

Your weekly guide to careers information, advice and news from Parklands High School

A shorter week, so a slimmer Career News! Still lots of great content inside though, including:

- Open Evening and Meet the Employer and Apprenticeship Team event at Wigan & Leigh College on 22 April.
- A competition from InnovateHer to celebrate International Women's Day.
- Revision top tips from Success at School.
- Virtual work experience day with KPMG, one of the largest professional services companies in the world.
- Another competition to explore the exciting world of aviation careers get creative and you could win some fantastic prizes!
- A webinar to explain HTQs how to research and apply for them.
- Conferences and virtual work experience opportunities with Medic Mentor and Allied Health Mentor. These really are vital for any aspiring medics.

We are taking part in the Raytheon Quadcopter Challenge again, so if anyone in Year 8 is interested in being in the team, please let me know.

The EDT Bronze Industrial Cadet team is working hard towards their award - after Easter we will be visiting NSG Environmental and finding out more about how they deal with nuclear waste.

There will also be a new Safety Team - this is for anyone in Year 9 who wants to make a difference when it comes to workplace safety. We will be filming videos for a number of safety organisations, and entering the prestigious UK Safety Groups competition (that we have won previously!) More details to follow soon ...

All the college interviews are now complete. Following the Easter break, there should be more apprenticeship vacancies advertised, so the Apprenticeship page at the back of Career News will return.

If anyone has any queries about any aspect of careers, work experience, colleges, apprenticeships or anything else career-related, please drop me an email: pberry@parklandsacademy.co.uk



APPRENTICESHIPS LINKED TO GEOGRAPHY

 AGRICULTURAL PROFESSIONAL ADVISER

ARBORICULTURIST

CHARTERED TOWN PLANNER

COUNTRYSIDE WORKER

- CROP TECHNICIAN
- ECOLOGIST
- GEOSCIENTIST
- GEOSPATIAL SURVEY TECHNICIAN
- LANDSCAPE TECHNICIAN
- TRAVEL CONSULTANT AND MANY MORE!



Interested in apprenticeships, but not sure what to do next? Take a look at our 'What Now?' guide... www.amazingapprenticeships.com





InnovateHer's Competition



First Place Work Experience



Mentoring



Develop an idea to solve some of the big problems we face in the world using technology







To celebrate the International Women's Day theme of economic empowerment, we launched a competition for students to submit tech-based solutions to tackle problems.

And we have some good news: the deadline has been extended to April 19th at 5pm.

This means that students can enter, develop and finalise their work on the competition over the half-term break.

Students will choose 1 of 2 problem statements to tackle, shared via the button below, and design their own tech-based solution to this problem. These ideas need to be explored in detail and submitted to InnovateHer Online here and then judged by a panel.

> There will be 1 winner and 2 runners-up, who will receive a prize (Work Experience for 1st place and Mentoring for the runners-up).

> > **Enter the Competition**

Info: Once you've clicked the link, scroll down, and you'll find all the information and resources needed for the competition.





ॐ REDROW

Apprenticeship Opportunities in Construction with Redrow

APPRENTICE BRICKLAYER

Redrow Homes are looking for an individual who is passionate about bricklaying and other aspects of building to join as an Apprentice Bricklayer. As an apprentice you will be studying towards a level 2 apprenticeship in Bricklaying which will include both theory and practical skills for a duration of 18-months.

Your time as an Apprentice Bricklayer will be split between working on site with an experienced tradesperson learning from their years of expertise and, intensive block release training at the NHBC Brickwork Training Hub in Tamworth or Cambridge.

Apply Today!

APPRENTICE CARPENTER

Redrow Homes are looking for an individual who is passionate about carpentry and other aspects of building to join as an Apprentice Carpenter. As an apprentice you will be studying towards a level 2 apprenticeship in Carpentry which will include both theory and practical skills for a duration of 22-months.

Your time as an Apprentice Carpenter will be split between working on site with an experienced tradesperson learning from their years of expertise, and intensive block release training at the SMG Group, Coalville, Leicestershire.

