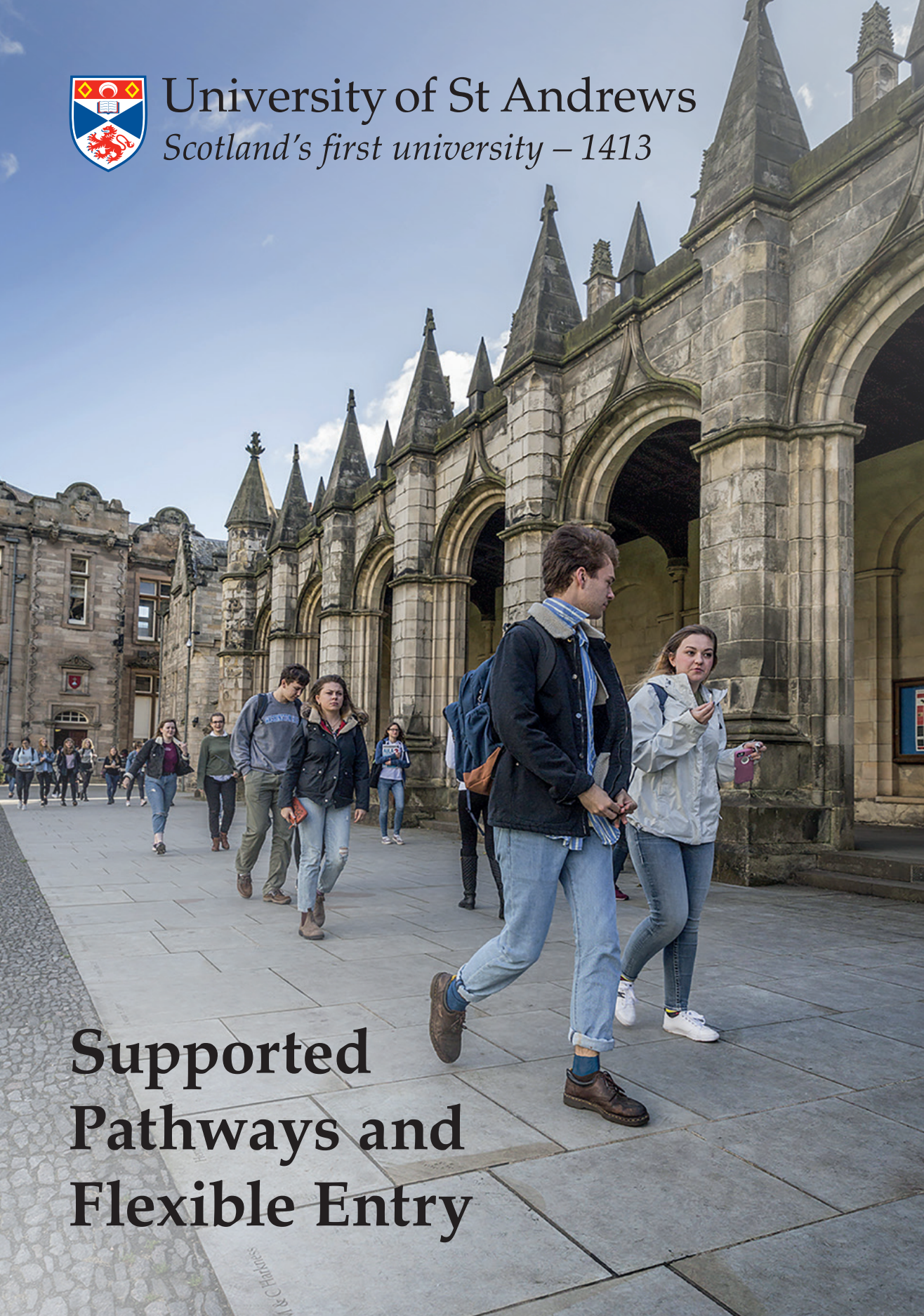




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**Supported  
Pathways and  
Flexible Entry**

J.R.C. FRANKS

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# Supported Pathways and Flexible Entry

**The University of St Andrews** is committed to achieving a diverse and vibrant student community made up of the best and brightest students, regardless of the route they have taken to access higher education. We recognise that diversity comes not only through nationality, but also from a wide range of backgrounds, experience and educational paths.

