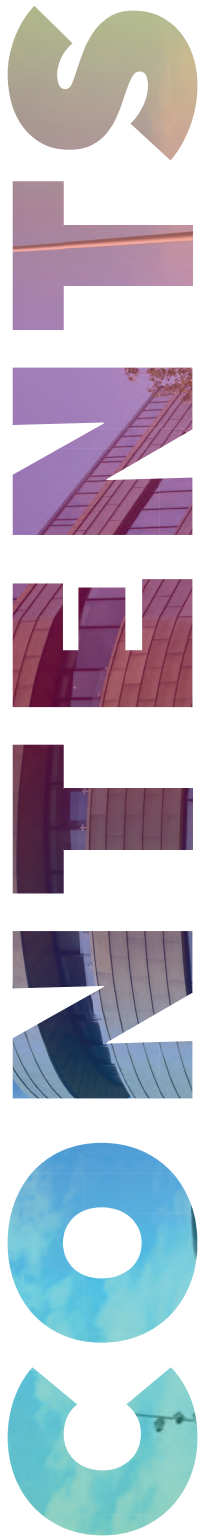


PARENTS' PLACE

A guide to higher education for parents and carers





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Find out more

WELCOME

We hope you and your loved ones are well. It continues to be a very challenging time for all of us but we want to reassure you that we're here to support you – now and in the coming months. The University continues to consult with the government, and others working in higher education, to understand the needs of students, their families, and their schools and colleges. We can assure you that Teesside University is doing everything it can to support students seeking information about higher education.

As a parent or carer, you play a very important role in helping your child in their journey to university - in the current situation and always. This guide gives you the information you need to help your child make the best decisions for them. Please note that the information listed is, of course, subject to external changes.

Starting to think about applying to study at university can be an exciting but anxious time for your child, and for you. We hope to give you the information you need to help your child make an informed choice about whether university is the best option for them.

For all of the latest information on the current situation, please see our dedicated webpage at tees.ac.uk/coronavirus.

If you'd like to talk to us, please get in touch during office hours and we'll do our best to help.

CHAT LIVE AT

↳ tees.ac.uk

VISIT

↳ tees.ac.uk/parents

EMAIL

↳ enquiries@tees.ac.uk



WHY UNIVERSITY?

Going to university gives students the opportunity to expand their knowledge, study a subject they're interested in, and learn from experts in their field.

University can offer your child the chance to continue their education, studying a subject they already enjoy, or choosing something new as a route into a fulfilling career. At Teesside University all of our courses are informed by the demands of industry and tailored to ensure that students develop industry-related skills using industry-standard facilities so that they are ready for work when they graduate.

As well as giving them the opportunity to gain a formal qualification, university can provide your child with many opportunities for personal and professional development.



UNIVERSITY ALLOWS YOUR CHILD TO:

gain the essential qualifications needed for certain careers - your child needs a degree if they want to become a midwife or an engineer for example

increase their knowledge, focusing their learning on an area they are passionate about

boost their earning potential - the average salary for graduates is 30% higher than for non-graduates aged 25-30*

make new friends, often for life - getting to know new people from different backgrounds and nationalities enriches the student experience

gain an internationally recognised qualification, respected by employers and academics across the world

make great connections, with their peers, academics, businesses and employers

grow in confidence and independence - university is a wonderful environment for personal and professional self-development, increasing your child's social skills and employability.

WHY TEESSIDE?

Based on its facilities-rich campus in the heart of Middlesbrough in North East England, Teesside University is a friendly, modern university offering a broad portfolio of courses.

We've recently invested more than **£275m** in our friendly town centre campus to ensure our students have the best possible experience, with access to excellent facilities, inspiring study spaces, great support and a safe, secure learning environment.

Teesside University is a people place, providing a close-knit and supportive community for students to learn and develop.

HERE ARE SOME OF OUR HIGHLIGHTS...



STUDENT LIFE BUILDING

Set in the campus heart, the Student Life Building provides a central place for students to access all of the help and support they may need during their studies.

We've invested £13.2m in this building, ensuring it has the best technology and facilities to support and inspire our students. It's a super modern environment and offers an information zone, a brilliant café, a wellbeing area and lots of space for collaborative learning and relaxing.

LIBRARY

Open 24/7, the library is in the heart of campus and is a key part of the student experience.

Specialist library staff are on hand to help students with study, writing and research skills through one-to-one support and workshops.

Each floor is season-themed, offering modern, comfortable and inspiring learning spaces for group work, individual study and silent study. There's also a learning café serving hot drinks and food.

We've invested £7m in our library to ensure our students get the best out of their studies.



STUDENTS' UNION



Offering everything your child needs to help them throughout their student life – from advice, support, social spaces, a shop, places to eat and a jobs service. It's a great place to make friends with regular social activities including quizzes, live music and club nights.

