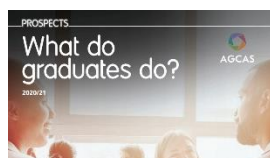




In the newsletter this month



University Grade Inflation to cease



Graduate Data 2020/2021



Apprenticeship Podcast



Free Film School

Call to crack down on university grade inflation



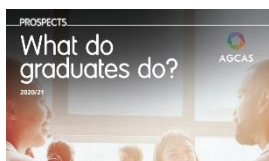
The proportion of students awarded first-class degrees in England has increased by almost 90% over the past eight years, with four in five graduates leaving higher education with either a first or a 2:1. The government has called repeatedly for a crackdown on university grade inflation, but, according to new data, the proportion of students with firsts has risen from 16% in 2010-11 to 30% in 2018-19, while the proportion of those gaining either a first or a 2:1 has climbed from 67% to 79%. The Department for Education called on the regulator to intervene where necessary. For more information click [here](#).

Jobs plummet in London



Job postings in London have plummeted by 50%, compared to a 42% decline for the rest of the UK, reflecting the city's density and the number of jobs in retail, hospitality and leisure, which have been hit hardest by the pandemic. The figures tally with research from the Bank of England, which suggests that spending that involves interaction with other people (social spending) contributes more to the UK economy than in other countries. The Bank also estimates social spending can recover faster in countries where COVID-19 has been more contained. The full article can be read [here](#).

Graduate destinations data published last week



The latest edition of "What do graduates do?" has just been published and provides detailed subject overviews revealing the destinations of graduates. Insight and analysis in this higher education survey reveals that the majority of graduates were in employment 15 months after graduating and that 71.8% were in a professional-level job. The average salary for graduates who went straight into full-time employment in the UK was £24,217. 12% of graduates were in further study. Read the full report [here](#).

Resources for Careers Leaders and Coordinators



The Careers and Enterprise Company have produced a guide to support Careers Leaders to adapt, design and deliver a careers programme over the next academic year, meeting the needs of young people in the context of Covid-19. [Careers in Context 2020: A Can-Do Guide](#) looks at each of the Gatsby benchmarks in turn and provides resources to continue best practice.

All About Apprenticeships Podcast just launched



A new podcast series, featuring leading apprenticeship experts, current apprentices & business leaders has launched this week. The ten-part podcast series will explore the benefits of and barriers to apprenticeships, as well as the trends that are affecting apprenticeships in the UK. The podcast series will include interviews with Andy Palmer, former CEO of Aston Martin and apprentice; Journalist, TV presenter and former apprentice Steph McGovern; Lt Col Matt Ketterer of the British Army, the country's biggest employer of apprentices and Euan Blair, CEO of WhiteHat and an active campaigner for apprenticeships in the UK. Find the podcast [here](#).

New report explores performing arts graduates' careers and success



New research has been published on the career trajectories of graduates from the leading performing arts schools and conservatories. The survey with alumni, reaching back over up to 30 years, reveals a wide range of career paths and complex working patterns. However, almost 90% maintain a connection to the artform they studied (through paid or unpaid activity) and 4 out of 5 feel they have built a good career since they graduated and that their course contributed positively to this. Most graduates were highly satisfied with their careers but not earning high salaries. Read the full report [here](#)

Ofsted to Survey T-Levels



Ofsted have been commissioned to carry out a thematic survey on T levels in the first 2 years of operation. The strengths, weaknesses, areas for improvement and good practice identified will be aggregated and fed back to the government, as well as to providers, employers, and learners. An interim report on Ofsted's findings will be published in September 2021 following the first year of the survey. The full report will be published in September 2022. Read more about this [here](#)

Virtual Apprenticeship Fair in February



On the 3rd & 4th Feb 2021, [RateMyApprenticeship](#) are bringing together apprenticeship employers, Year 10, 11, 12 & 13 students, parents and careers professionals for a virtual event. This is an excellent opportunity to meet employers, find out more about apprenticeships and get key information about how to apply.