As such we have developed a range of flexible entry routes for applicants with alternative qualifications or who may have narrowly missed our standard entry requirements due to mitigating circumstances. These pathways not only provide entry routes, but also come with pre-arrival and transitional support to ensure the students have the best possible start at St Andrews and go on to achieve their full potential.

Co-ordinated by our Lifelong and Flexible Learning team within Admissions, and our academic Schools, these Pathways cover a range of subjects and degree routes for a wide range of potential applicants.

Our **Faculty pathways** provide a route to a named Honours degree from either the Faculty of Arts or the Faculty of Science.

- The Gateway to Arts and Gateway to Science offer supported entry to anyone applying straight from school who has narrowly missed our standard entry requirements.
- FE-HE Pathway to Arts and FE-HE Pathway to Science offer supported entry to applicants studying towards alternative entry qualifications at further education colleges.

We also offer two **subject specific pathways** which provide progression to a particular degree or subject.

The Gateway to Physics and Astronomy programme is open to applicants across the UK. It offers additional support with designated Gateway tutors. Students on this programme progress onto a named degree programme after first year.

The Gateway to Medicine is open to Scottish state school pupils who have completed S5 and narrowly missed the Medicine entry requirements. Gateway to Medicine students will come to St Andrews in place of attending S6 at school and will study Biology and Chemistry as well as having support for UCAT and MMI Preparation. After the Gateway year, students can progress to our Medical degree or into another degree offered in the Faculty of Science, providing pre-requisites have been met.



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2020

# Pathways by Faculty

Our Faculty pathways offer a wide range of degree options. The flexibility of our Faculty system allows students to study a broad range of subjects in first and second year before making a final decision regarding their Honours choice at the end of second year.

[www.st-andrews.ac.uk/subjects/study-options/faculties](http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/subjects/study-options/faculties)

During these first two years, students will study modules alongside all undergraduate students and progression to Honours is dependent on passing all modules and achieving the required grades for that subject in second year.

Students also have the option at the end of second year to move to MA General Arts or BSc General Science degree and graduate after completing their third year.



# Gateway to Arts and Science programmes

**What is it?** The Gateway to Arts and Gateway to Science programmes are tailored programmes with additional support. They are aimed at Scottish students who may not have been able to obtain the grades usually required by the University to study their chosen subject. [www.st-andrews.ac.uk/subjects/study-options/pathways/gateway](http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/subjects/study-options/pathways/gateway)

## Who can apply?

Typically, candidates for Gateway programmes are those who have fallen short of standard requirements and meet some, if not all, of the contextual criteria below:

- live in an area of deprivation as defined by the Scottish Government as SIMD20
- attend a low progression school
- are Care Experienced as defined by their local authority
- are a registered young carer

Applicants under serious consideration for this route will be required to attend an informal meeting with the Director of Admissions and a member of Academic staff to discuss their application in more detail.

## Entry requirements

Applicants will be considered for a place on the Gateway to Arts or Sciences programmes if they have not obtained the required grades to study their chosen subject at St Andrews but we see that they have the potential to do well.

Offers will be determined based on individual applications taking into consideration contextual admissions information as well as academic performance.

Minimum grades are BBBB at Higher which should include the standard Faculty entry requirements. This could be taken over more than one sitting or include a combination of Highers or Advanced Highers.

