

UCAS

USING THE NEW UCAS DATA TO IMPROVE THE JOURNEY FOR **STUDENTS FROM UK ARMED FORCES FAMILIES**

Nicola Turner
Senior Fair Access Adviser, UCAS



UCAS

THE UCAS APPLICATION

How students can share
their background

Profile

Personal details >

Name, age, title and gender

[Start this section](#)

Contact & residency details >

Address, email, telephone and where you live

✓ Section complete

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](#)

Diversity & inclusion >

Only shared with a provider once you have a place or your application is archived

[Start this section](#)

More about you >

Tell us about any circumstances that you might need support for during your studies.

[Start this section](#)

UCAS

THE MORE ABOUT YOU SECTION

UCAS

Further education

Undergraduate

Postgraduate

MORE ABOUT YOU

2023 Undergraduate application

[Home](#) / [UCAS application](#) / [More about you](#)

[Return to application overview](#)

[Personal details](#)

✓ **Contact and residency details**

[Nationality details](#)

[Supporting information](#)

[English language skills](#)

[Finance and funding](#)

[Diversity and inclusion](#)

More about you

[Education](#)

Here, you can tell us about any circumstances that you might need support for during your studies. You might feel uncertain about sharing your personal circumstances but we want to reassure you that this information is confidential and will not negatively impact your application.

We don't need you to give details – this information will be shared with those involved in making arrangements to support you at the university or college (e.g. the student support team, admissions staff), and they may get in touch to tell you more.

Note: Not all universities and colleges offer the same support, so contact them directly to discuss your requirements and questions before you apply.

These questions are optional. Use the ? icon to get more help with answering the question and visit the FAQs pages if you need more information.

Every year, over 60,000 students with a physical and/or mental health condition, long-term illness, or learning difference apply through UCAS to study at a university or college in the UK, and access a range of support available to help with their studies, day-to-day activities, travel, or lifestyle. Would you consider yourself as living with any of the following: *

Would you consider yourself estranged from your parents (i.e. you're not in contact with and supported by your parents)?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Do you have any caring responsibilities?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Are you a parent or do you have parenting responsibilities?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Do you have official refugee status or limited leave to remain, or are you seeking asylum?

☐ No ☐ The UK government has granted me refugee status or humanitarian protection in the UK

☐ I have limited or discretionary leave to remain in the UK ☐ I'm currently seeking asylum in the UK

Do you have a parent or carer who currently serves in the UK Armed Forces, or who has done so in the past?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Have you ever served in the UK Armed Forces?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Are you currently receiving free school meals, or have you been in receipt of free school meals during your secondary education?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know

☐ Mark this section as complete *

You must complete all mandatory fields in this section before you can mark it as complete. All sections must be marked as complete before you can send your application.

Save this section



Help for parent armed forces

Select Yes if you have a parent who currently serves in the regular UK Armed Forces or as a reservist, or has done so at any point during the first 25 years of your life. If you select Yes, your information will be treated in confidence, to help the university or college provide support for you. It may also be used for monitoring purposes to inform and improve support for future students who are from Armed Forces families. [Read more](#) about applying to university if you're from an Armed Forces family. For more information about answering this question read our [FAQs](#).



EXTENDED FAQ-STYLE HELP TEXT

Do I have to give information about being a Service child? [show answer](#)

No – it is entirely optional to give this information – you do not have to let the university or college know if you don't want to. However, we recommend that you do, so they can understand the context of your achievements and make sure you

Where can I get more information about applying to university if my parent or carer is in the UK Armed Forces? [show answer](#)

- [Find out more about applying to university if you're from an Armed Forces family.](#)

I am the child of someone who is serving in the UK Armed Forces, but I don't think this has affected my educational attainment – do I have to give this information? [show answer](#)

It's optional to give this information – you don't have to let the university or college know if you don't want to. However, we recommend that you do, so they can understand the context of your achievements and make sure you know about

My parent is a Reservist – does this count? [show answer](#)

Yes – if your parent or carer is a full-time or part-time Reservist, select 'Yes'.

How is information about being from an Armed Forces family used? [show answer](#)

This information is shared (securely) with those who are responsible for supporting you at university or college (e.g. the student services team).

Why would a university or college want to know if my parents have served in the UK Armed Forces? [show answer](#)

Although there are many advantages to Service life, students from Armed Forces families (often called 'Service children') may face particular challenges with their education, such as moving schools.

WHAT WE KNOW FROM THE FIRST CYCLE



2023 data for applicants from a UKAF family

FAIR ACCESS SNAPSHOTS

[/ About us / News and insights](#)


FAIR ACCESS SNAPSHOTS

[Explore this section](#)


UCAS' fair access snapshots offer an at-a-glance overview of the new widening access and participation data gathered in the 2023 cycle.

There will be a separate snapshot for each of the seven questions, updated annually – all published on this page.


UCAS' fair access snapshots




Students estranged from their parents




Students with parenting responsibilities




Students from UK Armed Forces families




UK Armed Forces veterans and Service leavers



Students with caring responsibilities



Students in receipt of free school meals



Displaced students

UCAS FAIR ACCESS SNAPSHOT:

STUDENTS FROM UK ARMED FORCES FAMILIES

UCAS



A COMMENT FROM SCIP ALLIANCE

I am delighted to see UCAS contributing to our understanding of the lives and choices of the children of serving and ex-Armed Forces personnel. This first ever Fair Access Snapshot is a welcome step in large-scale data analysis for this remarkable group of students, who bring a wealth of unique experiences and considerable assets to their higher education studies and institutions.

We are still in the early days of research and allied support for Service children, but there are some helpful indicators here for universities looking to help them thrive. The greater likelihood for Service children to identify a mental health condition or disability echoes prior research, so providers – and the wider Armed Forces support community – would do well to take note. However, a defining feature of the cohort is the diversity of their experiences resulting from complex inter-play of highly individual patterns of school mobility, separation from parents and transition from military to civilian life.

For this reason, the exploration of intersectionality in this Snapshot is not only important, it is a necessary part of getting under the skin of cohort-level insights. For Service children especially, it will be important to investigate multiple intersectional characteristics to effectively target support at this big data level and to engage at an individual level to deploy solutions that are meaningful to each student's personal circumstances.

The most effective student support will reflect this personalisation. It will ensure that Service children feel able to access and inform the help on offer, that they belong in the university community, and that while their Armed Forces family background does not define them, it is respected and their unique experiences are both valued and understood.

PHILIPPO, EXECUTIVE
SERVICE CHILDREN PROGRESSION (SCIP) ALLIANCE
JULY 2024



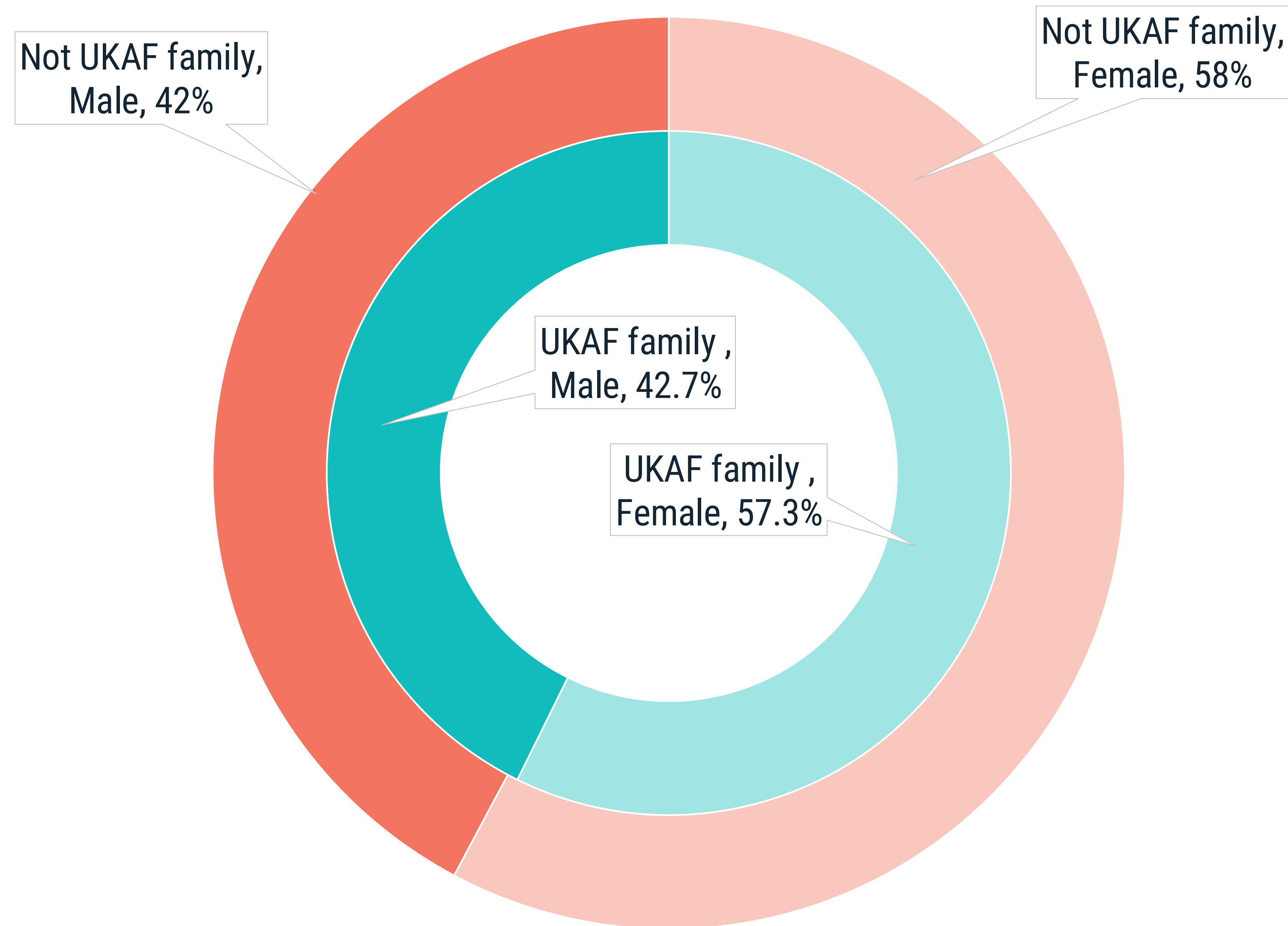
[Access the Fair Access Snapshots](#)

HOW MANY SHARED A UKAF FAMILY BACKGROUND?

