



**QUEEN'S
UNIVERSITY
BELFAST**



CAREERS TEACHERS BRIEFING

Thursday 26 November 2020



**QUEEN'S
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BELFAST**



CAREERS TEACHERS BRIEFING

**Professor David Jones,
Pro Vice-Chancellor for Education and Students**

2020 TIMELINE OF EVENTS

MARCH - MAY

UK Lockdown
Schools closed
Exams cancelled
QUB Offer Holder events moved to virtual platform
UCAS and HE events cancelled

JUNE

Changes to UCAS undergraduate reply deadlines to 18 June

JULY

QUB confirmed offers for 70% of NI places

AUGUST

13 August: A Levels (CAGs) Results day
QUB Clearing open to NI students for a selection of courses
17 August: Revised CAGs A level and GCSE results issued
Schools reopen for new academic year

SEPTEMBER

Student recruitment continue virtual events
Virtual Open Days launched

INCREASED INTAKE

- **Increase in NI and EU applicants admitted:**
 - NI & EU (MaSN) of **3919** against a target of **3276** (+20%)
- **MaSN intake increased significantly:**
 - By 643 against target (intake data was 3194 in 2018 and 3346 in 2019)

- **Additional Places Secured:**
 - 30 additional students in September 2020 for Medicine
 - Up to 50 additional places for 2021 entry for Medicine to allow for deferrals
 - 3 additional places for 2020 in Social Work
 - 35 deferrals to 2021 entry for Nursing offset by additional commissioned places
- **Deferrals from 2020:**
 - 274 Deferrals for 2020/21 intake
- **For 2021 Widening Participation Continues to Grow:**
 - 460 applications received for the Pathway Programme 2021 intake this year compared to 376 last year from a broader range of NI schools



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CAREERS TEACHERS BRIEFING

**Ms Jenny Kendall,
Head of Domestic Recruitment and Events (Acting)**

AGENDA

- Supporting NI Students
- Careers, Employability & Skills
- Pathways Programme
- Admissions Update
- Q & A Session





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MEET THE TEAM

**SHAPING A
BETTER
WORLD
SINCE 1845**

MEET THE TEAM



Jenny Kendall
Head of Domestic
Recruitment and Events
(Acting)



Louise Carey
Domestic Recruitment
Manager



Ashleigh McCann
Events Officer



Donna Busby
Events Officer



Zoe Rainey
Clerical Officer/
Recruitment Support
Officer



Pierce Ewing
Clerical Officer

MEET THE TEAM

RECRUITMENT OFFICERS



Melissa Grant
NI/EU Undergraduate
Recruitment Officer
(Maternity Leave)



Raymond Miller
NI/EU Undergraduate
Recruitment Officer



Radhika Longbottom
GB Undergraduate
Recruitment Officer



Matthew Wetherill
GB Undergraduate
Recruitment Officer



Orla Tumelty
Postgraduate Recruitment
Officer



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HOW WE PLAN TO SUPPORT YOU



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VIRTUAL OPEN DAYS

10 – 12 SEPTEMBER 2020

- [Website available on demand](#)
- Watch subject talks
- Discovery sessions
- Take a virtual tour and explore the campus
- Hear from our students



UNDERGRADUATE VIRTUAL EVENTS

Virtual Event	Date
Mental Health and Wellbeing: Enjoying the Journey	1 December 2020
Applying Through UCAS: Top Tips on how to find the right University for you	3 December 2020
Exam and Study Tips	8 December 2020
Where a Degree from Queen's can take you	10 December 2020
Why Choose Queen's University?	12 January 2021 & 2 February 2021

- For more information and to register visit go.qub.ac.uk/ugevents
- Spring/Summer 2021 series will be launched early 2021

CAREERS TEACHERS NEWSLETTER

- Keeping you up to date
- Upcoming events
- Key announcements
- Useful resources and links
- Faculty information
- Course spotlight



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OCTOBER
EDITION

CAREERS TEACHERS NEWSLETTER KEEPING YOU UP TO DATE



Dear Colleague,

Welcome to the first edition of our new Careers Teachers Newsletter which will keep you up to date on all forthcoming undergraduate events, useful links and resources at Queen's University Belfast.

Please share the appropriate information with your students, parents and guardians.

