

BHASVIC

BHASVIC HE Bitesize
4. Open days
& Travel Support

Aims of the Session



- Understand the importance of attending **open days**
- To know how to **book an open day** and **authorise your absence**
- To know what **questions to ask** that might be important
- To be aware of **travel cost help**

Why go to a uni open day?

- Open days are **organised by universities** to give you the chance to **visit and experience the university firsthand**. They help you to make decisions on what and where you'd like to study and can usually tell you more about a uni than a prospectus.
- **Universities run open days throughout the year and can occur any day of the week, even on weekends**. While some universities will hold their open days on campus this year, many may still have virtual options.



Why go to a uni open day?

- You have the **opportunity to see what the campus and local area is like**. You can also talk to staff and current students to discover what university life is like. Open days also give parents and carers the chance to visit universities **so they can help students make the right decisions**.
- You can attend **talks and presentations about the university, departments, courses, student finance** and more. Many universities host **workshops and taster sessions** so you can have an idea of what the course will be like. There'll also be tours around the campus, whether the open day is in person or virtual, which often include visits to available student accommodation.



Why go to a uni open day?

- You can take **parents and carers or go with friends** (they may spot things you didn't!), or **can go on your own**.
- It is a good way to **test a journey** that you might be making many times in the next few years!

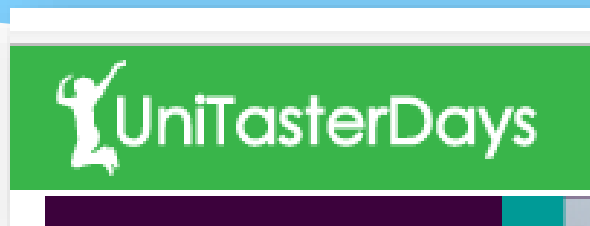


When do universities run open days?

- **Dates for university open days will vary from uni to uni.** Open days and virtual events can take place throughout the whole year, but most are held between **June and October**. You can find any upcoming university open days or virtual events on the websites below, or visit the university's website.
- You will need to **book a place online**
- The places to look would be:
 - [Opendays.com](https://www.opendays.com) - university and college open days - home page
 - [UniTasterDays](https://www.unitasterdays.com) - University events for schools and students
 - [Sign in | UCAS](https://www.signinucas.com)

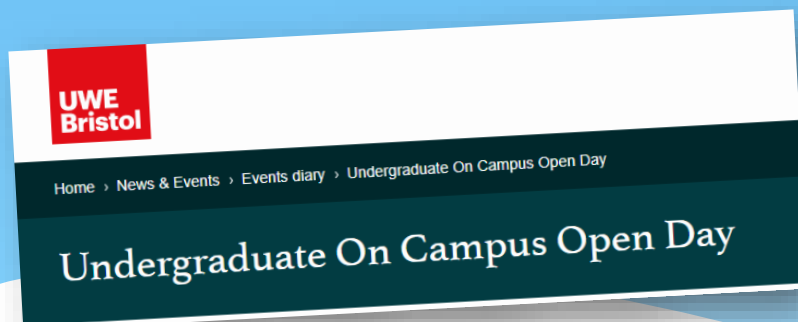
The logo for opendays.com, featuring the text "opendays.com" in a bold, white, sans-serif font, with "university and college open days" in a smaller, white, sans-serif font below it, all set against a dark blue rounded rectangular background.

opendays.com
university and college open days



How to book an open days?

- Once you have completed your initial research to find unis that you might be interested in **book a place online – usually through the uni website**
- **BHASVIC authorises absence days for Open Days – all you need to do is go to reception with your email booking confirmation** and they authorise the absence. Probably a good idea to let your teachers know too.



[Book now](#)

Here is a taste of what you can expect:

- Attend our subject-specific talks, take a department tour and come along to drop-in sessions to meet our passionate teaching staff who will talk to you about the course you're interested in.
- Attend talks and drop-in sessions from our key university services including Admissions, Student Money Service, and Disability Services.
- You'll also have the chance to chat with some of our Student Ambassadors.
- Take a tour of our fantastic campuses and accommodation.

It is essential you book a place.

[Book now](#)

Cost: Free

Contact: Recruitment and Admissions

Telephone: +44 (0)117 32 82162

E-mail: open@uwe.ac.uk

[More information about Undergraduate On Campus Open Day](#)

Top Tips

- * **Take a notebook and a couple of pens** and write down some notes during and after your visit on the journey home – you will forget
- * **Consider Brighton, Chichester and Sussex Uni** open days even if not thinking of going there. They will give use a useful benchmark about how unis and courses work
- * [Undergraduate Open Days : Undergraduate visits : ... : Study with us : University of Sussex](#)
- * [University open days \(brighton.ac.uk\)](http://brighton.ac.uk)

So what do I ask?

- * We have helpfully drawn together some useful guidance online about what to ask on an open day
- * Don't be shy to ask – its your opportunity and you will spend around £60,000 over the 3 years in tuition fees, accommodation and general spending on campus through your student loans so you are worth a lot of money
- * Ask the student ambassadors questions, or staff

So what do I ask?

