



**2025**

***A LEVEL & Level 3***

***Results Day***

***14<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST***

**Results,**

**Next Steps Outcomes including UCAS**

**and Support....**

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This is written to inform you of how Results Day operates and potential outcomes with regard to university operations. We will update you should any changes occur.

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During the early hours of the results release date, UCAS Hub will be updated. **From 8.15am**, students will be able to logon and see whether or not they have been accepted by their Conditional Firm choice (CF) institution or their Conditional Insurance (CI) institution. However, occasionally there are delays in one or two decisions, in which case pupils should check UCAS Track regularly on the day until the decisions are confirmed (they can also contact the uni to ask why the decision is delayed). These decisions will be based on the grades they have been awarded. There is a lot of information here <https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/results-clearing>, but I have summarised this below.

For those holding offers, there are three possible main eventualities:

### 1) Grade requirements have been met

If the required grades have been met for the CF or the CI choices (or you are an Unconditional Offer Holder), then the place will be confirmed on UCAS Hub and the university will contact the applicant in the days that follow. It will be marked as an **Unconditional Firm**. The application will display confirmation and advise the applicant if they need to take any further action. If they have been accepted at their Firm choice, the Insurance choice is automatically rejected, so can only be re-accessed through Clearing.

However, *if the grades have exceeded an individual's UCAS predictions*, then it may be possible to gain a place in a higher grade university. UCAS Adjustment no longer exists, so pupils will have to apply through Clearing. NB – if a pupil is attempting to gain a place at a higher grade university, they should **not turn down their current place**, until they are guaranteed a place elsewhere.

The applicant can also decline their place and go through Clearing, but this is not a normal, or recommended, course of action. In order to speed up the clearing process, pupils can now self-release into clearing should they want to reject a place that they now have. This is done through the UCAS Hub application portal and clicking on “Decline my place”. We would strongly only recommend this if they are sure of a place being offered elsewhere or are 100% certain that they do not want a place at their offered universities.

### 2) Grade requirements not met, but close

The universities can accept applicants even if they have missed the required grades. Sometimes this gap can be 2 or 3 grades (e.g. an offer of ABB could be adjusted to BBC for an individual), but there is no guarantee of this as it is entirely at the discretion of the university. Such a decision will be shown on the UCAS portal as a confirmed place.

It can take universities some time to make this decision, so if a decision is not apparent on Track and an applicant has fallen short of the grades, it would do no harm in such circumstances to contact the university admissions department and politely push for a place. Clearing cannot be used until this decision is made (unless the pupil self-releases into Clearing).

A university may also make an alternative offer – start date, location or course. This is done through a confirmation change letter in the UCAS application portal, which an applicant can choose to accept or decline. There is no obligation to accept this.

If the CF choice university has marked the place as unsuccessful, then the CI will have the opportunity to confirm the place - if that is not confirmed, then the pupil will be released into Clearing.

### **3) Grade requirements not met and the university has not accepted the applicant**

If the university(ies) has(ve) turned the application down on the basis of missed grades, then there are two options:

- The applicant can choose to not continue with UCAS and Clearing, take a gap year/another route and consider whether to re-apply in the Autumn and/or to re-take exams. As long as they are not holding offers, no more needs to be done.
- The applicant can use Clearing to find a university place. In 2020, UCAS introduced a new system called Clearing Plus which will allow pupils to see a list of suggested suitable courses which still have vacancies. The Clearing process is stated below.

## UK UNIVERSITY DECISIONS – QUICK REFERENCE

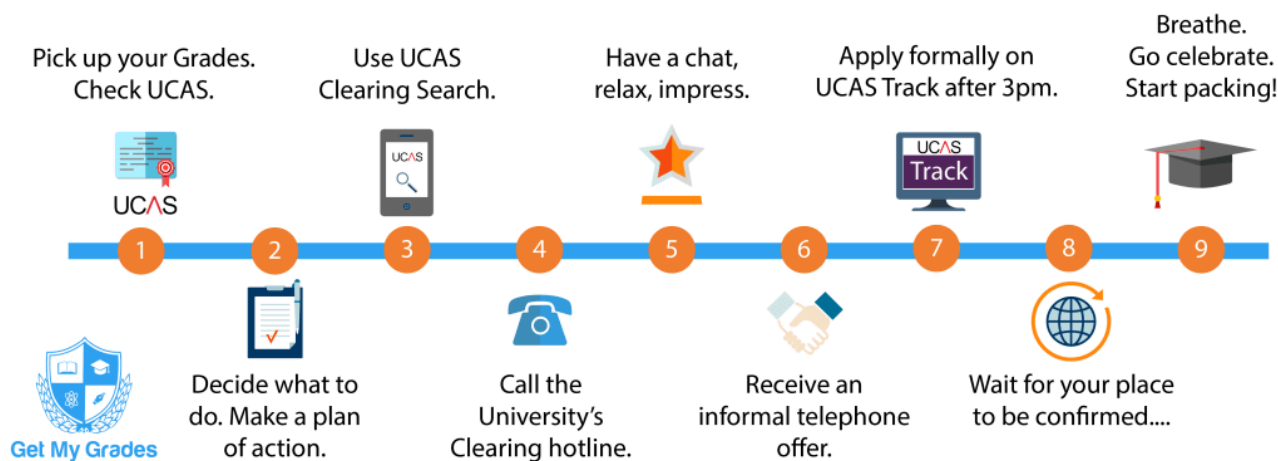
### CLEARING

Clearing is no longer the last chance saloon it once was, with a wide range of universities offering places. Where the high-ranking universities are offering places in Clearing, these can go quite quickly, however, others tend to take longer to fill, so for the majority of Clearing places there is no rush and pupils should take care in making their decisions. This infographic is a quick reference guide to the majority of possible outcomes on Results Day



In the event that the Conditional Firm and Conditional Insurance universities have not accepted a pupil based on their grades, the pupil will be automatically entered into the Clearing process. Pupils can also enter Clearing by selecting "Decline my place", if they are sure they wish to turn down their existing offers.

