

Fortismere Sixth Form UCAS Information Event for Parents and Carers

AIM: To provide parents and carers of Fortismere students with advice and guidance to support their children through the university application process

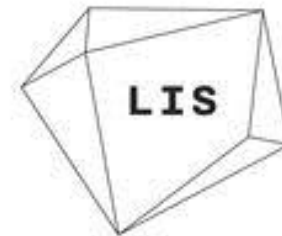


Director of Sixth Form - *Madeleine St-Amour*

Higher Education and Careers Advisor - *Andy Gardner*

University of East Anglia Admissions Advisor - *Lydia Newton*

Co-Founder of London Interdisciplinary School - *Dr Michael England*



THE LONDON
INTERDISCIPLINARY
SCHOOL

Which? University



9am Introduction to the university application process *SW hall*

10am break

10.20 Personal Statements *SW hall*

10.55 – 11.40 Q+A with ex students (12SA, 12LC, 12NG, 12GH, 12MK) *SW Hall*

10.55 – 11.40 Register for UCAS (12OC, 12MJ, 12TK, 12AN, 12MP) *Tutor rooms*

11.40 – 12.25 Swap

LUNCH

13.15 University presentations University of East Anglia and London Interdisciplinary School *SW Hall*

14.20 – 15.15

- Widening Professional Networks *Uptree SW Hall*
- Medics Q+A with Dr Durat *T19*
- Considering an Art Foundation? *NO6*



The UCAS Journey

THREE STEPS TO APPLYING



The UCAS process

- Students can make up to **five** choices (except MDV – 4)
 - The 2019 applicant fee is
 - £13 for one choice
 - £24 for up to five choices
 - Applications received by the key deadlines are given equal consideration
 - “Invisibility” – universities cannot see where else students have applied
- ALL** students here today should have registered and started filling in their details

In 2017...

UCAS RECEIVED 649,700
APPLICATIONS, 491, 225
WERE PLACED IN HE

Key Dates (UCAS)

July	Applicants can register and start to complete their application
September	Schools can begin to submit completed applications to UCAS
15th October 2019	Application deadline for Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science/ Oxford or Cambridge
15th January 2020	Application deadline for most courses
24th March 2020	Deadline for most Art and Design courses (check each course for details)
30th June 2020	Applicants after this date who held for Clearing
15th August 2020	Results day. Universities accept candidates based on results of public exams

Key dates and deadlines Fortismere

End of Summer term	ALL students registered with UCAS and shortlisted choices.
Wednesday 4 th September	All students with completed first draft of personal statement, ready to show tutors.
Monday 16 th September	All early applicants to have submitted PS to LT Mentor
October 15 th	Application Deadline for Early applicants
27 th October	Final deadline to submit final PS to tutor to check



Tutors and staff rely on students to meet deadlines and attend their VT time in order to provide the best support they can for each student.

Making the Application

Apply is the UCAS online application system.

Every applicant has 6 sections to complete

- Personal details
- Student Finance
- Choices
- Education
- Employment
- Personal statement

Once an application is submitted, the reference is added by Fortismere and is sent to UCAS who then passes it onto the universities.

Making wise choices ...

Applicants do not spread themselves equally over:

- 120 universities
- 600 subject areas
- 50,000 degree courses

Aspirational candidates often choose from too narrow a range of courses and institutions.

Application “Hotspots”

UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM

 University of
BRISTOL

 UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE

 Durham
University

UNIVERSITY OF
EXETER

Imperial College
London

KING'S
College
LONDON


UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

MANCHESTER
1824

 Newcastle
University

 The University of
Nottingham



UNIVERSITY OF
Southampton

UCL

THE UNIVERSITY OF
WARWICK

In 2017, a **third** of all candidates went to their 2nd choice (insurance) university

You must find 5 courses that are **realistic** and that you really **want** to spend 3-4 years studying.

Making good choices

Students should make a “long list” of courses and institutions.

- **“Reach/ Dream”** aspirational choices
- **“Match”** – where are you at?
- **“Safety”** – very realistic (not always possible – medicine etc.)



Making good choices

I want to study History ...

