



### In the newsletter this month



Graduate recruitment trends –  
Financial Times



TESCO Stronger Starts  
apprenticeship programme



University jargon busting with  
UniTasterDays



Workshops, Admissions Clinics and  
Webinar

### News updates

#### Education and Skills Agency (ESFA) updated apprenticeship funding rules



Department  
for Education

The Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) has published the **updated apprenticeship funding rules** that will come into effect from 1 August 2024 : Read here [FE News | New Apprenticeship Funding Rules: Key Changes and Implications from 1st August 24.](#)

#### How do admissions teams use the UCAS personal statement?



In this June 2023 HEPI article, Tom Fryer and Professor Steven Jones from the University of Manchester show that, when personal statements are read, they are mainly used to assess applicants' interest in a course, gain contextual information and assess academic potential or work experience; yet the majority of admissions professionals say decisions are primarily made on the basis of grades. Read [here](#).

#### Graduate recruitment trends – Financial Times



Are skills and experience becoming more valuable than traditional academic qualifications? This insightful June 2024 article from [financialtimes.com](#) highlights a shift in hiring norms among leading companies like McKinsey and Google. They're expanding their talent pool beyond elite universities, acknowledging skills acquired through alternative paths: [Employers look to rip the 'paper ceiling' for non-graduates - ft.com.](#)

## Public First poll, FE Week – Apprenticeships top of education priority list

### FE WEEK

This June 12<sup>th</sup> article from FE Week [Apprenticeships top of education priority list](#), discusses the results of a Public First poll, which show that increasing “the number of all-age apprenticeships ranked top of the priority list when it comes to education”. FE Colleges and Adult Learning fared much worse by comparison, with only 4% wishing to prioritise the sector and only 15% responding that Further Education Colleges had got better since 2010.

## What we need from a revived national careers service

### FE WEEK

In her June 2024 article for FE Week, career coach and skills consultant, Christine Double-day, shares her hopes for a revived National Careers Service and discusses the key components of a workable framework: high quality LMI, details of progression routes and properly funded personal development and careers guidance (aka Gatsby benchmark 8); you can read the full article [here](#).

## RateMyApprenticeship – Why a degree apprenticeship can land you a job!

### ★ RATEMYAPPRENTICESHIP

From RateMyApprenticeship, in June 2024, hailed this insightful article on the [5 reasons why a degree apprenticeship will land you a job](#). Covering topics such as applying your skills, expanding your professional network and boosting your employability with industry recognised accreditation the advice will help you think outside the box.

## Growth in Regenerative Farming



BBC News published this piece about Andy Cato, from pop group Groove Armada, who is now partnering with Jeremy Clarkson to raise awareness of Regenerative Farming and “moving towards a food system powered by biology, instead of chemistry”: Read more here: [Groove Armada’s Andy Cato brings new life to Clarkson’s Farm](#). With Regenerative Farming likely to require “a larger workforce” there are implications for future careers in the industry.

## Helpline Manager - Green Careers Champion award



We are delighted that our Helpline Manager will receive a Green Careers Champion award on 10<sup>th</sup> July. Recognised for raising awareness of the 50, 000 Green jobs in West of England by 2030 and helping advisers access resources developed by WECA and CareerPilot. For information on the project see: [Careerplot - Adviser Zone: Introducing Green Jobs - Green Jobs in the West of England](#). We’re sure you will join us in congratulating Kyley!

## Upcoming Events

### University of Cambridge workshop, admissions clinics and webinars



The university have some excellent events for students this month. Starting with the Personal Statement workshop on 9<sup>th</sup> July: [Personal Statement Workshop](#) followed by a range of [Subject admissions clinics - St John's College](#) between 12<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> July and a [Christ's College Cambridge for Beginners](#) webinar for year 11 and 12s on 24<sup>th</sup> July.

### Archaeology subject taster with the University of Cambridge



The University of Cambridge is running a FREE University Archaeology Day 11am-4pm on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> July at the British Museum, London; those who cannot attend in-person can join online by booking in advance. For more information and to register, see [University Archaeology Day](#).

### BIMM virtual events for September 2024 entry students



BIMM is running two events in July. [Everything you need to know about Student Finance](#) 6-7pm, Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July will cover an overview of Student Finance and help simplify the application process, see [BIMM University - Eventbrite](#) to book. While [Everything you need to know about Student Accommodation](#) 6-7pm, Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July includes how to apply, first-hand experiences from current students and tips for finding private rentals, book [here](#).

### FREE Exploring Law course via FutureLearn and the University of Cambridge



On Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July, the Faculty of Law starts their Exploring Law course via FutureLearn [Exploring Law: Studying Law at University](#). A six weekly modular programme, with a commitment of 4 hours per module, its aimed at 16–18-year-olds with an interest in studying Law. Enrolment is FREE if studying within the six weeks, to register see [Exploring Law - FutureLearn](#).

