

**April 2014**



## HELOA Scotland Newsletter for School Advisers

### Welcome

Dear Colleague,

Welcome to our first edition of the Scottish Higher Education Liaison Officers Association (HELOA) Newsletter for School Advisers.

HELOA is the professional association of staff in higher education who work in the field of education liaison and provide guidance and information to prospective higher education students, their families and advisers. Established in 1990, the Association now has 884 members from 138 higher education institutions from right across the United Kingdom. Our members work in a wide range of functions within universities, covering areas of schools and colleges liaison, student recruitment, widening participation, external relations, marketing, publications and publicity and student services.

HELOA Scotland is made up of 16 member institutions across the length and breadth of the country, including, The University of Aberdeen, University of Abertay Dundee, The University of Dundee, The University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh Napier University, Fife College, University of Glasgow, Glasgow Caledonian University, Heriot-Watt University, University of the Highlands and Islands, Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh, SRUC, St Andrews University, University of Stirling, University of Strathclyde and the University of the West of Scotland. Further information on our members and committee can be viewed at [www.heloa.ac.uk/groups/scotland/](http://www.heloa.ac.uk/groups/scotland/)

#### Get in touch

**HELOA Scotland**  
[www.heloa.ac.uk/groups/scotland](http://www.heloa.ac.uk/groups/scotland)

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

The main purpose of this leaflet is to keep our advisers in schools up-to-date with information in the Scottish Higher Education Institutions and use as a means to keep you informed. We aim to publish this leaflet 4 times per year – February, May, August and November.

# What's New

## Changes to the PGDE Secondary Education Entry Requirements

Changes have been introduced by the GTC Scotland for entry to the PGDE (Secondary) where applicants will now be required to have the National Qualifications in Mathematics at SCQF Level 5 (for example, National 5 (A-C), Credit Standard Grade or Intermediate 2) or an accepted alternative.

Find out more about where we will be exhibiting at a UCAS convention near your school by visiting [www.heloa.ac.uk/groups/scotland/](http://www.heloa.ac.uk/groups/scotland/) and clicking on **Events**.

## Increase in application numbers to Universities 2014

THE university application rate among 18-year-olds in Scotland has hit a record high, while the proportion of young Scots from the poorest areas who are applying has more than doubled since 2004. The latest figures from UCAS showed that almost a third (31.4%) of 18-year-olds in Scotland had submitted an application by the 15 January deadline, with the application rate for this age group at a record high. You can find out more on this story at the following link.

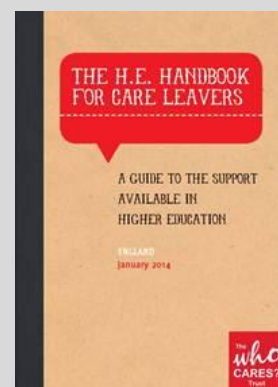
<http://www.scotsman.com/news/education/31-of-scots-18-year-olds-apply-to-uni-in-2014-1-3288454>

Find out Open Day dates for 2014 by visiting [www.opendays.com](http://www.opendays.com)

## The Who Cares? Trust HE Handbook (Scotland) for Care Leavers

It can be extremely difficult for care leavers to think about HE in terms of finance, accommodation and support. The Who Cares? Trust has published the HE Handbook for Care Leavers which offers information for Looked after Children on what support institutions offer.

This handbook offers a wealth of information with regards outreach work offered by institutions, bursaries and grants available, the welfare and accommodation support care leavers can expect and named contacts to get in touch with at each organisation.












Download free at [www.thewhocarestrust.org.uk/data/files/H.E.Handbook\\_2014\\_Scotland.pdf](http://www.thewhocarestrust.org.uk/data/files/H.E.Handbook_2014_Scotland.pdf)





