



**THE EDGE**<sup>®</sup>  
LEARNING CENTER

# ADMISSIONS CONSULTING

**Give yourself The Edge**

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[www.theedge.com.hk](http://www.theedge.com.hk)



# 2021/22 THE EDGE'S ADMISSIONS RESULTS

## US UNIVERSITY ACCEPTANCE SCHOOL LIST

*Ranking	School	# of Acceptances
US #2	Harvard University	1
US #2	Columbia University	1
US #6	University of Chicago	5
US #8	University of Pennsylvania	3
US #9	California Institute of Technology	1
US #9	Duke University	1
US #9	Johns Hopkins University	3
US #9	Northwestern University	2
US #13	Dartmouth College	1
US #17	Cornell University	1
US #20	University of California--Los Angeles	2
US #21	Emory University	2
US #22	University of California--Berkeley	1
US #23	University of Michigan--Ann Arbor	4
US #25	Carnegie Mellon University	1
US #25	University of Virginia	4
US #27	University of Southern California	3
US #28	New York University	3
US #28	University of California--Santa Barbara	3
US #28	University of North Carolina--Chapel Hill	5
US #34	University of California--San Diego	4
US #34	University of Rochester	1
US #36	University of California--Irvine	3
US #38	University of California--Davis	13
US #42	Boston University	1
US #42	University of Wisconsin--Madison	3
US #47	University of Illinois--Urbana-Champaign	4
US #49	Purdue University--West Lafayette	2
US #55	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	1
US #55	Santa Clara University	1
US #55	University of Miami	1
US #59	Syracuse University	2
US #59	University of Washington	1
US #68	Fordham University	2
US #75	Loyola Marymount University	1
US #83	University of California--Riverside	4
US #93	University of California--Merced	3
US #93	Stony Brook University--SUNY	1
US #99	University of Oregon	1
US #103	University of California--Santa Cruz	2
US #136	University of La Verne	1
US #179	Ohio University	1

\*U.S. News 2022 Best National Universities Ranking

## UK UNIVERSITY ACCEPTANCE SCHOOL LIST

*Ranking	School	# of Acceptances
UK #2	University of Cambridge	1
UK #3	London School of Economics and Political Science	1
UK #4	University of St Andrews	7
UK #5	Imperial College London	6
UK #6	Durham University	3
UK #8	UCL (University College London)	5
UK #9	University of Warwick	3
UK #10	University of Bath	2
UK #13	University of Manchester	3
UK #17	University of Bristol	2
UK #20	University of Leeds	1
UK #21	King's College London	3
UK #24	University of Nottingham	1
UK #25	Cardiff University	1
UK #35	University of Surrey	1
UK #36	University of Reading	1
UK #41	Queen Mary University of London	1
UK #48	SOAS University of London	1

\*University League Tables 2022 Ranking

## OTHER COUNTRIES

*Ranking	School	# of Acceptances
Canada #1	University of Toronto	6
Canada #2	University of British Columbia	1
Canada #3	McGill University	1
Hong Kong #1	University of Hong Kong	2
Hong Kong #3	Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	2
Hong Kong #3	Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (Global Business)	1
Mainland China #1	Tsinghua University	1

\* U.S. News 2022 Best Colleges Canada, Hong Kong, and Mainland China Ranking



**90%** of The Edge's Students were Accepted into one of their **Top 3 Schools**

# 2021/22 THE EDGE'S US BOARDING SCHOOLS ADMISSIONS RESULTS

**100%** of The Edge's students were accepted into one of their **Top 3 Schools**

**100%** of The Edge's students who applied to the **Top 10 Boarding Schools** got at least one offer

## Accepted School List:

- Choate Rosemary Hall
- Concord Academy
- Lawrenceville School
- Loomis Chaffee School
- Milton Academy
- Northfield Mount Herman School
- Phillips Exeter Academy
- Stevenson School
- Lakefield College School (Canada)



