

# CAREER News



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

Lots to check out this week in Career News: competitions, events, webinars, live chat with employers, blogs and apprenticeship vacancies - plus much more!



Coming soon - virtual sampling sessions for Year 10 students at Wigan & Leigh College, plus one to one careers interviews. Keep an eye on Google Classroom for announcements ...

## Bridging Resources for Young People from Bolton College



[Check out Level Up here](#)

We're very excited about working with you to help you achieve your future ambitions, whether that's helping you with your next step to college, getting the qualifications you need for university, or teaching you essential skills for your dream career.

You can get ahead and start preparing for College by checking out some of our recommended materials and activities in the handy [bridging documents](#) here. They'll also give you a taste of college life, with links to our student e-magazine and our amazing enrichment programme. Simply click on your chosen area.

Alternatively, if you're not sure of your next career step, you can browse the range of options available - it's still not too late to apply, and we're here to support you every step of the way, helping you to make important decisions about your future.

If you've already applied to the College and have any questions regarding your application, please email our expert admissions team on [admissions@boltoncc.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@boltoncc.ac.uk) and they'll be happy to help.

Keep active and remember, you're in safe hands!

For more information on all our courses and to apply, [click here](#)



17 May - 21 May 2021: Week 1

Pathways to ...

# Healthcare & Nursing Apprenticeships Virtual Event

*An opportunity to help you reach your full potential  
Begin a fulfilling and attractive career in nursing*

**Wednesday 16th June 2021**

Main Event: 4.00pm - 6.00pm

Parent/Carer Q&A: 6.00pm - 6.45pm

***Would you like to ...***

- Learn more about pathways into Healthcare and Nursing Apprenticeships within Health & Social Care?
- Hear from organisations offering Healthcare and Nursing Apprenticeship pathways and how to access them?
- Interact with current and former Healthcare and Nursing Apprentices and learn from their experiences?

[Please click here to register](#)



Register On **Eventbrite**

## FREE Live Virtual Work Experience

For any aspiring medical, dental or veterinary students in Years 10 or 11 ...

Medic Mentor currently supports over 15,000 students from thousands of schools across the UK with our [Free Live Virtual Work Experience Programme](#). Each programme is created and delivered by qualified clinicians and simulates their daily working life within the NHS.

*How students can benefit ...*

- The programme is completely FREE
- A certificate can be obtained after 6 sessions have been completed worth over 47 hours of work experience.
- Interactive sessions. Students can ask questions to our team of doctors throughout the day to gain a better insight to the field!
- NHS Multi-disciplinary and speciality teams are showcased.
- Sessions are teaching focussed around the knowledge required for interview and students' UCAS applications.
- Safe, supportive and fun learning portal for each student with free resources to support their learning such as a reflective diary for students to enhance their reflective skills!
- Sessions delivered by subject experts and professional mentors
- After registering, students will also receive a free funding code to attend an Insight and UCAS focused '[Get into Medicine, Dentistry or Veterinary](#)' conference at a time that suits them.

Medic Mentor are committed to ensuring that students still have the opportunity to gain valuable insight into healthcare careers and high quality application support, even in these difficult times.

If you would like to hear more, please find testimonials from our [students](#) and [teachers](#)

*How do students register?*

Students can register for free for any of our following programmes below:

- [Medical Virtual Live Work Experience](#)
- [Veterinary Virtual Live Work Experience](#)
- [Dental Virtual Live Work Experience](#)

We look forward to welcoming YOU on our next session!