The Students' Union is also the home of clubs and societies, available for all students to join to get involved with sports, hobbies and interests – it's a great way for your child to try new activities and meet new people.

GYM

A health and fitness centre in the centre of campus with cardiovascular, resistance fitness and free weights areas.

It also features a sprint track, all-weather pitch, climbing wall and exercise studios used for a range of classes such as Metafit, yoga, Pilates, group cycling and boot camp.

Membership is currently £8.60 a month which includes gym, classes, swimming and climbing wall access*. Open seven days a week.

***MEMBERSHIP FEES MAY CHANGE OVER TIME.
PLEASE CHECK THE UNIVERSITY'S WEBSITE FOR THE LATEST
INFORMATION**



TEESSIDE UNIVERSITY IN NUMBERS...



18,667
STUDENTS

316

UNDERGRADUATE COURSES



£131M+
INVESTED IN OUR
CAMPUSES IN THE
LAST FIVE YEARS

545+
new businesses
launched by our
graduates, creating
more than
840 JOBS

£4.2M
given to our
students in
scholarships
and bursaries

Over
2,000
STUDENTS
involved in
clubs and
societies



Access to over
700,000
books through the library

Over
5,000

Computers
on
CAMPUS



Over **80** clubs
and societies

Dedicated
support

counselling and mental
health support



Over
500
student reps



Professionally
recognised and
accredited
programmes



CHOOSING THE RIGHT COURSE

AT THE RIGHT UNIVERSITY

There are lots of subjects to choose from at university, and your child may want to study something new to them. UCAS offer some really useful subject guides, outlining courses available, related careers, entry requirements and further sources of information.

It's important that your child chooses a course they will enjoy. You may want to help them talk through their decisions by asking some of these questions:

- Do you have a specific career in mind, or do you want to keep your options open?
- If you have a specific career goal, what is needed to get there?
- Which study option will give you the skills, accreditation and/or knowledge needed?
- If you don't have a specific career aim, or are considering a few options, which degree will give you the versatility and transferable skills attractive to employers?



VISIT

ucas.com/explore



VISIT

prospects.ac.uk



VISIT

tees.ac.uk/undergraduate

STUDY FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME

**PARENTS'
PLACE**

An undergraduate degree is the next academic step up from A levels, BTECs and equivalent qualifications.



FOUNDATION YEAR

This is an additional year of study, providing the foundation or qualifying skills before a bachelor degree. It is generally for one year, sometimes known as Year 0.

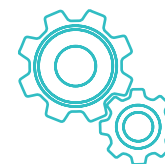
It's a good option if your child doesn't meet the entry requirements for their chosen degree course.



BACHELOR DEGREE

BA – bachelor of arts
BSc – bachelor of science
BEng – bachelor of engineering
LLB – bachelor of laws

(usually three or four years if studied full-time).



HIGHER AND DEGREE APPRENTICESHIPS

A combination of work and study, offering an alternative to a traditional university degree course. Even better, higher and degree apprenticeships are cost-free to the student with tuition fees paid by employers and the government.

Available to those in employment.

VISIT

tees.ac.uk/undergraduate

VISIT

tees.ac.uk/apprenticeships

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

All university courses have particular entry requirements – usually a mixture of qualifications, subjects and/or exam grades. Entry requirements are set by each university to ensure students have the right skills and knowledge to successfully complete their chosen course.

Teesside University considers all academic and vocational qualifications and usually makes conditional offers in UCAS tariff points. Some courses may require students to have studied particular subjects.

Each course listing on our websites gives details of the entry requirements.

If your child is interested in a course and does not have the entry requirements specified, please encourage them to talk to us so we can help them to find a route into their chosen course. Lots of degrees have an optional foundation year, often referred to as Year 0, which require fewer UCAS tariff points than entering the course at Year 1.

RESEARCH

Once your child has thought about what kind of subject and course type they are interested in there are lots of ways to find out more about universities and the subjects they offer. Some useful places to start:



UNIVERSITY
WEBSITES



UCAS



THE STUDENT
ROOM

TASTER DAYS AND ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES

Teesside University provides a range of activities throughout the year, delivered at our campus in Middlesbrough. Sessions include taster and discover days, often with campus and facilities tours and/or talks and workshops included.

During the current lockdown we are offering a range of virtual activities for students and their families, including virtual open days, live Instagram Q&A sessions, video resources and virtual tours. **Please visit our website to get involved.**

Our virtual and on-campus sessions allow students to learn about their university options, find out about our facilities, ask questions about subject(s) they're interested in and speak to our tutors and undergraduates.

OPEN DAYS

Visiting a university - either virtually or in person - is the best way to help your child decide whether it's the right university for them. All universities offer open days, as well as a range of other activities. **You're welcome to attend virtual and on-campus open days with your child.** It's a great way for you to find out what the universities your child is considering are like, and it's often a big help for them to have your support at these events. Feel free to ask your own questions.

