

The University of Sheffield – answers to your questions!

Question	Answer
Do they have a cheer team?	<p>Yes we do! They are called the Sabre Cats (and the American football team are called the Sabres). Have a look at their Instagram page at @sheffieldsabrecats and their website at https://cheerleading.union.shef.ac.uk/ - they are actually currently National Champions in the UK National Cheerleading Championships! They don't require any previous experience, are open to both boys and girls, and have 5 different teams competing at different levels in both Pom + Stunt teams.</p>
What opportunities are there to study abroad?	<p>Sheffield's study abroad scheme is one of the most extensive out of the UK universities - we offer a year abroad, semester abroad, or a summer school for almost all of our degrees. You can check out where you could study abroad here, depending on what degree you're interested in: https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/globalopps/outbound/semester-or-year/where.</p> <p>We have links with a really wide variety of European institutions, as well as Universities further afield in countries such as Australia, Singapore, Canada and the USA. I am a recent graduate and some of my friends completed year abroads in some amazing places, including Valencia, Berlin, Paris, Amsterdam and Toronto (I even went to visit one of my friends on her study abroad programme in Frankfurt which was really fun!)</p> <p>For a lot of our degree programmes, you can undertake a Year in Industry where you take a year out of university to work in a company for a year. This really enhances your employability, you get paid and also can be offered a graduate job at the end of your placement! For most of our courses, you can carry out this Year in Industry abroad if you wish, so you can combine gaining employability experience with studying in a different country.</p>
What are the grade boundaries for Veterinary courses?	<p>Unfortunately at The University of Sheffield we don't offer Veterinary Courses, you can see the list of universities which do here: https://www.theuniguide.co.uk/subjects/veterinary-medicine</p> <p>We do offer a Zoology course which requires AAB at A Level, which you can check out here: https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/biosciences/undergraduate/courses/zoology</p>
What are your entry requirements for medicine?	<p>For entry onto our Medicine degree, you will need the following at A Level:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AAA at A Level including Chemistry or Biology, and another science subject • OR AAB if an A Grade in a relevant EPQ is offered • OR AAB if you're eligible for the Access Sheffield scheme (more details are here: https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/undergraduate/apply/access) • A Level resits are accepted: any A Level resits must be taken in

	<p>the same sitting and only one resit per A Level is permitted</p> <p>In addition to your A Levels, you will also require:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least five Grade 7/A GCSEs, including at least a Grade 6/B in GCSE English, Maths and Science (can be dual award science) • GCSE resits are accepted: any GCSE resits must be taken in one sitting, and only one GCSE resit per subject is allowed • A UCAT score that meets our minimum UCAT score requirement (this minimum score varies year by year - this year it is 2420/3600). • Meeting the minimum academic and UCAT entry requirements does not guarantee an invitation to interview or the offer of a place. • Applicants who meet or exceed both the minimum academic requirements and the minimum UCAT requirement will be ranked based on their UCAT score after the application deadline to determine which of these applicants are invited to attend a Multiple Mini-Interview. <p>You can take a look at our Medicine course in more detail, including what makes the Sheffield Medical School so great, here: https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/undergraduate/courses/2021/medicine-mbchb</p>
Do you HAVE to HAVE a 6 in GCSE English for medicine?	<p>A GCSE in English at least Grade 6 is a requirement for entry onto our Medicine courses. Due to the competitive nature of applying for the course most candidates selected to attend a multiple mini-interview usually far exceed our minimum requirements.</p> <p>We do allow GCSE resits: any resits must be taken in one sitting, and only one resit per subject is allowed.</p>
What are the advantages to Sheffield Uni versus Sheffield Hallam?	<p>As a recent graduate of the University of Sheffield, I may be biased, but I could talk about the great things about us all day!</p> <p>First of all, we are a Russell Group University, which means we are a member of the 24 leading UK universities committed to maintaining the very best research, an outstanding teaching and learning experience and unrivalled links with business and the public sector. You will receive teaching by lecturers who are really at the forefront of their fields, which is really interesting to me as you'll get to hear cutting-edge research that is really relevant to the world right now.</p> <p>We are also one of the original Redbrick University universities, and we also have been voted the Number One Students Union (SU) in the country for multiple years. This was a really big part of my University experience and I love our SU - our physical building on campus is the heart of Student Life and has a really good buzzy atmosphere where you can do some work or grab a coffee. Sheffield University has extensive Study Abroad opportunities (both semester and year abroads), excellent links with well-known companies that employ our graduates (such as Rolls-Royce, The Civil Service, Boeing, Astra Zeneca), and was actually voted Top in the North for Graduate Employment by the Times 2019. We also have some amazing</p>