Apply Today!





MEET THE EMPLOYER & APPRENTICESHIP TEAM

If you are looking for an apprenticeship, we host events throughout the year where they can meet local and regional employers who are looking to recruit young people to apprenticeships.

Monday 22 April 4.30pm - 7.30pm

Centre for Advanced Technical Studies, Wigan, WN1 1RP



Following the Easter break we have a terrific Monday night in prospect looking further ahead for your Y10 and Y11 students.

Our Open Evening and Meet the Employer Event double up to create a great opportunity for students to both discuss full time course options with our curriculum teams and also speak with a wide range of employers regarding apprenticeship opportunities. The college apprenticeship team will be on hand to offer guidance for those considering and searching for school leaver opportunities.

This event is great for Y10s looking to get their first look at college life, and also Y11s who are looking at apprenticeships and / or firming up their course choices.

Both Parsons Walk Campus and Pagefield Campus will be open for visitors, 4.30pm - 7.30pm. Please be advised that the Meet the Employer Element will be held at Parsons Walk Only in the Centre for Advanced Technical Studies building.

Registration for the evening is available via the QR code:

Applied to Blackburn College?



Secure your place and accept your offer now.







Apprenticeship Open Evening Wednesday 24th April 2024 5.00PM - 7.00PM

Are you interested in an apprenticeship in Electrical, Mechanical, Multi Skilled or Manufacturing Engineering?

Come along to our open evening to hear from industry professionals, speak to current apprentices and find out how to fire up your career with an apprenticeship!



Where to find us:

Waterside Training Technology Campus, **Pocket Nook Street** St Helens **WA9 1TW**

Contact us:

@watersideT



01744 616837



www.waterside-training.co.uk



info@waterside-training.co.uk

INVESTIN

STEM Summer Schools

Plus, our podcast special on Women in STEM



An opportunity for students to kickstart their career in STEM with InvestIN's immersive work experience programmes this summer!

Students can choose from 10 exciting careers and work alongside top professionals to master skills such as problem-solving, teamwork, creativity & communication. This unique opportunity not only equips students with a certificate and a valuable industry reference but also empowers them to stand out in university applications.

We're committed to fostering diversity in STEM and inspiring the next generation of women leaders in the field. Don't miss our next podcast episode below exploring Women at Work and inclusion in the STEM sector!

View & Register (Ages 15-18)

View & Register (Ages 12-14)

View STEM summer programme timetables

Shadow medical professionals in a London hospital, trade the stock market from a skyscraper, design your own video game, take apart a petrol engine - and so much more!

Medicine
Engineering
Investment Banking
Computer Science
Architecture
Psychology
Dentistry
Veterinary Science
Entrepreneurship
Forensic Science

We are over 70% full for Summer 2024.

STEM & International Women's Day Podcast Special



In our latest InvestIN Careers Podcast episode, we're celebrating International Women's Day and focusing on empowering young minds in STEM. Accredited Careers Counsellor Ruth McAteer joins us, sharing expertise on education and career paths with a 'right fit' approach. As a deaf woman, Ruth offers unique insights, emphasising the importance of inclusion.

Hosts Safia and Caitlin reflect on women breaking barriers in 2024, discussing gender bias, self-efficacy, and the significance of representation in STEM. Together, they explore challenges faced by teenagers and the importance of relatable role models in fostering inclusive environments. Join us in championing inclusion and diversity!

Listen Now

APPRENTICESHIPS LINKED TO HISTORY

- ARCHAEOLOGICAL SPECIALIST
- CULTURAL HERITAGE CONSERVATOR
- HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT ADVISER
- HERITAGE ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN
- HERITAGE CONSTRUCTION SPECIALIST
- LIBRARY, INFORMATION & ARCHIVE SERVICES SPECIALIST
- MUSEUM & GALLERIES TECHNICIAN
 AND MANY MORE!

Interested in apprenticeships, but not sure what to do next? Take a look at our 'What Now?' guide... www.amazingapprenticeships.com









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Exams are coming... don't panic!

