

Applying to study Veterinary Science



Applying to study Vet Science Timeline

- **May – August:** Research, Virtual Open Days, Webinars, Writing Personal Statement, BMAT and UCAT research
- **August - October:** BMAT and UCAT tests (TBC)
- **September:** 2nd/3rd/4th drafts of personal statement
- **October:** Thursday 1st October School Deadline (this gives us time to check your application and add finalised your reference in time for the deadline)
- **Thursday 15th October 6pm:** Final UCAS deadline

Vet Science – Work Experience

- All UK veterinary schools recommend or require that you obtain some veterinary work experience before you apply. We suggest that most of it should have been obtained fairly recently by the time you apply, and some schools have specific requirements in this regard. Work experience of course will be affected by COVID-19 closures so do contact universities to ask them about their requirements on this
- Each veterinary school's requirements are listed under their entry in this guide, including whether they ask for clinical experience shadowing vets and/or experience in a nonclinical animal husbandry setting.
- The most important function of work experience is for you to decide whether you would enjoy working as a member of the veterinary profession. Do you like the working environment? Do you think you would find the technical, practical, scientific, ethical, emotional and financial challenges of veterinary life rewarding and enjoyable?

Universities that offer Vet Science



THE UNIVERSITY
of EDINBURGH



UNITED KINGDOM • CHINA • MALAYSIA



There are also two new veterinary schools in the UK which are currently training their first cohorts, and as such are not VSC members at this time.

The University of Surrey School of Veterinary Medicine and Harper & Keele Veterinary School.

There are two members of the Veterinary Schools Council which are not located in the UK:



What will be considered?

- **GCSE results**
- **A level/ UCAS predicted grades** – *Entry requirements most commonly asking for AAA*
- **Personal Statement**
- **Tutor and Subject References**
- **Admissions test** – *Some may request such as Cambridge – check this*
- **Interview** – *Sometimes, check on UCAS for each uni*
- **Final grades**
- **Check your subjects** – *ALL want Chemistry and most also WANT a futher science or maths. Check each course carefully*

Personal Statements – 4000 characters/47 lines

- How your qualities and skills match the course criteria
- Experiences in Dentistry/ Healthcare/Medicine – Work Experience
- Why you want to be a Vet! (not anything else)
- Communication skills
- Leadership
- Honesty and integrity
- Well rounded
- 80/20 Rule – 80% academic/specific experience and 20% extra curricular
- Look at examples but don't be tempted to copy – **every personal statement will be checked for plagiarism**

The Interviews

Universities will invite you to an interview depending on your:

- UCAS Grades, Personal statement, references

- Subject knowledge
- Ethical issues
- Teamwork/leadership
- Caring manner
- Personal statement
- Current science in the news – this is currently quite focussed around COVID so read around and find other interesting articles
- Know the course
- Have a question
- Check the format
- Most common now is MMI – multiple mini interviews



Different learning styles

Teaching

The typical percentage of time spent in different learning activities for this course based on student choices. *This information is collated from the previous year and will not be available if the course is new.*

Year 1

Lectures, seminars and similar	44%
Independent studies	45%
Placements (if relevant)	11%

Year 2

Lectures, seminars and similar	33%
Independent studies	52%
Placements (if relevant)	15%

Year 3

Lectures, seminars and similar	32%
Independent studies	52%
Placements (if relevant)	16%

Year 4

Lectures, seminars and similar	26%
Independent studies	53%
Placements (if relevant)	21%

Year 5

Lectures, seminars and similar	2%
Independent studies	32%
Placements (if relevant)	66%

Compare courses online at UCAS to see how you will be taught, time on placement etc

Choosing where to apply

When applying through UCAS, you will need to pick 5 Vet schools.

However, to maximise the chance of getting an offer (or multiple offers!) you will have to **RESEARCH** and choose according to your application.

Universities may differ by:

- Teaching/ learning styles ([Traditional, integrated or PBL](#))
- Requirements for Education history ([some universities may not accept a retake in any A-level whereas some allow this](#))
- Grades
- Interview styles ([Multi-mini Interviews/ MMI or 1:1 Panel](#))
- Availability to placement
- Life at Vet school ([Campus vs City uni](#))

Life at Vet School

- Different from “normal” students
- Shorter summer holidays!
- More exams!
- “Work hard, play hard”
- Close to your peers
- Strong friendships
- Sports, clubs and societies
- Think about career from the start
- Campus vs City University life – which will you prefer?



Useful Websites

<https://sites.google.com/site/smrtprogression2/home>

SMRT 6th form progression site

<https://www.vetschoolscouncil.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/VSC-course-guide.pdf> Excellent PDF with info from all UK universities offering Vet Science

<https://www.bva.co.uk/your-career/becoming-a-vet/> British Veterinary Association

https://www.sciencedaily.com/news/plants_animals/veterinary_medicine/ Science Daily – Vet linked news articles