	<p>University-owned first year accommodation located in the city centre, or in our student villages Endcliffe and Ranmoor which are the largest student communities in Sheffield, with your own shops, bar, gym and laundrette on site (check them out here: https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/accommodation/ranmoor-endcliffe)</p> <p>You can check out some links here for some short videos I have created about my student experience and why I enjoyed my time at Sheffield University so much:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why did I choose Sheffield University? • My student experience at TUoS
What is the acceptance rate for Language courses?	<p>I can't provide specific numerical acceptance rates, but I'd recommend checking out the entry requirements for each of our languages courses here: https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/slc/undergraduate/courses</p> <p>As long as you meet these grade requirements, demonstrate enthusiasm for your chosen course in your personal statement, and receive a good UCAS reference from your teachers/advisors, you will likely receive an offer.</p> <p>I would also recommend checking out our Access Sheffield Scheme to see if you are eligible; this could decrease the entry requirements for your course. You can read more about the eligibility criteria, and how to notify us of your circumstances, on our website here: www.sheffield.ac.uk/undergraduate/apply/access</p>
What would be the best A-levels/college courses to do for a language that is not taught at School?	<p>If you want to study a language for the first time at University, our A Level offer for BA Modern Languages and Cultures is typically ABB, usually including one modern language. This can include any language that your school offers, as a Languages A Level will go on to be really useful for you at University, even if it is not in the language you want to study at University. If you are not studying a modern foreign language at A Level or BTEC level, we will look for other evidence of language learning, such as a languages GCSE or, for non-native speakers of English, an English language qualification.</p> <p>If you are studying for 3 A Levels, your other 2 A Levels could be any subjects you are interested in. Subjects that could help you at University, for example they could improve your essay writing skills, could be History, English Language, English Literature, Law, Psychology, Politics (these are just a few examples!).</p> <p>If your school offers an EPQ qualification, this could be really useful too and gives you a good introduction to independent research. And if you receive at least a Grade B in a relevant EPQ, this could reduce your A Level grade requirements to BBB too.</p> <p>In terms of college courses, DDD in a relevant subject at BTEC Level 3 is required. If you want to know whether the subject you are considering or studying counts as 'relevant' or not, I'd recommend contacting the department at slc-admissions@sheffield.ac.uk.</p>
What grade do you need for a	At The University of Sheffield, we don't offer a course in Maths and

<p>conditional offer in Maths/Maths and Teaching?</p>	<p>Teaching; we do offer the following courses (with their associated A Level conditional offer):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSc Mathematics - AAB inc. an A in Maths • MMath Mathematics - AAA inc. an A in Maths • BSc Mathematics and Statistics - AAA inc. an A in Maths • MMath Mathematics and Statistics - AAA inc. an A in Maths <p>All of these courses are also offered with a Placement year, a Year Abroad, or alongside study of a European language.</p> <p>I would also recommend checking out our Access Sheffield Scheme to see if you are eligible; this could decrease the entry requirements for your course (usually from AAA to AAB, for example). You can read more about the eligibility criteria, and how to notify us of your circumstances, on our website here: www.sheffield.ac.uk/undergraduate/apply/access</p> <p>The entry requirements may also be lowered if you have Further Maths and/or a relevant EPQ. You can check out all our specific entry requirements here: https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/maths/undergraduate/courses#A</p> <p>Lots of students go on to complete a postgraduate qualification to become a Teacher. You can find out more about this here: https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/education/pgde/course</p>
<p>Do you offer a combined Maths/QTS course like Hallam does?</p>	<p>We don't offer a combined Maths/QTS course as an undergraduate at Sheffield. But you can study a BSc (undergraduate degree) in Mathematics, and then the PGDE after that. It's a Masters programme in Postgraduate Diploma in Education. On this programme you would learn everything that a qualified teacher needs to know about planning, teaching, learning, assessing, policies and processes.</p> <p>Link to Sheffield's BSc Mathematics: https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/undergraduate/courses/2021/mathematics-bsc</p> <p>Link to Sheffield's PGDE (Postgraduate Diploma in Education): https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/postgraduate/taught/courses/2021/postgraduate-diploma-education-pgde</p> <p>We also offer Maths as a dual degree with other subjects (meaning you would study both Maths and another subject at the same time). The options are Mathematics with any of the following: French, German, Spanish, Statistics, or Philosophy.</p> <p>We also offer four year Maths courses with the option of: Study in Europe, a Year Abroad, or with a Placement Year.</p> <p>You can find all these courses and more by searching 'Maths' on our course finder here: https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/undergraduate</p>
<p>What are your most popular courses?</p>	<p>It really depends! We have so many popular courses! Courses we offer in Medicine, Dentistry, Architecture, Journalism, Computer Science, and courses in our Management School are usually popular and the most</p>

