Kent was awarded gold, the highest rating, in the UK Government’s Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF)
CLEARING EXPLAINED

Clearing is an opportunity to explore your options and consider other possibilities if your plans have changed, or you’re having second thoughts about your course. It’s organised by the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS).

Clearing is for you if:

- you haven’t secured your firm or insurance choices
- you’ve changed your mind about your choices and want to see what else is available
- you want to make a new application for this September
- you submitted your UCAS application after 30 June.

What is Clearing Plus?

If you haven’t got a place, or you’ve made a new application, UCAS will personally match you to courses that may be a good fit for you. Look out for the ‘My matches’ button in Track to view your top 50 course matches. Once you’ve had a look, you can let the universities know if you’re interested in their courses and they may call you if they have places and you meet the entry requirements. Remember, you can still use the search tool if you want to apply for something different.

Kent is participating in Clearing Plus. If you let us know you’re interested in our courses, you meet the entry requirements and we have places available, we’ll give you a call.

“I came to Kent via Clearing so didn’t know a lot about it, but I instantly fell in love with the campus. I can’t imagine myself at any other uni. You should come. I’m happy I came.”

Enoch Odubade
Media Studies BA
What can I expect from Kent during Clearing?
We’ll give you all the support you need so you can start university feeling happy and secure. If we make you an offer, you’ll have time to think it over before you make a decision. You can, and should, do this so you’re sure Kent is the right place for you.

Accommodation
Looking to live on campus? Our team can take you through the different options and talk to you about the changes we’ve made to ensure our campuses are safe and Covid secure. T: +44 (0) 1227 766660 kent.ac.uk/accommodation

Financial support
Check out our scholarships finder at kent.ac.uk/scholarships/search There’s a range of scholarships offered by academic schools, as well as awards for sports and music so make sure to check those out. You can hold more than one scholarship at a time and they don’t have to be repaid.
CLEARING CHECKLIST

Being prepared is key. Use this checklist to make sure you have key information to hand and you know what questions you may want to ask.

Copy of my personal statement

Qualifications and points value
A levels, GCSEs, IELTS, BTECs, Access qualifications, any other post-16 studies
UCAS Tariff points value

Questions I want to ask
Consider asking about course content and structure, teaching methods, assessments, scholarships and placement/study abroad options.
Bolu came to Kent through Clearing and is studying Criminology with a Year in Data Analytics at the Canterbury campus.

Why did you decide to come to Kent through Clearing?
It was Kent’s track record. I didn’t get the grades I needed to get into my first-choice university, then I got an offer from another university but wasn’t sure about going there. I spoke to people from my secondary school who had graduated from Kent. They told me how good it was, and about its track record, so that persuaded me to apply through Clearing. The communication with Kent was good and they explained everything thoroughly.

What happened on results day?
I was in the car with my mum and I got her to open my results. My grades were good – apart from one. I phoned my first-choice university but they couldn’t accept me. As soon as I got home I started looking at places through Clearing.

Kent looked good because it had the subject that I wanted to study: I called them and they said they could offer me a place, I just needed to fill in a form. It was so easy and fast, especially compared to other universities.

Did you stay in student accommodation?
Yes – I stayed in Park Wood during my first and second year. In the first year I stayed in a shared house and then in my second year I stayed in a flat. Kent helped me find the right accommodation.

What were your first few weeks at Kent like?
I felt welcome and it was easy to get on with my flatmates. I had so many emails explaining everything there was to do on campus, such as clubs and societies.

The Freshers’ Fair was the best thing I’ve ever experienced – free pizza and such a wide range of societies! It helped me feel comfortable at Kent because I knew that even if I didn’t find friends in my flat, I could find them through societies.

I joined netball initially as I’d played that for several years before coming to Kent. I also joined the African-Caribbean Society (ACS) which I’m still a part of now.

What made you decide to add a Year in Data Analytics to your degree programme?
I decided to add on a Year in Data Analytics once I was studying at Kent. It was during my first or second year, Kent sent me a letter saying that my grades in that area were good and that it was something that I should consider.

