It’s been a great year for the University of Nottingham and we wanted to share our news with you. We are University of the Year for graduate employment and in June 2017 we were awarded gold for our outstanding teaching – the highest rating possible under the Teaching Education Framework.

This pack provides you with key information about the University and is designed to support the work you do with students who are considering their higher education choices.

You will find information on:
- the University of Nottingham – finance and bursaries, employability, teaching and student life
- widening participation – support for students and staff
- writing UCAS references and personal statements
- events and key dates for teachers and students

Sources of online information and support
Please take a look at our webpages for more supporting materials and useful links to a variety of sources of information and guidance for teachers and careers advisers: nottingham.ac.uk/schoolsliaison

It is an important time for students making their higher education choices and we’re here to help. We would be delighted to hear from you if you have any questions. You can also keep up to date on our activities through our Twitter account: @UoNOutreach

Kind regards

Professor Sarah O’Hara
Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Education and Student Experience
Why Nottingham?

Our city has won five Purple Flag Awards for safe and exciting nightlife

In the top 1% of universities worldwide
– QS World University Rankings 2018
topuniversities.com

We spend £5.5m a year on books and journals

Our Gold Award in the Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) recognises that we deliver consistently outstanding teaching, learning and outcomes for our students

Our research addresses global challenges and more than 97% is internationally recognised
– Research Excellence Framework 2014

University of the Year for Graduate Employment
– The Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2017

89% student satisfaction score in 2016 – our highest ever

We spend £5.5m a year on books and journals

Our research addresses global challenges and more than 97% is internationally recognised
– Research Excellence Framework 2014

Ranked 4th for sport in the UK
– The Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2017

A member of the prestigious
RUSSELL GROUP
of leading UK universities and the global
Universitas 21 network, as well as the European Consortium of Innovative Universities (ECIU)

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Why Nottingham?
Our Careers and Employability Service supports students right from the start of their University career until after they graduate, helping them stand out from the crowd.

We have been awarded University of the Year for Graduate Employment.

– The Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2017

Among the world’s top 60 universities for employability and employer reputation.

– QS World University Rankings 2016/17
topuniversities.com

Over 350 organisations visit campus each year to meet and recruit students and promote student employability, including:

Accenture, Aldi, Barclays, Berwin Leighton Paisner, Boots, BP, Capital One, Civil Service, EY, Goldman Sachs, GSK, HMRC, Jaguar Land Rover, Mondelez, Page Group, PwC, RB, Teach First and Unilever.

Nearly 5,000 vacancies are advertised by external organisations through our Careers and Employability service each year.

95.4% of our students were employed or in further study six months after graduation.

– Known destinations of full-time UK and EU first-degree graduates who were available for employment, 2014/15

Our students are top earners. Nottingham graduates have annual earnings at least £3,000 above the average for all universities.

– Longitudinal Education Outcomes, 2017

nottingham.ac.uk/go/ces
blogs.nottingham.ac.uk/careers
@UoNCareers
CareersUoN
– Known destinations of full-time UK and EU first-degree graduates who were available for employment, 2014/15
Careers and employability
Students can expect a world-class education when studying with us. But the Nottingham experience is so much more than that. We want students to have the time of their life.

University of Nottingham Students’ Union

University of Nottingham Students’ Union (SU) is a diverse organisation with over 300 clubs, societies and student groups ranging from Quidditch to law. We also have more than 100 dedicated to different countries and cultures.

[link to SU website]

University of Nottingham Sport

There are many opportunities to stay active as a Nottingham student. We have three fitness suites, weekly classes, a pool and a climbing wall at the new David Ross Sports Village. There are over 70 sports clubs so students can try anything from aikido to windsurfing. Thousands of students represent Nottingham against other universities every week and we’ve got a great track record – finishing in the top ten for more than thirty years.

[link to Sport website]
Study here, go anywhere

Nottingham students undertake an international experience while studying with us for a variety of reasons – whether it’s to develop their studies, language ability or just to try living and studying somewhere different.

We offer full year and semester exchanges, research placements and summer schools, so there is something to fit all interests. For opportunities at our China and Malaysia campuses, we offer extra funding to help students with the costs of flights and visas.

The University offers comprehensive advice throughout the process, including health and safety information and immigration guidance. Dedicated staff are available prior to, during and after studying abroad to guide students through the process.

Employers value this experience too – 64% of employers consider an international experience as important for (graduate) recruitment according to a recent report by the European Commission*.

nottingham.ac.uk/studyabroad

Study abroad
Financial support and bursaries

We offer a generous package of bursaries to support UK students from lower-income households. Approximately 30% of UK students received a bursary in 2016. Please get in touch if you require more detailed information.