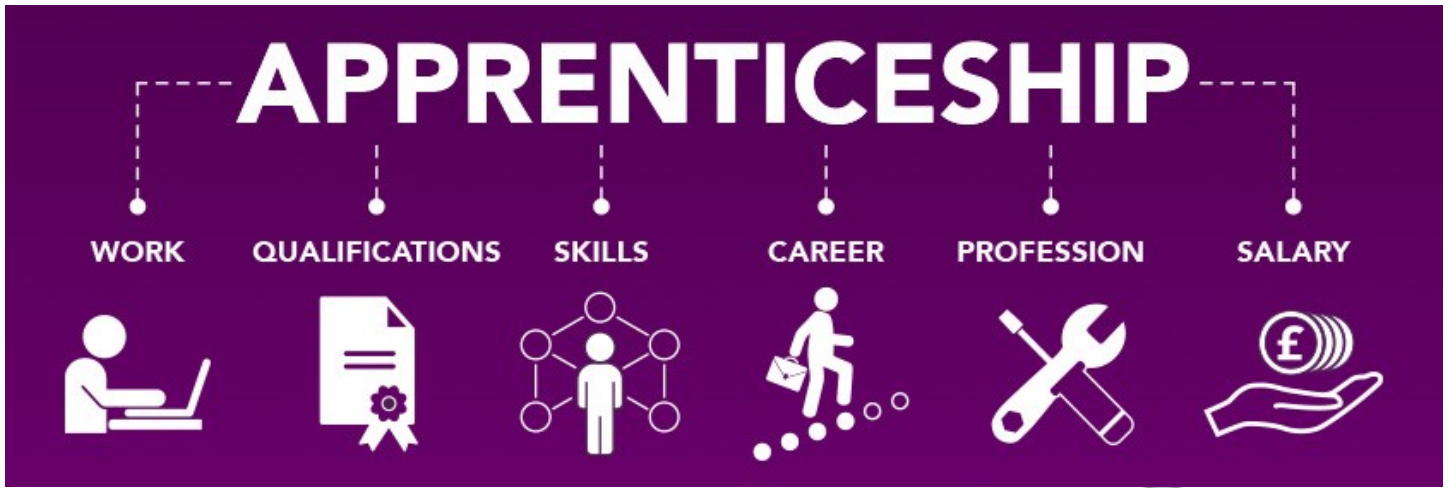
Upcoming dates for your diary

Dentistry - Saturday 12th June

Veterinary - Sunday 20th June

Medicine - Saturday 29th May, Saturday 26th June





**Apprenticeships currently available at [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)**

- Level 3 Apprentice **Recruitment Consultant** at Perfect Recruitment - VAC001703131 (Available through Runshaw College)
- Level 3 Apprentice **Assistant Accountant** at FD Professional Services Ltd (ta Finton Doyle Chartered Accountants) - VAC001706548 (Available through Runshaw College)
- Level 2 Apprentice **Baker** at Harwoods Patisserie Ltd - VAC001710412 (Available through Wigan & Leigh College)
- Level 2 **Administration** Apprentice at Extergeo Industries Ltd. - VAC001707841 (x2 available) (Available through Blackburn College)
- Level 2 Apprentice **Nursery Nurse** at The Hollies - VAC1000012913 (Available through Orange Moon Training Ltd - probably in-house assessment)
- Level 2 **Hairdressing** Apprentice at The Colour Lounge - VAC001708274 (Available through Wigan & Leigh College)



- Apprentice Mechatronics Technician**, Kadant UK Ltd., Bury- VC0600
- Apprentice Sheet Metal Fabricator/Welder**, Kadant UK Ltd., Bury - VC0601
- Apprentice Maintenance Engineer**, Autogate Systems Ltd., Bolton - VC0590
- Apprentice Fabricator**, Abbfab Services Ltd., Bolton - VC0604
- Apprentice Welder**, Abbfab Services Ltd., Bolton - VC0605
- Apprentice Fabricator/Welder**, Airmatic Ltd., Bury - VC0598



*Please note that for most of the positions above, you will spend four days a week for the first few months at the Alliance Learning building in Horwich, and just one day in the company.*

Follow [this link](#) to register with Alliance. They will invite you in for a chat and explain how the apprenticeships work. They will also go through interview techniques and CV skills, so you are well prepared!

**Many more apprenticeship vacancies available from Alliance Learning [here](#)**



**Do we have any maths geniuses at Parklands?**

**If so, you might want to take a look at these sessions from Lancaster University School of Mathematics ...**

## TalkMaths 2021

This month we launch our 'TalkMaths' program where various guest speakers deliver talks and workshops on a range of topics. For this term, these talks will be held online either via Teams or Zoom and links for joining will be emailed prior to the event.

To attend the 'TalkMaths' program we are asking that students register their interest by emailing [hello@lusom.ac.uk](mailto:hello@lusom.ac.uk) confirming their name, the school they attend and year group. These talks are aimed at year 9 - 11, and normally take place at 4pm, so no lessons missed!

### James Grimes - 28th May 2021 - Bits and Pieces: Secrets of a Digital World

James has a PhD in mathematics and his academic interests include group theory (the mathematics of symmetry) and combinatorics (the mathematics of networks and solving problems with diagrams and pictures). After working in research in combinatorics and group theory, James joined the Millennium Mathematics Project from the University of Cambridge. On their behalf James ran The Enigma Project, with the aim to bring mathematics to life through the fascinating history and mathematics of codes and code breaking. Spies! Secrets! And secret messages! In 2008 James started making maths videos on YouTube on his own channel called '[singingbanana](#)', which now has over 200,000 followers who love the problems, tricks, and whatever mathematical things James happens to find interesting that week!

We are sure this talk will be entertaining.

### Katie Seckles - 14th June 2021 - 'Maths's Greatest Unsolved Puzzles'

Katie Seckles is a mathematician based in Manchester. In 2016, Katie was awarded the Joshua Phillips Award for Innovation in Science Engagement, was the official Science Communicator in Residence for the 2016 [Manchester Science Festival](#), and ran the Manchester MegaPixel project as part of the festival. Since then, Katie has appeared on BBC Live Lessons, Chanel 4 Supershoppers and BBC 5 Radio Science. Katie also volunteers with Manchester Girl Geeks, managing and organising events to encourage and empower women in STEM and is Mathematics Masterclass speaker for the [Royal Institution](#) - workshops ranging from primary age up to Sixth Form, lectures in the RI's Faraday Lecture theatre and sessions as part of their summer programme.

Email: [hello@lusom.ac.uk](mailto:hello@lusom.ac.uk) to register



# JOURNALISM

## *in the spotlight*

The road to becoming a journalist often starts with the NCTJ. Here is our comprehensive guide to what it is and why it is so important for aspiring journalists.

### WHAT IS THE NCTJ?

It stands for the National Council for the Training of Journalists. It is a charity which provides a world-class education and training system for aspiring journalists, meeting the demands of a fast-changing multimedia industry.

NCTJ accreditation is widely viewed in the industry as the benchmark of excellence for journalists.

Recent research into the job destinations of NCTJ diploma trainees shows 90% of alumni with a gold-standard diploma are working in journalism six months after graduating.

### HOW DO I GET THE QUALIFICATION?

If you want an NCTJ qualification, you have plenty of options – you can get an NCTJ diploma on its own as a fast-track or part-time course, or you can take it as part of an undergraduate or postgraduate degree.

To be NCTJ-accredited, a trainee must demonstrate their ability in 'core skills' which include a multimedia e-portfolio, media law, journalism ethics and much more.

These skills are taught alongside a range of other modules – including journalism for a digital audience – which prepare trainees for a future career in journalism, and are continually updated to reflect changes in the industry.

The NCTJ diploma has been upgraded from a Level 3 to a Level 5 qualification, to represent the increased level of digital skills and knowledge used by journalists over the last few years.

NCTJ accreditation manager Emma Robinson explained: "Practical training in journalism is at the heart of all NCTJ-accredited courses and students are expected to report on patch, undertake work experience and take part in dedicated news production days."



