



In the newsletter this month



Teenager career aspirations out of step with reality



MI5 and MI6 Cyber Apprenticeships



London School of Economics career exploration resources



Guide to Careers in Public Relations

Employers fail to spend on apprenticeships



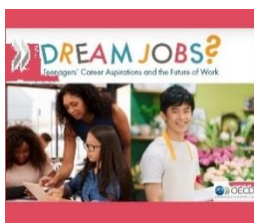
Employers who spend more than £3m annually on wages are required to put in 0.5% of payroll into apprenticeship training and this is then topped up with an extra 10% from government funds. But according to figures obtained by the BBC many employers are failing to use the money for training purposes. In total 5,000 employers in England have relinquished more than £400m of funding with many seemingly happier to treat the levy as a tax than use the funds to train young workers. Read the full report [here](#).

Universities need a more sophisticated approach to widening participation says HMC head



The **Office for Students** has published its report calling for the most selective universities to commit to halving the access gap over the next 5 years. In response, **Mike Buchanan, HMC Executive Director** has said, "care is needed in starting actively to discriminate against individual young people on the basis of the class they were born into. We urge the Government to enable universities and colleges to expand to take as many truly suitable students as necessary, rather than rob some students of a future to award it to others. Not all state-educated students are disadvantaged and the majority of students from affluent backgrounds are not educated in HMC schools. This is why a sophisticated approach is needed for the country genuinely to level up." Read the OfS report [here](#).

Teenagers' career aspirations are narrow and unrealistic according to new survey by the OECD



The OECD has recently published a report capturing the career aspirations of 500,000 15 year-olds from 41 countries. **The Dream Jobs?** report shows that while significant changes have taken place in the world of work over the past two decades these have made little impact on teenagers' career expectations. 47% of boys and 53% of girls expect to work in one of just 10 traditional occupations including doctors, teachers, veterinarians, engineers and police officers. The survey shows that too many teenagers are ignoring or are unaware of the new types of jobs that are emerging particularly as a result of digitization. You can read the full report [here](#).

Gig Workers unable to develop skills for career progression



According to digital think tank **Doteveryone**, founded by Martha Lane-Fox, gig workers are often trapped in insecure work because long hours, financial insecurity and piecemeal work mean they are often unable to develop skills for career progression. It recommends that the government's National Retraining Scheme is adapted to include micro-learning and mentoring courses that can be used flexibly to support gig workers' skills development. Gig workers need better ways to be recognised by other organisations for the transferable skills they develop through gig work. Read the report [Better Work in the Gig Economy](#).

Which? University now owned by The Student Room as The Uni Guide



The well known course and university search tools and much of the independent advice developed by Which? University is now owned and operated by The Student Room as [The Uni Guide](#). The site retains its design and student-facing services. "We are delighted to have found a great new home for much of our excellent university content," says Jenni Allen, Director of Content at Which? Students can continue to match their predicted or actual grades to courses' entry requirements and course profiles will show the full entry requirements, tuition fees, modules and course-content info, and satisfaction ratings from students.

PWC Employability Hub provides insight into employability skills and how to gain them



PWC has created the Employability Hub with virtual tools to support students develop employability and career management skills such as how to deal with online applications, assessments centres and video interviews; how to engage and network with employers; how to gain commercial awareness and how to be a strong communicator and team player. Geared towards potential future applicants, the resources are also useful for other students to gain an understanding of some of the key employability skills and requirements for today's workplace. Go to the hub [here](#).

NHS Health Careers – Work Experience Advice



The NHS Health Careers website provides advice on ways to gain the experience needed for many courses and jobs in the health sector. The benefits of gaining experience are explained, plus how to make the most of it and crucially how to go about finding opportunities. Students are advised to first check with the course provider on what type of experience is required. Placements may be possible at NHS or private hospitals; clinics or health centres; charities or social enterprise organisations supporting people with long term health conditions; St John's Ambulance; the Red Cross and residential nursing/care homes or day care centres. Read more at [NHS Health Careers](#).

Headstart Courses still open for applications – don't miss out!



