

The parents' guide to university

SOLENT
UNIVERSITY
SOUTHAMPTON



**MAKE
WAVES**

Is university the right choice?



MAKE
WAVES

What are the options?



Degree



Work



Apprenticeship



Gap year



When would I absolutely need a degree?



Doctor



Vet



Pharmacist



Lawyer



Teacher



Architect



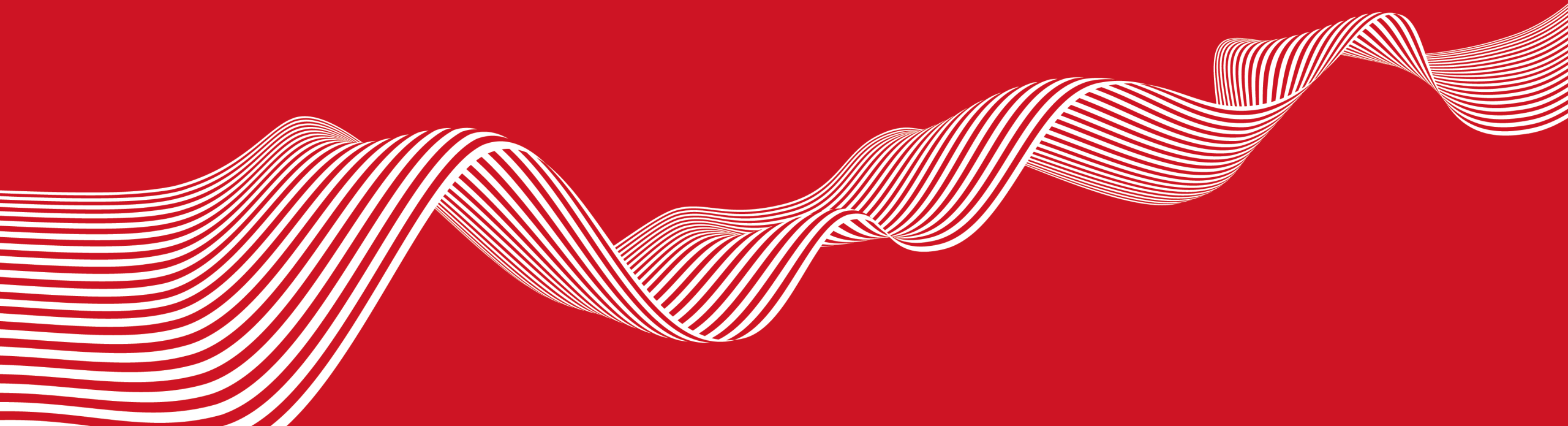
Nurse



Engineering



**Why else might university be a
good option?**



Follow your passion

- Study a subject you love
- Explore your subject in-depth
- Choose your own options
- Engage with likeminded people
- Learn from experienced academics
- Trips, visits and guest speakers
- Explore different career paths
- A sense of achievement



Not just a degree...