If you're sitting your GCSEs or A-levels this year, the Easter holidays isn't just a chance for a well-deserved break... it also means revision time is here! We've come to the rescue with **4 top tips to help you revise**. And what if we told you that studying for your exams can also help you develop the skills employers are looking for?

Tip #1: Learn to motivate yourself

The prospect of spending the Easter holidays holed up in your room with your head in a book can make it difficult to get going. Luckily, there are plenty of simple techniques you can apply to make studying more manageable – from dividing up your work to taking regular breaks. The ability to motivate yourself means employers can rely on you to produce results with minimal supervision.

How to motivate yourself to study as a student

Tip #2: Learn good time management

Your exams may seem a long way off now, but it is important to pace yourself so you are well prepared for every paper you'll be sitting. The Easter holidays is a great opportunity to create a revision timetable which gives you enough time to study for all of your exams. Employers love staff-members who know how to divide up their time to ensure each task is completed before the deadline.

6 ways to improve your time management skills



Tip #3: Improve your IT skills

You may spend half your life on your smartphone... but how savvy are you at picking up new apps and digital platforms? Digital literacy is really important to employers, particularly as they say it's a skill which is often lacking in employees. Whether your school/college uses Quizlet for flash cards or Sparx for practice questions, revision time is a great opportunity to get to grips with using new technology.

6 YouTube channels to help you revise

7 of the best free online revision tools

How to improve your IT skills for work

Tip #4: Think outside the box...

Lateral thinking – thinking outside the box – is highly sought after by employers. It means coming up with unusual, creative ways of solving problems and it is especially useful for people in professions such as engineering, software development and even medicine. Doing things differently can also liven up your revision, help information stick and keep you focused for longer.

8 excellent study hacks proven by science

How to improve your lateral thinking skills for work



Apprenticeships you can apply for now

Got a spare afternoon this Easter? Check out apprenticeships you can apply for now on the Success at School site - programmes are available from a whole host of employers, from the Army and the National Audit Office to Deloitte and Volkswagen.

View apprenticeships now





ARMY HIGHER EDUCATION PATHWAY

Our Officers provide the Army with the leadership and direction we need to overcome pressing challenges in the UK and across the globe.

Whether you are still in school, studying at university, have graduated, or decided to opt for the world of work, there is a place for you as an Army Officer.

University is not for everyone, and most Officer roles do not require a degree. However, if it is a degree you want, minus the student debt. The Army offers a fully funded BSc Leadership and Strategic Studies course in partnership with the University of Reading.

Your 44 weeks at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst will contribute towards a third of your degree, which you can then complete over the next three to six years.

FIND OUT MORE

HIGHER TECHNICAL QUALIFICATIONS



WEBINAR FOR YEAR 12 AND 13 PARENTS AND CARERS

Wednesday 24th April 6:00-6:30pm

If your child is looking for a post-18 qualification that is flexible, job-focused and an excellent way to progress to a higher/degree apprenticeship, a full degree or a highly-skilled job, join this webinar all about Higher Technical Qualifications (HTQs) run by Amazing Apprenticeships on behalf of the Department for Education, especially for parents and carers.

HTQs are:

- Level 4 and 5 qualifications, such as HNCs, HNDs and Foundation Degrees
- · Approved against employer-developed standards for specific job roles
- A high quality alternative to traditional routes such as apprenticeships or full-time degrees
- Taken after a level 3 qualification, such as A-levels, T Levels or BTECs or to upskill during your career



Visit https://tinyurl.com/bp4swx7t or scan the QR code to register to join the webinar



How to research and apply for HTQs Weds 24th April 2024, 6:00pm

Join this webinar to hear from Joanne Fradd, Policy Lead, Department for Education, to find out everything you need to know about HTQs, including:

- What are HTQs?
- Where are HTQs available?
- How and when do you apply for HTQs?
- How does the funding work?
- Where could a HTQ lead to?
- Where can you find out more?