	competitive for entry. Although course popularity can vary each year.
What courses do you offer?	<p>We offer a wide range of courses in our five faculties at Sheffield. Our faculties are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arts and Humanities • Engineering • Medicine, Dentistry and Health • Science • Social Sciences <p>Inside those faculties are our subject departments. This will help give you an even clearer idea of the courses we offer -</p> <p>Arts and Humanities: Archaeology, East Asian Studies, English, History, Languages and Cultures, Music, Philosophy, Religion and Biblical Studies.</p> <p>Engineering: Automatic Control and Systems Engineering, Chemical and Biological Engineering, Civil and Structural Engineering, Computer Science, Electronic and Electrical Engineering, Materials Science and Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Aerospace Engineering, Bioengineering, General Engineering.</p> <p>Medicine, Dentistry and Health: Medical School, Health Sciences School, Clinical Dentistry, Health and Related Research.</p> <p>Science: Animal and Plant Sciences, Biomedical Science, Chemistry, Mathematics and Statistics, Molecular Biology and Biotechnology, Physics and Astronomy, Psychology.</p> <p>Social Sciences: Architecture, Economics, Education, Geography, Journalism Studies, Landscape Architecture, Law, Management School, Politics and International Relations, Sheffield Methods Institute, Sociological Studies, Urban Studies and Planning.</p> <p>You can search for courses in any of these Departments by typing in a subject on our course finder here: https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/undergraduate. For example, search 'English' and you will be presented with many courses including English Literature, English Language, and our wide range of dual degrees, for example, English and History, English Language and Literature, etc.</p>
Students would like to know if you have courses in the following subject areas: Drama, Engineering, Musical theatre, Coding/Website Design, Computing, Gaming Design, Art/Design, Design/Technology, Teaching, Film Making and Production, Pharmacology/Pharmaceuticals, astrophysics,	<p>We offer courses in the following (in brackets are specific course names):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Astrophysics (Physics and Astrophysics) • Architecture • Business (Business Management) • Chemistry • Computing (Computer Science) • Technology (Bio-dental Science and Technology; Intelligent Systems and Control Engineering; Robotics with a Foundation Year; Electrical and Electronic Engineering)

<p>veterinary, astrology, geography, architecture, nursing, medicine, business, chemistry.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engineering (please use our course finder below to search our specific Engineering courses that interest you - we offer many different Engineering degrees) • Geography • Medicine • Nursing • Teaching (we do not offer Teaching specifically at undergraduate. But we do offer BA Education, Culture and Childhood at undergraduate level, and then at postgraduate (Masters) level we offer the PGDE (Postgraduate Diploma in Education)). <p>Some of the modules on our courses incorporate Coding/Website Design and Design, but these are not in the course titles. For example, we offer Computer Science, which involves coding. And we offer Architecture, which involves design elements.</p> <p>We do not offer courses in Musical Theatre, Film Making and Production, Art/Design, Pharmacology/Pharmaceuticals, or Veterinary. Below I will list our closest offering to these courses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English Literature (on which Theatre modules are an option) • English Literature (on which Film modules are an option) • Architecture • Landscape Architecture • Medicine <p>You can find all these courses and more by searching on our course finder: https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/undergraduate</p>
<p>Is an AS grade a useful qualification?</p>	<p>You will need to sit the exams and assessments for your A Level / A2 qualification in order to be accepted into university.</p> <p>The feedback you achieve in your first year will be used by your teacher to predict your final A Level grade. These will inform your search for universities and the decision you make about what course you may wish to study. It's important to try your best during your first year of A Levels, to help you to build knowledge and experience of assessments, that will be necessary to achieve a good grade in your assessments in your second year of A Levels, which will count towards your final grades.</p> <p>Please don't hesitate to get in contact with us, or the Department you're interested in studying, if you have any questions about your specific entry requirements or circumstances. Details about how to contact us can be found here: https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/contact/prospective-students</p>
<p>What grades on average do I need to get accepted?</p>	<p>Our A Level entry requirements are usually around AAA-ABB.</p> <p>But please check the specific course pages you're interested in to see the exact entry requirements. We also accept BTEC and other qualifications - but the exact requirements of these qualifications can be found on our individual course pages as well. General information about</p>