Aspirational

- University of Cambridge A*AA
- UCL A*AA

Match

- University of York AAA
- University of Edinburgh AAB

Safe

- University of Brighton BBB



How can families support the process?

- Sign up to the monthly UCAS **Parents Newsletter**
- **UCAS Parents Guide**
- Offer to attend open days with your son/ daughter
- You may have a different perspective
- Beware of becoming a 'helicopter parent?
- Try to remain supportive but impartial

Visit:
www.ucas.com/parents

Parents and guardians

Supporting your son or daughter

Practical advice to help you through the application cycle.

[Sign up for our newsletters >](#)

[Download the parent guide >](#)

You can also read more below on what to study and how to apply.

Extra is open

If your son or daughter has used all five choices and doesn't have any offers, they can now use Extra to add another choice. [Find out more.](#)

[Video for parents](#)

[BSL video](#)



[Watch more video guides](#)

How the application process works

This video covers how your son or daughter applies and makes decisions, and how you can be involved.

Find us on social media



Join our group to see what others are asking

www.facebook.com/ucasonline



Follow us to find out the latest news

www.twitter.com/ucas_online

Read our blogs



Read blogs from other students

www.ucasconnect.com/blogs

Watch our videos



Watch and share our videos and 'How To' guides

www.ucas.tv



Watch video guides and find out what other students think

www.youtube.com/ucasonline

Or call us

0871 468 0 468

To speak to one of our trained advisers
between 08.30 – 18.00

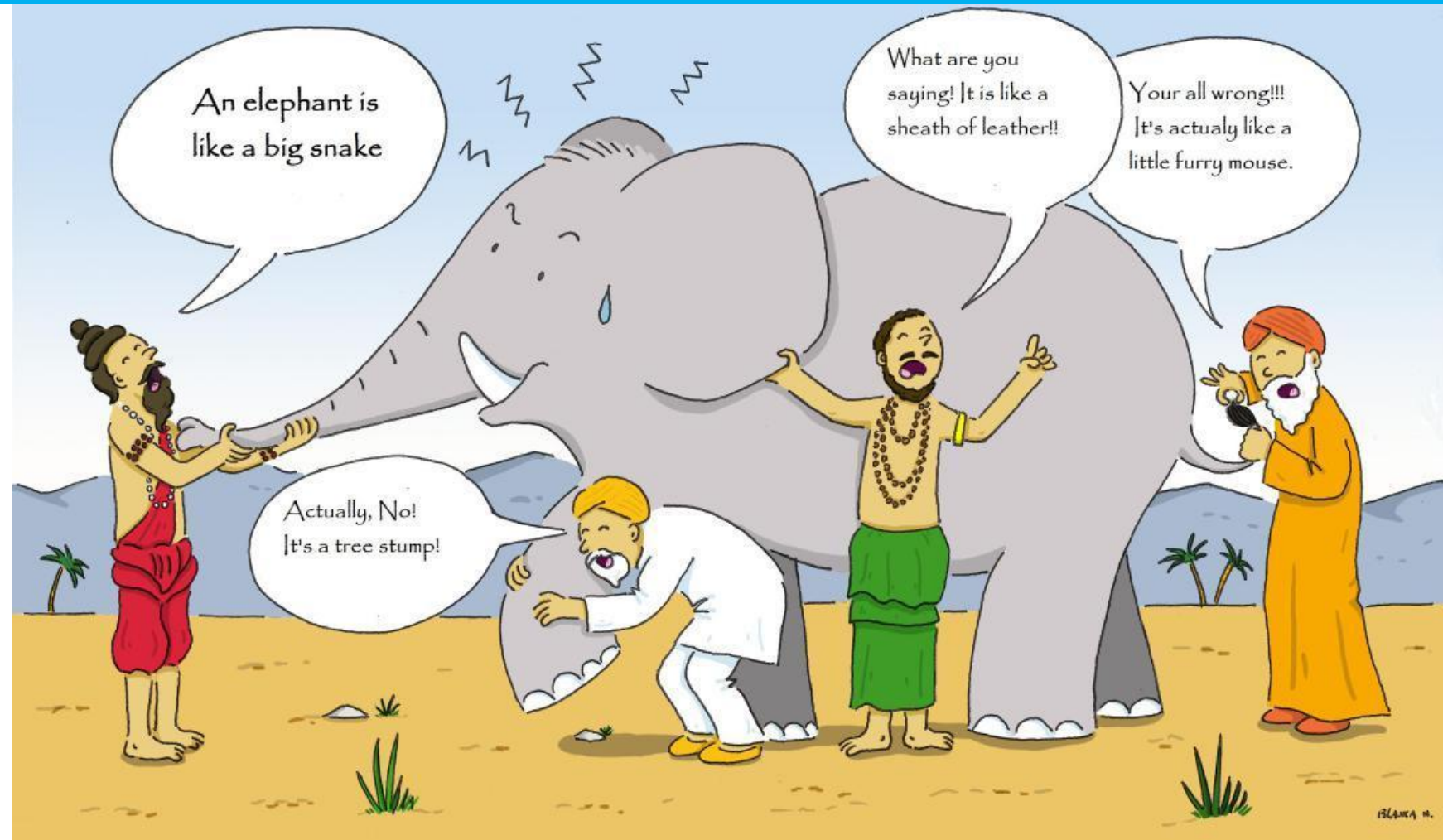
Progression after Fortismere Sixth Form

Andy Gardner

Careers Adviser

Fortismere School 12th July 2019

Describing life after Fortismere Sixth Form?



Is our next step about.....?

- **The pursuit of knowledge for its own sake?**
- **Vocational choices, training people for specific roles in a competitive and efficient economy?**
- **Turning out minds who can think critically?**
- **A lifestyle choice?**



Higher Education and Apprenticeships

DEGREE IN UK

**DEGREE WITH YEAR
ABROAD**

