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Sixth Form Careers newsletter



Edition 10
Spring Term 2022

Welcome to the spring term edition of our Sixth Form Careers newsletter

What has been happening?

- Year 12 completed their **work experience week** before half term and we were amazed to hear about some of the enrichment activities and fantastic opportunities students got involved in. These ranged from designing components for robots, getting involved with laboratory work, the work of a lawyer, marketing & business experience, working with politicians and many more!

Some of the feedback from students included:-

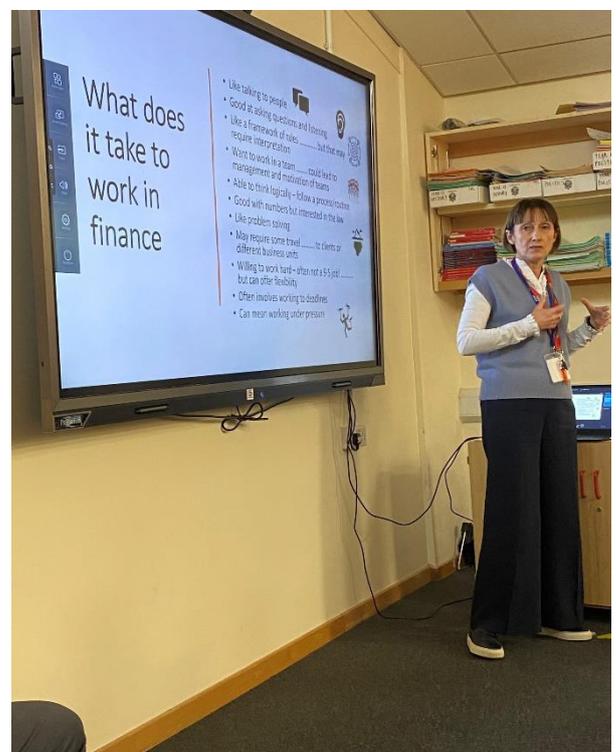
"The best week in my life ever!" (Daisy W);

"I found the experience incredibly enlightening and I really enjoyed getting a glimpse of what working life really involves" (Dasha S)

"I gained a great insight into this field of work and I'd definitely like to dive deeper into other sectors of biochemical research" (Ida S)

"I enjoyed seeing how modern offices for large companies functioned..." (Joseph F)

- We enjoyed a great **extended learning day** on 2nd March where year 12 began to learn more about university study and researching options. We were lucky enough to have some external speakers join us for some optional sessions covering; engineering; finance; professional services; apprenticeships at Google; journalism; data science; media & the creative industries; medicine and history & politics. It was great to see so many students engaged and asking questions and we would like to thank everyone involved and for making the day a success! (see photos below)
- Year 12 have started their 'Careers & Futures' unit in **Personal Development** to start looking at options beyond school including further study at university, apprenticeships and gap years.
- Continued support for year 13 with their university offers and apprenticeship applications.



UCAS

For information to help you navigate your way through the next steps after applying to university, please read the **UCAS What next? Guide** https://www.reigate.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/UCAS_what_next_guide.pdf It covers:

- Replying to offers
- UCAS Extra
- Student Finance
- Accommodation
- Results day
- Deferring and GAP years
- Applying as a former student



Applications for **Student Finance** are now open for Year 13 students hoping to start university in Sept 2022, all info here: studentfinance.campaign.gov.uk

If you need any further help please speak to one of the sixth form team.

Careers Events

BBC Bitesize Career Profiles

Looking for inspiration? Start your career exploration by watching the 'How to become...' video series on BBC Bitesize.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/collections/job-profiles/1>



National Careers Week – 7th – 13th March '22



#NCW2022 @CareersWeek www.nationalcareersweek.com

Aspire Webinar Series is a series of free careers and further education Webinars designed to help sixth form students make more informed decisions about their future.



This year the series includes a dedicated Career Exploration Week - taking place from **7th-11th March** - to celebrate National Careers Week. This will allow students to ask a panel of professionals about their career.

For more information on understanding the different options available and to join up to the webinars please [click here](#).

