



In the newsletter this month



Languages at an all-time low in UK



Government Economic Service Degree Apprenticeships



National Careers Guidance Shows in March



The FutureSmart Team is growing!

Government announces new annual grant for all Student Nurses



The government announced that all nursing students on courses from September 2020 will benefit from a new annual grant worth at least £5,000, with additional payments for regions and students most in need. The funding will not have to be repaid by recipients. Students will also be able to continue to access funding for tuition and maintenance loans from the Student Loans Company. To read more go to <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/nursing-students-to-receive-5-000-payment-a-year>.

Digital Start Up aims to challenge UCAS monopoly



[Coursematch](https://www.coursematch.io) is a new start up aiming to challenge the inflexibility of the UCAS service with its limit of five applications per student and the mid-January deadline. Led by tech entrepreneur, Chris Worsey and Cailean Carvalho, previously head of the commercial division at UCAS, Coursematch hopes to help students search for courses or create a personal profile to receive course matches. The App will allow students to apply free to degree courses all year round with no personal statement required. Coursematch say, 'We're aiming to make the admissions system simpler, smarter and seamless. Source: **The Daily Telegraph, Dec 2019**. To find out more go to www.coursematch.io.

UK's record on young people learning languages at an all-time low



A recent report published by **The Higher Education Policy Institute (HEPI)** takes stock of the state of language learning in the UK. The author, Megan Bowler, looks at the broad benefits to individuals, society and the economy of learning languages. She also shows the UK has sunk far below other European countries in the proportion of young people who are familiar with another language. The report makes a list of recommendations including making language courses more interesting to study; reintroducing compulsory languages at GCSE and ensuring migration rules encourage the supply of language teachers. You can read the full report [here](#).

Open University top for CEOs and Managing Directors



Recruitment Consultancy, **ForwardRole** recently analysed over **260,000 LinkedIn profiles** to discover find out which universities produced the most CEOs and Managing Directors. Contrary to expectations, the Open University topped the leader board ahead of Cambridge and Oxford. Manchester, Leeds, Birmingham and Manchester Met were also in the top 10. The top three most popular degree subjects for top performing personnel were Business Administration/Management, followed by Economics and Marketing. You can read the findings [here](#).

Unistats replaced by DiscoverUni website



The Unistats website has been replaced with a new student information website, [Discover Uni](https://discoveruni.gov.uk/) which launched in September 2019. The new website aims to help prospective students make sense of their options by explaining what options are available and allowing users to search for and compare information and data for individual undergraduate courses across the UK. The Unistats dataset is used and incorporated with some minor amendments. <https://discoveruni.gov.uk/>

Student Ladder: Work Experience Placements for Year 11 & 12 students



Students often find their work experience placement through school contacts, speculative applications or by word of mouth, but for those who are keen to apply to a more formal scheme, Student Ladder hosts a range of opportunities across different sectors including **Banking, Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary, Media, Law, Science, Professional Services, Property, Retail and others**. Big names include **Credit Suisse, EY, The Guardian, Boots, British Airways, Barnardo's, Santander, HSBC, BBC, Sky** and **Channel Four**. Placements range from 1 day to 2 weeks and will provide exposure to organisations and a possible foot in the door to future opportunities. Many are taking applications now. For more information go to [Student Ladder](#).

Monthly Spotlight: The Royal Fleet Auxiliary



The Royal Fleet Auxiliary is a Merchant Navy organisation of civilian-crewed ships operated by the Ministry of Defence. It provides vital logistical and operational support to the Royal Navy and Royal Marines. RFA personnel ensure the Royal Navy and Royal Marines are well supplied and supported, providing medical care, transporting kit, fuel and other essentials all over the world. The RFA also provides humanitarian aid, undertakes counter piracy patrols, counter narcotic operations, defence diplomacy together with assisting in preventing conflict or safeguarding the flow of international trade as single units. Selection for Officer Cadets involves a psychometric test, interviews and medical. Initial training takes place at the British Royal Naval College Dartmouth. For more information click [here](#).

Government Economic Service: Economics Degree Apprenticeship



The Government Economic Service (GES) is the professional body for Economists in the UK Civil Service and is involved in decision making across government departments. The GES Degree Apprenticeship Programme (GESDAP) is the UK's first degree apprenticeship in economics and is aiming to recruit 75 new apprentices into the GES in September 2020 (London and nationwide).

Apprentice Economists will study for an economics degree over 4 years with the University of Kent with no tuition fees, while working in the GES for four years, earning a minimum salary of £20,000. The apprenticeship aims for a balance of 80% working time and 20% learning time, via both distance and face-to-face teaching.

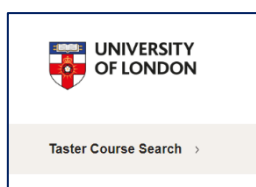
Apprentices will work on real world projects with other government economists. If apprentices successfully achieve a 2:1 upon apprenticeship completion, they will be offered a permanent role within the GES, earning at least £27,000. Find out more about the opportunity [here](#).

