

Careers Newsletter

Accessing Careers Advice and Guidance

First and second year students can continue to access Careers support virtually during this time via email or Google Hangout. Careers Advisers can support with Career paths, Higher education information and advice, CVs, Covering letters, Application to Apprenticeships, Interviews, identifying skills, support with personal statements, discussing the labour market and future careers.

Email/Google Hangout Alice Atkinson aatkinson@g.qeliz.ac.uk
/ Liz Bryan ebryan@g.qeliz.ac.uk

We also have lots of careers resources available to students:

- College Careers Website: <https://sites.google.com/g.qeliz.ac.uk/qe-careers>
- Unifrog: <https://www.unifrog.org/sign-in>
- Google Classrooms available for Apprenticeships (spx5px5), Medicine (ubxmsmv), and now University information (chhg4eo)

For second year students

Allocation of A-level Grades

As you are probably aware, the exam regulator Ofqual and the exam boards will be announcing shortly the process to provide grades for students whose exams have been cancelled this summer. We will let you know as we receive updated information. Universities have confirmed that they will be flexible and do all that they can to support students and ensure that they can progress to higher education. The Government's priority is to ensure that students can move on as planned to the next stage of their lives, whether that is starting university or going onto an apprenticeship employment. There will also be an option for students to sit an exam early in the next academic year for those who wish to.

Further information is available on

www.gov.uk/government/news/further-details-on-exams-and-grades-announced

UCAS have also stated that they will be flexible within the admissions process and as soon as any changes are confirmed, students will be emailed to explain how this might affect them. It's important that they keep their email address up to date in Track. Updates for students will also be posted on-line

www.ucas.com/undergraduate/after-you-apply-coronavirus-covid19-latest-updates

Firm and Insurance choices

Students will have received an email this week from UCAS informing them that UCAS are extending May's decision and reply deadlines following an announcement by the government asking universities and colleges to hold back from making unconditional offers or amending existing offers.

Original date	UCAS Undergraduate deadline	New date
5 May 2020	The deadline for applicants to reply to any offers received by 31 March 2020	19 May 2020
6 May 2020	The deadline for universities and colleges to make decisions and reply to applications received by 15 January 2020.	20 May 2020

The dates have been updated in Track. This has been done in order to give both students and their chosen universities the extra time they need to consider any decisions and offers to ensure fairness in admissions.

If students need to seek guidance on making their firm/insurance choices or any other information they may need support with at this time, they can email the College's Careers Advisers **Alice Atkinson: aatkinson@qeliz.ac.uk** and **Liz Bryan: ebryan@qeliz.ac.uk**

Student Finance

Students should now be applying for their student finance in order for money to be available to them at the start of the academic term. Once students have completed their information, you will be sent an email alerting you to the fact that you can create your own account regarding supporting your son/daughter's application. Further information can be found at www.gov.uk/support-child-or-0-partners-student-finance-application. The UCAS website also has information on how tuition fees and loans work www.ucas.com/finance/undergraduate-tuition-fees-and-student-loans



More information can be found at www.exeter.ac.uk/socialmobility/ and the link to the survey is [here](#). They are donating £50 for every 200 completed surveys (up to a maximum of £1000) to the Charity ChildLine and you will also have the chance to be entered into a draw to win a £50 Amazon voucher (or if preferred a £50 donation to the WHO Covid19 fund).

Access to Global Bridge

For students seeking employment or apprenticeships they will have access to a range of online resources including Global Bridge, an online portfolio and professional networking platform. If students would like access to the platform please email sgriffiths@qeliz.ac.uk

Global Bridge have created a career planning tool that students can complete at home, they can download it from here: [Find Your Future](#)

University of Exeter Survey for students and Parents:

The Centre for Social Mobility at The University of Exeter are exploring the impact of school closures. They are calling for respondents from parents and students.

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For first year students

Researching your options

Students should be continuing to research their options after QE using Unifrog, the on-line platform we use in college. Progress Tutors will continue to deliver the progression tutorials for students remotely. We encourage students to look at all options, both university and apprenticeships and both Alice and Liz are offering careers appointments remotely via Google Hangout. We are also happy to support parents/carers with any information you feel would be helpful.

For students who have already started to research the universities they are interested in, they might want to use the UCAS website to do a virtual tour of those institutions. Hopefully, as things settle, they will be able to visit the institutions they are interested in. Virtual tours are available at www.ucas.com/undergraduate/what-and-where-study/open-days-and-events/virtual-tours

The parent/carer section of the website will also help you to support your son/daughter when making choices www.ucas.com/undergraduate/applying-university/ucas-undergraduate-advice-parents-and-guardians

You can also sign up for a monthly newsletter www.ucas.com/parents-signup

Competitive Applications

We are aware that some students will be considering applying for Oxford and Cambridge and Simon Nicholson, our Oxbridge Co-ordinator, has sent out information to interested students. Should you wish to contact him his email address is snicholson@g.qeliz.ac.uk

We have also had enquiries from students who require work experience for medicine, veterinary medicine and dentistry. Some students will already have done some relevant experience, but remember that any type of voluntary work they have done that evidences the skills/qualities required for these courses will be relevant. Universities are aware that work experience may not have been possible by the time students apply and this will obviously be taken into consideration.

Unifrog for Parents

Did you know that you can use Unifrog too? If you want access to this excellent platform you can use our unique Parent/Carer code to gain access and tap into the useful information available. The form code you need is: QESFParents and you can sign up here: www.unifrog.org/code



Finding short online courses:

If either you or your young person would like to explore ideas and develop your skills over the coming weeks there are a wide variety of free online courses that you can gain access to.

- Finding MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses) - use Unifrog to find MOOCs from around the world from a range of prestigious universities, simply login and use the MOOC search tool. Courses are free to complete and there is no need to pay for certification.
- Try learning British sign language. British-Sign are running a 20hr certified course that can be studied at your own pace and is a comprehensive introduction to BSL. Due to the current situation they are now asking those who wish to sign up to the course to pay what they feel they are able, the guide price for students is £3. <https://www.british-sign.co.uk/>
- Free Courses with the Open University. The OU are offering a wide range of free online courses which you can access via their website: <https://www.open.edu/openlearn/free-courses/full-catalogue>

Virtual Mentoring

Want to know more about a course or a university? Students can hear more directly from the source through online student mentoring programmes.

- Project Access is a mentoring charity that supports Sixth Form students with their applications to top UK universities by matching them with a mentor from Cambridge, Durham, Oxford, Warwick, UCL, and LSE. Visit: www.projectaccess.org.uk/find-your-mentor
- Students called also speak to university students using Unibuddy which is accessible via UCAS <https://www.ucas.com/chat-to-students>