

Charterhouse Higher Education & Careers



Second Year Specialists Parents' Briefing

November 2009

Receiving Offers



- Some universities have made offers already, but others are informing applicants that they will give offers in the New Year
- The progress of applications can be followed electronically on theucas 'track' system



Offers in oversubscribed subjects

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- Getting an offer can be very difficult for very well qualified applicants to oversubscribed courses at popular universities
- Deferred entry applications may well not be successful and a post qualification application may well be stronger

For example at Bristol

Data from 'Amazing Offers' database of Independent school applicants to University 2006-2009

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Where to Study?

Enter a search term to refine the results. For example, to show all Mathematics courses enter "Math". You can also search for a partial match on Course ID. So for example you can search for H201 by entering "H2" as your search term.

Keywords:

Institution:

Include Years:

Include Data From:

C Conditional Offer made
U Unconditional Offer made
R Application Rejected

Code	Subject Name	Total Applicants	C	U	R	Success Rate(%)	Av. Points Offer	Min Offer	Max Offer
L100	Economics	590	192	60	338	43%	339	200	360
V100	History by period	445	83	41	321	28%	345	100	460
A100	Pre-clinical Medicine	419	51	32	336	20%	275	120	340
Q300	English studies	389	54	35	300	23%	357	320	360
R100	French studies	347	103	53	191	45%	318	200	360
C800	Psychology	237	49	17	171	28%	344	240	360
V500	Philosophy	224	47	22	155	31%	337	120	360
G100	Mathematics	215	138	28	49	77%	580	100	36666
M100	Law by area	203	72	20	111	45%	350	340	360
L200	Politics	188	20	15	153	19%	346	320	360
H300	Mechanical Engineering	184	137	32	15	92%	308	220	360
Q800	Classical studies	182	65	9	108	41%	333	240	460
L700	Human and Social Geography	171	42	13	116	32%	331	100	340
F100	Chemistry	169	115	39	15	91%	304	100	340
V300	History by topic	169	24	19	126	25%	339	220	440
F800	Physical and Terrestrial Geographical and Environmental Sciences	157	47	13	97	38%	339	240	360
W400	Drama	154	5	5	144	6%	312	300	320
C100	Biology	152	98	26	28	82%	305	120	340
N400	Accounting	149	75	5	69	54%	320	120	360
F300	Physics	133	88	29	16	88%	315	100	360
D100	Pre-clinical Veterinary Medicine	125	20	10	95	24%	316	220	340
H200	Civil Engineering	112	74	26	12	89%	336	120	440



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L100	Economics	508	173	85	250	51%	336	220	360
V100	History by period	481	116	51	314	35%	348	120	480
Q300	English studies	416	85	42	289	31%	358	240	360
R100	French studies	366	138	44	184	50%	329	200	340
C100	Biology	275	148	49	78	72%	337	120	360
V500	Philosophy	247	64	22	161	35%	333	100	360
F100	Chemistry	239	137	28	74	69%	340	200	360
M100	Law by area	224	87	30	107	52%	352	120	360
L700	Human and Social Geography	199	33	31	135	32%	344	340	360
C800	Psychology	177	104	34	39	78%	312	100	360
N200	Management studies	176	115	17	44	75%	310	120	340
Q100	Linguistics	172	42	19	111	35%	333	120	360
L200	Politics	162	31	17	114	30%	330	100	360
N400	Accounting	158	133	12	13	92%	315	100	340
Q800	Classical studies	152	63	25	64	58%	334	120	340
F300	Physics	135	93	17	25	81%	345	220	360
F800	Physical and Terrestrial Geographical and Environmental Sciences	133	53	19	61	54%	341	340	360
H100	General Engineering	132	59	21	52	61%	336	300	340
G100	Mathematics	131	69	21	41	69%	330	220	340
C600	Sports Science	116	52	12	52	55%	294	100	320
L300	Sociology	99	55	22	22	78%	289	80	320
L600	Anthropology	86	48	31	7	92%	299	260	340



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Code	Subject Name	Total Applicants	C	U	R	Success Rate(%)	Av. Points Offer	Min Offer	Max Offer
Q300	English studies	425	48	30	347	18%	298	220	300
V100	History by period	422	45	60	317	25%	297	100	400
N100	Business studies	411	25	51	335	18%	272	100	400
L100	Economics	364	53	82	229	37%	294	100	400
A100	Pre-clinical Medicine	299	47	37	215	28%	369	100	460
L200	Politics	255	9	23	223	13%	300	300	300
V500	Philosophy	244	46	41	157	36%	300	300	300
L700	Human and Social Geography	205	9	11	185	10%	193	100	400
C800	Psychology	176	40	36	100	43%	287	100	400
V300	History by topic	170	26	29	115	32%	296	100	400
T900	Others in Eastern, Asiatic, African, American and Australasian Languages, Literature and related subjects	163	26	16	121	26%	300	300	300
R100	French studies	156	21	15	120	23%	300	300	300
K100	Architecture	154	7	8	139	10%	300	300	300
Q800	Classical studies	138	49	21	68	51%	293	100	300
C100	Biology	137	82	49	6	96%	293	100	400
M100	Law by area	130	5	41	84	35%	300	300	300
R400	Spanish studies	114	14	18	82	28%	300	300	300
G100	Mathematics	110	67	40	3	97%	289	100	440
F100	Chemistry	106	80	23	3	97%	296	100	340
B100	Anatomy, Physiology and Pathology	102	35	27	40	61%	295	200	340
F800	Physical and Terrestrial Geographical and Environmental Sciences	95	50	26	19	80%	295	160	300