## Structure and progression

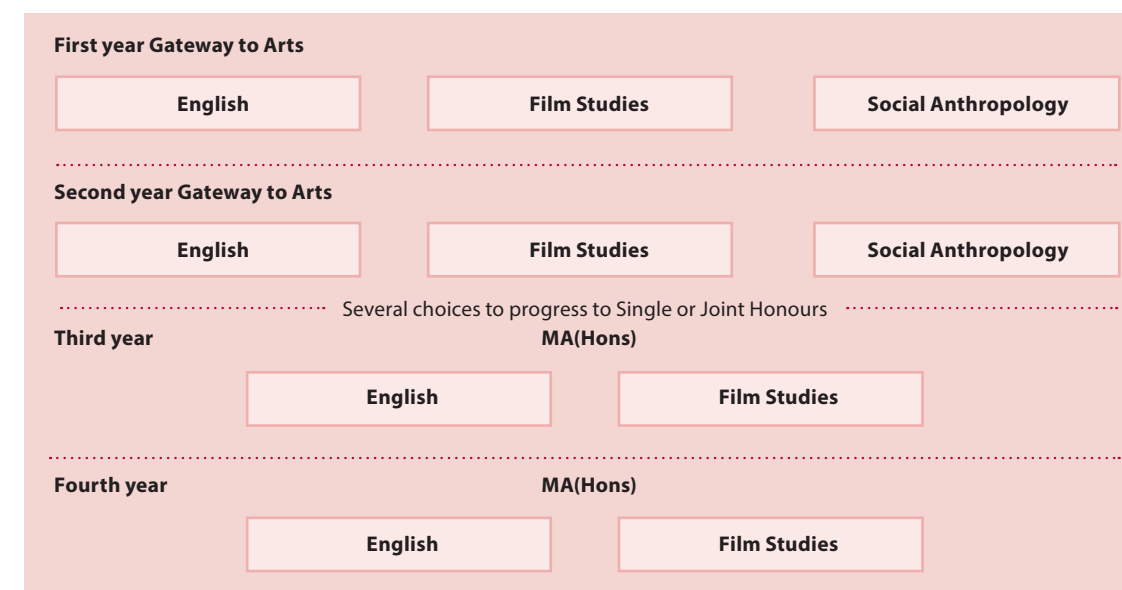
Gateway to Arts or Sciences students can study a wide range of subjects in our Faculties of Arts or Science\*. Like students on other programmes, Gateway students will study up to three subjects in their first and second years. Information about the range of subjects is available online: [www.st-andrews.ac.uk/subjects](http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/subjects)

Provided that students on the Gateway meet the academic requirements in their second year (just like every other student), they will be transferred from the Gateway programme onto their chosen named Honours degree route. Gateway students will be treated as any other first year student; they will attend the same classes and have a traditional first year experience, with the addition of extra support built into the programme.

\* Some subjects require previous subject knowledge

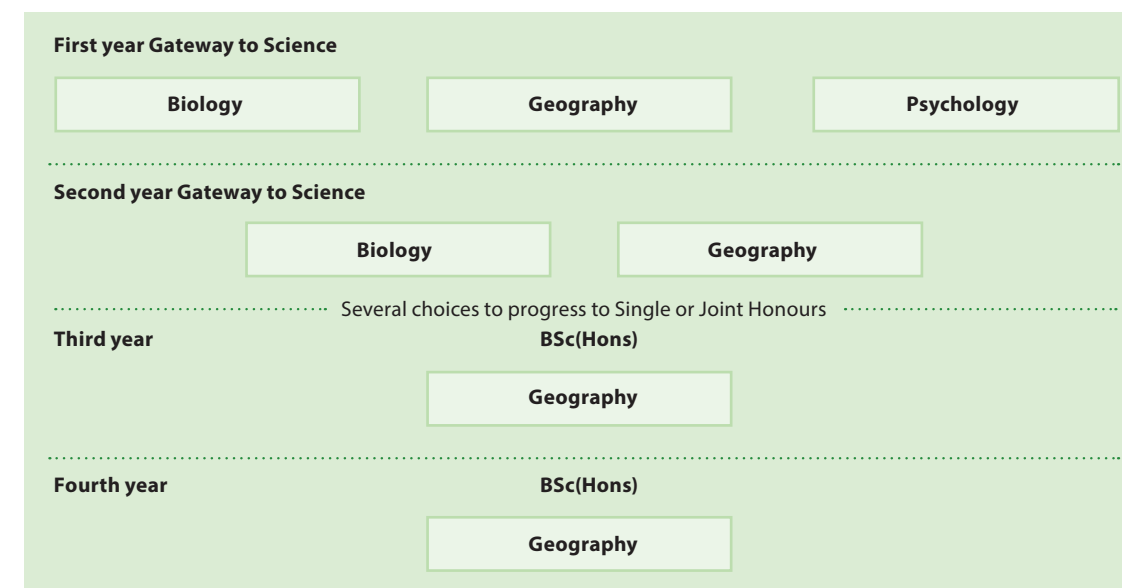
## Typical structure of the Gateway to Arts programme

This diagram shows an example of a student entering the Gateway to Arts programme intending to move to Honours in English. This student chose a Joint Honours route, they could, however, have taken Single Honours in any one of the three subjects or a joint combination.



## Typical structure of the Gateway to Science programme

This diagram shows an example of a student entering the Gateway to Sciences programme intending to move to Honours in Geography. This student chose to change pathway completely and graduate with a Geography degree, however, they could have chosen to take one of the degree routes offered within Biology.