Christies Apprenticeships 2020 – Deadline for Applications is 5th April



Christies are advertising for bright, dynamic individuals to join their Apprenticeship Programme which will commence in August 2020. Based in London, Christies' Apprentices will engage with different parts of the organisation and will develop a wide range of skills, along with the opportunity to be mentored and coached by industry experts. Apprenticeships are being offered in the following areas: Operations, Events, Logistics, Art Handling, Finance, IT, Specialist Art Departments, Marketing, HR and Client Strategy. To find out more and apply click [here](#)

Classics and Ancient World Taster day at UCL on 29th January



This taster day, run by the University of London at UCL, will enable students to learn about degree-structure and the study and career pathways that could follow. Students can attend two taster lectures given by departmental lecturers to provide a flavour of what studying the Ancient World at the university level is like. Students will also meet current undergraduates and have a tour of UCL. For more information about the taster and to book go to: <https://london.ac.uk/classics-and-ancient-world-taster-day-uc9948>.

For information about other University of London Taster days go to <https://london.ac.uk/ways-study/study-campus-london/university-taster-courses>

Maastricht University



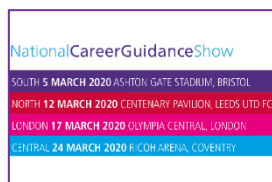
Maastricht University (UM) is an international university in the Netherlands with 18,000 students. The university is known for its innovative education model with problem-based learning (PBL) and multidisciplinary approaches to research and education. PBL enables students to analyse and solve relevant, complex problems in small international groups and is intended to nurture skills relevant to the labour market of the 21st century, such as independence, critical thinking, initiative, curiosity and creativity as well as soft skills. **UM is holding an Open Day on 8th February**, during which students will attend in-depth course sessions, gain information on PBL, admissions and fees and take a tour of the city and UM facilities. Eurostar operate a service from London, St Pancras (journey approx. 4 hours) and flights are available from a range of UK airports. For more information about the university and fees (currently start at 8,000 euros for international students) see [here](#).

Nursing Experience Day – Worcester University, Tuesday 4th February 2020



This taster day aims to give prospective students the opportunity to explore a career as a Registered Nurse in greater detail. Students will explore the programme and the realities of studying and working as a nurse. The event involves a Q&A panel with Nurse Academics and Nursing Students, plus a clinical simulation. Current nursing students will talk about student life and help to answer questions on finance, accommodation and study skills. For more information click [here](#).

National Careers Guidance Shows March 2020



The National Career Guidance Show offers free CPD to careers advisers, learning and development managers, teachers and practitioners. The shows are organised by Prospects Events in partnership with the CDI and this year will be supported by the National Apprenticeship Service, Unifrog and NHS Health Education England. Across four shows, over 200 exhibition stands and over 40 seminars aim to provide professionals with access to up-to-date information as well as networking opportunities. For more information go to <https://www.thecdi.net/National-Career-Guidance-Shows-2020>

Dates: Bristol 5th March; London Olympia 17th March; Leeds 12th March; Coventry 24th March

Search for Open days and other university events



[Speak to a Uni](#) is an event listing website for higher education and aims to help students find open days, virtual events and university fairs to match their subject choices. Students can create shortlists by subject level, location, search radius and date and type of event. [Speak to a Uni](#) has partnered with [Take Me to Uni](#) a car sharing website for UK university open days.

Alternatives to Law Careers



A law degree will give students a range of highly transferable skills which can be useful in other career sectors. As well as an understanding of the law and legal processes students will gain skills in negotiation, analysis, presentation, problem-solving, the ability to work under pressure and conflict resolution **Law Careers.Net** has provided a list of the non-law-careers to consider including entering the **Civil Service, Finance, Insurance, Publishing and the Media, Academia, becoming a Coroner, Police Officer and Private Investigator**. Read more [here](#).

FutureSmart Careers – new joiners



We are very pleased to welcome [Marta Tomaszewski](#) and [Allie Betts](#) to FutureSmart Careers. Both will be working in schools throughout our region. Marta brings with her extensive knowledge of Oxbridge applications and interviews and Allie is returning to the UK from France where she has provided careers guidance services to several schools in recent years. From just the two of us at the start, we are delighted to have become a thriving team of nine! Picture taken at our first Christmas lunch, Cheers!

Careers helpline



Our partner schools, parents and students can contact us with careers related queries at any time through our helpline. We can provide advice and guidance as well as answers to any number of questions on topics including studying abroad, international foundation degrees, apprenticeships, degree courses, routes to careers, subject combinations etc.

Email us at: helpline@futuresmartcareers.co.uk

Contact us



Lorna Owen
l.owen@futuresmartcareers.co.uk
Vicki MacDonald
v.macdonald@futuresmartcareers.co.uk

Tel: 0330 311 9509

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