Use of A* (D1/D2) predictions



- Almost all universities are following the National Council for Educational Excellence recommendations

‘There is no evidence yet upon which to assess whether the new A grade can be predicted with accuracy. Government should collect and review data on predictability over the first few years of A* being awarded before it enters use in the HE applications process.’*
- Cambridge however will require at least one A* grade and 2 A grades from their applicants. Richard Partington (Senior tutor at Churchill College and Head of the Cambridge Outreach working group) says
- *‘We recognise that making accurate A* predictions will be difficult for schools in the early years of the new grade. We will therefore not be placing any weight on whether or not a school predicts an A* and applicants will not be rejected just because they are not predicted to achieve any A* grades’*

How to deal with offers from UK Universities

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- Once an application is sent by the school to UCAS contact is then between the applicant and the university.
- Some universities may require further information before they make an offer. **Providing this information is the responsibility of the applicant – the school does not know what requests have been made.**
- If an offer involving Pre–U grades is higher than the ‘standard’ offer, an applicant should inform the school careers office and check with the university.
- Final Decision request (sent by UCAS once all offers are received) contains a summary of offers and the deadline for response (end of April)



Accept/Decline Strategy

- Accepting One *Firm* and One *Insurance* offer is the norm.
- The insurance offer should have a slightly easier grade/condition requirement but must be a university that the applicant wants to attend
- Do not turn down good offers from other good universities if rejected by 'favourite' institution. Re applying next year to the most popular courses at the most popular universities will be just as competitive.

Rejections (data from 'Amazing Offers')

	Sum	R%
LSE	886	82
Oxford	1516	72
Cambridge	1315	69
Edinburgh	2892	67
Bristol	3481	59
UCL	1806	49
Durham	2792	48
St Andrews	869	48
KCL	1178	46
Warwick	1820	37
ICL	833	36
Queen Mary	502	32
Oxford Brookes	1015	31
Southampton	750	30
Cardiff	1091	29
Queen's, Belfast	304	28
City	231	27



- If applicants receive no offers from the universities on their UCAS form or they decline all existing offers, they are eligible for the UCAS Extra service
- Applicants can contact one university at a time for any vacancy left – these are highlighted on the UCAS website from 25th February to June



- Each university will assess the fee status of each student. If they are considered to be a 'Home students' including EU, they will only be liable for the 'top up tuition fees' and maintenance costs. Grants and Bursaries are available.
- All students can apply to the Student Loan Company for a Tuition or Maintenance loan from March onwards. These need not be income assessed. www.studentfinancedirect.gov.uk
- Gap Year: Apply for funding next year.

Results Day

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- A level and Pre-U results are published on Thursday 19th August 2010. Universities will have received Pre-U results at the same time as A levels so all decisions can be confirmed on ucas 'track' first thing on Thursday.
- Come to school if at all possible.
- Examinations Officer and Heads of Departments will deal with exam queries. Papers in both A level and Pre U subjects can be 'priority remarked' if university places depend on a higher grade.
- HE office will help with university issues.

If things are fine



- If applicants have made the grades of their offer, the university must honour its commitment.
- There is no need to do anything further. UCAS and the university will be in contact to confirm arrangements.



If things are not fine

- If applicants miss the grades of their offer they still may be accepted. Check this on the UCAS website (www.ucas.com) or by ringing the university.
- If applicants no longer wish to go to the university they accepted, they must leave the UCAS system and reapply.



If things are not fine (2)

- If applicants miss their *Firm* choice they are committed to their *insurance* choice unless they withdraw and reapply next year.
- If they miss both *Firm* and *Insurance* offers then they are eligible to enter clearing which will be administered via the UCAS Track system.

Clearing (use for entry 2010 only)

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- Clearing is best likened to a sale - excellent bargains but only on 19th August or the following few days.
- Universities list available courses on the UCAS website www.ucas.com and applicants who have had no offers or have declined their offers can apply for these courses.
- Telephone relevant admissions hotlines as soon as possible.

Further Advice



- 'Higher Education Choices and Decisions' booklet (in pdf format on school website)
- UCAS www.ucas.com or helpline 0871 468 0 468. (Do not forget to inform UCAS of change of address via TRACK)
- OC's have full use of HE Dept advice as needed for post qualification application
- Gap Years need to be carefully planned starting now.
- Post Qualification applications will be strengthened by achievement of A* or D1/D2 grades

Contacting us

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- All Higher Education and Careers documents are available on our section of the school website.
- E mail: careers@charterhouse.org.uk
- Make an appointment to come into the Careers Department to speak to us if you have any concerns at all.