**NEWS ASSOCIATES**  
THE UK'S TOP JOURNALISM SCHOOL

If it hadn't been for News Associates, I don't think I would've got to where I am in my career today.

The course equipped me with the invaluable skills I need every day as a journalist, from media law, writing to deadline, shorthand and interviewing skills, as well as teaching me how to adapt to changes in the industry.

**Basit Mahmood, Newsweek**



### DO I NEED AN NCTJ TO GET A JOB IN JOURNALISM?

An NCTJ qualification shows employers you have the fundamental skills needed to make it in a newsroom today, such as working at a fast pace and having sound knowledge of media law and the industry.

Mark Hudson, head of early talent at News UK, who publish The Times, The Sunday Times and The Sun, said: "Our titles always look for journalists with NCTJ qualifications."

"Passing industry-standard exams like shorthand at 100 words a minute shows the type of determination and persistence needed to succeed in a newsroom."



**NEWS ASSOCIATES**  
THE UK'S TOP JOURNALISM SCHOOL



Attending News Associates equipped me with the vital knowledge that I continuously apply to my career - from fundamental public affairs, production skills, shorthand and practical interviewing. It is little wonder NA is the UK's best NCTJ journalism school with its dedicated and savvy team of tutors. I am very proud to have #StartedHere

**Nadine White, HuffPost**

Andrew Young, editor of SWNS news and media content agency, said: "With newsrooms in Bristol, London, Leeds, New York, Glasgow and Plymouth we are one of the UK's largest news providers and we always look to hire journalists with NCTJ qualifications."

"The difference between applicants who did an accredited course, and those who do not, stands out clearly in the recruitment process."

"If you have an NCTJ qualification, your application will go to the top of the pile of potential interviewees."

### SHOULD I DO A JOURNALISM DEGREE?

Many aspiring journalists may consider an undergraduate degree or a master's in journalism to get their foot in the door.

NCTJ-accredited journalism degrees are a great chance to study the subject you love while also getting the practical experience you need to succeed in a newsroom. On accredited degree courses you would graduate with your BA and your NCTJ Diploma.

However, many degree programmes come without NCTJ accreditation, and therefore may not be as desirable to employers.

News Associates editorial development manager Lucy Dyer said: "I get asked so often about journalism degrees versus doing a 'traditional' degree and then doing a journalism postgrad. If you know you want to be a journalist then you should do a journalism degree – but do your research and make sure it is accredited by the NCTJ."

"If you have a passion for an academic subject then study that at university (and get involved with student media) and then get your NCTJ afterwards."

"My one rule is: please don't do an unaccredited journalism degree. I interview so many people for our postgrad NCTJ courses who have spent three years (and a lot of money) doing a journalism degree and then can't get a job because they don't have an NCTJ."

**The School  
of Journalism**

[Find out more here](#)

# CAREER DROP-IN FRIDAY LUNCHTIME

## Every Friday lunchtime in A21

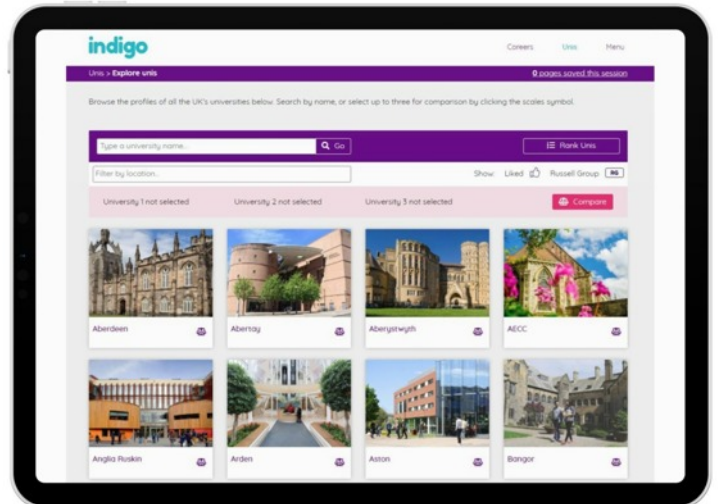
Informal drop-in session for anyone in Year 11 needing advice or support with any aspect of careers: colleges, courses, apprenticeships, application forms, interviews, CVs ... whatever you need to know, come along and ask!

1.20 - 2.00

If you haven't yet logged into Indigo, then why not do so this weekend?

It's an easy to navigate website that showcases hundreds of different careers, with videos and case studies, as well as showing the top employers, whether a job is in high demand, what sort of salary you could expect and much much more.

There is the option to explore universities all over the country: what kinds of courses they offer, what students think of them and the qualifications you might need to take a certain degree.



*If you have lost or forgotten your Indigo username or you'd like to log in for the first time, email Miss Berry for a reminder. You can use Indigo on a PC, tablet or phone, at school or at home. Check it out!*

<https://indigo.trotman.co.uk/default/>

# CAREER of the WEEK BAKER

This could be the job for you, if...

In addition to having excellent baking skills and knowledge of baking techniques, you are very practical, as you will need to manipulate the dough and operate the machines and equipment.

You are creative, as you will need to develop recipes for new products and decorate baked goods.

You possess strong numeracy skills, as you will be required to measure out ingredients accurately and work out cooking and cooling times.

You are able to work well under pressure and work to production schedules.

You have an awareness of food safety and hygiene procedures.