### Additional support

Gateway students will have a dedicated point of contact within our Admissions team. This contact will provide the advice and support needed for a smooth transition to university and ensure that students always know where to go when they need advice, whether it be for academic or personal reasons. Students are allocated an Advisor of Studies who will ensure that they select the correct modules, and that they have as many course options available to them as possible. They will also be given additional subject tutoring from senior students to support their academic studies as part of the package of support offered by the University.

### Scholarships and funding

Gateway students are encouraged to apply to the range of scholarships offered by the University. Students will also be eligible for their tuition fees to be paid by SAAS.

[www.st-andrews.ac.uk/study/ug/fees-and-funding](http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/study/ug/fees-and-funding)

### How can I apply

Applications should be made through UCAS before the deadline of 15 January using the following course code.

Gateway to Arts: Y003

Gateway to Science: CFG2

[www.ucas.ac.uk](http://www.ucas.ac.uk)

Applicants should ensure their personal statement focuses on the main subject that they are interested in studying.



# FE-HE Pathway to Arts or Science

**What is it?** FE-HE Pathway to Arts and FE-HE Pathway to Science provide entry routes for applicants who fulfil the specified entry criteria with a supported pathway into degree level study at St Andrews. The aim is to provide flexibility and additional support within the first two years of study with a view to progressing into a named Honours programme.

### Who can apply?

Typically, candidates for FE-HE Pathways are those who have not progressed to higher education at school leaving age and are applying from further education colleges.

Priority will be given to those who fulfil any of the contextual admissions criteria:

- live in an area of deprivation as defined by the Scottish Government as SIMD20
- attended a low progression school
- are Care Experienced as defined by the local authority
- were a registered young carer
- are currently studying at a further education college
- have family or caring commitments which limit their higher education choices

### Entry requirements

Offers will be determined on individual applications and the course being studied. In addition to academic requirements, contextual admissions information and Access Markers such as SIMD20 will be taken into consideration.

Typical academic entry requirements for the FE-HE Pathway to Arts could be:

- HNC – pass and B in Graded Unit
- SWAP – AAA profile
- Highers – typically BBBB

Typical academic entry requirements for the FE-HE Pathway to Science could be:

- HNC Applied Sciences – pass and B in Graded Unit
- SWAP Access to Sciences – AAA profile
- Highers – typically BBBB (to include relevant science subjects)

Applicants under serious consideration for this route will be required to attend an informal meeting, with the Director of Access and a member of academic staff to discuss their application in more detail.

### Structure and progression

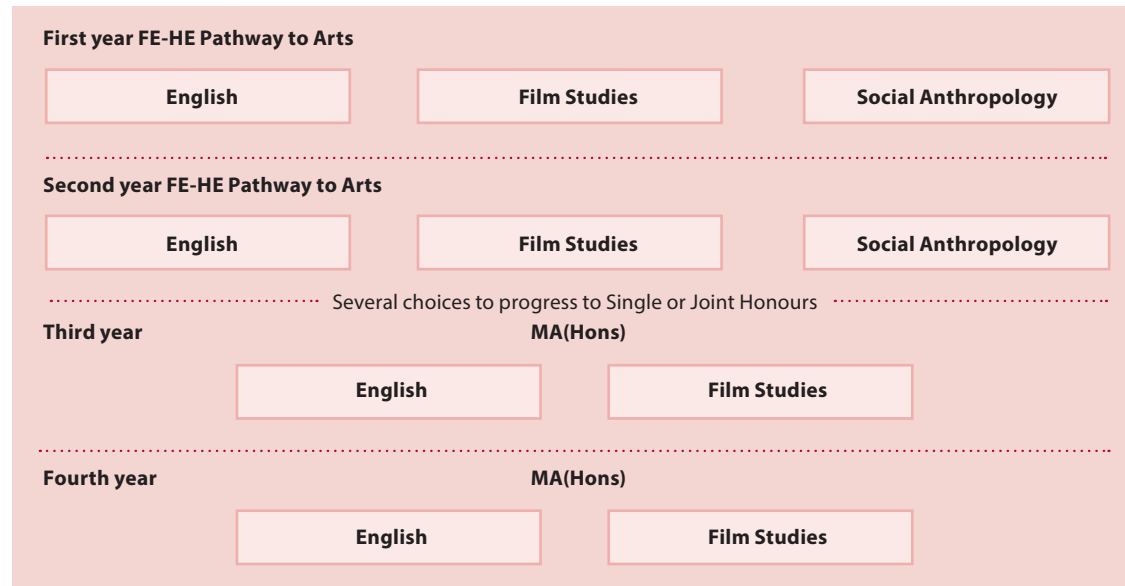
FE-HE Pathways students can study a wide range of subjects in our Faculty of Arts or Faculty of Science (for both Faculties, some subjects require previous subject knowledge). As with all St Andrews students, they will study up to three subjects in their first and second years. Information about the range of subjects is available online:

