

Oxbridge Evening

Ms S Taylor

Head of Key Stage 5

Schedule of Evening



- Welcome
 - Support
 - Oxbridge
- Medicine, Veterinary and Dentistry
 - Application process
 - Q&A

Sixth Form Team

**STAGS
SIXTH**



Ms Taylor
Assistant
Headteacher
Key Stage 5



Mrs Lambert
Director of
Learning
Key Stage 5



Mr James
Director of
Learning
Key Stage 5
& Blended
Learning Lead



Mrs Harris
Sixth Form
Administrator



Mrs Birkett
Curriculum Leader
for Psychology &
Post 16 Teaching &
Learning Lead



Mrs Habib
Student Wellbeing
Adviser

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Welcome

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- A strong and personalised learning community
- Academic excellence with opportunities for all
- Wide range of subjects choices
- Breadth of enrichment activities
- Abundant student leadership opportunities
- A purposeful and supportive learning environment
- Targeted support so all can flourish
- Expert Careers guidance for next steps
- Excellent academic and pastoral support
- All delivered by highly skilled and specialised subject practitioners

Offering



- Embedded aspirations throughout KS4/5
- Google Classroom resources
- Dedicated focus groups
- Next Steps event
- Speaker programme
- One-to-one support & guidance
- UCAS guidance
- WEX
- UniFrog
- Step Up programme

Step Up Programme

Step Up is part of our Post 16 learning programme in addition to the full curriculum and includes:

- Development of personal and social awareness
- Supporting wellbeing
- Enhancing study skills
- Researching and preparing for Post 18 Next Steps, including UCAS, employment and a range of Apprenticeships
- Meeting external representatives and speakers
- Developing leadership qualities
- Being ready for the next phases in life



P18 Next Steps

- Unifrog - an online database dedicated to career and HE education
- Summer 2024 UCAS Fair Bedford June
- Summer 2024 Higher Education, Employers and Apprenticeship workshops and seminars here at STAGS
- 1:1 consultations
- Students register with UCAS



Mrs E Lambert

Director of Learning KS5

Oxford and Cambridge ('Oxbridge') are not only the UK's most famous universities, and two of its highest ranking – they're also different to other institutions in a number of key ways

- Colleges
- Tutorials/ supervisions
- Traditions



Colleges

'Oxbridge' element is the college system. Oxford and Cambridge are each made up of colleges – more than 40 at Oxford, more than 30 at Cambridge – and prospective students usually choose a particular college to apply to.

What is an Oxbridge college?

It's basically a collection of buildings, often historic and attractive, which form a small self-enclosed community. Within each college complex you'll find student accommodation, common rooms, cafes and bars, library and computer facilities (often open 24/7), and offices for staff members.

Tutorials/ Supervisions

The second element that sets Oxford and Cambridge apart is their focus on teaching in very small groups, and even one-on-one. Usually lasting an hour at a time (though some go on much longer), these small-group teaching sessions are known as tutorials in Oxford and supervisions in Cambridge.

Traditions

Most universities have their own sets of traditions, Oxford and Cambridge stand out for having held on to many historic ones. One of these is the use of Latin at special ceremonies, such as matriculation (when you officially join the university), graduation, and formal dinners. These occasions are also characterised by another very distinctive element – the wearing of gowns. Once worn pretty much all the time by members of the university, these are now reserved just for special occasions.

Oxford or Cambridge?

- By no means all subjects are offered, e.g. neither offers Dentistry, Politics (on its own), or Marine Biology, to name just three
- Many combinations of subjects are offered, but others are not, e.g. you can study Philosophy & Physics, but not History & Chemistry
- Oxford and Cambridge are NOT the best universities for every subject

Oxford or Cambridge?



- You cannot apply to both universities simultaneously
- Oxford offers joint honours while Cambridge does not
- Interviews last for two days at Oxford and a single day at Cambridge
- Decision making at Oxford is more centralised ie the University makes the initial decision rather than the College
- Oxford is a **larger city** than Cambridge
- Oxford has more of a reputation for **politics/humanities** while Cambridge has excelled at **science** in recent years
- Cambridge still has **women's colleges**

Applying to Oxford or Cambridge

Oxford

- 53 undergraduate courses in total
- Over 30 undergraduate colleges: you can name a preference or not

Cambridge

- 31 undergraduate courses in total
- Over 29 undergraduate colleges: you can name a preference or not



What are my chances of getting in?

