



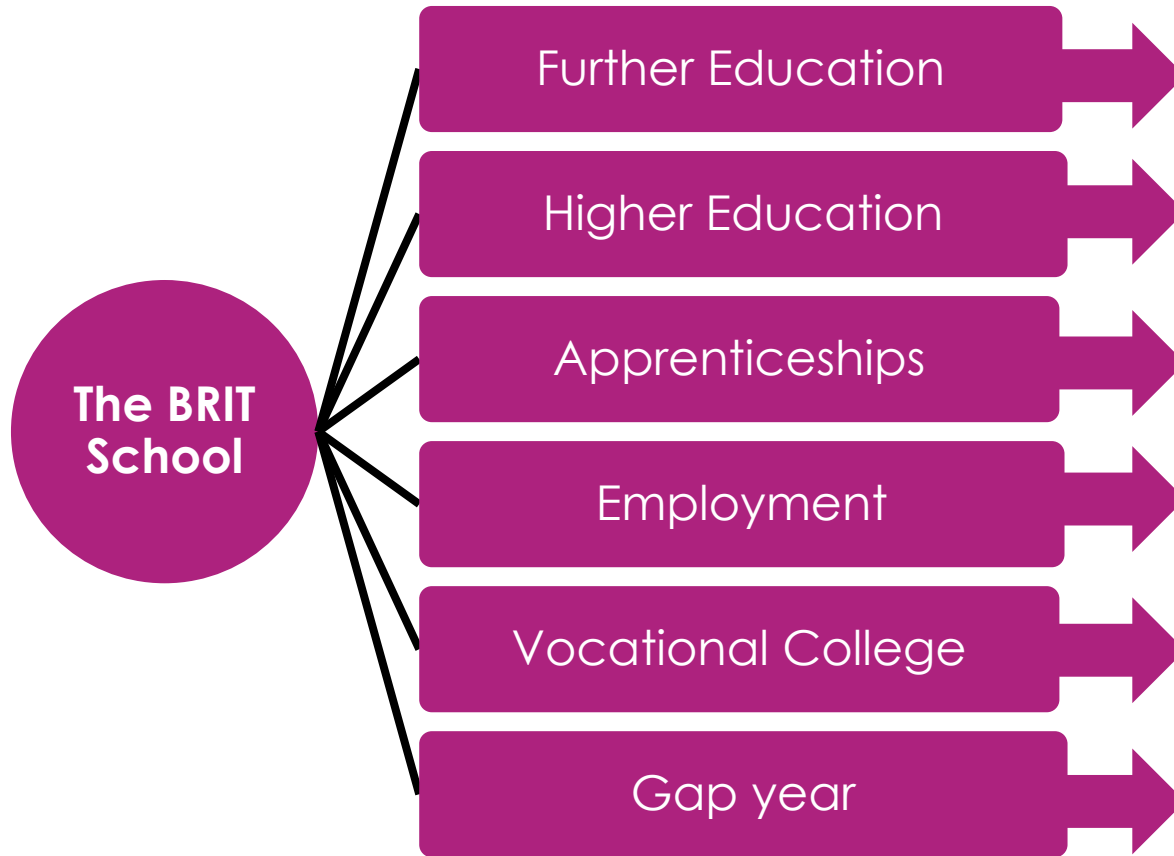
# Futures Talk

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Rachael Kingsley

30 January 2025



# YOUR FUTURE



YOUR FUTURE | YOUR CHOICE

## HIGHER EDUCATION

University, Conservatoire or  
Vocational School

47% BRIT leavers (2024)

# Higher Education | Research

Why are you interested in HE?

Do you need a degree?

What Subject do you want to study?

How is your degree assessed ?

Where would you like to study?

Will you meet the entry requirements?

# Higher Education | Research

## ***Where to start...***

- ✓ *Futures Event - Today*
- ✓ *Online course searches – Unifrog, UCAS*
- ✓ *Institution Websites*
- ✓ *Open Days / Campus Tours*
- ✓ *Graduate Shows and Exhibitions*
- ✓ *Careers Day 2nd July 2025*



To access unifrog as a parent please go to :  
[www.unifrog.org/code](http://www.unifrog.org/code)

And log in with the code: **BSPAparents**



<https://digitalucas.com/search>



# Higher Education | Application

**UCAS**

**UCAS**  
Conservatoires

**Direct**

# Higher Education | UCAS

[www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com)



**Online application  
linked to the BRIT School  
using Buzzword**

**Up to 5 Choices**

**Payment at the time of  
submission (audition  
fees later)**

**Assistance with  
registering, completion,  
approval and reference**

**UCAS Parent  
Newsletters – Sign up**

**The BRIT School Deadline 7 November 2025**

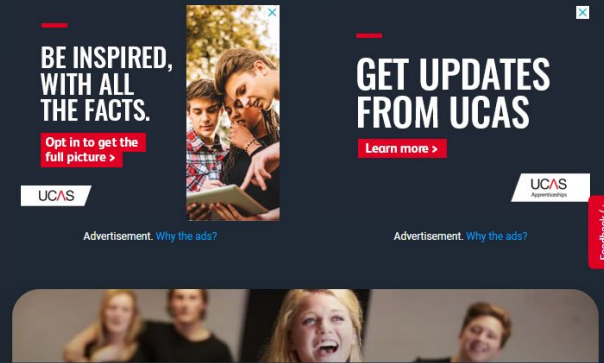


# Higher Education | UCAS Conservatoires

[www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com)