Employability



Travel



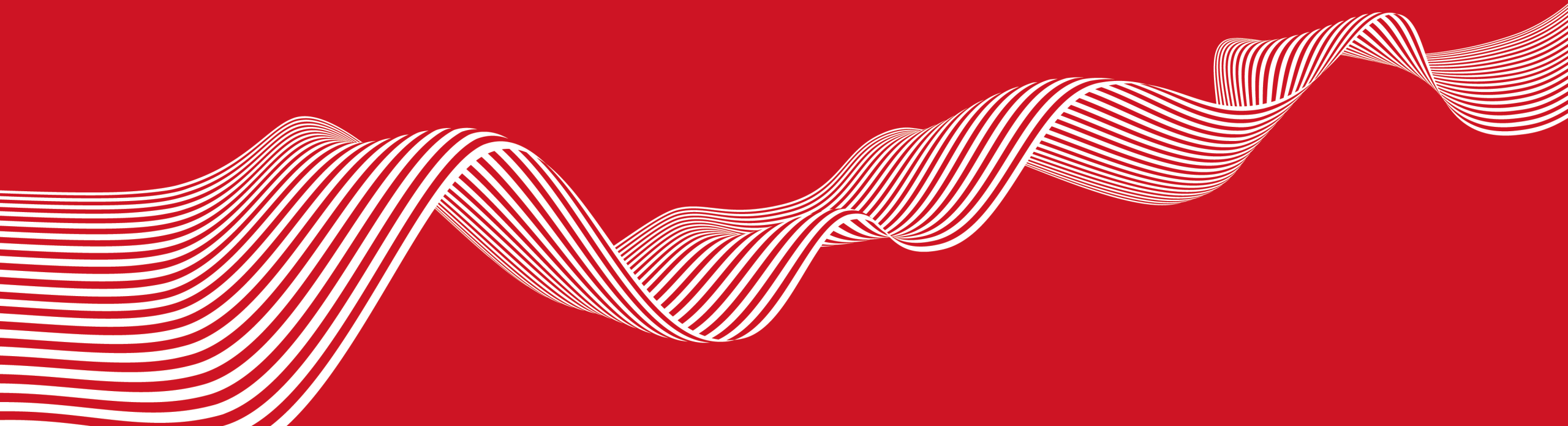
Confidence and
social skills



Friendship



Myth #1: My child can't go to university because they aren't studying A Levels



- Many universities take a range of BTECs, T-Levels, and other level 3 qualifications.
- Always check the following:
UCAS point/ grade requirements
Subject requirements
GCSE requirements
- Find this info on the uni website/
UCAS.
- For UCAS point info :
<https://www.ucas.com/ucas/tariff-calculator>

BEng (Hons)

