



BISHOP
GROSSETESTE
UNIVERSITY

RESULTS DAY SURVIVAL GUIDE



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RATED GOLD

Highest possible rating in the first ever
Teaching Excellence Framework

**OVER 97% GRADUATE
EMPLOYABILITY**

Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education survey, 2016/17

HAPPY STUDENTS

We have consistently high satisfaction levels
in the National Student Survey

COME AND SEE FOR YOURSELF

BOOK ONTO OUR

OPEN DAY NOW

FRIDAY 17 AUGUST

www.bishopg.ac.uk/opendays

WELCOME TO OUR 2018 RESULTS DAY SURVIVAL GUIDE

Results day can be a stressful time, especially if you need to go into **Clearing**. But don't worry – we're here to help.



This guide will give you tailored information about Clearing written especially for you. We want to be **with you every step of the way**, so we've provided a few useful resources which you may need during your Clearing journey –

hopefully they'll make everything a little easier for you.

So take a read through and we'll help you prepare for every possible outcome. And remember – if you'd like **up-to-date information** about our courses, tips and advice from our professional Clearing staff, or simply need any other information at all, **call our Clearing Hotline now on (01522) 583698.**



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WHAT IS CLEARING?

Essentially, **Clearing** is the process which allows applicants to be matched up with **university places which are yet to be filled**.



Clearing is available between July and September and offers students who have not yet secured a place at university the opportunity to apply for available places. **Most people take advantage of Clearing after A-Level results day.** It's very easy to

panic if you're entered into Clearing, but try not to worry, take your time and consider the options you have.

For more information about the specifics of Clearing, see our FAQs section on page 10.



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FIRST THINGS FIRST – RESULTS DAY

Results day can be terrifying, but it can also be really exciting. This is the moment you've been building towards and you're about to take one future path or another. We know how big a day it is so we wanted to help with a little advice (because it's never as bad as you think!) On **Thursday 16th August**, before you go to pick up your results, you may want to gather a few things to take with you, including:

- **A copy of your UCAS personal ID**
- **A phone, fully charged and able to make calls**
- **The contact details for the Admissions departments of your firm and insurance choice universities**
- **A notepad and pen**



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NOW YOU HAVE YOUR RESULTS – WHAT NEXT?

OKAY, SO HAVE YOU MET YOUR FIRM OFFER?

No? Okay, don't worry. Has your firm choice accepted you? *(Remember to stay positive! Check UCAS track)*

Yes? Woohoo! You're going to university and you can rest easy! You don't need to contact them unless they've asked you to. Again, there can be a delay in UCAS Track updating, so you may wish to contact your university just to make sure.

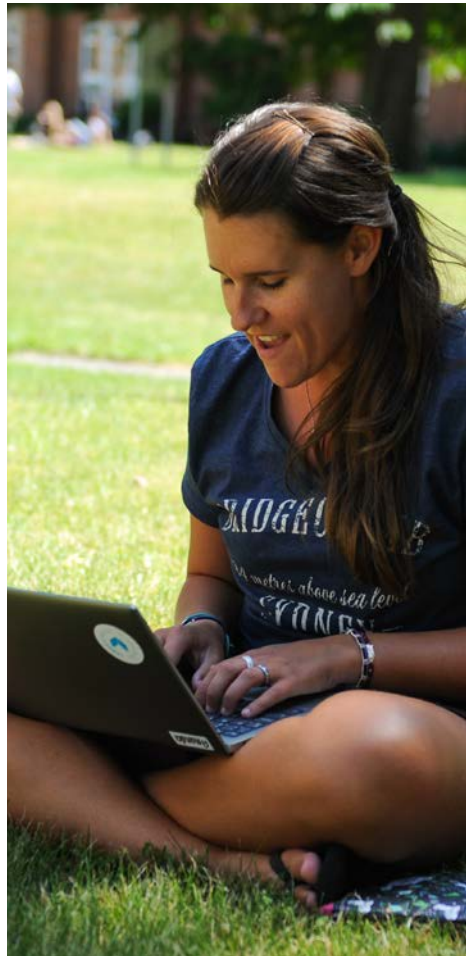
Yes? Congratulations! Time to celebrate and breathe a sigh of relief – everything has gone to plan! You don't need to contact your first choice unless they've specifically asked you to – however that shouldn't stop you calling your family and friends to share your good news! UCAS Track should update at 8.00am on Thursday 16th August – don't panic if it doesn't, there can sometimes be a delay. *If you are concerned, then please contact your university.*

Remember, even if you've met your firm offer, you don't have to take it. Clearing gives you the opportunity to change your mind and apply to different courses or different universities.