VISIT US NEAR YOU

Teesside University's outreach team attends a range of events across the UK throughout the academic year. Travelling to events across the country allows us to meet students at a place and time convenient to them. As you'll be aware, all large events are cancelled in the current period of lockdown. Please visit university websites, as well as the UCAS website for alternative resources and information.

VISIT

tees.ac.uk/visitus > visit us near you

OPEN DAYS

Attending open days is really important – the experience allows your child to get a real sense of what it would be like to study at the universities they're considering. You are of course welcome to join them and take part in the open day – asking your own questions as well as being there to support your child.

If your family income is below a certain threshold we may be able to provide support to help you and your child fund transport to our open day.

At a Teesside University open day you can find out about our courses, chat to our tutors and students and attend subject-specific talks, as well as campus, accommodation and facility tours.

Student finance, the Students' Union, disability services and our admissions teams are always on hand at our open days to offer one-to-one advice and support.

WE ARE HERE

"The open day was excellent and has made me very excited for my studies at Teesside"

"It was a well organised day with lots of friendly faces happy to help. I found a lot of helpful information."

"We really enjoyed our day and were very impressed with the campus and facilities. Thoroughly enjoyed the facilities tour and our subject talk was very helpful."

BOOK A PLACE AT A
TEESSIDE UNIVERSITY
OPEN DAY

tees.ac.uk/opendays

HOW DOES IT ALL WORK?

From school or college to university – our step by step guide

By the time your child reaches Year 12 they are likely to be considering their next steps - one of their options is university. Your child's school or college will provide guidance but it's important that they do plenty of their own research too.

APPLY

Once your child has completed their research and narrowed down their university and course choices they will be in a great position to apply for university. All undergraduate university applications must be made through the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS). This is an independent body.

Applicants can choose up to five courses (at the same or different institutions). Applicants should check that they can meet the course and university entry requirements before applying.

UCAS charge an application fee of £25 to apply for multiple courses, or £20 to apply for one course.

THE UCAS APPLICATION FORM IS MADE UP OF SEVEN SECTIONS



..... **1. PERSONAL DETAILS**
name, address, date of birth

2. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
further personal details

.....



..... **3. STUDENT FINANCE**
UCAS share the information from this section with Student Finance England so that loan payments can be made to your son or daughter later

4. COURSE CHOICES
up to five options

.....



..... **5. EDUCATION**
qualifications from secondary school to the present, including those with pending results

6. EMPLOYMENT
a chance to share details of paid or voluntary work

.....



..... **7. PERSONAL STATEMENT**
this is your child's opportunity to explain why they want to study the subject they've chosen, and why they would be a great student. Schools, colleges, universities and UCAS provide lots of guidance on how to write a great personal statement.

THE MAIN CYCLE UCAS DEADLINE IS 15 JANUARY.

After your child has submitted their application the universities they've applied to will assess their ability to succeed on their chosen course(s). They may receive an acknowledgment from individual universities to confirm that their application has been received.

When a university has made a decision on an application an update will appear on UCAS Track. Your child can log in to this at any time.

- universities will either make your child an offer or reject their application
- offers can be **conditional** or **unconditional**
- a **conditional offer** means that the offer is subject to meeting particular conditions, such as achieving particular exam results, grades or UCAS points
- an **unconditional offer** means the place is theirs, although there may still be arrangements to be made with the university.



The wait for decisions from universities can be difficult, and each university will make decisions at different times meaning your child may hear back before their friends, or vice versa. Please don't worry if your child's peers receive decisions before them. Check ucas.com for the dates when universities must respond by. As a guide:

**IF YOUR
CHILD
APPLIES BY
15 JANUARY,
THEY'LL
HEAR BACK
BY MAY**

**IF YOUR
CHILD APPLIES
BY THE END OF
JUNE, THEY'LL
HEAR BACK
IN JULY**

Applications can still be sent after the 15 January deadline to most universities and these applications will be considered as 'late' by UCAS, but are still considered by universities until courses begin, or become full.

REPLY TO OFFERS

**PARENTS'
PLACE**

Once your child has heard back from all of their choices, they can reply to their offers. Applicants can accept a maximum of two choices - one firm and one insurance.

FIRM

..... This is their first choice.

INSURANCE

..... This is their back-up choice if they don't meet the conditions of their firm choice.

UCAS Extra is another chance for an applicant to gain a place at university if they use all five of their choices but do not receive an offer. UCAS Extra is open between 25 February and 4 July and gives applicants with no offers the chance to make an additional choice.

CONFIRMATION

After replying to their offers, applicants can check UCAS Track for confirmation of their place.

If they meet the conditions of their first choice they are given a place on this course.

