



Updates 2023



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Globally Connected

David is a member of the International Association for College Admission Counseling, an affiliated consultant to the Council of International Schools and a supporting member of the Council of British International Schools. He is the only independent university consultant in the world to hold all four memberships.



The University Guys



We are college counsellors... who happen to also do tour and events

Each year work with around 100 Year 13 students supporting with various aspects of university applications, ranging from a full-service global applications package to a few hours of support on application essays.

We deliver talks and workshops to schools around the UK, including most of the big name schools as well as many hidden gems.

We answer questions via email and on social media, provide a wealth of free content and will do our best to promote international higher education in any way possible.

We provide roadshows bringing international universities to the UK



International University Roadshow
 Thursday 22nd September
 Concourse, 9.30-11.00pm

- Michigan State University
- Loyola Marymount University, LA
- High Point University, North Carolina
- Bocconi University, Milan
- ESCP European Business School
- Les Roches Universities
- Hult International Business School, Boston/International
- IE University, Spain

Come along to talk to representatives from these universities to find out more about what they offer. Open to all.

'Invisible' connectives	'Kick' connectives	'Switch' connectives
aber	but	, weil because
denn	for	, wenn if, when
und	and	, (so) dass (so) that
sondern	rather	, obwohl although
oder	or	, bevor before
		, nachdem after
		, als when (past)
	normal word order	verb = s





So what's going on?

UK capacity challenges

A lot of things are being blamed on Covid, but we believe that actually there are a number of unrelated developments that have come together to create a particular opportunity for non-UK universities:

- Demographic growth of the university-seeking population
- Political uncertainty and the 'third rail' of tuition fees
- The idea of the 'Russell Group' as a brand of value
- Hollowing out of expert opinion in the news media about higher education



Capacity at the more-selective universities is fixed, but we are trying to pour more students into them.

As a result, more students will 'spill over' to other universities that may not be as attractive to them (or their families).

Increasingly, we are seeing families not willing to 'settle' for what's possible in the UK, and instead looking internationally

International options

Solid data is hard to come by, but we do have some proxies.

The Independent Schools Council survey shows some good data:

“For the 5% of pupils who chose to study outside of the UK, the USA is by far the most popular destination attracting 47% of ISC pupils going to overseas universities, as illustrated in Figure 35. This is an increase compared with last year when 43% chose to study in the USA. ISC pupils go on to a wide range of overseas universities and this range has been expanding year on year. In 2012, fewer than 400 overseas institutions attracted ISC pupils, now there are 539. The top 10 overseas universities are illustrated in Figure 36. Finally, pupils choosing to study overseas are not confined to a small number of ISC schools. Pupils from 55% of ISC schools with Year 13 leavers go on to higher education overseas.”

https://www.isc.co.uk/media/8421/isc_census_2022_final-v2.pdf

Fig 35. Destination of ISC pupils going to non-UK universities:
Countries

Proportion of all ISC pupils attending non-UK universities.

