

FutureSmartCareers



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

ISSUE No 58 December 2024

In the newsletter this month



Careers & Enterprise
Company report:
Student career
readiness in 2023/2024



Sutton Trust Programme
2025 Applications Open



Natwest Group
apprenticeships 2025



Speakers for Schools –
inspirational talks

News updates

Careers & Enterprise Company report: Student career readiness in 2023/2024



The Future Skills Questionnaire gives student feedback on careers education in England. Findings show young people are interested in construction, digital and health, feel more career ready at key transition points but rate themselves lower on speaking, listening, leadership and teamwork and those eligible for Free School Meals and girls start off at a disadvantage. Read more at: [Student career readiness in 2023/24 | The Careers and Enterprise Company](#)

ASK newsletter - NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP & SKILLS AWARDS 2024



The National Apprenticeship and Skills Awards took place this month, marking their 21st anniversary. Apprentices, T Level students, employers and skills champions from across the country were celebrated for their achievements, with some excellent ambassadors and case studies available to inspire your students. Find out more about the finals and winners [here](#)

Morrisby - Impact of AI on the Future of the Careers industry, December 2024



Co-authored by Associate Professor Deirdre Hughes OBE and Dr Chris Percy, Morrisby's report explores how AI-powered platforms could extend reach and create a more inclusive and effective all-age careers system; arguing for a human-centred approach, with AI increasing the productivity of advisers and enabling focus on those who need more specialist support. Read more at: [AI could radically change the way that career guidance is delivered](#)

DfE analysis – Stronger Earnings growth outside of Oxbridge and Russell Group



Department
for Education

A recent Telegraph article highlights data from a five-year analysis by the Department for Education, which shows that graduates from universities across Britain saw stronger earnings growth than both Oxbridge and the Russell Group. Graduate earnings is not the only metric where lesser-known universities are gaining on rivals, with Rankings and Popularity also a factor: [The four universities beating the Russell Group on pay growth and application rates](#)

Smallpeice Trust – AI Engineering Careers matching tool



The Smallpeice Trust were invited to participate in an AI Build-a-Thon event, hosted by 42 London, so having the opportunity to build an AI careers tool for Children & Young People [Smallpeice Trust December 2024 newsletter](#). Students select their favourite school subjects, along with hobbies and the tool will showcase the Engineering Careers best suited to them. Smallpeice Trust looks forward to launching in the future, for more information email: info@smallpeicetrust.org.uk

Upcoming Events

Dig Data and National Highways FREE virtual work experience



REMINDER: You can still register for the National Highways and Dig Data Careers Challenge **Where there is Wi-Fi there's a way!** aimed at years 10-13, plus FE students on 11th December. [Book here](#) for Wed 11th dec, 5:00pm. National Highways cover Safety, Biodiversity and Carbon reduction. Find out about the challenge: [here](#)

University of Cambridge subject and college VIRTUAL events – January 2025



Upcoming subject taster related events at the University of Cambridge include the Natural Sciences (Physical) Webinar - Trinity Hall on Tuesday 14th January, 5:00-6:00pm and the Magdalene College series [Magdalene College Subject Tasters | Undergraduate Study](#), also starting from 14th January at 5:00pm; while Trinity College offers this [Cambridge from the Inside - Trinity Admissions](#) podcast

Sutton Trust Programme 2025 Applications Open



Applications are now open until Tuesday 14th January 2025 for the [Sutton Trust Fulbright US programme](#). The programme centres on exploring US study. The main focus is a one-week trip to the US during July/August and application support in the UK including residential in the spring. Students must be in Year 12, attend a state school/college and come from a household earning £50,000 or less. To find out more click [here](#)

How to search and apply for Apprenticeships webinar - 25th January 2025 3:30-4:00pm



[How to search and apply for apprenticeships - Amazing Apprenticeships](#) A step-by-step guide to the different vacancy platforms for apprenticeships, including Find an Apprenticeship, and tips for supporting your students/child during the application process.