Core Bursary

In 2018-19 our Core Bursary will provide non-repayable grants up to a maximum of £2,000 per year for home* students with a household income assessed by Student Finance as being below £35,000.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Household income assessment</th>
<th>Annual Core Bursary award</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>£0 - £25,000</td>
<td>£2,000</td>
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<td>£25,001 - £35,000</td>
<td>£1,000</td>
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Students and sponsors must share their financial information on their student finance application form.

Eligible students will be able to access the bursary after arriving and registering at university.

Additional financial support

The University offers a range of additional bursaries and scholarships with more specific criteria, including Nottingham Potential Bursaries, the Stoneygate Award and Halford Scholarship.

Some individual schools and departments within the University also offer awards, based on academic criteria.

For further information:
nottingham.ac.uk/financialsupport
financialsupport@nottingham.ac.uk
+44 (0)115 823 2071

* Student Finance will determine residency status.
Financial support and bursaries
Outstanding teaching

The University of Nottingham is home to some of the best minds and facilities in the world, which has a hugely positive impact on our students’ experience.

Our students learn with academics who are, literally, changing our world with their work. Our academic staff are passionate about their research and at the forefront of their field. We attach a great deal of importance to the connections between research and teaching, which means the modules we offer are constantly updated to reflect the latest research findings. Their research also attracts funding for facilities and the latest technology, so students benefit from the best resources and equipment.

nottingham.ac.uk/world

Recognition for outstanding teaching

The University of Nottingham has been awarded a Gold standard in the Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF). The TEF identifies and rewards excellence in undergraduate teaching. It also measures the things that students care about: a supportive, stimulating academic environment, which helps them to fulfil their potential and secure a good job or progress to further study or training.

Facilities for learning

We are constantly investing in the future, including multi-million pound investment for new technology-enhanced teaching facilities across all our campuses. For example, a new state-of-the-art teaching and learning hub will open in Spring 2018. We also have eight libraries, including the £19m refurbished George Green Library for science and engineering, with a huge number of resources, nearly 15,000 study spaces on our campuses, and an annual spend of £5.5m on books and journals.
Research-inspired teaching
We aim to recruit talented students, regardless of their personal circumstances. Our fair, clear bursary scheme helps to attract and support lower-income students, who comprise 30% of our intake, while our flexible pathways facilitate entry.

Flexible admissions policy
We consider contextual information about every UK applicant from all schools and colleges. As a result, admissions staff may preference some applicants for a standard offer or make a slightly lower offer. Please mention in the reference any circumstances that might have affected achievement.

Foundation courses
Foundation year courses provide an alternative entry pathway for students from widening participation backgrounds to medicine, veterinary medicine, and courses in arts and humanities.

UK students without the normal subject entry requirements are potentially eligible for foundation programmes leading to courses in engineering and physical sciences; and in sciences.

Alternative qualifications
We welcome mature applicants and many of our courses accept Access and vocational qualifications.

Advancing Access
We are a member of Advancing Access, which provides a variety of CPD resources and online events for teachers and careers advisers.
Widening participation
UCAS references

The UCAS reference is designed to provide universities with an informed assessment of an applicant’s suitability for further study.

It is a core part of all applications, but is particularly important in borderline cases and can make the difference in helping a student obtain an interview or offer.

Each reference needs to be personalised to the applicant, so make sure you know about the intended career path, chosen course(s) and any additional information such as extenuating circumstances that a university should be aware of.

What we look for:

- the student’s post-16 academic performance and an assessment of academic potential to succeed on the chosen course.
- why they are suited to their chosen subject and career path in terms of their attitude, motivation and commitment.
- other evidence of suitability, drawing on achievements, work experience, extracurricular activities and responsibilities.
- a summary of any school, home or personal circumstances that might have affected an individual student’s achievement.
- a note of the school context and any restrictions the school places on numbers of subjects studied or choice of subjects.

If applicants are on an Access course or another one-year course, you might not have known them long. Please note this and indicate whether you would be prepared to provide further information at a later date, if requested by the University.
Personal statements

The personal statement is an important part of the UCAS form. It gives students an opportunity to promote themselves and their skills and experience to admissions tutors.

What are we looking for?
We are looking for students who show understanding and enthusiasm for the subject area applied for, who are motivated by their current and future studies, who are going to benefit from university-level study and contribute something to the University community.