See more at: <https://careeroftheweek.wordpress.com/>



**RESCHEDULED**  
**NEW DATE ANNOUNCED**

**Find out what it's like to work at RWE through our Virtual Taster Day!**

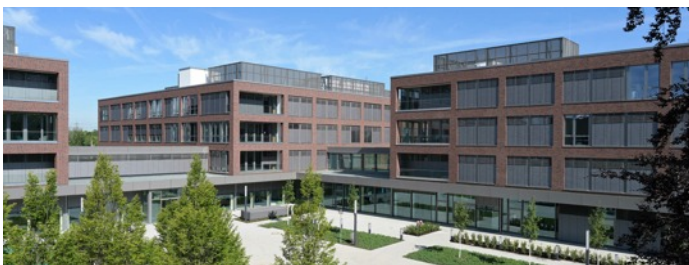
RWE - Career Insights in Engineering and more!

**Wednesday 23rd June 10am - 3pm**

Join the movement and support RWE in building an environmentally sustainable future.

What to expect on the day:

- Live Site Tours
- Speed meet sessions with different engineering departments
- Interactive Application Masterclass & CV Workshop
- Q&A - have your questions answered!



[Students Register for Free Here](#)



Each year group has a Careers section within Google Classroom, with various resources available.

We will add to this throughout the year, but if there is anything you would like to see, please let us know!

It is never too soon to start thinking about your future - and the more effort you put in now, the more confident you will feel when it comes to leaving school and moving on to the next stage.

Make sure you have a regular look at Indigo and the LearnLive page on the website, as these are updated constantly. There is a Live Jobs tab on the LearnLive page - [check it out here](#)



**WHERE CAN I GAIN EXPERIENCE?**

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS  
 GP SURGERIES  
 HOSPITAL WARDS  
 BEFRIENDING SCHEMES  
 HOSPITAL CAFES  
 SPECIAL NEEDS SCHOOLS  
 CARE HOMES  
 COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS  
 CHARITIES

**BECOMING A DOCTOR**  
 SERIES OF HEALTH EVENTS  
 @BECOMINGADR



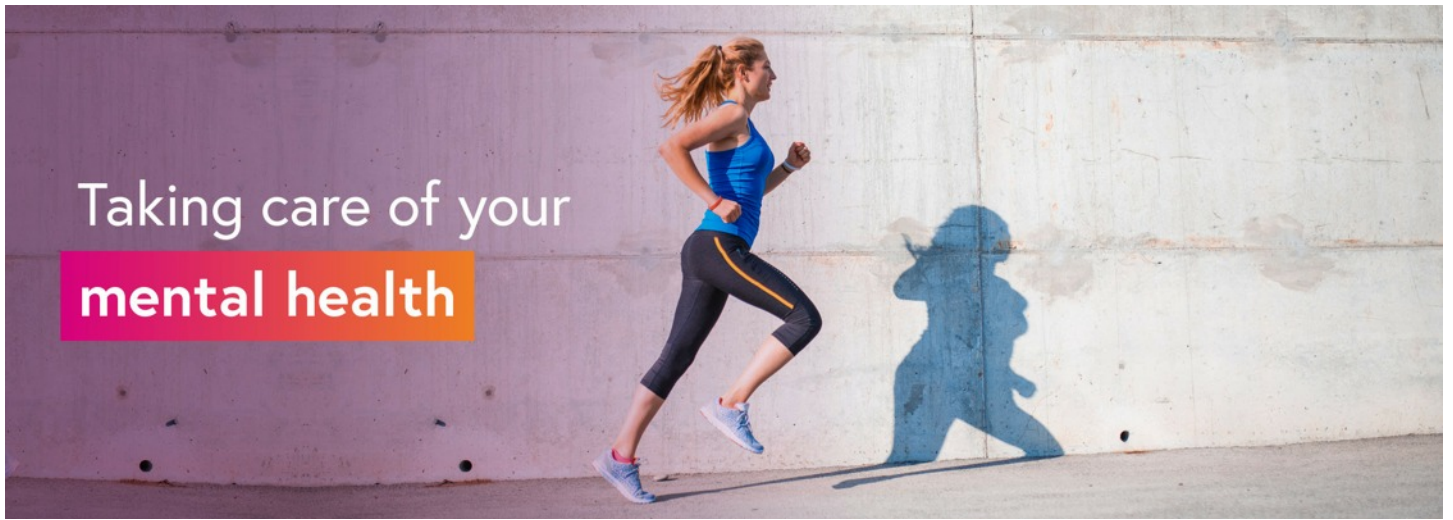


On 7th June we will be launching our Newman Beginnings platform, available to all year 11 applicants, it gives access to information and resources for each subject. This will support you in starting your journey at Newman, and give you an insight into the subjects you are looking to study. Whilst there, you can access any of the subject channels, and we hope it helps you to firm up your choices when it comes to enrolment.



Enrolment will take place from 12th August, once you have received your GCSE results. This will be an opportunity to ask any last minute questions and discuss your course choices. We will be in touch nearer the time with details of the date and time of your enrolment appointment.





## Taking care of your mental health

The stress and worry caused by the COVID-19 pandemic has been amplified for many by the restrictions and loneliness of lockdown. At such times, and as we move forward, it's more essential than ever to take care of your mental health.

To mark Mental Health Awareness Week, our [latest blog post](#), explores the background of mental health and the tried and tested methods you can use to help overcome it. From spotting the signs to tackling the symptoms, this is the perfect starting point for taking charge of your own wellbeing.

Let's work towards better mental wellbeing, for everyone.

FutureLearn offers courses in many different subjects such as:

Business & Management

Healthcare & Medicine

IT & Computer Science

Law

Nature & Environment

Psychology & Mental Health

Study Skills

Creative Arts & Media

History

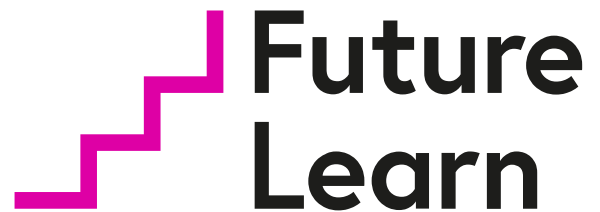
Language

Literature

Politics & Society

Science, Engineering & Maths

Teaching



Best of

the Week

Where did that sun go? Sometimes you have to make your own sunshine, so here's your weekly round-up of the hottest courses in the UK.

