Melksham Oak Community School

CAREERS NEWSLETTER

This newsletter is a collation of all the opportunities we have heard about from employers and universities. Please use the links included to read more information and apply to anything you are interested in. Links are underlined.

Listen to this newsletter

OPPORTUNITIES

The Summer break is in sight! If you're wondering how you can use your spare time over the break to get ahead with exploring and planning options for the future, look no further. We have included a range of ideas and resources below.

College & Sixth Form Exploration

If you are currently in Year 10 and considering what your options are for the end of Year 11, you can go to each college / sixth forms website in September to see when their open day takes place. Remember, you can apply to as many sixth forms / colleges as you like and do not need to make your final decision until results day in August 2027.

This guide from the National Careers Service explains the different types of courses you can take at the end of Year 11. Please make sure you refer to each college / sixth forms website to find the list of courses they offer.

University Exploration

If you are currently in Year 12 and considering your options for the end of Year 13, it is likely that university is one of your areas of exploration. Here are some helpful guides:

- The pros and cons of university
- Uni Compare Quiz - What degree should I study?
- How to choose the right undergraduate course for you
- Dates and deadlines for the UCAS process

In order to research different courses, you may want to take part in online taster lectures, virtual open days or in person open days (if you can't find the university you want to visit, just search the name of the uni followed by "open day" to find the date / registration page on their website). Remember, you can find incentives on the UniTasterDays , which shows discounts to help cover your travel to open days.

When reviewing university websites, you will quickly realise that they say they're really great places to study. This can make it hard to choose which one is best for you. You can use Unibuddy to get honest opinions from current uni students. You can use League Tables (such as Complete Uni Guide) to compare things like student satisfaction and graduate prospect figures.

For further information advice and guidance, or to book a personal guidance appointment please contact careers@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk

JOB OF THE WEEK

Commerical Diver

A commercial diver is a trained professional who performs heavy labour and technical tasks underwater for industrial, construction, or scientific purposes. Unlike recreational scuba diving, commercial diving is a demanding trade requiring specialised equipment, rigorous safety protocols, and strict certification standards.

LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION FACT

Specialist medical practitioners show the highest demand across all occupations.

A further 5 occupations are also in critical demand: IT business analysts, architects and systems designers, chief executives and senior officials; senior care workers; brokers; medical radiographers.

Source

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Apprenticeship Exploration
If you're not sure that university is for you, Apprenticeships are another great way to obtain a degree whilst earning (and the employer pays for your tuition!). Apprenticeships are highly competitive so be ready to work hard and complete several applications. This article explains the different levels of apprenticesihps. The following websites will also be useful: Not Going to Uni, OuterCircle, UCAS Apprenticeships, Get My First Job, Amazing Apprenticeships, Gov Apprenticeship site.

Gap Year Exploration
A well planned gap year can help you develop yourself and your skills before your next step. You cannot take a gap year at the end of Year 11, only the end of Year 13 (or even when you graduate university, before entering the workplace). Read the National Careers Service guide here to understand the benefits.

Industry Exploration
Picking which pathway you want to go down is really difficult if you're not sure what industry to focus on. So this summer, why not spend some time exploring your options? It is a good idea to consider what you enjoy, what you're good at, what the world needs and what you can be paid for. If you can find something that meets all of these things, you're on to a winner! This method is based around Ikigai.

These websites and opportunities can help:

- UCAS industry guides
- DayOfWrk
- ERIC App
- BBC Career Quiz

Industry Experience
In person work experience is a great way to see if you really enjoy an industry. If there is anyone you can work with over the summer, even if it is unpaid, do it! You will learn soft skills and workplace etiquette, even if it isn't the exact industry you want to go to into.

You can also find virtual work experience opportunities on Springpod and Futures for All.

EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT

"Being a Civil Service apprentice means joining a community of passionate and engaged people all committed to improving the lives of people across the UK.

You might be working to support delivery of frontline services that are critical to members of the public, helping to shape government policy on any number of topics or working in one of our corporate services to provide the right tools and expertise to other civil servants."

UNI SPOTLIGHT

"Choosing the University of Glasgow gives you access to a world top-100 institution. Renowned for academic prestige, a stunning historic campus (frequently likened to Hogwarts), and a vibrant, affordable student life in one of the UK's friendliest cities. Over 95% of our graduates enter employment or further study shortly after leaving."

You can learn more about the University of Glasgow here.

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