**UNIVERSITY/EMPLOYER
PARTNERSHIPS**

PRIVATE DEGREE

**ARMED AND EMERGENCY
SERVICES**

SCHOOL LEAVER PROGRAMMES

DEGREE APPRENTICESHIPS

GAP YEAR IN UK

JOB MARKET

**DEGREE WITH YEAR
IN INDUSTRY**

GAP YEAR ABROAD

2 YEAR

DEGREE IN UK

HE ABROAD

ADVANCED APPRENTICESHIPS

HIGHER APPRENTICESHIPS

JOINT DEGREE

SELF-EMPLOYMENT/ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Full-time University: UK

1. Full time UK university degree in a fully vocational subject, e.g. Pharmacy at Nottingham University
2. Full time UK university degree in a semi-vocational / professional accreditation subject, e.g. Law at Bristol University
3. Full time UK university degree in an 'academic' subject, e.g. English Literature at Sussex University
4. Full time UK university degree in a joint/combined/multidisciplinary subject, e.g. Politics, Philosophy and Economics at Oxford University
5. Two-year degree, foundation degree or HND, e.g. LLB Degree at University of Law.

Universities – Private and Overseas

6. **Private sector degree**, e.g. New College of the Humanities.
7. **Private sector diploma course**, e.g. Oxford Aviation Academy (N.B £80,000).
8. **Degree at a European university in English**, e.g. European Studies at Maastricht University.
9. **Degree at a university in US** - 4,000 universities to consider,
10. **Degree at university elsewhere**, e.g. McGill University, Canada.

Other UK university Options

11. **UK university with a year abroad**, e.g. Aston University can offer work / study / teaching placements worldwide.
12. **UK university with an overseas campus**, e.g. University of Nottingham has campuses in China and Malaysia.
13. **UK degree with sponsorship**, e.g. Institution of Civil Engineers Quest Scholarship.
14. **UK university with a year in industry**. Some specialise in offering sandwich or a professional year across wide range of courses (like Aston, Bath, Brunel, Hertfordshire, Loughborough, Surrey (and hidden gems, e.g. Politics & Parliamentary Studies at Leeds).
15. **University / employer partnership degree**, e.g. Business (in Company) at Nottingham Trent University; some fees paid, work experience and get paid.

