



5 things every student (and parent) needs to know about university

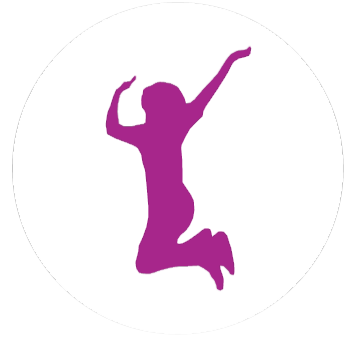
Jon Cheek
Director of UniTasterDays



UniTasterDays

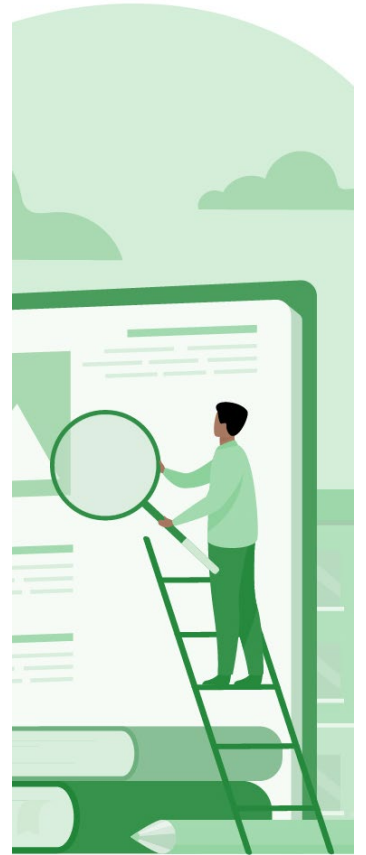


A little about me

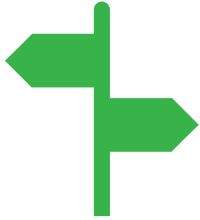


The plan for this evening

1. Reasons to consider university
2. Deciding what to study
3. Deciding where to study
4. How students will pay for university
5. Where to find help



Students have big choices to make



Is university
right for you?



What should
you study?



Where should
you study?

Reasons to consider university

To earn
more money

To live
independently

To make your
family proud

To fulfill a
career need

To try
new things

To study
your passion

To develop
life skills

To meet
new people

To travel
the world

To discover
a new subject

To live in a new
place

To delay
the real world

Deciding what to study

There are over 30,000 courses to choose from, ranging from academic to vocational courses



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Real or made up .. Find the 3 traitors!

Animal Behaviour

Candle Making

Football Business

Golf Management

Ethical Hacking

Contemporary
Circus

Brewing and
Distilling

Zoology

Viking Studies

Cryptocurrency






Perfumery

Entrepreneurship

Remember...



Every course is different – even those with the same name. For instance, Maths at one university will have a different focus to Maths at another university!

	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
9:00 – 10:00	Maths	PE	ICT	Music	Science
10:00 – 11:00	English	Maths	English	Science	English
11:00 – 12:00	Drama	Science	Maths	Maths	PE
12:00 – 1:00					
1:00 – 2:00	ICT	Music	PE	English	ICT
2:00 – 3:00	Science	Drama	Drama	PE	Music

	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
9:00 – 10:00		Writing for Theatre			
10:00 – 11:00					
11:00 – 12:00					
12:00 – 13:00				Theatre and Human Rights	
13:00 – 14:00	Dissertation Meeting				Theatre in Education
14:00 – 15:00					
15:00 – 16:00					
16:00 – 17:00					
17:00 – 18:00					
After 18:00					

Example Weekly “Course Time”

	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	
9:00 – 10:00	Food shopping	Writing for Theatre	Working as a student ambassador at a Drama and Theatre Studies visit day			
10:00 – 11:00				Group meeting/ rehearsal	Group meeting/ rehearse	Essay prep
11:00 – 12:00	Dissertation Meeting	Lunch		Theatre and Human Rights	Lunch	
12:00 – 13:00		Reading for classes			Lunch	Theatre in Education
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch	Gym		Gym		
14:00 – 15:00	Essay prep					
15:00 – 16:00		Drama rehearsals		Working at the theatre	Socialise	Working at a pub quiz
16:00 – 17:00						
17:00 – 18:00						
After 18:00						

Source: University of Essex (adapted as an example)

Deciding where to study

There are over 160 universities
in the UK, varying in location, size,
history, specialities, and facilities



3

Your new home

You're not just picking a course. You're not just picking a university. You're picking your home for the next 3 years and (often) beyond!