If they **don't** meet the conditions of their first choice but meet the conditions of their insurance choice they will be given a place on this course.

If they don't get either of the above, don't panic. There are other options, including clearing.

CLEARING

Clearing is how universities fill remaining places towards the end of the recruitment period. Students can use clearing if they don't receive any offers (or none they want to accept). It's a great opportunity to get a university place.

If an applicant exceeds the conditions for their firm choice they may be eligible for **Adjustment**. This gives them chance to swap their firm choice for another course.

VISIT

tees.ac.uk/clearing

between July and September to see courses available at Teesside University through clearing



THE JOURNEY

It can be difficult to keep up with what's happening in the application cycle as there are a number of deadlines throughout the academic year. This guide should help you and your child keep on track.

YEAR 12 MARCH

UCAS higher education exhibitions begin around the UK. It's a great chance for your child to find out about a range of university options.

Your child should request prospectuses from university websites and attend university taster sessions. At Teesside University we offer taster activities for most subjects.

APRIL

Students should check if they need work experience to support their application(s) for their preferred course(s). It's a good time to contact local organisations offering volunteering opportunities.

Your child may want to start booking open day places at the universities they're interested in. You can attend open days with them.

MAY

Tees Valley UCAS higher education exhibition at Teesside University

A great chance for your child to meet university representatives from across the UK.

Book at
tees.ac.uk/visitus

JUNE

Teesside University open days

An opportunity for your child to join us on campus to explore our campus, courses, accommodation, facilities, scholarships and student support. It's a great time for them to find out what they need to know to select their firm and insurance university choices.

You're welcome to accompany your child and ask your own questions.

Book at
tees.ac.uk/visitus

YEAR 13 OCTOBER

Teesside University Year 12 residential summer school

A fantastic three-day residential in July for Year 12s considering Teesside University from outside of the Tees Valley. Students stay in University accommodation and attend academic sessions and social activities to get a sense of life as a student.

Book at
tees.ac.uk/summerschool

JULY- AUGUST

It's a great time for your child to start drafting their personal statement. Help out by directing them to the personal statement resources available at ucas.com

Teesside University open day

An opportunity for your child to join us on campus to explore our courses, accommodation, facilities, scholarships and student support.

You're welcome to accompany your child and ask your own questions.

Book at
tees.ac.uk/visitus

NOVEMBER

Teesside University open days

An opportunity for your child to join us on campus to explore our campus, courses, accommodation, facilities, scholarships and student support. It's a great time for them to find out what they need to know to select their firm and insurance university choices.

You're welcome to accompany your child and ask your own questions.

Book at
tees.ac.uk/visitus

Now is an ideal time for your child to submit their completed UCAS application to their school or college for them to add their reference.

Visit ucas.com for guidance on how to help your child make a great job of their application.

JANUARY

Deadline for UCAS applications

Your child should submit their UCAS application – they can make up to five course choices at the same or different universities.

It's a good time for you and your child to start looking at student finance and the financial support available to them from the universities they've applied to.

FEBRUARY- MARCH

Your child may start to receive offers from the universities they applied to. Any offer updates will appear on UCAS Track.

If your child receives an offer from Teesside University they may be invited to an applicant open day – it's a chance for you and your child to visit the University and ask any questions you may have.

Your child should have replied to all of their university offers now. They can do this through UCAS Track.

If your child has applied for university accommodation at Teesside University this is the time they'll hear back about where they will be staying.

JULY

Deadline for all university applications

This is the last chance your child has to apply for university through UCAS.

After this time your child must contact universities directly to enquire about course availability.

JUNE

Now is a good time for your child to apply for university accommodation if they haven't done so already.

For Teesside University's accommodation

Visit
tees.ac.uk/accommodation

APRIL

University open days at this time also offer you and your child the chance to find out anything you need to know before making a late application.

UCAS Extra opens – an extra chance for your child to get a place at university if they are not holding an offer from their five choices.

AUGUST

If your child has a confirmed place at university this is a great time to help them with their final preparations for beginning their course and/or moving into university accommodation.

If your child didn't get the grades they were expecting or if they've had a change of heart and want to study a different subject or study at a different location, it's a good time to start looking at Clearing options.

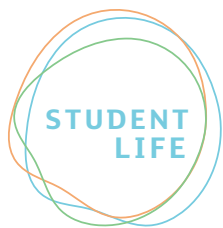
TEESSIDE UNIVERSITY CLEARING FAIR

Join us to find out which courses are available in Clearing.

Visit
tees.ac.uk/clearing

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER

YOUR CHILD WILL BEGIN UNIVERSITY



Support

Teesside University is a close-knit community and we are proud of the accessibility and sensitivity of our support services. Our Student Life Building provides a central hub to receive advice, support and guidance, offering a range of free services and help. The building was designed to provide the best possible support for our students.

