

REDCLIFFE SIXTH FORM

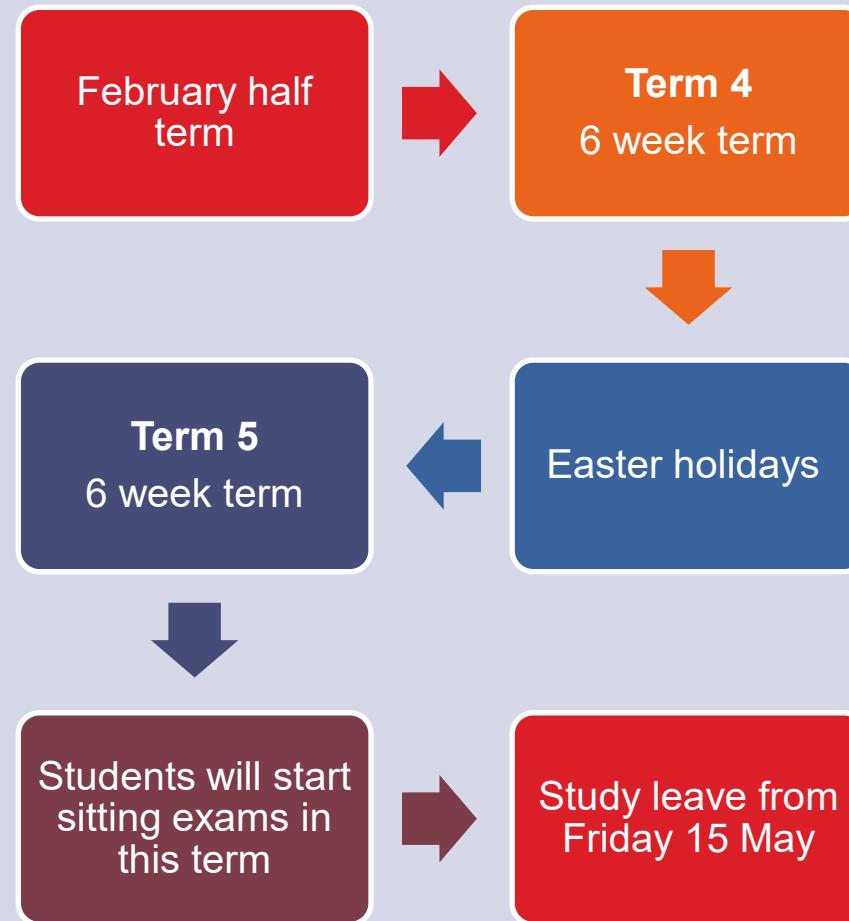
Y13 Parents/Carers' Information



FORMAT FOR THE PRESENTATION

- Key dates
- Revision
- Summer Exams
- Pastoral Support
- Progression
- Student Finance

The Final Stretch



Key dates

Tuesday 10 Feb

- Grade sheet sent to students and parent/carers

Tuesday 10 Feb

- Y13 Parents/Carers Subject Evening

By Easter holidays

- EPQ completed

Wednesday 6 May

- A Level and AS exams start

Friday 15 May

- Leaver's Service and last day before study leave

Wednesday 24 June

- Leavers Ball

Thursday 13 August

- A Level Results Day

The Current Focus

Learning from feedback –
mocks, grade sheet,
parents evening

High attendance
expectations – lessons,
registrations, assemblies

Coursework deadlines

- Art and Photography
- Health and Social Care
- Computer Science
- Textiles and DT
- History
- Music and Music Tech

EPQ deadline

- Friday 20th March

Making the most of the
school day

Hour for an hour –
homework and Yr13
content, Yr12 revision

Revision



- Check exam dates and plan backwards from these
- Make a revision timetable (using the booklet provided)

- Organise notes
- Use revision resources on Moodle
- Use strategies discussed in registration
- Order revision guides
- Go to revision sessions

