Science/Accountancy

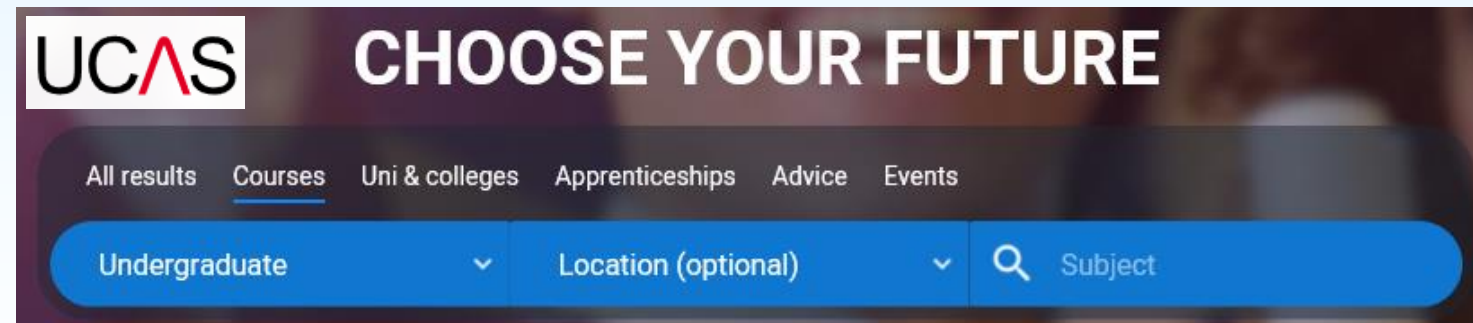
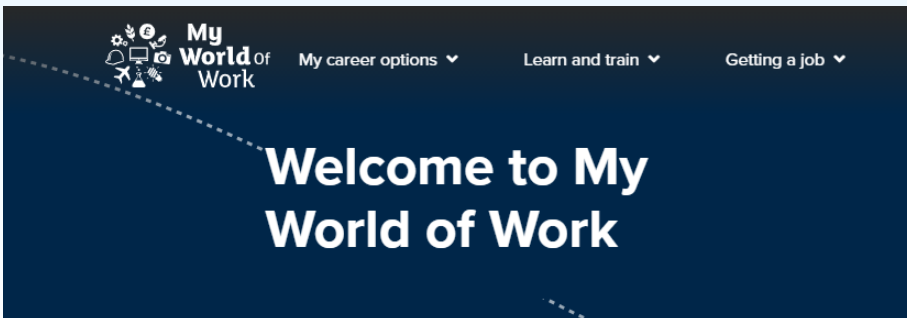
Finance/ Business/Languages/ Engineering/Computing

# Choosing a University

- Course content – may vary depending on the university
- Stay at home/Move out
- Support available
- Job Prospects
- Facilities