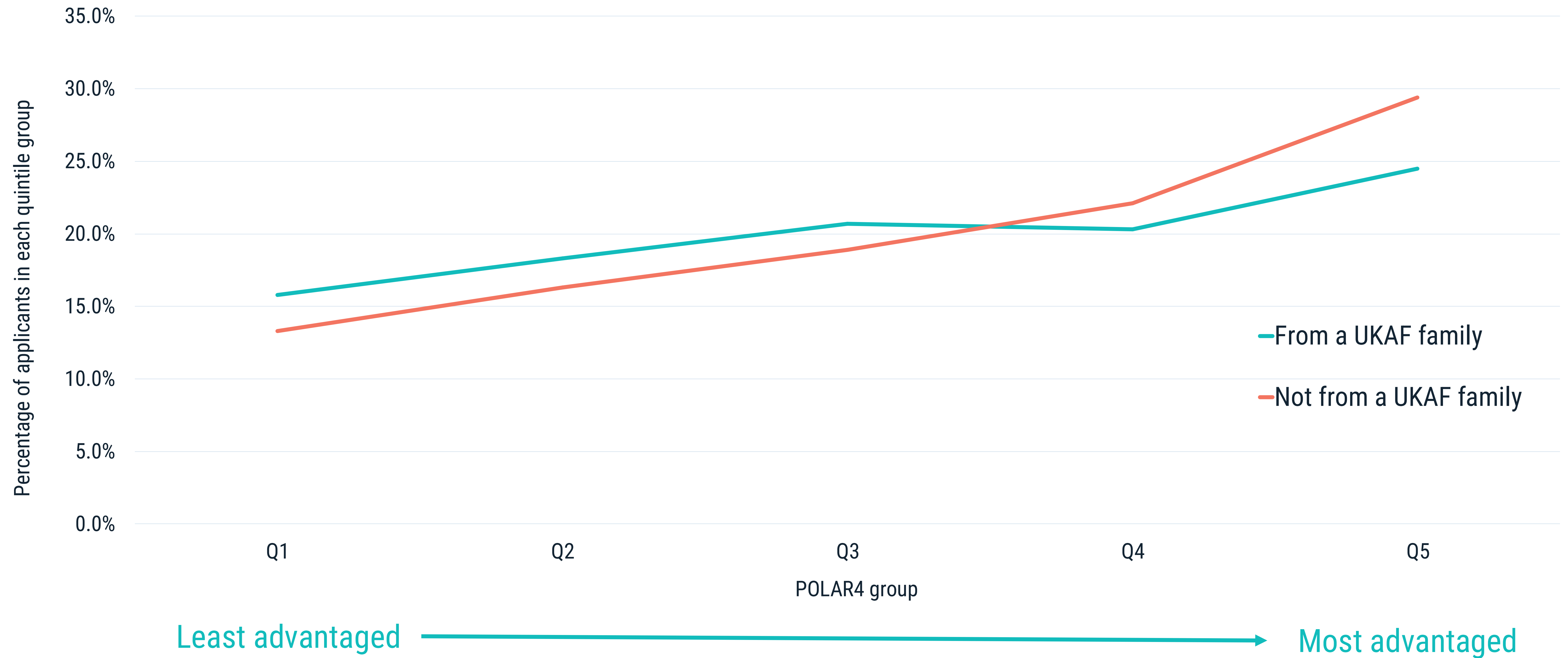


Domicile	Applicants	Accepted applicants
England	16,375	13,180
Northern Ireland	610	415
Scotland	2,000	1,520
Wales	1,095	895

