2025-26 Admissions feedback summary for Computer Science, Maths and Computer Science, Computer Science and Philosophy

January 2026

Application Statistics

The data below refers to the 2025-26 admissions cycle for Computer Science, Maths and Computer Science and Computer Science and Philosophy.

Where applicable statistics below have been rounded to one decimal place. For the purpose of this report if a student has applied for a joint honours course but received a single honours place, they will be counted as having applied, been shortlisted and received an offer by the joint honours course.

Table 1 shows the breakdown by course applied for at each stage of the admissions process.

	Applications	*Shortlisted*	*Offers*
Computer Science	*531*	*144*	*58*
Computer Science and Philosophy	*118*	*46*	*15*
Mathematics and Computer Science	*564*	*206*	*90*
Total	**1213**	**396**	**163**

Of those 1213 applicants,

- 20.4% of applicants submitted an open application.
- 28 applicants applied for deferred entry in 2027. Of these, 10 were shortlisted and interviewed and 5 were offered places.
- 753 applicants (62.1%) offered A-levels.

Among this year's 396 shortlisted applicants,

- 245 (61.9%) had taken five or more GCSEs. Among those candidates, the mean number of GCSEs at grades 9/8 was 8.5.
- 261 (65.9%) offered A-levels:
    - All shortlisted A-level applicants offered A-level Mathematics.
    - 248 (95.0%) of all shortlisted A-level applicants offered A-level Further Mathematics.

The admissions criteria are published here: https://www.cs.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate/why_oxford/formal-admissions-criteria.html

Gender

This table below breaks down Oxford's group of UK-domiciled applicants, offer holders and admitted students by gender declared on application

Table 2 shows the breakdown of gender using the UCAS gender codes "Man", "Woman", " I use another term", and "Prefer not to say" at each stage of the admissions process.

	Applications	Shortlisted	Offers
Man	*881 (72.6%)*	*309 (78%)*	*127 (77.9%)*
Woman	*310 (25.6%)*	*78 (19.7%)*	*31 (19%)*
I use another term/prefer not to say	*22 (1.8%)*	*9 (2.3%)*	*5 (3.1%)*

Domicile

Table 3 shows the breakdown of domicile at each stage of the admissions process.

	Applications	Shortlisted	Offers
UK	*664 (54.7%)*	*227 (57.3%)*	*85 (52.2%)*
EU	*78 (6.4%)*	*18 (4.6%)*	*6 (3.7%)*
Outside EU or UK	*471 (38.8%)*	*151 (38.1%)*	*72 (44.2%)*

Mathematics Admissions Test (MAT)

All applicants are expected to sit the Mathematics Admissions Test prior to shortlisting. This year the test was taken on Wednesday 22 October or Thursday 23 October 2025. In this cycle 1121 applicants for Computer Science or joint honours courses registered for and sat the MAT.
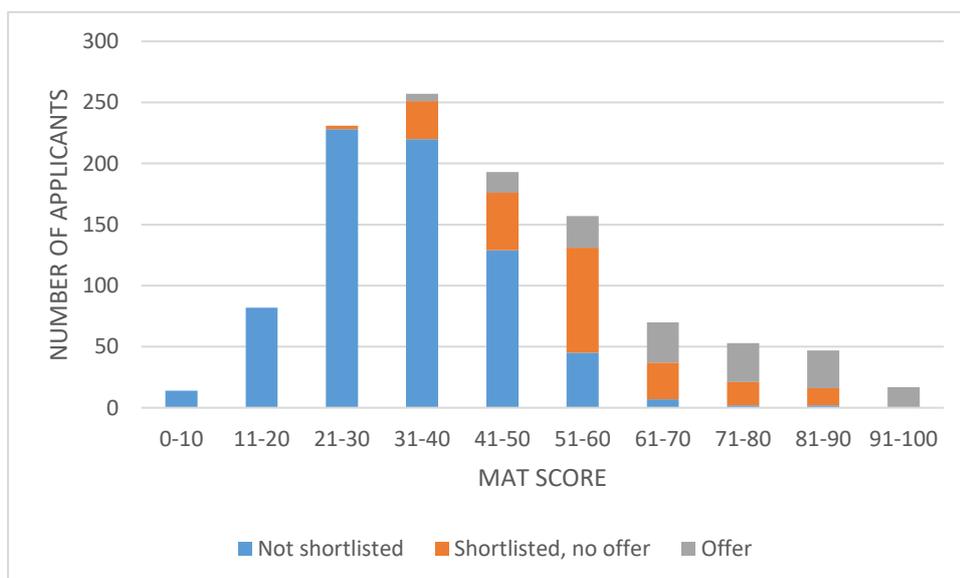
Details relating to the MAT, including past papers, can be found at:
https://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate/applying-to-oxford/guide/admissions-tests/mat

Table 4 gives the mean score by course applied for at each stage of the admissions process.