# What students need to do...

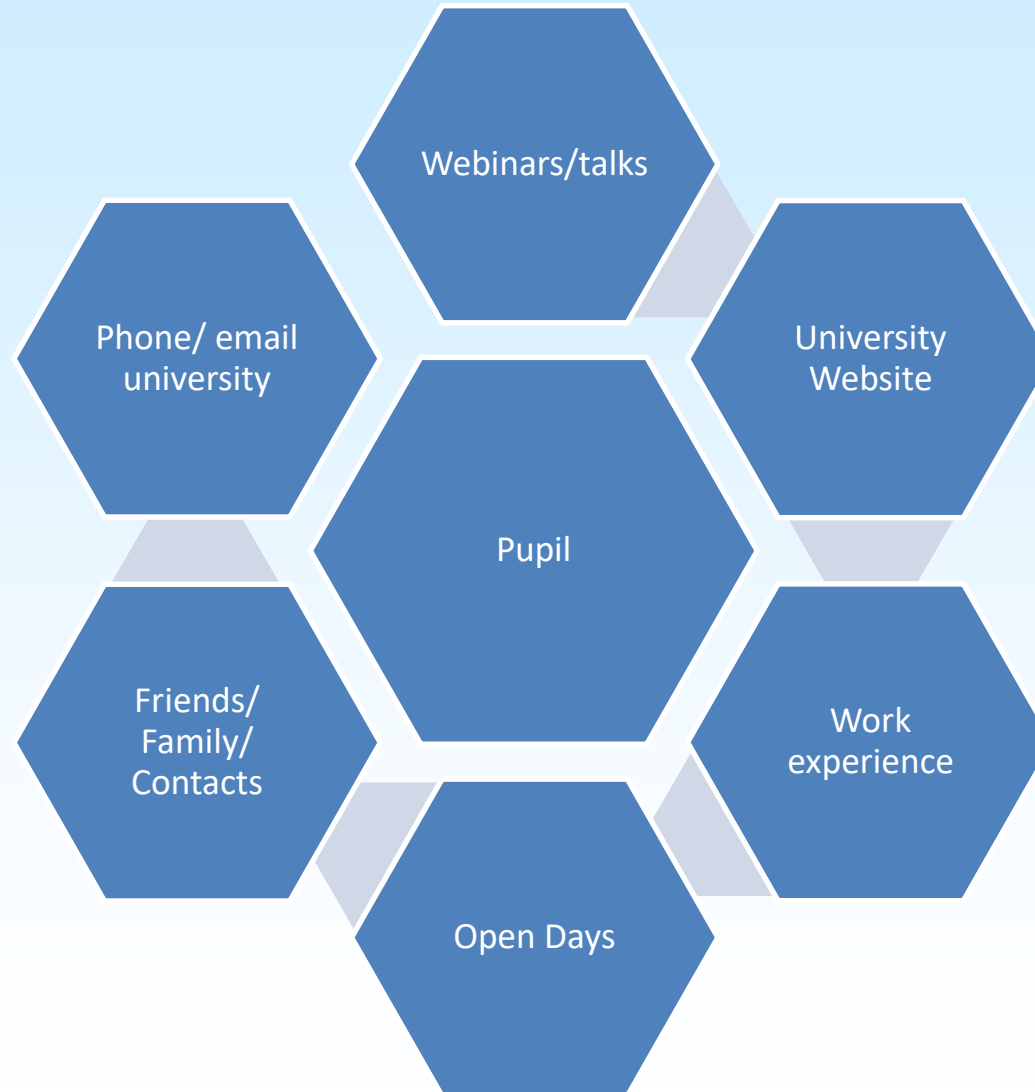
- Research the careers they are likely to be qualified for
- Research whether the career/ profession suit their interests/ personality. Talk to professionals, work experience, Open days
- Have an open mind e.g. the degree may give them the opportunity to apply for numerous career/ employment/ graduate schemes



**Also check individual university websites**



# Collecting Information



# Online Career Information Evenings

- Law
  - Teaching ( Primary & Secondary)
  - Business and Finance
  - Engineering
  - Computing
- 
- Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October, 6pm



# School Reference

- Pastoral staff are required to provide an honest and accurate reference to UCAS
- Universities are of the view that a strong performance throughout Sixth Year is a reliable indicator of future success.
- Estimated Grades
  - Based on evidence
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Interim report: Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November
- All references undergo a quality assurance process

# UCAS Responses

- Unconditional Offer
- Conditional Offer
- Unsuccessful

Provider name	Provider code	<b>UNCONDITIONAL FIRM</b>
University of Glasgow	G28	
Course name	Course code	Date of offer
Mathematics	G100	03 Nov 2021
Course start date	Point of entry	Application reply deadline
19 Sep 2022	Year 1	-
Conditions for acceptance		
This offer is subject to you obtaining		
We strongly encourage you to fully commit to your S6 studies even though you have an unconditional offer. Research indicates that students with good S6 results find the transition to university much smoother and attain better degrees. Graduate employers are interested in all qualifications attained by students, not just their degree qualification.		



**Mrs Ward**

UCAS Application and Personal Statement



# This Evening's Agenda

1. Creating a UCAS account online
2. Personal statements
3. School support available for applicants
4. How parents can help



Sign in

Register

# REGISTER

Email \*

First name \*

Last name

Password \*

Google “register for UCAS” and select the link titled “UCAS Hub – sign up today”



We never share your data without permission  
Our [privacy](#) and [cookie policies](#)

Feedback ( :)

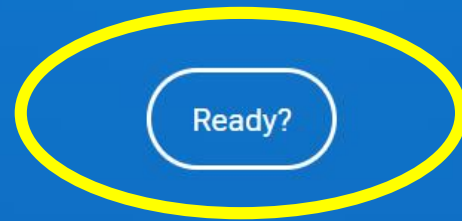




# HI MEGHAN



We've just got 4 steps to help you find all the right information



Not a student?