BOOK YOUR PLACE



Are you interested in kick-starting your career and gaining work-experience with a world-renowned professional services firm? If so, you do not want to miss this opportunity!

Did you know that KPMG is one of the largest professional services companies in the world? With over 227,000 employees across 146 countries, their work spans five major areas of Finance and Personal Services. They Audit some of the UK's biggest companies and their people in Consulting, Deal Advisory, Tax, Law, and Technology. With clients from the smallest of startups to international mega corporations across every industry imaginable. One of the 'Big 4', KPMG are one of the places to be when working in the world of business and accounting!

KPMG are hosting a work-experience day on **Thursday 4th April** from **10am** - **4pm** in the Easter Holidays and we would love for you to attend. During the day, you will have the opportunity to learn key employability skills, such as how to communicate your message and build your personal brand, you will also have the chance to meet KPMG colleagues to hear about their career journeys and even complete a business pitch challenge!

If you are unsure what you want to do when you finish school, college or university and you would like to explore more options, then this work experience event is perfect for you. The KPMG Student recruitment team will also explain the different career paths into their firm and how you can gain a leg up into their prestigious company.

This work-experience day is a fantastic opportunity for you to gain valuable insights into the world of work and build your professional network, not to mention a great addition to your CV. Plus, you can join us from anywhere in the country, as the event will be held on Zoom. You will also get a professional reference for your CV's as well as a certificate of compilation at the end of the day. This goes a very long way for your own personal career development and prospective opportunities.

So, what are you waiting for? Sign up today and take the first step towards your future career with KPMG!

Registration Link:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3T68P5M





Inspiring Aviation KS3 & KS4 Competition

Ready to get creative and discover the exciting world of aviation careers? Join our poster competition and let your imagination take flight!



Our mission is simple: Inspire your peers to dream big and explore the boundless opportunities available in the aviation sector. From pilots to engineers, air traffic controllers to cabin crew, the sky's the limit when it comes to envisioning a future in aviation.

Our challenge to pupils: Create a poster to inspire young people to consider careers in aviation and explore the boundless possibilities of the skies.

Explore the world of aviation careers and share your insights:

- Reflect on various aviation jobs you've encountered in our sessions or through your own research.
- Identify the roles you find most captivating or intriguing for someone your age.

Craft a compelling pitch to your peers:

- How would you persuade your friends to consider a career in aviation?
- Consider what aspects of a future career appeal most to young people: financial rewards, global exploration, helping make the world more green, challenge, prestige, and more.



Embrace diversity in your vision:

- Celebrate the diverse range of individuals who contribute to aviation.
- Illustrate people from different backgrounds and walks of life

Mediums to explore:

• Get creative with digital design, hand-drawn sketches, painting, collage, or any other medium you prefer.

Remember to include your name on the front of your entry!

Judging Criteria

- a. Relevance (30%): How well does the poster encourage young people to consider a career in aviation, regardless of their gender or background?
- b. Creativity (30%): How original and innovative is the expression of diversity and inclusion within the aviation sector?
- c. Visual Impact (20%): Does the design effectively capture attention and convey a compelling message?
- d. Artistic Expression (20%): How skillfully does the poster utilise chosen mediums to convey its intended message and evoke emotion or inspiration?

Deadline

There will be two competition rounds. Entries must be received no later than:

- Friday 24 May 2024 for 1st Competition Round (March to June period)
- Friday 29 November 2024 for the 2nd Competition Round (September to November period)

Prizes

- 1st place A certificate, £50 Amazon voucher and a Remote Control Drone with Camera
- 3 Highly commended prizes A certificate and £30 Amazon voucher
- Best school entry A certificate for best school entry will be awarded to the school judged to have the best entries from a whole class or year group and awarded a £200 voucher of their choice (which can be used on any activity to encourage teamwork, creativity or celebration of achievements)

All winners will have their entries showcased in an online gallery on the Inspiring the Future website, with highlights displayed in our social media channels.

Please note: entries must be submitted through school.



