



Members of Northumbria University's Clearing hotline team

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## Advice available for students ahead of A-level results day

As thousands of students await their A-level results on Thursday 15 August, Northumbria University is offering advice and support for those wondering what their next steps should be.

According to [UCAS data](#), a record number of UK 18-year-olds secured their university place through Clearing last year, with growing numbers of young people now using Clearing as a way to unlock new opportunities.

Almost a third of those going through Clearing in 2023 did so because they had changed their mind on where they wanted to study or the course they had originally applied for.

Many others used Clearing as they got better grades than predicted or were applying to university for the first time.

[Northumbria University's Clearing hotline](#) is now open with staff on hand ready to provide advice and guidance to students who may be considering their choices ahead of receiving their results.

Helen Bower, who is responsible for student recruitment at Northumbria University, said: "Going to university is one of the biggest life-changing choices anyone can make and we want students to make good decisions they are comfortable with.

"Students often don't realise that Clearing actually opens ahead of results day. Our advisors are already available to chat to students about what options may be open to them.

"It can be a stressful time so it's really important to do your research and plan in advance to ensure you're making the right decision for you. There are always options available."

Two students who came to Northumbria through Clearing after changing their minds on the paths they had planned to take have shared their experiences.

[Emma Swinney](#), 20, from Jarrow, was previously studying a different course at another university. However, after working part-time as an A&E receptionist she knew she wanted to train for a different career and is now training to be a nurse.

"I had initially chosen to study pharmacy at a different university, but it wasn't the right fit. I realised I wanted to be patient-facing," she explained. "Ever since starting my degree at Northumbria, I have been 100% confident in my decision. This fresh start has changed my whole perspective on study."

Emma advises other students to follow their dreams, saying: "Trust your gut

and don't be afraid to change your mind. I did and it's the best decision I have ever made."

Rosie Sadlier from Congleton in Cheshire wasn't sure about whether she wanted to go to university. As a carer for both of her parents, the idea of moving away from home was a daunting prospect, but she changed her mind at the last minute and applied to Northumbria through Clearing.

The University's Welfare and Inclusion team outlined the support 21-year-old Rosie was entitled to, including a carers bursary, which means she can still travel home when needed to help her parents.

"Moving so far away from home felt like a big risk, but Northumbria has made sure I have all the right support in place," she said.

"I come from a household where both my parents are deaf and the Welfare and Inclusion team introduced me to other students who have shared similar upbringings. It's great to have this network of friends and to be surrounded by people from all backgrounds and life experiences.

"I was nervous about deciding to get a degree as it is a big life decision, but the support available from finance and wellbeing, as well as career advice, has certainly helped the transition," she said.

"I couldn't praise Northumbria enough for the extra support they offer to students."

Northumbria University has a limited number of places available for students through Clearing this summer in areas including nursing science, accounting, sports coaching and networks and cyber security.

For more information, visit [Northumbria University's Clearing Hub](#) or call the Clearing Hotline on 0800 085 1085.

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Northumbria is a research-intensive university that unlocks potential for all,

changing lives regionally, nationally and internationally.

Two thirds of Northumbria's undergraduate students come from the North East region and go into employment in the region when they graduate, demonstrating Northumbria's significant contribution to social mobility and levelling up in the North East of England.

Find out more about us at [www.northumbria.ac.uk](http://www.northumbria.ac.uk)

--- Please contact [media.communications@northumbria.ac.uk](mailto:media.communications@northumbria.ac.uk) with any media enquiries or interview requests ---

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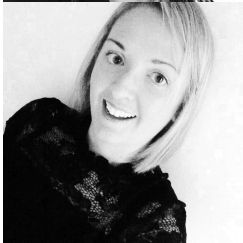


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