I thought that adding a ‘Year in’ would help me find a job after university.

How well supported have you been, especially during the pandemic?
The support has increased, and I’ve had regular emails from my lecturers about their modules as well as the Covid-19 situation. There have also been specific emails from the Head of School. I’ve had emails about the mental health support available too, especially as we’re coming up to our exams now.

What advice would you give to students applying through Clearing?
Don’t lose hope if you don’t get the grades you need. Before I got my grades, my mind was set on Russell Group universities. A lot of people don’t go to those universities, and still end up achieving their dreams. I think it’s fate and that Kent was where I was meant to be. Continue with a positive mindset and positive energy, so that you make the most of your time at university.
Nicola came to Kent through Clearing and is studying Sociology and Social Policy at the Canterbury campus.

What was the main reason you applied to Kent through Clearing?
I’d originally applied to Kent as one of my five options. I’d already visited and seen the campus. On results day, when I didn’t get into my other choices, I already knew that I liked Kent.

Had you always intended to study Sociology?
Originally, I wanted to study Economics. But A level Maths really dealt with me! It was so hard, so I decided to change what I wanted to study. I always did well at A level Sociology, so I decided to focus on my strengths, and combine that with Social Policy in the joint honours* that Kent was offering.

How did you find the Clearing process?
It was really my Dad who pushed me to start applying through Clearing. I only applied to Kent and one other university. The process was smooth and easy – I just filled in a form online. I got a response in less than an hour, and I also got a phone call to say congratulations. It was really nice.

Did you stay in student accommodation in your first year?
I was in Park Wood, and I’m still there now! It was straightforward to get in: once I had my place to study they sent me the accommodation application details. It was just like coming to Kent through the standard route.

How did you feel during your first few weeks?
I was scared, because coming to Kent wasn’t my original plan. But it was much better than I anticipated. We had a Welcome Week, and also got introduced to all the lecturers and modules. I soon realised I didn’t need to feel nervous.

What have been the highlights of your degree programme?
I’m doing a module on ethnicities and identity. One of our seminars was based on the Meghan Markle interview with Oprah Winfrey – the day after the interview we discussed it in class, covering the issues behind the conversation. I remember thinking ‘this is why I’m here, to talk about real-life issues’. I really enjoyed that.

Also, when I first came to university, I got my first grade back and I was so disappointed. I reached out to my seminar leader and he was so helpful. He told me what I needed to do differently. Just by reaching out to him, my results went up by two grades. My department have been so helpful in my academic journey.

How supported have you felt, especially during the pandemic?
I can’t deny that things have been very different. At the same time, my lecturers and seminar leaders have been very present. They respond to my emails and essay plans. I really appreciate it because they know the circumstances.

What extra-curricular activities have you been involved with?
I got involved with a Christian fellowship, because I felt it was important to keep up with my faith at university. I’m also a Digital Media Assistant for the University, producing digital content for different marketing channels.

What do you most like about being a student at Kent?
The friends I’ve made – they’ve made the experience better. The campus too, it’s so green. I love
coming out of the library and seeing the view over Canterbury – it’s such a beautiful city.

Have you had any careers advice?
I get a lot of emails from the University offering one-to-one advice, and CV sessions. If students don’t get advice it’s because they’re not following up on this. I’ve had a CV advice session which helped a lot.

What advice would you give to someone applying through Clearing?
It can be hard, especially if you didn’t get the results you wanted. But you should be proud of all your hard work, regardless of your grades. You still have a new journey ahead of you. Even if it’s not the one you anticipated at the start, it’s still a journey, so make the most of it.

How do you think you’ve changed during your time at Kent?
I now value myself on how much I work, and how much I push myself. Whatever I do now, I do it to the best of my ability instead of being hung up on grades.

“We remained positive throughout the whole experience that no matter what was to happen on results day, we would be there to support her. I was a little nervous, but I knew her goal was to go to uni and when she didn’t call, I knew perhaps she may have missed her grades. I was at work, so her Dad helped her look through the Clearing website and choose some universities to apply to. Kent was the first uni to respond and, because she had applied already, she knew she liked the university and that’s why she chose it.”