What students should include:
- an explanation of why they are applying for their chosen degree course or subject area
- an understanding of, and an interest in, the subject within and outside of the curriculum
- relevant skills and insights gained from work experience, voluntary work and extra-curricular responsibilities; this should include what they have learnt from any leadership opportunities
- skills gained from relevant hobbies and interests
- career aspirations or future ambitions

The majority of the personal statement should provide evidence that the student has the motivation, skills and knowledge required for the course. If students are applying for a joint honours course, they should mention equally their interest in both subjects and any benefits they can see of studying the two subjects alongside each other.

For courses linked to specific professions
We want to see that students have an understanding of the profession and the skills and attributes required. They should also show how they demonstrate them. Students should include details of the skills and knowledge gained from work experience.

It is also important to show that they understand both the positive and negative sides of the profession.

For medicine and veterinary medicine applications, where students may be applying for two different courses, they should tailor their UCAS personal statement to their preferred course. Where there is additional relevant information to mention for their secondary course, they are advised to send a supplementary personal statement to the admissions team for consideration.

More details on writing personal statements for specific subjects are included in the individual school and department brochures. These are available to download at:

nottingham.ac.uk/go/schoolbrochures
Personal statements
Events and activities for schools and colleges

Open days
Visiting us is the best way to get a feel for student life at our University. Attending an open day gives visitors the opportunity to speak to staff and current students, find out course information and explore our accommodation, sport, study spaces and other facilities.

For individual bookings, or to make a group booking for your students, visit nottingham.ac.uk/opendays

We also run mini open days in the Autumn term for visitors unable to attend our main open days.

nottingham.ac.uk/visitingus

Open day teachers’ lunch
If you are accompanying a group of students to our June open day, you are invited to our teachers’ lunch. This lunch will provide you with the perfect opportunity to speak to admissions tutors and schools and colleges liaison staff, while also networking with colleagues at other schools and colleges.

Taster days and summer schools
We run a series of taster days and summer schools designed to provide your students with an insight into life at our University. These events are held throughout the year in a range of subject areas.

Careers Advisers and Teachers’ Conference
This conference is designed to enhance your understanding of changes in higher education and to provide you with up to date knowledge about admissions, university courses and careers. The conference is held in several locations across the UK.

nottingham.ac.uk/schoolsliaison

If you would like to join our mailing list, please contact:

 schoolsliaison@nottingham.ac.uk
 @UoNOutreach
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Services for schools and colleges

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Talks for your students

We offer a range of talks and workshops for your students, to provide them with an overview of the application process and what to expect from life at university.

We can also provide support or training for your staff in developing their understanding of the UCAS application process.

nottingham.ac.uk/schoolsliaison

Join our mailing list

to receive updates about events and activities organised for you and your students, please contact:


Services for schools and colleges
### Key dates

Deadlines are in place throughout the UCAS cycle to ensure the fair and effective processing of applications. Here are some of the key dates for the 2018 application cycle.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15 Oct 2017</td>
<td>UCAS deadline for Medicine, Veterinary Medicine, Dentistry and Oxbridge</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>15 Jan 2018</strong></td>
<td>UCAS deadline for most undergraduate courses, all applications received by this date will receive equal consideration</td>
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<tr>
<td>25 Feb 2018</td>
<td>Start of UCAS Extra</td>
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<tr>
<td>29 and 30 June 2018</td>
<td>University-wide open days</td>
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<td>5 July 2018</td>
<td>Clearing opens</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid-July 2018</td>
<td>BTEC and International Baccalaureate results begin to be sent to institutions</td>
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<tr>
<td>24 Sep 2018</td>
<td>University of Nottingham Autumn term begins</td>
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<tr>
<td>14-15 Sep 2018</td>
<td>University of Nottingham open days</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 Aug 2018</td>
<td>Scottish Advanced Highers results published</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 Aug 2018</td>
<td>A level results published. Clearing and Adjustment hotline opens</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>3 May 2018</strong></td>
<td>Students who submitted their application by 15 January will have heard back from universities by this date</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>From 2 May 2018</strong></td>
<td>Deadline for responding to offers if all decisions are received by 31 March</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 Jan 2018</td>
<td>UCAS deadline for most undergraduate courses, all applications received by this date will receive equal consideration</td>
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* These dates were correct at the time of printing – it is important that you check [ucas.com](http://ucas.com) for the most up to date information.

** This will differ depending on the date the last decision was received. UCAS will advise students on the date by which they need to respond to their offers.
Key dates