[www.st-andrews.ac.uk/subjects](http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/subjects)

Provided that students on the FE-HE Pathways meet the academic requirements in their second year (just like every student), they will be transferred from the FE-HE Pathway onto their chosen named Honours degree route. Pathway students will be treated as any other first-year student, they will attend the same classes and have a traditional first-year experience, with the addition of extra support built into the programme.

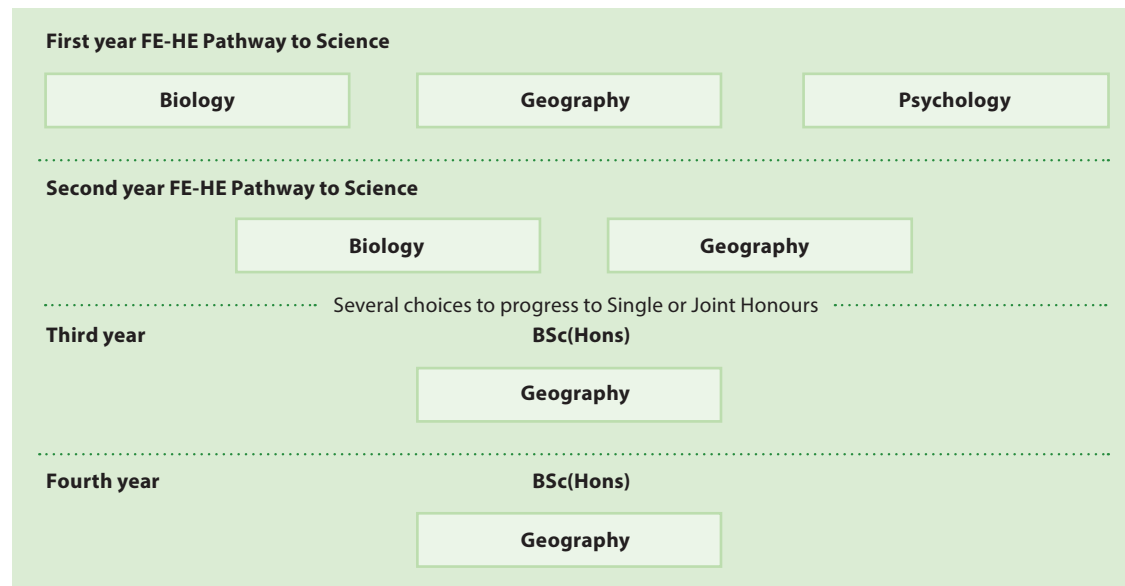
### Typical structure of the FE-HE Pathway to Arts programme

This diagram shows an example of a student entering the FE-HE Pathway to Arts programme intending to move to Honours in English. This student chose a Joint Honours route they could, however, have taken Single Honours in any one of the three subjects or a joint combination.



### Typical structure of the FE-HE Pathway to Science programme

This diagram shows an example of a student entering the FE-HE Pathway to Science programme intending to move to Honours in Biology. This student chose to change pathway completely and graduate with a Geography degree, however, they could have chosen to take one of the degree routes offered within Biology.



### Additional support

FE-HE Pathway students will have a dedicated point of contact within our Admissions team. This contact will provide the advice and support needed for a smooth transition to university and ensure that students always know where to go when they need advice, whether it be for academic or personal reasons. Students are allocated an Adviser of Studies who will ensure that they select the correct modules, and that they have as many course options available to them as possible. They will also be given the opportunity to additional subject tutoring from senior students to support their academic studies as part of the package of support offered by the University.

### Scholarships and funding

FE-HE Pathways students are encouraged to apply to the range of scholarships offered by the University. Students will also be eligible for their tuition fees to be paid for by SAAS (Student Awards Agency for Scotland).

[www.st-andrews.ac.uk/study/ug/fees-and-funding](http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/study/ug/fees-and-funding)

### How can I apply

Applications should be made through UCAS before the deadline of 15 January using one of the following course codes.