	<p>our entry requirements: https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/undergraduate/apply/requirements</p> <p>Please don't hesitate to get in contact with us, or the Department you're interested in studying, if you have any questions about your specific entry requirements or circumstances. Details about how to contact us can be found here: https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/contact/prospective-students</p>
What are your facilities like?	<p>Four libraries: I'm a recent graduate, having studied at the University for four years, and the facilities at Sheffield are really excellent. We have four libraries which provides a lot of study space, and so many different working environments to suit your study preferences. For example, the four libraries have silent study spaces, group study spaces and bookable rooms, computer rooms, relaxed study spaces and cafes. The four libraries are called the Information Commons, the Diamond, Western Bank Library and the Medical School Library.</p> <p>Student's Union: You can find more information and videos of them here: https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/study/facilities The YouTube video on that page provides a full overview of all of our University facilities. As well as the libraries, these include our award-winning Student's Union (which houses a 400-seat cinema/lecture room, a club consisting of 3 rooms, along with a host of cafes, restaurants, bars, and student services).</p> <p><u>In terms of more specific study facilities</u>, this depends on what subject you're interested in studying. I'll detail some of our subject specific facilities below:</p> <p>Engineering facilities: This £81 million building - our largest ever investment in learning and teaching - is a fantastic place for modern interdisciplinary teaching. The building houses 19 specialist engineering teaching laboratories as well as a range of lecture theatres, seminar rooms, open-plan learning spaces, library services and social spaces, including a café.</p> <p>The iForge, is giving students the opportunity to collaborate, create and 'make' outside of their academic studies. Believed to be the first of its kind in a UK university. Housing a wide range of equipment, from traditional hand tools and a sewing machine to state-of-the-art laser cutters and 3D printers.</p> <p>Science facilities: Full list here: https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/biosciences/research/facilities which includes Environment Centre, Biological Mass Spectrometry Facility, Electronics Workshop, and many more.</p> <p>Social Sciences facilities: We're in the process of developing a brand new home for the Faculty of Social Sciences and redeveloping our facilities on Campus. We'll have new collaborative teaching and social spaces and a wide range of disciplines under the same roof for the first time. A new research hub will bring together cross-cutting research centres to address key global challenges. More info for each</p>

	<p>Department: https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/social-sciences/facilities</p> <p>Medicine facilities: Full list here https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/medicine/facilities. It includes Sheffield Biorepository, Flow Cytometry, Genomics Core Facility, Microarray and many more.</p> <p>Arts and Humanities facilities: HumLab technology facilities https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/arts-humanities/research/humlab/facilities</p> <p>Sports facilities: Two premier-standard football pitches, swimming pool, a high-tech gym, and one of the largest fibreglass moulded bouldering walls in the country.</p>
In general, what grades are required for Engineering courses at uni?	<p>Grade requirements for our Engineering courses vary somewhat, though in general they range from A*AA - AAB - this will depend on which department you are applying for and which course you have selected. There are a variety of ways in which this offer can be modified, however, for example through the completion of a relevant EPQ or A Level Further Maths. These will generally reduce the A Level requirement by one grade.</p> <p>Have a look at the Faculty of Engineering's pages to learn more about specific courses: https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/engineering/study/what-we-offer</p>
Which courses take up the most time? Which are the most demanding?	<p>Degree courses vary greatly in terms of how they are taught and therefore their workloads are all very different. For example, a Biomedical Science student might have 20 contact hours in a week including lab work while a History student might only have 8, but they would be expected to spend more time outside of class preparing via reading and research.</p> <p>It can be hard to judge exactly how much time each course will take up, but regardless of the degree students are expected to treat their studies like a full-time job. That said, courses such as Medicine that have industry placement requirements and unusual exam timetables can be more demanding than conventional academic courses.</p>
Is accommodation always available? What is the average cost?	<p>All first year undergraduate students are guaranteed a place in our University owned or partnership accommodation, living with other Sheffield students. Find out more about that here: https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/accommodation/prospective/guarantee</p> <p>All students living in our university accommodation will have access to our award-winning Residence Life program, designed to help you have the best student residential experience possible. Some of the many services and activities available can be explored here: https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/accommodation/social/residence-life</p> <p>The cost of your student accommodation will vary depending on which option you choose (City or Student Village, En-Suite or Shared Bathroom, etc.) but options start from £4292.40 for an annual contract. Find out specific details for each of our accommodation options here:</p>

