

## Results' Day and What To Do If...

### I match the choice of my firm offer?

**Congratulations** you're going to university. The place is yours and will appear in the UCAS Hub.

### Clearing Guide:

#### **Find a course in Clearing (from July 5)**

- If you have no offers and you're not waiting for any decisions, or you have declined offers you received you can search for courses in **Clearing**. Clearing opens Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> July.
- You must discuss your choice with the university or college first, and only add a Clearing choice if the university or college has advised you to do so.

### What if I don't get the grades I need?

#### **Enter Clearing**

Clearing is a UCAS service that allows universities to fill spaces on courses that aren't yet full, while students without offers are given a second chance to pursue their higher education aspirations.

#### **Log into UCAS and check your Track!**

Track will open at **8:30am**. You never know until you hear from the university via UCAS Hub about the status of your applications.

If you become eligible to use Clearing, clearing plus will help you to find a course that you have been personally matched too. You can see course vacancies that you have been matched to by clicking the '**View Matches**' button on your application. This allows you to search lists of courses. If you find a course you're interested in, you should click the 'I'm Interested' button and your details will be passed to the university or college.

You can make up to 5 expressions of interest at any one time. If the university or college still has places, they may reach out to discuss things further and make an offer. If you receive an offer, all you need to do is add it as clearing choice by clicking the '**Add Clearing**

**choice'** button will become available on your UCAS Hub screen. You can add clearing choices from **3:00pm** on Results Day.

### **Have you narrowly missed out?**

If you've narrowly missed the grades then talk to the university. While they're under no obligation to reconsider their decision, especially with places so competitive. You may even be offered a place on an alternative course.

Read the information in the link below to help you prepare:

**The UniGuide:** <https://www.theuniguide.co.uk/advice/clearing-results-day/ucas-clearing-how-to-call-universities>

**UCAS** - <https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/results-confirmation-and-clearing/results/results-what-you-need-know>

### **Finding and researching courses you are interested in.**

Use the lists provided on the websites below to help guide you to available courses:

- **UCAS Website** – Clearing <https://digital.ucas.com/search>

Do your research on the university and the course that you're interested in. Use these links to help:

- **Which? University rankings** - <http://university.which.co.uk/search/course>
- **Students' views of Universities** - <http://university.which.co.uk/search/institution>
- **Finding somewhere to live** - <http://university.which.co.uk/advice/clearing-results-day/clearing-accommodation-advice-student-blog>

Make notes on the courses you're interested in applying to. Maximise your choice by considering a joint course (called a Joint Honours course) with another subject instead of a single subject course.

Next go to the university's website and read about the course. Check you're *close* (1 or 2 grades) to the offered grades. Make notes on the **course interests** and **who the admissions tutor is** and **what their phone number is**.

### **Prepare to make a phone call**

Be positive! All universities will be in clearing this year and nearly every course will be represented. Good courses are available to you!

**Don't start ringing without preparing but be quick to begin! Always telephone yourself**, universities are less impressed by people ringing on your behalf and are likely to be unable to offer a place unless they are actually speaking to the candidate.

**Try to think of answers to these questions.** They may not come up, but the research will definitely help.

**Question:** *Why do you want to study this course?*

**Tip:** show that you've actually read the course description and researched the department or faculty at that university too, including its academic specialisms and even academic tutors. Relate your subject interests back to specific elements of the course to clearly demonstrate your engagement with it.

**Question:** *Why do you want to study a joint honours BA now?*

**Tip:** It's perfectly acceptable to discover a new course or subject through Clearing that you're legitimately interested in; so don't feel like an admissions officer will be automatically sceptical about an interest in a subject which seems newfound. We wouldn't recommend you change your options too wildly, though.

**Question:** *Tell us about anything you've done outside the classroom that has cemented your interest in this course.*

**Tip:** choose something interesting, relevant and unique to you to talk about. Don't just explain what you did in a short, bland way. Explain how it's helped you to develop your understanding and passion for your area of study.

## **Making the Call**

Make sure you've got all important info and documents which you will need to make calls (e.g. **UCAS number, Clearing number, A-level/BTEC/GCSE grades, personal statement, model answers, blank paper**), close by and laid out clearly. Plus, more than one working pen! There's quite a few things you'll be told which you'll need to make a note of.

School will be open between 9:00am and midday on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> August. After this time you can email but bear in mind it may take some time to reply.

Smile, take a deep breath and using the number for the admissions office ask to speak to the named admissions officer from the website. If they are not available ask for anyone connected to admissions and *take their name down*.

In the busy Clearing period you might find you're on hold for a while – be patient and don't panic if you can't get through straight away. If it's engaged, don't waste time – move on to your next option and try again later.

Get names, emails and direct phone numbers in case you have to re-connect or follow up.

Teaching staff can also provide **verbal references**, use Mrs Tivnen or Mrs Burgess as a reference and offer this to the tutor!

**Keep going** – Clearing can be stressful, but keep trying! If you're not having much luck on the phone, try sending an email too. Most importantly – talk to school staff! We're here to help and support you!

After you've got your verbal offer from the university you want to go to (and you're *sure* about going there!), head straight to UCAS Track to do all the necessary paperwork/ electronic admin.

### **Clearing Numbers:**

The link below provides you with an extensive list of University Clearing telephone numbers:

<https://www.applytouni.com/clearing/university-clearing-university-hotline-numbers/>

Good luck, remember we are here to help and support you.