No? Again, there's no need to worry. Has your insurance choice accepted you?

No? Okay, so you're now in Clearing. If you've missed your firm and insurance choices, you'll most likely be disappointed. Try not to be – this is a new opportunity to fully consider your options. Double check that you've not been accepted with lower grades at your original choice of university. If you've been offered an alternative course by your firm or insurance choice university see our 'What does unconditional changed course (UCC) mean?' in the FAQs section of this guide (page 10). If you've not been accepted by either of your choices, you'll automatically be entered into Clearing. Your Clearing number will be displayed on the 'Welcome' page in UCAS Track – you'll need this when contacting institutions.

Yes? Well done! You've got your second choice and you are off to university! UCAS Track will be updated – there's no need to contact your insurance choice university. You may need to contact Student Loans Company using the change of circumstances (CO1) form which you can do online.



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CLEARING OPEN DAY – COME AND SEE FOR YOURSELF

If you find yourself in Clearing, don't hesitate - give us a call. Our professional Clearing staff will be able to give you all the advice you need and find a course perfect for you. Simply call **(01522) 583698** and they'll talk you through it all.

Alternatively, why not come and visit us? We're running a special **Clearing Open Day on Friday 17th August** where you can speak to staff in person and really get a feel of what BGU has to offer.

This Open Day is specifically designed for people who are making decisions in Clearing. It will allow you to come and learn more about the university, explore our beautiful campus, find out more about Lincoln, ask questions of our staff and really get to know us. So what are you waiting for?

"The Open Day I attended was what made me know this is where I wanted to be. The staff and students were so helpful, the campus tour was detailed and the facilities were amazing."

Holly



Book your place now before it's too late! Visit:
www.bishopg.ac.uk/opendays



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TREAT YOURSELF AT OUR OPEN DAY



One voucher per person. Can be used in



REFECTORY



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FAQS

HOW DO I APPLY FOR A COURSE THROUGH CLEARING?

Once you've found a course you like and have been given a verbal offer by the university, you need to add the course as your Clearing choice in the 'Your Choices' section of UCAS Track.

WHAT GRADES WILL I NEED TO APPLY FOR A COURSE THROUGH CLEARING?

It depends on the university you're thinking of going to. The entry requirements during Clearing can vary from university to university, so you'll need to speak to them and let them know the grades you've achieved, and ask if they will consider you for the course.

WHAT DOES 'CONDITIONAL' MEAN?

If it says 'conditional' next to your offer but you have the required grades for your firm or insurance offer, don't panic – UCAS Track may not have been updated. But do contact the university if you are concerned about this. If you have missed the grades for your firm or insurance offer and it still says 'conditional' then contact the university, as they may not have made a decision yet. If your firm or insurance choice don't accept you, then you'll enter Clearing.



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WHAT DOES 'UCC' MEAN?

If you have missed your firm or insurance offer but you've been accepted onto a different course, this will show up on UCAS Track as UCC (unconditional changed course) with the new course code. Consider the new course carefully. It may be quite different from your original choice, so make sure you look through the university website or speak to someone at the university to find out everything you need to know about the course before accepting. You may also be eligible for other alternative courses at the university so it is worth speaking to them about this. You have five days to decide whether to accept this alternative or decline it. If you decline, you will either go to your insurance university (if applicable and if they have accepted you) or into Clearing. If you are happy with the changed course offer, you must accept it on UCAS Track. Remember – you must do this within five days.

WHAT IF I'M ON HOLIDAY ON RESULTS DAY?

If you know you're going to be away over results day, you'll need to make arrangements with your school to ensure you can receive your results, if you can't get them online. If you end up going into Clearing, make sure you do everything possible to contact universities as soon as you can – if you leave it until you get back you will have much less choice.