When it comes to applying for medicine, a crucial hurdle in the UCAS application is creating a stand out personal statement. It's all about letting your student's unique personality take centre stage while demonstrating an unwavering commitment and passion for a medical career.

With over 15 years experience in university administration, and having helped thousands of students secure a spot in medical school, I know the secret to a memorable application. That's why I'd like to invite your students to an upcoming Get Into Medicine conference.

Sunday 14th April from 9:30am - 3:30pm

https://airtable.com/appgXnyzN5ZD9lwk6/shry7MZYtt3MGPjvO

At this conference, Dr Kennedy and I'll dive into the specific qualities and experiences that admissions committees love to see in a personal statement, and most importantly, how to make sure your students obtain these experiences in time for their application.

We will also explore:

- Tactically choosing universities
- Entrance Exams: UCAT
- Medical school interview skills
- Medical Leadership Programmes
- Medical Awards Programmes
- Extracurricular activities
- Work experience
- Building a medical CV
- Applying for scholarships to study medicine

Our aim is to equip aspiring medical students with the tools to sidestep common mistakes and pitfalls and ace their application to university. Students aged 14 - 18 are invited to attend with a parent or guardian, equipped with a working camera and microphone.

For those who can't make it to the next upcoming conference, don't worry. We host these events nearly every weekend to ensure everyone has access to vital information for their applications.

Kind regards,

Dr Siva, Chief Mentor



This is a reminder that the **NHS Allied Healthcare Work Experience** begins this **Sunday 7th April**, **8:30am - 5pm**. We strongly encourage students in years 10/11 considering healthcare to register ahead of this weekend. A strong record of work experience is crucial to all allied health careers, so we would be very grateful if you could forward this to your students.

Registration Link: https://alliedhealthmentor.org/product/live-virtual-work-experience-programme/

During the work experience day, students will follow 2 patients from their initial presentation to recovery. This session will be focused on Communication and Fractures. Students will gain a unique insight into how patients interact with a variety of healthcare professionals and what it's like to work in an NHS multidisciplinary team. It's also a rare occasion for students to hear from our exceptional guest speaker, Melanie Dalby, a pharmacist specialising in haematology and clinical academic research lead for pharmacy at King's College Hospital.

Throughout the programme, participants will gain insights into various careers, including:

- Nursing
- Midwifery
- Paramedicine
- Physiotherapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Dietetics
- Radiography
- Prosthetics and Orthotics
- Speech and Language Therapy
- Pharmacy

Attendees will have the opportunity to interact with healthcare professionals throughout each day. This will empower students to make informed career decisions and demonstrate their commitment to healthcare in their UCAS applications.

Once they've registered, students will be emailed links to their virtual work experience portals.

Students are awarded a Work Experience Certificate for every session they complete. Those who complete the full 6-month programme will be awarded a Highly Commended Reference from the Presidents of Allied Healthcare Mentor. These are fantastic additions to their CVs!

Students can register individually at any time throughout the 6-month programme using the link below. We recommend booking early to gain as much out of this programme as possible. Places are £10 a session to cover administrative and technological costs.

Sign up here:

https://alliedhealthmentor.org/nhs-healthcare-careers-virtual-work-experience/

I look forward to meeting your students at the next work experience day on Sunday 7th April.



Applications for the free National NHS Virtual Work experience programme have now reopened for spring! This programme has supported over 30,000 secondary school students obtain free work experiences last year. Virtual work experiences have been accepted by the Medical Schools and Dental Schools Council as valuable alternatives to in-person shadowing, backed by the Health Education England Discovery report on the impact of virtual work placements.

This programme is brought to you by Birmingham Universities Hospitals Trust in collaboration with Medic Mentor, and it is completely free. Not only is this a reliable alternative to in-person shadowing, but it also plays a significant role in preparing students for their in-person work placements with structured teaching and opportunities to speak directly with healthcare professionals. The opportunity is open to any student across the UK from 14 years old and above.