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On average across all subjects, Cambridge typically receive six applications per place, but naturally there is some variation between courses.

The pool results in many students (897 in the case of the 2023 cycle - nearly 20 percent of all offers made) receiving an offer from a College other than the one they applied to. This means that success rates are very similar from College to College.

Selection purely about academic potential.

- Predicted grade of A*AA for Science plus some other subjects
- Maths A* A* A
- Medicine A*AA
- Others are often AAA
- Successful candidates have on average eight 8/9 Grades at GCSE (although you can counter this with a good aptitude test)
- Interviews take place in second and third week of December and approximately 3 people are interviewed per place in each subject

General information and similarities

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- Deadline – 16th October (Year 13)
- Both use GCSE results as a predictor, although Oxford has previously regarded them as more important
- Both universities have a choice whether you make a specific application to a college or an open application – it does not affect your chances of getting a place
- Both operate a pool system where if you don't get offered a place at your College of choice, you may be offered another place

RA FUTURI

Subject Choices at GCSE & A Level

Students will not be rejected due to their schools not offering specific subjects.

- **Classics:** neither Latin nor Greek A Level an absolute requirement
- **Modern Languages:** only ONE Modern Language A Level is required



For example

- Law A Level certainly not an advantage for Law. Oxford PPE (Philosophy, Politics, Economics) does not require P, P or E, but does require Mathematics
- Cambridge Economics requires Maths and Further Maths
- If a subject is recommended - do it!

unifrog

UK universities

You have [41 shortlists](#)

Start >

US universities

Make your first shortlist

Start >

Oxbridge

You have [1 shortlist](#)

Start >

Apprenticeships

You have [5 shortlists](#)

Start >

APPLICATION

- Personal Statement
- Submit examples of written work -
EPQ and Subject Essays
- Entrance exam/aptitude test
(in certain subjects)
- Interview

The Application Process - Further material



Cambridge [Further Reading](#)



Oxford [Further Material](#)

Mrs K Birkett

Post 16 Teaching and Learning Lead

What you need to know about applying for Medicine, Veterinary Science or Dentistry



So you want to be a Doctor, Dentist or Vet?

- Helping people!
- Rewarding job
- Job security
- Applying science in a clinical environment
- Variety everyday
- Elective
- Opportunity to work anywhere
- Constantly advancing

- Hard work for both GCSEs and A Levels
- Stressful application procedure
- Competitive course
- Long course + life time commitment to learning
- Stressful and emotional job
- Constantly watched by the public and press
- Family balance

- 2021 Applications - 28,690 (i.e. for October 2021 entry)
- 2022 applications - 29,710 (3.5% increase)
- 2023 applications - 26,820 (significant decrease)

However, although this is a lower number than the last two years, it is still notably **higher than the number of Medical School applicants that we saw before the pandemic**. There are now over 6,000 more applicants for Medicine than there were five years ago – an increase of around 29%.

- The number of people **reapplying** for Medical School this year is 5,010 – only slightly less than the 5,720 reapplicants we saw last year, which was a record high

Applying for Medicine

The standard offer is **A*AA at A-Level**, including Biology/Human Biology and Chemistry. Applicants must be predicted a minimum of AAA.

Universities - 45 in Total

Aspirational :

Cambridge
Glasgow
Queens Belfast
Birmingham
King's College
Queen Mary

Achievable :

Exeter
Nottingham
Leeds
Liverpool
Manchester
Sheffield

Safe :

Southampton
Bath
Leicester
Plymouth
Keele
Hull

[Entry requirements for UK medical schools](#)

Applying for Veterinary Science

[Entry requirements | Veterinary Schools Council UK.](#)

- Minimum **3 A Grades at A Level**
- Most courses require Chemistry and Biology, plus one other
- There are extensive requirements for work experience

Universities

Bristol
Cambridge
Edinburgh
Glasgow
Liverpool
Nottingham

Royal Veterinary College, London
Surrey
Harper and Keele
Central Lancashire
Aberystwyth

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Applying for Dentistry

- A minimum of **three Grade As at A Level**, which will include Chemistry and Biology. The third subject is not specified
- Cardiff and Manchester offer a “pre-dental” or foundation year. This is designed for students who have high “A” Level Grades (in practice this means As) that are not in the standard science subjects

[Entry requirements for UK and Ireland dental schools](#)

