



In the newsletter this month



GCHQ looking for neurodiverse skills



The Big Bang Fair 23rd to 25th June 2021



What are the highest paying degrees in the UK?



Careers at Sea with the Merchant Navy

Remote learning, is it value for money?



New research reveals that university and higher education institutions in the UK have made significant strides in regard to remote learning but only a quarter of students believe they are getting value for money. While 67% said their experience was either as expected or better than expected, only 25% felt their university course offered them value for money. Almost one in three said that if they had their time again, they would have taken a year out and almost one in ten (9%) would have gone straight into work. For more information click [here](#).

Plans for 50% cut to Arts-related degree courses



Some artists and musicians have accused the government of neglecting the country's "cultural national health" by pursuing a "catastrophic" 50% funding cut to arts subjects at university, which could come into effect from this autumn. A consultation by the Office for Students (OfS) and the Education Secretary, Gavin Williamson, suggested halving the amount spent on "high cost" higher education arts subjects in England as these were not "strategic priorities". To read the article click [here](#)

The growing importance of work experience



A recent survey shows 34% (just over a third) of graduate-level jobs in the UK required applicants to have at least one year of work experience. 24% of junior/entry-level job postings stated the same. This does vary between different job sectors with (92%) of graduate-level job ads in the IT sector requiring at least one year of work experience. To find out more click [here](#)

Parliamentary group to promote the benefits of T-Levels



As the Government continues to roll-out T Levels across the country, a new All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) has said it aims to support the future of technical education across the UK and explore the skills needed to provide jobs and industries for the future. The APPG will focus on support for employers, students and training providers, raising awareness of the qualification and the benefits of technical education for social mobility and improving the future for young people across the country. For further information click [here](#).

GCHQ values dyslexic skills



Apprentices on GCHQ's scheme are four times more likely to have dyslexia than those on other organisations' programmes, the agency has said, the result of a drive to recruit those whose brains process information differently. GCHQ says those with dyslexia have valuable skills spotting patterns that others miss – a key area the spy agency wants to encourage as it pivots away from dead letter drops and bugging towards high-tech cybersecurity and data analysis. To find out more click [here](#).

AI will create more jobs



A survey by PwC claims that while 4th Industrial Revolution technologies driven by AI will continue to fundamentally change the world and the way we work and live, AI may not lead to massive unemployment as previously feared. Instead, AI technology will create more jobs than it automates. These newly created jobs will require new skills and necessitate significant investment in upskilling and reskilling young people and adults but businesses and governments can – and must – work together to address this transition and embrace the positive societal benefits of AI. To find out more click [here](#)

The Big Bang goes digital 23rd – 25th June 2021



This year, the Big Bang Digital is expanding its horizons to look at how we can build a brighter and greener future using science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) – a future that will be in the hands of the brilliant young people who are studying the subjects right now.

Aimed at 11- to 14-year-olds, the 3-day event (Weds 23 June to Fri 25 June) will be packed full of inspiring and interactive sessions, opening young people's eyes to future developments they could be part of. To find out more and register click [here](#).

Increase in graduate and school leaver recruitment



In a survey of 135 student employers, while nearly half (48%) are recruiting the same number of graduates as last year, 36% are hiring more with 18% increasing their intake by at least 10%. Just 16% have cut graduate vacancies compared to last year when recruitment was scaled-down by 44% of employers due to the pandemic. However, this year there is considerable shrinkage in retail and FMCG with 38% cutting graduate recruitment.

Employers are also hiring more school leavers. Almost a third (31%) are increasing recruitment from last year and 57% are hiring the same number. Meanwhile 11% have cut recruitment, which is a 44% drop in the number reporting shrinkage last year.

University of Cambridge online events



Some events organised by the University of Cambridge are open to members of the public and at present many of these events are still virtual. To find out more click [here](#)

Greater diversity needed in Engineering and Science



The number of women and BAME groups employed in engineering and science roles across the globe is startlingly low. Yet a growing, changing economy is generating more demand for engineers from all walks of life. Redressing the balance and ensuring greater representation is a challenge to be tackled now to benefit from the skills and experience these groups bring. To find out more and about some initiatives click [here](#)

What are the highest paying degrees in the UK?



When it comes to choosing a degree there are many factors to take into consideration. Many students will be interested in what career the degree can lead to and perhaps their potential earning power. Milkround have a guide to the degrees that result in the highest paying jobs. Can you guess? Finance, Medicine and Maths all feature. Find out more click [here](#).

