

# UCAS Parent Information Session 2024



# What is UCAS?

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University and Colleges Applications Service

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Used for University Applications in Scotland

Colleges have their own applications portal and applications open in January of each year for August entry

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Young people applying through UCAS have up to 5 choices

Cost £28.50 unless been entitled to free meals.

# Post School Options are Varied



HIGHER EDUCATION  
UNIVERSITY AND  
COLLEGE



APPRENTICESHIPS  
INCLUDING  
GRADUATE LEVEL  
APPRENTICESHIPS



STUDYING ABROAD



GAP YEAR



GETTING A JOB

# Post School Qualifications

**Higher National Certificate (HNC) and Higher National Diploma (HND):** HNC is a one-year industry specific course, and the HND is a two-year industry specific course.

**Higher apprenticeships:** provide an opportunity to gain Level 4 qualifications or above, e.g. HND, or foundation degree while you work. Can take from one to five years to complete, depending on the course level.

**Foundation degree:** flexible vocational qualification, combining both academic study and workplace learning. It usually takes two years to complete.

**Bachelor's or undergraduate degree:** a three to four-year course which can also be available as a part-time option, allowing you to study and work.

**Degree apprenticeships:** enable you to gain a full undergraduate or master's degree while you work. Degree apprenticeships take three to six years to complete, depending on the course.



MOST YOUNG PEOPLE KNOW WHAT  
UNIVERSITY OR FIELD OF STUDY THEY ARE  
INTERESTED IN  
AND WHAT QUALIFICATIONS ARE NEEDED  
TO GET IN



IF STILL UNDECIDED...



CRUCIAL NOW THAT STUDENTS  
DECIDE WHAT TO DO AND WHERE  
TO GO????

# Sources of Advice and Help

- Career Advisor
- UCAS HUB
- **CAREERS QUIZ**
- **WHAT UNIVERSITY?**
- **Read the content of courses on University Websites**
- **TASTER / SPOTLIGHT SESSIONS**
- Open Days
- **TALK TO FAMILY/FRIENDS/FORMER STUDENTS FROM CNHS**

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

### FOR ENTRY IN 2025

#### Summary of entry requirements for Education with Primary Teaching Qualification

##### SQA Higher entry requirements (by end of S6)

- ABBB is the minimum requirement from S5 to be reviewed for an S6 offer
- Offers are not guaranteed to applicants who meet the minimum from S5
- Typically offers will be made at AAABB by end of S6. B at Advanced Higher is equivalent to A at Higher
- Additional requirements: Higher English and National 5 Mathematics or Application of Mathematics at Grade B
- Interview\*\*.

## Entry requirements

Required subjects are shown in brackets.

### Highers

Standard entry requirements\*: AAAB

(Maths A, Physics A)

Minimum entry requirements\*\*: ABBB

(Maths and Physics or Engineering Science)