- Download past papers and mark schemes
- Work with friends / classmates – test each other

- Mark practice questions
- Ask teachers for feedback

SMRT study skills site:
<https://www.smrt.bristol.sch.uk/index.php/sixth-form/sixth-form-study-skills-support>

Exams

Timetables

- Students can find their exam dates on exam board websites – provisional
- Students will receive a **personalised timetable on BromCom** with rooms and seat numbers which resolves all clashes, closer to Easter

On the day

- **Sickness** - Call by 8:30am. A doctor's note is essential if a student is too sick to attend
- **Lateness** - Call ASAP. Students can enter exams up to 20 mins late as long as they have called ahead. They can be admitted up to an hour late if they have been under constant adult supervision
- **Extenuating circumstances** for exam boards – any circumstances during the time of exams
- **Letters to Universities** – any extenuating circumstances throughout A Levels

SUPPORT AVAILABLE

- Students have access to a range of in-school support.
- We can also signpost to external agencies.
- Study skills will also be covered in VIP lessons.

Tutor

Miss Foster (Head of Year)

Ms Rigby (Deputy Head of Year)

Learning mentors (Helen & Sheila) – Removing any barriers to learning

Millie – Mental health and other pastoral issues

Suella and Megan - Educational needs support

Simon Penrose – Safeguarding

Butterfly Counselling and Off the Record

CURRENT SUPPORTIVE INTERVENTIONS

Attendance monitoring

8.30am sign in

Behaviour levels

Subject specific engagement levels

Support plans

Twilight lessons (subject specific)

Library lessons

6th form catch up sessions in the library after school

Organisation and revision support with Laura in the library

Progression with Mr Jones

Tutorial programme with tutors

PROGRESSION

Year 13 Progression

- UCAS ~80% (including after Gap Years)
- Apprenticeships
- Work
- Gap, Art Foundation, Internships etc

Llewellyn Jones – 6th Form Progression Coordinator
Jonesl@smrt.bristol.sch.uk

Apprenticeships

- Unifrog – search up to date apprenticeships
- Lots on the blog/newsletter
- Gov website
- No central application portal – apply like a job

Name	Level	Equivalent
Intermediate	2	5 GCSE's at a pass
Advanced	3	2 A level's at a pass
Higher	4, 5, 6 and 7	Foundation degree and above
Degree	6 and 7	Bachelor's or Master's degree

Online Apprenticeships
Q&A sessions – Western Training Provider Network.