Aspire Webinar Series 2022



Free Webinars to Explore Exciting Careers and Post-18 Options

Aspire Career Exploration Week

- 7 Mar Tech & Engineering
- 8 Mar Accountancy & Professional Services
- 9 Mar Banking & Finance
- 10 Mar Public Sector
- 11 Mar Law

Aspire Webinar Series

- 21 Apr Applying to Oxbridge?
- 28 Apr How to Get Work Experience Over Summer
- 14 Jun Choosing the Right University for You
- 21 Jun Alternatives to University
- 5 Jul How to Write a Great Personal Statement
- 12 Jul How to Write a Great CV
- 8 Nov Preparing for University Interviews

Sign up today: www.aspire.upreach.org.uk

Work Experience & Volunteering

University Hospitals Birmingham Trust Work Experience Programme

E-learning courses that you can complete in your own time.

Students have 1 month to complete each session, and once the programme is completed you will receive a certificate from Medic Mentor and UHB as evidence of your participation. Medical Schools are accepting virtual work experience as an alternative to in-person work experience in light of the pandemic and reduced access to placements. Participation in the virtual work experience will also provide students (and their parents) with several opportunities to speak to doctors, dentists and vets throughout the academic year.

You will be able to do this on Tuesday evenings and most weekends, for free. You can also call the Mentor Helpline number 01530 417 299 from 10am-5pm Mon-Fri if you would like advice on careers or applying to medical, dental, vet school. (This number is mostly manned by Doctors).

To register complete the free online application form:

Medicine: <https://medicmentor.co.uk/university-hospitals-birmingham-trust-virtual-work-experience/>

Dentistry: <https://medicmentor.co.uk/dental-live-virtual-work-experience/>

Veterinary: <https://medicmentor.co.uk/veterinary-virtual-live-work-experience/>



InvestIN

InvestIN are already getting booked up for some of their most popular summer experiences in London. **For a limited time only students can get 15% off using code SUMMER15. Shadow doctors in a hospital, argue a human rights case in the Supreme Court, explore a supercar engine with F1 engineers and much much more.** Click on any area of interest below and register now.

Please note that there is a cost to these experiences



[MEDICINE & PSYCHOLOGY](#)

[ENGINEERING & ARCHITECTURE](#)

[LAW & POLITICS](#)

[BUSINESS & FINANCE](#)

[TECH](#)

[CULTURE, MEDIA & SPORT](#)

The University of Leicester online virtual healthcare work related project

Find out more about the varied and rewarding careers available in the NHS, as well as the skills and qualifications you need to work in healthcare.

You can complete the project in your own time and will have the opportunity to attend some live sessions, where you will be able to hear from healthcare professionals about their experiences and ask questions. The project will launch on **Saturday 9th April 2022.**

This is completely free and is open to students in Years 10 - 13. All students who complete the project will receive a certificate of completion at the end. Sign up by completing this [short application form.](#)



LinkedIn



Catch up on this [Masterclass](#) (approx 50 minutes long) and contains valuable advice on:

- The LinkedIn professional mindset.
- Why a strong and active LinkedIn profile is a valuable asset.
- Building professional networks early.
- Why get established before the graduate rush?
- Interacting with start-ups and industry leaders & more...

<https://tinyurl.com/2p8mmhnr>

Barclays LifeSkills Virtual Work Experience Hub

Log in or sign up to use the virtual work experience and other tools on this site

<https://barclayslifeskills.com/virtual-work-experience/>



Pearson College London and Escape Studios have been helping students break into the creative industries since 2002 and it all starts with a visit to [their studios](#)! They offer a range of undergraduate, postgraduate and short courses in [Visual Effects \(VFX\)](#), [Game Art](#), [Animation](#) and [Motion Graphics](#).

Take the next step, get in touch, join an online event or visit their campus in central London. From **one-to-one sessions to taster courses or webinars**, there's an event to suit everyone.

Hear from their tutors and current students, learn about their courses and student life, and get all your questions answered.

Sign up to their **On-demand Open Day** to **access content whenever suits you**.