This handy diagram gives a simplified version (NB between 6 and 7 you can receive offers from multiple unis, take time to decide, then apply to just one of those):



Here is a further outline of how it works, though applicants are encouraged to use the guidance at [www.ucas.com/clearing](http://www.ucas.com/clearing) for detailed information.

- 1) Pupils who have not been accepted at their firm or insurance choices will be automatically given a UCAS Clearing number, which is found by logging into UCAS Hub application portal in the normal way.
- 2) See what courses are available – the best source is the *UCAS Clearing Search* page (visit [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com) and click on the link to clearing vacancies). The list is updated constantly and new opportunities do come available – do keep checking. It is also available from July 5<sup>th</sup>, so you can check vacancies ahead of the Results Day, in case you think you might have missed your offer.
- 3) When you find an option you are interested in:
  - a. Ring them using their Clearing Line
  - b. Give them your UCAS Clearing number (located on the welcome and choices pages in the UCAS application portal), and your Personal ID number which will let them see your application online.
  - c. Ask if they'd accept you – they might reconsider you (maybe for the same course) even if you applied to them earlier in the year.
  - d. Get informal offers over the phone – maybe from a variety of universities and colleges – then decide which one you want to accept.
  - e. Take a look around – if you have the time, it's the best way to see what a university/college is like – most will be happy to meet you and show you around (some will hold mini-open days over the days following results day). If you cannot go in person, do use the virtual tour setups, or the UCAS Unibuddy to talk to current students.
- 4) Once you have decided that you wish to accept a specific clearing offer (you can hold several verbal offers while you make your decision), though these could be filled:
  - a. Log on to UCAS application portal to add the Clearing choice.  
Only add a Clearing choice once you have permission from the university to do this (otherwise you are putting in a choice which the uni will not hold to and you cannot add another one until that university rejects the choice).
  - b. Click 'Add Clearing choice' and fill in the course details by the date the university gave you on the phone.
  - c. This counts as you definitely accepting the offer, so if they confirm it will show as an acceptance on the choices page of UAS Hub Application Portal and the university will send you a Confirmation letter.
  - d. You can only add one choice at a time, but if the university/college doesn't confirm your place, you'll be able to add another.

### CLEARING PLUS

Since 2020, UCAS have successfully offered a system called Clearing Plus. Simply put, an applicant who is unsuccessful in meeting their entry requirements can click on a link in UCAS Track on Results Day, which states “View Matches”. If they click this, they can start browsing courses they've been matched to, based on their application and the universities have told UCAS they're looking for.

If they find a course they want to be considered for, applicants can click an 'I'm interested' button, and their details will be passed to the uni.

If the uni still has places, they may contact the applicant to discuss things further, and make an offer.

If applicants receive an offer, all that's left to do is add it as a Clearing choice. Again, this is final and can only be done once.

### PRE-REGISTER WITH CLEARING

Many universities are now allowing pupils to pre-register for clearing, which means you can quickly apply on the day, should you need to. You will also be notified of clearing spaces ahead of time, so that you can

start to think about the options should they be needed. This includes very high level universities. Here are a few links to excellent universities offering clearing pre-registering, but many others will do if you visit their clearing pages. A further new development is that some of these will also allow direct applications, should you not have sent a UCAS application off yet. So, if you have not applied this year, but actually think you should be going to uni, you can apply through UCAS or, to many institutions, you can now apply direct via their websites and through the clearing pages.

If you are concerned that you may have fallen short and that your predicted grades were significantly over generous, then you may wish to register on a couple of the university pages. Bear in mind that universities may accept students falling two or three grades below their entry requirements, except on more competitive courses. E.g. ABB might move to BBC.

Here are a few example pages chosen from across the country - most universities will have their own - these will be updated in July for 2025 use.

- EXETER: <https://www.exeter.ac.uk/clearing/vacancies/>
- CARDIFF: <https://www.cardiff.ac.uk/clearing>
- SOUTHAMPTON: <https://www.southampton.ac.uk/courses/clearing.page>
- ABERYSTWYTH: <https://www.aber.ac.uk/en/undergrad/clearing/>
- YORK: <https://www.york.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/applying/clearing/>
- SWANSEA: <http://www.swansea.ac.uk/clearing/>
- NORTHUMBRIA:  
<https://www.northumbria.ac.uk/study-at-northumbria/ucas-clearing-confirmation-adjustment-and-extra/register-your-interest---clearing/>

### GAP YEARS AND CLEARING

Clearing is intended to be for those seeking immediate entry to university. If pupils have missed their offers and applied for deferred entry, they can contact universities directly to see if they would be accepted, but the normal route is to re-apply through UCAS in the Autumn.

### BE PREPARED FOR RESULTS DAY!

It is worth being prepared for all possible outcomes on Results Day. I recommend you have the following to hand:

- Pen and notepad
- Fully charged mobile phone and charger (in case you need to call unis)
- UCAS-ID and Hub password
- Contact details of your firm and insurance university offers
- Copy of your personal statement and UCAS application form
- Snacks & water bottle (it can be a long process going through Clearing)

We would strongly recommend pupils are not on holiday during results day. Wherever they may be, it is essential that UCAS Track has up-to-date pupils contact details for that day. Pupils should also have access to their school email on Results Day.

NB – only applicants, unless they stated people with nominated access on the application form, can contact universities to talk about Clearing and Adjustment. Pupils can nominate another person by contacting UCAS.