	Applications	Shortlisted	Offers
Computer Science	*38.9*	*58.5*	*65.3*
Computer Science and Philosophy	*37.5*	*47.5*	*51.0*
Mathematics and Computer Science	*47.7*	*66.3*	*76.5*

Figure 1 (below) shows admissions outcome by MAT score.

Shortlisting

In light of the competition for places, the purpose of shortlisting is to identify those applicants who are most likely to succeed in the rest of the selection process, giving interviewers time to consider each shortlisted applicant carefully. Usually we shortlist between 2 and 3 for each offer.

Shortlisting was performed in accordance with the stated admissions criteria. All applicants are expected to sit the Mathematics Admissions Test prior to shortlisting. In addition to the test, the shortlisting criteria take into account all information from the UCAS form and any relevant contextual information, or extenuating circumstances. Shortlisting decisions are reviewed by the subject coordinators in order to ensure consistency between colleges.

After shortlisting takes place, if an individual college has an unusually high number of shortlisted applicants per place, that college must reallocate a proportion of those applicants to a college with fewer shortlisted applicants per place. These candidates are assigned randomly to another college. In December 2025, 25 shortlisted applicants were reallocated via this procedure, and 10 of those applicants were subsequently offered places by the colleges to which they were reallocated.

Interviews

All shortlisted applicants were invited for interview in mid-December. Almost all interviews took place remotely by video call, often using a shared virtual whiteboard. Each applicant is associated with a first college, either of their choosing, reallocated to them or, in the case of open applications, randomly assigned to them in a way that aims to even out the competition for places across the colleges. Each applicant is also randomly assigned a second college by an algorithm aiming to equalise across colleges the interview load per place ratio.

Applicants were interviewed by both their first and second colleges, and a small number were invited to further interviews by another college. Applicants for joint degrees are typically given separate interviews in the two subjects. In December 2025 most applicants were interviewed twice by their first college and once or more by their second college.

Interviews are academic and subject-focused in nature. The applicant's performance in each interview is judged according to the admissions criteria, codified on a numeric scale against agreed descriptors, and shared among all tutors involved in admissions, together with the applicants' UCAS forms and their test results. The score and any comments are added to the shared web-based database.

Decisions

The colleges use various procedures in a coordinated effort to ensure that the strongest applicants are admitted across the University irrespective of the college considering their application. These include complete transparency of all information gained about each applicant, supported by an online information system, and a final meeting where the strongest unplaced applicants are identified and open offers are agreed. This year, 28.2% of offers made were either open offers or made by a college other than the first college considering the applicant.

Where an applicant for a joint honours degree has performed strongly in one of their subjects but will not be made an offer for the joint degree, tutors may consider offering them a place for a relevant single honours degree. This year 16 applicants for joint honours degrees were offered places for single honours courses.

Where an applicant is eligible and would benefit from it, tutors may nominate them for the Opportunity Oxford scheme. Such candidates are held to the same academic standards as those admitted without the bridging programme. In this cycle 7 applicants were offered places through Opportunity Oxford. More information on the programme is available at: www.ox.ac.uk/opportunityoxford

Following the end of the selection process, colleges write to applicants via UCAS with the results of their application. Standard conditions apply to those taking A-levels, the International Baccalaureate or Scottish Highers; for other applicants, tutors will seek advice from the subject coordinators or the college's admissions tutor in determining a comparable set of conditions.

MAT results and feedback

All candidates who took the MAT, and who have not withdrawn, will receive their MAT score via the test registration portal.

Colleges and departments are not required to provide individual feedback to applicants, but feedback can be requested from the college that considered the application, on or before 15 February 2026. All enquiries about admissions decisions are dealt with on an individual basis between applicants and appropriate Oxford college (to which the candidate initially applied, or which they were subsequently assigned, whether as a result of making an open application or through reallocation).

Details of the procedure for requesting feedback may be found here.