Yacht and Powercraft Design

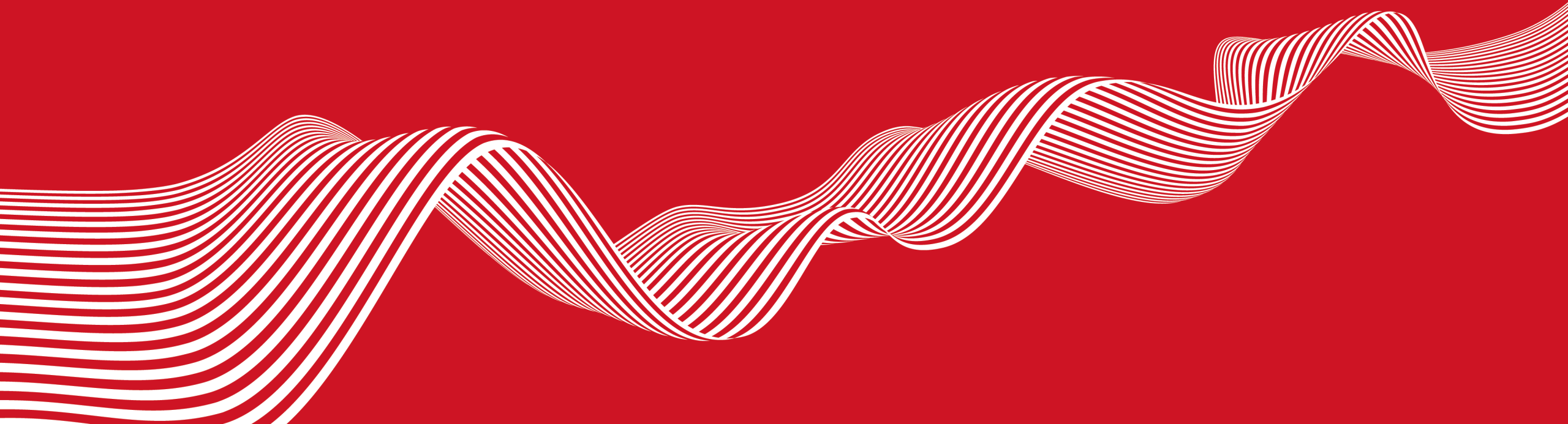


Key entry requirements

112-128 UCAS tariff points

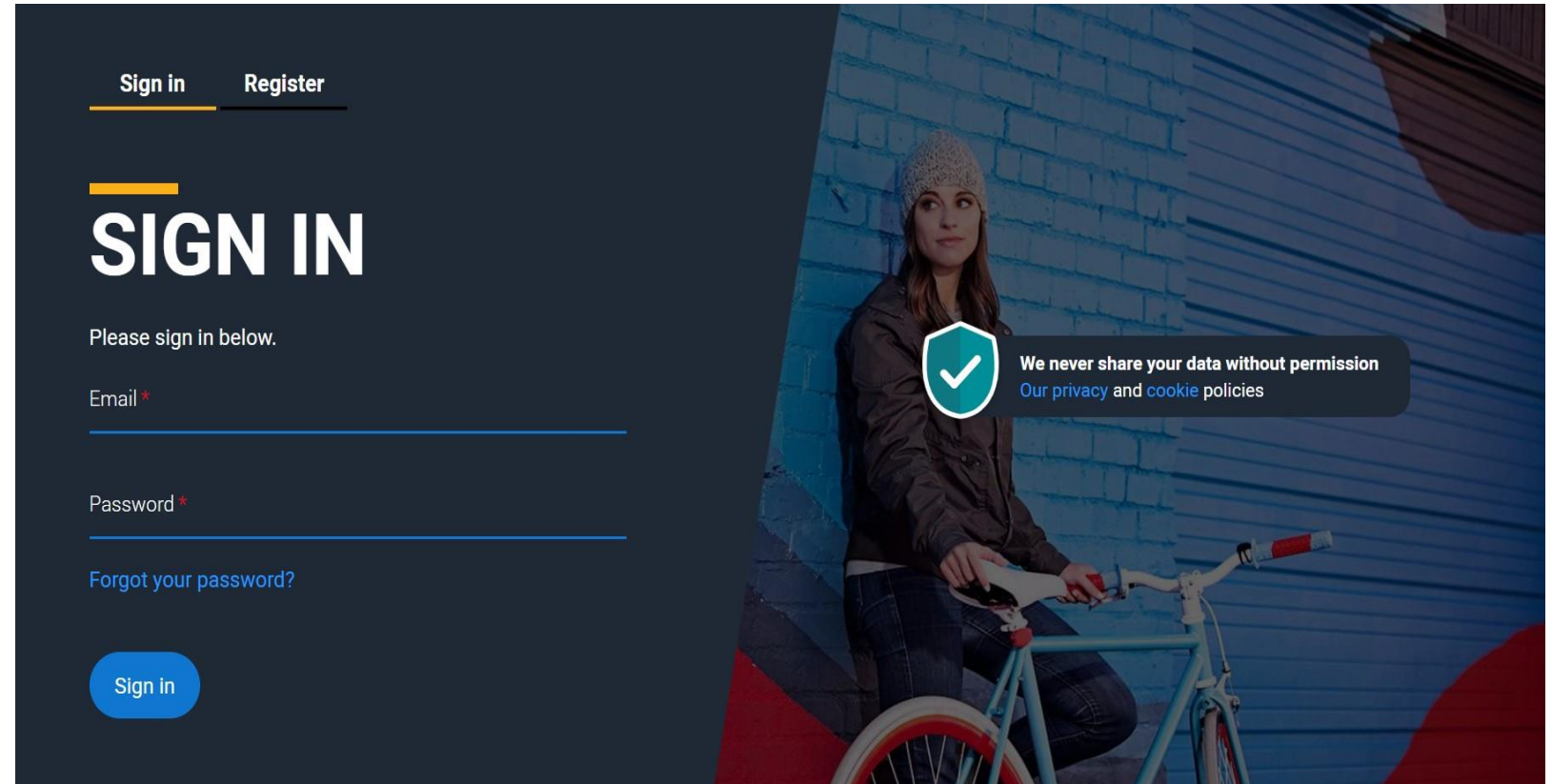
- A minimum of two A-levels, including two STEM subjects, a BTEC Extended Diploma at DMM or BTEC Diploma at D*D* in a STEM based subject, T-Level Merit, or equivalent, which comply with the minimum entry requirement of 112 UCAS points.
- A BTEC Subsidiary Diploma will be considered in conjunction with other qualifications.
- Qualifications equivalent to the above may also be considered.
- Entry to year two may be offered to applicants holding an HND in an appropriate subject.
- For further information about UK qualifications, please contact admissions.