“The admissions team have been amazing in helping me apply for BGU and they have answered every single question in thorough detail, ensuring I understand exactly what is going on.”

Jemma



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10 TOP TIPS FOR CLEARING

1. Don't panic! If you stay calm you're much more likely to take in all the information you need to succeed

2. Call our Clearing hotline on **(01522) 583698**. Our professional Clearing staff will be able to talk you through your individual situation and give you any help and advice you may need

3. If your grades fall short, wait for that important acceptance or rejection indication on UCAS Track before you put yourself into Clearing. You never know – your first-choice university may well still accept you

4. Don't give up! You may well be offered a place on a similar course that's just as good, but you'll need to shop around. Don't rush your decision. The UCAS system doesn't even let you trigger the formal process of accepting a Clearing place until **3pm** on results day, so you have the chance to shop around

5. Be prepared to make lots of phone calls - and be persistent!



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10 TOP TIPS FOR CLEARING

6. Ask questions – choosing a new course through Clearing is a big decision, so you need to make sure you have all the information you need. If there's something you're not sure about or you don't understand, make sure you ask the person you're speaking to for clarification. Don't be worried about asking questions – it shows you're thorough

7. Hold your nerve – you may need all your negotiating skills to persuade an course tutor that they should take you on

9. If you don't get the grades you need it's not the end of the world – there are plenty of other opportunities to consider

8. Enlist the support of friends and family. Keep them informed, as they'll be a great help to you when you have to make that difficult final decision

10. Make sure you take notes. You'll have a lot of information going through your head so it's important to write as much of it down as you can so you don't forget it later on



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JOANNE

“BGU was my first choice uni - it always had been since I started considering drama as a career in year 10. However, I was unable to finish my A-levels and so I thought I wouldn't be able to go. I ended up doing hairdressing, and then a business Higher National Certificate (HNC).

My old drama teacher was a student at BGU – he would always talk about it, and as my career dream was to also be a drama teacher, I knew I wanted to be at BGU. Drama had always been my passion and it wasn't until I went back to my old secondary school to assist with a school production that I really realised I wasn't happy. The staff and children there persuaded me to take a risk and leave my job at the hair salon to chance getting in - it was the best thing that's ever happened to me! I'm finally working towards my dream career!

I applied through Clearing as it was all very spontaneous and last minute. I literally left my job at the salon and drove straight up to the university to just talk about my options – and ended up leaving with an offer! The Clearing process at BGU was so easy. All the staff were very supportive and answered all the questions I had - I knew straight away I'd made the right choice.



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JOANNE

The BGU campus is small and everyone is very friendly, so you don't feel out of place on campus and there's a real sense of community. The staff are very supportive and will always assist you with everything they can. Lincoln is also relatively small, but with lots of shops, culture, friendly people and opportunities for students. I live nearby so I knew a lot about the city beforehand, but I really enjoyed seeing it in a new light as a student and making the most of it.

If you find yourself in Clearing don't panic! Be positive and make sure you ask questions. I found myself feeling stressed sometimes because I was confused, but after asking questions I found the whole process very easy and exciting."



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YOUR QUICK REFERENCE SHEET

Use this page to help if you are in Clearing

Remember, if you need help with anything related to Clearing, or the University application process, please don't hesitate to get in touch with our fantastic Enquiries team on **01522 583698**. If you have a questions about a current application then our Admissions team are on hand on **01522 583648**.

Your UCAS personal ID:

Top university Clearing numbers:

Name	Number
BGU	01522 583698

Name	Number



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TEACHING EXCELLENCE

Our teaching has been awarded the highest possible rating in the first ever Government-led Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) assessment, a rating which was awarded to just the top 26% of universities in the UK. This shows that you will receive the same high standard of education at BGU as you would at other leading universities such as Cambridge and Oxford.



We've always strived to provide outstanding teaching and learning here at BGU and now we have the award to prove it. This means you can rest assured that coming to study at BGU will provide you with education of the highest quality possible.



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“I would recommend BGU to anyone! If you want the campus feel and staff who genuinely care, BGU is the place for you.”