# Our Admissions Consulting Team

## 1 Unparalleled Expertise

- Our team is comprised of industry experts and former admissions officers with first-hand knowledge
- Our team together has over 50 years of professional industry experience with independent school and university admissions

## 2 Highest Professional Qualifications

- Our team is certified by and members of professional organizations such as NACAC, International ACAC, and IECA
- We continue to stay ahead of admissions trend through professional development

## 3 Dedicated Counselors

- Each of our counselors only work with 16-20 students each year to make sure each student will receive a dedicated and personalized service

## 4 One-Stop Service

- Other than Admissions Consulting services, The Edge also provides Test Preparation and Academic Tutoring
- We are proud to be Hong Kong's most popular Test Prep provider

## 5 Accessible Worldwide

- We work with applicants and families from all over the world
- We provide support to students and families in multiple languages and timezones

# Collin Joseph Law

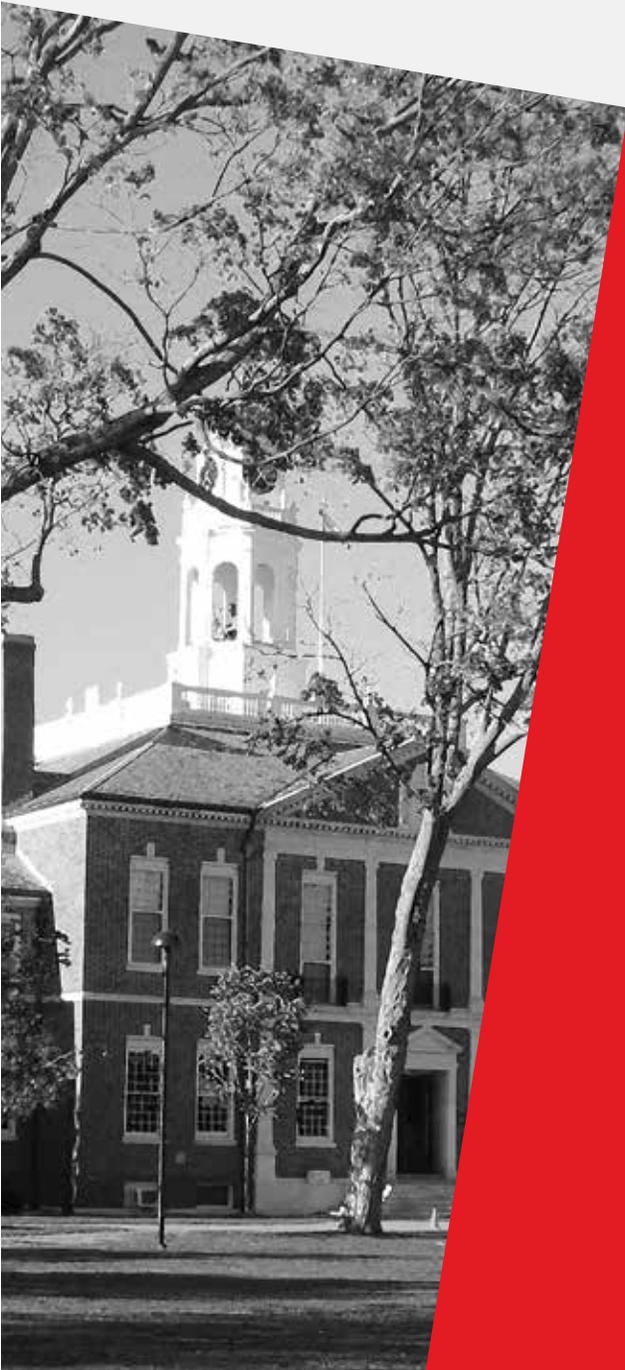
Admissions Consulting partner

Member of NACAC

J.D. Candidate, Yale Law School; B.A. Columbia University

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Collin received his B.A. (magna cum laude, 3.9 GPA, 2005) in Evolution, Ecology, and Environmental Biology from Columbia University, and he later became a J.D. Candidate at Yale Law School. Having mastered the college and graduate school admissions process himself, Collin, a former Columbia interviewer now a professional and experienced teacher for many years, truly understands the schools and experiences his students have and is very passionate about helping students discover themselves and find both academic success and the perfect college fit.