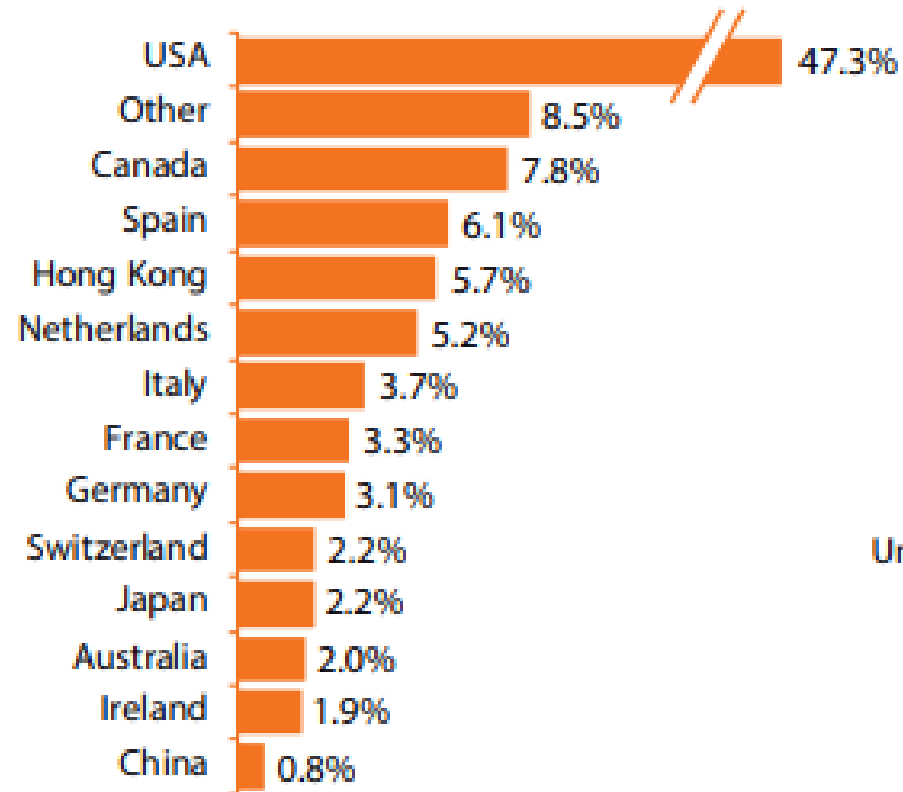
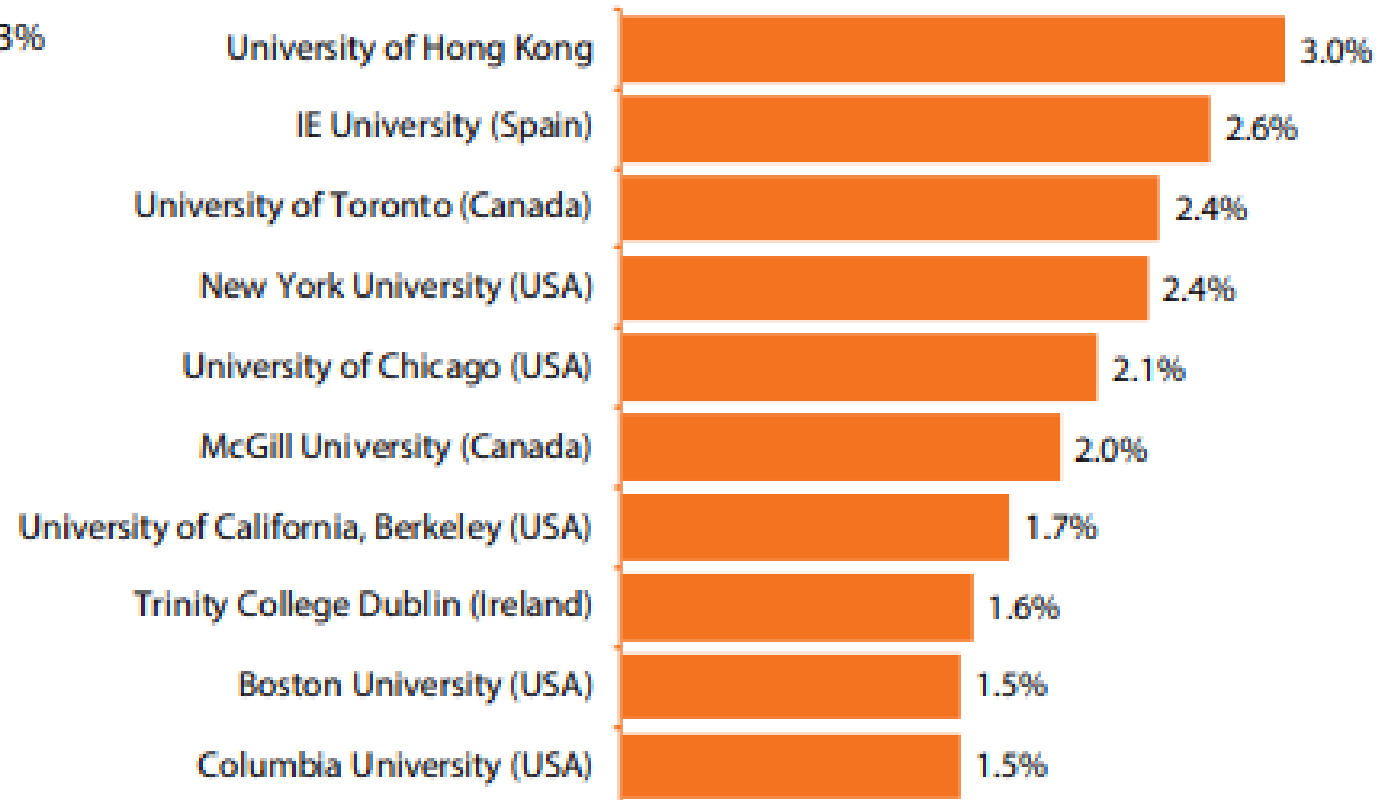
