

HIGHER EDUCATION & CAREERS ADVICE POST A LEVEL

Dear Leaver,

This booklet is intended to help you find your way through the process of receiving your results and confirming your chosen pathway into higher education or an apprenticeship.

The information you will find in this booklet is supplied by the HE and Careers Team, the Examinations Office and the Development Office. These three sources of support and information will be important to you as you receive your A Level results, move towards the next step of your career, and become part of the much wider Edwardian network.

Your connection with KES does not cease at the moment you leave the School; many Edwardians return to use our HE & Careers facilities during their GAP year and beyond. Many of you will be making Post Qualification Applications (PQA) through the School from September.

If you are adopting a PQA strategy, please make sure you read the information in this booklet, and give your personal email address to your tutor, as you will need our support in your university application.

When you receive your A Level results in August, the HE & Careers Team will be in School to offer any advice you may require regarding your higher education choices and your current position. Please refer to the times of the Post Results Clinic, which are published in this booklet and on the website.

If you have any concerns regarding the marks you have been awarded you will need to refer to the Essential Information from the Exams Office page within this booklet or to the appropriate section of the School website.

We all wish you the very best for your examination success and your future career and hope that this final advice booklet will be of use to you.

You will find a list of contacts at the beginning of each section.

Good Luck!

A Level results are published on
Tuesday 10th August 2021

- Results will be available for you to collect in person from the School. If you wish to make any other arrangements for receiving your results, please contact the Examinations Office, well in advance.
- Please attend the Post Results Clinic at the times indicated, if you require any help or advice. We are unable to offer guidance by email or any other means at this time.
- You will need to know your UCAS number, your TRACK pin, and you may find it helpful to have a copy of your institution and course codes with you, plus any specific offer details.
- Please bring with you any correspondence relating to your HE offer, particularly if you have names and telephone numbers of university staff, as this may expedite any clarifications that are needed.
- Remember: you can use TRACK at any time to check the status of your application: you may be able to determine your CF/UF status before you collect your results.

POST RESULTS CLINIC

All Upper Sixth pupils are advised to be available when their results arrive. The results will not be issued to anyone other than themselves without prior written notification naming a designated recipient, preferably a parent. Please contact the Examinations Office if you require this service.

Results will be available in school between 8.30 – 10.30am on 10th August.

Students are reminded to update their contact details on Track in case universities need to contact them.

Please approach **through the Wilton Road pedestrian gate and proceed to the marquees set up on the main field to pick up your results. Please observe the social distancing rules.** If you'd like to speak to the VI team in the Post Results Clinic, please make your way to the **Concourse via the Atrium and wait to be seen, again observing the social distancing rules and any one-way systems in place.**

Times for the **Post Results Clinic** are listed below:

Day	Times	Staff
Tuesday August 10th	8.30am - 1.00pm and 2.00pm - 4.00pm	LSDM, NDC, TLK, KJ, HEMS
Wednesday August 11th	9.00am - 1.00pm and 2.00pm - 3.30pm	LSDM, NDC, TLK, KJ, HEMS

Some initial advice about results day is provided within this booklet. However, each case will need to be considered individually and for this reason, our HE & Careers staff will be available for personal consultation at the times above. As already stated, we will not be able to offer this service via email.

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION FOR UNIVERSITY APPLICANTS

CONTACT: Your Tutor, Mrs Millar, Mr Culver

You can consult TRACK from 8.00am on Results Day to see the outcome of your application. **If, your CF offer has not been confirmed, you may need to contact your CF or CI University on Results Day.**

For this reason, **it is important that you know your UCAS number and your course codes and that you bring all this information with you** when you come to collect your results.

The morning on which results are published is one of frantic activity for UCAS and University Admissions Offices, and having information and codes to hand will make your progress much smoother. You can, of course, use a print out from TRACK if you prefer.

DO NOT SIMPLY GO HOME

if your results are not as you had hoped

Seek advice from the HE & Careers Team in the Post Results Clinic

PLEASE INFORM THE SCHOOL OF YOUR FUTURE PLANS once they are finalised, by emailing lsdm@kes.hants.sch.uk ASAP. This information is urgently required by the Head, as various Government returns have to be completed before the end of September. It is also of enormous value to us in our attempts to improve the service we offer from year to year.

It would be sensible to bring a mobile phone with you on Results Day, but our experience tells us that most university telephone lines become congested on this day: you will require persistence and patience.

University admissions tutors prefer students (not parents, or School staff) to take the initiative in the matter of their university courses. The School cannot undertake to influence university decisions, but will be able to offer you advice on how you should proceed.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

We provide details of sources of information that you may wish to use once you know your results.