## “ THE MOST MEMORABLE EXPERIENCE

I started as a counselor in mainland China, where I had a lot of very talented, brilliant students, but many of them were not very good at western-style interviews and communication. I was impressed by how quickly these students could learn to present themselves in a way that would make a positive impact on their application. I felt that just a few hours of advice and practice made a huge difference for these students and families, which is what attracted me to this profession.

“ Thank you very much to Collin for his efforts throughout my application to boarding schools! I have been admitted by Exeter and I am really grateful of his great help in my interview preparation and helping me revise my essays. His advice of my essays is really significant. Had not he helped me revise my essays for Exeter and prepare for interviews, I know I would not have been admitted by Exeter.

- 2020 Admissions Consulting Student  
Admitted to PEA Phillips Exeter Academy



## Joyce Yin

Senior Admissions Consulting partner

Member of NACAC and International ACAC  
M.Ed., University of Massachusetts; B.S. Boston University

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Joyce graduated from Hong Kong International School before receiving her undergraduate degree at Boston University. She is a licensed mental health counselor who worked at a community healthcenter in downtown Boston. Relevant experience includes adolescent counseling, educational advocacy and consultation. After obtaining her Master's degree in Counseling, she returned to Hong Kong and was employed as a high school guidance and university admissions counselor at Hong Kong International School for 9 years before joining The Edge. With a total of 25+ years of experience in the counseling profession, Joyce specializes in supporting adolescent academic and emotional growth to maximize each student's potential.



Any English teacher can do the essay-edits, but what I found the most helpful is the PROCESS I went through with Joyce. She set me deadlines, which was very important when I was working with a short timeline.

She helped me to brainstorm my ideas, which got me to think about myself, who I am and who I am not, in a much deeper level than I would ever be able to do it myself. Last but not least, the entire editing process was extremely beneficial, as I was able to receive comments and perspectives from other members of the AC team on my writing. Overall, this experience I had with The Edge had helped me to better know myself and what I am capable of doing.

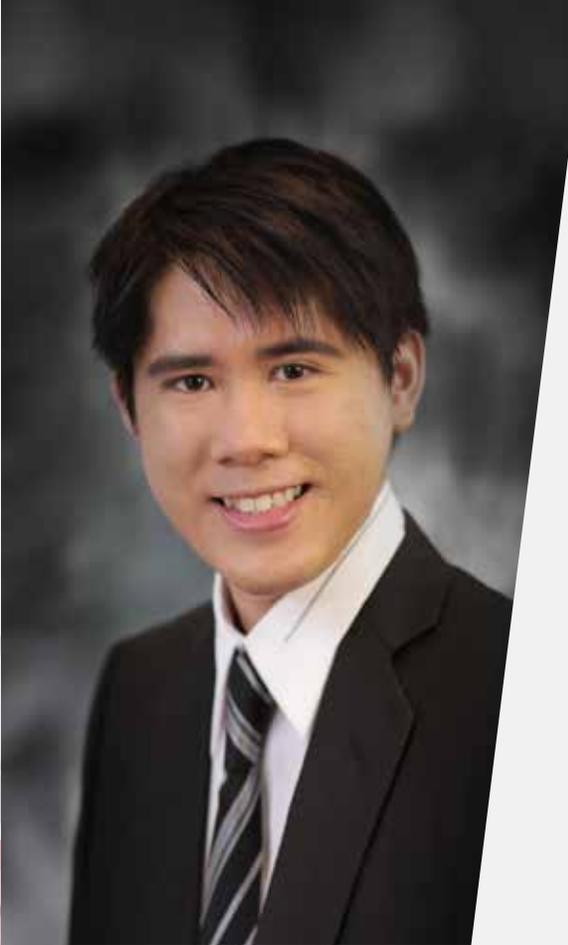
- Admissions Consulting Student



### THE MOST MEMORABLE EXPERIENCE

The most fulfilling part of counseling is when you build a lasting mentoring relationship with individual students.