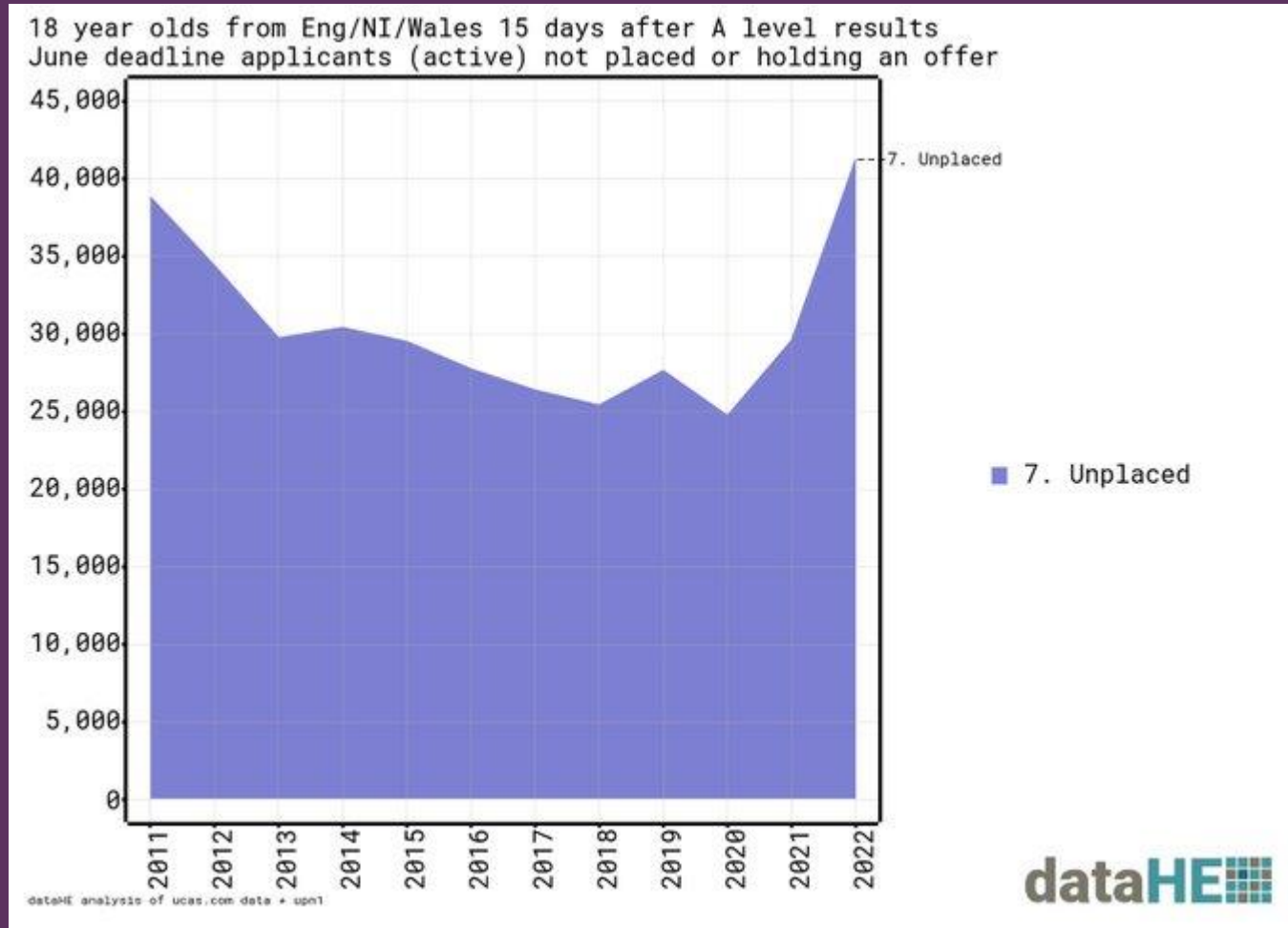