## Recommended Websites & Resources

### CV keywords that beat AI selection



Bristol Live

This interesting article from Neil Shaw at Bristol Live gives insight into some important keywords to use in your CV for popular career areas, with the aim that your CV might then be shortlisted by computer, thus using AI candidate selection tools to your own advantage: [Key words to include in a CV so you get shortlisted by computer](#).

## UCAS Clearing 2024: What to expect and how to prepare



UCAS Clearing provides students with opportunity to apply for vacant university places. In 2024, clearing **opens on 5th July**. The system is for those who change their mind about their choices, missed the 30<sup>th</sup> June application deadline, didn't meet the entry requirements for their first or insurance course choices or have achieved higher grades and would like to change course. Read more at: [UCAS Clearing 2024 - Uni Compare](#).

## University Jargon busting with UniTasterDays



If you are thinking about apply to universities and have come across jargon that isn't clear, UniTasterDays have put together some explanations of the main terms which are used in relation to university. Have a look [here](#).

## MoneySavingExpert decodes Student Loans



Martin Lewis, founder of MoneySavingExpert, in association with the graduate website [www.prospects.ac.uk](http://www.prospects.ac.uk) has explained Student Loans in a recording which you can access [here](#).

## Work Experience Opportunities

### STEM Work Experience Festival (online and in person) – still time to sign up!



The Young Citizens Work Experience Festival for Year 10 and 11s is taking place from 8<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> July. Opportunities are hybrid and run alongside the Northumbrian Water's Innovation Festival and aim to inspire young people to develop work-based skills and expand their knowledge of the water sector and other STEM industries. The event includes workshops, real-world challenges on critical issues and CV crafting. Register at [Young Citizen's Work Experience Festival \(innovationfestival.org\)](http://Young Citizen's Work Experience Festival (innovationfestival.org)).

## Waterstones work experience programme



Waterstones has a growing work experience programme for book lovers interested in a career in Book-selling, learning more about the publication process or working behind the scenes of the written world. For more information about Retail and Head Office vacancies and to apply, see: [Work Experience | Waterstones Careers | Waterstones](#).

## Apprenticeships

### Tesco Stronger Starts Apprenticeship programme



Applications are **now open** for **100+ vacancies**, in stores in selected locations across England! The Stronger Starts apprenticeship programme [Tesco Stronger Starts with Amazing Apprenticeships](#) is a fantastic opportunity for young people to kickstart a career in retail, enjoy a brilliant starting salary, and receive lots of support and coaching along the way. To register and apply, see: [Tesco Stronger Starts Retail Apprenticeships - apply](#).

### Apprenticeship interview questions from RateMyApprenticeship



RateMyApprenticeship has a useful Nov 2023 article covering the [Most Common apprenticeship Interview questions](#), such as What are your Strengths? and What skills would you like to improve by completing this apprenticeship? Timely examples for all seeking an apprenticeship or employment this summer.

### Apprenticeships at EDF



Amazing Apprenticeships are partnering with EDF, Britain's biggest generator of zero-carbon electricity, to promote their 2025 apprenticeship opportunities. EDF will seek candidates passionate about tackling climate change and creating a more sustainable energy future. Find out more at: [Apprenticeships in the UK energy industry | EDF](#).

## For Careers Leaders/Heads of Careers Department

### Access arrangements and bursary applications for ESAT and TMUA



Candidates required to sit the TMUA or the ESAT in October 2024 can now request access arrangements or apply for a UAT-UK bursary code (UK candidates only) to cover the full cost of their test. All information on these processes and full [Bursary policy](#) and [Access Arrangements policy](#) can be found on the [UAT UK website](#).

### FutureSmart Careers July Blog: Results Day



**Coming soon!** Keep an eye on our website and socials for our July blog. It will cover practical concerns for Results Day, including place confirmations, alternative offers, UCAS Clearing, changing universities, changing courses and withdrawing. This will be helpful for students entering UK universities in September 2024.

### Tackling the risks of becoming NEET –18<sup>th</sup> September at Blundell's School, Tiverton



Due to the withdrawal of local authority funding to support individuals at risk of becoming NEET (Not in Education, Employment, or Training) in Devon, Torbay and Plymouth, FutureSmart Careers is partnering with the Education department at University of Bath to offer training to Devon schools and colleges on **Wednesday, September 18th**, from **10:00 AM to 12:30 PM at Blundells School**. Register to attend [here](#).

## 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
- 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](mailto:askdevon@futuresmartcareers.co.uk)

For Oxfordshire schools contact us at [askoxfordshire@futuresmartcareers.co.uk](mailto:askoxfordshire@futuresmartcareers.co.uk)

## Contact Us

### Other Enquiries



For all other enquiries, please contact our team at [enquiries@futuresmartcareers.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@futuresmartcareers.co.uk) or give us a call on Tel: **0330 311 9509**

We'd love to hear from you!

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