GENDER

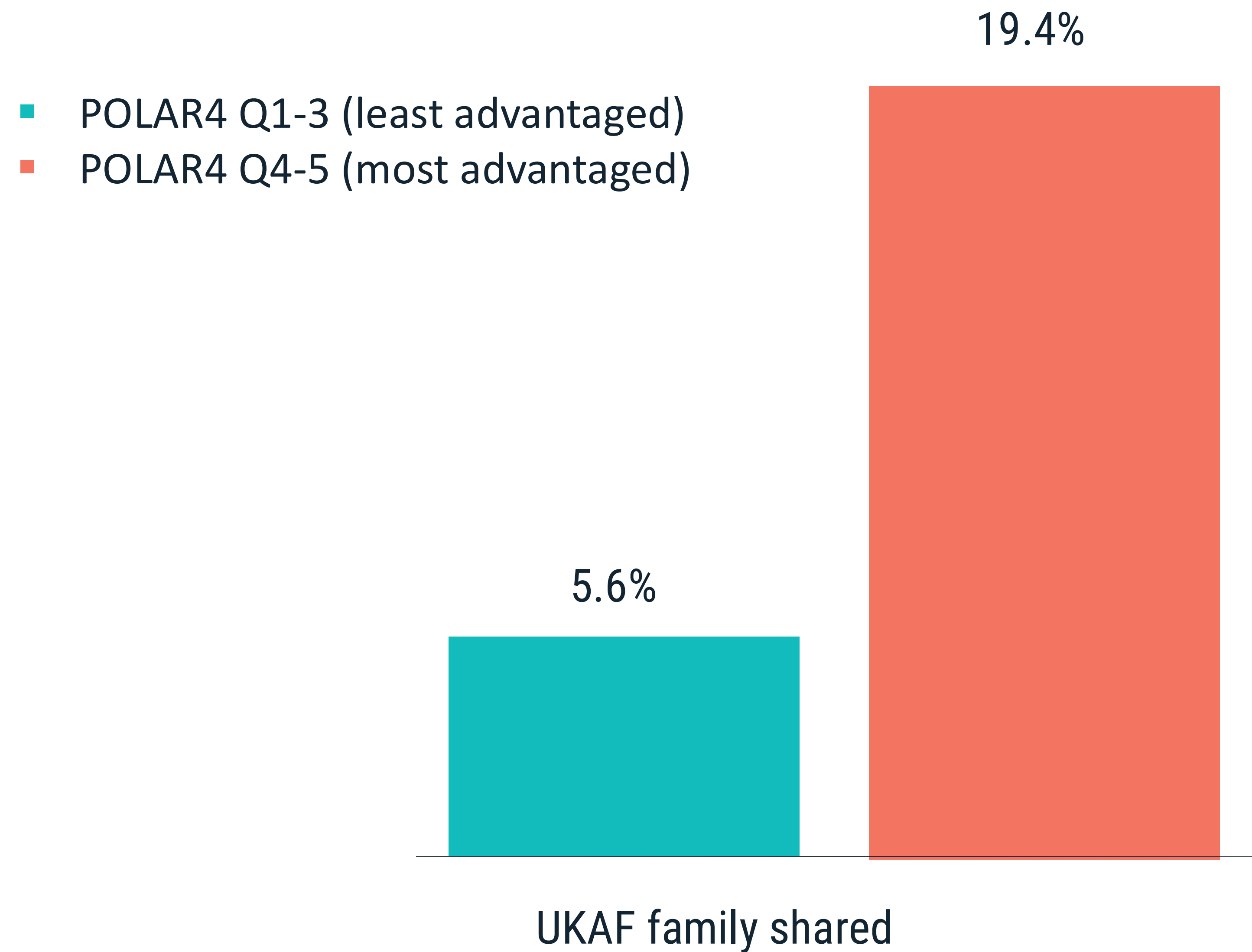


SOCIO-ECONOMIC FACTORS: POLAR4

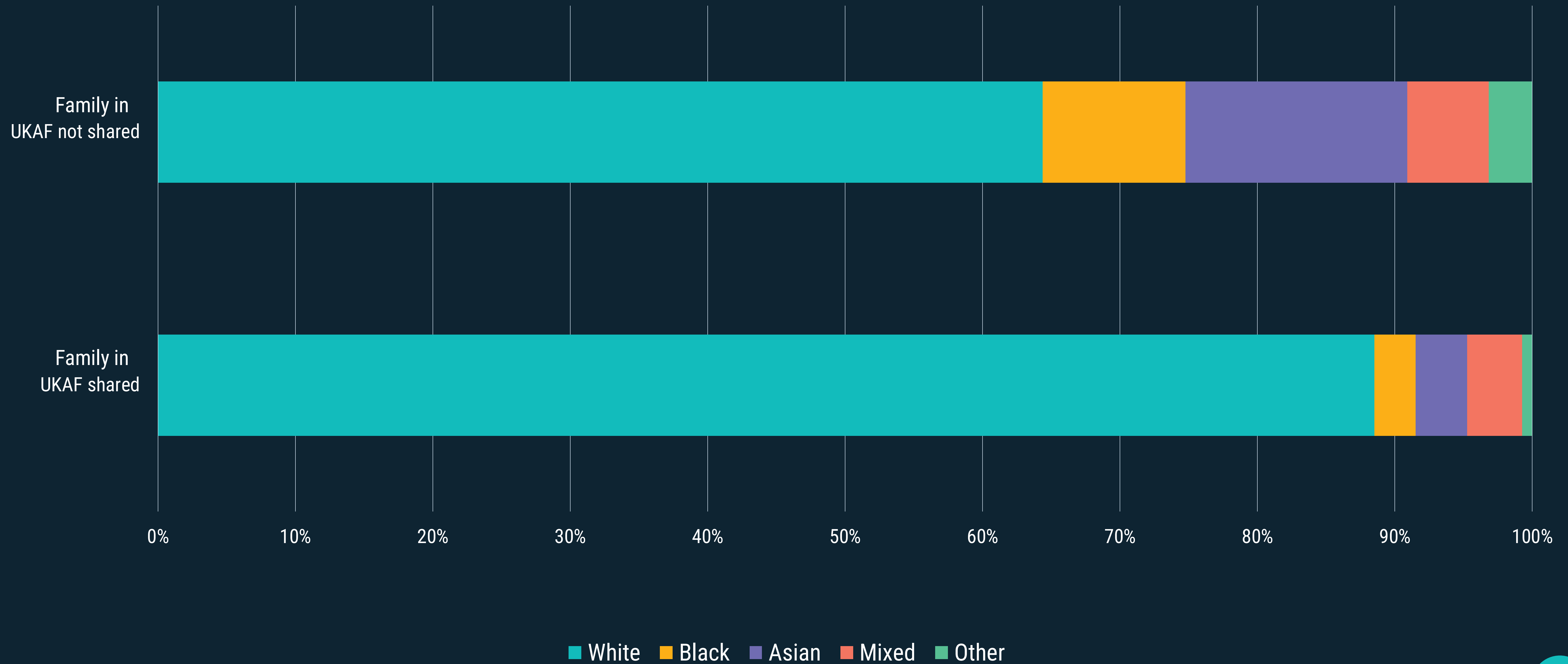


APPLICANTS BY SCHOOL TYPE AND POLAR4 GROUP

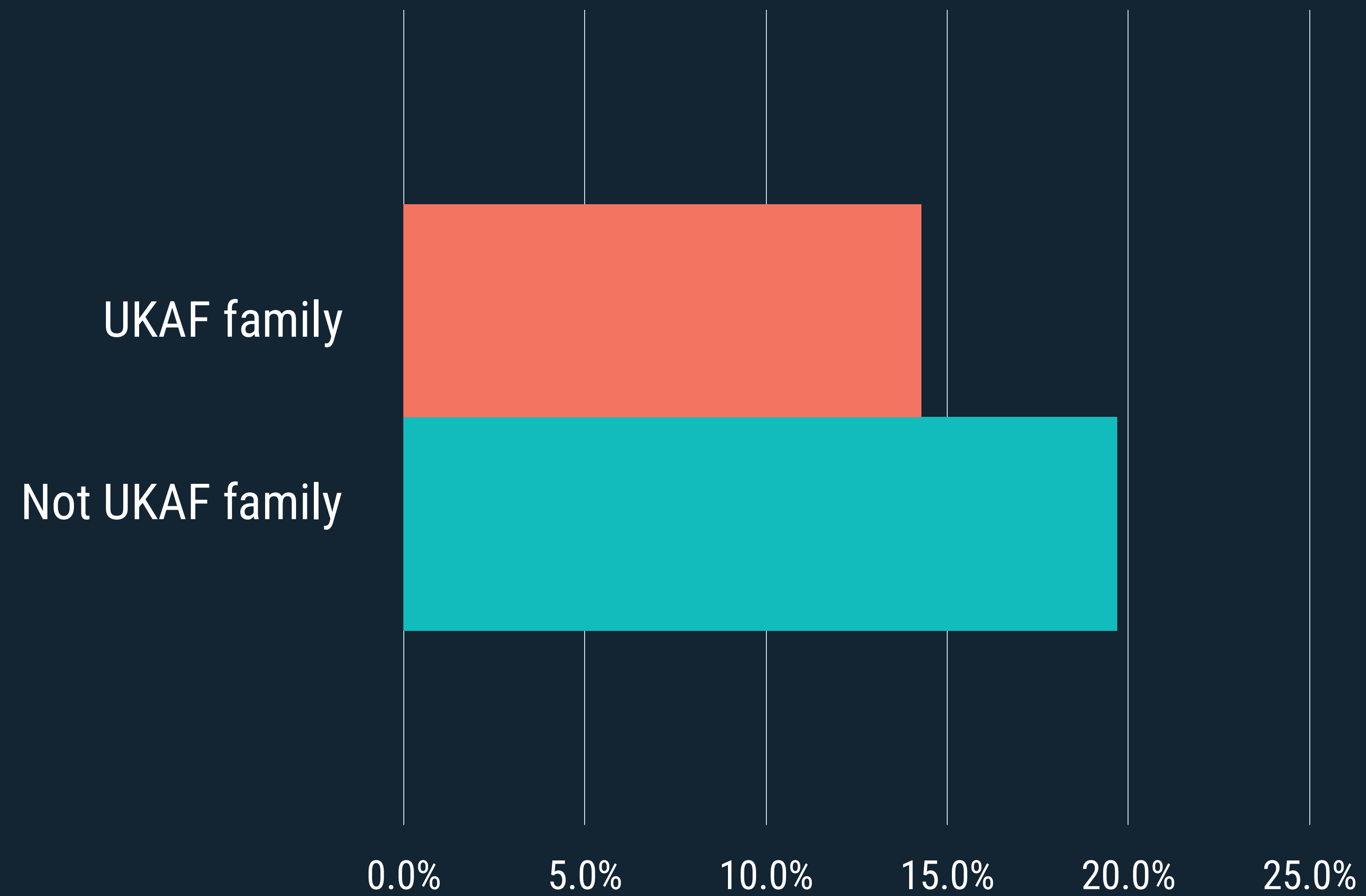
Proportion of 18-19 year olds applying from an independent school by POLAR4 grouping



ETHNIC GROUP



UCAS DISABILITY



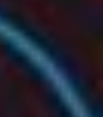
APPLICANTS FROM UKAF FAMILIES TRAVEL 20 MINS FURTHER TO UNIVERSITY

Applicants not from UKAF family

57 mins average

Applicants from UKAF family

77 mins average



RESOURCES TO SUPPORT APPLICANTS AND ADVISERS



Information and advice to support the journey to HE

USE THE **UCAS HUB** TO:

- ✓ Take the UCAS Careers Quiz
- ✓ Find open days, UCAS Discovery events, and virtual tours
- ✓ Try taster courses
- ✓ Undertake virtual work experiences
- ✓ Speak to current students
- ✓ Read guides to: subjects, careers, industries, employers, cities
- ✓ Find information and advice about all aspects of higher education and making choices
- ✓ Search and favourite courses, providers, and pages
- ✓ Search for apprenticeship opportunities
- ✓ Complete an application
- ✓ Track offers and decisions



**TOP TIP: REGISTER AND EXPLORE THE HUB
FOR YOURSELF — START HERE**

**TOP TIP: THE HUB ISN'T JUST FOR YEAR 12-13,
TRY IT FROM YEAR 9 TO EXPLORE CAREERS
AND INFORM NEXT STEPS**

SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE THROUGHOUT

UCAS

[Student guides](#)[Ultimate Guides](#)[Applying to uni](#)[After you apply](#)[Key dates](#)[Requests for personal data](#)

Q Search

♥

N

Your Hub

Your personalised homepage and discovery hub

Hub

For you

Favourites

What to do

Where to go

Search

N

Welcome back Nicola

You're applying for Undergraduate courses in 2025 - [Change year](#)

Start application

2025 Undergraduate Application

21%

Your application is in progress

You have completed 21% of your application. You need to complete all sections of your application before you can submit it.

Go to application


Your feed

Your personal content feed

TRY OUR PERSONAL STATEMENT BUILDER

Not sure what to write? Our handy tool will help.

[Get help](#)



HOW TO

How to nail that personal statement

Writing a personal statement can be daunting. Follow our tips and advice to help make it easier.

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT

View our courses

BUYING A LAPTOP FOR YOUR STUDIES?


GET ADVICE

Advertisement. Why the ads?

CHAT TO STUDENTS

Find out more about a university or college from students already studying there.

[Chat to students](#)



FAQS

Key dates

Find out what you need to do and when.

HOW TO

Open days and events


Find out how to meet universities, colleges, and employers.

SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE THROUGHOUT

What's happening


Replying to your offers - your questions answered

Getting ready to reply to your offers? We've got all your questions answered.

[More info](#)



Chat to students

Chat with UK and international students who are already studying the courses you've applied for at universities and colleges across the UK, on Unibuddy.

[More info](#)



University course tasters

Experience what a university course would be like with Springpod's Subject Spotlights. These interactive, virtual university course tasters feature real-life lectures, seminars, and academics.

[More info](#)


Live now: Studying in the UK


There's a lot to consider when moving to a new country. We explore accommodation, visas, scholarships and everything in between.

[More info](#)


Your next steps | [Open legacy to do list](#)

DISCOVER WHAT TO DO

Browse subjects and careers with related courses and apprenticeships.

[Discover more](#)


What subject should I take?


Read our subject guides to see what might be right for you.

How to apply

All you need to know about applying to university, college or an apprenticeship.


FOUND A COURSE YOU LIKE?

[Find out more >](#)



FIND AN APPRENTICESHIP


[Learn more >](#)



DISCOVER CAREERS

Try our quiz and get recommended careers that match your skills and personality traits.

[Take the quiz](#)



Key application dates

Find out what you need to do and when.


How to nail that personal statement

Writing a personal statement can be daunting. Follow our tips and advice to help make it easier.