- * Remember we talked about all the things you might want to consider in session 1.

- * Here's where you find out more.

- * For example..... Geography

- * **About the course**

- * What ranges of modules are available to me? Can I pick modules outside of my subject? What skills will I learn on this course? E.g. research methods, referencing, drawing graphs...

- * Are there any guest lecturers or speakers who come to the university? Do I need maths or statistics?

- * **Equipment and facilities**

- * What books are necessary for me to buy? How much reading is there each week? Are resources and reading material available to use online?

- * Do I need to read anything before I start the course? Work experience and field trips

- * **Are there any field trips?**

- * Where will they be – is there a choice? How much does a field trip cost and will I have help with this?

- * What assignments are set during a field trip, and do these count towards my degree mark?

- * Do I have to organise placements or work experience during my summer breaks from university? Will I have help from the uni to do this?

- * **Assessments**

- * What is the split between exams / coursework / group projects? Do I need to do a presentation on this course?

- * Do I need to complete a dissertation or research-based project? How do I decide on a dissertation subject?

- * Can I move on to a related Masters or PhD after I finish my course? Is there funding for me to do this?

So what do I ask?

- * That's just one example – things will be different for each course.
- * When will I be interviewed, what will I need to include in my portfolio, can you tell me more about the admissions test (if there is one), how difficult is it to find accommodation in years 2 & 3.
- * Use the subject guides – copy and print out a list to remind you.
- * And make notes of the answers. You have travelled a long way. Make it worthwhile.

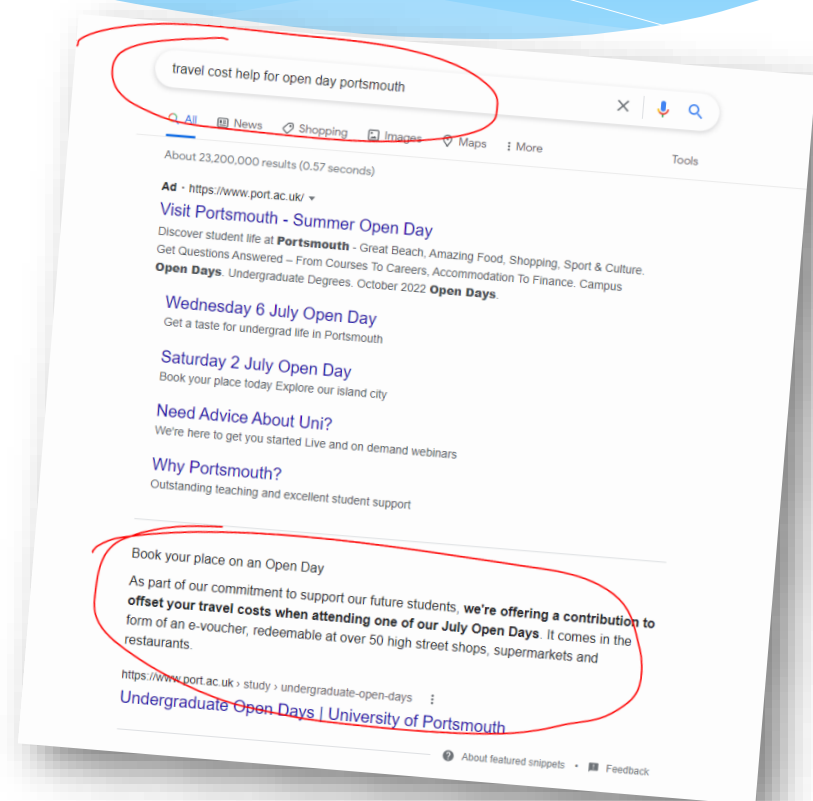
What's the local area like?

- * If you can spend a little bit of time before you head for home in the local area.
- * How much are things like a pint of beer!
- * Does it feel like the kind of area you would feel comfortable?



So **how** much does it cost?

- * You may travel by car or train but it **can be expensive**
- * **Some unis offer travel help** to support you in attending a uni open day
- * **Lots of information is online**
- * **Simply google....**



And where else to go?

- * There are often UCAS fairs and UK University Search fairs locally – check out the dates.
- * **Universities include:** Russell Group, red brick, private and modern institutions. Exhibitors will include the Brighton, Exeter, Southampton, Bath, UEA, Essex, Kent, Surrey, Nottingham, Liverpool, Warwick and Reading, to name a few.
- * It also features a full timetable of talks by experts covering topics including: **UCAS personal statements**, student finance, life at university and **why take an apprenticeship**.

Book an individual student registration here and please ask home to authorise the absence

<https://www.ukuniversitysearch.com/>

[UCAS Discovery Events | Meet universities, colleges and employers | UCAS](#)

So **what** to do now.....

- **Check out the links** and find out **when** open days are available and **book your places**
- Book the **UK Uni and Apprenticeship Fair** if you would like to go
- **Check out the subject guides** for a list of questions for your subject
- **There are useful resources online to help you**
- [How to make the most of a university open day - student top tips \[video\] | Brighton Student bloggers](#)
- **Have fun!**