FE-HE Pathway to Arts: Y002  
 FE- HE Pathway to Science: CFG1  
[www.ucas.ac.uk](http://www.ucas.ac.uk)

Applicants should ensure their personal statement focuses on the main subject that they are interested in studying.



# Pathways by Subject

Subject pathways offer a supported entry into a specific degree or subject. On these programmes students will study a core of modules in their first year, as well as having additional support for key skills in their subjects.

During this first year, students will study modules alongside all undergraduates and progression to Honours is dependent on passing all modules and achieving the required grades specified at time of entry.

At the end of this supported first year, students can progress into the second year of a named Honours degree in a specific subject.

Students also have the option at the end of second year to move to a BSc General Science degree and graduate after completing their third year.



# Gateway to Physics and Astronomy

**What is it?** The Gateway to Physics and Astronomy is an alternative entry route to a BSc or MPhys degree in Physics or Astrophysics at the University of St Andrews. The programme offers an interactive and tailored first year, focused fully on the study of Physics, Astrophysics and Mathematics.

[www.st-andrews.ac.uk/subjects/study-options/ug/degree-routes/physics-gateway](http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/subjects/study-options/ug/degree-routes/physics-gateway)

## Who can apply?

The programme is open to talented and enthusiastic students from the UK who meet some or all of the University's widening participation criteria:

- eligibility for Education Maintenance Allowance
- eligibility for free school meals
- be in the first generation of their family to go to university
- be looked after (or have been looked after) as a result of a local authority order
- you are a young carer
- reside in an area of socio-economic disadvantage
- attend a school with low progression to higher education

## Entry requirements

Applicants should be predicted – or have achieved – grades of at least ABBB, including A in Mathematics and B in Physics (or vice versa). These may be over two sittings where necessary.

Potential applicants should contact the University's Admissions team to determine their eligibility and are also encouraged to make informal contact with admissions staff in the School of Physics & Astronomy.

Decisions are made based on a judgement of potential to succeed academically on the programme, taking into account the background, academic record and personal circumstances of the applicant.

## Structure and progression

Students enrolled via the Gateway programme study alongside other first-year physicists and mathematicians, as well as undertaking Gateway-only modules. These modules are specifically designed for Gateway students; they provide a highly interactive first year course in physics, mathematics and study skills.

After successfully completing their first year, students enrolled via the Gateway will then progress to the second year of the BSc or MPhys degrees offered within the School of Physics & Astronomy, which include Theoretical Physics, Physics, Astrophysics and joint degrees with Mathematics.

## Additional support

The Gateway programme provides a highly supportive learning environment with approximately 30 contact hours per week in the first year and includes tailored academic and pastoral support for students. Students also benefit from small class sizes.

## Scholarships

There are a number of scholarships available for students on our Gateway programmes, including some specifically for Gateway to Physics and Astronomy students. We would strongly encourage potential students to look at the information available online or ask a member of Admissions or School staff for further details.

[www.st-andrews.ac.uk/study/ug/fees-and-funding](http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/study/ug/fees-and-funding)