VACANCIES

Institutions dealing with enquiries about course vacancies in Clearing will be listed as follows:-

1. Newspapers

One broadsheet newspaper will be designated as the official source of University Clearing information. The Parents' Guide; Gap Year Guide; Clearing Guide; Finance and Bursaries information are supplements that appear at this time in most newspapers.

2. Internet

UCAS will publish lists of vacancies updated daily. The UCAS web site is www.ucas.com. The Student UK website can be accessed on www.studentuk.com, but all universities will publish vacancies on their websites.

3. UCAS Track Service

This gives access to your individual record of applications via the UCAS website: www.ucas.com, by using your application number and a unique password. It is updated regularly so that changes to status can be seen.

4. The UCAS Helpline

A special hotline is set up each year and the number published on the website. This service is always very busy so be prepared to try several times. **Please have your personal ID ready.** The UCAS website has several pages dedicated to FAQs on confirmation and clearing.

5. The School website - [Academic menu/University and Careers](#) - has useful links for you.

HELPLINES AND ADVISORY SERVICES:

The UCAS Clearing instructions sent to applicants will contain more accurate information and applicants are advised, in the first instance, to use www.ucas.com and Track.

The Student Room. This is essentially a chat room and not necessarily reliable, but can be a reassuring point of contact.

On Results Day, please come into School where you will not be alone and can benefit from our many years of experience.

CLEARING AND AJUSTMENT

Applicants who **have met the conditions of their firm choice will be placed there** (UF). Track will display a confirmation letter confirming their place. The letter will advise the applicant if they need to take any further action.

Applicants who are not confirmed at their firm choice, but **meet the conditions of their insurance choice, will be placed at their insurance choice** (UI).

Applicants **who have not met the conditions of their offer:**

- may still be accepted by the university or college, and may need to wait a few days for them to make a final decision. (The university or college may be waiting for some additional information.)
- may be given a change of course, date of entry, or point of entry offer, which will be shown in Track. **Applicants are not obliged to accept this.** Track will display a Confirmation of Change letter (AS12C) outlining the available options when all Confirmation decisions are made. They must then accept or decline the change. Applicants only have **five calendar days to reply to a course change offer.**

Applicants are expected to honour the Confirmation commitments. However, should an applicant find they no longer wish to take up their confirmed place, they will need to either withdraw from the UCAS application system completely, or release themselves into Clearing via Track. **This decision must not be taken lightly, as they will lose their place.** Applicants should contact the university or college directly about a change of course, date of entry, or point of entry. More information about Confirmation can be found at www.ucas.com/results.

CLEARING

Applicants may become eligible for Clearing at different times. The service is available for students who:

- have not received any offers (or none that they wanted to accept)
- have declined any offers they have received
- have not met the conditions of their offers
- have declined your firm place on Track
- have not put in an application (perhaps because of low UCAS predicted grades) but have done better than expected and now wish to avoid taking a GAP year

Applicants need to find out which courses have vacancies (see Clearing vacancy information), then **contact universities** and colleges to discuss the possibility of gaining a place.

If a university or college provisionally offers an applicant a place in clearing, they'll usually give them a **date by which they must enter the course details in Track**.

Applicants can contact different universities and colleges to discuss vacancies and may be informally offered several places. They will need to decide which offer to accept, as they can only enter one choice in Track. They will need to give the university their Clearing number which is found in Track, and their UCAS Personal ID.

Deferred entry applicants - as Clearing is not primarily intended to be used for deferred entry, applicants should check with providers if they will consider them.

Results – applicants need to be able to verify their results if a university or college asks for them – so they should have their GCSE results with them when they come to School.

CLEARING PLUS

This system is where UCAS personally matches applicants to courses using information from their applications and what university and colleges are looking for.

If applicants are unplaced or have started a new application, a button will appear in Track – **'My Matches'**. This takes them to their top 50 course matches.

If any of the courses look interesting, applicants hit **'interested'** on Track which lets the universities know that they'd like to be considered for a place. If there are still places available, the **university may contact the applicant**.

Applicants can still use 'Clearing' to search every course as well as using 'Clearing Plus'.

ADJUSTMENT

Applicants **who meet and exceed the conditions of their conditional firm (CF) choice** have the option to try to find an alternative place through Adjustment, while still holding their original confirmed offer.

Adjustment is likely to be open from 10th-31st August. During this time, students can register for Adjustment in Track. They then **have five days to secure an alternative place**. If they don't manage to do this, they remain accepted at their original confirmed place.