In which year do you want to  
**start your studies?**



2022

2023

2024

# Select a **level of study**



## **Undergraduate**

Uni and college degrees, and apprenticeships

---

## **Postgraduate**


Returning to uni to continue study, or apprenticeships

Country code


United Kingdom (+44) 

**Which subject(s) are you interested in studying?**

Subject 1 \*

Select an option 

Subject 2

Select an option 

Subject 3

Select an option 

**Get the right support**

Are you still at school/college? \*

Yes

No

Create account



Search for courses

Favourites

Explore your future

ADMIT ONE  
Your events

A B  
C +  
Tariff point calculator

Personal statement

Notes

JAN  
15  
Dates & deadlines

Got a question?

Your applications

**Welcome to your Hub**

Stay organised, supported, and informed throughout the application process.

Go to my Hub



# YOUR HUB

0%

Your **to do list**  
Open to do list >

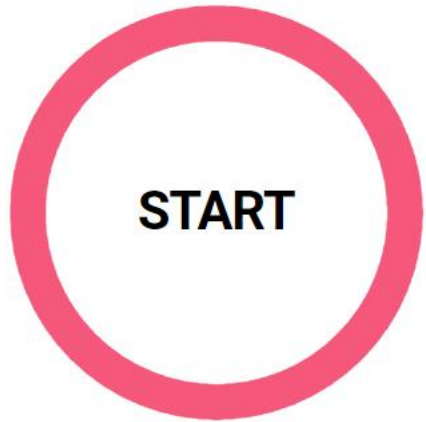


Your **preferences**  
Update for a better experience >

2

Your **notifications**  
Open notifications >

## YOUR 2023 APPLICATIONS



[START APPLICATION](#)

## FAVOURITES

[TOP 5](#) [COURSES](#) [UNI & COLLEGES](#) [LOCATIONS](#) [SUBJECTS](#) [PAGES](#)

Add favourite course to top 5

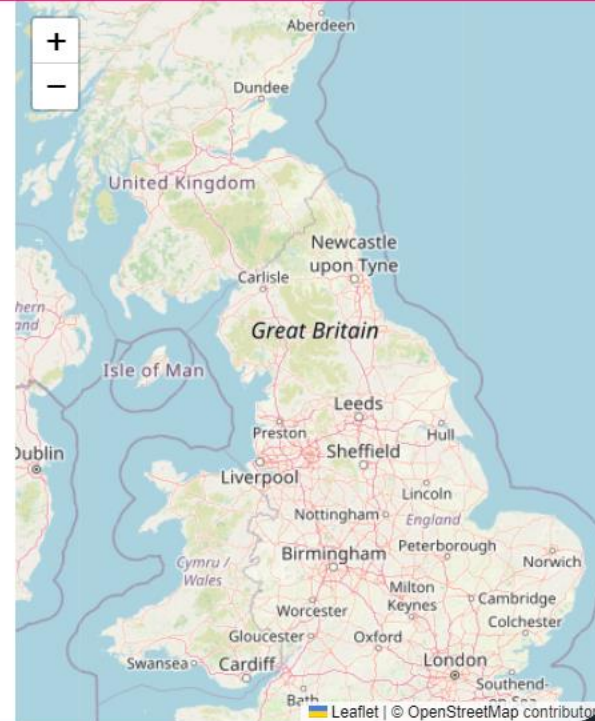
Add favourite course to top 5

Add favourite course to top 5

Add favourite course to top 5

Add favourite course to top 5

[VIEW ALL FAVOURITES](#)



Advertisement. Why the ads?

Feedback ( : )



In which year do you want to start your studies?

2023



What level of study are you interested in?

Undergraduate (Uni and college degrees, and ap...



### Undergraduate

Degrees, HNDs, and HNCs

Start 2023 application >



### Conservatoire

Undergraduate or postgraduate music, dance, drama, or musical theatre.

Start 2023 application >

**Are you applying from a school, college, or centre?**



# Link to a school, college, or centre using a Buzzword

By entering the buzzword, you give your permission to share your application with your school, college or centre, so they can support you through the application process. To find out more about how your school, college or centre will be able to support your application and the information they will have access to please [see here](#).