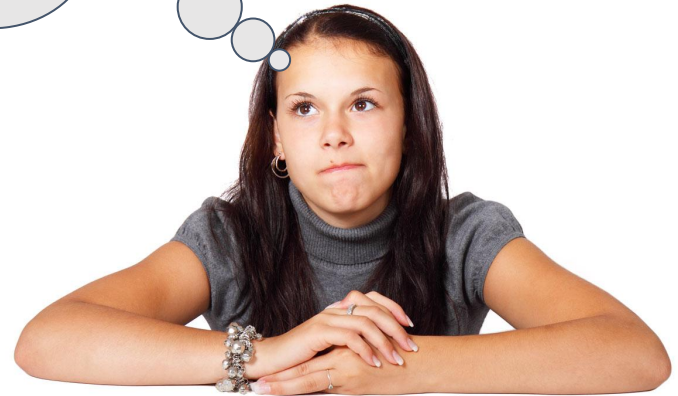
Universities

Birmingham
Cardiff
Leeds
Manchester
Plymouth
Queens Belfast
Kings College London

Bristol
Dundee
Liverpool
Newcastle
Queen Mary
Glasgow
Sheffield

- Work experience
- Volunteering
- A levels
- Read around the subject
- Extra curricular
- UCAS Personal Statement
- UCAT

**How to get
there?**



Support offered by

- Entry Requirements
- Work experience
- Volunteering
- Extracurricular Opportunities
- Personal Statements
- UCAT Test Guidance



[The Medic Mentor Portal](#)
[University Hospitals Birmingham Trust Virtual](#)
[Work Experience – Medic Mentor](#)

- Medical school choice support
- Interviews
- Scholarships
- Conferences
- Help Lines
- A chance to speak to professionals
- Tutoring and Mentoring



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Medicine, Veterinary Science & Dentistry

[Get into Medicine UCAS Conference – Medic Mentor](#)



Tabitha Premraj

University of
Nottingham 3rd Year



Radu Polschi

University College
London 3rd Year



Ellie Martin

Queens Belfast
University 2nd Year



Tom Kryś

University of Bristol
3rd Year



 MEDOLOGY


Medicine

Dentistry

[Medology](#)

**Find your
ideal match**

with Medology


We've done all the research into medical school admissions so you don't have to! After combing through the world of Freedom of Information requests, we've crunched all the data and presented it to you in the form of an easy-to-digest eBook.

Entering the Veterinary Profession

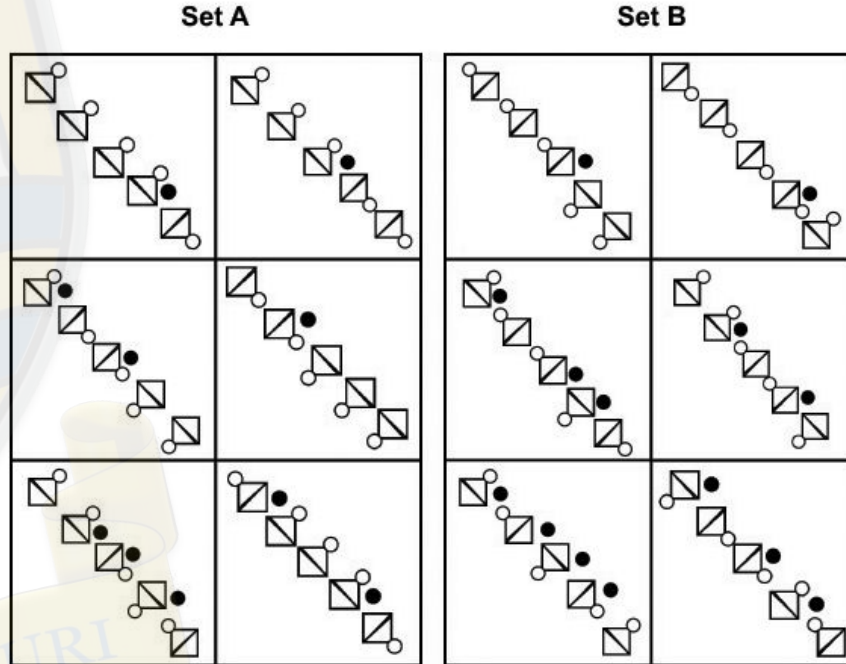
The Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS) is the governing body of the profession in the United Kingdom. Only a registered veterinary surgeon is permitted to diagnose and treat the injuries and ailments of animals.