Fig 36. Destination of ISC pupils attending non-UK universities:
Top 10

Proportion of all ISC pupils attending non-UK universities.

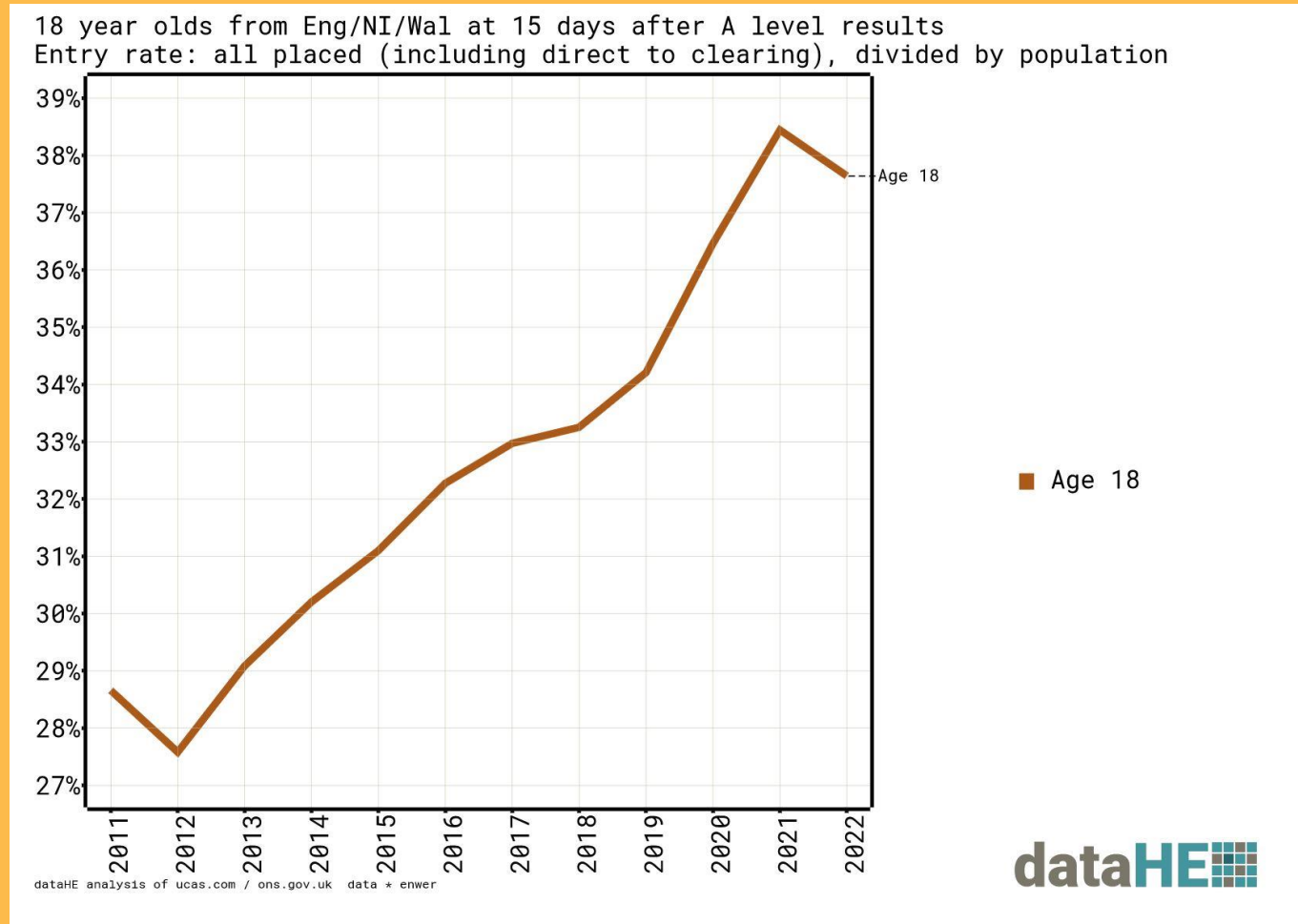


This year, the number of students on UCAS who were 'unplaced' went up. We believe many area students who didn't somewhere 'good enough' choosing to reapply



“Just 37.6 per cent of 18-year-olds will start degrees at UK universities this autumn, or have a deferred place to start next year, compared with 38.4 per cent last year, according to data from the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service... experts predict that the trend is likely to continue because universities cannot afford to keep enrolling growing numbers of UK teenagers. Many institutions are recruiting more overseas students, who pay fees of up to £40,000 a year on some courses.”

Sunday Times, 11th Sept 2022



FEATURES

Why Ivy League universities are drawing the UK public school crowd like never before

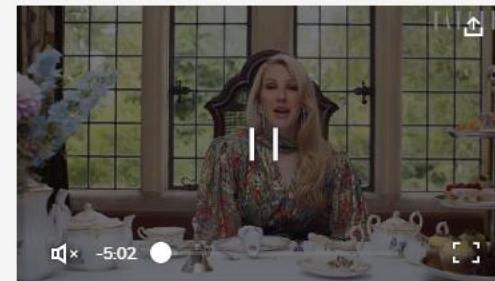
Forget Oxbridge – Princeton, Yale, Harvard and MIT are where the country's brightest private school pupils are aiming for now

By Hope Coke

12 August 2022



WATCH



Ellie Goulding takes on Tea With Tatler

EDUCATION

Why British students have their eyes on the Ivy League

With record numbers of pupils rejected by elite UK universities, one in five private school leavers are targeting American institutions instead



However, is the reality really understood?

