Contextual Offer Statement

At Hartpury we strive to ensure our admissions processes promote fair access and equality of opportunity and align with sector good practice. A Contextual Offer is an offer which recognises the potential of students whose personal circumstances may have restricted achievement at school or college.

What data we will use

On receipt of an application, Admissions officers will consider the use of contextual indicators on an individual basis as part of their holistic assessment of an application, assessing eligibility from the data provided in the relevant sections of the UCAS application and publicly available datasets.

If the application shows one of the following characteristics we will consider making a contextual offer.

- Live in an area of socio-economic deprivation. We will use your home postcode to determine your IMD (Index of Multiple Deprivation).
- Have experience of life in local authority care for three months or more.
- Is, or has previously been eligible, for free school meals.
- Have caring responsibilities.
- A mature student (21 at the point of enrolment) and in full-time education (excluding those studying Access to HE qualification).
- Estranged from your parents.
- Have a long-term disability or health condition.
- Is recognised as a refugee or asylum seeker.
- Is from a UK armed-forces family.
- Has documented extenuating circumstances by the completed extenuating circumstances form on our website.

How we will use this data at offer stage:

- we will use this information to consider making a lower academic offer. This can be up to two grades, or up to 16 UCAS tariff points lower than our typical entry requirement and will be no lower than the published minimum academic offer.

Correct as of 22/10/2026

- we use this information to consider the application further, potentially requesting additional information or inviting an applicant to interview.
- we will offer an interview, providing the applicant meets or is on the pathway to meet the entry requirements for the course and the course interviews as part of the selection process.
- we use this information to consider making an offer when an offer would not normally be made on the basis of predicted/achieved grades.
- we may use this information to make an offer for an alternative course, such as a Foundation Year.

We will not offer reduced tariff offers for foundation year entry to programmes, as the existing tariff already promotes fair access.

Any other entry requirements, for example passes at a certain level in particular subjects or passes of GCSE will not change and therefore will remain in the offer conditions.

When qualification results are received:

We will use this information before making a final confirmation decision.

Mature Applicants

We have an established procedure for mature students. Our definition of mature student is one that is 21 in the year of entry. If the student is in full time education, we will class this as an individual indicator and follow the standard application process and may make a contextual offer. If the student is not in full time education and has no formal qualifications, we will interview the students and set a written exercise to assess academic ability.

At the end of the admissions cycle

We will conduct a full review the success of the scheme in terms of key metrics of success and any further enhancement for the scheme.