# Visiting Opportunities

University of Aberdeen	<a href="http://www.abdn.ac.uk/openday">www.abdn.ac.uk/openday</a>
Abertay University	<a href="http://www.abertay.ac.uk/about/visiting/opendays/">www.abertay.ac.uk/about/visiting/opendays/</a>
University of Dundee	<a href="http://www.dundee.ac.uk/visitus">www.dundee.ac.uk/visitus</a>
University of Edinburgh	<a href="http://www.ed.ac.uk/studying/undergraduate/visiting">www.ed.ac.uk/studying/undergraduate/visiting</a>
Edinburgh Napier University	<a href="http://www.napier.ac.uk/Events">www.napier.ac.uk/Events</a>
Glasgow Caledonian University	Open Days: Wednesday 3 & Saturday 20 September 2014 <a href="http://www.gcu.ac.uk/study/opendays/">www.gcu.ac.uk/study/opendays/</a> <a href="http://www.gcu.ac.uk/recruitmentandoutreach/ukrecruitmentteam/">www.gcu.ac.uk/recruitmentandoutreach/ukrecruitmentteam/</a>
University of Glasgow	<a href="http://www.glasgow.ac.uk/opendays">www.glasgow.ac.uk/opendays</a>
Heriot-Watt University	<a href="http://www.hw.ac.uk">www.hw.ac.uk</a>
University of the Highlands & Islands	<a href="http://www.uhi.ac.uk/opendays">www.uhi.ac.uk/opendays</a>
Queen Margaret University	Applicant Visit Days throughout March and April, email <a href="mailto:rilo@gmu.ac.uk">rilo@gmu.ac.uk</a> for more info
University of St Andrews	There are plenty of opportunities to visit the University of St Andrews, please visit our website for further information: <a href="http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/study/ug/meet-us/visiting-days/">www.st-andrews.ac.uk/study/ug/meet-us/visiting-days/</a>
University of Stirling	Opportunities throughout the year to visit the campus <a href="http://stir.ac.uk/5q">http://stir.ac.uk/5q</a>
SRUC (Scotland's Rural College)	Dates vary by campus but all are listed on our website: <a href="http://www.sruc.ac.uk/opendays">www.sruc.ac.uk/opendays</a>
University of Strathclyde	<a href="http://www.strath.ac.uk/rio/visitingopportunities">www.strath.ac.uk/rio/visitingopportunities</a>
University of the West of Scotland	<a href="http://www.uws.ac.uk/opendays">www.uws.ac.uk/opendays</a>