Smallpeice Trust virtual Engineering experience – 18th-21st February 2025



Open to students aged 12 – 14, this three-day, action-packed online course enables students to explore the fascinating world of engineering and dare to imagine the world of tomorrow. During the course, students will take part in fun, interactive challenges that explore three different engineering principles including cyber security, electrical engineering and space. Places are filling up fast, so book [here](#)

UK University and Apprenticeship Search Fairs – spring/summer 2025



UK University and Apprenticeship Search has Fairs across England in spring/summer 2025 starting in Sheffield 12th March, followed by Bristol 14th March, London 21st March, Exeter 2nd April and at Oxford Brookes 18th June. With exhibitors from Russell Group, Red Brick, Modern HE Institutions and Apprenticeship providers, there will be advice from universities on application support. More details on each event can be found [here](#).

Recommended Websites & Resources

Medicine interviews - everything you need to know



If you're applying for 2025 entry Medicine, you could be invited to Medicine interviews very soon. [The Medic Portal](#) has a guide to when Med Schools are likely to send out their invites, plus whether they're doing MMIs or panel interviews, so you can plan your interview prep – see the guide [here](#). Don't forget to revisit the FutureSmart Careers blog [Medicine interviews - everything you need to know](#) too.

UCL Podcasts: Generation One – Climate Change



University College London (UCL) offers a range of podcasts accessible to the public, students, parents and carers and teachers alike. One such is this new series on the subject of Climate Change, with episodes so far titled: Great British Energy: Real green policies or just hot air, Biodiversity: Can local conservation efforts grow into global impact? and Unpacking COP29: Financing the future. Listen up at: [UCL: Generation-one-climate-podcast](#)

FutureSmart Careers - December Blog: Career Planning over the Christmas Break



This month's FutureSmart Careers blog is on the topic of "Career Planning over the Christmas Break". Including how to explore careers, build your experience, access online courses, reflect on your achievements and recognise your skills ... as well useful further research websites, our blog should support your students and parents or carers with reaching their career goals. Read the blog: [Career Planning over the Christmas Break](#)

Amazing Apprenticeships launches updated website



The team at Amazing Apprenticeships have recently updated their website. Having listened to user feedback, they have created new Zones, helping site visitors to find everything more easily. View the revamped website at: [Amazing Apprenticeships](#)

University of Oxford – subject research resources list



The University of Oxford has created a page of resources for students aged 16 and over to use when researching preferred subject areas and degree course choice. Including links to the Gresham College lectures, Staircase 12 (for those applying to the UK's top universities) and Zooniverse, where you can contribute to real-life research projects, the resource promises to meet everyone's Beyond the Syllabus bucket list: [University of Oxford's resources for 16+](#)

Apprenticeship Opportunities

Bloomberg Apprenticeships Open January 2025



Bloomberg starts the recruitment process for their apprenticeships in January [Bloomberg Apprenticeships](#). Departments include engineering, sales & client service, media, data, product, corporate functions, research and user experience. To search for current vacancies click [here](#)

Solicitor Degree Apprenticeship, Addleshaw Goddard – Leeds



A 6-year long degree apprenticeship [Solicitor Degree Apprenticeship - Addleshaw Goddard](#), where you will work on a wide variety of assignments, participate in business engagement, complete your LLB via day-release with BPP University and gain your SQE part 1 and part 2. The closing date for September 2025 entry is 31st December 2024 and you can apply at: [AG | Careers](#)

Natwest Group apprenticeships 2025



The Natwest group's 2025 entry apprenticeships will open in the spring [NatWest Group Careers](#). With varying levels on offer, including degree apprenticeships and a wide range of areas to choose from, such as admin & management, data, digital & technology, business support, customer service and relationship & risk management, the offer promises to be a good start to a career in the financial sector. Register your interest [here](#)

Future Talent programmes at The Bank of England



The Bank of England's Future Talent programmes are designed to equip you with the skills and knowledge you need to build a fulfilling career in the heart of the UK financial system. The programmes include a Level 4 Apprenticeship and a Degree Apprenticeship. Both programmes are based in London and have a closing date of 12pm, 13th January. To view entry requirements and apply, see: [Future talent | Bank of England](#)