Life on campus

Students' Union and clubs and societies

- a great place to relax with friends and meet new ones, the Students' Union also offers a range of support on academic matters, finances, budgeting, bullying, accommodation and part-time work.

Virtual offer - when the campus is closed, 24 hour online support is still available. A staffed virtual service also operates from Monday to Friday between 8.00am and 6.00pm, when there are advisers on hand to provide virtual appointments to listen and help you with support and guidance.

Support and advice

Library learning hub - a learning support centre which provides workshops and one-to-one support on academic and digital skills, literature searching, presentations, academic referencing, researching, wellbeing and writing. Academic librarians are also on hand to help students find the information they need for their studies.

Succeed@tees - a series of informal workshops designed to help students get the most from their studies.

Finance - our financial advisers are available throughout the year to help with a range of money matters. There's also a Teesside University Student Support Fund if your child gets into temporary financial difficulties.

Disability - a comprehensive support service for students with physical disabilities, as well as mental health support, and specific learning difficulties (such as dyslexia).

Counselling - a confidential service to support students through personal or academic difficulties.

Faith and reflection - home to students from many cultures, and to people of all faiths and none, Teesside University values the diversity of our students and provides opportunities and spaces for individuals practice their faith.

Careers and employment

Careers - a supportive, impartial service helping students to identify a career path. We offer help in gaining work experience, completing applications and tackling interviews. Our careers website offers a range of resources and we provide advice through email, drop-in sessions and one-to-one guidance interviews.

ENTERPRISE - our graduate enterprise programme supports those interested in setting up their own business, assisting with planning, finances, training and facilities.

Launchpad - offers 18 months of structured mentoring, support and office space to Teesside University students or graduates.

MicroBiz - an entrepreneurial community for students to gain support to start and maintain a small business whilst at university. A great chance for your child to develop valuable business skills and boost their graduate prospects.

VISIT

tees.ac.uk/studentlife

Fees and Funding

How to pay for university

The cost of studying at university can be a real worry, whether your child is moving into university accommodation or staying with you at home. The good news is that support is available for all students - so anyone who wants to go to university should be able to, whatever their financial situation.

Whilst at university, your child will have two main costs - tuition fees and living costs. They can apply for student finance from the Student Loans Company to help with both.

TUITION FEE LOAN

this covers the full cost of their study fees and goes directly to their university.

MAINTENANCE LOAN

this can be used as your child sees fit, to cover their living costs such as accommodation, transport and bills. This money is paid in instalments, directly into their bank account.

How much are tuition fees?

Your child will typically pay £9,250 a year in tuition fees, with most university degrees taking three years. **Tuition fee loans** cover this cost, going directly to the university your child is studying at.

Tuition fee loans and maintenance loans are repaid by your child when they have graduated and are earning more than £25,000 a year. They repay 9% of their earnings above £25,000. The repayment process is automatic - your child will see the money being taken from their wages on their payslip. If they are earning £25,000 a year, they will be repay around £35 a month*

HOW DOES HOUSEHOLD INCOME AFFECT STUDENT FINANCE?

All students are eligible for a tuition fee loan and the basic rate of maintenance loan.

If you and your child choose to have your household income assessed, your child may be eligible for a higher rate of maintenance loan. You are asked for financial details for the last full tax year previous to the start of the academic year. This information is used to work out if your child can get extra maintenance loan.

Student finance support comes from Student Finance England (SFE) through The Student Loans Company (SLC) and students apply for this online. **See more at gov.uk/student-finance**



*correct at time of printing. Please check gov.uk/studentfinance for the most up-to-date information.

STUDENT FINANCE FACTS



1

tuition fee loans cover the full cost of tuition fees

2

students pay nothing up front for tuition fees



3

tuition fee and maintenance loans are only repayable after graduation, once your child has left university and is earning over a certain amount



4

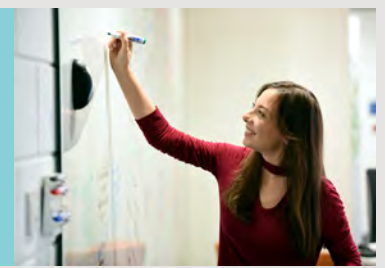
graduates repay 9% of earnings above £25,000 a year*

*Correct at time of printing. Please check gov.uk/student-finance for the most up-to-date information



5

repayments are linked to earnings, not the amount that has been borrowed



6

repayments end once the amount has been cleared with any interest; or 30 years after graduation



7

extra money is available through scholarships and bursaries – many of these do not have to be paid back



SEE TEESSIDE UNIVERSITY'S SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES AT:

👉 tees.ac.uk/scholarships

ACCOMMODATION

During their studies, some students decide to stay at home and commute to university each day. Some decide to live at university, in university accommodation or private accommodation close to campus.



Staying at home can be an advantage for some students if this fits best with their wishes and circumstances.

