

UCAS Launch – parents and carers

Today's meeting

- Introduction

Q&A via johanna.teasdale@southmoormat.co.uk

- Sharing of presentation which students have received (20 minutes)
- How parents can support & information on university finance (10-15 minutes)
- Any questions (open-ended)



How can I help as a parent / carer?

- Focus on academic work
- Encourage and / or enable opportunities that will be good evidence in their personal statement
- Wellbeing
- Liaise with school
- Read and re-read drafts

Questions? johanna.teasdale@southmoormat.co.uk



Personal statement basics

- Main opportunity to sell themselves
- About a side of A4 (4000 characters)
- Subject specific

Does it increase my chances of getting accepted on the course or not?

Questions? johanna.teasdale@southmoormat.co.uk



EPQ

- Super-curricular
- Anything
- Can reduce offers



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Work experience & placements

- Suitable placements
 - It doesn't matter if the link is tenuous
 - Develop skills, not just experience
 - Show effort and initiative
- Work experience week during the pandemic
 - Universities know this is an issue
 - There are still opportunities
 - Initiative is still important



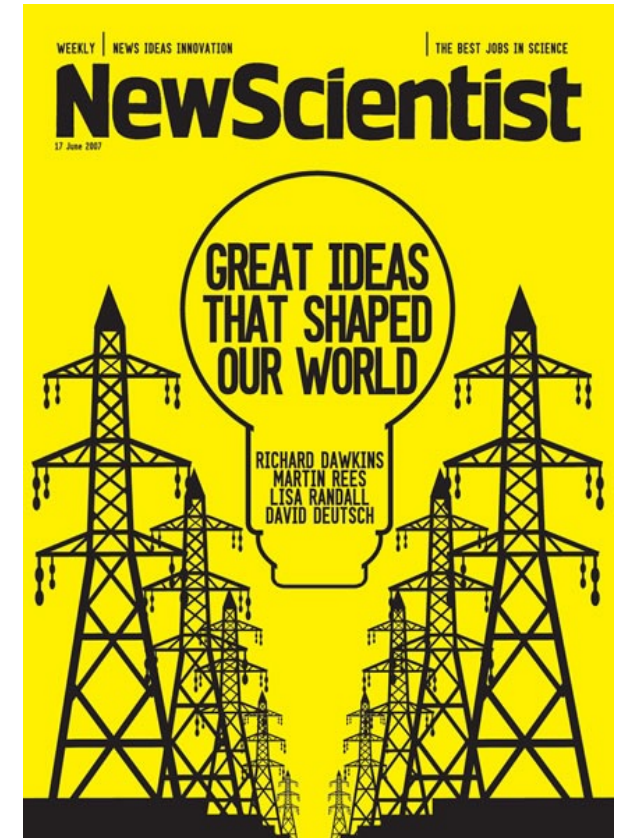
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What else?