Flexi-Apprenticeships



Employer groups and colleges have been invited to develop and deliver flexi apprenticeships. These new schemes would enable apprentices to work across projects with different employers to gain the full skills and experience they need to complete their programme. This could include film, TV and theatre production, with one apprentice now being able to work on different productions during their apprenticeship. The first flexi-job apprenticeships are expected to start next January. For more information click [here](#)

Careers at sea with the Merchant Navy



When you think of a career with the Merchant Navy, living on a super yacht might not be the first image that springs to mind. However, Merchant Navy ships include modern ferries, container ships, luxury cruise liners, tankers, offshore exploration vessels and large commercial yachts. The organisation Careers at Sea has information on the different roles available, training organisations and how to apply. To find out more, click [here](#).

Apprenticeships with Schneider



Schneider Electric is a multinational company combining energy technologies, real-time automation, software and services for homes, buildings, data centers, infrastructure and industries. They are currently offering a range of higher and degree apprenticeships including commercial, engineering and digital. Some of the opportunities are in the South West. To find out more and apply click [here](#)

My Skills - My Future for students with SEND



The Careers and Enterprise Company have launched a new suite of resources helping to enable young people with SEND to take the next step on their career journey. The resources are not just for those in SEND-specific settings, they're also for use within any other setting with young people with SEND. To view the resources click [here](#),

Spotlight on Level 2 and Level 3 Apprenticeships



Rate my Apprenticeships are hosting 'A spotlight on level 2 & 3 apprenticeships' on the 26th of May 2:00 - 2:45pm. This is a great opportunity to inspire year 10 & 11 students to take the first steps in their career. The webinar will walk students through how to apply for apprenticeships, which employers they can work for and will also include a panel session from real-life level 2 & 3 apprentices. To register click [here](#)

Want a year in Investment Management?



Investment 2020 provides support for students wanting to navigate into a career in investment management. Students can research career areas and look at current vacancies on their website. The placements are for 1 year and are paid. Students can apply for a full-time role on completion or head off to other opportunities including university. For more information click [here](#)

Russell Group Teachers & Advisers conference in June



On Wednesday 16th June 2021 3:15pm to 6:00pm you can take part in a free online CPD conference delivered collaboratively by the Russell Group universities. This event is intended for teachers and careers advisers who are supporting students to progress to university. There will be 6 webinars and a discussion forum. To find out more click [here](#)

Virtual legal work experience aimed at 16-18 year-olds



International law firm Clifford Chance has launched a new virtual work experience programme offering 16-18-year-olds an introduction to the commercial issues affecting the future of the law. The experience will consist of up to eight hours of content. Candidates will be able to complete tasks on topics such as crypto currencies, social media and green sustainable lending. It also includes a business skills module designed to introduce students to fundamental trainee responsibilities such as drafting and amending documents. To find out more click [here](#)

Students in Limbo as university offer deadline is extended



Some students say they have still not received all of their offers despite the deadline closing next week on 20th May. Yet, students are being asked to apply for accommodation when they do not yet know if they will take up a place as they wait to hear back from their first choice. To read the article click [here](#).

University of Cambridge, subject Masterclasses, May to August 2021



Subject Masterclasses are subject-specific events that offer academically able students in Year 12 (or equivalent) the chance to experience typical undergraduate teaching at the University of Cambridge, and to get a flavour of what it's like to be a student there. The Masterclasses cover a range of subjects and provide students with an opportunity to explore topics of interest beyond what is covered within the school curriculum. To find out what subjects are available and to get more information click [here](#)

The New Career Development Framework from the CDI



The CDI Framework has been redeveloped throughout 2020 and early 2021. There has been a detailed consultation with almost 300 career development experts and practitioners and close links with key partners including the Careers & Enterprise Company, the PSHE Association and DfE. The new Framework describes the six career development skills that people need to have positive careers and are the learning areas that career development programmes and interventions should focus on. The Framework was launched on April 21st, to see the available resources and more information on upcoming webinars click [here](#)

Careers Helpline



Jacque Ridge, our Helpline Manager and our team welcome enquiries from schools, parents and students. The helpline is staffed between 9.00 am and 5.00pm Monday to Friday at helpline@futuresmartcareers.co.uk.

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