# University Updates

 <p>UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN</p>	<p><b>University of Aberdeen</b> <a href="http://www.abdn.ac.uk">www.abdn.ac.uk</a></p> <p>Based in Aberdeen, energy capital of Europe, the University was founded in 1495. Students at Aberdeen have an enormous amount of choice and flexibility with over 550 degree programmes on offer including the recent introduction of our new Law with English Law LLB programme. In the last five years £107 million has been invested into facilities, including our Olympic standard sports village and new aquatics centre, and iconic library. The University boasts a supportive community in a self-contained, stunning campus with guaranteed places in Halls for all first year students. The University also has a proven track record for employment with top companies headhunting our graduates. Aberdeen, as a city, is cosmopolitan, vibrant and student friendly, and has been ranked as a 'Super City of the Future' by HSBC and one of the best places to live in the UK by PriceWaterhouseCoopers.</p> <p>Visit us on our Open Day on <b>Tuesday 26th August 2014</b> For more information and to book a place, please visit <a href="http://www.abdn.ac.uk/openday">www.abdn.ac.uk/openday</a></p>
 <p>Abertay University</p>	<p><b>Abertay University</b> <a href="http://www.abertay.ac.uk">www.abertay.ac.uk</a></p> <p>As our courses and entry requirements do change from one year to the next, please check <a href="http://www.abertay.ac.uk/studying/find">www.abertay.ac.uk/studying/find</a> for the most up to date information.</p> <p>Scotland's largest cyber-security conference, which is entirely organised by Ethical Hacking students, was held at Abertay University in January. It was attended by industry leaders, academics and students from Abertay's Ethical Hacking degree courses, who had an opportunity to present their research. Abertay's Ethical Hacking degree course was launched in 2006 by Programme Tutor Colin McLean and was the first of its kind in the UK. Since then it has built up a fine reputation for providing graduates with the attributes required by the leading security companies in the UK. View the full article with Colin talking about graduate employment prospects for ethical hackers here: <a href="http://www.thecourier.co.uk/lifestyle/entertainment/digital/security-conference-gets-into-the-minds-of-the-cyber-criminals-1.176990">www.thecourier.co.uk/lifestyle/entertainment/digital/security-conference-gets-into-the-minds-of-the-cyber-criminals-1.176990</a></p>
 <p>UNIVERSITY OF DUNDEE</p>	<p><b>University of Dundee</b> <a href="http://www.dundee.ac.uk">www.dundee.ac.uk</a></p> <p>The University of Dundee has an international reputation as a Top 200 World Ranking University with the best student experience in Scotland, according to the Times Higher Education 2013. We have particular strengths in professional degrees (e.g. medicine, dentistry, engineering, law, accountancy, nursing, architecture) as well as a wide range of degrees in other areas, including art, design, computing, life sciences, humanities and psychology, amongst others.</p> <p>In early 2014 the University's Centre for Anatomy and Human Identification (CAHID) was awarded the prestigious Queen's Anniversary Prize for Further and Higher Education. CAHID offers two undergraduate degree programmes – BSc Anatomical Sciences and BSc Forensic Anthropology. There are a number of Open Days coming up in the months ahead. Further details of subjects available and how to book a place can be found at <a href="http://apply.dundee.ac.uk/visit/">http://apply.dundee.ac.uk/visit/</a></p> <p><b>Wednesday 11th June – Medicine and Dentistry</b> <b>Wednesday 27th August – Main Open Day</b> <b>Saturday 27th September – Main Open Day</b></p>
 <p>THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH</p>	<p><b>University of Edinburgh</b> <a href="http://www.ed.ac.uk">www.ed.ac.uk</a></p> <p><b>Admissions Briefing Sessions for Teachers and Advisers:</b> The University will be running admissions briefing sessions relating to admissions policies, and the application, selection, and offer making process. These afternoon events will take place in Inverness (19th May) Edinburgh (20th May) and Glasgow (21st May). Information and booking details can be found online at: <a href="http://www.ed.ac.uk/studying/undergraduate/teachers-advisors/admissions-briefing">www.ed.ac.uk/studying/undergraduate/teachers-advisors/admissions-briefing</a></p> <p><b>Accommodation Bursaries:</b> The Scotland Accommodation Bursary provides the most generous bursary support of any UK university to Scotland-domiciled students. Bursaries of between £500 and £2,000 are being offered to eligible students who begin their undergraduate degree in the 2014-2015 academic session, and who are in receipt of a Young Students' Bursary (YSB) or an Independent Students' Bursary (ISB) from the Student Awards Agency for Scotland (SAAS). Further details are available at: <a href="http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/student-funding/undergraduate/uk-eu/bursaries/accommodation">www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/student-funding/undergraduate/uk-eu/bursaries/accommodation</a></p>