Which 3 universities aren't real?

De Montfort
University

Falmouth
University

Bath Spa
University

Trafford
University

University of
Football Business

Buckinghamshire
New University

Lincoln Bishop
University

Edge Hill
University

St David's
University

University of
Yorkshire

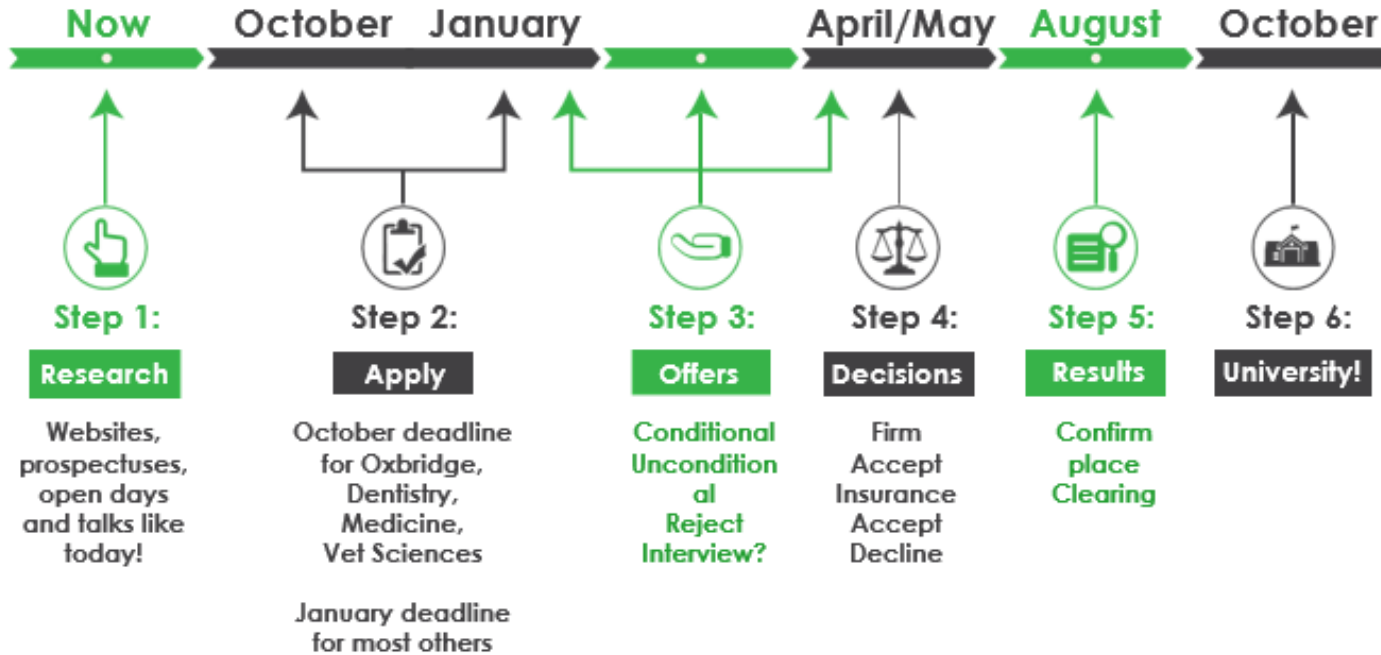
Harper Adams
University

Robert Gordon
University

Which 3 universities aren't real?