## CONSERVATOIRES

Conservatoires provide performance-based higher education, including music, drama, screen and production courses – both at undergraduate and postgraduate levels



Advertisement. Why the ads? Advertisement. Why the ads? Feedback

Online application  
(independent)

Up to 6 Choices

Payment at the time of  
submission  
(including audition fees)

Must obtain and send  
own references

Different Deadlines for  
Different Courses

Some Conservatoires  
are NOT on UCAS  
Conservatoires

**Official Conservatoires Deadline (Music) Oct 1<sup>st</sup>**  
**Official Conservatoires Deadline (Drama/Dance) Jan 30**

# Higher Education | Vocational



**Application methods vary!**

**Early Applications get Early Auditions!**

**Audition Fees payable to the institution**

**May have 1/2/3 rounds of auditions!**

**Must obtain and send own references**

**Different Deadlines for Different Courses**



**Official deadlines vary**

# Higher Education | Audition & Interview

## *Performing Arts*

- University – Audition & Interview
- Vocational – Audition & Payment required

## *Creative Arts*

- Portfolio /Showreel Submission – move to e-portfolios & Interview

## *Other UCAS Courses*

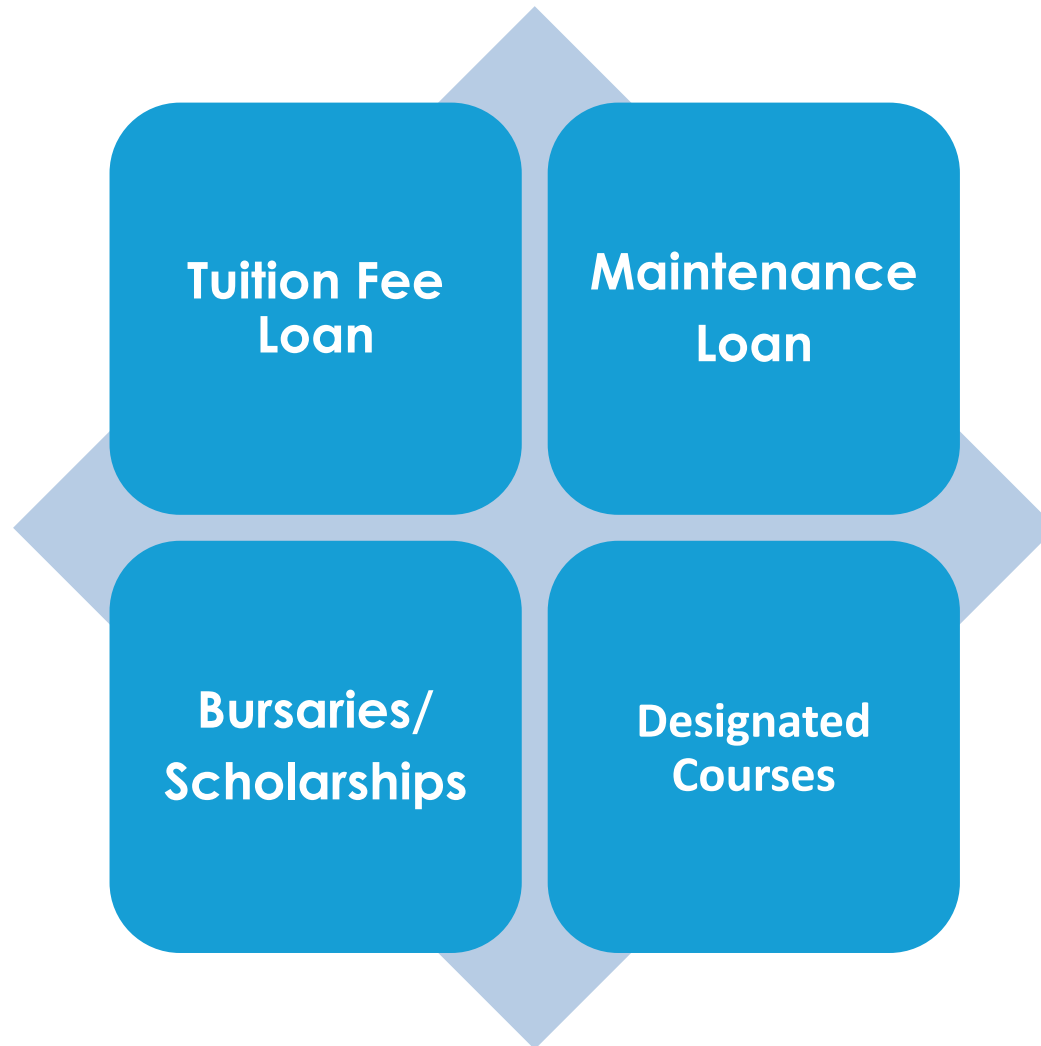
- Interview for unusual choices, changes of subject, competitive course
- Mock Interviews with Careers Team
- Personal Statement is VITAL!