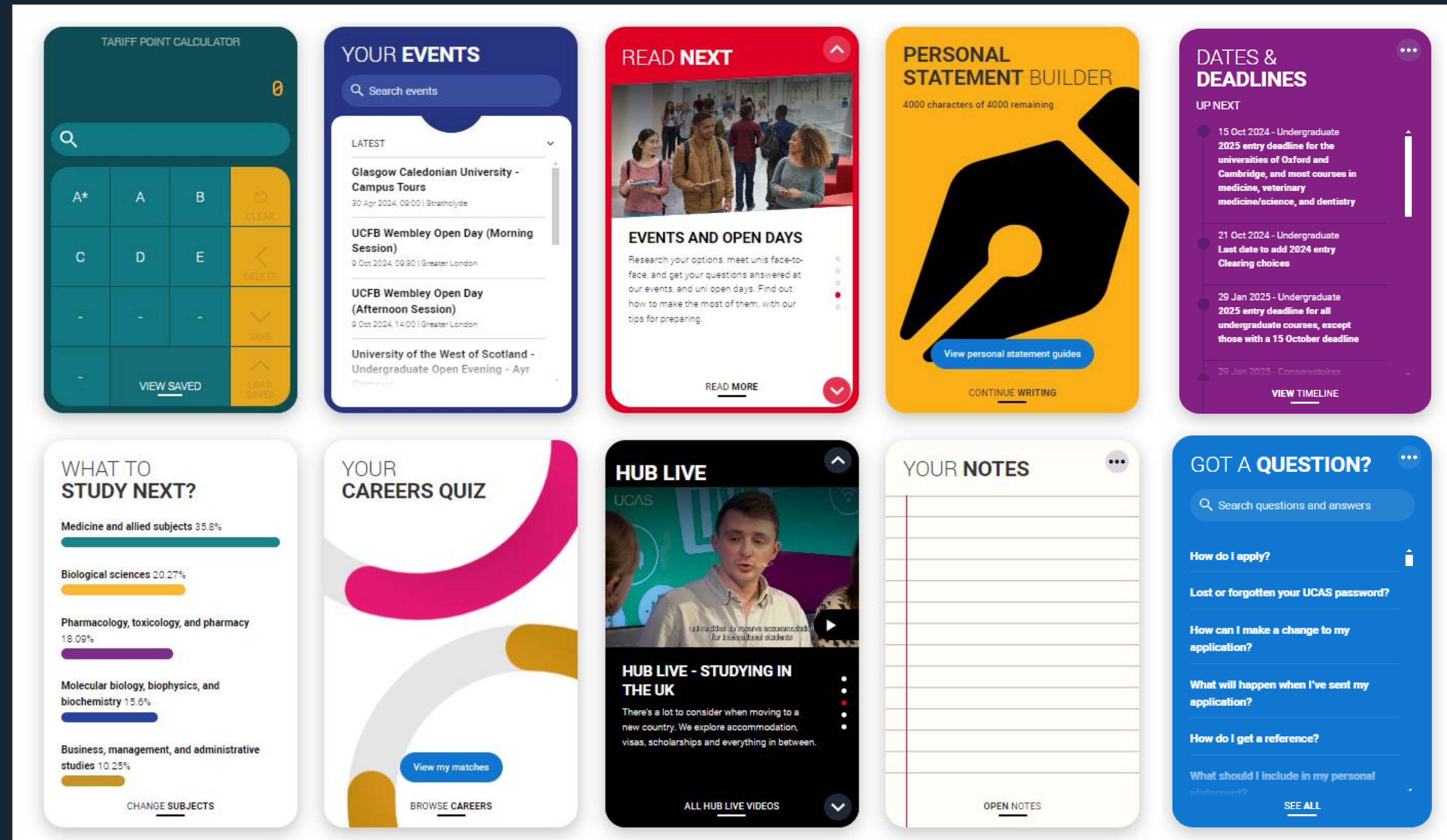
DISCOVER WHERE TO GO

Browse universities, colleges and employers and learn more about cities and regions in the UK.

[Find out more](#)



SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE THROUGHOUT



INDIVIDUAL NEEDS PAGES

[Link to the individual
needs student pages](#)

Students from Gypsy, Traveller, Roma, Showman and Boater (GTRSB) communities

Students from GTRSB communities who are considering higher education might find it useful to find out more about how they can be supported to apply to university, and to understand more about the support they may be able to receive on campus.

The GTRSB into Higher Education Pledge¹ is a firm commitment by a university or college to support GTRSB students into and within higher education, and to ensure a welcoming and inclusive environment.

More information and support can be found from:

- The Advisory Council for the Education of Romany and other Travellers (ACERT) website²
- The Friends, Families and Travellers website³
- The Traveller Movement website⁴

Homeless students

People who are homeless and want to progress to higher education may find there are a number of challenges to overcome – such as qualifications, financial issues, and access to expert information, advice, and guidance.

- The Foyer Federation⁵ provides housing to young people aged 16-25, along with help to reconnect with learning and increase employability. If you've spent time in a foyer, you may be able to access funding to help you go to university.
- Crisis Skylight centres⁶ across the UK can offer careers information, advice and guidance – including access to courses and qualifications.

If you're homeless, or at risk of becoming homeless, the CentrePoint helpline⁷ is there for anyone aged 16-25 in England to get advice. They also offer careers support and training programmes⁸ to help you get to where you want to be.

Sharing your individual needs in the UCAS application

When you apply through UCAS, you will have the opportunity to share any individual needs or circumstances, including many of those listed above. Sharing this information helps the university connect you to the right support – they may send you more information or contact you to discuss what would help you succeed.

Universities are diverse and inclusive environments, and people from all backgrounds are welcomed – the support is available because they recognise some people may have different challenges and priorities, so this is in place to make sure you can make the most of your time. Visit the pages above to find out more about what may be available.

The information you share will always be treated sensitively, and only used by those responsible for arranging support and helping you with your application (e.g. the student support team). It is never used when universities decide whether to offer you a place, but it might be used to make you an offer that looks at your achievements in context.

We recommend that you read the relevant pages above and research what help the university can offer before making an application – it is important that you make a decision that is right for you.

► England

► Wales

► Scotland

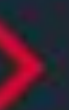
► Northern Ireland

► Channel Islands and the Isle of Man



Contextual admissions

Some students face additional challenges during their education which may impact their results. Universities recognise these challenges, and can make adjustments through 'contextual admissions'. Find out more about what this is, who is eligible, and how you qualify.



Refugees, asylum seekers or those with limited leave to remain who are considering applying to higher education, should always speak to the relevant authorities about their status.

Armed Forces

Young people with one, or both, parents serving in the UK Armed Forces, should let the university or college know about their circumstances and check that you qualify with the relevant criteria.

Transition into civilian life

For those who have served in the armed forces and are now transitioning into civilian life, there are a number of resources and initiatives available to help with applying for a higher education course.

INDIVIDUAL NEEDS PAGES

DISABLED STUDENTS' ALLOWANCE (DSA)

Explore this section

The Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA) scheme aims to ensure everyone has the support and adjustments they need to succeed in their studies.

STUDENTS FROM A UK ARMED FORCES BACKGROUND

Explore this section

Universities and colleges welcome students from a diverse range of backgrounds and experience.

What's on this page?

- Service children
- Veterans and service leavers
- Spouses

STUDENTS ELIGIBLE FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS (FSM)

Explore this section

Being eligible for free school meals (FSM) means you might be able to get help to meet different costs, and access other forms of support if you want to go to university.

STUDENTS WITH IMPRISONED PARENTS

Explore this section

Universities and colleges welcome students from a diverse range of backgrounds and experience. You can choose to disclose that you are a student with an imprisoned parent in your personal statement in the context of your circumstances.

Personal statement for estranged students

Being an estranged student means you'll be studying without the support of your parents due to a breakdown in your relationship. We've worked with Stand Alone to help you to think about the skills, experience, and strengths to write about in your personal statement.

FINANCE AND FUNDING FOR CARE EXPERIENCED STUDENTS

Explore this section

Many students are worried about managing their money – and if you've experienced care in the past, this can be even more so.

Who is a student parent?



PATRICKA, UK ARMED FORCES SERVICE LEAVER

Explore this section

Patricka Brice-Laughton has completed a HNC in Construction and the Built Environment (Civil Engineering) at Walsby College & University Centre and is currently in her first year at University of the West of England studying for a (Hons) Construction Project Management.

Was there any connection between this course and your military career?

No connection to my military career as I was a system engineer in The Royal Corp of Signals, but I did drafting and building technology at secondary school and college before joining the army.

What transferable skills and characteristics do you think have been helpful in your studies? Do you have any advice for how UKAF veterans and Service leavers could talk about their military experience in their UCAS personal statement and university interviews?

Some work experiences can be relevant to use in certain scenarios – time management, communication skills, hardworking, and adaptable.



Can you give us some background about your UKAF experience and why you decided to study in higher education?

STUDENTS WITH CARING RESPONSIBILITIES

Explore this section

If you're responsible for providing unpaid care to a family member, partner or friend, you may be able to get extra support during your studies.

What's on this page?

- Who is a carer?

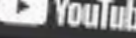
How do I get to university? Refugees and Asylum Seekers

2

- Improving your English
- Doing volunteer work



Watch on



doing some volunteer work,

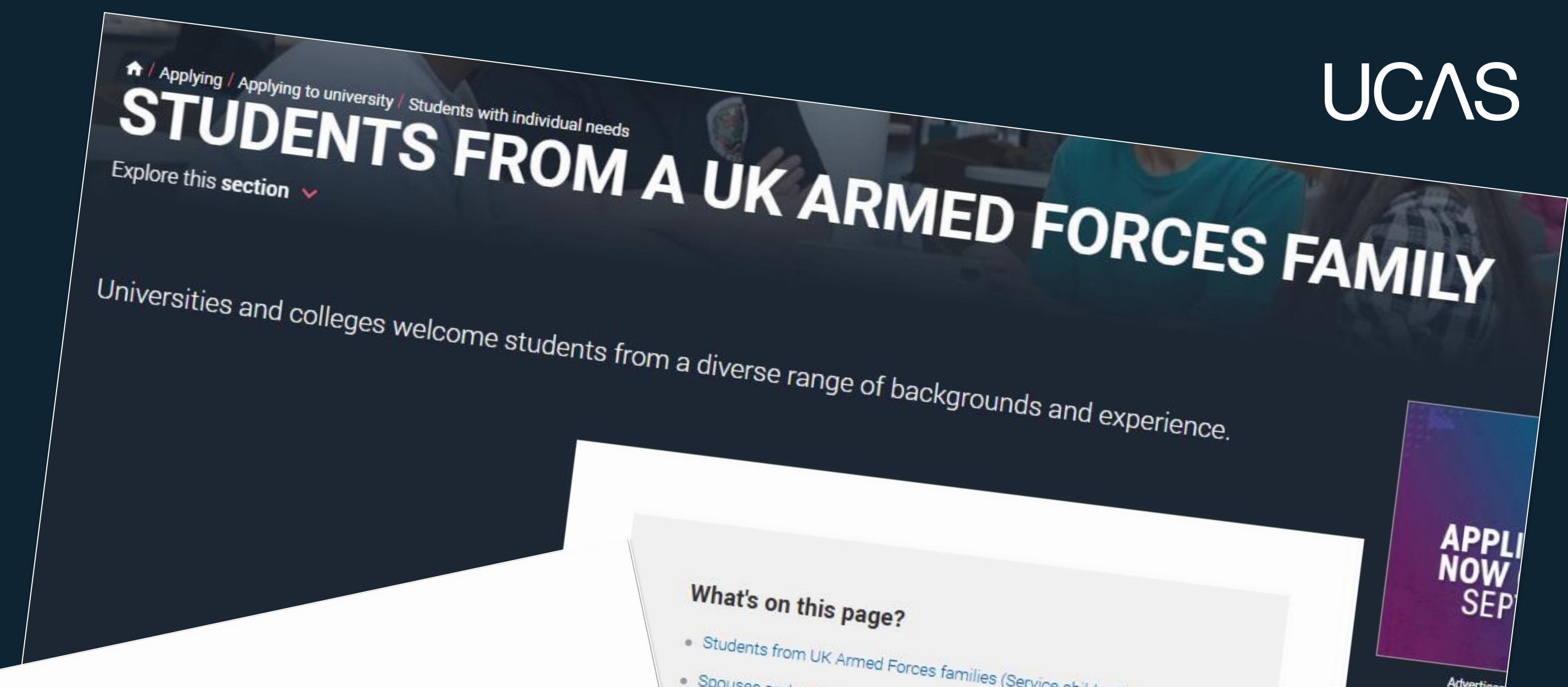
Refugees and asylum seekers - how do I get to university?