**Myth #2: Students need to make
separate applications to each
University**



UCAS HUB – a one stop shop!!!

- Course search
- Resources
- Updates
- Deadline dates
- Video guides
- Apply
- Open Day information

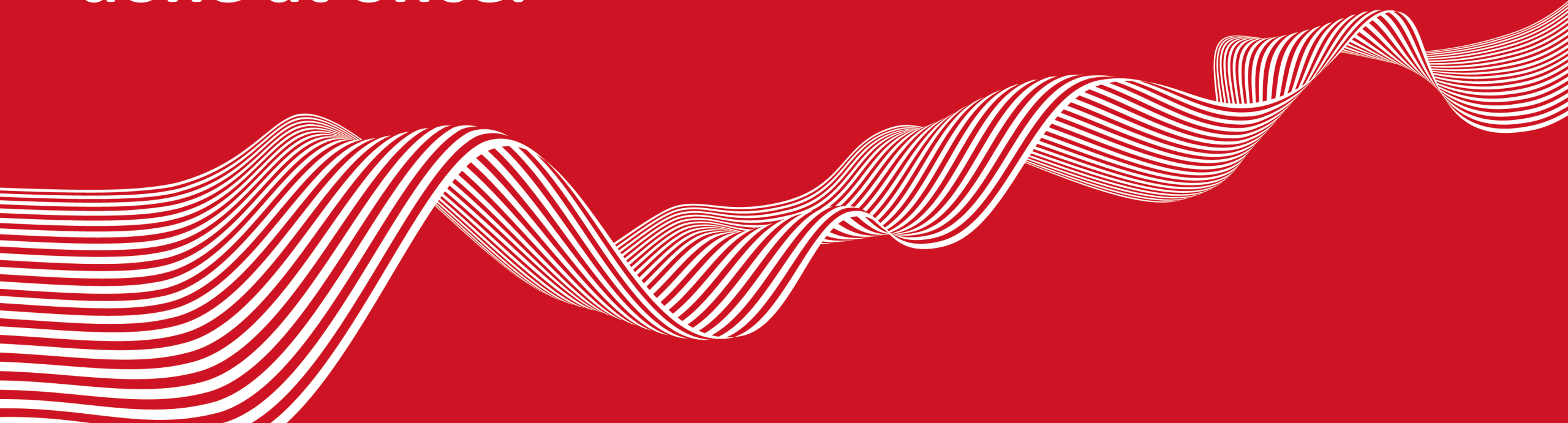


The UCAS Application

Application Sections	
Personal details	Name, address, email etc
Choices	Up to 5 choices (some restrictions apply)
Education	School, college, university
Employment	Paid work / voluntary work
Personal Statement	Most lengthy part of the university application
Reference	College / Employer
Payment & submit	£28.50 = 5 course choices



Myth #3: Applying to University takes up so much time, it's labour intensive and it all needs to be done at once.



UCAS DEADLINES

SEPTEMBER – JANUARY

- Complete and submit application
- Deadline: end of January
- Later applications can still be submitted up until end of June

OCTOBER – JULY

- Universities interview and make decisions
- Check UCAS Hub for updates

FEBRUARY – JULY

- UCAS Extra opens from the end of February to the end of June

APRIL – JULY

- Applicants make decisions (Firm and Insurance) via UCAS Hub
- Deadlines for applicants to make these decisions vary – check your own UCAS Hub