# Example of Entry Requirements



# Research the course and the Jobs

University websites

UCAS

MyWow

**Prospects**

Governing bodies



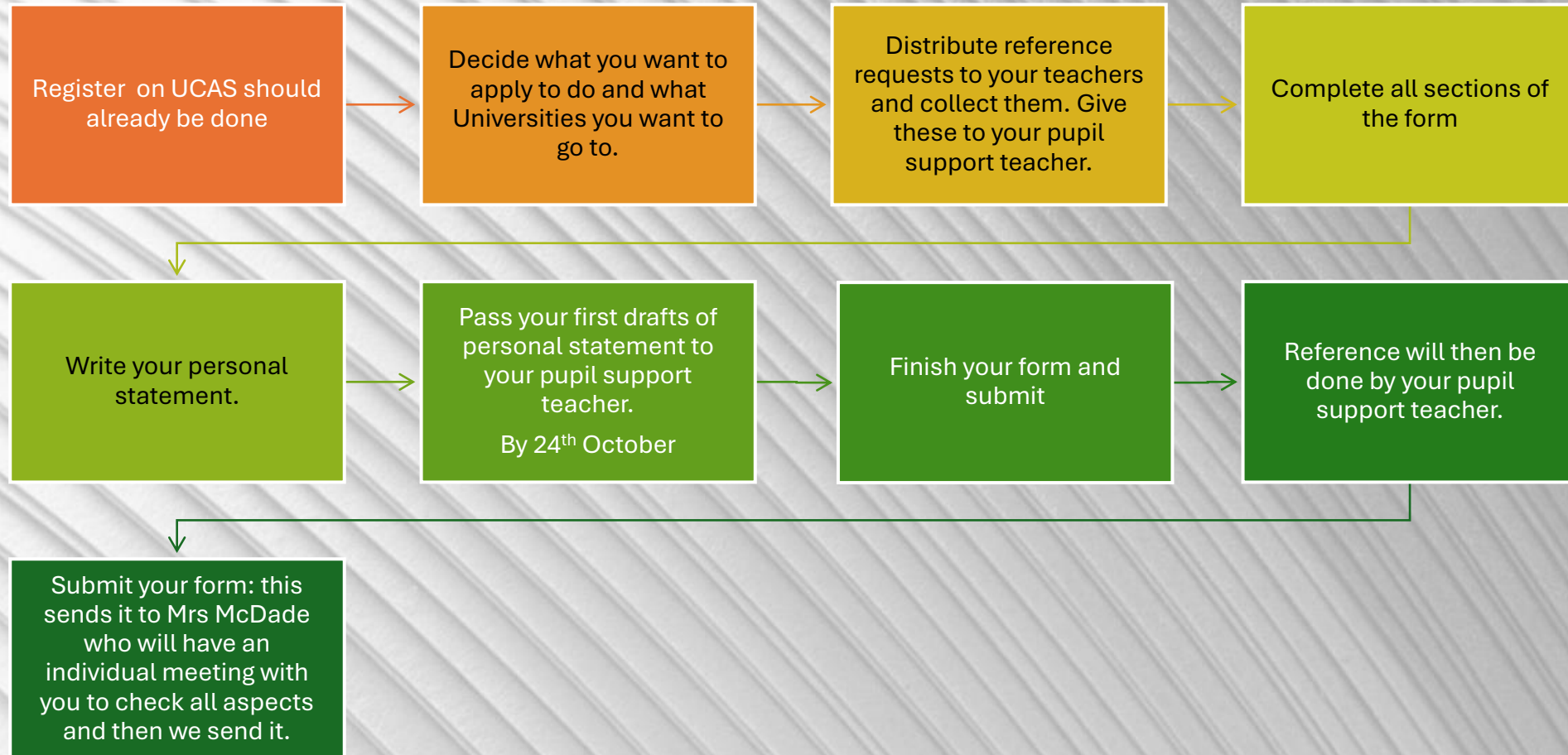
# Three Key Parts

The Application form  
All personal details  
including work and  
education.

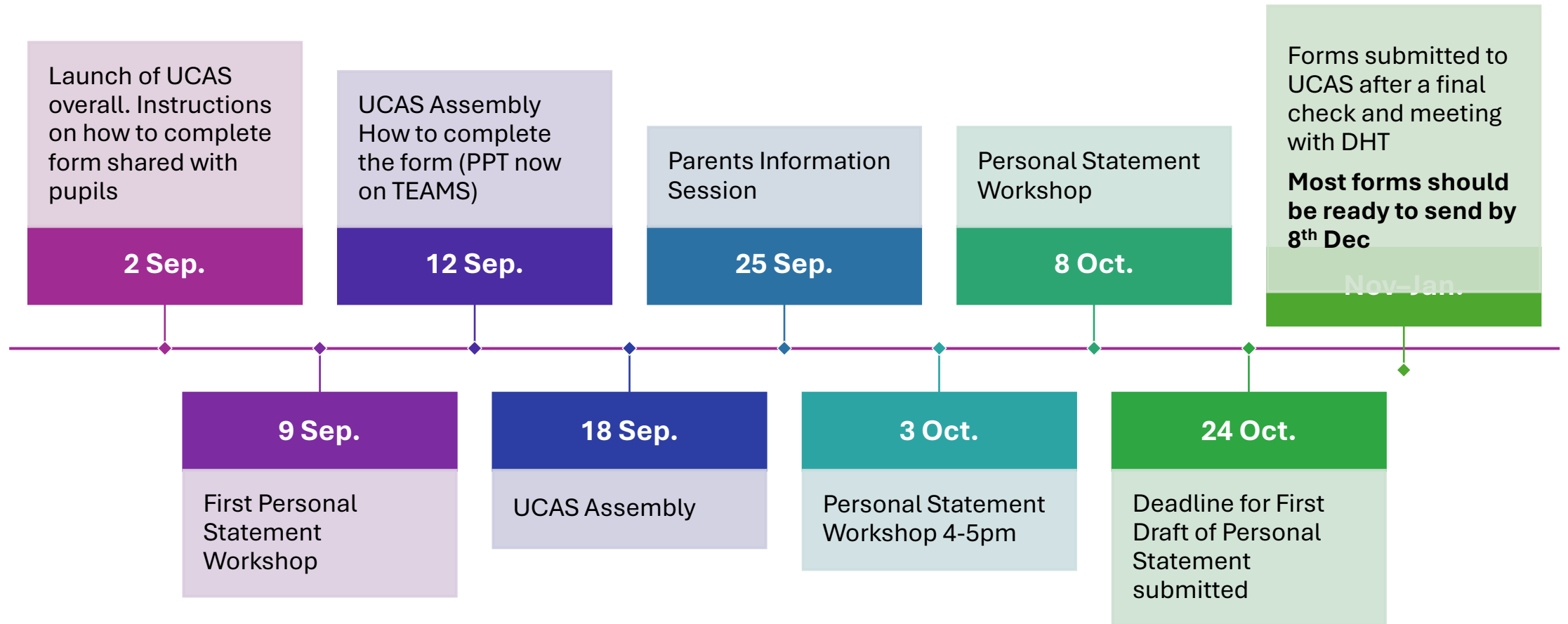
The Reference: written by  
the pupil support teacher  
about you