This video from Refugee Education UK and the University of Sussex helps to explain how you can apply for university if you are a refugee or asylum seeker in the UK.

Tuition fees and financial help

INFORMATION AND ADVICE FOR APPLICANTS FROM A UKAF FAMILY

UCAS



The UCAS application

For students applying to start their course in 2023, UCAS has introduced a new section called 'More about you' in the application so **you can share more information about your circumstances with the university or college** – including whether you are from a UK Armed Forces family. This information means the university or college will be able to connect you to the right support for your needs quickly and easily and ensure you have all the information you need.

If either or both of your parents have served in the UK Armed Forces, just select 'yes' from the drop-down box in the question that asks about this in the 'More about me' section of the application. You will not have to give any further details at this stage.

Read more about sharing information about sharing your circumstances in the UCAS application on our FAQs page and in this blog article from the Ministry of Defence.

When you share this information, the university or college may get in touch with more information about how they can help you – and to tell you more about your options. This information is treated sensitively and only shared with those responsible for arranging support and helping you with your application. Knowing about your circumstances may also help admissions staff consider your achievements in context - it won't reflect negatively on your application.

If you are living overseas because your parent is serving outside the UK

In many cases Service personnel living overseas will have been given a BFPO (British Forces Post Office) address for receiving mail – select 'BFPO address' as the address type in your UCAS application if this applies to you. If you do not know your BFPO address, you can [check it on GOV.UK](#).

In rare instances, applicants may not have a BFPO address – if this applies to you, you will not see the UK Armed Forces family question in the 'More about you' section. Instead, we recommend you contact your choice to advise them of your circumstances – both to clarify your residency status and to ensure you can access any support. You may also want to talk to your referee to see if they could mention this in your reference.

Your personal statement

Some students wonder if they should mention their circumstances in their personal statement – this is a completely personal decision and you should only do so if you feel it is relevant to your application. We have worked with SCiP Alliance to create [a guide to writing your personal statement](#).

What's on this page?

- Students from UK Armed Forces families (Service children)
- Spouses and partners of UK Armed Forces personnel

(Service children) may experience disruption to their education, or been restricted in course choices. They're also aware young people can face additional challenges when a parent or carer is deployed. They're keen to know about your circumstances, because it allows them to consider your academic achievements in context.

If you feel you have missed any skills or knowledge, they may be able to help through workshops or summer schools. You could also investigate MOCs to help you prepare for your course, such as the [Preparing for University course](#) from FutureLearn.

But universities and colleges aren't only interested in your results. Students from UK Armed Forces families (Service children) often develop highly valued, unique skills and strengths as a result of their circumstances, such as being an independent learner, or being able to adapt to different situations quickly. The Service Children's Progression (SCiP) Alliance has worked with UCAS to develop guidance for Students from UK Armed Forces families (Service children) applying to university – including advice on how to complete your personal statement to showcase these strengths.

Once you're at university, you may be able to access additional support. This can include:

- financial help
- mentoring
- study support to help you fill any gaps in your learning

Before you apply, contact student support services at the university or college to check what help is available, and to discuss your needs.

Support for service children

Read more about the support available for children from Armed Forces families on the Service Children's Progression Alliance (SCiP Alliance) website.

[More about support](#)

[Link to our students from a UKAF family page](#)

INFORMATION AND ADVICE FOR DISABLED STUDENTS



Disabled international students

There is a range of support available to help you with your studies and lifestyle at university – you just need to let the university know so they can help put this in place.



Further information and support

Our useful resources have lots of expert advice for disabled students, to help you get the support you need to succeed in your higher education journey.



Interested in an apprenticeship?

Being disabled shouldn't limit your job or study choice, and apprenticeships can be a great route for you to get into your chosen career.

You might also like to read



Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA)

The Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA) scheme aims to ensure everyone has the support and...



Support for disabled students – frequently asked questions

Here you'll find the answers to the most frequently asked questions around support for disabled...



Disabled students: Preparing for open days and visits

Open days are a valuable way of finding out about a university or college first-hand – you can tour the...



Speaking to the disability support team or mental health adviser

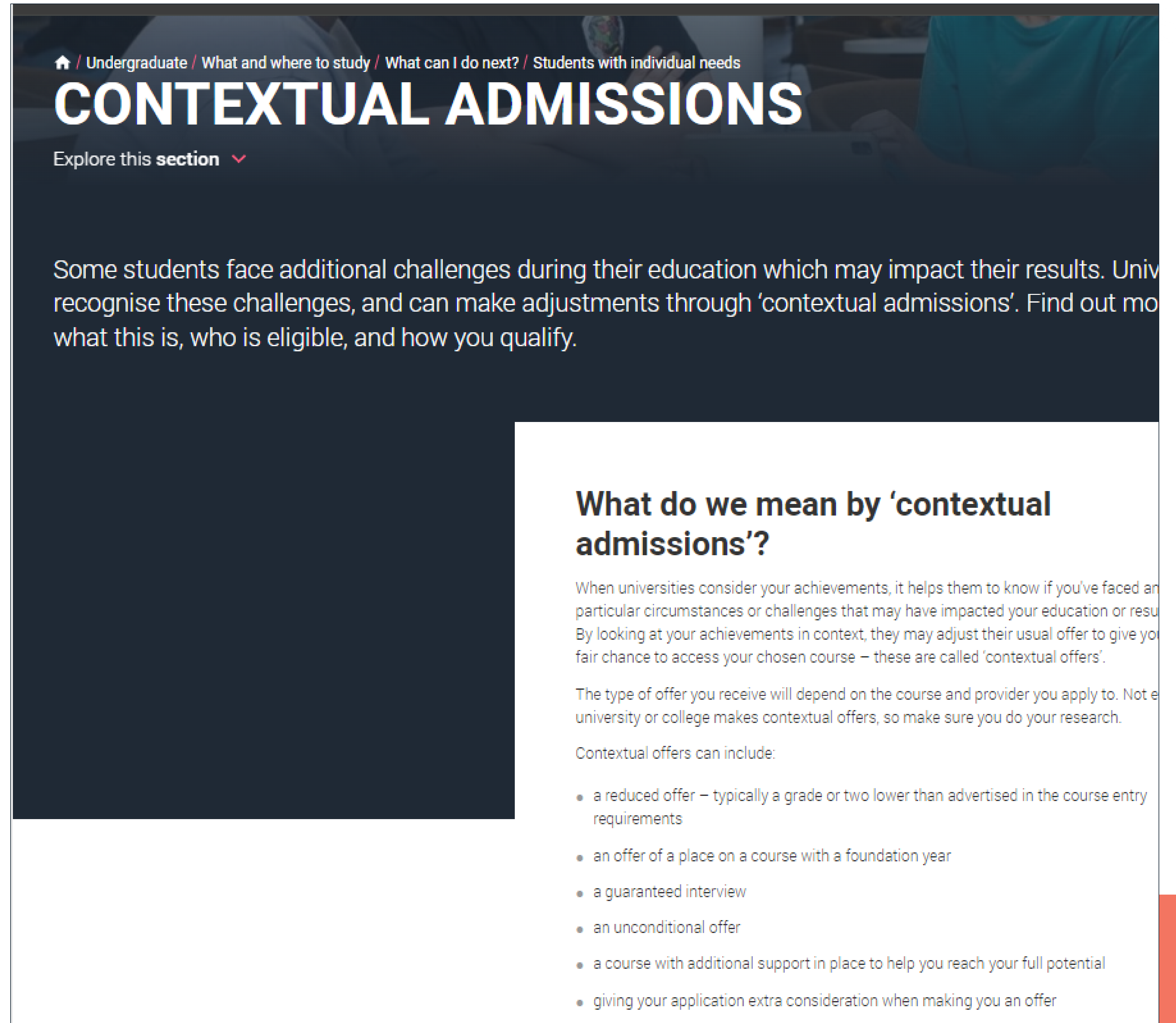
Making contact with the disability support team or mental health adviser early on is a really good idea.

CONTEXTUAL ADMISSIONS

Care experience (and other circumstances) may be taken into account when universities set the conditions of an offer.

For example:

- Reduced offer
- Foundation course
- Unconditional offer
- Guaranteed interview
- Additional support



The screenshot shows a university website page with a dark blue header. The header contains a breadcrumb trail: 'Home / Undergraduate / What and where to study / What can I do next? / Students with individual needs'. Below this is the main title 'CONTEXTUAL ADMISSIONS' in large white letters, followed by a link 'Explore this section' with a downward arrow. The main content area has a dark blue background with white text. It starts with a paragraph: 'Some students face additional challenges during their education which may impact their results. Universities recognise these challenges, and can make adjustments through 'contextual admissions'. Find out more about what this is, who is eligible, and how you qualify.' To the right of this paragraph is a white box with a dark blue title 'What do we mean by 'contextual admissions'?' and two paragraphs of text. The first paragraph explains that universities consider achievements in context to adjust offers. The second paragraph states that the type of offer depends on the course and provider, and advises students to do research. Below the text is a list of contextual offers that can include: a reduced offer, a foundation year, a guaranteed interview, an unconditional offer, a course with additional support, and extra consideration for applications.

Home / Undergraduate / What and where to study / What can I do next? / Students with individual needs

CONTEXTUAL ADMISSIONS

[Explore this section](#) ▼

Some students face additional challenges during their education which may impact their results. Universities recognise these challenges, and can make adjustments through 'contextual admissions'. Find out more about what this is, who is eligible, and how you qualify.

What do we mean by 'contextual admissions'?

When universities consider your achievements, it helps them to know if you've faced any particular circumstances or challenges that may have impacted your education or results. By looking at your achievements in context, they may adjust their usual offer to give you a fair chance to access your chosen course – these are called 'contextual offers'.

The type of offer you receive will depend on the course and provider you apply to. Not every university or college makes contextual offers, so make sure you do your research.

Contextual offers can include:

- a reduced offer – typically a grade or two lower than advertised in the course entry requirements
- an offer of a place on a course with a foundation year
- a guaranteed interview
- an unconditional offer
- a course with additional support in place to help you reach your full potential
- giving your application extra consideration when making you an offer


[Read the contextual admissions page](#)

APPRENTICESHIPS INFORMATION AND ADVICE

APPRENTICESHIPS


Interested in an apprenticeship? Find out everything you need to know.

Considered an apprenticeship? An undergraduate degree isn't the only option – discover apprenticeships, and you could learn and earn at the same time.




Find an apprenticeship with our new search tool

Try the **BETA** version of our new apprenticeship search tool.