Omolola Oginni
(Nicola’s mum)
FAQ FOR STUDENTS

I’ve got my grades and met the conditions of my conditional firm choice (CF choice) at Kent. Do I need to do anything?
Congratulations! Your place should be confirmed but just check UCAS Track. Once Track has confirmed you’ve met your offer conditions, your status will change from CF to UF (unconditional firm choice). This will also show in your applicant portal.
Keep an eye on your inbox as you will receive an email confirmation. Remember to check we have the correct email address for you and that your inbox is set up to receive emails from us.

How will I know if I’m in Clearing?
You can log in to UCAS Track as soon as it opens to check your status. If you are in Clearing, your status will say ‘you are in Clearing’ or ‘Clearing has started’.

I didn’t get my grades, but my track status doesn’t say I’m in Clearing?
This could mean your results haven’t been updated or the universities are still considering your application. If you’re waiting on confirmation of your place at Kent, then please give us a call on +44 (0) 1227 768896.

Can I still apply to Kent if I’m holding an offer at another university?
Yes, you can. If you’re considering Kent, then please get in touch with us and we can let you know if we can offer you a place. Remember that you won’t be able to add Kent on UCAS Track as your Clearing choice while you’re holding an offer at another university, but don’t release yourself from your other university until you have received an unconditional offer from Kent.

How do I apply?
Go to our website at kent.ac.uk/clearing. You’ll find all our course vacancies there and you can apply online. If you can’t apply online, you can call us and we can make an application on your behalf.
If I apply through Clearing, when will I find out if I have an offer?

Once you’ve made your application, keep an eye on your Kent applicant portal and email. We will be in touch as soon as we can to let you know what you need to do next.

Please make sure you provide the best email address to contact you on and check that it’s correct! Remember to check your emails regularly – we may need more information or need to update you on the progress of your application.

I’ve been ‘referred’ on UCAS – what does this mean?

This just means that UCAS has sent your application to a university. You should receive more information quite quickly.

If I get a Clearing offer from Kent, how long do I have to make a decision?

While we want you to take your time to make sure Kent is the right place for you, we would recommend you accept our offer and submit your Clearing choice on Track within 24 hours.

Is there a Clearing application deadline?

Clearing is officially open until October, but places do fill up quickly. If courses are filled then they will be closed and you won’t be able to apply. If you need a student visa you should aim to apply by early September to allow enough time for your Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) number to be issued to you.

Do I need to inform the Student Loans Company if I apply through Clearing?

If you’ve already applied for student finance, yes. If you change your course or university, you will need to let the Student Loans Company know as soon as possible.

If you haven’t applied for student finance, then you can apply online at gov.uk/student-finance. We recommend doing this as soon as possible once your Clearing place has been confirmed on UCAS Track.

How do I apply for accommodation in Clearing?

If you are applying to Kent, all you need to do is select ‘yes’ for campus accommodation on the Clearing application form. If you are applying for a course at Canterbury, it will be passed to our Accommodation team and they will allocate rooms based on availability. If you are applying for a course at Medway, you’ll be allocated a room at Pier Quays. Unite Students, who manage Pier Quays, will contact you with your next steps.

An offer of accommodation will be sent to your preferred email address supplied on your Clearing application form, so please make sure you check your inbox and spam/junk mail on a regular basis from 10 August 2021.

To view and accept an offer of accommodation at our Canterbury campus, you will need to register for an accommodation username and password at kenthospitality.kent.ac.uk/MyAccommodation.

Please do not submit a separate accommodation application via Kent’s MyAccommodation application pages as this additional application will clash with your Clearing application and may cause you difficulties when viewing and accepting your offer of accommodation.

Apply with your personal email address rather than your school email address so that you can still access your inbox once you have left school.
FAQ FOR PARENTS

Can I contact you on my child’s behalf?
If your child wants to make an application to Kent, then they need to do this themselves. They should apply online at kent.ac.uk/clearing

If they can’t apply online, then they can call us and we can make the application on their behalf. It’s much better if we talk to your child themselves, but if they give verbal consent over the phone we can discuss their application with you.