A brief summary of Adjustment:

- It is optional.
- Adjustment allows applicants to seek an alternative course without losing their secured place.
- The Adjustment process is likely to run from 9.00am on 10th August until 31st August.
- An applicant **has five calendar days to use Adjustment**, from 10th August or the day their status changes from CF to UF.
- If an applicant registers for Adjustment in error, they don't have to worry and should not take any further action. When the five day period is over, their original place will remain unchanged.
- There are no Adjustment vacancy lists. It is the **applicant's responsibility to contact a university or college to discuss an Adjustment place.**
- To secure an Adjustment place, the applicant must have received an alternative offer through UCAS before the five day period ends.
- If an applicant does not receive an alternative place, they **remain accepted at their current university or college.**
- Applicants who are in Adjustment who contact providers should make it clear whether they are enquiring or agreeing to accept an offer, as if the applicant is claimed in Clearing, they will not be able to retain their previous UF choice.

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION FROM THE EXAMINATIONS OFFICE

**CONTACT: Mrs SM Owen, Mrs EJ Funnell, your
subject Head of Department or Dr BM Waymark**

RESULTS INFORMATION

The Statement of Results, once received, must be regarded as the official notification of results gained and should be retained carefully.

No results information may be obtained by telephone from the School Office or Members of Staff (teaching and non-teaching including the Caretakers).

CERTIFICATE COLLECTION

A Level Certificates will be delivered to the School in the **Autumn term**, and the Examinations Office will notify you regarding the issue of these so that you can collect them at a convenient time.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT RESULTS

In the absence of a normal Post Results Service, pupils who are disappointed with their results and considering whether to request a Centre Review, should in the first instance speak to or email a member of Staff with details of why they think their results may not be correct. The School will advise on how to proceed.

'RESITS'

Discussions about the possibility and advisability of 'resitting' A Levels in the Autumn term or the following June should take place between Leavers, Subject Teachers, Heads of Departments and Tutors. Clearly, a Post Qualification Application would result in a conditional rather than an unconditional offer, if new/additional examinations results are pending.

PQA AND GAP STUDENTS MAKING AN APPLICATION FOR NEXT YEAR

CONTACT: Your Tutor

If you wish us to process your application form or provide a reference you MUST register as a student of the School on UCAS.

If you are making a Post Qualification Application you have **choices about how you apply**. If you want to apply for university through the School and access the support of your tutor you need to click the 'send' tab and submit your application form to your tutor, **BEFORE 26th NOVEMBER**.

If you're applying for **Oxbridge, Medicine, Dentistry or Veterinary Science/Medicine**, you need to have submitted your application to your tutor **by 17th September**.

If you wish to take a more leisurely approach to your application you do not *need* to apply through the School: you can apply as an independent applicant and simply request a reference from the School. We strongly recommend however, that you use the School and liaise with your tutor. All our UCAS activity ceases at Christmas, so requests for references must be received by **6th DECEMBER**.

As long as you have access to the internet, and **KES is your most recently attended academic institution**, you can make your application any time from 1st September in the year you leave School. If you have ***re-takes pending at a different institution***, you will need to provide us with independent evidence of your predicted grade if you wish us to process your application. An email from your new examination centre will suffice.

So, you have three main deadlines to consider:

17th September - if you are applying for Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Sciences or Oxbridge.

26th November – if you wish to apply for any other courses, but do so through the School and use your tutor to check your application.

6th December – if you wish us to just supply a reference for you as an independent applicant.

If you are unsure how to proceed at any point, **use the information on the HE & Careers section of the School website** and remember to please keep in contact with your tutor.

UCAS APPLICATIONS – GETTING STARTED:

- If you decide that you wish to use the school’s support system and apply through the School, please let your tutor know in good time. (Please remember that under data protection legislation, once you are 18 and have left the School, we cannot discuss your application with your parents.) Please email your tutor to arrange a time to meet to discuss your application and always allow him/her time to collate your teachers’ references. As you know, it will take **at least 10 working days** to get your application to UCAS even after you’ve pressed “send”. Please do not just wander into School and expect your tutor to see you – **you will need to make an appointment.**
- Firstly, you need to go to www.ucas.com. Click on the APPLY & TRACK link within the UCAS site and then click ‘start an undergraduate application’.
- The next stage is to REGISTER. Do this by selecting the link.
- Keep a note of your user name and password (and remember to register with an email address that you currently use, not your old school email). If you forget your password you will need to contact UCAS.
- Then select application through your School/centre: You will need to indicate that you once belonged to King Edward VI School, Southampton (make sure you select the correct one!).
- **Once you have done this you are agreeing to submit your completed UCAS application form to your Tutor by the published School UCAS deadlines above.**

➤ The “**buzzword**” that you need to enter is **SPUD** in upper case followed by the year of entry, without a space between the initials and the date. You must also register as part of your old tutor group (eg. S3), so we can “see” your application.