	https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/accommodation/prospective/rents
What proportion of graduates get into employment (linked to their degree) with 6 months of graduating?	<p>96% of our graduates are in work or further study within 6 months of graduating, meaning that we are the best university in Yorkshire and the Humber for graduate prospects (HESA 2020), and No 1 in the North of England for producing employable graduates (Times Good University Guide 2020).</p> <p>The University Careers Service also offers its graduates 3 years of further support after finishing their studies, ensuring that our students will have a strong start no matter their career. Find out more here: https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/study/career</p>
Do you think it's going to be easier to get into universities, if less people want to go because of the pandemic?	<p>While it is possible that some higher education institutions will see fewer applicants this year, this has not been the case at Sheffield - in fact, we had more applications this year than last.</p> <p>I would recommend looking into the specific guidance individual universities are putting out and looking at their listed grade requirements. Between that and your guidance from tutors/teachers at school, this will provide a better idea of where you should think about applying.</p>
Are universities lowering offers because of the pandemic?	Universities will all be taking their own approach to entry requirements at the moment, given that it is still not certain what form exams will be taking in the summer - be sure to pay close attention to universities that you are interested in, in case their policies change. That said, most admissions departments will be taking into account the fact that this has affected students. If you feel there has been particular strain on your academic experience because of the pandemic, be sure to discuss that with your referee and include it in the appropriate section of your application.
Would I be able to maintain my gaming life outside of university, as I'm part of a successful E-sports Fortnite team?	<p>At university it will be up to you to balance your independent study and hobbies in your spare time. That said, the SU supports all kinds of student activities, and we have a Computer Gaming Society at the university. In addition to LAN parties and casual gaming, they support members participating in two different national esports leagues, the NUEL and NSE. Find more info about them here: https://su.sheffield.ac.uk/activities/view/computer-gaming-society</p> <p>Our student accommodation also has high-speed wifi, with individual rooms typically having an ethernet port and large desk with plenty of space for your setup. Find out all about our accommodation options here: https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/accommodation</p> <p>(On a personal note - as a recent graduate, I can vouch for the quality of the Endcliffe accommodation's wifi and desk space for those purposes!)</p>
What %/hours is lectures/independent work on average? How many hours do you spend studying on	Depending on which course you select (and where you choose to study it), the answer to this question will look quite different. STEM subjects, especially those with lab work, tend to take up more time with timetabled classes and lectures (generally 20+ contact hours), whereas