## Gary Keung

Admissions Consultant

Member of IECA  
M.A. University College London; B.A. University of Southern California

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Born in Hong Kong and moved to New York at 12, Gary entered the Bronx High School of Science, a public magnet school, through the Specialized High School Admissions Test. Later, Gary enrolled at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles with a Deans Scholarship and graduated magna cum laude in Economics and East Asia Language and Culture.

Gary has eight years of experience in the admissions consulting industry and has worked with hundreds of students and families. A listener with an unyielding desire to see his students achieve the best possible results, Gary's students were admitted to top US, UK, and Canadian universities such as Yale, Stanford, Columbia, UPenn, Cornell, UC Berkeley, Cambridge, Imperial, and the University of Toronto, etc., as well as specialized arts and architecture institutes such as the Rhode Island School of Design, Pratt Institute, and Parsons School of Design.

## David Tian

Admissions Consultant

M.A. Johns Hopkins University; M.A. Georgetown University;  
B.A. University of Chicago

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David Tian was born in Canada and grew up in the United States, where he received a B.A. in East Asian Languages and Civilizations from the University of Chicago. Later on, he received an M.A. in Asian Studies from Georgetown University and an M.A. in Political Science from Johns Hopkins University.

After graduating from Johns Hopkins, David moved to South Korea. With around nine years of experience in academic tutoring and admissions consulting, David has helped students gain admissions to many top universities. For example, Harvard Kennedy School, Cornell, University of Pennsylvania, UC Irvine, Emory University, Johns Hopkins University, the University of Colorado at Boulder, Middlebury College, and among many more for undergraduate and graduate levels.





## Duc Luu

### Senior Admissions Consulting partner

Member of IECA, NACAC and International ACAC  
M.B.A., Booth Business School, University of Chicago; B.A., Yale University

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Before founding The Edge, Duc Luu worked in the educational arena as a Test Prep Instructor, SAT coordinator, and Principal Consultant, University Admissions for Kaplan Educational Centers USA and Hong Kong, respectively. He then joined The Princeton Review Hong Kong where in his role as Master Trainer, Duc was responsible for teacher training and test prep curriculum. He was instrumental in the training of new teachers for the opening of The Princeton Review Mumbai.

Duc is also an Associate Member of the Independent Educational Consultants Association, qualified to assist students and families with educational decision-making. Over two decades of experience in education, Duc has helped students from Beijing to Boston identify and reach their goals in university admissions with a phenomenal 40% success rate of admission into Ivy League Plus schools.

## Natasha Musto

### Admissions Consultant

M.A. University of Oxford; B.A. University of Oxford

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Natasha Musto received her B.A. and M.A. in English Literature and Language from Oxford University and earned multiple awards for her academic excellence. Natasha spent years as an Admissions Consultant for The Oxford Access Project, a charity which helps underprivileged students apply to Oxbridge. In this position she developed a keen understanding of Oxbridge entry procedures and requirements, and how best to prepare students to meet their high expectations.

### “ PRACTICAL ADVICE FOR STUDENTS

Studying abroad is about furthering your academic knowledge, but it is also a dynamic way of facilitating personal growth. Be open-minded, stay curious for new things and learn to appreciate differences around you. Not only would you blend in more easily and make lifelong friends, but you would also become more agile to navigate the complex and diverse world beyond school.