JULY – SEPTEMBER

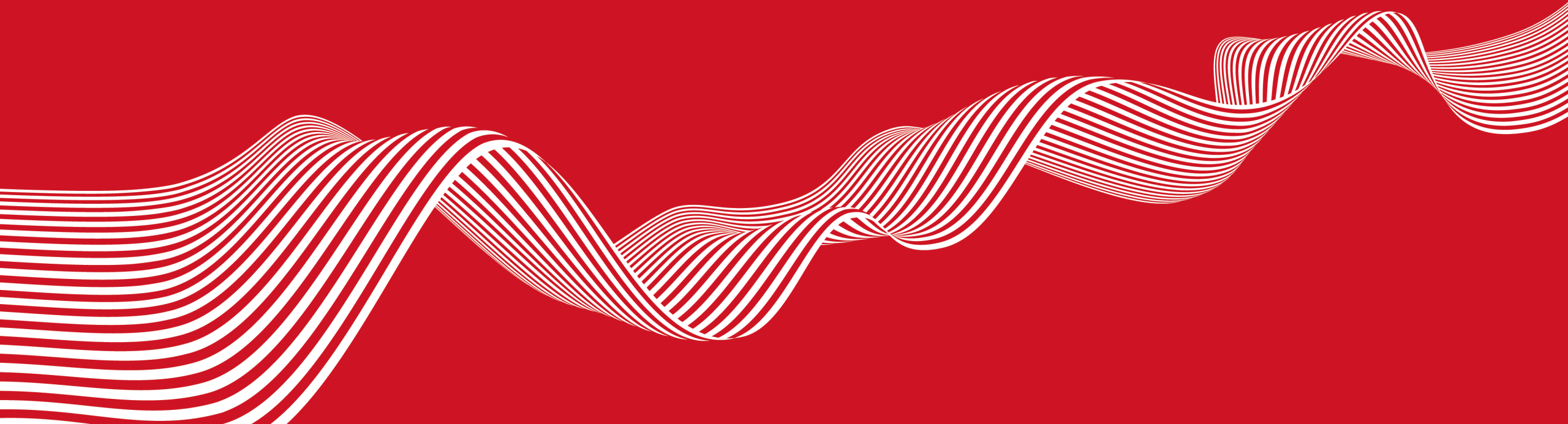
- Results! Clearing, self release period and confirmation of final choice
- Clearing is open from the beginning of July to mid October

SEPTEMBER – OCTOBER

- Start university!
- Mid October is the last date for adding a Clearing choice



Myth #4: Universities do not read the personal statement.



What is a Personal Statement?



PS demonstrate to a university that you have the necessary skill set, knowledge, experience, and most importantly passion to study for the subject/course



University admissions teams/ academics would like to see that the course and level is right for you



Must reflect your personality, please do not copy and paste others, UCAS has copy catch software !!!



Can be used for basis of university interview for your course



Be honest and true to yourself



The same personal statement will be sent to all your 5 university choices

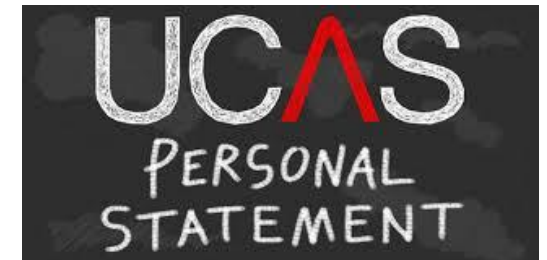
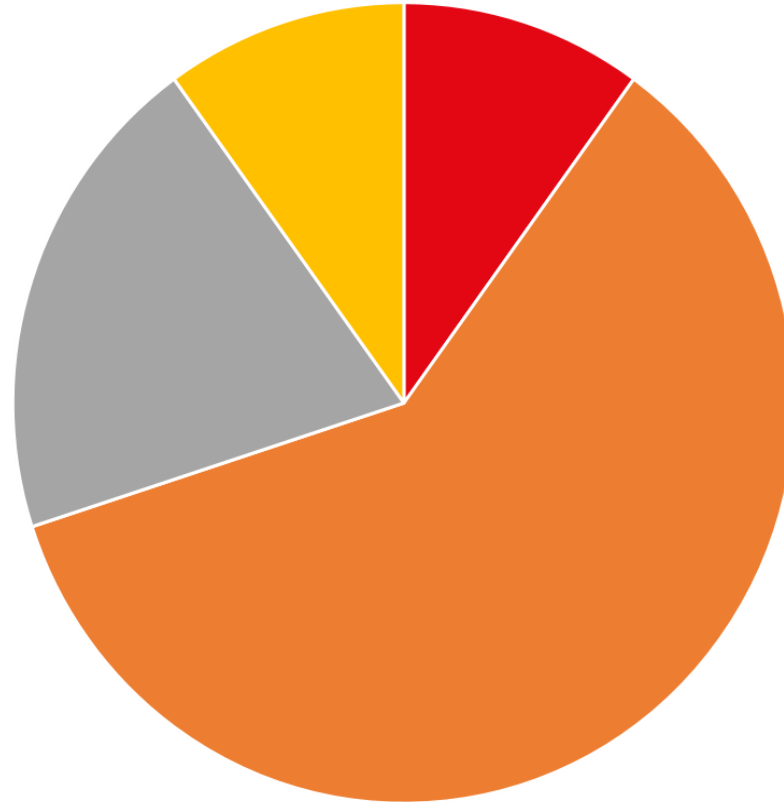


