



SHA TIN
COLLEGE

STC SPOTLIGHT ON HIGHER EDUCATION

June 2026 Edition



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Introduction

Welcome to the June edition of the STC Spotlight on Higher Education. As another academic year draws to a close, our students stand at different milestones along the same journey—some laying foundations, others making decisive choices, and many preparing to take their first steps into a rapidly evolving world. Higher education is no longer simply about gaining admission to a prestigious institution; it is about building a resilient foundation of skills, perspectives, and connections that will serve you long after graduation. The decisions you make now—your subjects, your university list, your sense of what is possible—deserve careful thought, honest reflection, and strategic planning. We hope this issue offers the guidance and perspective you need to move forward with clarity and confidence.

HE Preparation Advice for Year 10 to Year 12 Students

Year 10 Students: Laying the Foundations

- **Broad Exploration:** Engage with a variety of subjects and activities to uncover your interests and passions.
- **Academic Performance:** Focus on your IGCSE studies while maintaining a balanced school life.
- **Extracurricular Involvement:** Join clubs, societies, and participate in competitions to gain diverse experiences.
- **HE Events:** Attend guest lectures, university fairs, and open days to understand what different universities offer.
- **Reading and Research:** Read widely on topics that interest you and learn about different careers and HE pathways.



Year 11 Students: Refining Your Path

- Academic Excellence: Strive for the best IGCSE grades to strengthen your academic profile.
- IB Subject Selection: Choose IB subjects aligned with your interests and future academic or career goals.
- Intentional Exploration: Delve deeper into areas that excite you through extracurricular activities and super-curricular experiences.
- HE and Career Research: Use tools like Unifrog to explore potential career paths and university programmes.
- Summer Schools and Online Courses: Consider summer schools and online courses, such as MOOCs, to enrich your learning.
- Work Experience: If leaning towards a professional field, gain insights through work shadowing or an internship.

Year 12 Students: HE Preparation

- Clear HE Goals: Have a clear vision of your preferred universities, countries, and subject fields.
- Application Preparation: Regularly meet with HE counsellors to stay on track with your HE applications.
- Application Materials: Create a compelling personal CV and start drafting your personal statements or essays.
- In-depth Research: Conduct extensive reading in your chosen subject area to demonstrate depth of knowledge.
- University Applications: Register for application systems, make informed decisions on university application list based on your research and aspirations.

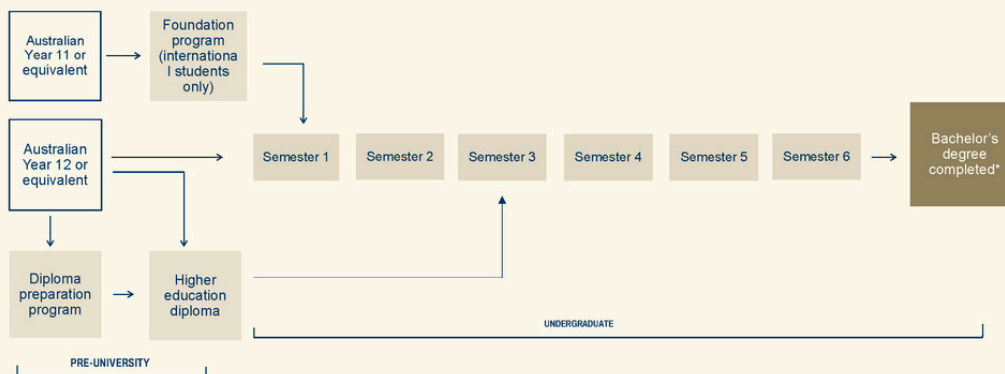


Spotlight on Bond University

Founded in 1989, Bond University is Australia's first fully private, not-for-profit institution, distinguished by its commitment to academic excellence and student-centered education. Nestled on the Gold Coast—a stunning region bordered by pristine beaches and lush rainforest hinterland—the university offers an inspiring environment for learning and personal growth. With an intentionally intimate community of just 4,000 students, Bond provides highly personalised attention and small class sizes that foster meaningful connections between students and faculty. They have a student-to-teacher ratio of 11:1. Its classrooms are genuinely diverse, with approximately 35% of the student body comprising international students from more than 90 countries, creating a rich, multicultural academic experience.

Bond also offers an accelerated suite of health science programmes—from undergraduate degrees in Biomedical Science, Exercise and Sport Science, Health Sciences, and Psychological Science to postgraduate qualifications including Occupational Therapy, Nutrition and Dietetic Therapy, and Physiotherapy—allowing students to enter the workforce faster through the university's distinctive two-year, six-semester structure. Bond's alumni network spans more than 130 countries, equipping graduates with lifelong professional connections and a truly international outlook.

Pathways



*The average Bond University undergraduate program can be completed in two years, but this may be longer for some areas of study.



Newly Introduced UCAT Toolkit On Unifrog

The HE Team has purchased the UCAT toolkit to help students better prepare for the test.