James



EXCELLENT EMPLOYMENT PROSPECTS

BGU has consistently high employability rates. Currently over 97% of our students are in work or further study within 6 months of graduating. Of course, we think our students are fantastic from the minute they arrive on campus, but we aim to offer as much support as we can throughout their time here in order to help make them as employable as possible.



Our courses are tailored to help prepare you for life after graduation. This could be through placements in settings relevant to your field, or through one-to-one support time offered within the university. We also try to keep our class sizes smaller, to allow you a more personalised learning experienced.



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“I feel that BGU will help me greatly in my future career due to the great course I am on, the support offered in finding employment and the distinguished reputation the university has.”

Connor



REBEKAH

“I was convinced I wouldn’t get a place on the course at BGU but my mum managed to persuade me to call through Clearing to apply. The phone call was simple and quick - the helpful lady at the other end of the line asked for my A-Level grades and if I had a C grade in GCSE Maths and English, which I confirmed.

BGU has been so welcoming and really supportive of my studies and pastoral issues. Coming to BGU was the best decision I’ve ever made, I’m now part of the BGU Lions cheerleading team, who have given me so many amazing opportunities, like competing nationally and cheerleading at live football games. As BGU is such a close community I feel as though I have received that one-to-one support I have really needed in my previous studies and I’m getting higher grades than I ever expected to get. I am so happy here and can’t believe how easy it was to apply through Clearing!”



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HAPPINESS

Here at BGU our students are amongst the happiest in the UK, and they love studying here – proven by the fact that we have consistently high ratings for student satisfaction in the National Student Survey. We think there are a number of reasons as to why our students are so happy. It could be down to the excellent facilities they have right here on campus, the support they receive from before they've even started studying here, or the fact that they continue to receive that support up until graduation and beyond!

Right here on campus we have a wide range of facilities, ranging from our very own cinema, cafes and a gym through to subject-specific state-of-the-art facilities, such as the brand new Archaeology lab and the Business hub (not to mention

our theatre, Human Performance Laboratory and much more besides). Our students enjoy full use of these facilities throughout their studies here with us and we are always looking to improve our campus and what we have to offer.



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“I think the general atmosphere makes BGU different. You feel like you know everyone and it’s a friendly, welcoming environment which you don’t get at big universities.”

Rhianna



GEORGIE

“On A-level results day, I went into school to pick my results up. I discovered that I didn’t get my desired grades, so I went home crying! The feeling of not getting your grades is horrible - it’s just the worst feeling ever.

When I rang BGU, the people were so, so nice. They kept you nice and calm, talked you through it all – it was really nice to have someone to talk to, to calm yourself down a little! They gave me that personal feeling – they always knew my name, which really put me at ease.

I originally applied for the Early Childhood Studies course, something completely different from what I ended up studying. Before Clearing, I thought I really wanted to be a teacher. But now, thanks to the course I ended up taking, I really want to work in Heritage and work alongside school groups.

If I could give anyone advice for going through Clearing it would be this - be really proactive, really positive. Because you’re not going to get anywhere feeling sorry for yourself! Get onto it as soon as possible and don’t give up, don’t take no for an answer.”



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LINCOLN

We know Lincoln very well – we have been here in the historic heart of the city for over 150 years after all! From its charming cobbled streets uphill to its modern waterfront downhill, Lincoln has so much to offer students. The history enthusiast can immerse themselves in the city's rich heritage, the bargain hunter can trawl the independent shops and boutiques, the food-fanatic can dine at the many restaurants and bistros – there really is something for everyone!

With students making up a significant proportion of the population of the city you can be sure that when you arrive here

you'll be in good company. Lincoln is in the heart of England in the East Midlands, ideally placed to give you easy access to the rest of the country. The city is really easy to navigate around on foot and is essentially split into two halves. The uphill historic area boasts beautiful cobbled streets, the majestic Cathedral, hilltop Castle and BGU. Downhill is the more modern city centre, focused around the busy High Street and Brayford waterfront. With a variety of live entertainment venues, cultural attractions and nightlife hotspots across the city, you'll be sure to find plenty to keep you entertained.



