

## Undergraduate Admissions Statement

This statement should be read in conjunction with the University's Admissions Principles and Procedures: <http://www.bristol.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/after-you-apply/policies/2019/>

Year of Admissions cycle: 2019

Courses covered:

BSc Dental Hygiene and Therapy (B750)

### 1. Course-specific information

#### 1.1 Admissions process

Applicants are scored and ranked based on their academic record, according to their achieved or predicted results, with the following weightings:

GCSE 20% | A-level 80%

This course is open to home (UK and EU) applicants only.

#### 1.2 Academic criteria

Academic entry requirements for standard qualifications (A-level, SQA, IB, Access, BTEC, Welsh Bac, GCSEs) can be found in the undergraduate course finder:

<http://www.bristol.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/search/>

Other qualifications, including international qualifications, are considered on an individual basis.

Applicants must submit a work-experience form after application. Only those applicants who meet our academic requirements, and have submitted a work experience form within two weeks of being asked to do so, will be considered for interview. We expect a minimum of 2 days work-experience with a Dental Hygienist/Therapist. All eligible applicants are required to attend an interview (see section 1.4).

This course is open to home fee paying students only. International fee-paying students are not eligible for this course.

#### 1.3 Personal statement criteria

We may refer to the personal statement and reference to differentiate between applicants with similar academic profiles. In these cases, we use the following criteria:

- Personal and professional attributes
- Extracurricular activities including voluntary work
- Work experience or other achievements

#### 1.4 Interviews

We interview on the basis that we have limited information from the application, and need to establish that the applicant has the necessary qualities required to become a good Dental Hygienist/Therapist. Interviewees must provide evidence of their work experience, including details of the relevant dental practice(s) and dates of attendance, in advance of the interview. This information may be used as a basis for discussion at interview. Photo identification is also required.

The interview includes a practical task and a written exercise designed to test the skills and knowledge required to be a successful dental hygienist, both a student and as a practitioner. Interviewees also receive a tour of Bristol Dental School and Hospital.

#### 1.5 Mature applicants

We welcome mature applicants, and assess such applications holistically, taking into account factors such as relevant work experience and personal circumstances that may have interrupted or prevented previous study. Mature applicants who do not meet our standard entry requirements, and who cannot demonstrate relevant employment history or life experience, are usually advised to gain some academic experience before reapplying. Current and prospective applicants in this position should consider an Access course, A-level, Open University foundation module or equivalent. Please contact the Admissions team regarding the suitability of your intended programme.

Further information can be found on our web pages: <http://www.bristol.ac.uk/study/mature/>

#### 1.6 Aspirational offers

Due to the competitive nature of these courses, we can only consider applicants who are predicted to achieve (or have already achieved) our entry requirements in full.

#### 1.7 Alternative offers

Applicants who are not qualified or have an unsuitable academic background for the course to which they originally applied are generally not considered for an alternative course.

#### 1.8 Deferred applications

Deferred applications (ie. applying in 2018/19 for 2020 entry) will be considered. Such applications are assessed in the same way as non-deferred applications.

Applicants wishing to defer their year of entry should indicate this on their initial application as we are unable to accept later requests for deferral, except under exceptional circumstances.

#### 1.9 Resits

The department will consider applicants who resit their qualifications.

#### 1.10 Transfers

Transfers into years two and year three of the course are not considered under any circumstances.

Please refer to our web page for further information on transfers:  
<http://www.bristol.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/apply/transfers/>

## 2. General Information

### 2.1 Admissions team

Applications are assessed by a centralised team in close co-operation with the School Recruitment and Admissions Officer(s).

### 2.2 Admissions process

Because we receive such a high number of applications, and to ensure that all those applying on time are treated fairly, we may hold some applications until May before making a decision.

We assess applicants on the basis of their application only; we do not take into account any additional information received from an applicant or institution, unless we have requested it.

Applications received before the 15 January deadline set by UCAS are guaranteed equal consideration.