Upcoming Events

Undergraduate Virtual Events: Discover a World of Opportunities

October 2020 - February 2021

Our series of live virtual events aim to provide students with the knowledge, confidence and skills to make informed choices about their future learning and career. By joining us they can gain an insight into life at Queen's, along with useful information and advice which will guide them through their journey to University.

HOW WE PLAN TO SUPPORT YOU

- Bespoke Careers Guidance Talks
- Virtual/Physical Fairs and Exhibitions
- Northern Ireland UCAS Exhibition (Date TBC)
- Regional 'Experience Queen's' Events



HOW WE PLAN TO SUPPORT YOU

- Alumni Talks
- Student Panel Talks
- Teachers and Careers Advisers Website
- Live Chat (9am – 5pm daily)
- Virtual/Physical Campus Tours





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FACULTY SUPPORT

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ARTS, HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Event	Date
Years 10, 11, 12 Parents Evening	18 th February 2021
History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics Offer Holder Day	March 2021 (Date TBC)
Arts, English and Languages Offer Holder Day	March 2021 (Date TBC)
Law Offer Holder Day	March 2021 (Date TBC)
SSESW Offer Holder Day	March 2021 (Date TBC)
Queen's Management School Offer Holder Day	March 2021 (Date TBC)
Social Work Offer Holder Day	April 2021 (Date TBC)

For further information please contact Emma O'Hara

emma.ohara@qub.ac.uk

ENGINEERING AND PHYSICAL SCIENCES

Event	Date
Computing Parents Evening	3 rd December 2020
EPS Applicant Day	6 th February 2021
Science at Queen's (in conjunction with MHLS)	4 th March 2021

For further information please contact Clare Coyle
clare.coyle@qub.ac.uk



COMPUTING PARENTS' EVENING



**QUEEN'S
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SCHOOL OF
ELECTRONICS,
ELECTRICAL
ENGINEERING AND
COMPUTER SCIENCE

THURSDAY 3 DECEMBER 2020

7.00pm – 9.00pm

Venue: Online

**For Years 11, 12 and 13 students and their
parents/guardians who have an interest in:**

Computer Science

Software Engineering

Computing and Information Technology

Business Information Technology

Meet staff, students and employers.

Find out more and register:

<http://go.qub.ac.uk/computing>

MEDICINE, HEALTH AND LIFE SCIENCES

Event	Date
Multiple Mini Interviews (MMI's) (Online Format)	First Batch: 15 – 18 December 2020 (Not all students will have received their letter yet) Second Batch: January 2021
Medicine at Queen's	Jan/Feb 2021 (Date TBC)
Science at Queen's (in conjunction with EPS)	4 th March 2021
MHLS Offer Holder Day (Pharmacy, Biomedical Science & School of Biological Sciences)	13 th March 2021

For further information please contact Patricia Minnis

p.minnis@qub.ac.uk



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**WE WANT TO HEAR
FROM YOU**



**SHAPING A
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WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

Jenny Kendall

j.kendall@qub.ac.uk

Louise Carey

louise.carey@qub.ac.uk

Domestic Recruitment and Events

studentrecruitment@qub.ac.uk

Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

askahss@qub.ac.uk

Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences

askeps@qub.ac.uk

Faculty of Medicine, Health and Life Sciences

askmhls@qub.ac.uk





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CAREERS TEACHERS BRIEFING

**Trevor Johnston,
Head of Careers, Employability & Skills**

PREPARING STUDENTS FOR A CHANGING WORLD OF WORK

- Extending work related learning opportunities
- Strengthening Employer partnerships
- Offering an online Careers Service
- Taking a data driven approach
- Embedding careers and employability in the curriculum
- 84.7% Graduate Prospects (Sunday Times Good University Guide 2021)

LABOUR MARKET REQUIREMENTS 2020 - 2030

- Skills Barometer - net requirement of 26,000 people
- Higher qualifications = better jobs
- Qualifications significantly enhance employment prospects.
- Economic impact of Covid-19
- Pre Covid economy was 2.4% unemployed

INVESTING IN TECHNOLOGY

- MyFuture Careers Management System mock interviews;
- VMOCK AI for CV checks
- Career Registration
- CANVAS – VLE

