Flexible Admissions Policy for 2019 Entry
Information for Applicants

We recognise that some educational and personal circumstances affect achievement. These can include:

- Being from a less advantaged area or family environment in terms of income, education and experience
- Being from a school or college where high academic achievement is not the norm
- Having day-to-day family or work responsibilities
- Being a care leaver, refugee or from a travelling community.

As a first step in assessing your application, our admissions staff check whether you live in a less advantaged area. Admissions staff may then consider whether your school or college is performing below the national average, and any other circumstances that are mentioned in your personal statement or reference. We treat everyone on an individual basis.

If we judge that you have experienced circumstances that have adversely affected your achievement, then we will consider them when assessing your academic potential. What this means for your application depends on which course you have applied for – this is because different courses have different requirements.

If your predicted grades meet or exceed our standard offer, or are one grade below it, then the University’s admissions staff have three options.

1. We will make you a standard offer;

2. We will make you an offer that is one grade less than the standard offer;

---

1 We use a postcode tool to assess whether you live in a less advantaged area. We refer to information about schools in Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales, as well as in England. Each country has its own average and the way that these averages are calculated varies slightly, but the results are comparable.
3. We will recognise your personal and/or educational circumstances as a positive factor when assessing your overall potential. Whether or not we make you an offer depends on our overall assessment.

The fact file for each course in our online prospectus confirms whether that course varies the offer.

Other points to note

- Making a lower offer means, for example, that if the course normally requires AAB, we would make an offer of ABB. We apply the same principle to other equivalently graded qualifications. If you have an ungraded or a differently graded equivalent qualification, we will assess you on your individual merit. Please note that the minimum offer made by the University for any applicant for any course is BBC.

- If our standard offer for a course includes a particular grade in a specified subject, we will not normally reduce that part of the offer.

- If your predicted grades are more than one grade below our standard offer, we will not normally make you an offer.

- When a course is oversubscribed with suitably qualified applicants, admissions staff may use additional selection criteria to differentiate between applicants. Some courses have additional entry requirements such as tests or interviews. When admissions staff use additional selection criteria, tests and interviews, they are aware that applicants have access to different opportunities and support.

Please see our web pages on admissions procedures for more information. If you want to include any information about your personal or educational circumstances in your application, ask your tutor or teacher to confirm your statements in the reference. We treat the information you provide as confidential.