The Personal Statement:  
4000 words about the  
students why they want to  
do that course and what  
skills and experiences  
they have

# The Process is



# CNHS TIMELINE



# What's a personal statement?

A personal statement is a chance to get noticed for the unique talents and experiences the students have.

It's an important part of the application process as it's an opportunity to talk about passions, outside of your grades. To show they know what they are applying to.

# PERSONAL STATEMENT

Skills, Experiences, Knowledge

## **Don't be tempted to copy or share a statement**

- UCAS scans all personal statements through a similarity detection system to compare them with previous statements.
- Any similarity greater than 30% will be flagged and the universities and colleges to which they have applied will be informed.



# HOW TO WRITE YOUR PERSONAL STATEMENT

You can use the PERSONAL STATEMENT BUILDER

# OPENING STATEMENT

*“Be succinct and draw the reader in, but not with a gimmick. This isn't the X Factor”*

*Admissions tutor*



# WHAT TO INCLUDE

Be bold and talk about the achievements you're proud of.

Include positions of responsibility you hold, or have held, both in and out of school.

What are the things that make you interesting, special, or unique?

Your work experience and future plans are important to include. You should share details of jobs, placements, work experience, or voluntary work, particularly if it's relevant to your course.

Try to link any experience to skills or qualities that'll make you successful.

If you know what you'd like to do after as a career, explain how you plan to use the knowledge and experience that you'll gain to launch your career.

Why have you chosen this course?

What excites you about the subject?

Is my previous or current study relevant to the course?

Have you got any work experience that might help you?

What life experiences have you had that you could talk about?

What achievements are you proud of?

What skills do you have that make you perfect for the course?

What plans and ambitions do you have for your future career?

# What next...



Start your personal statement use the examples on the TEAM, the guidance on the TEAM, help on the UCAS website. Two after school Personal statement workshops 3<sup>rd</sup> October and 8<sup>th</sup> October.



Get your form completed: *Step by step Guide to completing form is on the S6 TEAM under UCAS and Files.*



Under education you must put in all your qualifications, National 5, Highers, you already have and are sitting.

# Applied to UCAS What Next

UCAS send acknowledgement with **Personal ID Number/ Application number.**

Universities can now see the application

Applications are assessed & offers can take time.



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## Replies

Universities decide on the application.  
They have 3 choices:

- Unconditional offer
- Conditional offer
- Rejection

Applicant days and interviews can be part of this process. **Check your email and UCAS hub regularly**

# Two Types of Offer

## *Conditional Offers*

Grades to be achieved in next years exams

Will be based on current studies

or

successful completion of a Summer School/Online Module set by the University

THEY WILL BE GRADES WHICH ARE  
ACHIEVEABLE

## *Unconditional offers*

No further qualifications required

# Replying to Offers

If you receive your last offer on or before the 14<sup>th</sup> of May 2025, your reply date is the **4<sup>th</sup> of June.**



2 responses: Firm & Insurance.

Can hold a  
maximum of  
**Two Offers**  
One firm and  
one Insurance

### Firm Acceptance

This is the preferred choice if you have the grades this is where you are going.

- Insurance Acceptance
- This is normally the back-up plan.





# Funding and Accommodation

## SAAS

Student Awards Agency Scotland

- MUST apply to have fees paid and any student loans or Bursary.
- Applications open in March and Should be made by 30 June.

## Accommodation

- The Majority of our young people remain at home if they don't intend to or cannot due to distance in their application they should select not staying at home, in first year the University will prioritise them for accommodation