	<p><b>Edinburgh Napier University</b>  <a href="http://www.napier.ac.uk">www.napier.ac.uk</a></p> <p>Please visit us at one of our forthcoming events:  <b>Undergraduate Open Day</b>  Saturday 4 October 2014 9.30am – 3pm  Join us at our Merchiston, Craiglockhart or Sighthill campus!</p> <p><b>Campus Tours</b>  Register for one of our student-led campus tours and you will be shown our facilities and hear our Student Ambassadors talk about life at Edinburgh Napier University. Booking for our campus tours is essential so visit our website.</p> <p><b>Web Chats</b>  Web Chats are run throughout the year. Details of forthcoming Web Chats and sign-up details can be found on the events page of our website. You can also contact us to discuss what additional activities we can offer your pupils: <a href="mailto:studentrecruitment@napier.ac.uk">studentrecruitment@napier.ac.uk</a></p>
	<p><b>Glasgow Caledonian University</b>  <a href="http://www.gcu.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/informationforteacherscareersadvisers">www.gcu.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/informationforteacherscareersadvisers</a></p> <p>Glasgow Caledonian University (GCU) is a vibrant, innovative and multi-award winning university. Our focus on employability, leadership and responsibility enables our graduates to excel both locally and internationally. We carry forward a tradition of widening access for talented individuals regardless of their backgrounds.</p> <p>GCU's focus on employability, leadership and responsibility enables our graduates to excel both locally and internationally. We carry forward a tradition of widening access for talented individuals regardless of their backgrounds.</p> <p>GCU works very closely with private and public sectors and many of the companies we deal with are world leaders in their field. Our degree courses are designed to be career-focussed and drive innovation by harnessing the latest technologies and expertise.</p> <p>We produce a Guidance Magazine and a new electronic quarterly newsletter for advisers, both are available on request.</p>
	<p><b>University of Glasgow</b>  <a href="http://www.gla.ac.uk/undergraduate">www.gla.ac.uk/undergraduate</a></p> <p>Established in 1451 and with a world-wide reputation for excellence, the University of Glasgow offers over 700 degree options across: Accountancy, Arts, Business, Dentistry, Engineering, Law, Medicine, Nursing, Sciences, Social Sciences, Teaching, and Veterinary Medicine. Visit us at our next Open Day on <b>Thursday 19 June 2014</b>.</p>
	<p><b>Heriot-Watt University</b>  <a href="http://www.hw.ac.uk">www.hw.ac.uk</a></p> <p>Heriot-Watt University are proud to consistently achieve highly across a number of key university league tables. In the 2013 National Student Survey (NSS), 9 out of 10 students said they were satisfied with their experience at Heriot-Watt. The survey placed 11 of our 18 courses top in Scotland.</p> <p>We have a team of staff here to assist you, if you or any of your students require further information please do not hesitate to contact us on 0131-451-3451 or email at <a href="mailto:edu.liaison@hw.ac.ac.uk">edu.liaison@hw.ac.ac.uk</a></p>
	<p><b>University of the Highlands &amp; Islands</b>  <a href="http://www.uhi.ac.uk">www.uhi.ac.uk</a></p> <p>At the University of the Highlands and Islands, our network of colleges and research centres, spread across the Highlands and Islands of Scotland, offers a natural and supportive environment for a wide variety of students. The university has a range of provision from Higher National Certificate to degree, postgraduate and research level study, we offer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A diverse range of undergraduate courses, many taking advantage of our region's unique environment, landscape and culture</li> <li>• Access to placement and work experience opportunities</li> <li>• Choice of campus locations to suit students' needs</li> </ul> <p>The university's standard entry qualifications for an undergraduate degree are three Highers or two A levels, although some subjects have differing requirements in terms of grades. These qualifications do not need to be taken in one sitting. We also accept a wide range of equivalent qualifications (including the new national qualifications).</p> <p>Call 0800 272 3600 or email <a href="mailto:info@uhi.ac.uk">info@uhi.ac.uk</a> for more information</p>