OFFERING A VIRTUAL CAREERS SERVICE

- Online guidance appointments
- Careers Fairs delivered online with increased engagement
- Employer panels on Webinarjam
- Gradfest2020
- www.qub.ac.uk/careers

FUTURE READY GRADUATES

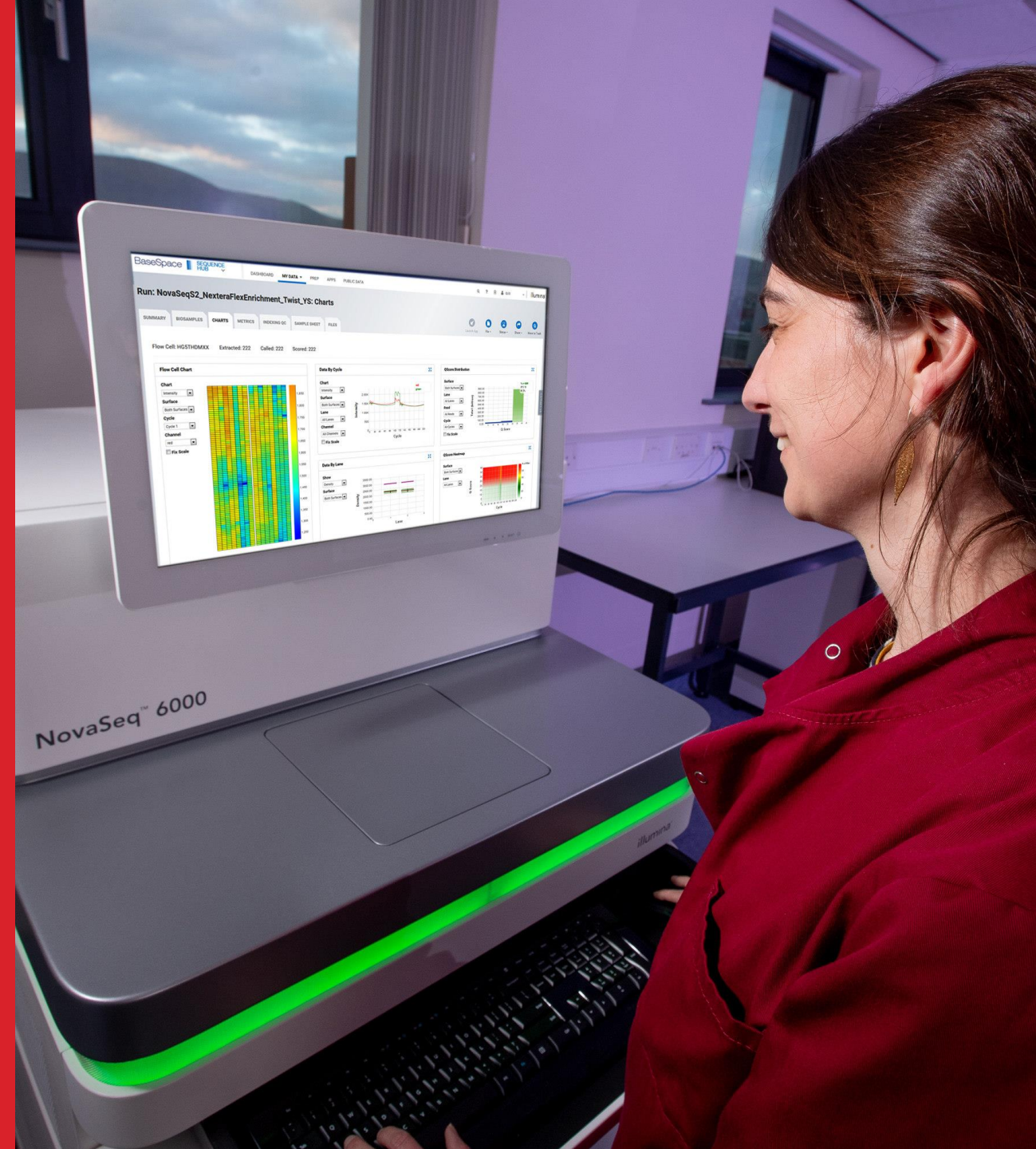
- A student experience that incorporates inter disciplinary learning, tackling real life issues, global challenges and work experience
- A skill set that combines degree specific or technical skills, soft skills and leaderships skills
- Strong digital literacy skills
- Develop students academically, attitudinally and socially to be active and engaged citizens
- A world class bespoke educational experience

PROFESSIONAL SKILLS PROGRAMME

- An Institutional approach developed in partnership with employers, academics and students.
- One embedded model with flexible elements and content to provide all students with options and a tailored / flexible approach.
- Certificate in Professional Skills on graduation
- Students developing the skills that will ensure their future success in graduate employment or further study
- Self directed and primarily delivered through Canvas VLE with minimum assessment.