## John Louca

### Admissions Consultant

B.A. (First Class) University of Cambridge

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John has received his B.A. degree in Medical Science & Physiology from University of Cambridge. He has been a private tutor for many years in the UK and has worked with students from all over the world, including Hong Kong, China & Singapore. John has helped students fulfil their potential and get places in some of the UK's most prestigious institutions, including Cambridge, Imperial and Edinburgh. In addition to his work as a tutor John is also a supervisor for first year medical students at Gonville & Caius College, Cambridge. He also pioneered a new teaching scheme for his students to better understand how the core science they learn is related to clinical medicine. John is deeply passionate about his subject and relishes the opportunity to share this passion with interested students.

John personalises his approach to tutoring each student based off their needs and aims to showcase their strengths as well as develop their weaknesses. He works with students to ensure they can achieve their goals and clear up any ambiguity concerning the Oxbridge admissions process.

## Avi Banerjee

### Admissions Consultant

PGCE University of Oxford  
MEng Imperial College

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Avi graduated from Imperial College with a Master of Engineering with Honors in Mechanical Engineering and is undertaking a PGCE (Mathematics) program at the University of Oxford.

Since graduating from university, he has worked as a science and mathematics tutor at The Edge. Having personally completed the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program, in addition to the IGCSEs, ACT, and SAT Tests, Avi has been able to deliver a personally tailored teaching experience. Over the last two years, he has led the teaching and designing of courses for the different UK University Admissions Tests.

Avi has also worked with students on their university admissions process: working on their admissions essays and interview preparation by doing mock interviews.

Avi loves working with young passionate students. In their hands lie our future. He wants to help our leaders of tomorrow reach their full potential, for they will move the world.



Admissions  
Consulting

# Service Packages



## University Admissions Package

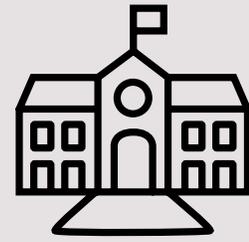


Everything you need to help plan and prepare for university.

- Consultations, Evaluations, Counseling
- Essays/Personal Statement Review
- Interview Preparation
- University Search and Visits
- Letters of Recommendation
- Supplemental Materials

# 1

## Boarding School Admissions Package



Everything you need to help plan and prepare for boarding school in one premium package.

- Consultations, Evaluations, Counseling
- Essays/Personal Statement Review
- Interview Preparation
- Boarding School Search and Visits
- Letters of Recommendation
- Supplemental Materials

# 2

## Common Application & UCAS Personal Statement

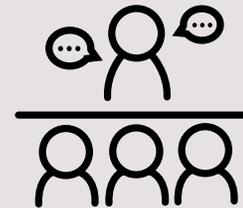


Common Application Personal Statement (CAPS) & UCAS Personal Statement Course Planning • Individualized Coaching

- Consultations, Evaluations, Counseling
- Essays/Personal Statement Review
- Interview Preparation
- Boarding School Search and Visits
- Letters of Recommendation
- Supplemental Materials

# 3

## Oxbridge Interview Package



A Journey of Self-Discovery and Preparation for Your Oxbridge And Subject Interviews

- Consultations, Evaluations, Counseling
- Essays/Personal Statement Review
- Interview Preparation
- University Search and Visits
- Letters of Recommendation
- Supplemental Materials

# 4



## Not Sure About Full Package?

We also provide Starter Package and Hourly Service. Ask us to learn more!

**2972 2555 (CWB) | 2783 7100 (MK)**

Our Proven  
**Approach**



# 1 Future Exploration

**Universities care about what you want to do, and how they can help you achieve your goals.**

Using personality assessments and career interest inventories, our consultants help students define academic, career, and life objectives and identify universities that match those aims.

# 2 Hurdle Jumping

**All universities demand that students demonstrate academic competence, and every level of academic achievement requires students to overcome challenges.**

Our consultants help students maximize their potential and keep their options open by lining up appropriate academic and non-academic support resources.