Opportunities on the Blog

Turner &
Townsend
Apprenticeship

Simmons &
Simmons –
Solicitor
Apprenticeship

GKN Aerospace
Apprenticeship

Banking & Audit
Apprenticeships

Gap Year – TEFL
Course

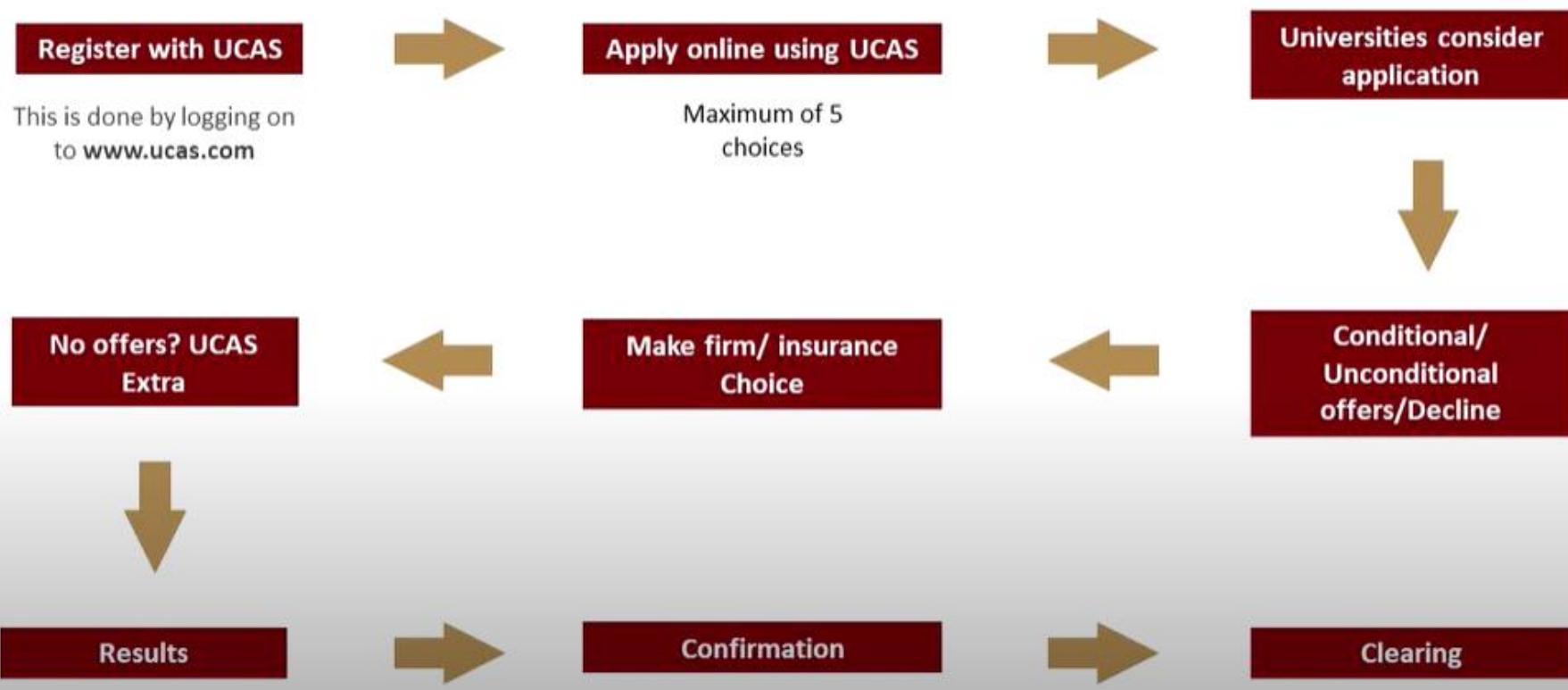
Health & Safety
Careers

KPMG – Paid
Work Experience
&
Apprenticeships

Army Careers

Police
Apprenticeships

The UCAS Application Process



Responding to offers

- UCAS deadline was January 14th 2026.
- Universities will now be reviewing applications and making decisions.
- Some students may have heard back from all universities whilst some students might still be waiting – this is normal.
260 have heard from some, 41 have heard from all 5.
- Students will be asked to pick a **firm** and an **insurance**.
- Deadline depends on when students hear back from all 5 (either **6th May** or **3rd June**)

UCAS – Firm (first) & Insurance

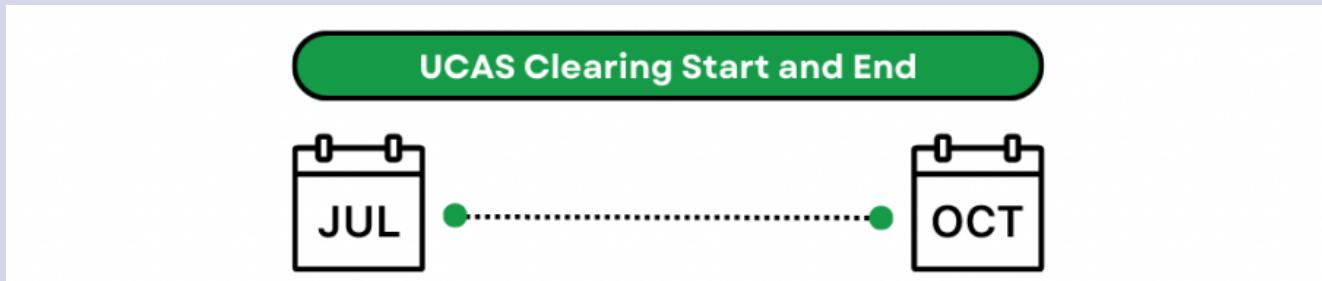
- Firm choice – first choice
- Insurance choice – second choice/back up
- The **insurance choice should be a safety net**, a university with lower entry requirements.
- However, it is important students do not accept somewhere they aren't prepared to go.



