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THE URSULINE HIGH SCHOOL CAREERS NEWSLETTER

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Spring Term
2021

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 @SixthFormUHSWC

CAREERS NEWS

Welcome to the third edition of the UHS Careers Newsletter. Since our last publication, it has been a busy time at UHS. We have celebrated National Apprenticeship Week (February) and National Careers Week (March). During both weeks, students from Years 7-13 completed a range of careers related activities and attended virtual talks hosted by employers from industry sectors such as the Armed Forces, STEM, Professional Services, Technology and the Public Sector.

Year 11 and Year 12 have also been applying for Easter and Summer virtual work experience placements with work experience in its traditional sense being put on hold. Several of our students have been successful in obtaining placements with Ofcom, Thames Link, Johnson Matthey and many more. Virtual work experience has many benefits providing young people with the opportunity to gain experience in the workplace, develop their skills, boost their employability, and explore new industries and job roles.

We have been excited to launch our new T Level in Laboratory Science this year and held an Information Evening in March (more info on this [here](#) and overleaf).

Finally, January seen the launch of the new Careers Hub on the school's website (www.ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk/curriculum/careers-hub/). It contains the A-Z of careers information from; employer and labour market information, careers in the curriculum, work experience, post-18 destination data and a parent/career zone. Work on the hub will be ongoing, therefore, do check back every now and then for new and exciting content.

Thank you and we hope you enjoy!



Mrs Lorraine Petheram
Careers Lead

National Careers Week

NCW

1ST - 6TH MARCH 2021

T-LEVELS

THE NEXT LEVEL QUALIFICATION

GATSBY BENCHMARKS

The Gatsby benchmarks identify the elements of good practice in career guidance.

1. A stable careers programme
2. Learning from career and labour market information
3. Addressing the needs of each student
4. Linking curriculum learning to careers
5. Encounters with employers and employees
6. Experiences of workplaces
7. Encounters with further and higher education
8. Personal guidance

'CAREER JOURNEYS'



Pathways CTM is an award-winning social enterprise who create links with school leavers and employers. Pathways partner with employers such as UBS, KPMG, SKY, Accenture, Microsoft, Pret, ASOS, the NHS and many more to support students in exploring their career interests helping them to make informed Post-18 decisions. Support includes; employer insight events, work experience, coaching and mentoring and pre-employment skills programmes. The Sixth Form Careers team have worked with pathways for a number of years supporting students in Year 12 and Year 13 and this year Pathways extended their offering to Year 11 students too.

Virtual Work Experience Open to students in Years 11- 12

In Year 11 and Year 12, UHS students historically have completed work experience during the summer term. With COVID, face-to-face work experience has been cancelled and in its place we have seen the rise of virtual work experience programmes. Virtual work experience provides many benefits; developing students' knowledge of the job market, different industry sectors, opportunities for school leavers and key employability skills such as digital literacy, communication, teamwork, problem solving and creative thinking. It is also a valuable experience to add to student's CV to make them stand out when applying to university, apprenticeships or full-time employment after finishing school.

To find out more, please click on the links below or contact

Mrs Petheram - Careers Lead

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Labour Market Information

www.nomisweb.co.uk

Nomis is a service provided by the **Office for National Statistics**, ONS, to give you free access to the most detailed and up-to-date UK labour market statistics from official sources. In Merton, the largest proportion of resident's work in human health and social care, education, professional, scientific and technical services. To find out more about the types of jobs where you live please visit the Nomis website.

Education Development Trust LMI Bulletin - www.educationdevelopmenttrust.com

The bulletin is produced each month in partnership with the National Careers Services providing national and regional sector and employer updates.

STUDENT THOUGHTS

"I liked that we got both perspectives on the working world - someone who has recently started as an apprentice and also someone who is also more experienced, completed her apprenticeship and working in a management position in the organisation."

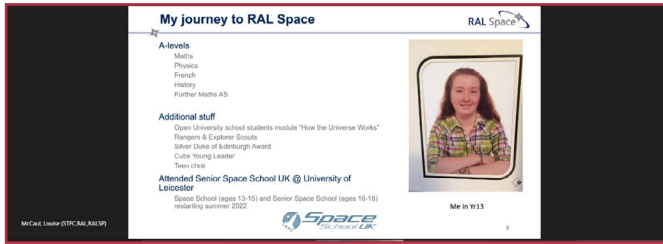
"I found it really inspiring when the guest speaker shared her story on being the only female student who did engineering and how she persevered through that to be where she is now."

