

FutureSmartCareers



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

ISSUE No 22 September 2021

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Meet the Russell Group virtual event Wednesday 29th September



The virtual event on Wednesday 29 September from 12:00 to 19:00 will allow you to explore all 24 Russell Group universities and chat directly to their representatives and ambassadors. You will be able to view information and videos about each university, link directly to Virtual Campus Tours to explore university facilities and accommodation, download prospectuses and take part in 13 live webinars in the virtual auditorium. Meet the Russell Group is designed to support Year 13, 12 and 11 students, and the parents, guardians, teachers and careers advisors. It is completely free of charge. To register click [here](#)

Virtual USA College Day 2021 25th September



Saturday 25th September 1-5pm (UK time) sees the return of the USA College Day and it is a virtual event this year. This is the largest US university fair in Europe and is organized by the US-UK Fulbright Commission and Education USA. The event is for prospective undergraduates, parents and teachers and is free to attend. If you are interested in attending you will need to register via the website, where you will also find more details on how the event worked last year and the universities that attended. For registration and more details click [here](#)

PWC Flying Start Degree Programmes



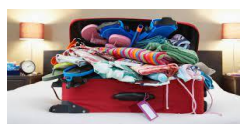
Applications are now open for the PWC Flying Start Programmes in Accounting and Technology. A Business Management programmes is also available in N. Ireland. Successful students will be studying at university and so get to experience the full-time student lifestyle but with integrated paid placements at PwC. To find out more click [here](#). PwC other School Leaver opportunities will open for applications in the next few weeks.

Careers in Aerospace & Aviation - virtual event 3rd November 2021



The Royal Aeronautical Society (RAeS) annual recruitment fair will take place this year virtually on 3 November 2021. The event will be open from 10.00-16.00 GMT with visitors able to meet exhibitors in their virtual 'booths' through pre-arranged 1-2-1 meetings and/or attend your online open meetings. Registration is free to all current and aspiring professionals seeking careers and training opportunities. For more information and to register click [here](#).

Are students staying close to home?



Unsurprisingly, UK students are seeking opportunities closer to home following the COVID-19 pandemic, the latest Google Search data has revealed. With uncertainty surrounding travel and study in the last year, more and more students are looking locally for their higher education routes. The research also highlighted the 171% rise in searches for 'degree apprenticeships near me'. For more information click [here](#)

#10000BlackInterns



The #10000BlackInterns programme will offer paid work experience across a wide range of sectors each year, providing critical training and development opportunities. The programme aims for over 20 industries to join together to provide 10,000 internships in aggregate over five years. The #10000BlackInterns initiative in the Investment Management Industry will serve as a template for other industries to follow to offer at least 100 internships, per year for five years. Internships will begin in the Summer of 2022 to reach the ultimate goal of providing 10,000 internships to young Black people by the end of 2026. To find out more click [here](#)

UCAS statistics from Results Day 2021



While course acceptance rates for EU students fell by a massive 56% this year, in England, 326,180 students (up 10%) were accepted on to a university course. Of those, 210,850 are 18-year-olds (up 18%). This means of all the 18-year-olds in England, 34.7% are set to start a degree course, an increase from 30.4% in 2020. The number of students accepted onto nursing courses has increased by 8%, to 26,730. While 8,560 students (up 23%) from England have been accepted onto Medicine and Dentistry courses, up from 6,960 on results day 2020. Internationally, a new high of 37,390 (+9%) students from outside the EU have been accepted, with markets including Malaysia (up 33% to 2,230 placed applicants), USA (up 33% to 2,160) and Nigeria (up 40% to 840) showing substantial increases.

Investment in T Levels



The DfE has announced an investment of £50m to support schools, colleges and sixth forms delivering T Levels from September 2022, including the new T Levels in Finance, Media and Legal. This will cover 65 building projects to improve and expand existing teaching spaces with industry standard equipment. To find out more click [here](#).

CyberFirst Degree Apprenticeship with GCHQ



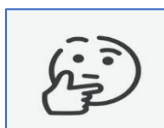
GCHQ are currently recruiting for their Cyberfirst Degree Apprenticeship to start September 2022. Applicants need to be a British citizen and have (or be expecting to have by September 2022), a minimum of 2 'A' Levels at Grade B and 1 'A' level at grade C or above (112 UCAS points or equivalent). Students need to be quick as the closing date is 27th September 2021. For more information click [here](#).

Will there be a change to A Level grading?



In England this year, nearly one in five – 19.1 per cent – of entries were awarded an A* grade, while more than two in five – 44.3 per cent – of entries were awarded an A or A*. It is thought that introducing numerical grades in 2023 could reset the A-level grading system so that grade inflation is not baked in over the long term. However, some education leaders have argued against the idea of numerical grading for A levels. An Ofqual spokesperson said: “We have no plans to change the GCSE or A-level grading system. And we will confirm the approach to grading for 2022 in the autumn term.” To read the article click [here](#).

UCAS Personal Statements: write a killer opening line.



This is the time of year when many Year 13 students can spend hours pondering over the opening sentence of their UCAS Personal Statement. There is lots of help at hand and it's well worth reading the advice on the UCAS website as they have spoken to many admissions tutors. To see their advice click [here](#).