We can answer any general queries you have about the University, Clearing or the application process, so please do get in touch.

Will they get accommodation if they apply in Clearing?
Most students who apply to Kent early in Clearing are able to secure University accommodation.

If your child is applying for a course on the Canterbury campus, accommodation is subject to availability and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis by the date of application. If your child is applying for a course on the Medway campus, they will be offered accommodation at Pier Quays, close to our Medway campus. We can also offer advice on finding off-campus housing: kent.ac.uk/accommodation/living-off-campus#looking

We haven’t visited and don’t really know anything about Kent – what do you advise?
We hope to be running tours of the Canterbury and Medway campuses where you will be able to see the main buildings and student facilities. See kent.ac.uk/campaigns/campus-tours for full details, available dates and how to book.

Take a look at our virtual visit page at kent.ac.uk/virtual-visit
You can explore the Canterbury and Medway campuses, visit our accommodation and watch a range of subject webinars.

You can also chat to current students and discover more about student life. Follow us on social media too – we’re on Instagram, Facebook, Twitter and we have a University of Kent YouTube channel. You even have the opportunity to come to a Virtual Open Day. Go to kent.ac.uk/visit to find out more.

What is the University doing to protect students from Covid-19?
The health, safety and wellbeing of our students and staff remain our top priority and we are taking steps to protect everyone at the University from Covid-19 while safeguarding the quality of teaching and student life.

The majority of our teaching and services will be delivered in a blended way – both online and in person. Which parts of your child’s studies will be online and which will be in person will vary according to the course they are on, government requirements and our health and safety assessments.

We’ll continue to update you about our plans as they develop and will publish information on our dedicated webpage for applicants: kent.ac.uk/courses/visit/covid-19

As you can imagine, we get lots of questions about Clearing. If your question hasn’t been answered here, check out kent.ac.uk/clearing
FURTHER RESOURCES

Here are a few key contacts and resources you may find useful.

Clearing hotline
Open from 8am on Tuesday 10 August
T: +44 (0) 1227 768896
kent.ac.uk/clearing

Talk to us
Book a 1-2-1 chat with one of our team. Visit our Clearing website kent.ac.uk/clearing for details

Accommodation team
T: +44 (0) 1227 766660
E: accommodation@kent.ac.uk
kent.ac.uk/accommodation

Student Support and Wellbeing
Canterbury campus
T: +44 (0) 1227 823158
E: accessibility@kent.ac.uk

Medway campus
T: +44 (0) 1634 888969
E: medwaystudentservices@kent.ac.uk
kent.ac.uk/studentsupport

Careers and Employability
T: +44 (0) 1227 823299
E: careerhelp@kent.ac.uk
kent.ac.uk/ces

UCAS
The UCAS website has a number of helpful videos
ucas.com/Clearing

This brochure was produced in May 2021. The University of Kent makes every effort to ensure that the information contained in its publicity materials is fair and accurate and to provide educational services as described. However, the courses, services and other matters may be subject to change. Full details of our terms and conditions can be found at: kent.ac.uk/termsandconditions
Student Support and Wellbeing
If you ever feel you need some additional support, we have a great team of advisers, mentors and trained counsellors who can help.

Careers and Employability
We’ll help you get prepared for life after university. Workshops, seminars, events, one-to-one appointments, CV help, career planning – we offer a full programme of activities and events.

Your degree, your way
You’ll have a wide choice of modules, and you could spend a year abroad, work in industry, attend a summer school, volunteer, learn a language or take a Study Plus course.

Stunning backdrops
Your campus will play a big part in your university life – it’s where you’ll make your memories. While things are a bit different right now, we’ve made sure they are safe for everyone.

International community
There’s no template for a Kent student. People come from all over the world to study here and we’re proud of our welcoming and friendly community.

Get in touch
If you have any questions about life at Kent or your application, then please give us a call.

University of Kent, The Registry, Canterbury, Kent CT2 7NZ
T: +44 (0)1227 768896 kent.ac.uk/ug