Continue

Cancel

# Enter the Buzzword from your school, college, or centre

Buzzwords are case-sensitive and will be given to you by your school, college or centre.

**SNHS2024**

Save Buzzword

Cancel



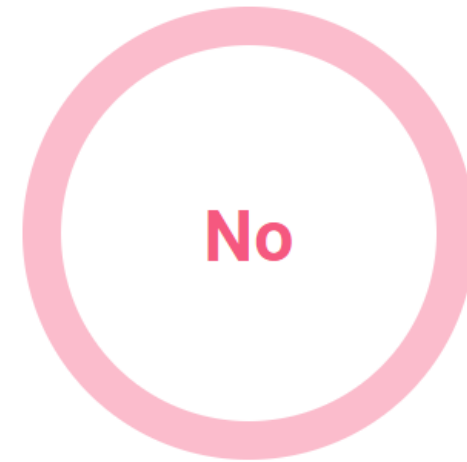


Your buzzword is for

## **St Ninians High School, Giffnock**

Rouken Glen Road,  
Giffnock, East Renfrewshire, G46 6UG

Is this correct?



You have linked your application to  
**St Ninians High School, Giffnock**

Select group

Tony Low

---

Save



# UCAS APPLICATION

2023 Undergraduate application

Your Personal ID number

1662486304

🏠 / UCAS application

## Application **status**

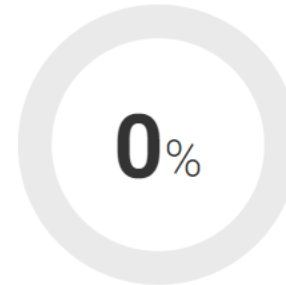
### Centre information

Application linked to  
St Ninians High School, Giffnock

Group  
Meghan Kelly



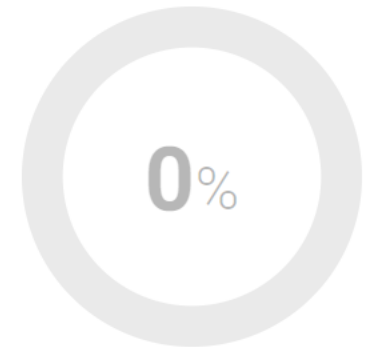
CHOICES



PROFILE



PERSONAL  
STATEMENT



Review and  
submit >

Feedback ( :)

?



# Your choices

## Search for courses

 Find courses and providers



### Add choice

You can add up to 5 choices to your application. You can change your choices until you send your application to us. All sections must be marked as complete before you can send your application to us.

Mark complete

Feedback ( :



# Profile

## Personal details

Name, age, title and gender

[Start this section](#)

## Contact & residency details

Address, email, telephone and where you live

[Start this section](#)

## Nationality details

Birthplace and nationalities

[Start this section](#)

## Supporting information

So that providers know how to support you during your studies

[Start this section](#)

## English language skills

Is English your first language?

[Start this section](#)

## Finance & funding

Tell us how you'll fund your study

[Start this section](#)

## Experience

### Education

Qualifications and periods of study

[Start this section](#)

### Employment

Paid employment

[Start this section](#)

## Your personal statement

### Personal statement

Why do you want to study this subject?

[Start this section](#)

## Add place of education

Name of the school, college, or university \*

St Ninians High School, Giffnock

Exam centre number

This may be automatically filled in based on your school, college, or university



Centre number has not been entered. If the search facility does not have a centre number you can leave it blank. The warning message will remain

Start date \*

Month Year

MM ▾

YYYY ▾

End date \*

Save

Cancel



# St Ninians High School, Giffnock

August 2007 - June 2022

Full time

Add qualification

## Add qualification

To add a qualification either choose from the qualification shortlist or search for your qualification.

### Qualifications shortlist

+ Cambridge International  
Level 1/Level 2 (9-1) Certificate

+ Foundation Apprenticeship  
(Group Award; SCQF level 6)

+ GCSE (Grade: 9-1)

+ GCSE (Grade: A\*-G)

+ National 4

+ National 5

+ National Units-Scotland

+ Other Group Awards-  
Scotland

+ SQA Advanced Highers

+ SQA National Progression  
Award (Band A)

+ SQA Scottish Highers

+ Scottish Progression  
Awards

### Search for your qualifications

Please search for the qualification title, eg 'A level' and not the subject, eg 'chemistry'.