PARTNERS.
www.ncl.ac.uk/partners



Access schemes e.g. Partners

Summer schools e.g. for Realising Opportunities, Sutton Trust

Voluntary work

Public lectures

Read (serious) newspapers and journals

Read books – ask teachers for recommendations

Academic competitions and placements e.g. Nuffield Foundation

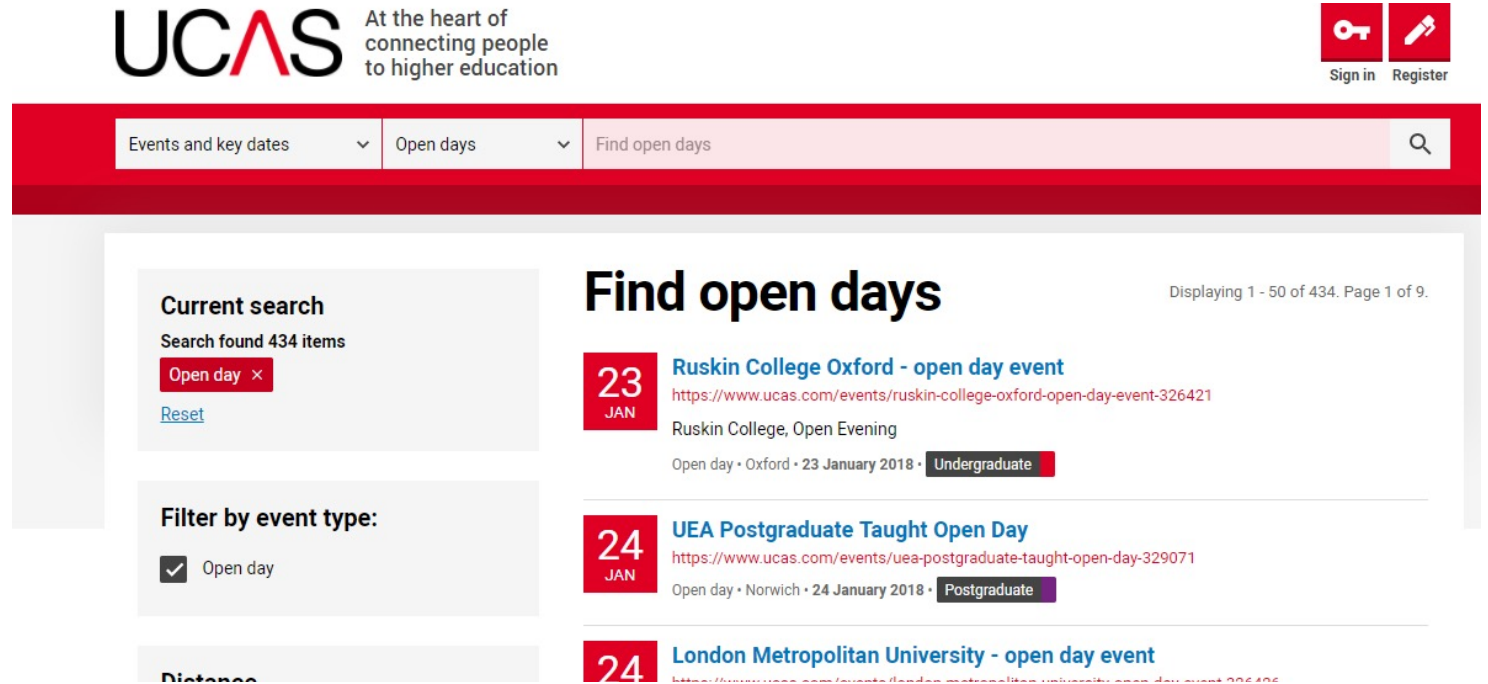
Online courses e.g. Futurelearn

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Can you visit?

- Open days website
- All have open days
- Most in June – August
- 2/3 days allowance