FutureLearners have been focusing on boosting their mental health this week, with courses on Managing Mental Health and Stress and Understanding Anxiety, Depression and CBT in the top spots.

Others have been learning all about marketing and management with Creating a Great User Experience for Mobile Apps, Introduction to Social Media Strategy and Effective Leadership trending.

There's plenty [more](#) in our full top ten round-up. Ready to start learning?



ALLIED  
HEALTHCARE  
MENTOR

The only LIVE NHS Healthcare  
Careers Virtual Work Experience  
in the UK run by Healthcare  
Professionals!

The next NHS Virtual Work Experience date is the 6th June. This is a brilliant opportunity to take part in LIVE virtual work experience, alongside health professionals - and if you are serious about a career in healthcare, then you shouldn't miss this.

The healthcare careers that will be covered are listed below:

- **Nursing**
- **Midwifery**
- **Paramedicine**
- **Physiotherapy**
- **Occupational Therapy**
- **Dietetics**
- **Radiography**
- **Prosthetics and orthotics**
- **Speech and language therapy**
- **Osteopathy**
- **Pharmacy and now includes**
- **Podiatry too!**



This programme is available to support all aspiring healthcare students as an alternative to in-person NHS work experience during the pandemic.

During the work experience day, students will follow 2 patients from their initial presentation to recovery. Students will observe the healthcare professionals as they interact with the patients and also each other. Students will have an opportunity to ask questions and gain knowledge through teaching. This will help students to make an informed career decision as well as learn about how healthcare professionals work together as part of a multidisciplinary team. Each work experience day is completely different and students will be able to build on their knowledge of NHS careers as they see different patient cases and their healthcare professionals work in a variety of settings, such as hospital and community.

You can learn more and students can register for the programme here: [Register now](#)

Students will receive certificates as evidence of having participated in the work experience programme. Places are just £10 a day to cover administrative costs and run the tech on the day.

MEDIC  
MENTOR   
YOUR MEDIC FAMILY

VET  
MENTOR   
YOUR MEDIC FAMILY

DENTAL  
MENTOR   
YOUR MEDIC FAMILY

# HALF-TERM SPORTS



**Blackburn College**

## Mixed Gender Football Camp

Years 10-11  
Wednesday 2nd June 2021  
10am - 3pm  
**Cost £5**

Bring your own lunch and football kit for indoor activity.

**Free Water Bottle**

To make payment follow the link below:  
<https://www.blackburn.ac.uk/online-payment/>  
For Student ID please leave blank and for invoice number put Football / Netball clubs.  
Please make payment by the Thursday 27th May 2021.

For more information contact Daniel Finch on [daniel.finch@blackburn.ac.uk](mailto:daniel.finch@blackburn.ac.uk)



**Blackburn College**

## Netball Camp

Years 10-11  
Wednesday 2nd June 2021  
10am - 3pm  
**Cost £5**

Bring your own lunch and netball kit for indoor activity.

**Free Water Bottle**

To make payment follow the link below:  
<https://www.blackburn.ac.uk/online-payment/>  
For Student ID please leave blank and for invoice number put Football / Netball clubs.  
Please make payment by the Thursday 27th May 2021.

For more information contact Sarah Greenwood on [sarah.greenwood@blackburn.ac.uk](mailto:sarah.greenwood@blackburn.ac.uk)



Our Sports teams have created two camps that year 10 and 11 pupils can get involved in over the half term break on Wednesday 2nd June 10am – 3pm.

To book and make a payment, click [here](#) Payment required by 27th May please.



Blackburn College University Centre



Blackburn College Sport & Leisure Centre



## What's coming up at UK University Search?

### Free Virtual Event June 16th

With in person university visits on hold for another term our highly popular Virtual Fair will be returning on **June 16th** with an extremely wide range of university, college and apprenticeship exhibitors.

You can also explore universities on our brand new website **StudentStream**, which brings together videos and webinars from universities around the UK to provide you with all the information you need.



Our UK University & Apprenticeship Search Virtual Fair will be returning on **June 16th** to help you explore your post-18 options, with **universities, colleges** and **apprenticeship providers** from around the UK attending. Speak directly with admissions teams and recruitment officers from Russell Group, Red Brick, Modern & Specialist universities, along with higher & degree apprenticeship providers, and participate in **10 live webinars** and view virtual campus tours. [You can view our full range of webinars here.](#)

### [Find out more and register for FREE](#)

Search, spot and stream videos to help you make the right university choices.

Our brand new website is designed to support you as you continue to make important decisions about your next steps. [StudentStream](#) brings together video content featuring vital advice and expert knowledge from universities across the UK in one place.

Whether you need help and advice regarding UCAS personal statements, interviews, choosing courses, work experience, student finance, uni campus tours, or open days, [StudentStream](#) has it all.



# Attention all aspiring artists ...



## The Nancy Rothwell Award

The Nancy Rothwell Award 2021 is now [open for entries](#).

Each entrant can submit only one drawing for the award. We encourage entrants to enter scans of their specimen drawings rather than photographs. Entrants should keep hold of their original drawings as these may be requested at a later date.

Please read the competition's [terms and conditions](#) before entering and submitting your drawing.

The Award will close for entries at 23:59 on 30th July 2021. Winning entries will be announced on the RSB website in September 2021.

