



Student Employment 2020

This year's graduates and school leavers are starting to realise they are entering the labour market into a global recession. According to the Institute of Student Employers (ISE), many firms have scaled down their recruitment of entry-level staff and more than a quarter of businesses are reducing the number of young people they hire this year.

While some firms are moving assessments and interviews online, the majority have cancelled them. "Thousands of young people are supposed to be entering the labour market from July and they could be left without work and nothing to do while coronavirus is sorted out," says Stephen Isherwood, chief executive of the ISE. "We need to make sure that a whole generation isn't lost."

One graduate recruiter says they have already retracted offers. "Firms are being realistic and most are putting recruitment on hold. No one wants to offer an opportunity which might not be there in three months' time."

Routes into graduate jobs have also been affected. Short-term work such as internships and placements will be reduced by almost a third, say the ISE, and 68% of firms have cancelled work experience and taster opportunities.

The Student Labour Market