Moving away can give your child greater freedom and independence, opening up new opportunities and experiences.

There's no right or wrong option – the important thing is that your child feels happy and comfortable and makes the most of their time as a student.

STUDENT ACCOMMODATION AT TEESSIDE UNIVERSITY

Teesside University is a safe and friendly place for students to live – all accommodation is within five minutes' walk of the centre of campus, has live-in wardens, and 24/7 security support.

The University offers a range of accommodation options including

traditional halls, en suites and shared houses.

Accommodation at Teesside University is very competitively priced. You'll find that your child can get more for their money at Teesside, and in the North East, than they might at other universities.



*2020 ENTRY. PLEASE CHECK [TEES.AC.UK/ACCOMMODATION](https://tees.ac.uk/accommodation) FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION.



All first year students are guaranteed a place in accommodation. Students may choose to stay on in University accommodation beyond their first year, or they may prefer to move into privately rented student accommodation close to campus.

FEEL AT HOME

If your child decides to move into University accommodation they will become part of a friendly, supportive community including:

- a pre-arrival invite to a closed Facebook group for students who'd like to chat to others in their accommodation before arriving on campus
- meet and greet on arrival with support from student ambassadors to move into accommodation and get settled
- community events throughout the year such as pancake day, Christmas celebrations, Chinese New Year activities and group trips to nearby cities
- on-site accommodation team support – drop in to say hello, book trips, give feedback and get advice
- warden network support for when the accommodation team aren't about. Our supportive wardens are on duty every evening and all weekend too. They can help if students get locked out, they assist with fire alarms to make sure everyone leaves the building quickly, and they're available if anyone needs a chat
- on-site maintenance
- 24/7 campus security.



'We're proud of being there for our students and offering a great support network'

CARLA, LIVE-IN WARDEN

*2020 ENTRY. PLEASE CHECK [TEES.AC.UK/ACCOMMODATION](https://tees.ac.uk/accommodation) FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION.



Whether or not your child is living at home or on campus, you will want to know that they're studying in a safe and secure environment.

The University's campus security team is based at the library in the centre of campus

and is on hand 24/7, 365 days a year.

The team operates high visibility foot patrols throughout campus, all are first-aid trained and they monitor a comprehensive CCTV system at all times.



PARENTS'
PLACE

SAFETY AND SECURITY

Our security team monitor SafeZone – a free app that connects your child to the University campus security team at all times. SafeZone allows users to call for help at any time and alerts all security staff to the user's situation and location so that they can co-ordinate help quickly and effectively.



MEET OUR STUDENTS & THEIR PARENTS

RACHAEL & BRYONY

Bryony is studying at college. She plans to apply for BSc (Hons) Midwifery or BSc (Hons) Nursing Studies (Child) at Teesside University.



"WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE OTHER PARENTS?"

Rachael:

Parents should find out as much information as possible. The more you know the better. Different universities suit different personalities – my advice is to attend an open day so you and your child can find out if it's what they really want.

"BRYONY, WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON UNIVERSITY OPEN DAYS?"

Bryony:

The open day at Teesside was really useful; I was told about bursaries and was able to ask questions. I would advise people to go to the open day – you can talk to tutors and it all feels real. I am nervous about starting university but the open day reassured and relaxed me.

"WHAT HAS THE APPLICATION PROCESS BEEN LIKE FOR YOU BOTH?"

Rachael:

It's been an enjoyable process – and great to be involved in my daughter's future. Now that she has been to an open day she is settled in her mind. I feel really proud and excited for her. It's about letting her take the next step in her life, and helping her get there.

My advice to Bryony is to get stuck in but enjoy it at the same time. I'm here if she needs me but it's up to her to do it now.



CHARLOTTE & LYNNE

Charlotte didn't get the results she expected. Entering Clearing meant she was still able to get to university. It also gave her the opportunity to re-think her plans and study a degree which was better suited to her and her ambitions.

Watch Charlotte and mum Lynne discuss how they felt on results day and find out how Clearing led Charlotte to her ideal course

WATCH

📺 <https://teessi.de/charlotte>



PAM, ANDREW & DAVID

David attended a university open day with parents, Pam and Andrew before deciding to apply to study at Teesside University. After three successful years we caught up with Pam, Andrew and David at his graduation.



"WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON UNIVERSITY OPEN DAYS?"

David: It's really useful to attend open days. The subject talks are particularly useful as you find out what the course you're interested in entails, and the equipment and resources you'll get to use.

Pam: Teesside's open day was good. It was well planned and we enjoyed it.

Andrew: We got a lot of information about what to put on the application form, and what not to. It was really useful and relevant.

Pam: We were also given good advice on writing a personal statement.

Open days are so important - they're really useful. Encourage your child to go, and go as a family as you all get to see. And ask questions your child may be afraid to ask - lots of parents asked questions in the subject presentation we went to. It's really important to get as much information as possible.