Overseas qualifications will be listed alphabetically under the name of the country they were taken in.

Search 'other' to see the full qualifications list.

#### Search by name



# Course Codes

## NATIONAL 5

Subject	Level	Course Code
Accounting	National 5	C800 75
Administration & IT	National 5	C801 75
Applications of Maths	National 5	C844 75
Art & Design	National 5	
Biology	National 5	C807 75
Business Management	National 5	C810 75
Chemistry	National 5	C813 75
Computing Science	National 5	C816 75
Computer Games Development	NPA (Level 5)	GP03 45
Creative Industries	National 5	C267 75
Cyber Security	NPA (Level 5)	GK7X 45
Dance	National 5	C818 75
Drama	National 5	C821 75
English	National 5	C824 75
Fashion & Textiles Technology	National 5	C828 75
French	National 5	C830 75
Geography	National 5	C833 75
Graphic Communication	National 5	C835 75
History	National 5	C837 75
Laboratory Science	National 5	C781 75
Mandarin (Simplified)	National 5	C845 75
Mathematics	National 5	C847 75
Modern Studies	National 5	C849 75
Music	National 5	C850 75

## HIGHER

Subject	Level	Course Code
Accounting	Higher	C800 76
Administration & IT	Higher	C801 76
Art & Design	Higher	
Biology	Higher	C807 76
Business Management	Higher	C810 76
Chemistry	Higher	C813 76
Computing Science	Higher	C816 76
Computer Games Development	NPA (Level 6)	GP04 46
Cyber Security	NPA (Level 6)	GK7Y 46
Dance	Higher	C818 76
Design & Manufacture	Higher	C819 76
Drama	Higher	C821 76
English	Higher	C824 76
French	Higher	C830 76
Geography	Higher	C833 76
Graphic Communication	Higher	C835 76
History	Higher	C837 76
Human Biology	Higher	C840 76
Mandarin (Simplified)	Higher	C845 76
Mathematics	Higher	C847 76

## ADVANCED HIGHER

Subject	Level	Course Code
Accounting	Advanced Higher	C800 77
Art & Design	Advanced Higher	
Biology	Advanced Higher	C807 77
Business Management	Advanced Higher	C810 77
Chemistry	Advanced Higher	C813 77
Computing Science	Advanced Higher	C816 77
Drama	Advanced Higher	C821 77
English	Advanced Higher	C824 77
French	Advanced Higher	C830 77
Geography	Advanced Higher	C833 77
Graphic Communication	Advanced Higher	C835 77
History	Advanced Higher	C837 77
Mathematics	Advanced Higher	C847 77
Mandarin (Simplified)	Advanced Higher	C845 77
Modern Studies	Advanced Higher	C849 77
Music	Advanced Higher	C850 77
Physical Education	Advanced Higher	C856 77



# What is the purpose of the Personal Statement?

- The personal statement gives you the opportunity to tell the university why they should pick you above other candidates.
- **You must give the best account of yourself!**



- **Advice from University of Glasgow:**

- Pupil should demonstrate an understanding of the programme they are undertaking and commitment to the profession
- **Useful to show where they have overcome adversities**
- Should show holistic view of pupil
- If pupils applying for joint honours/multiple fields cover both areas and link transferable skills between subjects – wouldn't be disadvantaged at UoG for choosing multiple different areas

# Getting started

- Do your research!
- Check entry requirements
- Check what skills are required
- ***Everything in your personal statement should aim to show that you have the skills and qualities they are looking for***

## How to plan your personal statement

UCAS

### Things to know:

1. It's the hardest part of completing your application – make sure you allocate enough time to do it justice.
2. Think about any work experience, part-time jobs, or qualifications – e.g. Extended Project Qualification – you could include.
3. Our resources on [ucas.com/personalstatement](https://ucas.com/personalstatement) will help you.

**1**  
Choose the subject you'd like to study

**2**  
Review entry requirements  
Look carefully at the information on the entry requirements tab in the search tool, and on the universities' and colleges' websites, to ensure you have the skills and qualifications they're looking for.

You can find courses starting the following year from May.

**3**  
Attend events

Go to a UCAS exhibition or university open days to ask admissions tutors what they want to see in a personal statement. Remember to write down ideas!

