



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

---

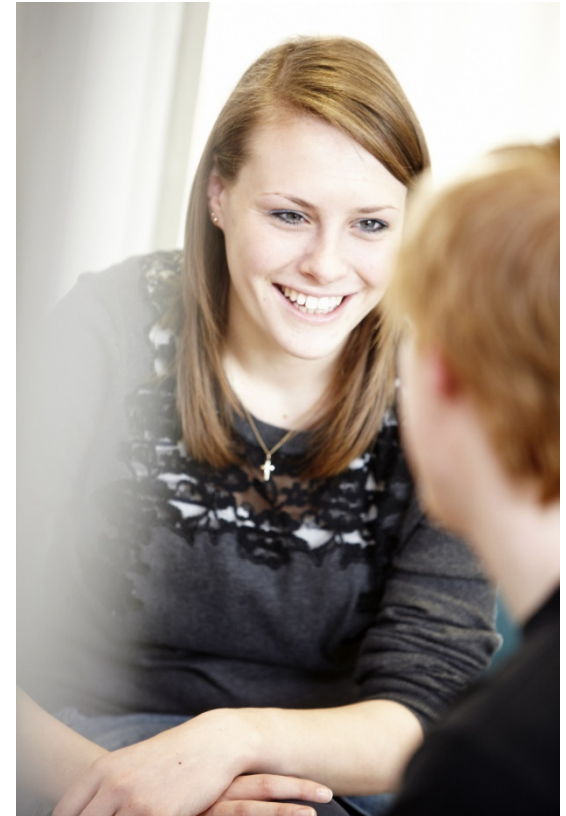
Open Day  
8<sup>th</sup> October 2011

UCAS Top Tips



This session will cover:

- The Challenge
- The Process
- Deciding Where to Apply
- Making an Impact
- Offers and Decisions
- Your Questions



# The Challenge



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

## High demand

- Competition for places
  - Leeds, 46k applications for 6k places
- What you can do to increase your chances of being successful



Competition for places

# The Process



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

Think

- **Now**

Apply

- Take note of your school deadlines
- Mid Sept to Jan 15th
- Oct 15<sup>th</sup> – deadline for Medicine, Dentistry & Veterinary and Oxbridge

Decide

- Offers up to March (May if UCAS Extra)
- **Invited to Open Day/Interview**
- Decide by May (June if UCAS Extra)

Go

- August 16<sup>th</sup> results day - Confirmation

# Think: Where to Apply



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

## Checklist:

- Do your research to find out as much as you can about
  - the universities you are considering
  - the subject and what it will lead on to and check professional requirements if specific career goal
- Make realistic and focussed choices
- Make sure you meet or exceed all of the entry requirements
- Check admissions policies

Think carefully, choose wisely

# Apply: Make an Impact



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

## Personal statements:

- Take time over it
- Read it through, get others to read it
- Make sure it is factually correct
- Beware of plagiarism
- Use examples
- Use humour and quotes with caution
- Do not use text speak or informal language
- Do not repeat information given elsewhere – space is precious



Take time, get it right

# Apply - Make an Impact



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

## Personal statements

- Say more about less
- What interests you about the course
- Why would you be good to have on the course
- Your career goals

## Note of caution:

- No spell check, keep within word count
- UCAS on-line logout at top, save at bottom



Show your enthusiasm

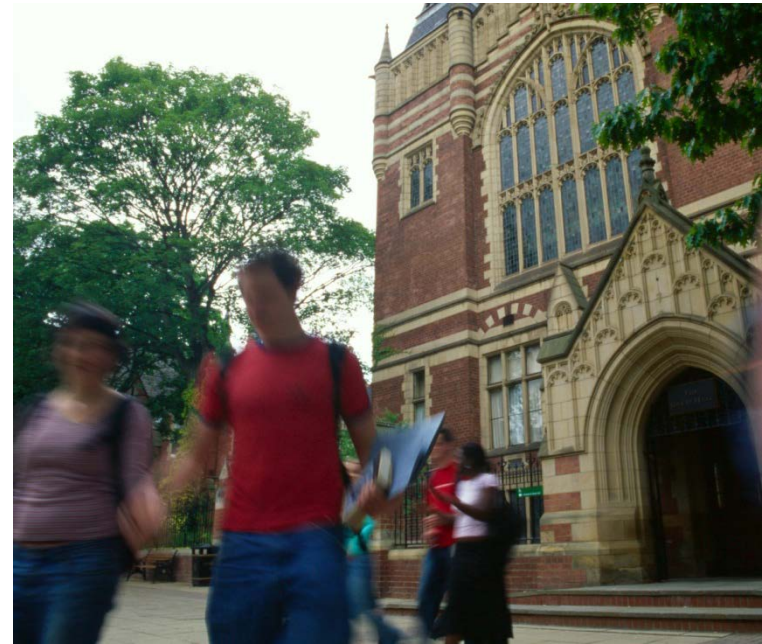
# Decide: Offers



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

2 main approaches:

- Invite for interview then make offers based on application and interview
- Make you an offer and invite you to a Visit Day (more than a general Open Day)



A two way process – as much about you deciding if the University is right for you

Visit the University

# Decide: Interviews



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

- Try to relax
- Be prepared for questions about your personal statement
- Ask for clarification if you don't know the answer
- Avoid one-word or "I don't know" as responses



Visit the University

# Decide: Choices



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

You accept two offers:

1. Firm choice - the University you really want to go to
2. Insurance choice
  - Lower offer than firm choice
  - You would be happy to go there if you did not get the grades for your firm choice



Accept two offers

# Results:



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

UCAS Track and/or ring the University

1. Firm choice university accepts you.
2. If not, Insurance choice university accepts you.
3. Neither offer you a place then you can go into Clearing.
4. Adjustment



Don't panic

# Next 18 months....



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS



- Start thinking now
- Do your research thoroughly - make focussed and realistic choices that are right for you
- Give yourself the best possible chance
  - apply early
  - make sure your application demonstrates your potential, your enthusiasm and your commitment to the subject



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS



Questions