average?	<p>Arts and some Social Sciences will have a lighter timetable but a heavier workload in terms of seminar reading and preparation (perhaps 10 contact hours).</p> <p>Departments will sometimes lay out their expectations for how much time students will spend working on a given module - for example, in some final year History modules at Sheffield, students are expected to spend at least twice as much time preparing for their seminars as they spend in them. For more specific information about courses you are interested in, contact departments directly - they will be happy to provide more details.</p>
If someone had a criminal record, would it affect their chances of completing a degree?	<p>At the University of Sheffield, students due to complete a campus-based degree course are asked to submit information regarding any relevant criminal convictions. This information will be reviewed by our admissions team, or on occasion a panel of staff from different departments. In most cases, students will be admitted without any adjustments to their university experience, but in some cases arrangements will be made to ensure their and their fellow students' safety. In very rare cases, when risk to the student and their fellows cannot be mitigated, an offer may be withdrawn. Read more about the University's policy here: https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/study/policies/convictions</p> <p>Other universities may well have different policies. I would recommend checking individual websites for more information. UCAS has some general guidelines regarding criminal convictions here: https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/applying-university/criminal-convictions-what-you-need-know</p>
What is your student satisfaction rate?	<p>Our performance as a university overall is also very strong. Our student satisfaction is around 88% - this is 4% higher than the national average, and places us 2nd within the Russell Group for overall student satisfaction (National Student Survey 2019).</p> <p>Students studying at Sheffield have a great time, and consistently tell us this. Our Students' Union has been ranked the best in the UK for 4 years in a row (WhatUni Student Choice Awards, 2017-20). If you want to find out more about our Students' Union, check out these videos: Students' Union Tour Student Societies at Sheffield</p>
What GCSE grades do I need to be accepted into University?	<p>Generally speaking, we expect that students as a minimum to have achieved a grade 4/C in GCSE English Language.</p> <p>However, each course at the university can vary in their entry requirements. Some courses will require specific GCSE grades in other subjects, such as Maths and Science.</p> <p>I would recommend checking the entry requirements for a particular course you are interested in via the course search tool on our website: www.sheffield.ac.uk/undergraduate</p>
Do Universities automatically	Every university will have an admissions policy, which states how they

<p>think better of a student that studied in a private school rather than a state school?</p>	<p>assess their applicants, but primarily an admissions tutor will be looking for these key aspects in your application:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qualifications you already have • Predicted grades in qualifications you are taking now • Your motivation and commitment to a subject area, as well as your reasons for wanting to study this at university level • What your teachers/advisors say about you in their reference <p>Attending a state school does not pose a disadvantage to your application.</p> <p>We may sometimes use information about you to ensure that everyone who has the potential to succeed on our courses has the opportunity to do so.</p> <p>This ensures that students who come from areas where it is less common to go to university, or who may have personal circumstances making A-level study more challenging, can still access courses they are able to succeed on. Depending on your circumstances, we may be able to give your application additional consideration when we receive it and when exam results are released. If we offer you a place, we may also be able to make you an alternative offer lower than our standard entry requirements for your course.</p> <p>At Sheffield, this scheme is called Access Sheffield. You can read more about the eligibility criteria, and how to notify us of your circumstances, on our website here: www.sheffield.ac.uk/undergraduate/apply/access</p>
<p>What makes your university different from others?</p>	<p>Everyone enjoys studying and working at The University of Sheffield for different reasons, so depending on who you ask this answer can vary!</p> <p>Check out my bite size videos talking about different aspects of my student journey and why I think Sheffield is a truly amazing place to study:</p> <p> Why I chose The University of Sheffield Why I chose my course (Molecular Biology) What I love about Sheffield as a city What I got up to in my spare time as a student </p>
<p>Is there any way you can make your application more appealing to have a higher chance of getting accepted?</p>	<p>One of the best ways to stand out on your UCAS application is by writing an excellent personal statement. One of our Student Recruitment Officers Ella has made a great video full of tips: Personal Statements Virtual Talk</p> <p>In a personal statement, a good structure should try to answer these key questions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why have you chosen your subject? 2. Why should we select you to study that subject? 3. What else do you do? <p>You should try and focus on the first two points for around 75-80% of your statement, with 20-25% devoted to your hobbies and free time.</p>

	<p>Wherever you talk about an activity, remember to focus on the skills it has given you and how these have helped you prepare for university level study.</p> <p>Conducting your own research and exploring your subject area is a really important task. Here are some things you could do to stand out from the crowd:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do some career planning – Do you want to work somewhere in particular? Or are you wanting to see where a degree can take you? The Prospects website can help with this • Work experience – Social distancing may mean you cannot do this as easily, so try and get creative. Can you have a phone/video call with someone working in the field to ask them how they got there? Could you develop the same skills/knowledge in a volunteering role? • Undertake some research & analysis – Where you go away and learn about your subject beyond A-Level. This can include education podcasts, reading the trade/industry press, or watching research seminars online (TED talks are free on YouTube) • Do an Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) or sign up for a MOOC – Doing an EPQ can develop lots of key skills universities look for, and can sometimes lead to a reduced offer when taken in a topic relevant to your subject. MOOCs are online courses which you can take to develop subject-specific knowledge through a structured course, and are often made by universities or industry leaders. For example, The University of Sheffield has several courses available via Future Learn across a wide range of subjects. • University events – Whilst it is really useful to attend Open Days, universities also hold lots of other activities you can get involved with throughout the year. This can include public lectures, competitions for sixth form students, as well as taster days. I really recommend you attend a taster day if you can, as you see what it's really like to study a subject at university. You can view all the upcoming dates for Sheffield here - we are constantly updating this page with new subjects and additional dates, so keep checking back regularly!
<p>Is having top grades and no work experience better or worse than having mediocre grades and lots of work experience?</p>	<p>Personally, I'd say having a good balance of both is important! When considering an application, universities are looking for motivated students who are likely to succeed on a course. Whilst work experience can be a great way to demonstrate this in your personal statement, we understand that it is not always possible to secure work experience (particularly under social distancing rules).</p> <p>However, there are many other ways you can demonstrate your motivation and interest in a course or subject. This can include</p>