[Book your place](#)

Jobs of the Future

By 2035 it is estimated that 40% of today's professions will have disappeared. Taking their place will be new and exciting jobs based on rapidly developing technology. No one can predict all the jobs you will be able to choose from in the second half of the 21st century but here are just a few of the more unusual jobs that are likely to be in demand.



AI Trainer

Machines can think and learn for themselves with AI. Trainers will train the machines to improve the way they respond to problems in original and creative ways, just like, or even better than, the human mind.

E-sports coach

Competitive online gaming is getting more and more popular. With some big prizes to be won, players need to make sure they have that competitive edge. An e-sports coach can help with strategy, motivation and fair play.

Antibiotic Engineer

Bacteria are starting to build up a resistance to the antibiotics we use to fight them. Antibiotic Engineers are needed to create new antibiotics so that we can continue to fight illness and disease.

Climate Engineer

Climate Engineers deliberately change the Earth's climate system. This may be done to reduce the negative effects of climate change or to improve crop yields and grow more food. Methods of climate engineering could include putting mirrors in space, cloud seeding or carbon capture.

Desert Greener

The amount of the world's land covered by desert is growing each year. Desert Greeners will plant trees and plants to make them more hospitable. They will also divert rivers through regions experiencing drought or regions needing to be 'greenified' to sustain animal and plant life.

Meat Grower

A Meat Grower would create synthetic substances that taste exactly like meat but contain no meat at all. This would allow us to have meat in our diet without killing animals to produce it. It would also remove the need for mass farming which damages the environment.

Some areas of work may be growing fast but there will always be a need for people to replace those who leave. In addition, jobs such as those above and others that haven't yet been thought up will emerge. Make sure you develop a range of skills and keep learning new ones to help you to jump into new roles.

Take this fun quiz to discover more about your role in this exciting future.

<https://100jobsofthefuture.com/browse/>



This student guide and video from the Know-how library helps you **compare different higher education pathways**. Read about their pros and cons and find out more about new options, like degree apprenticeships. Knowing the differences between these routes will help you make an informed choice about your future. Think about the advantages and things to consider when comparing:

- College courses
- Apprenticeships
- University degree apprenticeships
- University degrees

[Read the guide here](#)



NEXT STEPS FAIR

Join employers, universities and apprenticeship providers to compare the different post-school pathways side by side at our virtual fair.

8 March 2022
5pm - 8pm GMT

Apprenticeship

University

Career



unifrog

Sign up at unifrog.org/webinars

This is an opportunity to compare all the different post-school pathways side by side. At the virtual Next Steps Fair you will have the chance to hear from apprenticeship providers, employers, and universities in live sessions and drop by their virtual booths to chat with them directly.

The event is **completely free** and you can register via the Unifrog platform.

Past student Profile

Emily Caswell (left Sandringham in 2017)
Assistant Account Executive (Graduate Programme) – Citypress PR Agency



What A 'levels did you study?

For my A Levels, I studied History (A*), English Literature (A*), Physical Education (A*) and Maths (B), all of which I thoroughly enjoyed. Alongside this, in Year 12 I completed an Extended Project Qualification (A), which focused on how far the Olympic Games have impacted the political arena.

How relevant were your studies to what you are doing now?

Since my current job is a graduate scheme, me choosing to study for a degree was an important building block to get to where I am today. Despite this, having a degree is certainly not a requirement for a job in PR or Communications.

Getting a history degree did not necessarily determine my career within PR, but I feel there were advantages to both going to university and my choice of degree. A bonus to studying an essay-based subject at university, such as history, means that you will develop a set of invaluable skills, such as critical thinking, analytical writing and decision making, that are transferrable across a range of different industries and professions. I think that the skills you develop, both directly and in-directly, while at university is one of the key things that can influence your success within your career development.

What route did you follow on leaving school and why?

After Sixth Form, I studied BA History at the University of Leeds. This was a four-year course, and included a study abroad year in Newcastle, Australia. Getting a degree felt like a natural progression after school, and I wanted to experience the independent and social benefits that university allows, as well as continue my academic studies. Extending my degree by a year so I could study abroad was the best decision I've made. Not only did I learn about the history of Australia, but the life-lessons of moving to a different country shaped me into becoming more well-rounded, confident and overall more prepared for the world of work.

