



Advice for students about 'clearing'

Many students who receive their A Level results may not achieve the grades they originally expected and enter the clearing system to gain a place on a course.

Clearing can appear to be a daunting task, but the Connexions Service is on hand to provide valuable advice to help guide thousands of young people through the clearing process.

igen, which provides free and impartial careers guidance to young people in North Yorkshire through their Connexions Careers Advisors, recommends the following tips:

Check Track

It is important that you check the Track Service on the [UCAS website](#) to see whether you are eligible for Clearing. If you are eligible an "Add Clearing choice" button will appear on your Track "choices" page. Unlike previous years, you will not receive anything through the post. All offers and acceptances will be made and confirmed online.

Be available

UCAS strongly advises candidates to be available throughout the "Clearing" period. Admissions tutors want to speak to you - not your parents.

Consider your options

Would another institution/course be suitable e.g. a less popular university or subject? Is a full time degree your only option, what about HNDs/Foundation Degrees or part time courses?

Don't make quick decisions

You are going to spend the next 3 to 4 years at the institution so think about its location, facilities etc. You also need to ensure that you are going to be able to cope with and enjoy the course and that it will lead you in the career direction you want.

Be prepared to sell yourself

When you ring up Admissions Tutors they will want to know what you have got to offer, academically and personally, make some notes.

Don't give up

The vacancy situation changes constantly so keep looking. Admissions tutors may not be available and telephones constantly engaged but keep trying. You will need to invest time and effort into ensuring you get a suitable place. The UCAS website offers access to Clearing vacancies which are updated daily. The Independent prints regular vacancy lists.

For further help

check out the [UCAS website](#) or phone your Connexions Hub .

ENDS

Notes to editors: For further information and to confirm attendance contact Zoe Tolman, igen Communications and Research Executive, email: zoe.tolman@igengroup.co.uk, Tel: 0113 226 2132, Mobile, 07824 505 518.