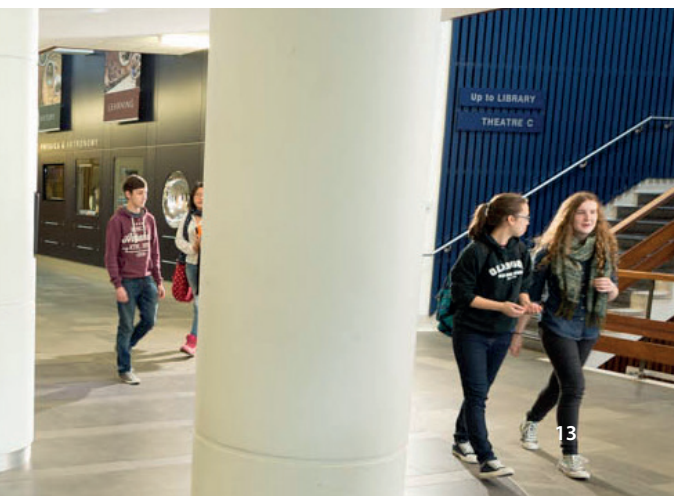
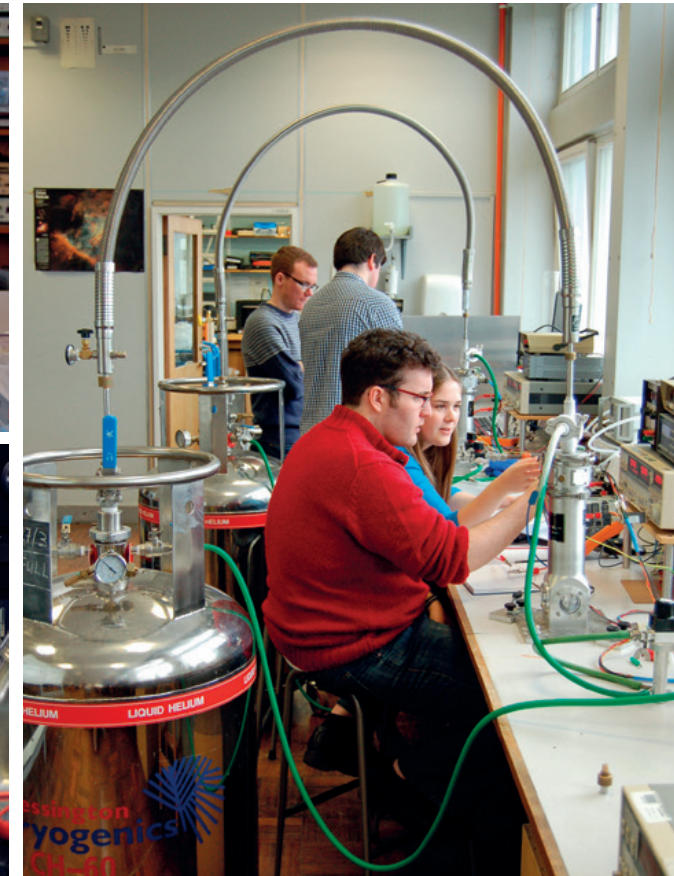
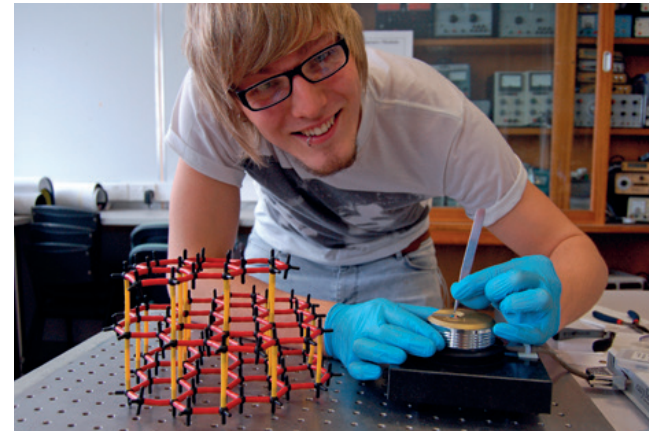
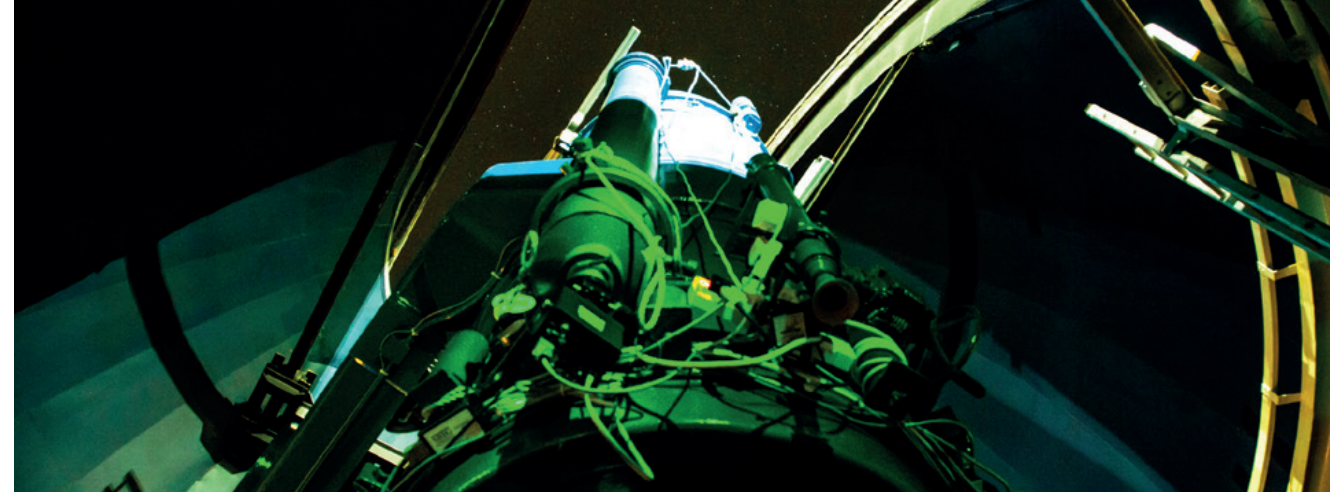
## How can I apply?