Students can apply for a placement, for free at this link: https://medicmentor.org/university-hospitals-birmingham-trust-virtual-work-experience/

Crafted in collaboration with Birmingham Universities Hospitals Trust, this thoughtfully curated 6-month medical and 4-month dental programme provides a unique glimpse into the medical and dental fields. The E-learning format enables students to fulfil their placements at their own pace, covering ethics, procedures, broader team roles, and fostering direct dialogues with doctors and dentists. This virtual experience creates a strong foundation for students' future careers, not only enhancing their UCAS applications but also strategically preparing them for practical work experience opportunities.

Taking part in the Virtual Work Experience will provide:

- Comprehensive Insights: The programme covers a range of specialities, providing a holistic understanding of medical and dental practices. Each month, a new focus area is introduced, allowing participants to delve into different aspects of the field.
- Flexible Participation: Tailored for students from years 10-13/S3-S6/NI10-14, the programme accommodates
 various schedules by being virtual. Participants have one month to complete each specialty, ensuring flexibility
 and ease of participation.
- Recognised Certification: Upon successful completion of all specialities, students will receive a certificate from Medic Mentor and UHB, validating their active participation to include in their UCAS and apprenticeships applications.

This month's spotlight is on Obs & Gynaecology or Paediatric & Dental Surgery. It's a chance to get a firsthand look into the inner workings of the medical and dental fields, helping your students shape their career aspirations in their chosen path.

Registering for these programmes is simple - students just need to complete the free online application form:

https://airtable.com/appuQX2ouadvjQUSU/shrroljLczgdg9uLw

We are eager to welcome your students to our exceptional free work experience programmes and support them in their journey toward a fulfilling career in medicine or dentistry.





VIRTUAL NHS HEALTHCARE CAREERS **WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAMME**

- Nursing
- Midwifery
- Paramedicine
- Physiotherapy
- Occupational Therapy · Osteopath
- Dietetics

- Radiography
- PodiatrySpeech and Language Therapy
- Pharmacy
- · Prosthetics and Orthotics

WWW.**ALLIEDHEALTHMENTOR**.ORG





CAREER of the WEEK

Animator

There are many types of animation, including 2D, stop-motion, 3D hand-drawn and computer-generated, but all roles call for high levels of creativity and passion.

An animator produces multiple images called frames, which when sequenced together create an illusion of movement - this is known as animation. The images can be made up of digital or hand-drawn pictures, models or puppets.

Animators tend to work in 2D, 3D model-making, stop-frame or computer-generated animation.

Computer-generated animation features strongly in motion pictures (to create special effects or an animated film in its own right), as well as in aspects of television, the internet and the computer games industry.

The basic skill of animation still relies heavily on artistic ability, but there is an increasing need for animators to be familiar with technical computer packages.

Responsibilities

Producing animation involves several stages including generating ideas, building models and rigging lighting.

Computer animation uses software known as CGI (computer-generated imagery).

Tasks typically involve:

- liaising with clients and developing animation from their concepts
- creating storyboards that depict the script and narrative
- · drawing in 2D to create sketches, artwork or illustrations
- designing models, backgrounds, sets, characters, objects and the animation environment
- using a range of materials, including modelling clay, plaster, oil paints, watercolours and acrylics
- developing the timing and pace of the movements of a character or object during the sequence of images and ensuring they follow the soundtrack and audio requirements
- using technical software packages, such as Flash, 3ds Max, Maya, LightWave, Softimage and Cinema 4D
- building up accurate, detailed, frame-by-frame visuals
- recording dialogue and working with editors to composite the various layers of animation (backgrounds, special effects, characters and graphics) in order to produce the finished piece
- working to production deadlines and meeting clients' commercial requirements
- working as part of a broader production team, which might include liaising with printers, copywriters, photographers, designers, account executives, website designers or marketing specialists
- dealing with diverse business cultures, delivering presentations and finding funding

You will need to be proactive at selling your ideas and work to prospective customers and clients. This applies whether you're self-employed, working freelance or employed within a company.