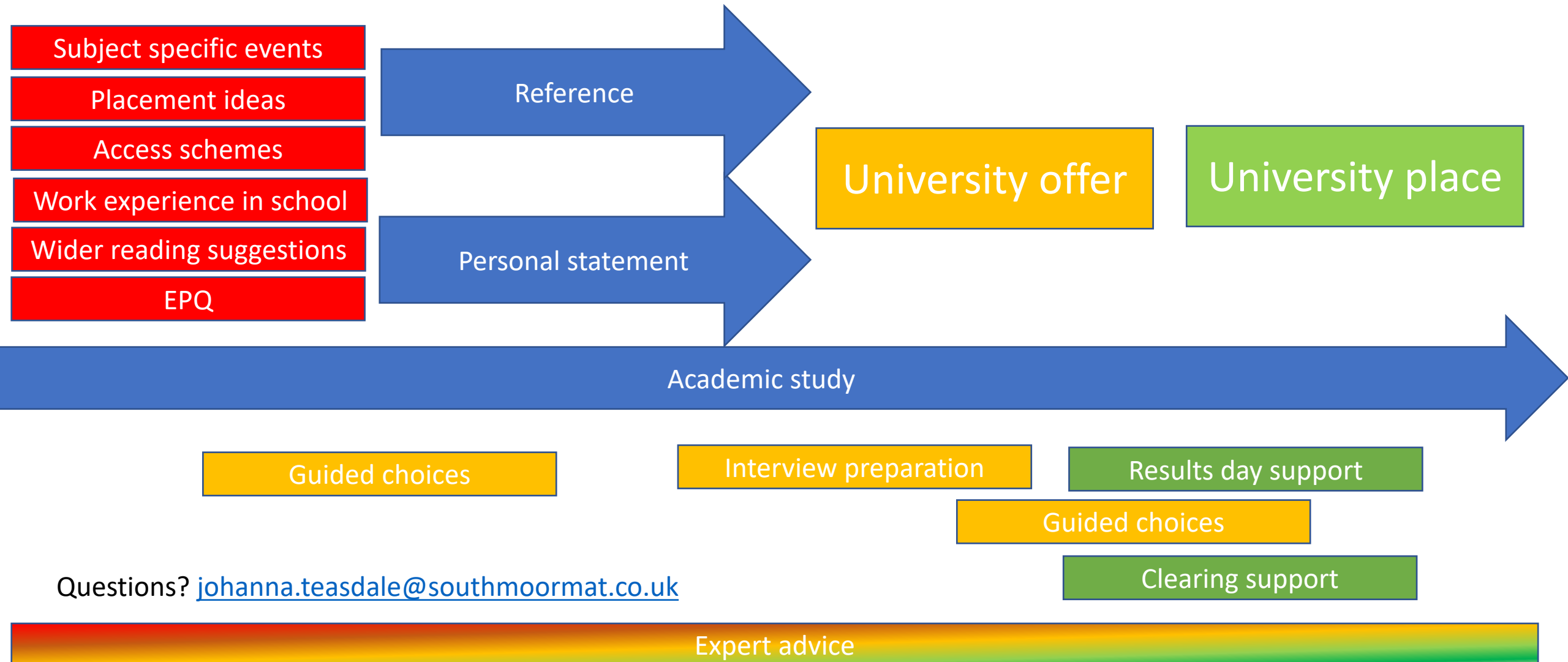


The screenshot shows the UCAS website interface. At the top, the UCAS logo is followed by the tagline "At the heart of connecting people to higher education". On the right, there are "Sign in" and "Register" buttons. Below the header is a navigation bar with "Events and key dates" and "Open days" dropdown menus, and a search bar containing "Find open days". The main content area is titled "Find open days" and displays a list of search results. The first result is for "Ruskin College Oxford - open day event" on 23 January 2018, categorized as "Undergraduate". The second result is for "UEA Postgraduate Taught Open Day" on 24 January 2018, categorized as "Postgraduate". The third result is for "London Metropolitan University - open day event" on 24 January 2018. On the left side of the search results, there is a "Current search" section showing "Search found 434 items" and a filter for "Open day" which is currently selected. There is also a "Filter by event type:" section with a checked box for "Open day".

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How do we support you?



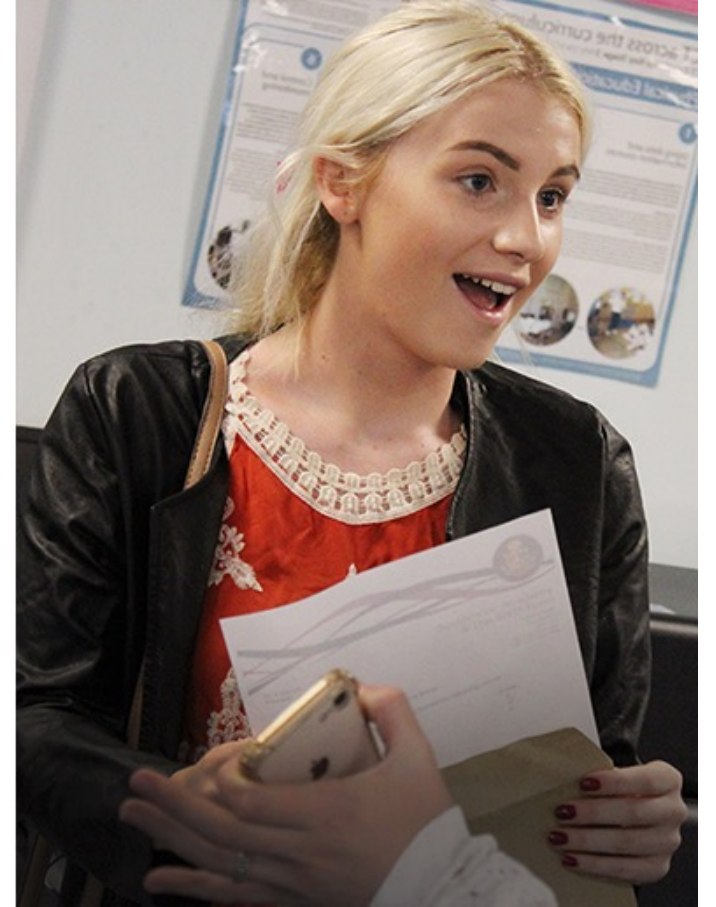
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Expert advice

Support during applications

- Interview support
 - Health care courses
 - Oxbridge
 - Education courses
- Admissions tests