**Prizes:** There are three age categories (7-11, 12-14, and 15-18) and prizes are awarded for:

### Highly commended

Top three runner-up entries in each category will be awarded a set of drawing pencils and a certificate.

### Winner

The overall winner in each category will be awarded a set of drawing pencils, a certificate and £25. The winners' schools will also each receive £100.

All highly commended entrants and winners will be invited to an online experience day at the [Royal Veterinary College](#).

### About the award

The Nancy Rothwell Award celebrates specimen drawing in schools and highlights the benefits of combining art and science.

Find out more about [previous award winners](#).

**The Nancy Rothwell Award**

Draw, paint, sketch or digitally create artwork capturing plant and animal anatomy

Open to pupils aged 7 to 18 years old

Closing date: 30 July 2021

**RVC** Royal Veterinary College University of London

**RSB** Royal Society of Biology

[rsb.org.uk/nancy-rothwell-award](http://rsb.org.uk/nancy-rothwell-award)

Labels on skull: ORBIT, INFRAORBITAL FORAMEN, MAXILLA, ZYGOMATIC ARCH, MOLAR, PREMOLAR, INCISOR, CANINE

Liam Barrett, 2016 winner



Judges: Claude Barbé-Brown, Inspire!  
Andrew Crook MBE FRSA, Royal Veterinary College  
Lucy Eckersley, Royal Veterinary College  
Tom Ireland MRSB, Royal Society of Biology  
Kate Oliver, Royal Veterinary College  
Timothy Pond, Zoological Society of London  
Dr Grace Sim, Royal Veterinary College  
Professor Susan Standing FRSB, King's College London

The Royal Society of Biology wishes to thank the Royal Veterinary College for its continued support of this award.

Royal Society of Biology  
Photography Competition 2021

# Interconnected

Snapshot a moment that  
showcases the interconnectivity of  
life for a chance to win £1000

Closing date: 23 July 2021

Apply online: [rsb.org.uk/photocomp](http://rsb.org.uk/photocomp)



## Competition theme: INTERCONNECTED

'Interconnected' is the theme of this year's Royal Society of Biology Photography Competition.

Life on Earth is connected and this year we invite you to capture these interactions.

Your photograph could depict the relationships between living things or of a living thing with its environment. You could also consider the exchanges between different species, such as mutualistic or parasitic behaviours.

You may want to focus on the impact humans have specifically had on other organisms and the world around them, whether that is at home or at work, in urban or rural areas.

We also welcome entries that explore this year's theme at the molecular or cellular level, illustrating what is only revealed to us with the aid of a microscope.

Your entry can show the impacts of biological processes and phenomena in a range of settings, or portray the chains of consequences and how knowledge about biology can illuminate a story.

## Photography Competition

The Photography Competition 2021 is now [open for entries](#).

This year's theme is Interconnected.

*Photographers are requested to consider their own welfare and that of other individuals and they take care in their attempt to get their photographs.*

Please read the competition's [terms and conditions](#) before entering and submitting your photograph(s).

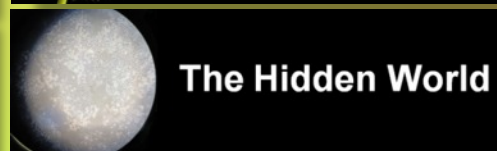
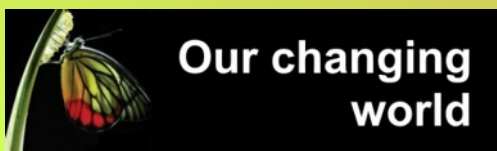
The competition will close for entries at 23:59 on 23rd July 2021. Winning entries will be announced on the RSB website in October 2021.

## Prizes

There are two categories in the competition, each with a cash prize:

Photographer of the Year (18 and over) - £1,000 top prize

Young Photographer of the Year (under 18) - £500 top prize



**Judges:** Alice Campain, CABI; Tim Harris, Nature Picture Library and Bluegreen Pictures; Tom Hartman, The University of Nottingham; Alex Hyde, The University of Nottingham; Linda Pitkin, underwater photographer


## May Parents' & Carers' Pack

In the [May issue](#) we look at supporting your child's mental health, myth busting traineeships, T Levels in Health, 2 apprentice perspective articles, an overview of apprenticeships in furniture and manufacturing and much more!

*Download your copy now!*



**Parents' and Carers' Pack**  
Apprenticeship Information  
Edition 25: May 2021



Supported by  
National  
Apprenticeship  
Service

**ASK  
ABOUT**  
APPRENTICESHIPS

Amazing  
Apprenticeships

**Employer perspective:**  
**Brother UK**  
Apprenticeships in the Digital Sector

Apprenticeships  
brother  
at your side

"My apprenticeship allowed me to gain so much experience and develop my skills and qualities. It is hard work chasing and holding down a full-time job, it isn't an easy option, but the experience is unbelievable. I was able to learn the theory and then put it into practice in a real job dealing with situations, solving real time problems. The positive impact an apprenticeship can have on your future career is unbelievable. I don't think I would be doing this job today if it wasn't for an apprenticeship, it was the best decision I ever made".

Caitlyn, who recently completed her apprenticeship with Brother UK, shared her thoughts about her apprenticeships below.

"My apprenticeship was an invaluable experience for me. These were times when I'd been made things quite challenging but my colleagues and mentors were very supportive, keeping in contact with me regularly and investing in distance learning. Their efforts really made me feel a valued member of the team throughout and they helped to give me the knowledge and skills to secure a Level 3 distinction".

Caitlyn, along with fellow apprentices Isabel and Lewis, have all attended a Q&A session about their apprenticeship experience. You can watch them below.

You can also hear from Sam, the Learning and Organizational Development Manager, answering questions about the apprenticeship from the employers perspective.

We would like to thank Brother UK for sharing this article.