# 3 Extra-curricular Activities

**Universities use extracurricular activities as indicators of students' passion, initiative, and commitment.**

By working with students to identify their passions, our consultants help students select and excel in activities that fit their interests.

# 4 Story Crafting

**With limited time for each applicant, university admissions officers look to evaluate applications that tell coherent and compelling stories.**

Using their knowledge of different universities' needs and their understanding of their individual students' profile, our consultants help students tie together their academic and personal stories in ways that fit, both academically and culturally, the universities to which students are applying.

# 5 The Pitch

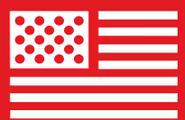
**Ultimately, applicants need a strategy to sell their story of academic and personal achievements to university admission officers.**

Our consultants help students craft coherent application packages that best showcase their individual stories in the context of the needs of specific universities.

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The hardest part of applying to universities was my personal statement since I didn't know what to write about. Fortunately, The Edge's consultant helped me refine my personal statement to best reflect my academic interests and goals. The best aspect of working with them was the clear feedback. While some tutors might provide vague suggestions, I left every meeting with a specific plan of what I needed to work on. More importantly, the consultant has been really supportive throughout the whole process, encouraging me when I felt worried about the admissions process. Overall, The Edge has helped me a lot!

# Planning Ahead



# US Admissions



## Freshman Year

Grade 9 / Year 10 / Form 3

- Devise 4-year academic and personal plans
- Review grades, identify academic strengths and weaknesses
- Balance between academics and activities
- Develop a list of colleges and majors of interest
- Arrange college visits during

## Sophomore Year

Grade 10 / Year 11 / Form 4

- Establish clear academic, extracurricular, and personal goals
- Explore and research possible career options
- Learn about different types of universities and admissions requirements
- Choose challenging AP/IB courses for next year
- Investigate summer opportunities and prepare for standardized tests (SAT/ACT)
- Take TOEFL or IELTS, if necessary

## Junior Year

Grade 11 / Year 12 / Form 5

- Create a college application calendar to coordinate various tests, application deadlines, and study schedules
- Create and maintain a portfolio of report cards, keep a portfolio of certificates, lists of awards, honors, and extracurricular activities
- Attend college fairs on campus or across the city when available
- Take SAT/ACT and SAT Subject Tests before summer
- Start brainstorming and drafting essays for applications
- Research and prepare for UK Admissions Tests

## Senior Year

Grade 12 / Year 13 / Form 6

- Start filling out college applications as soon as possible
- Keep a clear record of deadlines, school details, and requirements
- Continue writing essays/personal statement and supplements
- Ask for letters of recommendation from teachers and school counselor
- Research schools via informational interviews, if possible
- Take UK Admissions Tests



**Call us to schedule a  
Complimentary 30-min  
Consultation Today!**

Online | In-Person

# How We Can Help:

## A Case Study

The student clarifies with her admissions consultant her academic and personal vision for her future. Under her admissions consultant's guidance, she plans her summer experiences which may inform her future choices. This includes summer school in the US and a legal internship in her home city. Her admissions consultant encourages her to pursue her interests with greater commitment and narrows her focus to prepare her for her later applications.



The student begins to find consistent success on academic achievement at school, while The Edge's academic tutoring team deals with weaker subjects in which she needs additional support. The Edge's team helps the student to raise her grades from an 89% average to a 96% average.



The student spends the first three weeks of her summer in UChicago exploring humanities subjects in philosophy and history. She then returns home to attend a 4-week-long work experience at The High Court. She also leaves time for intensive summer SAT, SAT II subject tests and LNAT prep after consolidating her decision to apply to UChicago and Oxford.



The Edge's Test Preparation team guides her to help her achieve the 99th percentile on all external exams. She raises her SAT score of 1350 to 1520 and her LNAT score of 22 to 33. The student and her Admissions Consultant select the final list of schools to apply to and begin developing college essays topics and her personal statement.