[BVA - Becoming a vet](#)

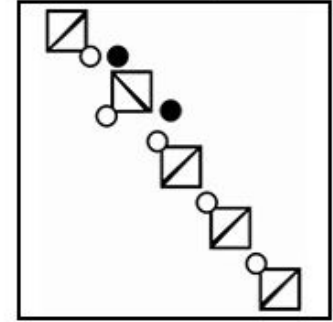
Admissions Tests - UCAT

- University Clinical Aptitude Test
- Taken at test centres, same as driving theory, July to October
- 4 sections: Verbal reasoning, Quantitative reasoning, Abstract reasoning, Decision Making, Situational Judgement
- Admissions particularly interested in the Situational Judgement
- Score out of 3600
- Some universities have a cut-off but it changes every year according to the cohort - 2023 it is 2610, however some places have a UCAT cut off score of 2680

Practice Tests | UCAT Consortium



Test Shape:



- ☐ A. Set A
- ☐ B. Set B
- ☐ C. Neither

Mia, a medical student, is on a placement at an antenatal clinic in a rural community. The clinic is under resourced with only one doctor and three midwives. A patient comes into the clinic to have her baby delivered. Most staff, including the doctors, are unavailable as they are dealing with emergencies. An experienced midwife requests support from Mia to deliver the baby. Mia does not feel comfortable helping deliver the baby.

How **important** to take into account are the following considerations for Mia when deciding how to respond to the situation?

Her degree of competence

- ☐ A. Very important
- ☐ B. Important
- ☐ C. Of minor importance
- ☐ D. Not important at all

BMAT

Cambridge Assessment Admissions Testing (the organisation which runs the BMAT and lots of other tests) announced in November 2022 that **from 2024, they will stop offering the BMAT**. This means that it won't be possible for any Medical School to ask its applicants to sit the BMAT – even if they wanted to.

COMPLETING THE UCAS FORM

- You can only make four choices for Medicine, Dentistry or Veterinary courses
- The closing date for applications is 16 October

What are Admissions Tutors looking for?

- A student who has **done their research** and **understands the demands** placed on your chosen career and that you are **motivated to meet the challenges of the profession**
- **Teamwork** and **good communication skills**
- **Work experience** is a key part of applying to study as a medic and how you reflect on your experiences will prove to admissions tutors that you could make a great Doctor, Vet or Dentist. The important thing is **not how many placements you complete, but what you learn from each one**
- **A wide range of interests and skills**, especially those indicating a high level of manual dexterity

THE INTERVIEW

- **Multiple mini interviews (MMIs):** 5-10 'stations', 5-10 minutes each, different skills
- **Group assessment:** an area that neither panel nor MMI can realistically assess
- **Traditional panel interview:** 20-45 minutes with a panel of interviewers.
- **Virtual or in person**

THE INTERVIEW

- Academic knowledge
- Communication skills
- Healthcare awareness/insight
 - Caring contributions
 - Ethical Issues
 - Motivation
 - Team work

What can you do next?

Year 10

Medics/Vets/Dentists:

- Get some work shadowing
- Begin reading articles and having news alerts about your field
- Investigate Medic Mentor - there are often online sessions for Year 10 and above

Year 11

Medics/Vets/Dentists:

- Join the Google Classroom
- Get some summer work planned now: a long placement is best
- Make a list of texts that you will have read by the end of Year 12 and begin reading them

Year 12

Medics/Vets/Dentists:

- Make a list now of all your work experience and find the gaps then plan to fill them in!
- Pick up a mentoring role or help with student support at school
- Medics lunch group to discuss current issues
- Wider reading such as the BMJ
- Ensure you are up to date with current medical issues
- **Mini Medics** (Future Medics, Dentists and Veterinary Preparation Programme) run by **Dr Hamilton** involving a bespoke series of activities using Project Based Learning

Next steps Timeline

November	Information shared regarding process
January	Workshops begin for students
March	Introduction to UCAS
April	Exploration of options
May	One-to-one support
June	Next steps event
July	Personal statement workshops
September	Personal statement checks
October	Personal statement to SLT
October	UCAS deadline
November	Admissions tests
December	Interviews

How to apply



- All applications must go through UCAS
- Use UniFrog to explore the options
- Webinars and support for applications
- 1:1 consultations
- Students register with UCAS



Q&A