Supported by  
National  
Apprenticeship  
Service

Visit [apprenticeships.gov.uk](https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk) to find out more.

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## GP LIVE - from Oxford Scholastica Academy

Oxford Scholastica Academy invites all aspiring Medicine students to join their GP Live event (Sat 29th May, 11-5pm). This exciting immersive event - led by a brilliant clinical medical student, with input from expert clinicians - will allow students to experience a day in the life of a GP, learn a variety of skills from taking a medical history to developing patient rapport, and gain crucial experience for university applications, personal statements and interviews. Due to the nature of the event, places are very limited. To book your spot, simply visit: <https://www.oxfordscholastica.com/online-summer-school/conferences/> - or drop the Oxford Scholastica team an email on [info@oxfordscholastica.com](mailto:info@oxfordscholastica.com)

*100% of students who attended our live virtual Law event this weekend said they'd recommend attending one of our live events to other students! All Parklands students get a 15% discount using the code: PARKLANDSHIGHSCHOOL-15*

What makes an excellent doctor? When the presenting problem could be anything, what questions should you ask to establish the diagnosis? If you only have ten minutes with your patient, how do you build trust? And as the first port of call for everyone from babies to the elderly, how can you ensure you provide the best care?

If you're interested in a career in healthcare, or are planning to apply to study Medicine, this interactive one-day event is for you.

Join us for our Live GP Surgery event on Saturday 29th May to uncover the answers to these questions and many more.

At this immersive and exciting full-day event, you'll have the chance to meet with patients alongside other ambitious students from across the globe. You'll be able to:

- Experience a day in the life of a GP (General Practitioner, or family doctor), meeting a variety of patients, making diagnoses and suggesting courses of treatment
- Learn how to take a patient's medical history, and how to build rapport
- Develop your bedside manner, a key skill for medical school admissions
- Gain crucial experience you can include in your university application, personal statement and interviews

- Collaborate with students from around the world to analyse patients' symptoms and work out the diagnosis
- The day will be led by a brilliant clinical medical student, with input from expert clinicians. You'll leave the event with:
- Practical experience of meeting patients and taking their histories
- Insider knowledge of what a day in the life of a practising doctor is really like
- The confidence and skills to succeed in your medical school applications and interviews
- A Certificate of Attendance







## Nurses Day 2021

Nurses Day on 12 May 2021 feels particularly poignant as the UK takes tentative steps out of the COVID19 pandemic.

Careers in nursing are more popular than ever with record numbers of people applying to start nursing degree courses in autumn 2021.

**Nursing** is such a versatile career choice. Where else could you work in a hospital, GP surgery, hospice, patients' homes, school or prison? It's a career that travels well, so nursing is a great choice if you're keen to work abroad in future too!

Whatever speciality you choose, one thing is certain – you'll be part of a team that makes a huge difference to patients from day one.

### Getting started

Studying for a degree is essential to being a registered adult, children's, learning disability or mental health nurse. But do you know there are different routes when it comes to getting into the profession?

Finding a healthcare assistant role is a great way to get a taste of what nursing is like. A nursing associate apprenticeship provides great experience in different settings while studying for a foundation degree (which can be put towards a full degree).

Registered nursing degree apprenticeships are available in some areas too without the need to study full time at university. And some universities are offering adult nursing courses where the theoretical content is mainly delivered online – a great option for

more mature students who need to fit studies around their home life.

**On a practical front, there's £5K available for every year of a nursing degree course...**

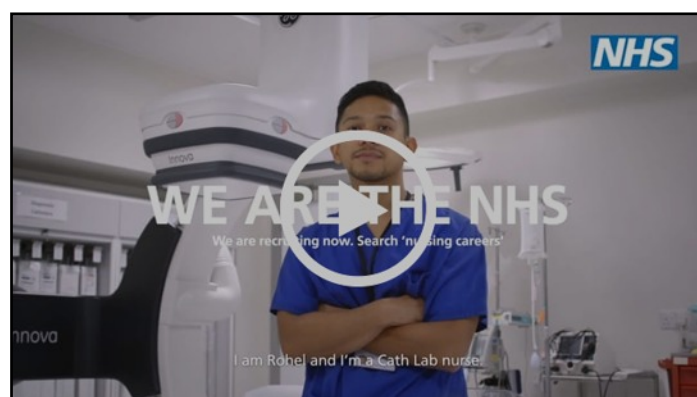
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[We are the NHS: Nursing](#)



## Introducing the Accelerator

**Our 4-day facilitated live course for your 15-18 year old child is here.  
Let's get them excited about their future.**

We want to help children enter a career that they're really passionate about.

**How?** By giving them the future-proof skills and the mindset they need to be successful.  
That is why we have created the **8billionideas Accelerator Programme**.

### How it works

We want to help unleash your child's talents and level up work experience by giving them memorable moments that will have a lasting impact on their career.

The 8billionideas Accelerator is a 4-day learning programme that evolves traditional work experience. It will support your child's remote learning through interactive experiences broadcast into your home!

The Accelerator starts in the summer holidays and you can secure your child's ticket at a discounted price now.

A graphic featuring the word "Accelerator" in a large, bold, black sans-serif font, with "by 8billionideas" in a smaller, lighter font below it. To the right is a circular inset image of a smiling woman with blonde hair, wearing a dark top and holding an orange folder. There are also some decorative yellow and blue dots around the text.

**Accelerator**  
by 8billionideas

### The skills on offer



**Growth Mindset**



**Interview Techniques**



**Personal Branding**



**Public Speaking**

Each student will have the opportunity to meet and hear from **guest speakers** from businesses like Google, IBM, LinkedIn, and Amazon to name a few, as well as the start-up community.