See it as an exciting opportunity and a chance for reflection



The Personal Statement: Breaking it down

How to structure your personal statement



■ Introduction

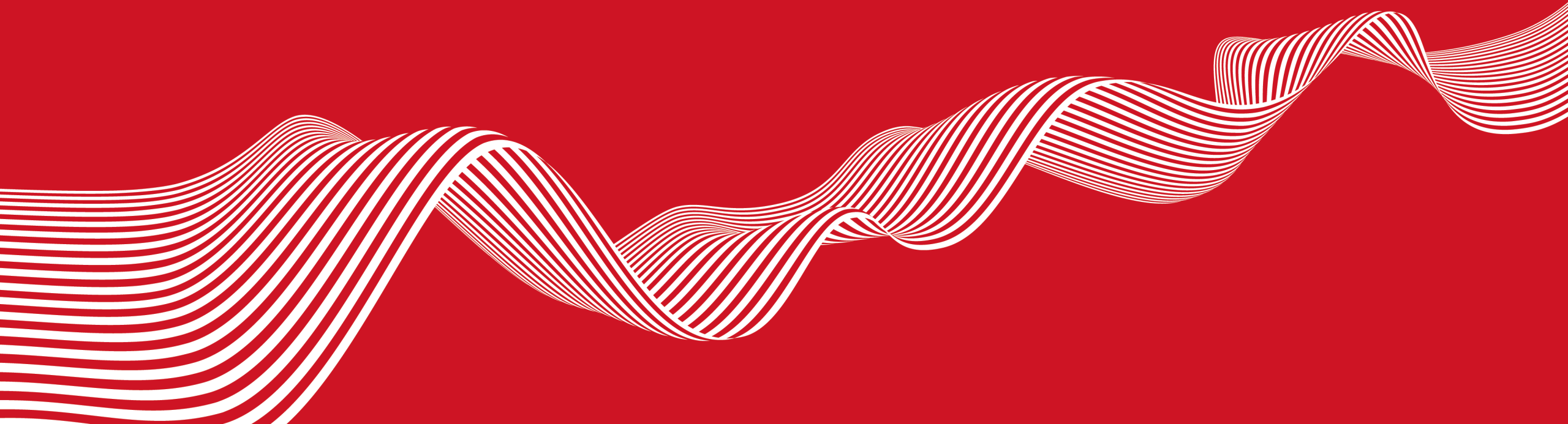
■ Academic Interests

■ Extra/Super Curricula Activities

■ Conclusion



**Myth #5: Students will need
lots of money to get them
through University**



What funding is available?

Student Finance England (SFE) provide financial support on behalf of the UK Government to students from England entering Higher Education in the UK.

The two main costs students will have are:

- **Tuition Fees**
- **Living costs**

Depending on their circumstances and course they may be able to get a range of financial help and support.

The student finance available to cover these are:

- **A Tuition Fee loan**
- **A Maintenance Loan**



The Tuition Fee Loan

- Universities currently charge up to **£9,250 per year** for full time tuition fees
- They **do not** have to pay the fees upfront
- The **tuition fee loan** is paid directly to the university by Student Finance England.