What are you doing now and how did you get to be where you are today?

My current role is as an Assistant Account Executive on the Graduate Programme at Citypress, a PR agency headquartered in Manchester. The main responsibility within PR is the reputational management of your clients. I write press releases and features on behalf of my clients that are published in newspapers and magazines, but I also work on crisis communications if there is ever a news-story which is negatively affecting a client. I work in the consumer department, and some of my clients include the likes of Aldi, Coca Cola Europacific Partners and Pets at Home.

During my second year of university, I completed some work experience at John Brown Media, one of the world's largest content marketing agencies. This experience opened me up to the level of resilience required in the media, advertising and communications sectors as well as the intricacies of office life.

However, I believe that the main thing that got me to where I am today were all my extra-curricular activities both at school and university that made me stand out in job applications. I was Head Girl at school, played netball and tennis, ran a half marathon for a student mental health charity and was the Treasurer my university netball team's committee. Hobbies and extra-curricular commitments make for great talking points in interviews and provide you with interpersonal skills that set you up for working life.

What are your plans for the future?

I would love to grow my career in PR and eventually move to the London office with my current agency. My short-term plan is to progress up the ladder in my current role, and eventually hold a pastoral role for junior employees in addition to my PR responsibilities. In the longer term, I'd love to work and travel abroad.

What advice would you give to yourself as a sixth former?

Employees love if you can stand out from other candidates on your CV, interviews and assessment centres. So, I would make sure that you commit to something outside of your studies that will make you that bit more interesting and distinctive from other people applying for the same job. This could involve anything from joining a sports team, playing an instrument, applying for a committee role in a university society or volunteering somewhere that suits your passions. Many recruiters value more than anything candidates who are personable and easy to work with.



FESTIVAL OF APPRENTICESHIPS

Apprenticeship Careers Roadshow

Manchester | Birmingham | London

www.FestivalOfApprenticeships.com

SHOWCASING THE BEST OF APPRENTICESHIPS TO FUTURE APPRENTICES

Sponsored By:

Manchester Metropolitan University | Aston University | London South Bank University

Thursday 30th June

Venue: KIA Oval, London South Bank Uni

<https://festivalofapprenticeships.com/london/>

<https://tinyurl.com/bpautts2>

This free event is a one-stop shop for anyone looking to find out more about apprenticeships. From discovering local opportunities by meeting organisations first-hand, through to guidance on how to apply for and make the most of an apprenticeship, the festival will cover all!



***NEW* Higher and Degree Apprenticeship Vacancies**

The listing is now available [here!](#) Showcasing 190+ apprenticeship vacancies across a wide range of sectors, the listing brings together the very best of higher and degree opportunities. You'll find helpful information for each vacancy on location, salary, closing and start dates, and a direct application link!

Upcoming events for this term

- Apprenticeship Awareness assembly from 'Amazing Apprenticeships'
- Business & Entrepreneurship talk from Rachel James
- Law webinar with former student, Katherine Knight

Useful Websites

Here are some useful resources to go to for up to date careers advice:-

- **Unifrog** – Please look at all the useful guide, webinars, tools, information and don't forget to record your activities!
- **National Careers Service** - Call 0800 100 900 to speak to an adviser. Lines are open from 8am to 10pm, 7 days a week. They will discuss higher education and career pathways and send a written action plan. For further information, see <https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk/>
- **icould.com** - Real career stories, blogs, and buzz quizzes to help you figure out the right career for you
- **Barclays LifeSkills** - Packed with expert advice to help you develop the skills, knowledge and confidence you need to enter the world of work
- **Start** - In-depth career profiles (and lots of videos!) to inspire you about different careers and industries, as well as resources to prepare you for further study
- **Career Experts** - Tips on how to search for, apply for, and get your dream job
- **The Student Room** - The UK's largest online student community (visited by 75% of UK students aged 14-24!)