Apprenticeships

16. **Degree apprenticeship**, e.g. Cap Gemini: job with p/t university degree, get paid and course fees covered.
17. **Salaried school leaver programmes**, e.g. Bank of England Future Capability Programme
18. **Higher Apprenticeships** for A Level and BTEC Level 3 students, such as CILEX and Investment 2020.
19. **Advanced Apprenticeships** for students with GCSE passes, but popular ones such as Just IT and Creative Pioneers get A Level/BTEC Level 3 students applying.
20. **Specialised Apprenticeships**, e.g. Savile Row Bespoke Tailoring Apprenticeship or Royal Academy of Culinary Arts Chef / Restaurant Management Apprenticeship.

From the UCAS mindset to the Apprenticeship mindset

UCAS Mindset

- Grades
- Personal statement
- Some other things for a minority of students (interviews/tests/portfolio)

Apprenticeship Mindset

- CV and cover letter
- Application forms
- Psychometric tests
- Video/Skype/telephone screening interviews
- Role play
- Group exercises
- Case studies
- Final interviews
- Grades

Other common options

- 21. **The hidden job market.** Company websites, speculative applications, word of mouth, employment agencies, networking through family, friends or contacts or with firms with whom you've already gained experience.
- 22. **Armed and emergency services** e.g. Navy
- 23. **Self-employment, portfolio, temping or seasonal work.**
- 24. **Paid gap year schemes**, e.g. Deloittes and Year in Industry Programme.
- 25. **Gap years abroad / UK**
- 26. **Full-time Further Education courses**, e.g. Art Foundation.

A way forward

- **Focus** – to what extent have you narrowed down your options?
- **Information** – how well informed are you?
- **Realism** – how realistic are you given your own capabilities and the constraints of the labour market?
- **Scope** – how aware are you of the range of options available?
- **Tactics** – do you know how to put your plans into action?

DO NOT GET OBSESSED WITH UCAS!

IT IS AN APPLICATION PROCESS, THE ABOVE ISSUES ARE FAR MORE IMPORTANT!

The Decision Making Spectrum

Sorry I <=====□ Wedding song
haven't @
got a clue!

Where are you at on the spectrum?

Everything depends on knowing what you want to study!

Focus - Choose course

Stage 1 WHAT?

A Levels/BTEC

Career Ideas

New Interests

Stage 2 WHERE?

Course Content

Predictions

Ratings

Location

Social Reasons

5 Choices, 1 Personal statement!

How 47 lines with clearly-spaced paragraphs might look

- Portsmouth - 112
- Leeds - AAB
- Manchester- AAB
- Leeds Beckett 120
- Leicester - ABB

All Business Studies or Management Studies

Andy Gardner

Information

“Digital ping pong”

- **WHICH? University**
- **Unistats**
- **University online prospectuses**
- **Find an Apprenticeship**
- **Get My First Job**

University of Portsmouth

Business and Management

UCAS Code: NN21

Shortlist +



BA (HONS) 3 YEARS FULL-TIME 2017
BA (HONS) 4 YEARS FULL-TIME, SANDWICH 2017

Ucas points guide	% applicants receiving offers	Subjects	Student score	% employed or in further study	Average graduate salary
112	93%	Business studies	80% MED	95% MED	£22k HIGH
		Management studies	79% MED	94% MED	£19.5k MED

Realism

**What sort of job will I get from
this degree?**

Work experience

"Work experience was perceived to be a crucial key to the labour market. Many felt that on exit from HE they were not 'work ready' because they lacked basic workplace experience, particularly those who graduated with non-vocational degrees"