Applications are still open for EDT Headstart Engineering courses for students aged 16-17 in Year 12. Courses are for UK and International students, range from 4-5 days and will take place at universities across the UK during the summer holidays. Participating universities include Oxford, Cambridge, Southampton, Lancaster. Courses are designed with a blend of learning, networking and fun activities to provide an understanding about what careers could lie ahead and to help students make a more informed UCAS application. Students can choose from broad-based engineering courses to give a flavour of different aspects of engineering or a focus course providing insights into a specialised field. To find out more and apply click [here](#).

Residential Farm Veterinary Courses



Kingston Maurward College (KMC) in Dorchester, Dorset and the RVC are running a residential Farm Veterinary course for A Level Students in response to demand for practical farm and veterinary experience for further education in Veterinary sciences. Dates: 26-31 July 2020. Contact: Peter Plate pplate@rvc.ac.uk

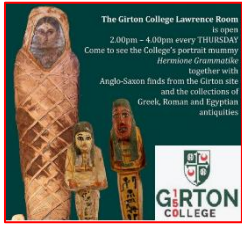
Coleg Sir Gâr in Carmarthenshire and the RVC also run a residential Welsh Farm Taster Week course offering the chance to discuss the nature of being a farm vet with practicing vets and farmers. The course also provides an insight into where the veterinary surgeon fits in the modern food industry. The emphasis is on those considering studying Veterinary medicine, though other students may find the course of interest. For more information and details about next year's course please email schools@rvc.ac.uk or ann.owen@colegsirgar.ac.uk

Young Film-Makers Academy - 05 April 2020 - 09 April 2020



The Easter Young Filmmakers' Academy at the London Film Academy offers 13 to 17 year-olds a comprehensive introduction to the world of filmmaking. Over five days, young filmmakers work with experienced industry professionals to understand the key disciplines of the craft from script to screen, covering scriptwriting, cinematography, directing, sound and editing. This is an intensive introduction to the realities of working in film and TV and provides students with the grounding they need to start working creatively on their own films and making informed decisions about further training or a future career. For more information and to apply click [here](#).

Cambridge University Girton College Humanities Writing Competition – deadline 13th March



Girton's Humanities Writing Competition is open now for students in Year 12 who have an interest in the Humanities. Students need to submit an essay based on one or more objects selected from the College's small antiquities museum, the Lawrence Room. This competition is an opportunity for research and writing beyond the curriculum using one or more of the museum objects as the focus. Essays or creative responses (such as dramatic monologues or short stories) are equally welcome. Writers need to demonstrate the ability to connect different areas of knowledge, to think about details and to communicate clearly.

Prizes: Up to £200 cash and £200-worth of books from Cambridge University Press, the latter to be shared between the winning entrant/s and their school/s. The prize fund may be divided between winning entrants. **Closing Date: 5pm on Friday, 13th March 2020.** For more information see [here](#).

MI5 and MI6 are looking for the next generation of problem solvers with a passion for tech



MI5 and MI6 are advertising for applicants to their Cyber Security Technologist Level 4 Apprenticeship. In this 2-year programme, apprentices will learn to protect the public from harm by managing and dealing with cyber threats. Working alongside the world's best cyber security professionals and with support from an individual mentor, apprentices will be actively engaged in protecting the UK. This is an earn-while-you-learn opportunity with a salary of £22,677 and a full-time role could be offered on completion. Applicants should be able to demonstrate a real passion for tech and MI5/MI6 will teach the rest. For more information click [here](#).

Vatel Business Schools in Hospitality and Tourism Management



The Vatel Group has 50 Schools with 9,000 students and 35,000 alumni and is one of the leading Business Schools in Hospitality and Tourism Management. Their programs combine a mixture of academic knowledge, hands on learning and practical experience. Offering Bachelor and MBA Degrees, taught 100% in English or 100% in French, Vatel campuses in Bordeaux and Nimes are ideal for students who relish studying in an international environment, and who wish to become leading professionals in a thriving and growing industry. For more information on the programs offered by Vatel and the variety of international opportunities please email marcus@burnettgloaleducation.com.

Tech Industry Gold Standard degrees: IT Management For Business (ITMB)



ITMB degrees have been developed by a number of universities to bridge the gap between technology and business in the workplace. Students should look for those with [Tech Industry Gold accreditation](#). Areas for study can include strategy, human resource management and organisational behaviour, e-business, software and database development as well as consulting, marketing and ethical issues. Students gain an understanding of business and IT operations and the ability to evaluate an organisation's IT-specific needs. Students are offered the opportunity to write computer programs, analyse user business case requirements and design systems using new approaches and techniques. Course length is 3 or 4 years with industrial experience or study abroad. Source: [BSc Management with Information Technology, Reading University](#). ITMB degree courses are also offered at Loughborough, Manchester, Aston, Sussex, Queen Mary University of London, UWE among others. For a full list click [here](#).