			Trafford University
St David's University	University of Yorkshire		

You have time and options



How you'll pay for university

Student loan OR directly.



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What do you get



Tuition Fee Loan

- For course fees
- Up to £9,790 a year



Maintenance Loan

- For living costs
- Up to £14,135 (26/27)



Student loan repayment question

- You studied, graduated, and secured a job
- You earn £35,000 a year
- That is £2,916 a month

Student loan repayment quiz

- You studied, graduated, and started a job
- You earn £35,000 a year
- That is £2,916 a month

Each month, you need to give some of your £2,916 to the Student Loans Company to repay your student loan.

Student loan repayment quiz

- You studied, graduated, and started a job
- You earn £35,000 a year
- That is £2,916 a month

Each month, you need to give some of your £2,916 to the Student Loans Company to repay your student loan.

How much do you need to repay based on your salary?

Student loan repayment quiz

- You studied, graduated, and started a job
- You earn £35,000 a year
- That is £2,916 a month

Each month, you need to give some of your £2,916 to the Student Loans Company to repay your student loan. How much do you need to repay based on your salary?

Take a guess!

More salary, more repayment

- Each month, you repay 9% of anything over £25,000 (should even increase by the time you finish your course)
- Repayments come straight out of your salary, just like taxes
- If your earnings decrease (or stop) then so do your repayments

More salary, more repayment

- Each month, you repay 9% of anything over £25,000
- Repayments come straight out of your salary, just like taxes
- If your earnings decrease (or stop) then so do your repayments
- For example...

Yearly salary	>>	Monthly salary	>>	Monthly repayment
£21,000		£1,750		£0
£22,000	>	£1,833	>	£0
£25,000		£2,083		£0
£30,000		£2,500		£37.50
£40,000		£3,333		£112.50
£50,000		£4,166		£187.50

Finance facts

Payback at
£25,000 +

Amount depends
on earnings

9% of
£25,000 +

40 years
to repay

Not on your
credit file

Interest
payable



But it can all change

Where you'll find help

There is a treasure trove of helpful resources for you to access, such as guides, websites, videos, and...

A woman with dark hair, wearing a yellow top and large black headphones, is smiling and looking towards a man. The man is wearing a brown jacket, a grey shirt, and large black headphones. They are both sitting at a desk with microphones in front of them, suggesting a podcast recording or a video call session. The background is a bright, out-of-focus office or studio setting.

5

Podcasts



UniTasterDays.com/TheUniGuide

Podcasts



UniTasterDays.com/TheUniGuide



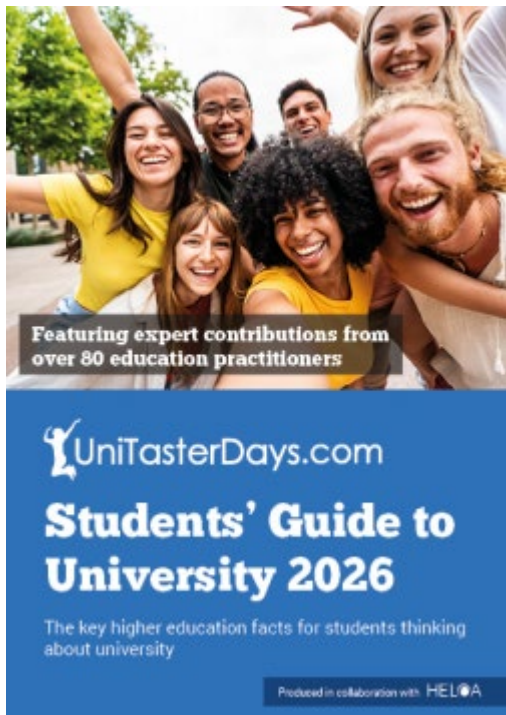
UniTasterDays.com/OneInFive

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**What can we expect
from the Students' Guide
to University 2026?**



Students' Guide to University 2026



UniTasterDays.com/ Students

Thank you

Best of luck with your university
journey and decision-making.
You have got this!