"PAM AND ANDREW, HOW DID YOU ENCOURAGE DAVID IN HIS INITIAL UNIVERSITY RESEARCH? WHAT WOULD YOUR ADVICE BE TO OTHER PARENTS?"

Andrew: We encouraged David to be independent and make his own decisions. We attended open days together so that we could all take in and assess the information.

Pam: My advice is to encourage your child but also take a step back – it's your child's decision. It's very hard to do that - to let go, to let them make the decisions, but you have to - and give them the support needed to help them.

Andrew: They have to make the decisions themselves and understand it's their choice.



TEESSIDE UNIVERSITY ADVANCE

APPLE IPAD

If you are a full-time foundation year or Year 1 undergraduate student you start your studies with an Apple iPad (pre-installed with a selection of apps to support you in your academic and personal life), a keyboard and up to £300 of learning resources through our Teesside Advance scheme.

↳ tees.ac.uk/advance



**Teesside
University
Advance**



JARGON BUSTER

THE WORLD OF
UNIVERSITY
BRINGS WITH IT
A LOT OF NEW
WORDS...
HELP YOUR CHILD
OUT WITH OUR
JARGON BUSTER

ACCREDITATION

an accredited course is one that has been approved by a professional body.

ADJUSTMENT

UCAS Adjustment allows students who have met all conditions of their conditional-firm offer, and exceeded at least one, to be considered by other universities for alternative courses.

BACHELOR'S DEGREE

a three or four-year course studied after further education. Also known as an undergraduate degree.

INSURANCE CHOICE

an applicant's second choice offer on a course. Just in case they don't meet the conditions of their firm offer.

MAINTENANCE LOAN

a repayable loan available to undergraduates throughout their studies to help cover their living costs. This is paid back after graduation once the graduate is earning over a particular amount.

PERSONAL ID

the ten digit number an applicant receives when they register to apply to study through UCAS. It's displayed on every email a student gets from UCAS and should be kept safe.

BUZZWORD

a word given to students by their school or college to link their application to them. Students add their buzzword to their UCAS application.

CLEARING

an opportunity to apply for courses which still have vacancies towards the end of the recruitment cycle. If your child doesn't receive any offers, declines their offers, or doesn't get the grades they need, they will enter Clearing. It's a great opportunity to get a place to study.

CONDITIONAL OFFER

an offer of a place on a course subject to achieving particular conditions – usually related to exam results. This is a common type of offer for students applying to university directly from A-levels or equivalent.

PERSONAL STATEMENT

a piece of text (4,000 characters) written by your child when they apply for study through UCAS. It should demonstrate why they're applying for a particular subject and why they would be a successful student.

SCHOLARSHIP

a sum of money given to students who fulfil particular criteria by their university. It doesn't need to be re-paid.

TARIFF

the UCAS tariff system converts qualifications and grades into points so that universities can compare applicants and make appropriate offers. The UCAS tariff calculator is a useful tool for adding up UCAS points.

DEFERRAL

the option to carry over an offer of study to the following year.

EXTRA

UCAS Extra is another chance for an applicant to gain a place at university if they use all five of their choices but do not receive an offer. UCAS Extra is open between 25 February and 4 July and gives applicants with no offers the chance to make an additional choice.

FRESHER

an informal term for students in their first year of university.

TUITION FEE LOAN

a repayable loan available to undergraduates to cover their tuition fees. This is paid back after graduation once the graduate is earning over a particular amount.

UCAS

the Universities and Colleges Admission Service, the independent body that students apply to if they want to join an undergraduate course in the UK.

UNDERGRADUATE

an undergraduate is a student who has not yet completed a university degree. Undergraduate study is the first year of study in higher education.

FIRM CHOICE

an applicant's first choice offer on a course.

HIGHER EDUCATION

university-level education, completed after further education.

FURTHER EDUCATION

the level of education completed at school or college before higher education begins. Students must complete their further education before moving on to university.

UNCONDITIONAL OFFER

an offer of a place on a course with no conditions. If your child gets an unconditional offer the place is theirs. This kind of offer is not as common as a conditional offer.

WELCOME WEEK

a week of activities and academic sessions to help first-year students settle into University life, make friends and get the information they need to begin their course.



TEESSIDE & THE REGION

PARENTS'
PLACE

Our main campus is in the heart of Middlesbrough, a friendly town in North East England with all the shops, restaurants, cinemas, pubs, clubs, sports and museums you would expect - and an art gallery and bridge that are a little more surprising.

Teesside is a great place for students, with lots of student-friendly venues close by. With bars and restaurants running alongside the University's pedestrianised campus heart, students don't have far to go to socialise with friends. As well as Teesside's award-winning Students' Union, there are escape rooms, vintage shops, micro pubs, friendly cafes, boutique bowling, tearooms, parks and a cinema all just a stone's throw from the University. Middlesbrough Town Hall is also nearby, set within the town's centre square – it hosts classical music, pop, rock and comedy and has a great restaurant.