91 and 58

The number of UK citizens at Harvard vs the number of UK-educated students listed on Harvard's athletic rosters for 2022-23

Admissions rates

University	2022 Acceptance Rate
Harvard University	3.19%
Columbia University	3.73%
Massachusetts Institute of Technology	3.96%
Yale University	4.46%
Brown University	5%
Johns Hopkins University	6%
Duke University	6%
Vanderbilt University	6%
Dartmouth College	6.24%
Amherst College	7%
Colby College	7%
Northwestern University	7%
Swarthmore College	7%
Barnard College	8%
Rice University	8.56%
Tufts University	9%
Bowdoin College	9%
Williams College	9%
Tulane University	10%

Admissions rates v Early Decision

University	2022 Acceptance Rate	Early Decision Rate 2023
Harvard University	3.19%	7.6% (REA)
Columbia University	3.73%	
Massachusetts Institute of Technology	3.96%	5.7% (EA)
Yale University	4.46%	10% (REA)
Brown University	5%	13%
Johns Hopkins University	6%	19.7%
Duke University	6%	16.4%
Vanderbilt University	6%	
Dartmouth College	6.24%	19%
Amherst College	7%	
Colby College	7%	
Northwestern University	7%	
Swarthmore College	7%	
Barnard College	8%	
Rice University	8.56%	
Tufts University	9%	
Bowdoin College	9%	
Williams College	9%	
Tulane University	10%	

Northeastern this cycle

“Northeastern received a record number of undergraduate applications for the 2023-24 academic year, which university officials attribute to Northeastern’s expanding global footprint and leadership in experiential learning.