The UCAT Practice Tool in a Nutshell

The UCAT practice tool consists of:

- A 'full test' which offers a shorter, untimed, practice version of the full UCAT test covering all four subtests.
- Individual question banks for each of the 4 different subtests on the UCAT.

Both the full test and individual subtest question banks are untimed and shorter than the real UCAT exam, allowing you to build your confidence in the different types of questions at your own pace before practising under timed conditions.

UCAT practice

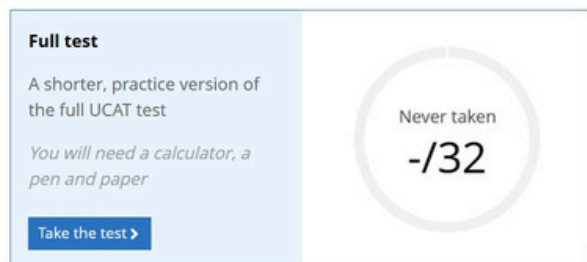
Prepare for the UCAT with our practice tests

Take the test

The UCAT (University Clinical Aptitude Test) is an important exam used in medical school admissions, designed to assess key qualities needed for future medical professionals.

Our practice tests replicate the types of questions that you will answer in the UCAT exam, but they are shorter and not timed, so you can build confidence at your own pace. You can choose to take a full practice test, or answer practice questions for any of the 4 different sections on the UCA

Before taking the tests, we recommend that you complete the **Applying to medical school in the UK course** to help you prepare for your applications, and the **How to ace the UCAT course** to familiarise yourself with the different subtests and types of questions, and find tips on how to approach them. Both courses [can be found here](#).



The screenshot shows a card for the 'Full test'. On the left, it says 'Full test' and 'A shorter, practice version of the full UCAT test'. Below that, it says 'You will need a calculator, a pen and paper'. At the bottom left is a blue button that says 'Take the test >'. On the right side of the card is a circular progress indicator. The text inside the circle says 'Never taken' and '-/32'.

The UCAT Toolkit Courses

At the bottom of the tool homepage, you can access additional resources to help support you in your applications to medical school in the UK. This includes the course 'Applying to medical school in the UK' (which covers what makes a great application, the logistics of the UCAT, mastering your application, and preparing for medical interviews) and the course 'How to ace the UCAT' (which covers tips and worked examples for all the different types of question on the UCAT).

You can also read Know-how library guides with expert guidance on the application process.

Resources

Expert tips on the medical school application process, including UCAT preparation

Applying to medical school in the UK course

Free Unifrog course where you can learn everything you need to know about the medical application process, including the UCAT exam, and how to make the most of our practice tool.

[View the course >](#)

How to ace the UCAT course

Free Unifrog course with tips and techniques to do well on every question type in the UCAT. Includes worked examples.

[View the course >](#)

Guides from the Know-how library:

[UK Medicine interviews: overview >](#)

[UK Medicine: the 5 steps to getting in >](#)

[Example personal statement: medicine >](#)

Reminder of Some Key Tools On Unifrog

Sha Tin College & Unifrog

We are pleased to share that Sha Tin College has been using Unifrog for many years. Unifrog is an online platform that helps students research higher education opportunities and manage university applications. Unifrog brings together resources to help students compare courses, explore career pathways, and prepare application materials — all in one place. We encourage parents to explore the platform with their child and see how it can guide their future choices.

Subject Library

It allows students to browse and compare university subjects with detailed profiles on:

- What the course actually covers — module breakdowns, teaching styles, assessment methods
- Entry requirements — specific subjects, grades, and admissions tests
- Skills developed — linking academic study to transferable competencies
- Career pathways — connecting subjects to the Careers Library entries
- Preparation advice — suggested extra and super curricular exploration and sample PS
- Student reviews — insights from current or recent students on workload, enjoyment, and value

Ophthalmics and Optometry

The scientific study of the eye to examine and treat sight problems.



Deepali Poojara
Optometry

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[Explore](#)

Careers Library

This is a comprehensive digital database within the Unifrog platform that helps students explore different career paths. It contains detailed profiles covering job descriptions, typical salary ranges, required qualifications and skills, daily responsibilities, and related university courses or apprenticeship pathways.

