



### In the newsletter this month



UCAS Covid-19 Updates



Barclays Virtual Work Experience



Online University Taster Days & Events



Brand new Year 12 resources on the FutureSmart Resources Hub

### UCAS Updates and continued pause on Unconditional Offers



UCAS continues to update information for students and advisers in response to the Covid-19 situation for students and advisers alike. The Government has asked universities and colleges across the UK to **stop making unconditional offers or amending existing offers until 4 May** (1 May in Wales). In response UCAS have now extended offer deadlines for undergraduate applicants. More on this and other information at <https://www.ucas.com/coronavirus>

### Many UK Universities are struggling to move online



Universities are seeking to create new online degrees across a range of faculties in a bid to offset huge losses from tens of thousands of international students cancelling their studies due to Covid-19. Prolonged social distancing could also mean freshers face a radically different university experience, with no lectures on campus and bars closed. According to Prof Sir Tim O'Shea, former vice-chancellor of Edinburgh University and a leading expert on computer-based learning, universities are facing costs of at least £10m to create five or six new online degrees but only around one in 20 are well equipped to deliver these by September. Read the full article [here](#).

### Students and graduates losing out on internships and job offers



Prospects Luminate are providing weekly updates on the impact of the lockdown on the graduate labour market. Some trends are emerging: larger recruiters and those based in London are looking more resilient than small employers. Impacts on hospitality, catering and beauty industries are particularly hard felt, recruitment in the health industry has grown (no surprise!) and the IT and Financial Services sectors seem to be coping better than expected. However, in a recent survey with students and graduates, 11% reported losing a work placement or internship, 15% reported having a job offer deferred or cancelled and 15% lost their job. 29% reported considering a postgraduate course. Read the latest insights [here](#).

### Harvard and Cornell drop SAT and ACT requirements



With schools in lockdown and ACTs and SATs postponed, a growing number of USA colleges — **including Harvard and Cornell** — are waiving standardized testing requirements for 2021 applicants. Cornell go on to say that students who have taken a test, or even more than one test, but would still prefer not to submit those results, can also make that choice. So far, Yale and other high-profile universities of the Ivy League still require them, as do Stanford and highly selective colleges on the West Coast. But many of the schools that compete with those big names are moving ahead to make the tests optional. Read the NY Times article [here](#).

### EY Work Experience and Apprenticeship Webinar on May 12<sup>th</sup>



This webinar is aimed at Year 12 and 13 students interested in learning more about EY and the programmes on offer. The EY Business Academy 2020 is a work experience programme open for year 12 students and the EY Business Apprenticeship 2020 programmes are open for year 13. Hear from the student recruitment team and current Apprentices on their experiences and get some top tips for the Application process. [Register to attend the webinar here.](#)

## Safeguarding for Virtual Work Experience and Networking



For virtual learning experiences that are live and unsupervised – and this could apply to some of the opportunities listed below - we recommend that the sessions are recorded or that another adult is present. School safeguarding policies will provide further guidance and there is more information at the [UK Safer Internet Centre](#) on safe remote learning and from the [London Grid for Learning](#) on the use of videos, livestreaming and remote learning.

## Barclays Virtual Work Experience



Barclays have joined forces with FreeFormers, a digital transformation agency, to provide a Virtual Work Experience for students. This provides a great opportunity to find out about the inner workings of this digital agency and work with different departments on real life projects, solving problems and undertaking real-life skills. The programme provides links other LifeSkills content which highlight the importance of essential workplace skills. Students will find the programme on the LifeSkills website [here](#).

## Go Construct – Virtual Experience



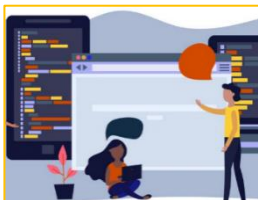
Every year **Open Doors Week** sees hundreds of live construction sites welcome thousands of people behind the scenes to see what it's really like to work in construction. This year, due to Covid-19, the onsite experience is now a virtual one. Many of sites are offering live and pre-recorded tours and films across their projects. Follow [@OpenDoorsWeek](#) on social media to keep up to date and if you have any questions please get in contact at [info@opendoors.construction](mailto:info@opendoors.construction). Further information is available [here](#).

## University Taster Days and Courses move online



Many courses and taster days are now being offered virtually due to the current Coronavirus situation. [UniTasterDays.com](#) provides up to date listings and currently over 340 online events have been advertised including the very popular taster courses at The University of London. Most taster days will include a sample lecture, discussions, and possibly a tutorial session. These provide the chance to meet departmental staff and current undergraduates and gain an insight into how the university works. See the current listings [here](#).

## 6 week virtual STEM programme



[The Summer STEM Institute \(SSI\)](#) is virtual institute dedicated to training the next generation of scientists, leaders and entrepreneurs. Applications are open for the 6-week virtual summer course that will run from June 21 to August 1, 2020. The programme consists of a data science and research [bootcamp](#) a [Masterclass lecture series](#) and a [mentored research project](#). Deadline for applications is 30<sup>th</sup> May. For more information and to apply see [here](#).

## InvestIn announce more online Career Insight programmes



InvestIn have extended their online career insight events programme to include. **architecture, entrepreneurship, law, politics, film-making and computer science**. Many of these will take place in May and July. The online programmes will give students the opportunity to gain career coaching and insights from sector professionals in a live and interactive environment. [More details here](#).

