



The Royal
School
High Achievers • Confident Learners

Careers & Higher Education Bulletin

Every day shapes a future

Issue 1 – January 2023

Welcome to our first careers bulletin, which will be produced half-termly and will highlight current activities taking place within year groups as well as career and work experience opportunities that may be available.

Year 7

In Year 7 we are keen to ensure that each pupil is encouraged to think about the breadth of opportunities open to them in the world of work. We have chosen to do this through taking part in the 'Step into the NHS competition', a national event open to pupils at any senior school.

In the Spring term during Future Ready lessons, pupils will be challenged to research and select one of the 350 plus careers available within the NHS. Once selected, they will create materials to promote it, starting with a job description to capture key responsibilities of the role along with any qualifications, skills and experience needed. This learning is then used to create a fun and lively job advertisement to appeal to their peers. The job advertisement can be made using a variety of media, for example, film, poster, presentation, leaflet, or website.

For further information please see:

<https://stepintothens.nhs.uk/secondary-schools> a parent letter with the finer details will be sent out in January.

Year 8

Year 8 will be taking part in an exciting enterprise activity entitled the 'Tyre Challenge' in the Spring term during Future Ready lessons, this will be run in conjunction with myself and Mr Beard. The aim of the

The aim of the Tyre Challenge is to develop in pupils several key skills relating to careers and enterprise. The lessons will involve pupils setting up their own social enterprise which will help to try and solve a problem in one part of the world whilst also helping to support and find a solution for those in another. This Enterprise activity has clear links to Business, Maths, Geography, English, PSHE and I look forward to sharing with you the pupils' progress in this activity.

Year 9

Year 9 have been busy focussing on GCSE decisions and which options to choose. We have supported this process by asking all pupils to start their Morrisby profile and complete the aspirations questionnaire. Morrisby works to highlight potential GCSE subjects as well as possible career ideas, allowing pupils to think about how their subject decisions could affect their long-term plans. Pupils can log-in to their Morrisby profiles from home and share these results with parents/guardians. Further information on Morrisby can be viewed here:

<https://www.morrisby.com/>

I have spoken to pupils about the importance of making informed decisions, especially focussing on what they are good at and enjoy, a useful website for reference:

<https://www.theuniguide.co.uk/advice/gcse-choices-university>

I will have a follow-up session with Year 9 pupils in January and I will deliver a parent talk at the Year 9 options evening. In addition, Mrs Smithson is meeting every Year 9 pupil individually to talk through their option choices. Pupils will also have receive an Options Workbook to make their way through, which again helps support these important decisions, if you would like a copy of this you can contact myself.



Year 10 – Year 11

During the Autumn term I have seen Year 11 during PSHEE lessons in order to start them completing their aptitude assessments on Morrisby. This has involved them completing timed assessments focused on their verbal, numerical and abstract ability and how these strengths can link to possible careers and further study. Pupils can log in to their Morrisby accounts from home, and I would suggest pupils share their profiles with you discussing potential options and careers. Year 11 pupils have also been invited to a guidance interview with myself and would have received a written Action Plan from this meeting, these will also be viewable on the pupils Morrisby account.

In the Spring term Year 10 will receive an Options session, so pupils can begin thinking about their plans after completion of Year 11. This includes looking at all available options including A levels, apprenticeships and vocational.

Here are some very useful careers exploration websites that both Year 10 and Year 11 pupils can begin to look at:

<https://www.startprofile.com/>

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/planner>

<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/>

<https://www.informedchoices.ac.uk/>

<https://www.theuniguide.co.uk/advice/a-level-choices>

https://sacu-student.com/?page_id=5203 – A Level explorer

Taking a personality quiz can help with self-awareness. The Buzz, is a 5- minute fun quiz that will match you with one of the 16

<https://icould.com/buzz-quiz> Myers Briggs personality types and can help you to think about what motivates you, as well as suggesting some job ideas: <https://www.ucas.com/careers/buzz-quiz>

We are also keen that pupils try and gain some form of work experience to aid their career exploration and I have provided sources of information on this further in the bulletin.