New report on the importance of Careers Information Advice and Guidance (CIAG)



Policy Connect's cross-party Skills Commission has published its latest report, *Transition to Ambition: Navigating the careers maze*. Co-chaired by Nicola Richards MP (Con), Lord Jim Knight (Lab) and Dr Siobhan Neary (University of Derby), the report examines the careers information, advice and guidance system in England, and how it supports transitions into employment. Following the economic and labour market instability caused by the pandemic, alongside the effects of Brexit and the fourth industrial revolution, it is crucial that England's careers information, advice and guidance (CIAG) system works efficiently so that as many people as possible can be properly supported with their transitions into employment. To read the report click [here](#)

Rate My Apprenticeship virtual event on 20th and 21st October



Rate My Apprenticeship's Virtual Event is taking place on the 20th & 21st October 2021. This is a chance for year 10, 11,12 and 13 students to meet employers from a range of different industries, find out more about apprenticeships and get key information about how to apply. The event is accessible to all students, across the UK and is free to attend to attend. Some of the employers in attendance include Vodafone, The University of Law, DLA Piper and KPMG. To register and find out more click [here](#).

Higher GCSE grades linked to lifetime earnings boost



Those who perform just one GCSE grade better than their counterparts across nine subjects have been shown to earn on average over £200,000 more throughout their lives. For the first time ever, statisticians and economists at the Department for Education have established a direct link between GCSE attainment and an increase in lifetime earnings after tracking the earnings of more than two million people in England. To find out more click [here](#)

Lecture theatres full or empty?



With University students due back very soon there still seems to be some uncertainty over the mode of teaching to be used. A THE survey carried out found that the majority of universities were planning to have large lectures online, with 61.5 per cent of the institutions surveyed saying they would do so. Of the 35 per cent that said they planned to hold at least some in-person lectures, all also said they had discovered benefits to online offerings throughout the pandemic and would be keeping "some of the best elements" digital. So what will university be like this term? To view this BBC article click [here](#)

Virtual work experience October Half Term - opportunities with Springpod



Students wanting to gain work experience to help with their career decisions and expand their CV should have a look at the [Springpod](#) website which has various opportunities available in Healthcare, Engineering and Technology, these are available over October Half Term.

Up-dated statutory guidance for careers



In July 2021 the Department for Education released the Updated Statutory Guidance for maintained schools, academies and colleges in England. The key elements are – there is no change to careers legislation, there is one single guide that applies to colleges and schools, info for governors and SLT is in one place rather than throughout the document and sets out the basis of their obligations in funding, managing and resourcing careers, more information is given on the Skills for Jobs White Paper, changes to reflect Ofsted's renewed interest in careers guidance and references to the effect of Covid 19 and how virtual encounters can be utilised. To download the Guidance [click here](#)

Robotics – the way of the future



High-end robotics resources should be available to everyone in the UK if the workforce is to have the right skills for 2030, a new report says. The robotics white paper, published by the EPSRC UK Robotics and Autonomous Systems Network (UK-RAS), highlights how robotics and autonomous systems are central to the 4th industrial revolution and the need to prepare the UK's workforce to work with these technologies. To read the White Paper click [here](#).

The Times Higher Education World Rankings 2022



The top 10 universities in the world on the Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2022 are: University of Oxford; California Institute of Technology (=2) Harvard University (=2) Stanford University; University of Cambridge (=5) Massachusetts Institute of Technology (=5) Princeton University; University of California, Berkeley; Yale University and The University of Chicago. To see them all click [here](#)

Advancing Access webinars Autumn 2021



Advancing Access have a series of webinars planned for Autumn 2021 covering issues such as choosing a course, Oxbridge interviews and student finance. The webinars are aimed at Careers Teachers and Advisers, to find out more about what is available and when click [here](#)

University of Portsmouth Taster Days



From cyber security, mechanical engineering, criminology and languages, students can discover what university study is like, while revising their favourite subjects. Subject-specific events, workshops and activities will help students learn about university, and support meeting Gatsby Benchmark 4 and 7. To find out what is available and when click [here](#)

Gatsby Benchmark 4 Maths, Why Bother?



Maths, Why Bother?' resource aims to help Maths teaching staff to show students the explicit links between the maths curriculum and the world of work. The website has many resources linked to careers and is definitely worth checking out. To see it click [here](#)

Free Careers Education Resources from Youth Employment UK



The Youth Employment Website gives access to a host of free resources helping you to deliver careers education, employability training and other programmes for young people. There are lesson plans, information on a range of career sectors, ideas for work experience and lots more. To view the website, click [here](#)

The Importance of work experience



Prospects Early Careers Survey 2021 asked how prepared students were for getting a job or apprenticeship. The majority of respondents said they faced significant barriers and that gaining the required work experience was the biggest concern, followed by a lack of internships opportunities and not having the necessary skills. Prospects' recent internship report showed that just 17 per cent of students had undertaken work experience over the past year. The earlier students can start with work experience the better, not only to build up knowledge of the world of work but to also start networking and gaining possible contacts. To find out more click [here](#).

The 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. Please send your questions to the helpline at helpline@futuresmartcareers.co.uk

Contact us



Lorna Owen lorna.owen@futuresmartcareers.co.uk

Vicki MacDonald v.macdonald@futuresmartcareers.co.uk

Tel: 0330 311 9509

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