Results day - 13TH AUGUST 2026

- **On site in the main school hall**
- Support available:
 - University offers
 - Challenging exam results (e.g. remarks)
 - Resitting exams (external or internal as Year 14)
- **UCAS track** will be updated on the morning of results day to inform students of which they have been accepted to – firm, insurance or none
- Sometimes universities will still offer, even if they have slightly missed the grades

UCAS Clearing



- Clearing – courses yet to be filled
- If students are not accepted into their Firm or Insurance choices
- OR, if students do better than expected
- Lots become available on results day
- Check out the UCAS website for more info on this

What happens if students are unplaced, change their mind etc?

- **Speak to us on results day** – we can help
- We will contact Unis or help you to do so
- Apply online to access UCAS ‘Clearing’ system – agree a place by phone then confirm online
- Reapply to UCAS in Sept for 2027 (using the school support and with a new buzzword)
- Students who want to apply in their GAP year should **email their tutor after results day** to let them know and ask for the buzzword
- We will support students with the process, write a reference, check personal statements etc

STUDENT FINANCE



BATH SPA
UNIVERSITY

STUDENT FINANCE & BUDGETING

Megan Wigley

Schools & Colleges Engagement Officer



WHAT ARE THE COSTS OF GOING TO UNIVERSITY?

AND HOW DO STUDENTS PAY FOR IT?

MONTHLY EXPENSES

The costs of being a student are made up of many different expenses. This is what an average student's monthly expenses looks like.

How do students fund this?

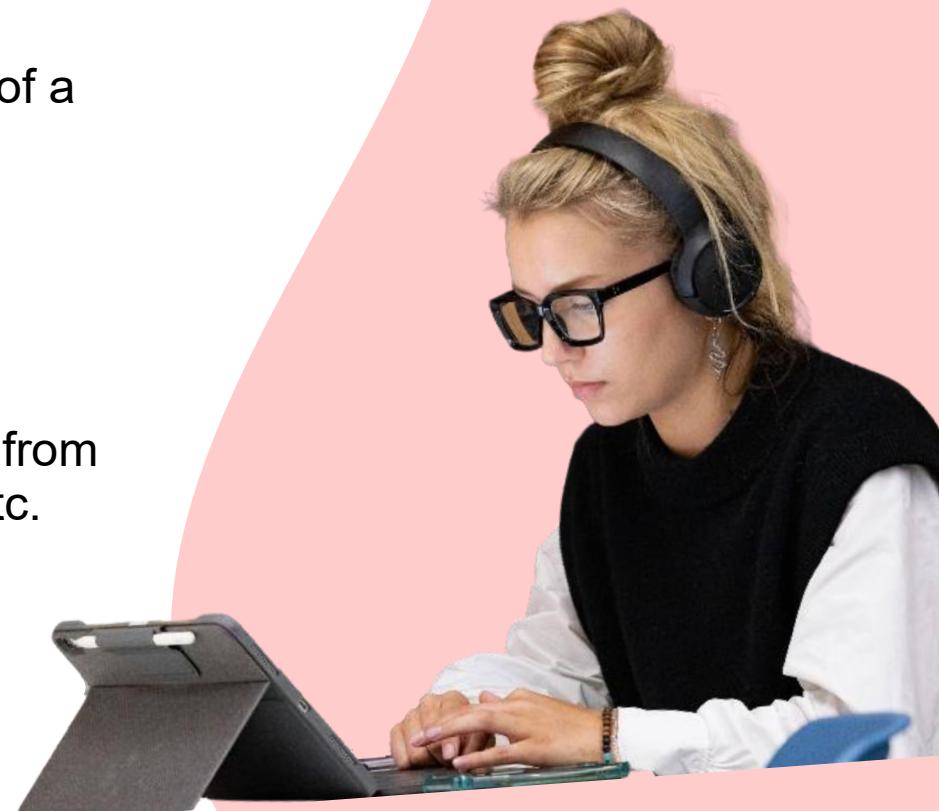
Rent	
Food (inc. groceries, takeaways and eating out)	
Household bills	
Going out	£61
Transport	£67
Clothes and shopping	£40
Health and wellbeing	£24
Holidays and events	£32
Other (friends, family, gifts, charity)	£77
Mobile phone	£15
Subscriptions	£13
Course materials	£20
TOTAL	