 <p>Queen Margaret University EDINBURGH</p>	<p><b>Queen Margaret University</b> <a href="http://www.gmu.ac.uk">www.gmu.ac.uk</a></p> <p>Queen Margaret University has been based in the city of Edinburgh since 1875. In 2007 the University relocated to the first purpose built campus development in Scotland for a generation. The new campus, located in Musselburgh on the eastern fringe of Edinburgh, is a vibrant academic village with high-tech buildings, featuring an innovative learning resource centre at the heart of the development. QMU provides professional degrees, responsive to today's workplace in the areas of Biological Sciences, Business, Health, Media &amp; Communication, Performing Arts and Social Science. Our small size means that you get an excellent student experience in a supportive environment, with great access to staff, facilities, resources and opportunities.</p>
 <p>University St Andrews</p>	<p><b>University of St Andrews</b> <a href="http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk">www.st-andrews.ac.uk</a></p> <p>The University of St Andrews is a combination of modern and ancient, local and global making it a unique place to study and live. Situated on the east coast of Scotland, St Andrews is a thriving close-knit community with a population of around 20,000 including almost 8,000 students from over 120 different countries. St Andrews has been consistently recognised as the top university in Scotland and a top 5 university in the UK. The National Student Survey has also put St Andrews top in Scotland for student satisfaction. Committed to a broad based learning experience, students are encouraged to experiment intellectually before specialising in their chosen field of study. Not only do we have a world-class reputation with over 600 years of academic excellence, but we also offer a diverse range of social activities including over 140 student societies and 50 sports clubs – there is something for everyone!</p>
 <p>UNIVERSITY OF STIRLING</p>	<p><b>University of Stirling</b> <a href="http://www.stir.ac.uk">www.stir.ac.uk</a></p> <p>With some of the best recreational and elite sports facilities in the country and excellent student support services, Stirling provides one of the best student experiences in the UK. Our degrees offer unrivalled flexibility and we actively encourage you to study across a range of disciplines providing a breadth of experience that is internationally recognised. The University was voted in the top 12 in the UK for Employability, and we continue to celebrate the achievements of our elite athletes including British Triathlete Marc Austin and Nick Rosenzweig, the British Universities Tennis Champion. We are currently sending out invites to our Applicant Days in March and April. We also work with schools across the country to improve aspirations and engagement with Higher Education, including sessions for all pupils including presentations, interactive workshops and school inductions on campus. If you are interested in what we can offer your school contact us at <a href="mailto:recruitment@stir.ac.uk">recruitment@stir.ac.uk</a>.</p>
 <p>SRUC</p>	<p><b>SRUC (Scotland's Rural College)</b> <a href="http://www.sruc.ac.uk/education">www.sruc.ac.uk/education</a></p> <p>SRUC was formed in 2012 by the merger of Scotland's four land-based Colleges: SAC (Scottish Agricultural College), Barony, Elmwood and Oatridge. We now offer 6 campus locations in Edinburgh, Cupar (Elmwood), Broxburn (Oatridge), Aberdeen, Ayr, and Dumfries (Barony). Unique in the UK, we are one of the largest organisations of our kind in Europe and can draw on an accomplished history of more than 100 years of success in supporting students and passing on our considerable expertise. We don't just offer courses in Agriculture. Our portfolio is broad and varied. We offer courses from access programmes, through vocational and Higher National courses to degree courses and postgraduate opportunities. Subject areas include Animal Science, Equine Studies, Business, Countryside Management, Environmental Studies, Forestry, Golf, Green and Renewable Technology, Land-Based Engineering, Horticulture, Garden Design, Sport, Tourism, Hospitality and Sustainability. SRUC is a Higher Education Institution with a difference – if you have any questions please contact us: <a href="mailto:recruitment@sruc.ac.uk">recruitment@sruc.ac.uk</a></p>
 <p>University of Strathclyde Glasgow</p>	<p><b>University of Strathclyde</b> <a href="http://www.strath.ac.uk/rio">www.strath.ac.uk/rio</a></p> <p>The University of Strathclyde has enjoyed success at the prestigious Times Higher Education awards for the third consecutive year, after being named Entrepreneurial University of the Year. The award was made in recognition of the outstanding culture of entrepreneurship fostered at the University through education, research, mentoring and partnership programmes. March and April sees the start of University preparing once again for its annual programme of post-application visits for both applicants and parents and carers. These provide the prospective students an opportunity to find out more about the University and their course(s) of interest. Information will be sent to all applicants who are holding an offer of entry to the University. For further information please contact the Recruitment &amp; International Office on 0141 548 2814 email <a href="mailto:uqenquiries@strath.ac.uk">uqenquiries@strath.ac.uk</a></p>
 <p>UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST OF SCOTLAND UWS</p>	<p><b>University of the West of Scotland</b> <a href="http://www.uws.ac.uk">www.uws.ac.uk</a></p> <p>At the University of the West of Scotland, we put great emphasis on employability, practical experience and entrepreneurship. Our courses vary from traditional to niche programmes and are taught across four campuses in Ayr, Dumfries, Hamilton and Paisley – each offering a unique student experience while located close to large towns with strong transport links. We would be delighted to welcome your students onto campus to find out more on what UWS has to offer. Our Campus Open Days are held in October but there are other visiting opportunities available with more information online. If you can't make it on to campus, we can come to you. Our Student Recruitment Team are happy to come and speak to your students in school through the delivery of presentations or by attending careers conventions. If you would be interested in this service, get in touch by calling 0141 848 3730 or email <a href="mailto:studentrecruitment@uws.ac.uk">studentrecruitment@uws.ac.uk</a></p>