



TEACHERS' NEWSLETTER

We hope you've had a good start to the new year. As you'll know, the deadline for applying to Oxford and Cambridge is fast approaching on the **15 October**. In this newsletter we've put together some advice about this year's admissions cycle, particularly on preparing and running our admissions tests.

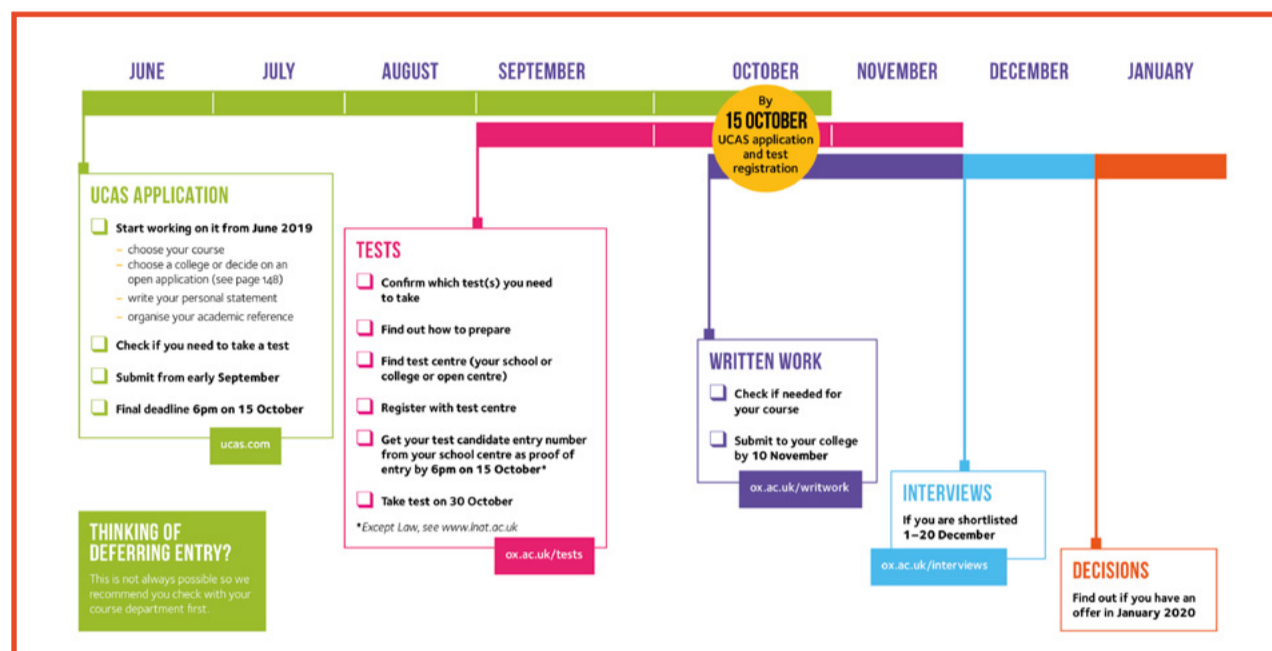
OPEN DAYS



If any of your students are still making up their minds about where they should apply, there's still time to find out more about Oxford. Our next Open Day will take place on **Friday 20 September**, so why not encourage your students to attend? They will have the chance to meet current students, our tutors and admissions staff, and find out what it's like to study with us.

- [Have a look at the full timetable of events](#)
- [Sign up for our Open Day newsletter](#)
- [Read about our travel bursary schemes](#)
- [Find out more about staying overnight](#)

APPLYING TO OXFORD



You can download a printable copy of our admissions timeline [here](#).

At this time of year, many of your students will be working on their **UCAS** applications and writing their **personal statements**.

If they want to apply to Oxford, then please remind them that our UCAS deadline is much earlier than other universities. We cannot accept late applications and everything, including the reference and predicted grades, needs to be completed and submitted by the deadline of 15 October.

You can find comprehensive advice on submitting **predicted grades**, what we look for in the teacher's **reference** and how to let us know about **extenuating circumstances** on our website.

If any of your applicants have any recognised disabilities or specific learning difficulties such as dyslexia, dyspraxia or ADHD, it's really helpful if they declare these on their UCAS form. We recognise that some students are anxious about doing this, so please reassure them that our admissions decisions are made on academic grounds alone and encourage them to **read this advice**. We currently have over 4,000 students registered with our disability service, and are committed to making sure that all our students can benefit from the great opportunities at Oxford. Importantly, telling us early will mean that we can provide appropriate arrangements during the admissions process, including for any **admissions test** (see below) or at **interview**.

ADMISSIONS TESTS

Many of our courses require applicants to sit a test as part of the admissions process. We've listed all the subjects that require one on our **tests page**. Candidates cannot register themselves, but must do so through their school, or independent test centre.

If your school intends to administer the tests this year, we have included a step-by-step guide on how to prepare below. You can also find a copy of the **2019 test timetable here**.



REGISTER AS A TEST CENTRE

Deadline: 27 September

If you aren't already, your school may be intending to register as a test centre to enable students to sit their admissions test with you. Although **registering is simple**, it can take a while, so it's best to start the process as soon as you can.



ARRANGE SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Deadline: 27 September

Access arrangements are available to candidates who have a disability or special requirement, and are entitled to support for other examinations. **CAAT** can also provide schools with modified papers from braille to large print.



REGISTER CANDIDATES

Deadline: 15 October

You can register your students via CAAT's online portal **Entries Extranet**. This will generate a candidate number for each student and test. Candidates who are required to sit more than one test (ie the HAT and MLAT for History and Modern Languages) must be registered for each test separately and have two candidate numbers.



PREPARE CANDIDATES

Deadline: 30 October

Encourage your students to have a go at some **past or sample papers**, ideally under **timed conditions**. This will help them to plan their time appropriately, and boost their confidence by giving them a clearer idea of what to expect. We also have a **recorded webinar** containing further helpful tips and guidance.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

- **Test date:** Most of our tests take place on **30 October** this year, which may fall in half-term for some schools. Please contact **Cambridge Assessment Admissions Testing** who administer the tests on our behalf for advice on how to manage this.
- **LNAT: The National Law Admissions Test** is administered separately, has different deadlines and is not usually organised by schools. Some candidates can apply for a bursary to cover the cost of the LNAT – [find out more here](#).
- **BMAT:** All applicants for our 6-year Medicine course should be registered for the **October BMAT**.

WRITTEN WORK

Some of our courses require applicants to send in a sample of their written work by **10 November 2019** as part of the application process. Your students can find out [here](#) whether they are required to send some.

Written work is usually marked school work and requires a **cover sheet** signed by a teacher. The college considering the student's application will get in touch after they have submitted their UCAS application to let them know how they would like to receive it, whether in the post or by email.

OUTREACH CALENDAR



Looking for a taster day or outreach event for your students? Have a look at our new **Increasing Access** pages to find out more information on upcoming events in Oxford and near you.