LSE Career Resources



LSE provides information on a range of graduate employment sectors which are open for all to explore. Discover which organisations operate in a career area; find out about sector changes, particularly those impacting on future jobs; gain an understanding of the routes in (Graduate Schemes, Internships etc.) and read about individual job roles including general and specialised roles. LSE also share the profiles of LSE graduates working in each sector. Employment Sectors include: Accountancy and Financial Management, Banking and Investment, Consultancy, Economics, Energy and Environment, International Development, Media and Communications, Public Sector, Politics and Government among others. To reach the site click [here](#).

Careers and Apprenticeships In Public Relations



The Public Relations and Communications Association (PRCA) has produced a packed guide to careers and apprenticeships in the industry. The guide explains what Public Relations is; looks at the differences between PR and Advertising; reveals how PR professionals get their brands noticed and gain media coverage; provides information on the routes into PR – degrees, internship, graduate schemes and apprenticeships providers; highlights what skills are in demand and covers how to make a competitive application and stand out from the crowd. To download the highly informative guide click [here](#).

What is Micro-volunteering and how to do it



Micro-volunteering involves completing small tasks that make up a larger project. These tasks often benefit a research, charitable, or non-governmental organization. It differs from normal volunteering in that the tasks take only minutes to a few hours and the volunteer does not have to make a long-term commitment. Tasks are often distributed and completed online. It does not require an application process, screening or training period, takes only minutes or a few hours to complete. Micro volunteering is perfect busy students that don't have much spare time. Specialised skills are rarely needed and it can be done from anywhere in the world. Examples include: Being a pen-pal with a hospitalized child, knitting an item of clothing, completing a wildlife survey, proof-reading, beach cleaning... all these activities can provide useful extra content in a UCAS personal statement, on CVs and other applications. To find out more and to see a list of organisations offering micro-volunteering opportunities click [here](#).

Prospects Publications: Student Career Guide, Law Careers, STEM Careers



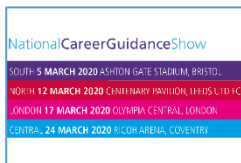
Prospects www.prospects.ac.uk have produced a number of guides available to download from their website. [The Student Career Guide](#) is full of advice on all the things that help to create career-readiness for competitive job applications. While aimed at undergraduates, the guide has plenty of useful information which can be used by school students too. [The Guide to a Career in Law](#) provides information on training contracts and law courses for law and non-Law students alike. The [Guide to a Career STEM](#) provides an overview of the science, technology, engineering and Maths sectors and finally, [What Do Graduates Do](#) provides a guide to graduate destinations by region and by subject including a breakdown of where graduates from different degree disciplines are now working.

Spotlight on: Foundation Courses in Acting



A Foundation Course in Acting can be a bridge between A levels and degree courses. Courses are either two or three terms in length, open to UK and international students and cost between £5,000 to £13,500 per year (no government funding is available but bursaries may be offered). Laura Roxborough of the Dorset School of Acting says, "A foundation course gives students the opportunity to work out whether or not they really are cut out for the business or even for drama school, where expectations are very high. Investment in a foundation course could save more than £30,000 plus accommodation and three years of your life, if a career in performance turns out not to be the way forward". Foundation courses are offered at most major Drama Schools and some private colleges and can help to boost to chances of being accepted onto a 3-year full time course. Source: The Stage. For more information click [here](#).

FutureSmart Careers at the National Careers Guidance Show



FutureSmart Careers will be at **The National Careers Guidance Show in Bristol on 5th March**. Please come along to our stand if you are attending. Shows are also taking place in London, Leeds and Coventry. The National Career Guidance Show offers free CPD to careers advisers, learning and development managers, teachers and practitioners. Exhibitors and seminars provide professionals with access to up-to-date information and networking opportunities. To register for the event, click [here](#).

Your Careers Helpline



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

Email us at: helpline@futuresmartcareers.co.uk

Contact us



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