Year 12

I have recently spoken with Year 12 about the importance of trying to gain some relevant work experience and in some cases, this may be a requirement for certain degree courses, for example medicine or teaching. I regularly share details of work experience opportunities and have set up a dedicated WEX and super curricular Teams page. There is a list of some opportunities further in the bulletin. This is also the perfect time for Year 12 to think about completing some super-curricular activities that aid pupils learning above and beyond the curriculum and I have provided further sources below:

Super-curricular

MOOC (Massive Open Online Course) -

<https://www.futurelearn.com/info/blog/what-is-a-mooc-futurelearn>

TED Talks - <https://www.ted.com/talks>

Explore is an engaging digital resource from the University of Oxford: <https://explore.org/>

I Want to Study Engineering - <https://i-want-to-study-engineering.org/>

Isaac Physics: <https://isaacphysics.org/>

Oxford (Staircase 12) -

<https://www.univ.ox.ac.uk/applying-to-univ/staircase12/>

It is also never too early to begin attending university open events, listings can be found here:

<https://www.ucas.com/explore/search/events>

Uni Taster Days - <https://www.unitasterdays.com/>

Websites to aid HE Research

<https://www.ucas.com/>

<https://discoveruni.gov.uk/>

<https://www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk/>

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/applying-for-university/choosing-a-course>

Army Scholarships

The Army delivered an informative talk to Year 12 on routes within the Army and scholarship programmes, for any pupils interested in applying for an Army Scholarship further information is available here and the deadline to apply is March 2023, pupils are more than welcome to see me for support -

<https://apply.army.mod.uk/en/what-we-offer/regular-officer/benefits/bursariesandscholarships>

Year 13

Year 13 have done well to submit their UCAS applications well within the required deadline and have already been receiving offers! Some universities may wait until the January deadline (25th) before sending out offers, Scottish Universities and Durham are also generally later in replying.

Adding further UCAS Choices

For any students that have not used all their five choices, they are able to add further in using the UCAS Hub, if they need help with this, they are more than welcome to come and see me.

Year 13 are reminded to keep checking their emails for any updates from UCAS and Universities. Universities may require pupils to log into their individual portals and pupils should do this in a timely fashion so that they can receive updates on accommodation deadlines etc.

Parents may like to download the UCAS Parent Guide for reference -
https://www.ucas.com/file/603521/download?token=v-CjPu_c

I will deliver a session in the Spring term to pupils on student finance and how to go about applying, student finance generally opens from February time 2023. Below is some further information on finance and scholarships:

Student Finance (22/23 figures, 23/24 yet to be released)
<https://www.gov.uk/student-finance/new-fulltime-students>

Further Sources of HE Funding: Scholarships

<https://www.ucas.com/finance/scholarships-grants-and-bursaries>

Degree Apprenticeships

For any pupils planning on applying for a degree apprenticeship, vacancies will be advertised from now onwards and can be searched using:

<https://www.ucas.com/apprenticeships/what-you-need-know-about-apprenticeships/degree-apprenticeships-0>
<https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>

Gap Year

For any pupils planning a gap year, they should be thinking about how to spend this time as worthwhile as possible, there are lots of useful resources available here:

<https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/student-life/gap-year/gap-years-ideas-and-things-think-about>

Work Experience

https://www.ey.com/en_uk/careers/students/programmes/schools/ey-career-starters : EY
<https://www.studentladder.co.uk/work-experience/>: Student Ladder
<https://www.thelawyerportal.com/> - Law Work experience
<https://www.themedicportal.com/application-guide/work-experience/> - Medical Work Experience
<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/cvs-and-cover-letters> - CVs and Covering Letters

THE CARBON ACADEMY

Carbon Academy is M&C Saatchi's creative mentor programme in partnership with The University of Greenwich. The academy enables students identifying as a woman, or non-conforming to gender binaries, from year 11-13 to experience working in a creative agency. Applications will open later in the year -
<https://mcsaatchi.london/careers-mc-saatchi/>
<https://www.royalsurrey.nhs.uk/work-experience> - NHS Work Experience
<https://careers.ba.com/work-experience> - British Airways
<https://careers.channel4.com/4skills/work-experience> - Channel 4

InvestIn (costs associated) - offers teenagers the chance to test drive their dream career, through our range of immersive career experiences. Through these programmes, students gain hands-on experience alongside top industry professionals, enabling them to make the right career decisions and maximise their potential <https://investin.org/>

Parent talks are also available -

<https://investin.org/pages/parent-events>

Virtual Work Experience

<https://careers.channel4.com/4skills/work-experience> -Virtual Work Experience platform opens in January.

<https://www.springpod.com/virtual-work-experience> - Springpod

<https://alliedhealthmentor.org/nhs-healthcare-careers-virtual-work-experience/> - Allied Health Mentor

Labour Market Information (LMI) & Skills for the Future

A key element of LMI helps to demystify the jobs market. It helps to take the confusion out of career planning, job hunting, career progression, and changing career. When people have accurate and up-to-date information, they are better equipped to make an informed choice and to plan appropriately. Pupils currently access up to date LMI through Morrisby and data from the National Careers Service. LMI is also available from the following websites:

http://www.lmiforall.org.uk/explore_lmi/ and

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/> Three skills students will need for the future; Problem-Solving, Collaboration and Adaptability:

<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2023/01/skillsets-cultivated-by-education-4-0-davos23/>

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