FUNDING UNIVERSITY

Repayable: A student loan, made up of a **tuition loan** and a **maintenance loan**.

Non-repayable: this includes any **bursaries, scholarships and grants**.

Income: students can receive income from a things like a **job, parental support**, etc.



REPAYABLE

STUDENT LOAN

Tuition Fee Loan

The **loans company** pays this straight to the university to cover the cost of tuition.

Maximum tuition fee per year depends on if the university have a Teaching Excellence Framework award and/or an access ad participation plan from the Office for Students.

In **2026/27**, the maximum will be **£9,790** per year. This rises to **£10,050** in **2027/28**.

To find out more, red the Policy Paper on Gov.uk titled: Changes to tuition fees: 2026 to 2027 academic year and 2027 to 2028 academic year.

Maintenance Loan

Paid directly to you to help cover your living costs including accommodation, food, bills, etc.

We currently only have maintenance loan information for 2026/27.

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Rate of loan for students	Maximum loan	Minimum loan
Living at home	£9,118	£4,013
Living away from home and studying in London	£14,135	£7,039
Living away from home and studying outside London	£10,830	£5,048
Studying overseas as part of a UK course	£12,403	£5,996

Student Finance Calculator

Get an estimate of how much maintenance loan you are eligible for at
<https://www.gov.uk/student-finance-calculator>.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

To pay the earlier discussed tuition fee amount (cheaper than international) and be eligible to borrow from Student Finance England, then you need either of the following status.

Home Fee Status

UK nationals or Irish citizens

Settled status/Indefinite Leave to Remain

EU/EEA citizens with settled or pre-settled status (subject to residency rules)

Lived in the UK for 3 years before the course starts (not mainly for education)

Refugee / Humanitarian Protection Fee Status

Refugee status

Humanitarian Protection

Stateless leave

Family members of someone with above statuses

Important note: Asylum seekers without a final decision usually do not qualify for SFE, but they may be eligible for university scholarships, bursaries, or fee waivers. They should always be referred to the university for individual advice.



HOW AND WHEN DO I APPLY?

Apply online at [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk) (Student finance England)

If your course starts between August 2026 and December 2026, you can apply for student finance from the **end of March 2026**.

You also **don't need a confirmed place** - apply based on your top choice.

ALTERNATIVES TO INTEREST-BASED STUDENT LOANS

Standard student loans in the UK involve interest (RPI + %).

Alternative options:

- University bursaries and scholarships
- Hardship funds
- Part-time work
- Family/community support
- Paying tuition fees upfront (if possible)

Planned alternative:

A Sharia-compliant, interest-free student finance alternative has been announced, but not yet available. Students should check the latest guidance when applying.