OVERALL AIM

To support students to embrace a growth mindset and develop personal and professional skills that will support them both at University and beyond, with a strong focus on initiative, innovation and creativity.



SKILLS CLUSTERS

- Effective Learning
- Digital Literacy
- Social and Cultural Awareness
- Initiative, innovation and creativity
- Interpersonal Skills, communication, collaboration and leadership
- Business and Commercial awareness
- Career Management Skills



PROFESSIONAL SKILLS PROGRAMME – WHATS INVOLVED

- Introductory module – explains the programme
- Professional Skills self assessment – students assess their level of confidence and competence against bench mark statements
- Professional Skills modules selected and completed – Level 1 at least 2 skills; progress through Level 2 and Level 3
- Retake Self assessment exercise for that skill and write reflective piece in e-portfolio / journal



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**Ted Jenson, Outreach Officer,
Widening Participation Unit**

PATHWAY OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMME

250 STUDENTS IN 2021



PATHWAY OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMME

- Supporting Year 13 students from Widening Participation backgrounds
- Experience university life
- Breakdown the barriers about going to university
- Receive a guaranteed conditional offer / guaranteed interview
- Receive up to a 2 grade reduction in their Offer
- Receive £1000 bursary and ongoing support

WIDENING PARTICIPATION AND THE PATHWAY PROGRAMME

- Low Income – FSM and/or EMA
- Disadvantaged Neighbourhood
- Young Carer
- Care Experienced
- Asylum Seeker
- Refugee
- Newcomer

PATHWAY STUDENTS STUDY IN A SUBJECT SPECIFIC PATHWAY

AHSS Pathway

BioSci Pathway

Business Pathway

Computer Science Pathway

Engineering Pathway

Law Pathway

MDBS Pathway

NBE Pathway

Pharmacy Pathway

Psychology Pathway

ELEMENTS OF THE PATHWAY OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMME

- 5 One-day Activities (starting in January 2021)
- 2 Sessions of self paced on-line study (February and April)
- 5 Day Summer School in June or July
- On-Campus or Online

SECTION A ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS (MUST MEET ALL FOUR)

- NI Resident at NI school/college
- Year 1 of 2 year Level 3 programme
- Parents have not attended University
- GCSE or Equivalent Qualifications
 - 7 GCSE or equivalent at A*-C
 - Including English Language
 - 5 of which at grade B or above

SECTION B ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS (MUST MEET ONE)

- FSM/EMA
- Disadvantaged neighbourhood – by Postcode
- Young Carer
- Care Experienced
- Asylum Seeker
- Refugee
- Newcomer

CONTINUED GROWTH OF THE PROGRAMME

- 2017 – 60 students
- 2018 – 112 students
- 2019 – 187 students
- 2020 – 245 students
- 2021 – 250 students
- 2022 – Target 300 students



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**Roisin McEvoy, Liam Barton & Sandra Bloomer,
Admissions & Access Service**

2020 INTAKE

- A very different year to any admissions cycle we can remember!
- NI & EU (MaSN) of 3919 against a target of 3276 (+20%)
- MaSN intake increased significantly by 643 against target (intake data was 3194 in 2018 and 3346 in 2019)
- Total intake to undergraduate degrees – over 5,000 including Nursing & Midwifery, GB and International for 2020/21 intake
- Offers were confirmed early to a wide range of CF holders to reduce anxiety and guarantee places in the context of prevailing uncertainty around awarded grades in lieu of examinations
- A-level results day followed by revised CAGs resulted in a net increase in intake
- All unconditional offers were honoured by the university