Find an apprenticeship

Search for an apprenticeship using Career Finder.




Listen to our apprenticeship podcast

Find out all about degree apprenticeships in our brand new podcast series.




What is an apprenticeship?

Get the facts on apprenticeships.




Browse by industry

From marketing to construction, business, and so on, find the industry you're interested in.




Degree apprenticeships

Learn how you can gain a paid-for degree while working.



Find your ideal career

Take our career quiz to find your ideal job matched to your skills.



Get tailored advice

Sign up to explore your options.

Saying no to the status quo: why I chose an apprenticeship over university

As I advanced through my teenage years, I always knew university wasn't for me. I wanted something more practical and hands-on. So, when I left sixth form and watched all my friends move cities to the likes of Nottingham, Leeds, and Manchester, I didn't feel left out. Because I was moving to a new city too – London.

I was lucky enough to gain a place on the [M&S Retail Management Apprenticeship](#), one of 14, from nearly 1,000 applicants. I felt incredibly privileged and excited to embark on a new challenge and join a massive company that's going through a period of radical transformation.


Fast-forward eighteen months and I'm a few weeks into my seventh and final placement – this time at the Kings Road store – armed with the invaluable experience and knowledge I've picked up from the very first starting at M&S. And I'm loving it!

I'm in at the deep end right away, working in the Clothing & Home department, where we're learning all about our Food business across four busy London stores.

floor at our renewal store

I'm in to help at Clapham Junction on opening day and got to meet CEO Sam Machin. They were keen to hear from those of us on the frontline who knew the new format was working and how our customers were reacting. It was a great experience on how the work we were doing contributed to driving change across the business. Having seen my huge enthusiasm for the store and our renewal 'test and learn' approach, my manager recommended I do my next placement there – which I'm looking forward to.

Support for individual needs



Support for disabled people taking apprenticeships

Being disabled shouldn't limit your job or study choice, and apprenticeships can be a great route for you to get into your chosen career.

Support for care experienced people taking apprenticeships

What you need to know if you're interested in an apprenticeship as a care experienced student.

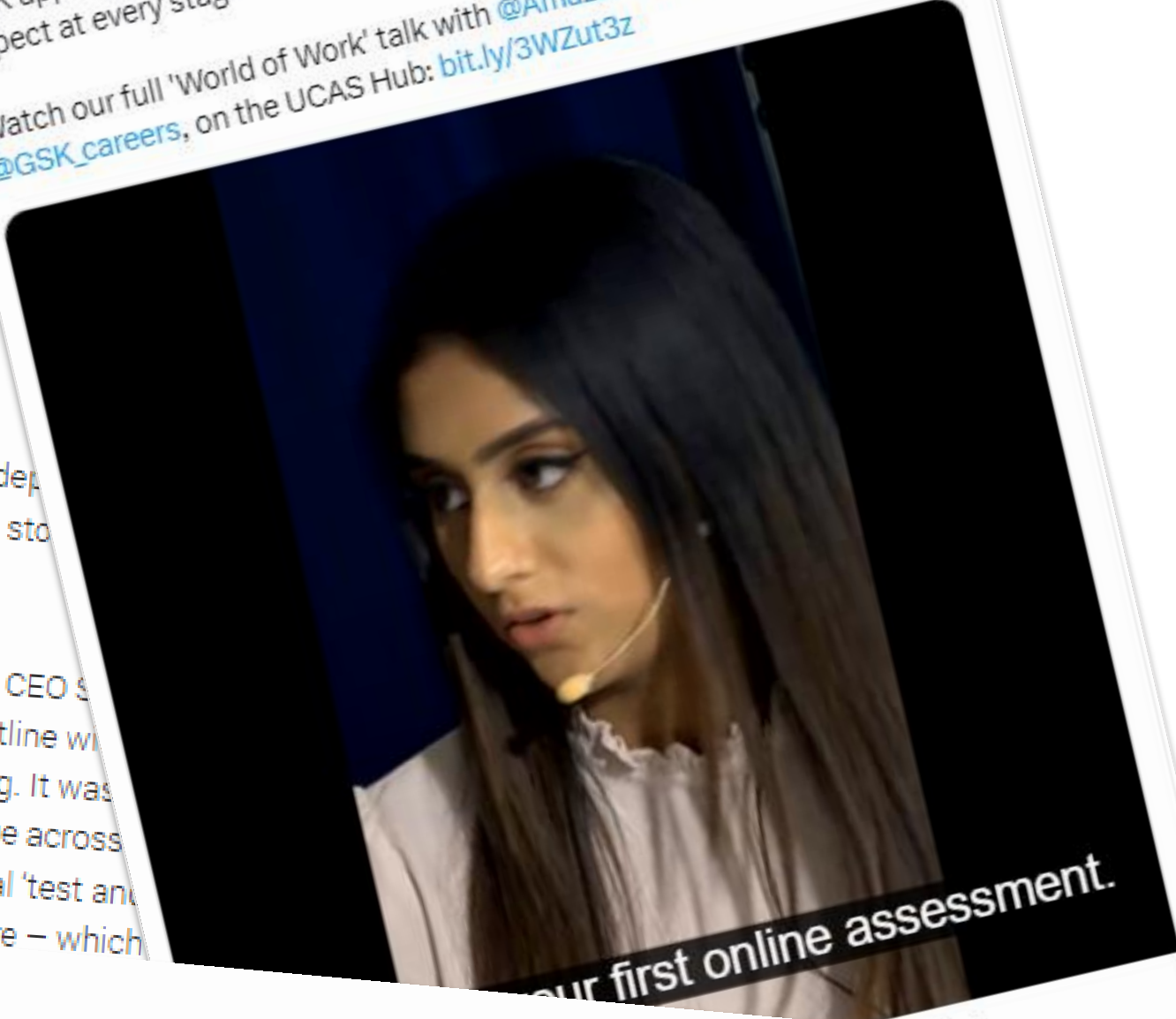
Support for carers taking apprenticeships

What you need to know if you have caring responsibilities and are interested in an apprenticeship.

What does the apprenticeship application process look like?

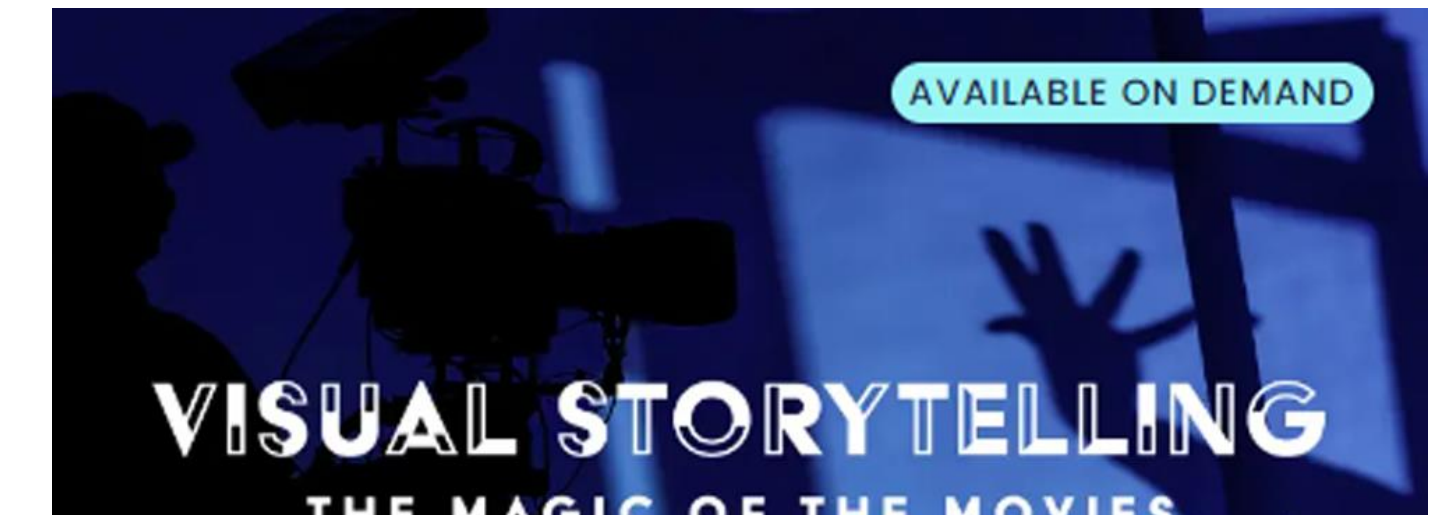
GSK apprentice, Devika, talks us through the 4 step process and what to expect at every stage.

Watch our full 'World of Work' talk with [@AmazonUK](#), [@BBC](#) and [@GSK_careers](#), on the UCAS Hub: [bit.ly/3WZut3z](#)



SUBJECT TASTERS

UCAS



In every Subject Spotlight you'll find



On-demand interactive video content

Sign up, log in, and access a wide range of potentially life-changing Subject Spotlight experiences that will help you make informed decisions about your university future.



Remarkable & relatable academics

Learn from some of the UK's finest and most decorated academics as they give you a genuine, insightful, and engaging experience of studying their courses at their universities.



Interactive quizzes and activities

Have a go at fascinating interactive quizzes and activities, then get meaningful and intuitive feedback from the academics to see how you've done.