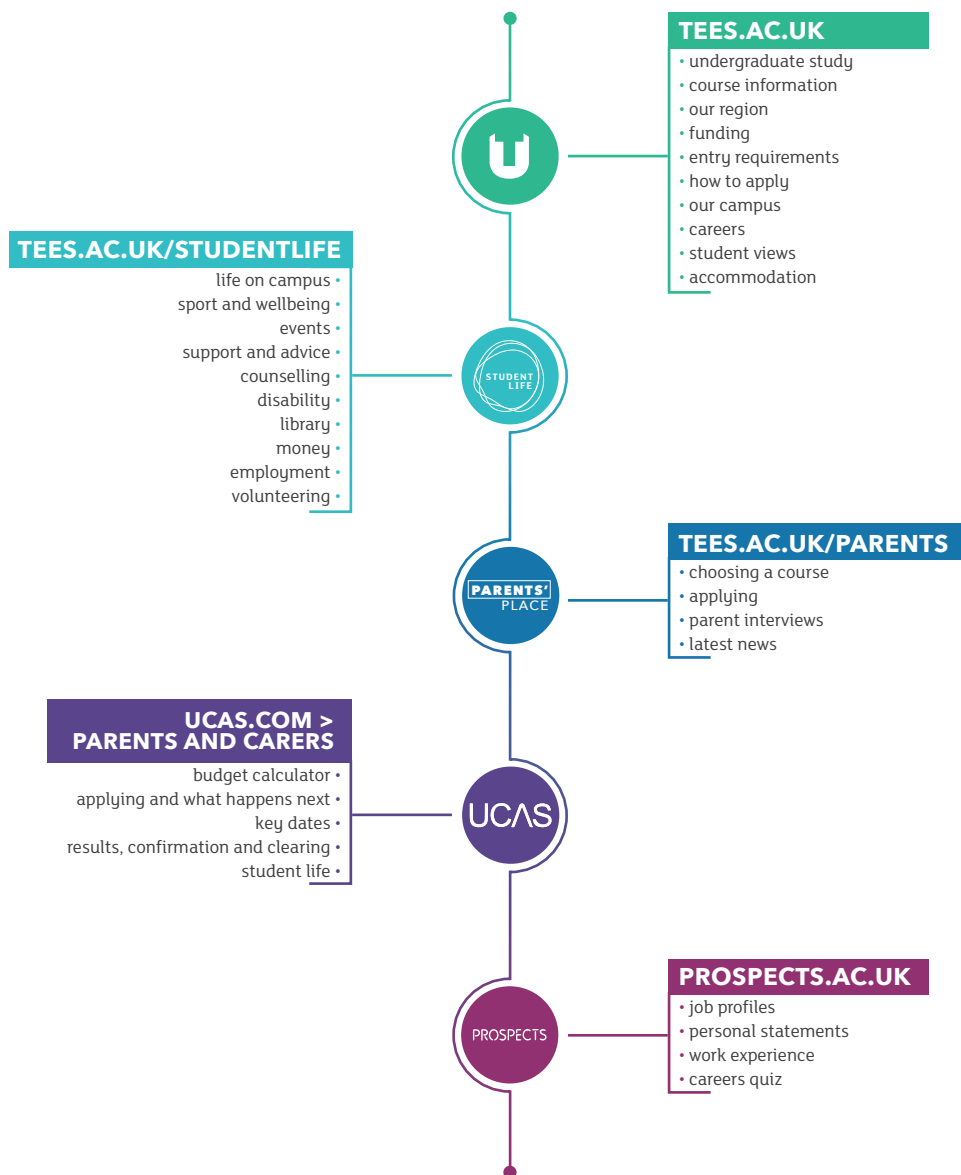
There are great transport links to Middlesbrough from around the UK, with Newcastle International Airport an hour away, Teesside International Airport just a few miles outside of the town, and the railway and bus stations less than ten minutes' walk from campus. We're also very well connected by road so if your child is travelling to us from further afield they'll have lots of options for getting to and from home, as well as being in a great position to reach lots of major northern cities and explore new areas of the UK. If you're visiting your child during their time at University you'll find lots of hotels just a short walk from our campus and accommodation.



**EXPLORE OUR AREA FURTHER AND SEE
OUR TOP TEN TEESSIDE EXPERIENCES AT**

👉 tees.ac.uk/about

READY TO FIND OUT MORE?



PARENTS'
PLACE

OPEN DAYS

BOOK AT [TEES.AC.UK/OPENDAYS](https://tees.ac.uk/opendays)



ORDER A PROSPECTUS

↳ tees.ac.uk