

January 2024



**Glenlola
Collegiate
School
Bangor**

Year 14 Careers Programme and UCAS Offers

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The aim of this letter is to provide further guidance about the remaining stages of the UCAS application process and what is planned for the rest of the Year 14 Careers programme. All UCAS applications from pupils have been submitted and they are receiving offers of places. If your daughter has not received an offer yet, she need not worry. The universities have until 16 May to respond to students.

The majority of offers given are 'conditional' and will set out particular entry requirements. Where offers are 'unconditional', a university offers a guaranteed place on its course. It is important to check the offer to see if there is anything else that needs to be done. An unsuccessful application means the university decided not to offer a place on the course. Further information on offers can be found here:

<https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/after-you-apply/ucas-undergraduate-types-offer>

Pupils can only reply to their offers once they have received a decision from each institution, at which point they must decide on their 'firm' and 'insurance' choices. They can register their intentions on their UCAS Hub at any point but must do so by 6 June. In the event that a student does not receive any offers, they will be able to go through 'UCAS Extra' where they can add additional options. This remains open until the end of June.

When replying to their offers, a student's firm choice university is their first-choice university. If they accept a conditional offer and meet the conditions, they will have a confirmed place there. The insurance choice is the choice they would want if they did not meet the conditions of their firm choice.

Once students have chosen their firm and insurance offers, they then wait until results day to see if they have met the entry criteria and have had their place confirmed. If a student does not get placed on either their firm or insurance choice course in August, they will be automatically placed in 'Clearing'.

University accommodation is another important consideration. The dates by which students can apply for accommodation at their chosen university vary hugely. It is worthwhile checking with the website of each university to confirm their particular timeline.

And finally, an important part of the process is the application for student finance. Usually this opens at the start of March. The application is done online through Student Finance NI. The student completes part of the application and then parents receive a link to be able to complete part of it too. Further information can be found here:

<https://www.ucas.com/finance/student-finance-northern-ireland>

<https://www.studentfinance-ni.co.uk/>

Since completing the work on UCAS applications in Careers classes, we have been looking at preparing for interviews, student finance, student housing, working on Progress File documents and completing a CV. The Year 14 Careers programme is now coming to an end. It is important that pupils continue to sign in to their UCAS Hub to check their application's progress.

Should you or your daughter have any questions about UCAS or any other route after Senior School, please do not hesitate to get in touch. We look forward to supporting you and your daughter over the coming months.

Yours sincerely,

GCS Careers Department

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