The student finishes her college applications ahead of her school's internal deadlines. She writes essays that reflect on her achievements and personal experiences in the past four years, telling a credible and memorable narrative of her high school years. She then begins gruelling interview training for Oxford Law, spending hours each week reading and doing mock interviews with her admissions consultant.



The student gets into UChicago early action and, a month later, Oxford as well. The student now faces a choice, but an incredibly happy one. She finally chooses UChicago to take advantage of the more flexible American curriculum. She is proud of the work she has done in her high schools years, proud of the dream schools she got into and thankful to The Edge team for helping her in every step of her way.

# Planning Ahead



# Admissions



## KEY STAGE 4

### Year 10

- Begin self-discovery journey and explore your academic interests and strengths
- Set personal goals with reference to your personality, academic ability and career aspiration

### Year 11

- Research into universities and courses that are in line with your goals and take note of the admissions requirements
- Identify academic weaknesses and start closing the gaps
- Select the right set of A-level/ IB subjects or equivalent as per the admissions requirements. Take IELTS, if necessary
- Explore and enrol in supercurricular activities that are relevant to the course you plan to study at university
- Create your academic portfolio and start maintaining an inventory of your exam results, awards, qualifications and other relevant experience for standardized tests (SAT/ACT)
- Take TOEFL or IELTS, if necessary

## KEY STAGE 5

### Year 12 (Lower Sixth)

- Create your personal admissions roadmap with action items and timeline, highlighting important registration/ submission/ examination dates
- Draft the skeleton of your personal statement (plus supplementary documents for Oxbridge applications)
- Attend university open days
- Start preparing for admissions tests and interviews (subject- and university-specific)

### Year 13 (Upper Sixth)

- Make a request for recommendation letters from your school
- Get familiar with UCAS, the online application system for university admissions in the UK
- Start filling out your UCAS application and submit your personal statement and your FIVE choices of universities and courses before the deadline
- Attend admissions tests and interviews
- Confirm your Firm and Insurance offers through UCAS
- Meet the offer requirements and get into your dream university!

# UK vs US:

## Key Differences

While both the UK and the US provide excellent higher educations, the two admissions systems vary significantly. Knowing the differences is the foundation of a fruitful admissions journey and the key to success.

### 1. Application Focus

In the US, students apply to each US university individually and are expected to explain why they are a good fit in their university-specific essays and supplementary documents.

By contrast, the UK applications focus on the student's interest to study a particular course without specifying the name of the universities in the one and only personal statement, which is to be submitted centrally through UCAS ("Universities and Colleges Admissions Service").

### 2. Academic Expectations

While good grades are important, the US takes a more holistic approach to assessing the student as a whole person and takes into account all attributes inside and outside of the classroom.

In the UK, on the other hand, the admissions decision places a stronger emphasis on the student's academic passion, ability and potential. As a result, academic achievements are far more important than extracurricular engagements.





## How We Can Help:

The UK admissions process can be overwhelming and stressful, and many do not realise that it is more than just an administrative process - your choice of course and university will have a lasting impact on your higher education experience, your career path and your life beyond.

At The Edge, our expert team includes graduates from elite boarding schools and Oxbridge with the depth and breadth of experience and knowledge in the admissions consulting world. We take pride in our independent advisory service which has helped countless students recognise their aspirations and realise their dreams by strategising their educational choices.

You will be matched with a dedicated Admissions Consultant, who will be your personal mentor to guide you through every step of the admissions process. You will gain professional support from us to develop your very own strategic educational roadmap, master the skills to showcase yourself in the personal statement and interviews, and gain the best chance of success at top schools and universities.

Ready to embark upon a fulfilling journey in the UK? Speak with our expert team today and see how we can help you specifically on your road to success.



# Give Yourself The Edge

## Causeway Bay

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Monday - Friday 10am - 8pm  
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