## The Wow Show! Broadcasts from the world of work



The National Careers Week team have produced a series of broadcasts with memorable encounters with inspirational people to show the real-life world of work. These include specials on Healthcare and Construction. Find the Wow Show [here](#).

## Brighton and Sussex Medical School – Online Work Experience Programme



Covid-19 is presenting aspiring medics with challenges for accessing the usual work experience opportunities. **The Medic Portal** is providing [advice](#) on other activities that students could engage in during lockdown and Brighton and Sussex Medical School have launched an Online Work Experience programme which introduces students to the NHS before exploring the roles and skill sets of six different medical specialists. Students will also consider some of the challenges and wider issues doctors face. Find out about the programme [here](#).

## Learn Live –Psychology and Psychotherapy



This broadcast will introduce students to Psychotherapy and Clinical Psychology and the differences between the two. Psychologists work with the mind and are trained in a range of therapies on a range of people and have the flexibility to apply different therapies in practice. Psychotherapists train deeply in one therapy such as Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) and follow a different training route. Students can listen to the broadcast [here](#). Other Learn Live videos are available on a wide range of careers and apprenticeships and can be accessed [here](#).

## Etrust still taking applications for the Year in Industry programme



The Etrust is still taking applications for its **Year in Industry programme** (YINI) and where-ever possible, partner companies are offering candidates virtual interviews. The programme lasts between 10-12 months and is a paid placement with companies in technology, science, engineering, business and finance sectors across the UK. About a quarter of students are subsequently sponsored through university and many secure future job offers too. Find out more [here](#).

## Online Journalism Workshops



Students interested in a career in journalism can sign up for News Associates hands-on workshops to get a glimpse into the industry and the award-winning NCTJ training on offer. These are practical sessions for those looking to get into news, sport, online or broadcast journalism. Good for personal statements and for CVs too. Sign up [here](#).

## Insight into GSK Biosciences Degree Apprenticeship



[In this recent blog](#), a University of Kent student provides an insight into her Biosciences degree apprenticeship programme with GSK. The role involves work in BioPharm Process Research (BPR), in the Cell Line Development (CLD) team alongside completing an applied bioscience degree, supporting other apprentices and encouraging future employees to work within a STEM subject. Find out about other GSK apprenticeships [here](#) too.

## Skype A Scientist



Skype a Scientist was previously offered in classrooms but is now available to families and students at home. You can chat to a scientist live and ask them about whatever fascinates you. Scientists are located all over the world, keen and ready to answer specific questions. All you need is an Internet connection and a video chat account (such as Skype or Zoom) and to complete the online form: <https://www.skypeascientist.com/families.html>

## Chat Show with Apprentices at some of UK's Leading Companies



Classroom to Boardroom is a new episodic chat show series from Springpod that explores the world of apprenticeships, through real-life success stories of apprentices working at leading organisations such as Nestle, Jaguar Land Rover, EY, Capgemini, Accenture and Pret a Manager. <https://www.springpod.co.uk/classroom-to-boardroom/>

## More Apprenticeship broadcasts by Amazing Apprenticeships



Amazing Apprenticeships are also sharing a series of live broadcasts with apprentices at leading employers. Sign up to watch live or view on catch up. <https://amazingapprenticeships.com/live-broadcasts/>

## Bournemouth University's Parent Guide to Preparing for University



Bournemouth University have prepared a useful guide for parents to support their children prepare for university. Leaving home will be a huge milestone for many and there is plenty to think about in the run up including keeping on top of application deadlines, securing student finance and sourcing accommodation. Some budgeting and cooking skills are also part of the essential toolkit and parents can get involved to support, advise and teach if needed. Find the tips [here](#).

## Neurodiversity at Work



Neurodiversity refers to the different ways the brain can work and highlights that people naturally think about things differently. Sometimes differences are given labels such as ADHD or ADD, dyspraxia, dyscalculia, autism or Tourettes syndrome and while these are all different, they also have one key similarity that they affect some but not all thinking skills. [In this feature](#), BBC Bitesize looks at a collection of job profiles showcasing neuro-diverse individuals and the work they do.

## FutureSmart Careers New Resources for Year 12 Students



We have revamped our online resources to take account of the lockdown and the need for students to access information and opportunities remotely. We have covered a wide range of topics including, among others, guides to the UCAS Process, Virtual Open Days, Experience Courses, Tasters Days, MOOCs, Competitive Applications to Oxbridge and Research Skills. These can be found on our [Resources Hub](#). If usernames and logins are required, please email us at [helpline@futuresmartcareers.co.uk](mailto:helpline@futuresmartcareers.co.uk) and we can resend these.

## Your Careers Helpline



You can find some of the recent enquiries to our helpline on our [Resources Hub](#). Topics include:

Work Experience for [Medic](#) & [Veterinary](#) applicants during Covid-19  
[Applying to Universities in Ireland](#)  
[Art Restoration Courses](#)  
[BTECs vs A Levels](#)  
[Maths Teaching Degrees](#)  
[Paramedic Training](#)  
[Neuroscience vs Neurology](#)

If we can help you with your careers and options related questions, please email us at [helpline@futuresmartcareers.co.uk](mailto:helpline@futuresmartcareers.co.uk)

## Contact us



We have a very busy term ahead working remotely. We have just delivered 120 x virtual interviews via the Teams platform with one of our schools and we are also using Zoom and Google Meet with others. We are continuing to support schools with remote workshops, training and parents meetings as well as providing students with one to one guidance sessions.

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