UCAS exhibitions run from March to July (August to September in Scotland). Outside the UK, events are hosted by the British Council Education UK.

Three months before

**4**  
Make a list

Make a list of what your chosen universities and colleges are looking for in a personal statement.

**5**  
Write a draft  
Write a first draft – refer back to the research you did about what to include.

Writing your personal statement (one month before)

**6**  
Check it  
Ask your parents, teacher, or careers adviser to check it for you and make any recommendations for how to improve it.

Three weeks before

Two weeks before

**7**  
Make changes

Make any changes, and check your grammar, spelling, and punctuation. Check the length is no more than 4,000 characters or 47 lines of text (including blank lines).

**8**  
Check again

Show your redrafted statement to your parents, teacher, or careers adviser for a final check.

**9**  
Deadline

Copy and paste your final statement into Apply by the deadline.

**10**  
Don't forget

Re-read it before you go for an interview – it may form the basis for their questions.



# Structure

- **Paragraph 1** – Why you have chosen this subject/course
- **Paragraph 2** – Academic Skills
- **Paragraph 3** – Personal Skills: Work experience, Volunteering
- **Paragraph 4** – Personal Skills: Extracurricular/ Interests
- **Paragraph 5** - Conclusion

# Opening Paragraph

- Why you want to study the course
- It should give convincing reasons for your choice of course and show that serious research has been undertaken into the subject
- Show enthusiasm, interest, excitement
- Avoid dramatic openings/clichés

# Opening Paragraph

- From a young age I have always been a keen reader and growing up I have expanded my knowledge of history, culture, politics, and religion through reading various books by a wide range of different authors. I make a conscious effort to broaden the diversity of my reading and have always been keen to read a variety of literature including poetry, plays and novellas from varying time periods. The study of English literature has always interested me as I have enjoyed the critical analysis of literature extracts in school from National 5 through to Advanced Higher and I am keen to further develop and enhance the analytical skills I have gained in my academic experience so far.



# What makes you suitable to study the subject?

- Paragraph 2
- **Academic skills**
  - **Don't list your subjects and grades.**
  - You must identify the skills you have developed, provide evidence of these and highlight why these will be useful in your chosen degree course.

# Subject Course Specifications



## Skills, knowledge and understanding

### Skills, knowledge and understanding for the course

The following provides a broad overview of the subject skills, knowledge and understanding developed in the course:

- ◆ understand and use a range of complex mathematical concepts and relationships
- ◆ select and apply operational skills in algebra, geometry, trigonometry, calculus and statistics within mathematical contexts
- ◆ select and apply skills in numeracy
- ◆ use mathematical reasoning skills to extract and interpret information and to use complex mathematical models
- ◆ use mathematical reasoning skills to think logically, provide justification or proof, and solve problems
- ◆ communicate mathematical information with complex features

## Skills, knowledge and understanding

### Skills, knowledge and understanding for the course

The following provides a broad overview of the subject skills, knowledge and understanding developed in the course:

- ◆ demonstrating knowledge and understanding of chemistry by making accurate statements
- ◆ demonstrating knowledge and understanding of chemistry by describing information, providing explanations and integrating knowledge
- ◆ applying knowledge of chemistry to new situations, analysing information and solving problems
- ◆ planning, designing and safely carrying out experiments/practical investigations to test given hypotheses or to illustrate particular effects
- ◆ carrying out experiments/practical investigation safely, recording detailed observations and collecting data
- ◆ selecting information from a variety of sources
- ◆ presenting information appropriately in a variety of forms
- ◆ processing information (using calculations and units, where appropriate)
- ◆ making predictions and generalisations from evidence/information
- ◆ drawing valid conclusions and giving explanations supported by evidence/justification
- ◆ evaluating experiments/practical investigations and suggesting improvements
- ◆ communicating findings/information effectively



- *The Advanced Higher Business course presents me with the opportunity to improve my proficiency by working independently on a project. This has strengthened my skills in research and report writing*

*How will you contribute to the course and the university community and what makes you an interesting and unique individual?*

- Paragraph 3 - Personal Skills
- Work Experience
- Volunteering/S6 Service
  
- Paragraph 4 – Extracurricular (both in and outwith school)/Interests/Part time work
- Your interests outside of school, particularly those that show you are a responsible and reliable person able to work well as part of a team as well as independently.
- What makes you stand out?