SCHOLARSHIPS, GRANTS & BURSARIES

- These you don't need to be paid back; they are given to students who meet certain criteria.
- Scholarships are for those that excel in certain areas.
- Bursaries and grants are awarded based on personal circumstances, such as being a caregiver.
- [https://business.blackbullion.com/funding-hub/.](https://business.blackbullion.com/funding-hub/)

Refugee Bursary



- Accepting Applications

£750-£1500



The University of Essex

University Laptop Fund (ULF)



- Accepting Applications



Bath Spa University

Creative Minds scholarships



- Accepting Applications



Cardiff University



SUPPORTING INCOME

The student loan system assumes some families can contribute to living costs.

This is why household income affects the amount of maintenance loan a student receives.

The loan is not expected to cover all living costs for every student.

What this means for parents/carers?

- Some level of parental support may be expected, where possible.
- Support looks different for every family (regular help, occasional support, or help in emergencies).
- There is no fixed amount parents are required to give.

PART TIME WORK

It is also common for university students to work part time to add to their income.



- **Don't over-commit to shifts**, 15 hrs per week is the max recommend.
- **Reduce hours** when you have a deadline or exam coming up.
- **Seasonal work** in summer or Christmas can be a good option.
- **Always talk** to your university or employer if you're struggling.

Most universities also offer part time student jobs: working in the university cafes, food halls, student ambassadors, library work, etc.

WHEN DO STUDENTS PAY THEIR LOAN BACK?

AND WHAT AFFECT WILL THAT HAVE?

REPAYMENT

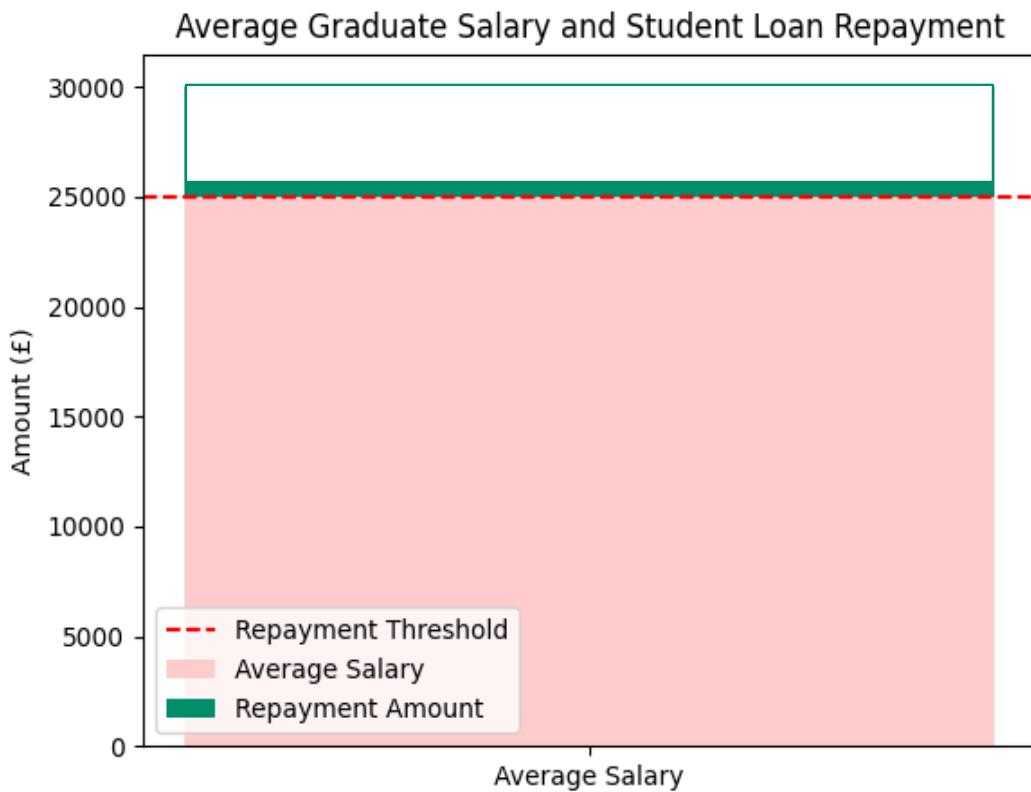
Repayment does **not** begin until the April after you graduate and until you earn **over £25,000 a year.**

When it is time to start paying your loan back, it is **taken from your salary automatically.**

You only pay **9% of anything you earn over this threshold.**



REPAYMENT



HOW DO STUDENTS MANAGE MONEY WHILST AT UNIVERSITY?

