



## Russel Group Universities Statements on No AS Entries

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### How will Oxford assess an application with no AS-level grades?

Oxford has never used AS-level grades in a mechanistic way when assessing applications, partly because a third of our applicants are not taking AS and A-levels. We will continue to assess applications with no AS-level grades in exactly the same way as those with AS-level grades. Tutors will take in to account any GCSE grades, along with predicted or achieved grades at A-level (or other equivalent qualifications), the personal statement, academic reference, and performance in any written work or written test required for the course. Where students are shortlisted, their performance in any interviews will also be taken in to account.

<https://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate/courses/entrance-requirements/faqs-level-reform>

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While we value the breadth which comes with studying 4 subjects at AS-level, we do not expect to introduce a requirement for AS-levels to be taken and do not plan to use them as part of the process to select applicants.

<http://www.bristol.ac.uk/university/governance/policies/admissions/14-19qualifications-changes.html#alevels>

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### A-level reforms in England and admissions for 2017

The University of Leeds currently makes offers based on three A levels, or equivalent, using a basket of measures in decision making. AS level results, where available, are included in this.

In 2017, the University will continue to make offers based on three A levels or equivalent. We recognise that some A level students will no longer sit AS levels. This group will not be disadvantaged in the decision making process at Leeds.

[http://www.leeds.ac.uk/info/128005/applying/31/accepted\\_qualifications](http://www.leeds.ac.uk/info/128005/applying/31/accepted_qualifications)

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### Will The University of Nottingham expect to see certificated AS levels in the new system?

We are aware that not all providers plan to enter candidates for the new AS level examinations. We do not expect to make achievement of certificated AS levels within the new exam system a requirement for admission to the University.

### Should students take an additional subject at AS level in year 12?



We are aware that providers are considering different approaches to the year 12 curriculum and, in particular, whether they are able or wish to offer students the opportunity to study a fourth subject at AS level in year 12, ahead of sitting three of the new A levels in year 13. Again, it is for providers to determine whether their students will benefit more from greater breadth in year 12, or from the opportunity to focus exclusively on the subjects they wish to take to A level. The University of Nottingham will continue to make offers based on three A levels or equivalent.

<http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/ugstudy/documents/statement-on-approach-to-a-level-reform.docx>

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If the school or college policy is not to certificate at the end of year 12 then this should be stated in the UCAS reference. We will consider each application on its own merits, whether or not AS-level results have been certificated.

<https://www.dur.ac.uk/undergraduate/study/apply/faqs/?faqno=2412a>

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## **A-levels and AS-levels**

The majority of courses at the University require grades in the region of AAA–ABB at A-level. There are, however, many courses that require lower or higher grades and you are advised to check the specific entry requirements for your chosen course.

If you are taking more than three A-levels, please be aware that any additional A-levels will not be included within your offer. We only make offers consisting of three A-level grades.

Some of our courses ask for A-levels in science subjects. Where this is the case, there will be a requirement to pass the practical assessment in the newly reformed science A-levels in England. AS-level results are not considered as part of the standard admissions process at The University of Manchester. The exceptions to this are in the School of Dentistry (where a grade B at AS-level is required alongside three A-levels) and the Manchester Medical School (where four AS subjects are required excluding General Studies); please see course entry requirements for further information. These AS-level requirements will continue to apply for applicants holding newly reformed qualifications in England.

We are aware that some colleges and schools may no longer enter candidates for AS-level qualifications. Dentistry and Medicine applicants who are unable to present a fourth AS level will not be disadvantaged in the selection process. If this applies to you, please contact the academic School directly; you may be asked for written confirmation of your college or school's policy and such applications will be considered on a case-by-case basis. We also advise that teachers of students who have followed a non-standard curriculum should highlight this within their reference.

<http://www.manchester.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/applications/entry-requirements/uk-entry-requirements/#alevels>

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You will only have AS marks (or the opportunity to retake) if you are studying any unreformed subjects; for these, the facts above will still apply. For linear qualifications, your teachers will provide us with information about your performance through their UCAS reference. One of the strengths of the Cambridge admissions system is its ability to assess all applicants individually and to take account of individual circumstances.

<http://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/applying/entrance-requirements/gcse-and-a-level-requirements-facts>

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Applicants may take all examinations at the end of year 13 (or equivalent) without prejudice to their application.

<http://www.kcl.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/apply/entry-requirements/index.aspx>

The decision whether a student should sit an AS Level even if he or she intends to take the full A Level must rest with the school or college and the student, and the University of Sheffield will not discriminate for or against students according to which choice they make.

Our admissions decisions are based on a holistic assessment of the information on the UCAS application, with subject choice and predicted grades being among the most important measures in most cases, and we have every confidence that schools and colleges will continue to provide us with helpful indicators of students' potential regardless of whether externally-assessed exams have been taken or not. Many non-A Level qualifications that applicants present are already linear so we are very used to making admissions decisions in the absence of validated grades half way through school-leaving exams.

<http://www.sheffield.ac.uk/undergraduate/policies/reform>

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LSE understands that there will be some schools and colleges that are unable to teach AS Levels alongside the new A Levels and has no intention of disadvantaging students who submit an application without AS Level grades as a result. In these circumstances we will use the information presented on the application form to make our decision (possibly in conjunction with some form of additional assessment).

<http://www.lse.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/howToApply/A-Level-Reform-in-England.aspx>

(It would be remiss to not point out that LSE have, however, publically stated that they do still see the value in AS Level examinations)

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**Do you require students to take AS exams for all of their subjects?**



No. Students may still wish to take AS exams as they can be helpful for measuring progress so far in their studies and we do not discourage this, but where students are taking subjects to A level they will not be disadvantaged if they do not take the corresponding AS exam.

<http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/apply/entry/>

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We realise that there will be differing practice amongst schools and colleges with regard to the taking of AS levels at the end of Year 12.

We will continue to make offers on the basis of the information available in an application. This includes predicted grades and the suitability of subjects offered. GCSE performance is also likely to be considered in cases where there is no grade information available for AS levels or internal assessment at the end of Year 12.

<http://www.ncl.ac.uk/undergraduate/apply/requirements/#important-curriculumreforms>

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Depending on the degree programme, UCL makes offers in the range A\*A\*A-ABB. AS levels are no longer required.

<http://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/undergraduate/application/requirements/a-level-gcse>