

# Why go to university?

**INFORMATION, ADVICE AND GUIDANCE**

# HE versus FE



- How is HE different to your FE studies now?

- **HE is:**

- A choice from over 150 different institutions



- A different way of learning and working to school/college
- Varying levels of subject
  - Foundation Degree
  - HND
  - Degree (BA, BSC, LLB, BEng, BEd)

# Benefits of HE

- Independence
- Meet people
- Experience a different part of the country (or world)
- Explore a personal interest in a subject
- Gain a qualification towards career progression
- Gain transferable skills





# Spoilt for choice



- How many courses can you choose from in the UK?



**Why Higher Education?**

# Spoilt for choice

- How many courses can you choose from in the UK?
- **Over 50,000**



# The shortlist



- How many choices are you allowed on your UCAS form?



# The shortlist

- How many choices are you allowed on your UCAS form?
- **Just 5!**
- But it is never too late to change your mind – UCAS Extra, Clearing etc



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# Exploring what is right for you



- The 4 C's
- Course
- City
- Campus (Accommodation)
- Career

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# Choosing your course

- Things to consider:
  - Single/Joint Honours
  - Length of course
  - Practical/theory balance
  - Teaching/assessment styles
  - Career destinations
  - Entry requirements
  - Professional accreditations
  - Work placements.



# Location, location, location



- Things to consider:
  - Distance from home
  - Transport links
  - Number of sites
  - Rural or urban campus
  - Cost of living
  - Style of facilities
  - City attractions
  - Safety
  - Cultural and faith support.

# Accommodation

- Things to consider:
  - Guaranteed for first years?
  - Catered/self - catered halls
  - Internet access
  - Private rented
  - Facilities
  - Distance from campus
  - Value for money.



# Career



- Information that may help your choices:
  - Important to select a course that supports your career aspirations
  - Take the Stamford test to find out which careers/ courses may suit you best ([www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com))
  - Browse potential jobs ([www.prospects.ac.uk](http://www.prospects.ac.uk))
  - This will give an indication of courses relevant to a career, salaries and personal qualities required
  - Speak to your careers advisers in school.



# How and where to research

- List your priorities
- [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com)
- Use prospectuses, course brochures, websites
- Check out open days/taster days
- Ask questions
- Apply early but continue to research, you can always change your mind



**Why Higher Education?**

# Conclusion



- Your future – a fantastic opportunity
- Start your research now!
- Make the right choice for **you**



- Attend open days
- Best years of your life!