	<p>completing MOOCs or an EPQ, attending university Taster Days, or simply reading around your subject beyond the A-level syllabus (TED Talks on YouTube or educational podcasts are a good place to start).</p> <p>In terms of specific grades and qualifications, we are looking for students who are likely to meet or exceed the entry requirements outlined in the university prospectus. When you are made an offer to study at Sheffield, be prepared to meet the grades specified in your offer on results day (even if your predicted grades are slightly lower). That being said, most universities will take into account your personal circumstances when making you an offer, as well as when making decisions on results day.</p> <p>At The University of Sheffield, we run a scheme for making contextual offers to students who may find it more challenging to meet our standard entry requirements, called Access Sheffield. You can read more about Access Sheffield, including eligibility criteria and how to apply, on our website: www.sheffield.ac.uk/undergraduate/apply/access#</p> <p>If you'd like some more help with applying for university, we are currently running some drop-in sessions on Wednesday evenings free of charge on our website. For a full timetable of upcoming topics, check out our website here: https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/undergraduate/visit/support-ucas-application</p>
<p>How far away is your university from my school?</p>	<p>The University of Sheffield is located on Western Bank, which is close to Sheffield's city centre.</p> <p>From your school, you have two main options:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Travel into Chesterfield centre, and catch a train to Sheffield station. The university is then easily accessible by Sheffield SuperTram, or on several bus routes (just £1 for uni students). Alternatively to the train, you can take the number 80 bus from Staveley to Sheffield Station. Both of these options take around 60-90 minutes 2. If you are planning to travel by car, the journey will take around 30-45 minutes <p>As a student, you can access lots of discounts for public transport including Railcards and monthly passes for buses and trams. If you decide to drive, we also have a Park and Ride system for the tram. You can read more about different options for travel to the university here.</p> <p>Of course, you are also welcome to live in university accommodation during your studies, with Sheffield guaranteeing accommodation to all new first year students.</p> <p>I really enjoyed living in Ranmoor Student Village in my first year, and made loads of friends. Our student vlogger Paula has made some great video tours of our two main accommodation sites: Ranmoor/Endcliffe Accommodation Tour City Accommodation Tour</p>

<p>Do you think it is beneficial to get a job whilst you are at university? Does it affect your student loan if you have a part time job?</p>	<p>Having a part-time job whilst at university can be really beneficial for developing lots of transferable skills, such as time management, customer service, and working in a team. However, getting involved with student societies, volunteering, or playing a sport can also facilitate your personal development. All of these can be really useful to include on an application for graduate roles once you finish university, allowing you to really show off your personal strengths. Doing <i>something</i> outside of your course, whatever that may be, can definitely add value.</p> <p>One of the reasons many students opt for a job is to earn some extra money to help towards living expenses. If you are applying for a maintenance loan from Student Finance England, this is assessed based on your household income. For most people, this is what their parents or guardians are earning (or whoever they currently live with). Therefore, for most students having a part-time job will not impact your ability to access student finance. Separate rules apply for care leavers, estranged students, and those living with a partner. For more information, check out the student finance pages on GOV.UK</p> <p>If you do decide to get a job, there's lots of support available from the university Careers Service. This includes the Student JobShop, which is located in the Students' Union and is dedicated for part-time work. It is recommended that full-time students work no more than 16 hours a week, so you can still devote sufficient time to your studies. You are of course welcome to work more in vacation periods.</p>
---	--