Economics Degree Apprenticeship with the Government Economic Service



Government Economic Service

With a closing date of 2nd Jan 2025, this Degree Apprenticeship with the GES is studied via the University of Kent and has roles in Bristol, Didcot and London [Economics Degree Apprenticeship at GES](#). Working on questions such as: how can government support small businesses to grow and how can government act to protect the environment, if completed successfully, you will gain a guaranteed permanent role. Apply at: [GES DAP - gov.uk](#)

For Careers Leaders/Heads of Careers Department

Introduction to Investor in Careers approach webinar – 4:00-4:30pm Tues 10th December



REMINDER: There's still time for Interested School and College staff to attend the Introduction to Investor in Careers webinar to support you in gaining this Quality in Careers Standard to accredit your CEIAG provision. Register via Eventbrite: [Investor in Careers approach, Tues 10 Dec 4:00-4:30pm](#)

ClickCambridge outreach programme webinar – Friday 10th January, 6:00pm



ClickCambridge is a free outreach programme designed to support Bangladeshi, Pakistani, and Arab (BPA)/mixed-BPA students to prepare for Sixth Form and university-level study. Aimed at state school pupils in year 11, the series of interactive webinars includes topics such as: making post-16 subject choices, study skills and preparing for university and insights from current BPA Cambridge students. Find out more at: [ClickCambridge](#)

Institute for Apprenticeships – Technical Education Occupational Maps



These Occupational Maps from the Institute for Apprenticeships [Occupational Maps: Institute for Apprenticeships & Technical Education](#) are a useful resource, allowing educational staff to view Apprenticeship, T-Level and HTQ standards for various careers and share related job titles with their students.

Speakers for Schools – inspirational talks



Speakers for Schools are motivating the next generation of 11-19 years olds through their inspirational talks. With live broadcasts, industry spotlights and in-person talks on offer, educators could apply to host in-person talks and live online broadcasts, giving young people a unique opportunity to hear VIP speakers share the secrets of their success firsthand. To find out more, see: [Inspirational Speakers for Schools](#)

Queen Mary University hubs for Teachers and Parents / Carers



As part of their [Queen Mary's 2030 strategy](#) around inclusivity, QMUL has a Hub for Teacher and Parents / Carers with an Activity & Events Portal, CPD sessions and FAQs for Teachers and Advisers and Webinars, Online resources and Top Tips for Parents and Carers to support applicants. For more information and to book, see: [Teachers - Queen Mary University of London](#) or [Parents and Carers - QMUL](#).

FutureSmart Essentials for schools

FutureSmart Careers offers a range of well-loved packages for schools but can also tailor a plan to fit schools' needs exactly.

FutureSmart Essentials is our essential package for schools and includes

- Suite of downloadable resources

FUTURESMART ESSENTIALS.

RESOURCES
HELPLINE
NEWSLETTER



- 9-5 careers advice helpline
- Monthly newsletters with news, events and opportunities
- Many schools upgrade to **FutureSmart Pro** which includes all of the benefits of Essentials plus additional in-school support from our team of qualified advisers for workshops, personal guidance sessions, talks and other activities tailored to the schools' exact requirements.

To find out about FutureSmart Essentials and how else we can support schools, please don't hesitate to contact us on **0330 311 9509**

ASK Programme for Devon and Oxfordshire



If you are school or college in Devon or Oxfordshire, please free to contact us for assemblies, application workshops, webinars and resources.

For Devon schools contact us at askdevon@futuresmartcareers.co.uk

For Oxfordshire schools contact us at askoxfordshire@futuresmartcareers.co.uk

Contact Us

Other Enquiries



FutureSmart Careers

For all other enquiries, please contact our team at enquiries@futuresmart-careers.co.uk

or give us a call on Tel: **0330 311 9509**

We'd love to hear from you!

No responsibility can be taken for the content of external websites mentioned in this newsletter

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