We do not discriminate against applicants on the grounds of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnerships, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation.

To assess an application, we require the following information:

- a full academic history from age 16 onwards, including details of any retakes or uncompleted qualifications;
- predicted grades for any qualifications the applicant is currently taking. These must be provided by the applicant's school or referee, and must include an overall grade (if applicable), *and*, where a particular subject is specified in the entry requirements, the achieved or predicted grades for that subject, and any related or major subjects being studied;
- in cases where predicted grades are not available, a transcript showing the results of a previous year's courses or examinations.

### 2.3 Correspondence with applicants

All correspondence relating to an applicant's status is sent by email.

We monitor the number of offers we make and may hold some applications until later in the cycle.

We email applicants to tell them whether their application has been successful or unsuccessful, or to inform them that their application has been assessed and put on hold, pending a decision later in the cycle.

For applications submitted by 15 January, the final deadline by which applicants receive a decision is 2 May. Most decisions are made before this date.

### 2.4 Reference criteria

References should be provided by a personal tutor from the applicant's school or college. Where this is not possible, a non-academic reference should confirm the applicant's relevant experience and indicate their potential for degree-level study.

The reference is considered alongside the personal statement, taking into account the following:

- predictions of examination results (including, if necessary, an explanation of any non-standard qualifications);
- an overall assessment of the applicant, in particular the suitability and academic potential of the applicant to study at degree level;
- discussion of earlier exam results, especially those influenced by personal or medical circumstances (and therefore a poor guide to ability);
- discussion of the applicant's intellectual curiosity, interests and suitability for the subject.

Referees who believe the applicant's performance does not reflect their ability, because of educational context and/or special circumstances, should advise the applicant to complete an extenuating circumstances form (see section 2.8 Extenuating Circumstances).

## 2.5 English language requirements

All applicants must demonstrate sufficient ability to understand and express themselves in both spoken and written English in order to benefit fully from their degree course.

English language requirements for each course can be found in the undergraduate course finder and are explained on our English language web page:

<http://www.bristol.ac.uk/study/language-requirements/>

## 2.6 Contextual information

As part of our commitment to the UK national agenda on widening participation, we consider the context in which grades have been achieved and make contextual offers. Contextual offers are usually two grades lower than the typical offer. Applicants may receive a contextual offer for the following reasons: attendance at an aspiring state school or college; residence in an area with low progression to higher education; completion of a University of Bristol outreach programme; time spent in care.

Full details of the contextual offer scheme can be found online:

<https://www.bristol.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/entry-requirements-qualifications/contextual-offers/> and within the University's Admissions Principles and Procedures for Undergraduate Courses.

## 2.7 Extenuating circumstances

Applicants whose education has been significantly disrupted through ill health, personal problems, disability or specific difficulties with schooling may submit an extenuating circumstances form: <http://www.bristol.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/after-you-apply/your-application/extenuating-circumstances/>

The information provided in the form is treated confidentially, and helps us to assess academic performance fairly in light of individual circumstances.

## 2.8 Policies

All applications are considered in line with our Admissions Principles and Procedures for undergraduate courses: <http://www.bristol.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/after-you-apply/policies/2019/>

We are committed to implementing high-quality, fair and transparent admissions procedures for all our applicants. However, applicants who believe they have cause for complaint should consult our applicant appeals, complaints and feedback policy.

This policy provides a mechanism for objective review in cases where an applicant believes that the University's Admissions Principles and Procedures have been inconsistently or incorrectly applied.

## 2.9 Additional information

The University only guarantees places to applicants who meet the exact terms of their offer; however, applicants who narrowly miss the terms of their offer may still be considered as 'near-miss' candidates.

All applications from such candidates are reviewed in August after publication of A-level results. Applications from international near-miss candidates may be reconsidered earlier, depending on when their exam results are released.

## 2.10 Contacts for enquiries

If you have any questions, please contact our Enquiries team: [choosebristol-ug@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:choosebristol-ug@bristol.ac.uk) or +44 (0)117 394 1649