2021/22 ENTRY – UCAS APPLICATIONS TO 15th OCTOBER DEADLINE FOR MEDICINE AND DENTISTRY PROGRAMMES

Application Data	2020/21 entry
Total NI applications received by 15 th Oct.	1,530
Medicine and Dentistry applications	40% of total received
Percentage change on 15 th Oct 2019 applications	+11.6%
Number of NI applicants (to all UCAS providers)	1,100



SECURING AN OFFER FOR QUEEN'S

GCSE/AS-level threshold for offers (some examples)

	2019	2020
Medicine	32 points	30 points
Dentistry	32 points	32 points
Actuarial	30 points	30 points
Accounting	Average 6B (1A in profile) at GCSE or average BBB at AS-level	Average 6B (1A in profile) at GCSE or average BBB at AS-level
Law	Average 6B (1A in profile) at GCSE or average BBB at AS-level	Average 6B (1A in profile) at GCSE or average BBB at AS-level
PPE	1A + 6B at GCSE or BBB at AS-level	1A + 6B at GCSE or BBB at AS-level
MEng	GCSE - 6B	GCSE - 6B
Midwifery	GCSE - 5B including Maths and Science	GCSE - 5B including Maths and Science
Social Work	GCSE - 5B	GCSE - 5B

Notes

- Points for Medicine and Dentistry include UCAT score
- Points for Dentistry and Actuarial count nine best GCSEs (A*=4 points, A=3 points)
- Points for Medicine count nine best GCSEs (A*=4 points, A=3 points, B=2 points, C=1 point)

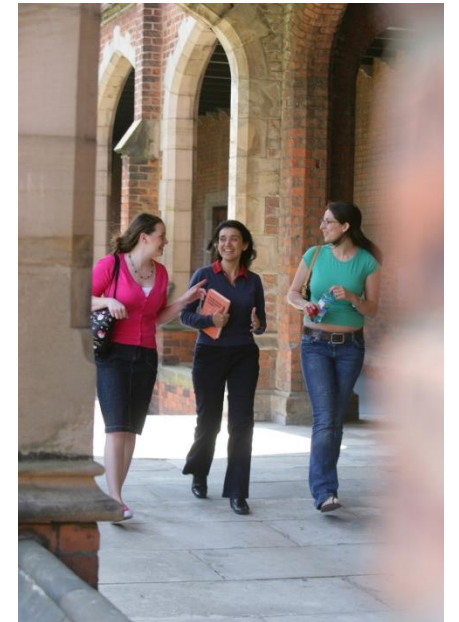
MEDICINE & DENTISTRY – NI, EU & GB APPLICANTS

Dentistry

- 150 interviewed (153 in 2019) – 59.3% of applicants
- 85 made offers (90 in 2019) – 56.7% of those interviewed

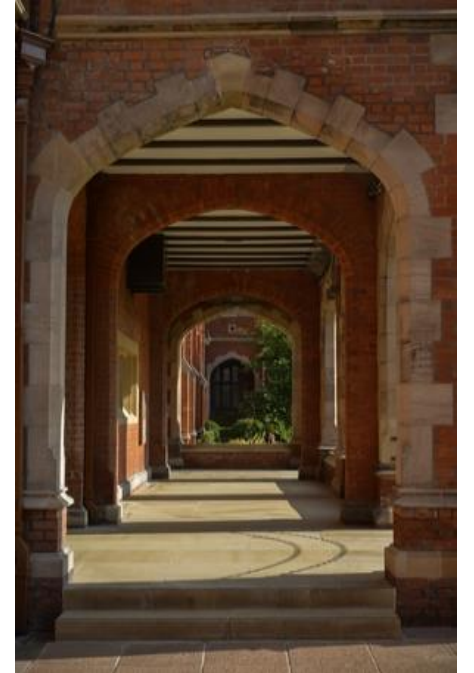
Medicine

- 792 interviewed (774 in 2019) – 80.7% of applicants
- 435 made offers (480 in 2019) – 54.9% of those interviewed
- NI – 47.7% of applicants and 63.9% of offers
- Increase in offers to NI Year 14 applicants from 197 to 227
- Timing of interviews and offers



