

# University Admissions

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# Admissions at Bath

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We have a centralised Admissions Team (now common at most universities)

- Selectors each manage a portfolio of courses
- 95% of decisions made within the central team, with the remainder considered alongside academic colleagues
- Reference as part of holistic process, and important for context (more on that later!)
- While criteria vary significantly, the basic approach is the same for all courses
- Admissions team also doubles as the enquiries team
- While we do not use any form of AI in assessments, we are increasingly using rules-based automated processes to organise applications for review

## The process

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- Application received and reviewed by a Selector
- Application may be ranked and held, or decision processed immediately
- First decision made, second checked by another team member – offer or unsuccessful
- Applications not initially selected but flagged as from contextual applicants, those with mitigating circumstances or non-standard qualifications are reviewed by Progression Team and decisions made
- All decisions made by end of **March** – we try to keep applicants informed
- We aim for some flexibility with ‘near-miss’ applicants when results are received

# Admissions Timeline

12 May 2026: 2027 courses available on UCAS

16 Oct 2026: Deadline for medicine, dentistry and veterinary medicine

End March 2027: Bath decisions target

May or June 2027: Deadline for offer holder responses

1 Sept 2026: Applications can be submitted to UCAS

**13 Jan 2027: Deadline for equal consideration**

Mid May 2027: All choices decisions made

July - Aug 2027: Results days



## Our Progression Team

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- **Specialist team within UG Admissions responsible for applications from under-represented groups, including:**
  - students from areas of high socio-economic disadvantage
  - students who have been eligible for free school meals
  - Care leavers, young carers and estranged students
  - students who are a refugee, asylum seeker or have been granted humanitarian protection
  - mature students
  - students with an Access to HE Diploma, vocational qualifications or any non-traditional qualifications
- **Team reviews and make decisions on applicants with mitigating circumstances, including links with Student Support**
- **Review applications with non-standard qualifications and support interviews where necessary (e.g. T Levels, some BTEC qualifications, mature students)**
- **Manage our contextual admissions process – related but separate from contextual offers**

# Contextual offers and mitigating circumstances

## Contextual offers

- Available to A level and IB Diploma students on almost all courses
- **Automatic 2 grade\* reduction based on set criteria:**
  - Free school meal eligibility in KS3 or KS4
  - IMD quintile 1 or 2
  - Care leaver, young carer or estranged from all parents
  - Refugee or similar

*\*One grade for certain joint-honours Maths courses*

- Those not eligible may benefit from *alternative offers* (1 grade reduction) for EPQs or extra Maths qualifications

## Mitigating circumstances

- Relevant for any applicant
- Considered at every stage of the process but no grade reductions in offers
- Priority for 'near-miss' consideration at end of process

## What we look for: a strong application

- ✓ Previous grades

- ✓ Current qualifications

- ✓ Predicted grades

- ✓ Personal Statement

- ✓ Teacher's Reference

- ✓ Work Experience and/or interview (sometimes)

Our decisions are **holistic**. Applicants don't necessarily need to tick every box.

We also consider applicants' **context** and any **mitigating circumstances** when making our decisions.

# A Strong Application

## On this page

- Selection for Mechanical Engineering
- **Applicable courses**
- Selection criteria for A level students
- Contact us

## Selection criteria for A level students

The following are considered for students studying A levels. If you study other qualifications, the same factors will be considered (where relevant) but we will tailor our approach to your specific qualifications.

**Your background and any mitigating circumstances will always be considered alongside our standard selection priorities.** For example, we will give additional consideration to you if you meet our [contextual admissions criteria](#) even if you do not meet all of the standard factors.

**The information presented here is a guide to our typical selection factors – we reserve the right to consider other factors where necessary to distinguish between equally qualified applicants.** All our entry requirements and selection criteria are informed by academic practice.

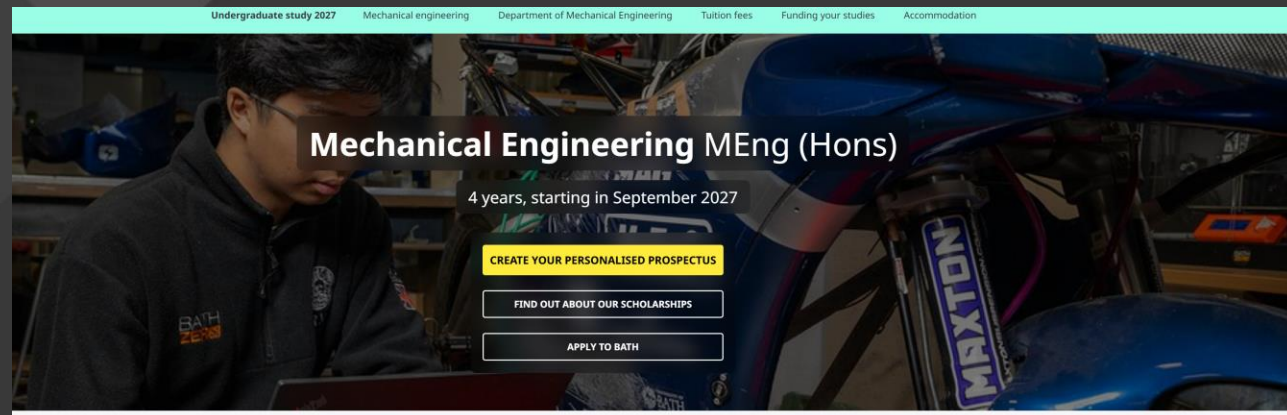
The typical factors we consider, with guide weighting, are:

### GCSE profile - 40%

Your overall GCSE profile is very important for this course, as achievement across a broad range of subjects and skills will best prepare you for degree study.

When assessing your application, we consider your best eight grades including Mathematics and at least one English Language or Literature subject.

If you have fewer than six GCSE grades (or did not study GCSEs) your overall academic profile will be considered instead based on any current and previous study.



Undergraduate study 2027   Mechanical engineering   Department of Mechanical Engineering   Tuition fees   Funding your studies   Accommodation

## Mechanical Engineering MEng (Hons)

4 years, starting in September 2027

[CREATE YOUR PERSONALISED PROSPECTUS](#)

[FIND OUT ABOUT OUR SCHOLARSHIPS](#)

[APPLY TO BATH](#)

# Our approach to references

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## Please share details of mitigating/extenuating circumstances!

We will not require subject-specific content in references

We know these are offered as genuine endorsements of your students, and a huge amount of time and energy goes into making them

We trust predicted grades as your indication of a student's performance

The descriptions we see are hard to compare and relying on them too much leads to unfairness

But we would **never** penalise an applicant because you choose to include more than we are looking for

A wide-angle photograph of the University of Bath campus. In the foreground, a calm body of water reflects the sky. The middle ground features a large, green lawn where many people are sitting or walking. In the background, several modern university buildings with large glass windows are visible under a cloudy sky. The text "Any questions?" is overlaid in the center of the image.

**Any questions?**