They will receive an **endorsement statement** from 8billionideas to use on their University or job applications in the future, and finish the course with their **CV** built under the eye of our experts.

The Accelerator Programme is now available at a discounted rate! Click below and enter code **8BILL20** at checkout for 20% off! Hurry - this is a limited time offer!

[Book your child's Accelerator tickets](#)



8billionideas, Suite 1, Claremont House,  
22-24 Claremont Road, Surbiton, Surrey KT6 4QU

## Is there a role for you in the RAF?

With its motto 'per ardua ad astra' - 'through adversity to the stars' - the Royal Air Force was never going to let COVID-19 sabotage its mission to alert young people to the diverse careers and opportunities that can be accessed by studying STEM subjects.

### Opening up opportunities to all

The Royal Air Force's commitment to widening the STEM skills talent pool comes from a desire to help meet the UK's future demand - within its own ranks and across the aerospace industry. The RAF would not function without talented people in critical STEM roles such as engineers, aviation technicians and medics.

This agenda involves reaching out to more women and people from ethnic minorities and diverse backgrounds - who might not automatically consider a RAF career. The business and moral imperatives for doing so are well understood, as emphasised by the RAF's chief of the air staff, air chief marshal Sir Mike Wigston.

### Encouraging girls to continue with STEM subjects

"If there's one message I'd like to get across, it's the responsibility I feel for inspiring a new generation to consider careers in STEM and art and design; to consider aerospace and cyberspace careers, but also to consider a career in the RAF," he says.



Currently, statistics show that girls have a tendency to drop STEM subjects early, narrowing their opportunities prematurely - something Sir Mike is keen to address. "There's something in our society that means that, between the ages of 9 and 13, girls decide they can't do science or engineering. I'd like all young people to get through that age band - and to the important life choices at 14 - with engineering and science still an option."

### The RAF is about discovering your natural talents

The RAF emphasises that its careers are about helping each person to discover their own natural talents, and to work out what makes them valuable, productive and happy. While "the headline is about flying aeroplanes",



roles for school leavers and graduates are wide-ranging, encompassing many different specialties at different levels. Entry requirements vary by job, but applications require a minimum of English and Maths at GCSE.



### What kind of roles are there in the RAF?

As a graduate, for example, you could apply to become an RAF intelligence analyst, interpreting foreign language transmissions using state-of-the-art surveillance systems and providing vital intelligence to support military forces deployed around the world.

Or you might follow a different route, opting to work as an engineer officer responsible for leading the engineering activity that supports the RAF's array of information technology, strategic communications services, satellite communications, air defence RADARs and the latest generation aircraft engineering and mission support systems.

As an apprentice, you might train as a cyberspace communications specialist, setting up, operating and maintaining the technology the RAF relies on to communicate - or as a chef, preparing food at five-star themed banquets one day and cooking in the field the next.

### How can I apply?

Applications can be made via the RAF recruiting website, with staff from the Armed Forces Careers Offices on hand to provide guidance. **Find out more about the different RAF roles and how to apply via the [website](#).**

[Download the RAF Discovery app here](#)





## How to boost your employability in a post-covid world

Hi, I'm Rebecca Wood. In September, I'll be going into my final year at Northumbria University studying Interaction Design. I'm currently interning at globalbridge as an Interaction Designer before going back to university in September.

It can be quite daunting looking for jobs and opportunities in the 'new normal', but there are a few ways you can boost your employability, and harness the skills that will be most in demand.

### 1. Get tech-savvy

As businesses in the wake of the Covid lockdown are relying more on technology, one way to boost employability is to get tech savvy. If you can use video conferencing tools and programs such as Excel, Word and Powerpoint, you will be far more appealing to prospective employers, especially if businesses decide to incorporate more remote working as Covid restrictions change.

### 2. Follow companies you're interested in, on social media and job sites.

By following companies you're interested in, it helps you to keep up to date with the job market, see when they're recruiting and any exciting projects they have going on. You also shouldn't be scared to get in touch with companies if you want to work there and gain some experience. They could gain from having you bring new skills and fresh eyes to the table just as you could benefit from gaining some experience, so you can't lose by getting in touch with them - the worst they could say is no.

### 3. Build your network on LinkedIn and other social medias.

A part of finding opportunities, is knowing as many people in your field as possible. On LinkedIn, I often send connection requests to people I don't know, but whose work I admire, so I reach out to them for advice on my portfolio and work. More often than not they are really keen to help out, so don't be scared to connect with someone just because you don't know them. You never know where a connection could take you in terms of job opportunities.

### 4. Get more experience (online courses, internships, volunteering).

The more experience you have, whether it's full time work, internships, part time work or volunteering will make you more employable, as it shows you have other interests. An example from me is taking a course on Javascript. It's always something I've wanted to learn so took it upon myself to teach myself. It's now something I can add to my CV to show that I've had the drive to learn something new. Also, It's not just about jobs and experience, it's also having hobbies and interests outside of your work or studies, as again it shows you do some other things outside of your work.

In terms of what skills will be important post Covid, I think there's definitely a top three.

1. First is adaptability. Especially in such turbulent times, businesses are changing and adapting to suit the new working environment, and they're going to need employees who are flexible workers to suit ever-changing business needs.
2. Second is innovation and creativity. As businesses are changing due to the pandemic and it's after effects, they're going to need people who can inspire change and come up with creative ideas to help bring about change more easily.
3. Finally, I think good communication and leadership qualities are super important especially as we continue to work remotely. The ability to create good working relationships, work well with others and lead a team in a normal or remote setting is a really invaluable skill to have.

I hope going forward that businesses will offer new internships and more opportunities to help students grow and gain confidence, and that this advice will be useful to you in the future.

(Excerpt from article written by Rebecca Wood, globalbridge intern, May 2021)