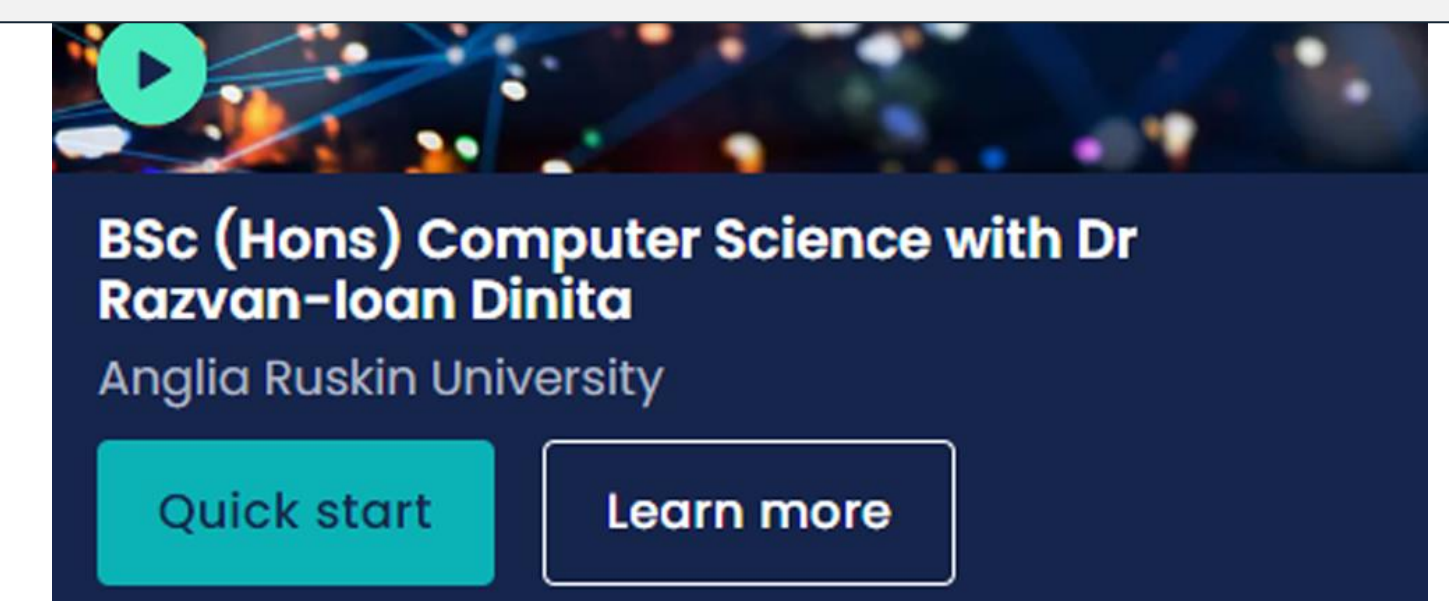
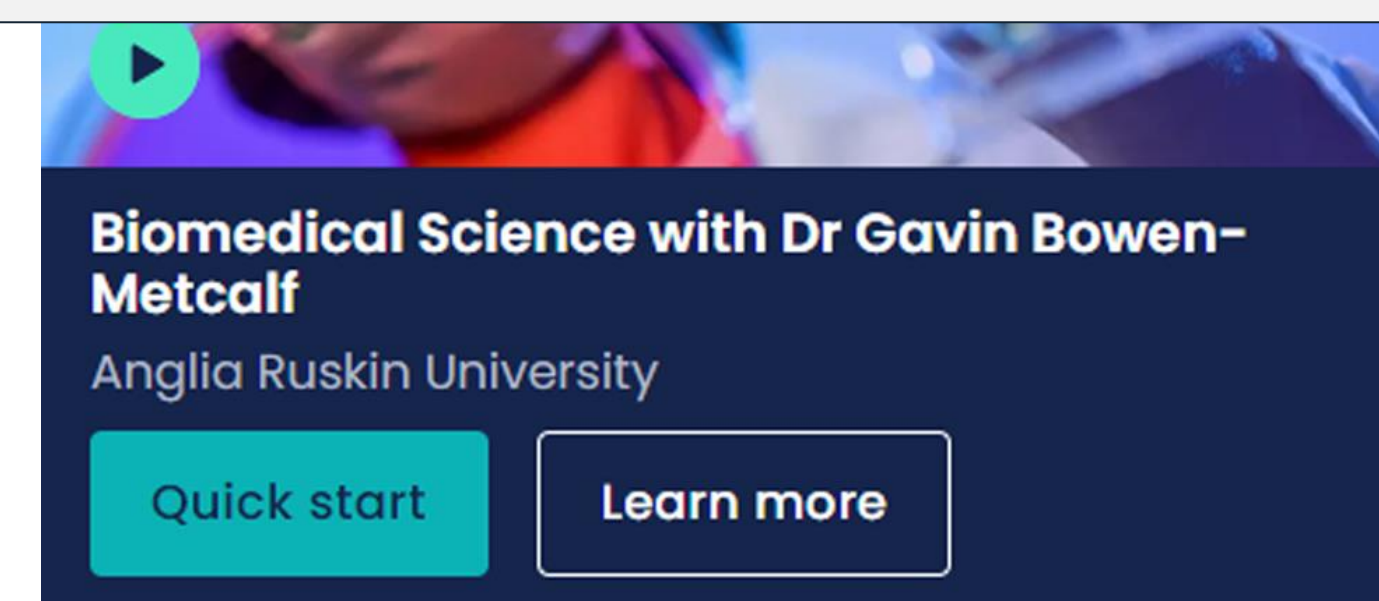
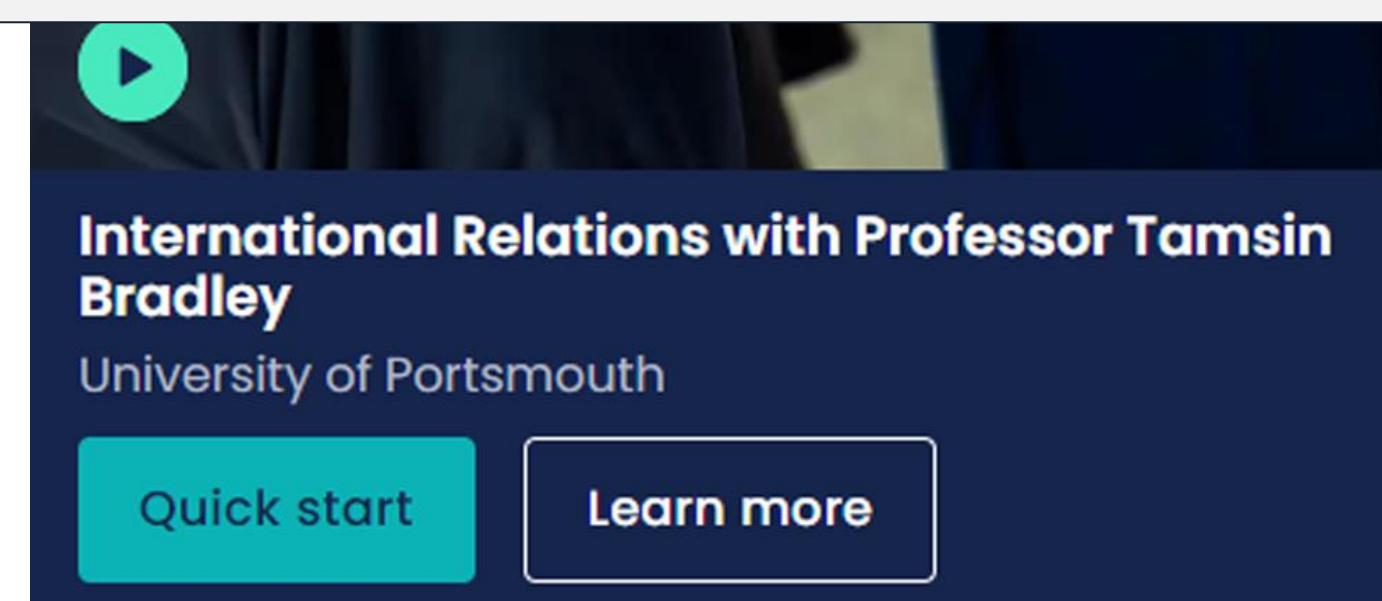
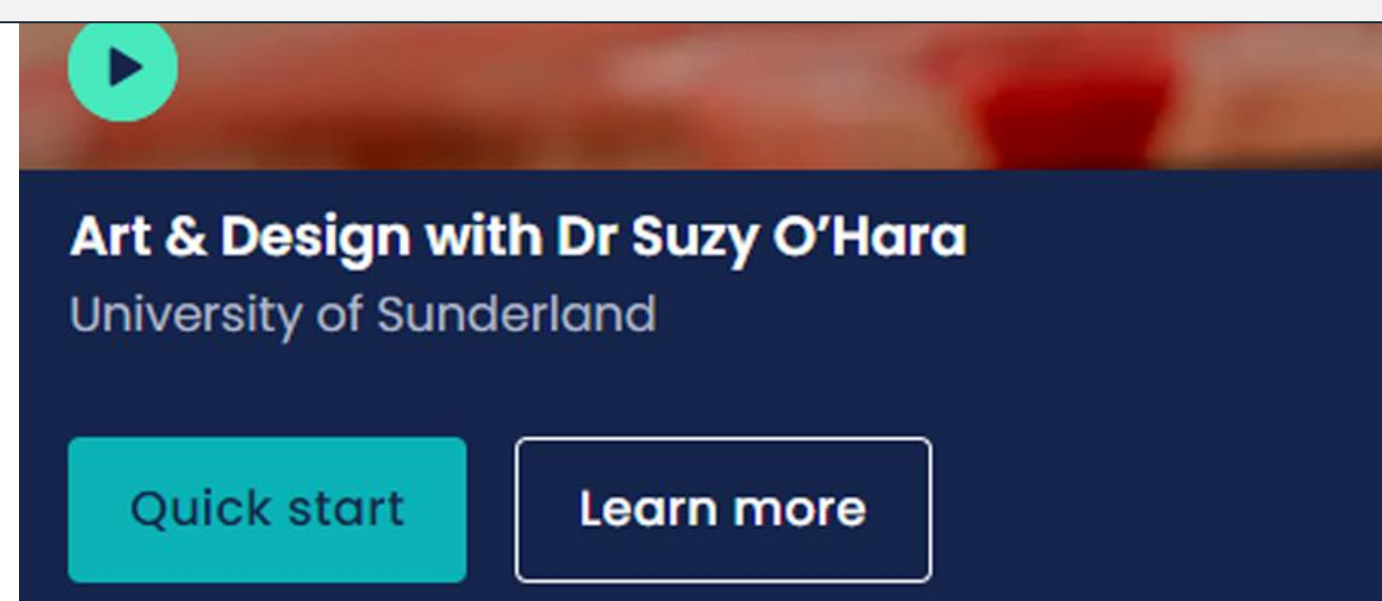
Content to enhance students university applications

Hear direct from the academics what's expected of you in your university application, and the things you can do to improve your chances of getting on the course you most desire!



Certificate of completion

You'll receive a certificate of completion to evidence your learning - why not add this to your CV and university applications to show your dedication to your future pathway!