Elias

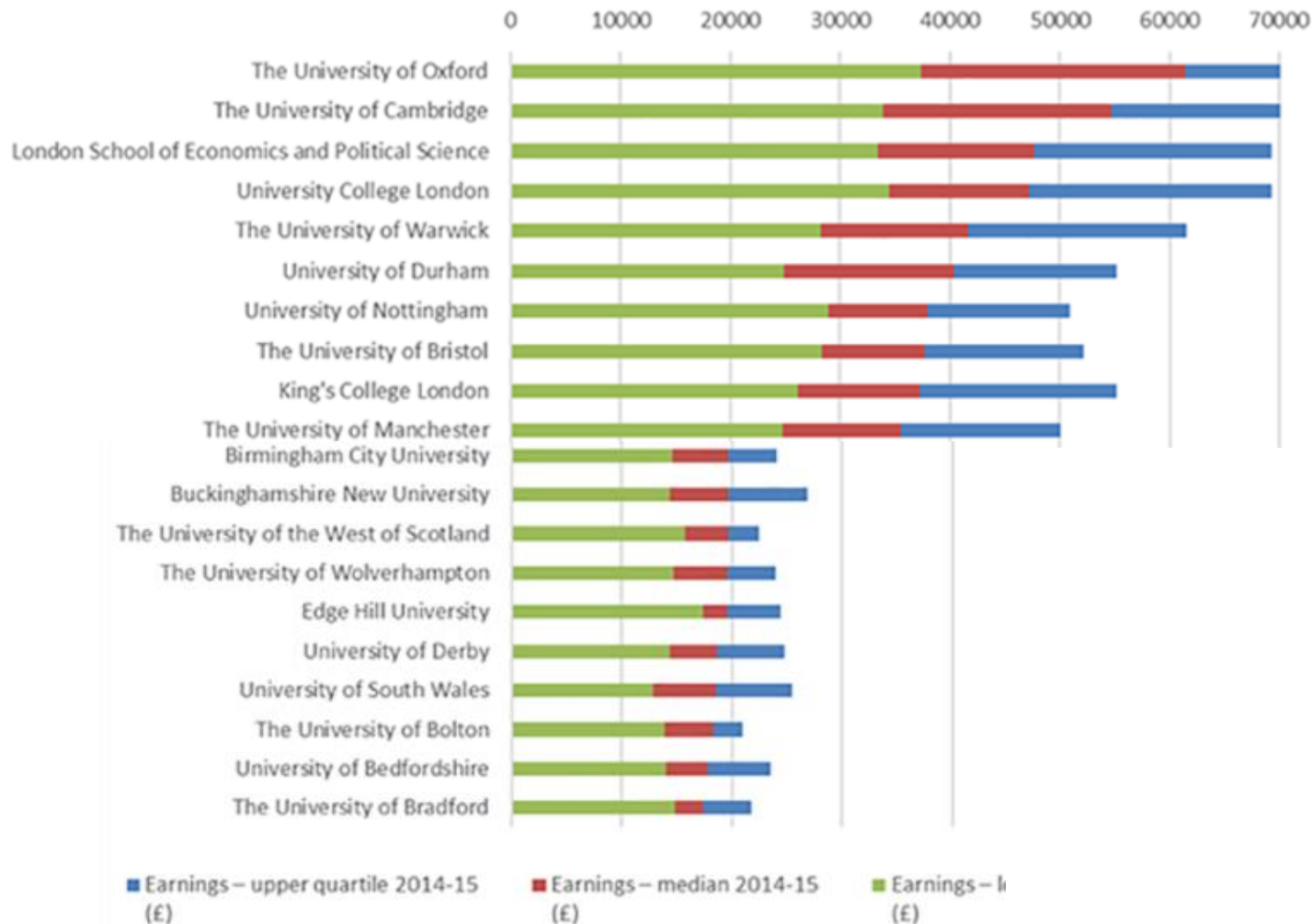
Graduate Employability: How university students behave

- **The Ronseal Realist**
- **The Grad Scheme Player**
- **The Sandwich Maker**
- **Postgrad Player**
- **Postgrad Delayer**
- **Creative Career or Creative Hobby?**
- **Dude, Where's My Career?** Grunwald

©Gardner2015

Are some Unis Degree farming? From CCH website!

Law 5 years after graduation



Scope -What can you do and where can you go?

Spotlight on **Birmingham**

- **University of Birmingham**
- **Aston University**
- **BPP University College, Birmingham**
- **Birmingham City University**
- **Newman University College**
- **University College Birmingham**

Finally.....Tactics

What do you have control over?

- **Grades**
- **Course choice**
- **Personal statement**
- **Tests**
- **Interviews**
- **Take advice**

University or Apprenticeship?