Applications are made through UCAS using the relevant course code:

Physics and Astronomy (Gateway BSc): FH31

Physics and Astronomy (Gateway MPhys): FH3C

Suitable applicants may be invited to St Andrews in February or March to discuss their application with admissions staff in the School of Physics & Astronomy before offers are made.





# Gateway to Medicine

**What is it?** The Gateway to Medicine is a one-year programme taught in the Faculty of Science with contributions from staff in the School of Medicine. Aimed at pupils who have completed S5 and have just missed out on the grades required to study Medicine, the Gateway to Medicine is an alternative to S6.

[medicine.st-andrews.ac.uk/teaching/bsc-hons-medicine/gateway-to-medicine](http://medicine.st-andrews.ac.uk/teaching/bsc-hons-medicine/gateway-to-medicine)

## Who can apply?

To be eligible for the Gateway to Medicine programme an applicant must have just completed S5, be studying Highers and be eligible for their tuition fees to be paid by SAAS.

Applicants should meet some of the following criteria:

- have engaged with a Reach project
- reside in an area of socio-economic disadvantage
- are being looked after (or have been looked after) as a result of a local authority care order
- are a registered carer
- attend a school which has low numbers of pupils who progress to higher education
- attend a school which has low attainment in relation to Highers and Advanced Highers

## Entry requirements

The entry requirements are as follows: applicants must have achieved BBBB at Highers which must include Chemistry and one other subject from Biology, Mathematics or Physics. These must have been obtained in one sitting in S5.

If Biology, English and Mathematics have not been passed at Higher each must normally have been passed at National 5 (A or B) or equivalent.

## Structure and progression

Gateway to Medicine students will study first-year modules in Biology and Chemistry, plus one other module alongside other undergraduate students.

At the end of this year to progress to the full medical programme students must have:

- passed all first-year modules at grades specified at time of entry to Gateway to Medicine
- achieved a suitable UCAT score
- a pass in the Multiple Mini Interview (MMI)

If all modules are passed but not at the grades specified at time of entry, students can remain in the Faculty of Science with the opportunity to transfer to a BSc Honours programme where pre-requisites have been met.

## Additional support

There is a variety of support in place for students on our Gateway to Medicine programme.

- a mentor in the School of Medicine
- a designated Adviser of Studies
- Reach Officer as a designated first point of contact for any issues
- support in preparing for UCAT and MMI
- extra tutorial support in Biology and Chemistry

## Scholarships

Scholarships for the Gateway to Medicine are available as well as the opportunity to apply for further support upon entry to a named degree programme.

[www.st-andrews.ac.uk/study/ug/fees-and-funding](http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/study/ug/fees-and-funding)

## How can I apply?

- Towards the end of S5, potential applicants should email a note of interest to the Schools Access Team who will confirm eligibility to apply: [gatewayto@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:gatewayto@st-andrews.ac.uk)
- On the day Highers are published, University staff will contact potential applicants who have indicated an interest to ascertain what Higher grades have been obtained and advise if the pupils could apply for the Gateway programme.
- Applications are made directly to Admissions and will be accepted immediately after the release of the Higher results.
- Suitable applicants will be called to interview.
- Offers will be made in time for applicants to enter the programme in September of the same year (in place of S6).



# Contacts

## **FE-HE Pathways**

Admissions: [lifelonglearning@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:lifelonglearning@st-andrews.ac.uk)

## **Gateway to Arts**

Admissions: [gatewayto@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:gatewayto@st-andrews.ac.uk)

## **Gateway to Physics and Astronomy**

Admissions: [gatewayto@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:gatewayto@st-andrews.ac.uk)

School of Physics & Astronomy: [physics@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:physics@st-andrews.ac.uk)

## **Gateway to Medicine**

Admissions: [gatewayto@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:gatewayto@st-andrews.ac.uk)

School of Medicine: [medical.admissions@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:medical.admissions@st-andrews.ac.uk)



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