

Big enough to challenge,
small enough to care

A level results day

Thursday 13th August

2020

Fullbrook



What will UCAS track show?

- If decisions have been made by your university choices, and UCAS have been notified, you can expect to see the following changes to offers on your Track page:
- **Unconditional** - your place on the course has been confirmed. This may be your firm or insurance offer, or both.
- **Unsuccessful** - you've not been accepted by your choice(s). You're now eligible to enter **Clearing**.
- **UCC (Unconditional Changed Course)** - you don't have the necessary grades for your offer, but the university has proposed a similar course requiring lower grades. They may also offer an alternative start date, for instance, deferred entry. You have five days to make a decision - you may use this time to speak to the university directly about what this opportunity involves.
- Please be aware, your A-level results won't appear in Track.



I've got the grades I needed!

What will Track show?

- **Unconditional** - your place on the course has been confirmed. This may be your firm or insurance offer, or both.
- What do I do if I meet my offer?
- If you're holding at least one conditional place and you've met the requirements, the offer will change to 'unconditional'. This firm acceptance is confirmed in Track and your **UCAS confirmation letter AS12** will be sent out. Some universities require further action on your part - the AS12 will explain what you need to do if this is the case.



My results are better than expected. What is **Adjustment**?

- To use Adjustment, you simply need to have met and exceeded the terms of the conditional offer from your firm choice. 'It's like a special version of Clearing that lets you shop around for your ideal course while keeping your current choice safe.'
- Available from A-level results day until 31 August, you can have a look and see whether there's anything that interests you, while you have your original unconditional firm choice to fall back on.
- However, you're under no obligation to reconsider what you've already chosen.
- But if you decide that you would like to change where and what you're studying, you'll need to register this in **Track**. As many competitive courses may now be full, you'll have to search the vacancies to see what's left.
- To discuss course vacancies you're interested in, contact the university admissions office directly. You can only verbally agree on one course choice, which will then appear on Track. Once you've confirmed this offer through the UCAS service, you'll lose your original choice in place of this new course/university.
- If you only applied for one course in your original application (at the reduced rate of £13), you'll need to pay the extra £11 fee to be eligible to apply for another course.
- Adjustment can only be used during five 24 hour periods (which includes weekends), unless there are less than five days to go until 31 August. This period begins from when your conditional firm offer becomes an unconditional firm offer, or on A-level results day - whichever is the later.



I haven't got the grades I needed!

- What if I don't get the grades I need?
- Don't panic. There are a number of options open to you.
- The first, if you've narrowly missed the grades by just a few marks, is to **talk to the university**. While they're under no obligation to reconsider their decision, especially with places so competitive, they may listen to you if you plan to appeal any grades. You may even be offered a place on an alternative course.
- On the other hand, you could simply accept the decision and aim to go through **Clearing** instead.
- You may change your mind entirely and consider taking a break from study before applying for university again the following year.



How do I apply through “Clearing”?

- Any places on courses that universities haven't managed to fill are listed on the UCAS website and these can be found via their [search tool](#) (by clicking the relevant **Clearing tab**). The official vacancy list is also published in *The Telegraph* newspaper.
- To apply, fill out your details as normal (this includes your [university personal statement](#)). Once submitted, you'll be invited to use the **Track** service and be given a **Clearing number**. From there, you'll need to follow the steps and look for a place.
- You'll need to give the university your Clearing number and personal ID number, so they can view your online application. **Verbal offers are usually made over the phone, and you should only accept one.**
- Remember, you'll only be able to **add one choice at a time**. If the university doesn't confirm the offer, you can look again.
- This is a stressful process. Speak to us in the first place, but clearing can involve a lot of phone calls which are best made from home!

Tips for Clearing!

- **Listen to advice** from parents and teachers as well as university academics and programme leaders when considering courses through Clearing.
- Prior to results day, **speak to admissions advisers** on the likelihood of spaces being available on your chosen course. While they won't be able to confirm exact numbers, you'll get a good idea and this will help you prepare.
- **Consider retaking your exams** if your heart's set on a particular subject. Speak to your teachers - they're perfectly placed to offer guidance on resitting, or if there are universities that might take you for a similar course with lower entry grades.
- **Be ready to answer questions** on your reasons for [choosing a specific course](#) (as well as your academic ability), as universities will want to know you're the right fit. You may even be asked to speak to a programme leader about the course, or be invited for a [university interview](#).
- **Be aware of dates and times**, including the fact that most courses won't close until the end of the first day of Clearing. Hotlines will stay open until September, giving you time to discuss your options with those closest to you.
- **Take notes** when talking to universities, jotting down reference numbers and words of advice, while having your UCAS number to hand.
- Only when you're 100% sure on a decision, put in a formal offer via Track. This can normally be done after 3pm on results day, so **use your time to research**, browse websites, view virtual tours, check social media channels and get a feel for the university and area.
- **Be patient**. With hundreds of applications to process, it can take up to a day for your chosen university to make a decision and respond. If you haven't heard back by the following day, give them a call to find out about your place.
- **Don't worry that you applied late**, as you'll still receive a welcome pack and your university will make sure you're all set for [freshers' week](#).

Can I defer my place?

- This is entirely up to the University!
- It is best to do this early and be prepared to explain why.
- If they reject you, you can reapply for University the following year.
- Whilst you must reapply through UCAS, you do not automatically have the right to use Fullbrook as your centre. Any request must be made to Mr Hayward.