- Complete the UCAS form, entering all your IGCSE and GCSE as well as A Level grades. Any ‘re-sits’ that you decide to take will make some of your results ‘pending’, but you must, in any case, enter **ALL the examinations you have taken in the correct year. You cannot simply ignore any unsatisfactory results.** “**Unclassified**” does count as a result. For all results (including IGCSEs) – the **qualification date is August.** Please see the examination documents section of the website (under Academic and then Examinations and Reports) for a list of the correct [examining bodies](#) for UCAS applications, for your leaving year.

INDEPENDENT APPLICATIONS

- You can decide to make an ‘Independent application’ instead – and not go through the School. In this situation, the School is not involved in your application at all except for supplying a Reference. If you choose this method you have until **6th December** to ask the School to supply a reference for you - but you don’t get the benefit of our advice, support and guidance. The choice is up to you, but we strongly recommend applying through the School. (If you are applying to Oxbridge, or for Medicine, Veterinary Science or Dentistry, this ‘independent route’ is not open to you.)

'RESITS' AND PENDING GRADES

If you are planning on 're-sitting' any examinations next summer, you will need to enter the examination centre you have chosen to use to sit the papers (which may or may not be KES). Enter your **grade as pending** in the August of the following year.

Please note that whilst the School provides predicted grades for UVI students, it cannot do so for students who are no longer registered as being taught here.

You may be contacted by the universities to which you have applied requesting your new examination centre to provide UCAS predicted grades separately and directly. This is not unusual and should not cause you any uneasiness. If this happens, you will need to liaise with your examination centre and your university.

TIPS AND FAQ ANSWERS

If in doubt at any point, use the School website for online advice. Select the [Academic menu/University & Careers](#).

- The fee code you should enter on your application is **most likely to be 02**, unless you are not a UK national.
- Use Unifrog and the UCAS search tool and Entry Requirements information to help you to make realistic choices and match your achieved points to the points required for that course. Universities don't need to accept students with grades lower than the published requirements for a course.
- Telephone Admissions Tutors with details of your grades to find out whether or not it is worth your while to make an application *before* completing your form. (They are unlikely to dissuade, so use your common sense before wasting a choice.)
- Compose your personal statement on a word processor (approximately 600 words) then copy and paste it into APPLY.
- Please keep your tutor informed, whatever your HE intentions. Stay in email contact with your TUTOR. If there are any problems with an internal application, your tutor will refer the situation as appropriate. If your tutor has retired or left the School, you may initially need to contact Mrs Millar or Mr Culver.
- You are welcome to come into school for advice and help at any stage or if you are having difficulties with your personal statement. Please contact your tutor or Mrs Millar to make a suitable appointment time.

PROCESSING

- Once you have completed the form, and paid UCAS, you must press '**send**' to **forward your application to your tutor** for checking.

- Your tutor will then confirm your academic results, add the reference and forward the form for final checking before being sent on to UCAS. This process takes a little time, and we cannot guarantee to process a form immediately. If your tutor is not happy with any aspect of your application he/she will return it to you and the process begins again. Check regularly and don't make any assumptions until you see "sent to UCAS" on your TRACK account.
- Applications are more frequently returned than immediately approved, so remember to factor-in this element when considering the time scale.
- Unless you keep your tutor informed of your intentions, he/she may not even be checking to see if your form or a request for a reference has arrived. Allow plenty of time and submit well before the School's deadline.
- If you are making an independent application you will need to request a reference from your tutor and should put down lsdm@kes.hants.sch.uk as the referee. Once you have done this **YOU send the application to UCAS** and monitor your own track account.

DEADLINES

You will be aware that UCAS external deadlines are not the same as ours. This is simply because we need time to process and check applications. In addition, we have to allow for a teaching framework that extends below the Sixth Form.

You are agreeing to respect our deadlines if you choose to use the School's system.