Northeastern received 96,327 applications for fall 2023, up from 91,100 in 2022, 75,233 in 2021 and 64,428 in 2020. That’s an increase of 31,899 applicants, or 49.5%, over four years, according to Satyajit Dattagupta, the university’s chief enrollment officer and senior vice chancellor.

“The Northeastern education is unparalleled—the ability to study at a premier R1 research institution that has the ability to send students all over the world to gather professional experiences before they graduate,” Dattagupta says. “This unique value proposition leads to clear and measurable outcomes for families.”

Northeastern has also become the No. 1 choice for many top students. Applicants for early decision—students who choose Northeastern as their first choice and agree to attend if accepted—increased 30% from last year. Since 2015, early decision applications have risen from 772 to 5,872.”

<https://news.northeastern.edu/2023/02/02/record-undergrad-applications-fall-2023/>

Students are looking at other options

Rise in applications to private European universities: Bocconi and IE particularly popular.

Increase in interest for Trinity College Dublin, but more on the realities behind that to come.

Awareness of Canada is growing, based on our work on the 2022 EduCanada event

The idea of “UCAS +1” being encouraged by many UK schools

Netherlands

A scenic view of a canal in the Netherlands, likely Amsterdam. The canal is filled with various boats, including traditional wooden rowing boats and modern motorized boats. The water is calm, reflecting the sky and the buildings. On the right side, a modern building with a curved facade is visible, featuring the text 'NATIONALE OPERA & B...' on its upper part. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds. The overall scene is peaceful and picturesque, showcasing the unique water-based urban landscape of the Netherlands.

The Netherlands

The minister of education, culture and science in the Netherlands has written to the boards of all public research and applied sciences universities, urgently requesting a halt to international student recruitment.

The letter, dated December 22 2022 and signed by Robbert Dijkgraaf, comes weeks after a parliamentary motion, spearheaded by MPs Peter Kwint and Harry van der Molen, was passed which called on Dijkgraaf to limit international student recruitment efforts.

The letter, discussing the “termination of active recruitment of international students”, highlighted the importance of international students but cited pressure on teaching staff, facilities and accommodation shortages as overwhelming reasons for the request.

The PIE, Jan 5th 2023



**What else is going on with
the USA?**

Supreme Court case

We await a decision on the case against Harvard and UNC Chapel Hill which could radically (and immediately) change the landscape of US admissions:

- Banning the use of race in admissions
- Changes to how legacy can be used
- Restricting / banning Early Decision
- Roles of how institutional priorities can work within institutions.

Predictions of how this will impact things range from the cataclysmic to a mild shrug – it all depends on the exact ruling. But, with a conservative majority on the Supreme Court, some change seems likely.