# Higher Education | Personal Statements

- All Students will attend a Personal Statement Workshop in Term 4/5
- All students submit a personal statement as part of their UAL Extended Diploma
- The earlier students submit a personal statement the more advice, guidance and feedback they will receive.

# Higher Education | Funding & Finance

# Higher Education | Funding & Finance



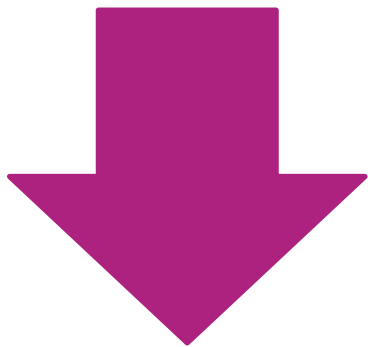
<https://www.gov.uk/student-finance>

# Higher Education | Funding & Finance



## Dance and Drama Awards (DaDAs)

- Administered by the institution
- Must be accredited course
- Based on audition and household income
- Fees are lowered and living grant possible but CAN'T apply for Student Loans.
- If you do not get a DaDA you may be able to apply for a Student Loan to cover part of the fees and some living expenses.
- <https://www.dadainfo.org.uk/income-bands>



## Private Institutions

- Very high fees
- NO Student Loans or Grants
- NO DaDAs
- Have to rely on Private Finance, Bursaries, Scholarships

# Useful Finance Resources

Student Finance

<https://studentfinance.campaign.gov.uk/>

Student finance calculator

<https://www.gov.uk/student-finance-calculator>

Money Saving Expert

<https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/students/>



YOUR FUTURE | YOUR CHOICE

# APPRENTICESHIPS/EMPLOYMENT

Your Journey to Work

14.3% BRIT Leavers 2024



# Apprenticeships

- For many students this is a really viable alternative to University
- Apprenticeships are available in a diverse range of industry sectors

# Employer



# Learning Provider

# Types of Apprenticeship

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Apprenticeships have equivalent educational levels.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Level</b>	<b>Equivalent educational level</b>
Intermediate	2	5 GCSE passes at grades A* to C
Advanced	3	2 A level passes
Higher	4, 5, 6 and 7	Foundation degree and above
Degree	6 and 7	Bachelor's or master's degree

# Apprenticeships | Recruitment

- Can be very competitive
- Students need to be pro-active
- Vacancies can be found at:
  - National apprenticeship website  
[www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk](http://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk)
  - Individual organisation websites
  - Careers Bulletin
  - Careers Instagram

# Routes to employment

- Self Promotion – networking and social networking
- CVs – examples, templates and skills sessions
- Interview Techniques and Mock Interviews
- Vacancies/Internships published on LinkedIn, The DOTS, Post 16 Careers Bulletin, Social Media

YOUR FUTURE | YOUR CHOICE

## FURTHER EDUCATION

Year 14, FE College,  
Foundation Course

10.4% BRIT School Leavers 2024

# FURTHER EDUCATION

- Year 14 Course at BRIT (Theatre)
- Foundation Courses in Art & Design
- Alternative Qualifications
- Most FE courses free to Under 19s (this is not the case for some Performance Foundation Years)
- All FE courses are Direct Applications



YOUR FUTURE | YOUR CHOICE

# Steps to Success – What? and When!



# What and when...

YEAR 12 & Summer Holidays	YEAR 13
Research course options	<b>September</b> - finalise course choices, submit personal statement,
Visit schools, colleges, universities	<b>Early October</b> – deadline for UCAS Conservatoire (Music), Oxbridge, and some Vocational Schools
Attend graduate shows/showcases	<b>End October</b> – finish UCAS applications, complete Vocational Applications
Research gap year options	<b>November 7 2025</b> – BRIT School UCAS Deadline
Compile CV, Letter of Application Online blog, website	<b>January 2026</b> – Official Deadlines, UCAS, UCAS Conservatoires, Foundation Courses
Look at finances and viable options	Update all CVs
Register for UCAS and/or UCAS Conservatoires Complete all relevant sections	<b>Spring 2026</b> Apply for Internships, apprenticeships, jobs

# Getting it right...

- Keep your Options Open
- Think about what YOU want to do!
  - Unsure about whether you want to go to HE?
    - Apply anyway – can always withdraw
  - Foundation Course /Degree??
    - Apply to all and decide nearer the time.
- Talk to careers team, tutors and teachers
- Research online, careers resources, careers day
- Think about Plan B
- Be Realistic
- Get Experience – taster courses, work placements, visits

# BRIT School Support

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## Book a Careers Appointment

[Careers@brit.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:Careers@brit.croydon.sch.uk)

## School Website

<https://www.brit.croydon.sch.uk/careers>

## Careers Site

<https://sites.google.com/brit.croydon.sch.uk/careersbrit>

*We are committed to providing the best possible advice and guidance to our students*