- If you wish to apply for Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science or Oxbridge colleges, you will have to press 'send' to submit your completed application by **17th September**. If you are aiming for this early deadline you will need to have a draft personal statement for your tutor by the beginning of the Autumn term. The sooner your application is ready to be reviewed, the more guidance the School can give you.
- ALL applications through the School system should be submitted by **26th November** to maximise the efficient forwarding of your choices to UCAS, and increase your chances of gaining a place in competition with the next academic year.
- If you wish to give yourself longer to make an application you may do so, but remember that you'll need to apply as an independent student and have requested - via UCAS - a School reference before **6th December**.
- If you are now thinking of an Oxbridge application for the first time, and thus have not attended previous preparatory meetings, please feel free to come in and speak to Mr Culver about college choices, and Mrs Millar about any extra examinations needed.
- Similarly, if you now wish to put in an early application for medicine, dentistry or veterinary science (by **17th September**), please come in and talk to Mrs Millar.

- On the other hand, if you were considering an Oxbridge (or medical) application and in the light of your grades are now not so sure, come in and ask for some advice at the Post Results Clinic (see earlier for suitable times).
- Once you have all your universities' replies, remember that you **must respond to your offers** by your personal deadline listed on TRACK, or you will lose them.

**FINAL REMINDER:
WE CLOSE DOWN ALL OUR UCAS SERVICES
A WEEK BEFORE THE CHRISTMAS BREAK**

Between 30% – 45% of our students opt to take the PQA route to university, so you have nothing to fear and everything to enjoy for 14 months. Try to get the whole UCAS business sorted out as soon as possible, so that you can enjoy your GAP experience - and *please* keep us informed of your plans.

THE EDWARDIAN SOCIETY

CONTACT: Ms Hooper

This is it: you have come to the end of your time at King Edward VI School and you now join the realms of all those 'old' Edwardians who have gone before you. However, just because you are leaving, it doesn't mean you are forgotten.

GDPR

Firstly, and importantly, for us to stay in touch with you, we now need to seek your explicit consent to do so. If you have not already done so, please complete the online survey, sent to you by Mr Culver, as soon as possible, detailing your contact preferences. Without this we will be unable to send you alumni information. You can opt-out at any time in the future by emailing Edwardians@kes.hants.sch.uk or calling the KES Development Office on 023 8070 4561. Please note our privacy policy regarding how we use your data can be found on our website: <https://intranet.kes.hants.sch.uk/site-guide/privacy-notice>

THE EDWARDIAN MAGAZINE

All former KES pupils automatically become members of the Edwardian Society. You will receive a biannual alumni magazine detailing news from the School and containing stories and articles on other past Edwardians and their exploits. We are always pleased to hear from you and receive contributions and updates. The news snippets section of the magazine is just one other way to let us, and others, know what you are up to. Big or small, make sure you keep telling us your news and sending us your photos.

REUNIONS

We also hold regular reunion events for our alumni. As well as a 10 year reunion that will take place a decade from now, we also hold annual 25 and 50 year anniversary events. These are relaxed and informal providing a chance to meet up with old friends. Other regularly organised get-togethers such as the Oxbridge reunion, the Former Heads of School dinner and London drinks are also popular.

SOCIAL MEDIA

We are increasingly using social media including Facebook and LinkedIn to stay in touch with our leavers. Please do follow us on the School Facebook page to keep up to date with all the news from KES, details of what other Edwardians have been up to and dates of reunions. You may also like to join our networking group on LinkedIn.

WEBSITE

Edwardians have their own section of the KES website where you can purchase Edwardian merchandise, read about sporting events, see photos from the reunions and find out about fund-raising. You can access the webpage via the Alumni section of the KES website.

SPORTING EVENTS

The number of sporting events involving former pupils has increased in past years. We now hold annual cricket, boys' and girls' hockey, netball and football matches whereby alumni play the School's senior teams. Watch out for news on Facebook and on the website on match dates and please join us if you can. There is also an active OE golfing society.

CAREERS ADVICE

Many former pupils, especially those adopting a PQA strategy return to use the facilities during their Gap Year. You will always be welcome and we hope that in the future, you will be happy to join us at various HE & Careers events (such as Careers 'Meet the Experts' sessions, OE assemblies, Gap year presentations, and Careers Fairs) and impart your wisdom to other younger Edwardians.

STAYING IN CONTACT

So, stay in touch. Remember to drop us an email when you change address details, telephone number or email so that we can still contact you. Suzanne Hooper, Development Officer, deals with all Edwardian events and mailings and can be reached in the following ways:

Telephone: 023 80 704561

Email: edwardians@kes.hants.sch.uk

Website: www.kes.hants.sch.uk

Address: The Development Office
King Edward VI School
Wilton Road
Southampton
SO15 5UQ

We hope that you have enjoyed your time at King Edward VI School and playing your part in the School community. You now join another larger community as you become a member of the Edwardian Society.