IPEDS data

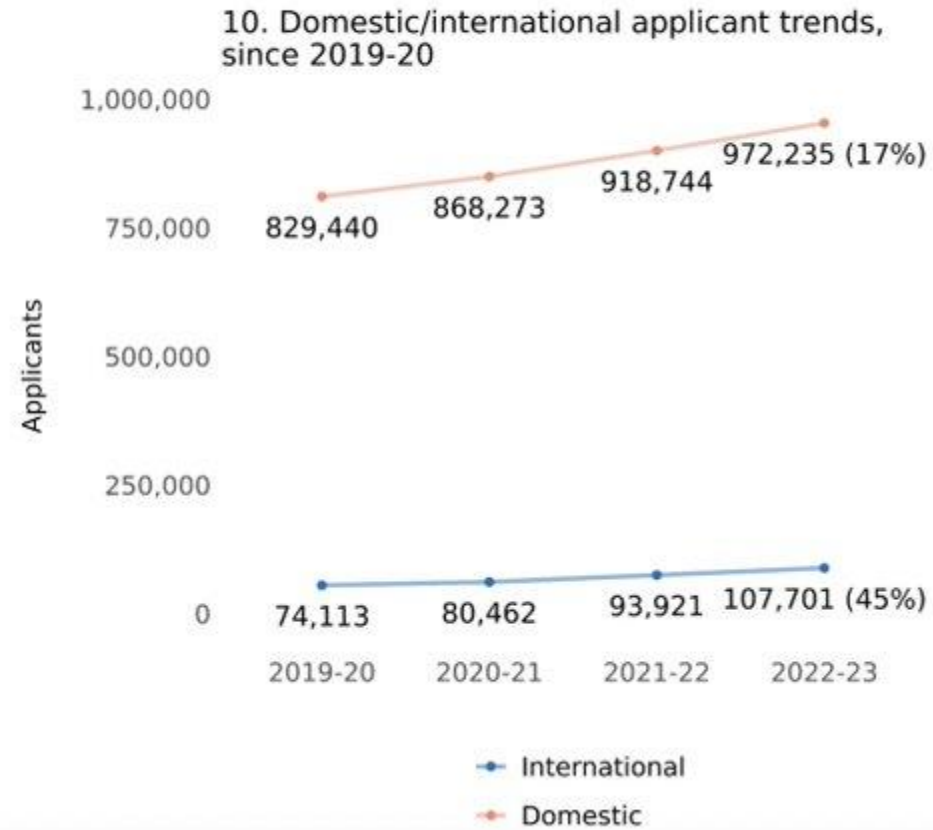
A change in the way the US Department of Education requests data has had some unintended consequences. By no longer allowing universities to count incomplete applications in their data, many US colleges may see the a decline in the number of “applications” to their university – and thus a rise in the admissions rate.

As a result, many colleges are chasing students who have added a college to the Common App – which universities can see as – without actually going on to submit an application

Open Doors Data



Figure 10. International applicants increased 45% since 2019-20



NCAA & Testing

“The Council voted to eliminate test score requirements for immediate eligibility for incoming freshman student-athletes, at the recommendation from the NCAA Standardized Test Score Task Force. The task force was a specialized group charged with reviewing initial eligibility requirements as part of the NCAA's eight-point plan to advance racial equity.

"As some NCAA member schools shift away from requiring standardized test scores for general student admissions, the Council felt it was appropriate to reflect those admission standards in eligibility requirements for incoming freshman student-athletes," Tealer said.

Since 2020, NCAA Division I has waived standardized test requirements due to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on the ability of prospects to take the test.”

<https://www.ncaa.org/news/2023/1/11/media-center-division-i-council-modernizes-rules-for-coaching-limits.aspx>

A photograph of the LSE Old Building entrance, featuring a large arched doorway and a sign that reads "LSE Old Building". The scene is filled with people, including students with backpacks and professionals, walking on the sidewalk. The image has a semi-transparent purple overlay.

The challenge for schools and students

Mismatch between expectations and realities

AAA is no longer “special” in the UK admissions process

Changes to the UCAS reference and (possibly) the personal statement create anxiety

Fears stoked by certain media outlets about admissions to certain UK universities from certain UK schools