VIRTUAL WORK EXPERIENCES

UCAS

UCAS Discover Study Apprenticeships Advice For

Search
Virtual work experiences

Search

Search all 24 results Page 1 of 2

Virtual Work Experience

Gain work experience with top employers

- Live and on-demand cohorts
- Approx 10-hours experience
- Includes activities, projects & talks delivered by a diverse range of engaging industry professionals
- Accessible from anywhere
- Scaleable to any cohort size
- A broad range of industry programmes

Met Office Careers
Science & Research
This programme will explore available at the Met
Starting 03/07/2023
Apply by 26/06/2023

Health and Social Care Work Experience - South West

Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire Together



TRUSTED BY REMARKABLE EMPLOYERS

Springpod Virtual Work Experience

AIRBUS **VOLVO** **Specsavers** **DirectLine Group** **hachette BOOK GROUP**

ATKINS **BARCLAYS** **Investec** **NHS** **JLL**

vodafone **FUJITSU** **★ PRET A MANGER ★** **salesforce** **SIEMENS**

[Eligibility criteria](#)

Age 14+ Region(s) Wiltshire, Cornwall, Gloucestershire, Dorset, Somerset

Start now

[a question about the certificate](#)

Similar virtual work experiences



TEACHER TOOLKITS

Home / Advisers / Toolkits

ADVISER TOOLKIT: SUPPORTING STUDENTS WITH INDIVIDUAL NEEDS

Explore this section



UCAS

Supporting disabled students

We've worked with experts, such as the National Association of Disability Practitioners (NADP) to outline some of the ways in which you can help your students make a successful transition.



Students with mental health conditions

Some students may be hesitant to tell their university, so we've worked with experts (including Student Minds and the University Mental Health Advisers' Network (UMHAN)) to explain the process of declaration to your students, and offer practical ways to help them manage the transition to independence.



Care experienced students

Here are some practical ways in which you can support students research their options and prepare for their next steps. We have developed with experts such as the Care Leavers' Become, the National Network for the Education of Care Experienced Young People and Who Cares? Scotland.



Estranged students

Here, with the charity Stand Alone, we outline the ways in which you can help students in at each stage and explain what support they may be able to access.



Refugees, asylum seekers, and those with limited leave to remain in the UK

We have worked with expert organisations, including STAR Network, Refugee Education UK and We Belong to help clarify what you can do to help and support young students' aspirations for higher education.



Caring responsibilities

A carer is anyone who has a commitment to providing unpaid care for a family member or friend who could not cope without their support. This may be due to illness, disability, a mental health issue, or substance misuse.



Parenting responsibilities

Balancing studying with family life can present challenges, so student parents will find it useful to know what support they can access to manage their priorities. Here, we offer some practical tips to help them along their journey to higher education.



Children from UK Armed Forces families (Service children)

We have worked with the Service Children's Progression (SCIP) Alliance to explain how you can practically support Service children along their journey to higher education.



UK Armed Forces veterans and service leave

Students who have served in the UK Armed Forces as a Regular or Reservist may find there are unique challenges involved in applying to higher education. We have worked with the Ministry of Defence and experts at the University of South Wales to offer practical ways to help them explore their options and prepare for their next step.



Applicants eligible for free school meals (FSM)

Discover what students are eligible for free school meals (FSMs), how to support them, and how it's declared.



Supporting children with imprisoned parents

There are an estimated 312,000 children of prisoners in the UK and they are often described as 'invisible'. Disclosing they are a child of a prisoner on their UCAS application will not disadvantage them, but instead give the provider a fuller picture of their circumstances.



Outreach Connection Service

UCAS' Outreach Connection Service has been developed for UK teachers and advisers, offering an efficient and timesaving online tool to support disadvantaged and underrepresented students to higher education.

Home / Advisers / Help and training / Toolkits / Adviser toolkit: Supporting students with individual needs

SUPPORTING CHILDREN FROM UK ARMED FORCES FAMILIES (SERVICE CHILDREN)

Explore this section

If a student's parent(s) or carer(s) is serving as a Regular or Reservist in the UK Armed Forces, their experience of going to university may be different to their non-Service peers. We have developed this toolkit to explain how you can practically support Service children along their journey to higher education.

What's on this page?

- Pre-application and research phase
- When they're applying
- Post-application
- Preparing for the transition to university or college
- For more support

What's on this page?

- Pre-application and research phase
- When they're applying
- Post-application
- Preparing for the transition to university or college
- For more support

Pre-application and research phase

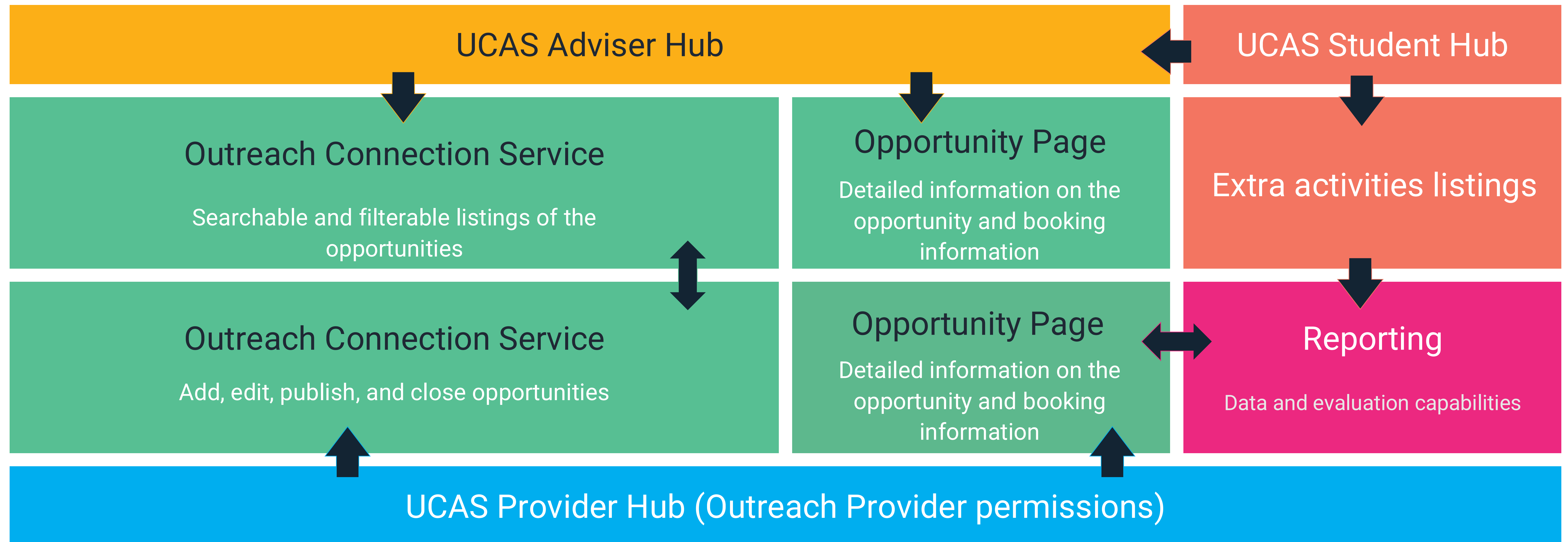
- Identify students whose parent(s) or carer(s) have served, or are currently serving in the regular UK Armed Forces, or as a reservist (the pastoral team in your school or college may be able to help with this), and flag that support is available in HE.
- Direct students to find out more – the SCIP Alliance website is a good starting point (1) and there is information and advice on [ucas.com](#).
- Be mindful that not all Service children may be known to the school or college, especially if their parent(s) or carer(s) are no longer serving in the Armed Forces.
- If a student has been bereaved, they may be eligible for the Armed Forces Bereavement Scholarship Scheme (AFBSS) (2) – it may be a good idea to signpost this with the student's parent or carer.
- Check if students have any caring responsibilities (see information for parents elsewhere).

[Link to all teacher toolkits](#)

THE UCAS OUTREACH CONNECTION SERVICE

UCAS

Helping universities, colleges, charities and organisations to showcase outreach activities and programmes to schools and colleges – and finding the right students to participate



COMING SOON! A student-facing version

THE UCAS OUTREACH CONNECTION SERVICE

Outreach Connection Service

Grid

List

Filters

Achieve HE - Support for Independent Students

UNIVERSITY OF YORK

General information and guidance

At charity/provider premises (Also available online)

Year 9/S3, Year 10/S4, Year 11/S5, Year 12/S6, Year 13, Pre-16, Post-16, Mature

Details

Advancing Access CPD sessions (for Teachers and Advisers)

ADVANCING ACCESS

Masterclass/Subject insight

At school/college premises (Also available online)

Year 11/S5, Year 12/S6, Year 13, Post-16

Details

Advocacy Academy

EDGE HILL UNIVERSITY

Skills and attainment raising activity

At charity/provider premises (Not available online)

Year 12/S6, Post-16

28 Oct 2024 - 31 Dec 2024

Details

Ambition Nottingham 16-18

UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM

Long term programme

Online only

Year 12/S6

Medicine and dentistry, Subjects allied to medicine, Biological and sport sciences, Psychology, Veterinary sciences, Physical sciences, Mathematical sciences, Engineering and technology, Computing, Social sciences, Law, Business and management, Language and area studies, Historical, philosophical and religious studies, Education and teaching, Geography, earth and environmental studies

01 Jan 2025 - 31 Jul 2026

Details

Black Access Programme

UNIVERSITY OF YORK

Long term programme

At charity/provider premises (Not available online)

Year 12/S6, Post-16

Details

Campus Tours

UCEN MANCHESTER

Campus visit

At school/college premises (Not available online)

Post-16, Mature

Biological and sport sciences, Engineering and technology, Computing, Social sciences, Education and teaching, Design, and creative and performing arts

10 Oct 2024

Details

Outreach Connection Service

UCAS' Outreach Connection Service has been developed for UK teachers and advisers, offering an efficient and timesaving online tool for them to support disadvantaged and underrepresented students to higher education.

Find out more

Know of an outreach opportunity?
Check if they know about the OCS and
are registered – it's free

Watch a recording of a recent 'ask us anything' session about the OCS

30

DISCUSSION AND Q&A

POINTS FOR DISCUSSION

1

Was there anything in the first year of data that surprised you or does it confirm your understanding of this group's journey to HE?

2

Are there any data points that would be useful for us to cover in future Fair Access Snapshots for this group? Is there a particular data point from today you think would be useful to explore in more depth?

3

What else can UCAS do or create to young people from Service families, and what would help their parents, and what would help you to support them? Ideas big and small

ANY
QUESTIONS?

UCAS

THANK YOU!
KEEP IN TOUCH



access@ucas.ac.uk



www.linkedin.com/in/nicola-turner-96835782/



[Sign up to our Fair Access Newsletter](#)