AND WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BUDGET?

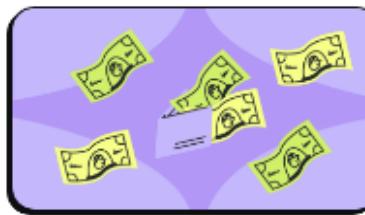
BUDGETING AT UNIVERSITY

Budgeting isn't about having lots of money; it's about **managing** what's available and **building independence**. Most students are budgeting independently for the **first time**, but university is a **safe environment to learn financial responsibility**. Remember, **mistakes are normal** and part of learning.



WHAT SUPPORT IS ALREADY IN PLACE

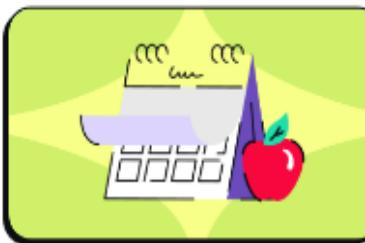
- **Student Finance Maintenance Loan** (loans paid directly to students termly).
- **University support services** (money advice, hardship funds, grants).
- **Budgeting tools and guidance** provided by the university.



3rd May 2024 · 10 min read

The good, the bad and the ugly of student overdrafts

A student overdraft could help you manage your money at university or college. Here's what you need to know, including whether it affects your credit score.



5th September 2024 · 5 min read

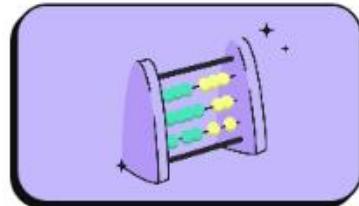
How to meal plan as a student on a budget

Learning how to meal plan as a student can save you money, time and stress, and keep you healthy and sane while studying.



26th April 2024 · 11 min read

The ultimate guide to student banking



Tool

Budget Calculator

Understand, and plan for, your financial circumstances at university with this easy to use budgeting calculator

[Create your budget →](#)



Article · 2 min read

Top 10 Money Tips

Read on to discover how you can break bad spending habits and create new good money habits. How to manage money effectively, know where your money is going, create a budget, and pay yourself first.

[Read article →](#)

HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT THIS?

Have open conversations about money: talk through income and expected costs before university starts.

Help them create a simple budget: monthly or termly works better than weekly so they plan ahead.

Encourage planning, not perfection: reassure them that overspending once doesn't mean failure.

Signpost support: encourage them to seek university money advice early if needed.



FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Alongside our range of bursaries and grants to support students, we also have financial advice for students available throughout their degree.

Our **Student Finance Team** can help with managing costs and provide money-saving tips.

Our **Student's Union** also has financial support and advice available for all students.

Our **Accommodation Team** can provide support with financial concerns regarding accommodation too.



STUDENT LIFE FROM HOME



It has become popular among students to **stay at home** while they attend university, picking a **local choice** that they can **commute** to. This is beneficial financially as students will save a large amount of money.

Save the student has found that students living at home:

- Save an average of £656 a month
- Savings could exceed £7000 per year

KEY LINKS

APPLY HERE

<https://www.gov.uk/student-finance-register-login>



UCAS STUDENT FINANCE GUIDE

<https://www.ucas.com/money-and-student-life/money/student-finance/student-finance-england>



FUNDING HUB

<https://business.blackbullion.com/funding-hub/>





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THANK YOU FOR LISTENING



Sign up here
for updates





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ANY QUESTIONS?

Megan Wigley
Schools & Colleges Engagement Officer