This all leads to massive student anxiety

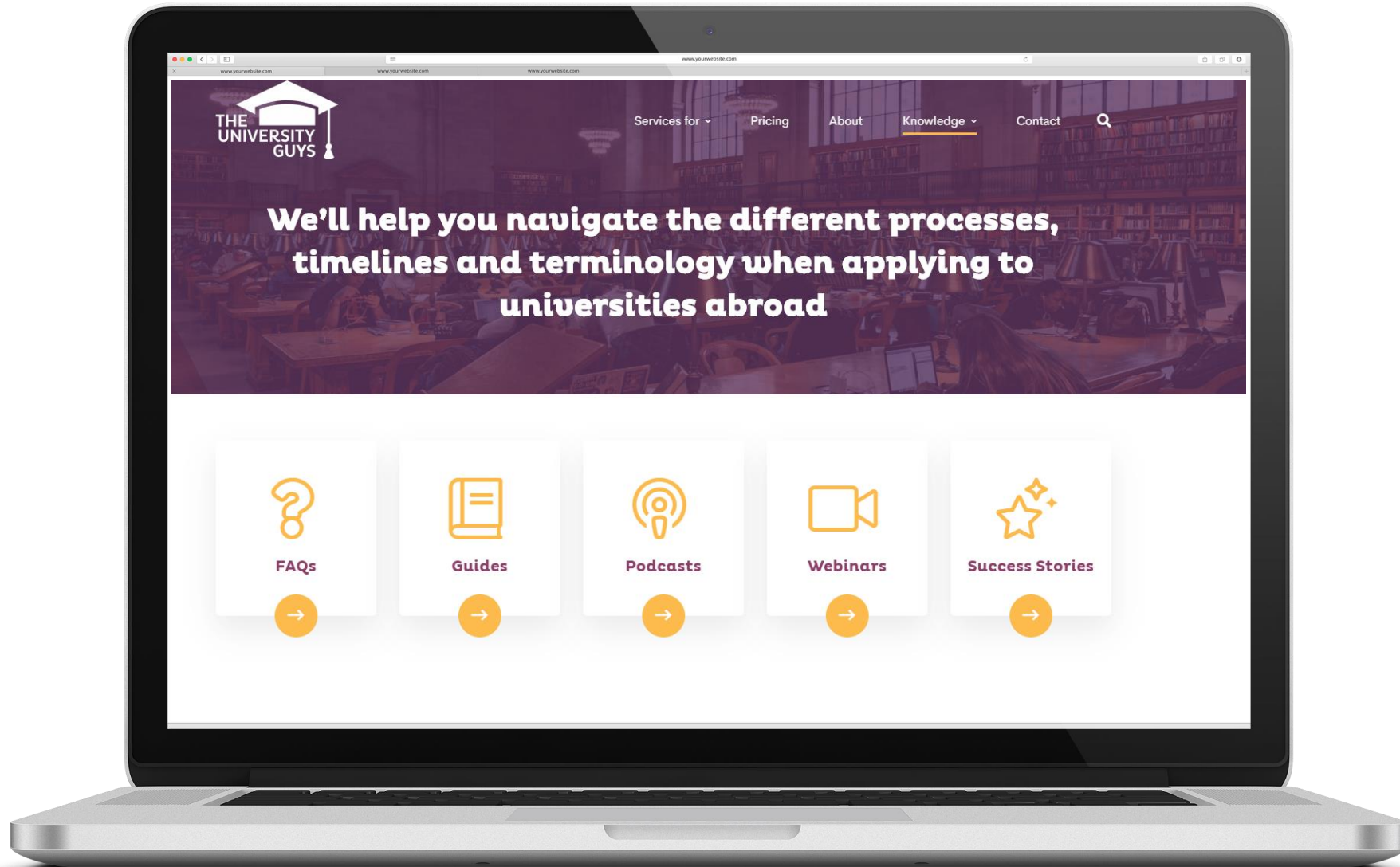
So, what can you do?

Educate your school community about the realities of the scene right now – you don't want a teacher or HSM being well-meaning but messing up the messaging to students.

Signpost to students and parent where they might add a 'plus 1' non-UK application depending on their subject interest for UK applications.

Attend our conference on Monday April 24th to network with other counsellors and staff from a range of global universities.

Resources online



Request more information

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