National Careers Week

NCW

1ST - 6TH MARCH 2021

See page 2 for this
terms careers events
and activities



“I enjoyed delivering the talk and meeting virtually UHS students. It is clear the importance the school places on careers education for its students.” RAL Space Employer

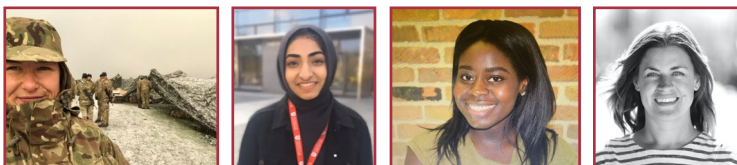
National Careers Week takes place annually during the first week of March. The aim of this year’s campaign was **‘Empowering Positive Change through Careers Education’** To promote this message assemblies were extended for Years 7-11 and employers from a range of industry sectors were invited to speak to UHS students. Employers included **The Royal Navy, RAL Space, CITB, PWC** and **Facebook**. In addition, staff shared their careers stories with students to showcase the diversity and breadth of experience among UHS staff.

Building Back Better!



National Apprenticeship Week took place from the 8th-15th February. The campaign focussed on **‘Building Back Better’** recognising the importance of apprentices to our current and future job market. To celebrate this week, students spent time in registration exploring their year groups E-Careers Library apprenticeship resources which included videos and e-presentations from UHS alumni completing degree apprenticeships, researching apprenticeships linked to subject interests and various quizzes and activities.

GCSE Options



Year 9 have spent from *December 2020* until *February 2021* participating in a **Careers Programme** designed to prepare them for selecting their GCSE options. Each week students explored a different industry sector such as The Armed Forces, Health and Social Care, Creative Arts and Sports completing a range of careers activities culminating in a live careers panel with employees working in the sectors answering their questions. Throughout the programme the students not only heard about the different job roles for school leavers in each sector but also the recommended educational pathways from GCSEs onwards to enter these sectors.

Experience Needed!



“The session was also a good opportunity for me to develop my presentation skills!” Volunteer

The careers teams are keen to build their pool of parents, carers and alumni who volunteer to deliver careers talks and events. If you work in sectors such as STEM, Professional Services, Healthcare, Creative Arts, and Sports to name a few and can spare an hour every now and then we would love to hear from you.

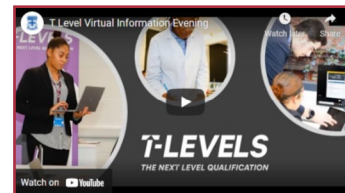
A link to the volunteering form can be found on the new **Careers Hub** [here!](#)

Oxbridge Evening



On **Tuesday 16th March**, we held our **Oxbridge Alumnae Evening** with the aim to encourage our Year 12s on the **Oxbridge Programme** to see Oxbridge as a real possibility for them and to understand more about it. Parents were also encouraged to attend to they could be advised as to how best support their preferred path! Further information on our Oxbridge programme can be found [here!](#)

T Levels Info Eve



T-LEVELS
THE NEXT LEVEL QUALIFICATION

We hosted our **T Level Virtual Information Evening** on **Tuesday 2nd March!** We were joined by a guest speaker from **Deliveroo** to give us insight into the desirability of a T-Level graduate from the employers perspective.

Missed it? Take a look at the full event [here](#).

Creative Careers!



Year 8 participated in a careers workshop on **‘Discovering Creative Careers’**. Employers from organisations such as **Acamarfilms, Runner Communications** and **Tru Active** shared their experience of working in the industry, skills employers look for in school leavers and the importance of what they learnt in school they still use in their current careers. The talks were followed by a Q&A led by the students.

Useful Links

- www.gov.uk/browse/education
- nationalcareers.service.gov.uk
- www.unifrog.org
- www.startprofile.com
- www.ucas.com
- www.prospects.ac.uk
- www.notgoingtouni.co.uk
- www.getmyfirstjob.co.uk
- www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk