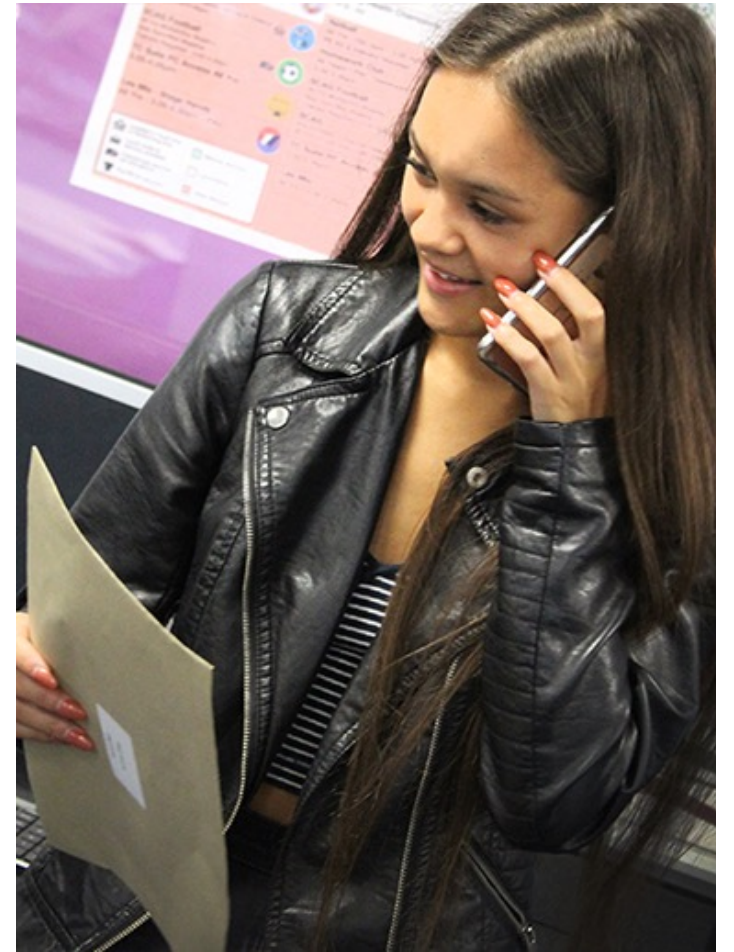
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Choosing an offer

- Once a student has all their offers, they have until March to decide which to accept as:
 - Firm choice
 - Insurance choice

Questions? johanna.teasdale@southmoormat.co.uk



What if?

- UCAS Extra
- UCAS Clearing
- UCAS Adjustment

UCAS
Extra

UCAS
Clearing



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UCAS Extra

- If a student does not receive an offer, they can apply for a further course



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Results day

UCAS
Clearing



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Practical considerations, finances

- Open days include opportunity to look at accommodation
- Student finance (www.gov.uk/student-finance)
- Money saving expert
- Maximum fees £9250 – covered by tuition fee loan
- Maintenance loans (all receive some, household income dependent)
- No repayments until earning £27,295 - automatic deduction
- Written off after 30 years

Questions? johanna.teasdale@southmoormat.co.uk



Example repayments

Yearly income before tax	Monthly income before tax	Monthly repayment
£26,575	£2,214	£0
£27,000	£2,250	£3
£29,500	£2,458	£21
£31,000	£2,583	£39
£33,000	£2,750	£54

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The sum without overpaying

Initial student loan	£55,000
Salary	£37,575
Annual repayments	£990 <small>(9% of earnings above £26,575 = 9% of £11,000)</small>
Total repayments over 30 years before it wipes	£990 x 30 =£29,700

Example repayments

The thresholds are £524 a week or £2,274 a month (before tax and other deductions). They change on 6 April every year.

Example

You're paid weekly and your income changes each week. This week your income was £600, which is over the Plan 2 weekly threshold of £524.

Your income was £76 over the threshold (£600 minus £524). You will pay back £6 (9% of £76) this week.

Example

Your annual income is £28,800 and you are paid a regular monthly wage. This means that each month your income is £2,400 (£28,800 divided by 12). This is over the Plan 2 monthly threshold of £2,274.

Your income is £126 over the threshold (£2,400 minus £2,274). You will pay back £11 (9% of £126) each month.

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In summary

- Southmoor will continue to provide support with your child's UCAS application until they go to University
- You can help through:
 - Keeping a focus on academic work
 - Regularly discussing future choices
 - Reviewing draft applications
- Questions? johanna.teasdale@southmoormat.co.uk