- Through my work experience at Isobel Mair, an additional support needs school, I have learned to work in a difficult environment whilst prioritising the needs of others, I have also learned to analyse behaviour and find a best suited solution for the problem. Through attending open days for English literature and classics I have expanded my knowledge of the course and have started to focus my external reading on books that relate to both. These open days have revealed to me the various aspects that the course will cover in more detail than the course specifications which has deepened my interest in the study of literature.

- By assisting pupils in the lower school during their English reading periods I have been able to share my interest in the subject whilst expanding their familiarity and awareness of reading and its importance. In addition, I also help pupils in the lower school in first year history which reminds me of the early topics in history that I have previously covered and gives me the opportunity to share my love for another subject that I take great interest in. Helping in my schools creative writing club has allowed scope for my own personal writing in addition to supporting younger pupils with their works and overall confidence in the creative writing aspect of the course.

# Conclusion

- Commitment to your chosen course
- What research you have undertaken (open days, prospectuses, discussions etc) that has helped inform your choice and application.
- Demonstrate that you will be hardworking
- Understand the demands of life at university
- Closing statement –summarise your suitability and interest for the course
- E.g. *“If successful in my application, I will strive to be fully committed to the course, and intend to live up to the high standards which I have set myself. I look forward to the challenges that university will bring.”*



# What to Avoid

- Mentioning a particular University
- Exaggerating
- Arrogance
- Waffling or flowery language
- Poor spelling and grammar
- Clichés
- Plagiarism – UCAS uses software that will identify sections of text that have been copied

# Limit

- 4000 characters including spaces or 47 lines
  - Whichever one comes first
  - *You need to be concise*

# Summary

- Show that you know your strengths and can outline your ideas clearly
- Use words you know will be understood by the person reading your statement
- Be enthusiastic – if you show your interest in the course, it may help you get a place
- Expect to produce several drafts of your personal statement before being totally happy with it
- Ask people you trust for their feedback.

# What pupils need to do

- Conduct thorough research on courses and universities/colleges
- Prepare well – organise your time to dedicate sufficient effort to personal statement
- Keep up-to-date with announcements on S6 UCAS Teams page
- Liaise closely with your Pastoral Support Teacher
- **Take responsibility – this is your application and your future**

# School Support

- PSHE lessons
- Pastoral Support
- Careers Evenings
- Teams announcements – resources, exemplars
- Mock interviews
- References

# What parents can do to support

- Ensure your son/daughter continues to work hard in S6
- Provide guidance ensuring what they are applying to is achievable
- Assist with the research process
- Ensure they adhere to timeline and deadlines
- Ensure that they are arranging volunteering/placements etc.
- Read your son/daughter's personal statement before it is submitted
- Ensure this is one of their priorities over the next few months
- Contact us if you have questions

Mr Low

S6 Service







# S6 Service

Volunteering opportunities for  
S6 pupils – 2022/2023



**Every student in S6  
should be involved in  
at least one  
opportunity within  
the S6 Service**

**Volunteer**



## Why Volunteer?

- Your chance to give back to the school / community
- Improves employability
- Excellent for UCAS / College / Job applications
- Improves awareness of citizenship
- Increases core skills
- Strengthens CV
- Develops personal and social skills
- Boosts self-confidence and self-esteem
- Develops team work skills
- Builds relationships

No one has ever  
become poor by  
giving.

Anne Frank  
(Sunday - Sep 19, 2022/41 pm)



## 3 Options

- 1. Community Placements**
- 2. In School Volunteering**
- 3. Self Found placement**



## **S6 Service Community Placements Important Information**

- **Community Placements involve Nursery and Primary schools, Isobel Mair, Care homes, Dementia Unit etc.**
- **You must be 100% committed to this and your attendance will be monitored.**
- **Do not chose a community placement if you are not going to give it 100% as people will rely on you.**



# In-School Volunteering



**Please arrange with the relevant department days & times you would like to help**

- Buddying
- Departmental tutoring
- Volunteering at Friday club
- Volunteering at other clubs across the school
- One to One tutoring with an S4 pupil
- Helping in an S1/2 PSHE class
- Supervising younger pupils at break / lunch





# Self Found Placement

# Summary

- Research your choices fully
- Gain your best from this year – academic and personal qualities
- Spend time on your application and keep to the timeline
- Speak to Pastoral support if you have any queries