New Model Institute for Technology and Engineering NMITE open to Pioneer Cohort



NMITE is offering a three-year accelerated Masters' Degree in Integrated Engineering which will award Chartered Engineer status as required by the Engineering Council Accreditation of Higher Education Programmes. Applications are now open for the Pioneer Cohort and unlike most other engineering degree programmes, there is no requirement for Maths or Physics A Level. Those subjects will be taught alongside practical engineering knowledge with the aim that students will be ready for real-world work in just three years. The degree is validated by The Open University. Find out more about the degree programme [here](#). Note: applications are direct to NMITE.

2021 School Leaver Apprenticeships in Telecoms apply now



BT are inviting applications for a wide range of apprenticeship opportunities. These are available from Level 2 (equivalent to GCSE) to degree apprenticeships (Level 6). There is no closing date but students who are interested should apply as soon as possible as the advert will close when vacancies have been filled. To find out what's available click [here](#)

Vodafone also have apprenticeships up to and including degree level based in London, Birmingham, Brentford and Newbury. The closing date is 19th February 2021. For more information click [here](#).

FREE Film School - Teach Yourself Professional Film-making



The Mobile Motion Academy shows how great films can be made with just the mobile phone in your pocket and that talent, creativity and hard work can count more than budget and industry connections. Pupils can follow the 38-week course for free in their own time or dip into the modules that particularly interest them. For any serious would-be film maker with aspirations of studying at one of the world's top film schools, this DIY course could help you to stand out. Find the course [here](#).

Government Economic Service Apprentice Applications Open now



The Government Economics Service Degree Apprenticeship Programme opens on Monday 14 December 2020. To apply students will need five GCSE (including Maths at grade B (6) or above and English Language at C (4) or above) or equivalent; Minimum of 96 UCAS points. Students don't need to have previously studied economics, but they must demonstrate a genuine interest in it. The apprenticeship includes studying for an economics degree from the University of Kent. For more information and to apply see [here](#).

Queen Mary, London Degree Apprenticeships with Goldman Sachs and Morgan Stanley



Queen Mary, London have announced that they will again offer a Digital and Technology Solutions (Software Engineering) Degree Apprenticeship in partnership with Goldman Sachs, the **application deadline is Sunday 21 February 2021**. They will also announce details of their partnership with Morgan Stanley later next year. Applicants must have the right to work in the UK. For details see [here](#).

Global Challenges Bachelor of Arts and Sciences degree at Brunel



The BAsc (Hon) Global Challenges degree at Brunel University, London is one of a kind and offers applicants the choice of four pathways: Security, Global Innovations, Planetary Health, or Social Cohesion. Students will have the opportunity to switch between science and non-scientific disciplines and consider world challenges such as climate change, sustainable development, migration, terrorism, aging inequality and poverty with an interdisciplinary approach. The degree also offers strong links with industry and careers support to secure placements and international opportunities in the Summer School. Application is via UCAS. Read more about this interesting degree programme [here](#). There's a virtual Open Day on January 23rd. book [here](#).

What personal skills do you need working in Sport?



Simon Rea is a Lecturer in Sport and Fitness at The Open University and a Senior Fellow at the Higher Education Academy. He has interviewed people who work in sport or sport-related careers about how they got to their current positions, what their work entailed and most importantly what skills they needed to be effective in their roles. Above all the ability to develop and maintain relationships was considered to be the most important. For more information click [here](#).

Date for your Diary: National Careers Guidance Show in March 2021



The National Career Guidance Show offers free CPD, to careers advisers, learning and development managers, teachers and practitioners working across all sectors. Across four shows, more than 200 exhibition stands and over 40 seminars provide professionals with access to up-to-date information to support their clients, as well as important networking opportunities. The events are taking place in London on March 2nd, Bristol on March 17th, Coventry on March 23rd and Leeds on March 11th. To book to visit see [here](#)

Careers Helpline



Jacque Ridge, our Helpline Manager and our team welcome enquiries from schools, parents and students. The helpline is staffed between 9.00 am and 5.00pm Monday to Friday at helpline@futuresmartcareers.co.uk.

Contact Us



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