



Supporting applicants during the COVID-19 pandemic

Teachers' and Advisers' Conference – Monday 4 May 2020

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Given the unprecedented nature of the current situation, we would appreciate colleagues noting during this session:

- Content is correct up to 30 April
- Included examples from across the sector however, will use Newcastle and Liverpool to illustrate a lot of points
- We are in the Live Chat





Our session plan:

- Calculated grades
- Plans for results day and confirmation and clearing
- Answering student questions ... university financial stability, term dates, accommodation, preparing for higher education study
- Some information for Year 12 students
- How you can stay informed and up-to-date
- Disadvantaged and under-represented students





Current Situation

Extension to the moratorium on new Unconditional Offers / changing offers Universities UK proposal – possible Student Number Controls New deadline to reply to offers - 18 June Virtual content to aide informed choices for your applicants Unibuddy



BETONX





Calculated grades

Ofqual consultation

Consider UCAS Extra

Appeals / sit an Exam / exams summer 2021



Deferrals - some selective courses may not accept deferrals

Engage with Universities and ask your students to do so (WP)







Results day/confirmation and clearing

Timelines – Clearing opens 6 July, A level results day 13 August

Alert Universities to Extenuating Circumstances before the results

Call centre (observing social distancing) /delivering clearing remotely

Replace phone lines with an online application form

Clearing Plus



Other concerns/questions students may have

- 'Is the university I am holding my offer at financially stable?'
- 'When will I be able to start university?'
- 'I'm not sure I can afford to go to university any more...'
 <u>Finance guidance for prospective students</u>
- 'What will happen with university accommodation?'





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Other concerns/questions students may have continued ...

- 'How can I prepare for higher education now I am not taking my exams as planned?'
- No expectations, but some ideas
 - Content from universities
 - Newcastle University Newcastle Beginnings; HE study skills for offer holders; reading lists
 - University of Liverpool Chemistry department
 - Futurelearn
 - University of Birmingham skills4uni





What you can do

- Subscribe to teacher mailing lists for universities
- Keep up-to-date with updates e.g. Ofqual, Student Finance
- Ensure your students are aware of how their grades are going to be calculated
- Encourage students to get in touch with the universities many running Live Chats, have current students and academics available to speak online, have moved resources online
- Get in touch with any questions





Year 12 students

- If students applied for residential summer school place, many of these will be moving online
- Online resources

https://www.ncl.ac.uk/schools/resources/

- Virtual Open Days
- Live chats
- Guidance on work experience from the Medical Schools Council



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- Thank you
- We'll stay in Live Chat for rest of session
- Christine Todd, <u>c.todd@liverpool.ac.uk</u>
- Barbara Herring, <u>Barbara.Herring@ncl.ac.uk</u>