This loan is repayable



The Maintenance Loan

- These loans are divided and paid in **three** termly instalments directly into their bank account
- These can help towards accommodation, food, travel, course costs etc.



Maintenance loans – 2023/2024

Household Income	Max Maintenance Loan (staying at home)	Max Maintenance Loan (living away*)
Up to £25,000	£8,610	£10,227

This amount is variable:

- The higher the household income, the less they will receive.
- Students living in London will receive slightly more than elsewhere due to living costs being higher.



Additional financial help and support

Non repayable!

Contextual Offer
Scholarships – a limited
number of one-off
scholarships of £500

Local Student Bursary
Scheme (£1000)

Sports Scholarships (up
to £5,000)

BAME Scholarships -
£1000 for the first year

Course Cost Support
Grants

Support and Summer
Support Grant

Unpaid Placement
Support Grant

Bursaries for:

Care Leavers (£1,500)

Those who have been in
a Foyer or Supported
Accommodation
(£1,500)

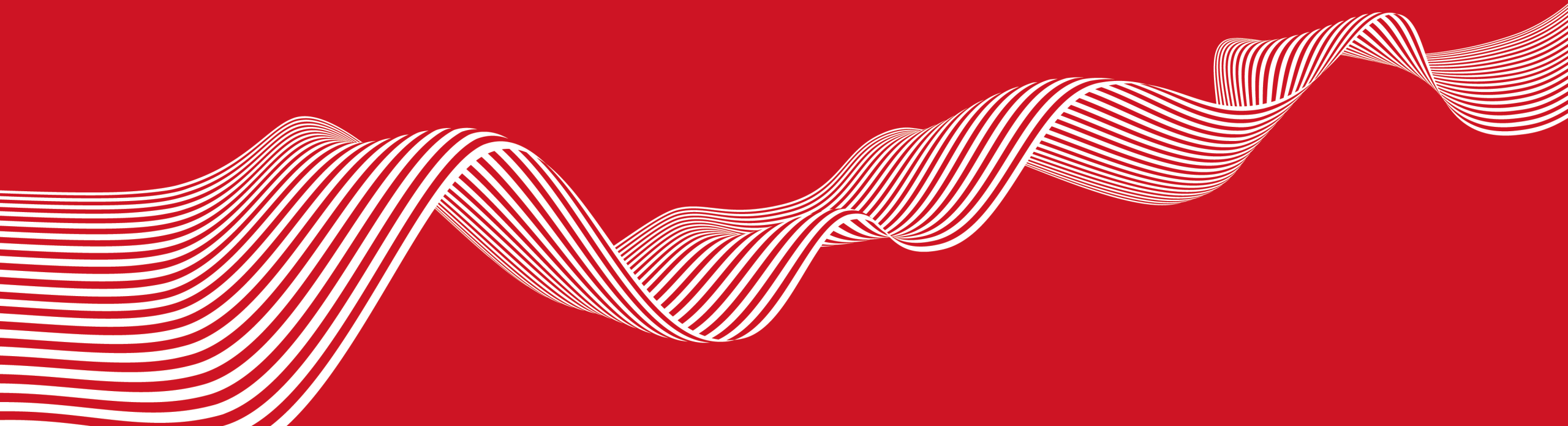
Bursaries for:

Student estranged from
their parents (£1,500)

Those with significant
ongoing responsibilities,
while studying, to care
for an adult family
member (£1,200)



**Myth #6: The cost of
University will leave students
in debt**



Tuition and Maintenance Repayments

- Doesn't affect credit history
- Repayments are linked to how much they **earn**
- Repayment threshold will be **£25,000**.
- Repayments will start the April after graduation.
- Repayments are taken directly from their salary through PAYE (pay as you earn)
- They will repay 9% of your income over the threshold.





Other repayment facts:

- Students should apply as soon as applications open, usually around early March.
- A small amount of interest is added each year.
- If they stop earning, they stop paying.
- Outstanding balance is written off after 40 years.
- Overpayment is possible.

For further info:

<https://www.gov.uk/student-finance>

