

Foundation Year Q&A summary

When will Foundation Year students start classes this year?

[View key dates for the 2025/26 academic year.](#)

Can I change from one Foundation Year pathway to another once I've started the course? For example, if I was on the Civil Engineering pathway, could I change to Mechanical Engineering?

It's not impossible, but it's also definitely not guaranteed. We will try to accommodate changes where possible, but it depends on a variety of factors.

Can I change my offer to another course?

This will depend on a few factors, the best thing to do is contact your admissions team as soon as possible to enquire.

Is it possible to defer the foundation year to the January semester?

Unfortunately there is no January intake. It is usually possible to defer for one year to start the following September.

When can we expect to receive documents to apply for the student visa? And will I only be able to apply for 1 year for the Foundation Year?

Students will be contacted about the length of their visa when the admissions team starts their CAS - you will be given the option of 1, 3 or 4 years depending on the options for their department. [View more information about the CAS process.](#)

Following the foundation year, can a student choose to do only up to Bachelor's level study? Also, my Department offers a year in industry but I can't see that option for the Foundation Year?

You will be treated exactly the same as any other first year student after your Foundation Year, meaning you can do a Master's, a year in industry, a year abroad or anything else that your Department offers.

Will it show on the degree transcript that I've done a Foundation Year?

Yes, and rightly so! The Foundation Year is an extremely challenging year, and employers often see it as a huge plus.

Can you go straight to first year if you get grades needed for first year?

It's not unheard of for this to happen, but it definitely isn't guaranteed. It depends on a few factors, including how much space is available on the first year course for your chosen pathway.

How strict is the university regarding grades? E.g. if you have an offer but drop a grade.

It depends on how tough competition is for the course in any given year. There may be the possibility of some leniency, but this is never guaranteed and we would always encourage candidates to strive to achieve their offer.

What does a typical day by day timetable for foundation year look like?

You can find an example timetable on the “Life as a university student” page in the [Foundation Year brochure](#).

Is it possible to arrange visits to see the university?

We have our summer open days coming up which will feature Department talks, activities and campus tours. [Learn more about our open days](#).