**“Lincoln is a great city!
It has everything any
student would want. The
Cathedral and the Bailgate
area provide beautiful
and historical interest
while downhill has lots of
trendy bars and clubs with
great places to eat and
excellent shopping.”**

Tom



Tom, MA student



“I found BGU through UCAS and actually came through clearing. I thought the clearing process would be daunting but I spoke to the Head of School on the phone and he made everything really easy. Coming to BGU just felt right.”



LAURA

“I was left without a plan and without a place at university. My second UCAS choice was the BA English Literature course at BGU, but I wasn’t sure if I had already missed out on a place. I discussed my qualifications with the admissions team and spoke to the senior course leader. I was delighted when I was offered a place on the English Literature course. When I arrived I was quiet and shy, but thanks to the nurturing nature of my lecturers and encouragement from my friends I left feeling much more confident, both in myself and my work.”



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WHERE IS BGU?



Humberside

45m

East Midlands

1h 20m

Robin Hood

1h

Birmingham

1h 45m

Manchester

2h 20m

Stansted

2h 10m

Luton

2h 15m

Heathrow

2h 40m

Gatwick

3h 20m



London Stations

2h



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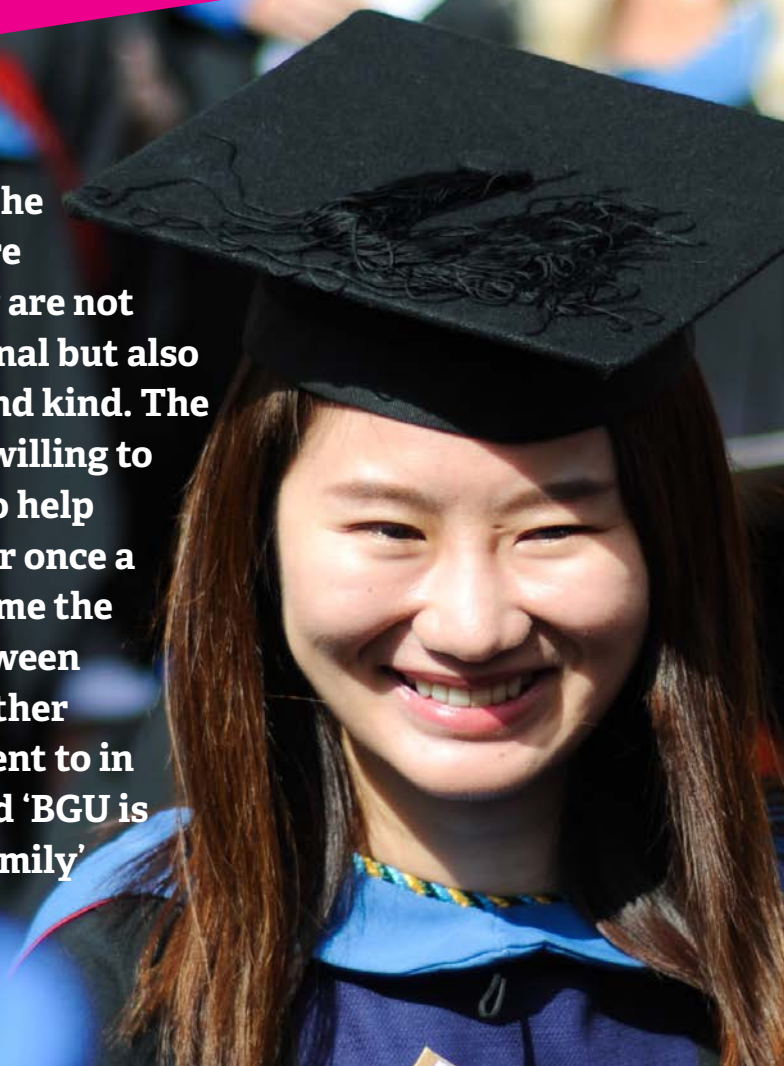
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WHERE IS BGU?



Xian, PGCE Graduate

“Honestly, all the staff at BGU are amazing! They are not only professional but also very helpful and kind. The staff here are willing to do their best to help me. I remember once a teacher asked me the difference between BGU and the other university I went to in the past – I said ‘BGU is like a loving family’



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