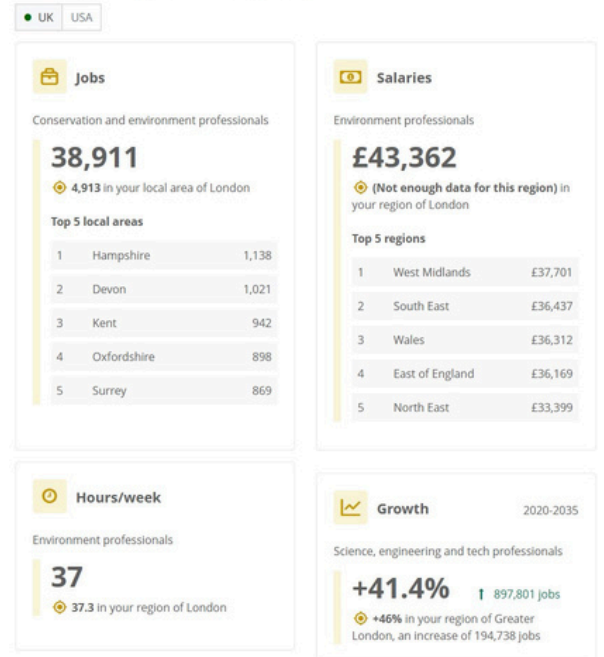
Each entry usually includes:

- Career overviews and "day in the life" insights
- Entry routes (university degrees, vocational training, direct entry)
- Subject and qualification requirements
- Related careers and transferable skills
- Labour market information and future outlook

Climate change analyst

Labour Market Information (LMI)

Median averages relating to the Climate change analyst profession.



The Fastest-Growing AI Jobs Of 2026

Artificial intelligence is reshaping industries at an unprecedented pace. For students considering their higher education and career paths, understanding these emerging roles can help inform subject choices and skill development.

Source: LinkedIn

Technical Pathways

AI Engineer — The #1 fastest-growing job title in the U.S. for 2026, with postings up 143% year over year. These professionals design, build, and implement AI systems, bridging technical development with business application.

Relevant degrees: Computer Science, Software Engineering, Data Science.

Machine Learning (MLOps) Lead — Focuses on deploying and maintaining AI systems at scale. The MLOps market is projected to reach US\$39 billion by 2034.

Relevant degrees: Computer Science, Mathematics, Engineering.

AI Solutions Architect — Evaluates and implements AI tools to solve real business problems, leading projects from concept to completion.

Relevant degrees: Computer Science, Information Systems, Business with technical focus.

Security & Governance Pathways

AI Security Specialist — Ethical hackers who test AI systems for vulnerabilities. Global AI cybersecurity spending is forecasted at US\$2.5 trillion in 2026.

Relevant degrees: Cybersecurity, Computer Science, Information Technology.

AI Ethics & Compliance Officer — Ensures AI systems are safe, fair, and legally compliant. 60% of enterprises are expected to establish AI ethics boards by end of 2026.

Relevant degrees: Law, Philosophy, Computer Science, Public Policy.



Business & Creative Pathways

AI Product Manager — Directs AI product development, bridging technology and business needs.

Relevant degrees: Business, Engineering, Computer Science.

AI Strategist — Evaluates where AI can drive value and defines implementation roadmaps.

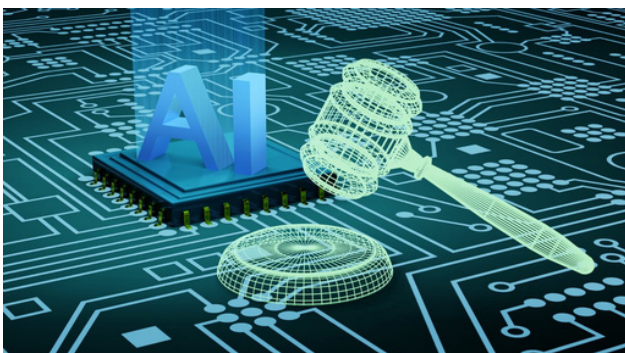
Relevant degrees: Business, Economics, Management.

AI Creative Director — Leads creative teams using AI tools to produce award-winning work more efficiently.

Relevant degrees: Design, Media, Communications, Fine Arts.

Conversational AI Designer — Crafts natural dialogue flows for chatbots and voice assistants. The market is projected to reach nearly US\$50 billion by 2030.

Relevant degrees: UX Design, Psychology, Linguistics, Computer Science.



The HK Landscape: Planning For Intensifying Competition

One trend worth noting with particular care: an increasing number of STC students are choosing to stay in Hong Kong for their university studies. While this reflects the strength of our local institutions, it also means competition for popular universities is becoming noticeably fiercer each cycle.

For this reason, we strongly encourage every student to build a balanced and realistic application list—one that includes not only aspiring (reach) choices and matching (target) options, but also genuine insurance (safety) options where admission is highly probable. An insurance choice is not a compromise on quality; it is a strategic safeguard that ensures you have a secure pathway forward, regardless of how competitive the cycle becomes.

Work closely with your HE counsellor to stress-test your list: ask honestly whether each choice is there for the right reasons, and whether you would genuinely be happy to attend your insurance options. Thoughtful list-building is one of the most important decisions you will make.



Closing Message

The journey to higher education is both exciting and challenging. With focused applications, thoughtful choices, and strong support, STC students are well-prepared to succeed in a rapidly changing world.

Our counselling team is here to guide you every step of the way.

Meet The Team

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**We challenge our students to make
meaningful contributions to the world.**