NURSING & MIDWIFERY - 2020-2021 ENTRY

- 4263 applications from 2316 applicants (average 1.8 choices)
- 2050 applicants for Nursing (all fields) – down by 8.4%
- 535 applicants for Midwifery – down by 7.3%
- 1692 invited to interview – up by 4%
- 908 applicants made offers (for one or more fields of Nursing/Midwifery) for a total of 633 places (Adult +55, Mental Health +20 and Midwifery +25)
- Interview ranking of final applicant made offer varied from 502 for Children's to 1350 for Learning Disability



ACCEPTABLE QUALIFICATION COMBINATIONS

A-level 1

A-level 2

A-level 3

A-level 1

A-level 2

BTEC/OCR
equivalent to
one
A-level (L3)

A-level 1

BTEC/OCR equivalent to two
A-levels (L3)

ACCEPTABLE QUALIFICATION COMBINATIONS

**BTEC/OCR
equivalent to
one
A-level (L3)**

**BTEC/OCR equivalent to two
A-levels (L3)**

**BTEC/OCR equivalent to
three A-levels (L3)**

- BTEC/OCR qualifications are acceptable for entry to all courses except Medicine, Dentistry and Pharmacy.
- Applicants must satisfy normal GCSE and/or A-level subject requirement(s). BTEC/OCR may be acceptable in satisfying subject requirement(s) for some courses. Contact Admissions and Access Service for guidance.
- AQA Level 3 Extended Certificate in Applied Business treated as equivalent to BTEC/OCR.
- Offers currently expressed in terms of performance in individual units/guided learning hours.

2021 ENTRY

CHANGES TO ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS/SELECTION

BSc Honours Psychology (UCAS Course Code - C800)

ABB at A-level to include one from: Psychology, Biology / Human Biology, Chemistry, Computing Science, Economics, Environmental Science, Geography, Geology, Life and Health Science, Mathematics, Physics, Statistics + GCSE Mathematics grade C/4

OR

AAB at A-level + GCSE Mathematics grade C/4

Bachelor of Social Work (UCAS Course Codes – L500/L501)

Additional 600 word Personal Statement withdrawn as part of the selection process

Nursing and Midwifery

Personal statements will not be used as the basis to invite applicants to interview

The interview process will be conducted using a digital platform

2021 Dates and deadlines

Activity	2021 entry cycle (what was happening)	What happened in 2020 cycle?	2021 entry cycle
Equal consideration date	15 January 2021	15 January 2021	15 January 2021
Extra Opens	25 February 2021	As planned	11 February 2021
Providers should aim to have sent all decisions on applications received at UCAS by 15 January 2021.	31 March 2021	As planned	
DBD for all last decision received by 31 March 2021	5 May 2021	Rolled into later June DBD (18 th last year)	
RBD for all applied by 15 January 2021	6 May 2021	Moved to 20 May (back by 2 weeks)	20 May 2021
DBD for all last decision received by 6 May 2021	3 June 2021	Rolled into later June DBD (18 th last year)	
DBD for all last decision received by 3 June 2021	17 June 2021	Went ahead as planned (18 th last year)	10 June 2021, for all last decisions received by 20 May 2021
Main scheme close	30 June 2021 at 1800	As planned	As proposed
Last day to add extra choice	4 July 2021	As planned	As proposed
Clearing Opens	5 July 2021	As planned	As proposed
RBD all* applied by 30 June 2021	13 July 2021	As planned	As proposed
DBD all* Last decision received by 13 July 2021	14 July 2021	As planned	As proposed

Summer 2021

- Confirmed results days
 - SQA Results Day: Tuesday 10 August 2021
 - JCQ Results Day: Tuesday 24 August 2021
 - GCSE Results Day: Friday 27 August 2021
- UCAS is planning to put appropriate resource in place to support our customers on the weekends of 7/8 August, 21/22 August, and 28/29/30 August 2021
- UCAS is focusing on flexibility and working with our stakeholders to support all our customers

FURTHER INFORMATION

Undergraduate Admissions Policy

The policy is available at:

<http://www.qub.ac.uk/directorates/MRCI/admissions/UndergraduateAdmissions/UndergraduateAdmissionsPolicy/>

How we choose our students

These are available under the Entry Requirements section in the Course Finder:

<https://www.qub.ac.uk/Study/Undergraduate/>



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ANY QUESTIONS?

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