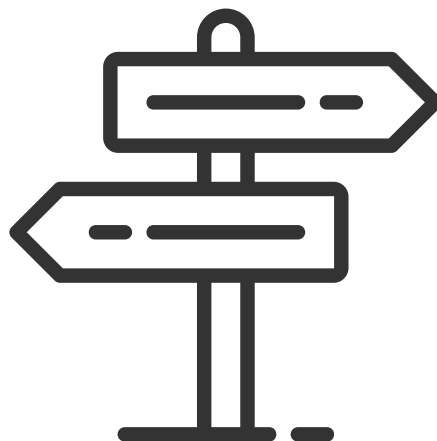




SAINT BENEDICT CVA SIXTH FORM

THE SCHOLAR'S PROGRAMME KNOWLEDGE BOOK





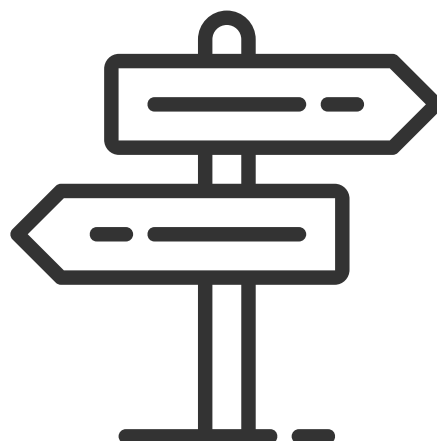
CONTENTS

POST-18 OPTIONS

PLANNING FOR YOUR FUTURE

VIRTUAL WORK EXPERIENCE

'THE PHONE BOOK'



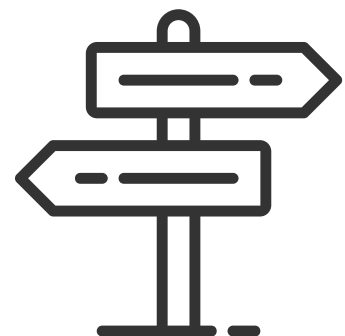


WHAT ARE MY PATHWAY OPTIONS?

WITH COLLEGE COURSES, APPRENTICESHIPS, AND UNIVERSITY DEGREES ON OFFER, PICKING THE BEST FIT FOR YOU IS NOT ALWAYS AN EASY TASK. IN THIS GUIDE, WE SHARE THE PROS AND CONS OF THESE HIGHER EDUCATION PATHWAYS AND ALSO HIGHLIGHT NEW OPTIONS, LIKE DEGREE APPRENTICESHIPS. KNOWING THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THESE ROUTES WILL HELP YOU MAKE AN INFORMED CHOICE ABOUT YOUR FUTURE.

THIS CATALOGUE WILL GUIDE YOU THROUGH THE PROCESSES OF ALL APPLICATIONS AND HELP YOU TO REALLY SELL YOURSELF.

FOR A FULL LIST OF HE AND APPRENTICESHIP PROVIDERS, HEAD STRAIGHT TO THE 'PHONE BOOK' SECTION AT THE BACK.





APPRENTICESHIPS

APPRENTICESHIPS ARE BECOMING INCREASINGLY POPULAR IN THE UK, AND WITH GOOD REASON – THEY ALLOW YOU TO WORK TOWARDS A NATIONAL QUALIFICATION WHILE YOU'RE WORKING FOR AN EMPLOYER AND GETTING WORKPLACE EXPERIENCE, WITH NO TUITION FEES. ANYBODY WHO IS OVER THE AGE OF 16 CAN APPLY (THERE IS NO UPPER AGE LIMIT), AS LONG AS THEY'LL BE FINISHED WITH FULL-TIME EDUCATION BY THE TIME THEY START. EACH APPRENTICESHIP HAS ITS OWN ENTRY REQUIREMENTS. FOR EXAMPLE, TO APPLY FOR AN ADVANCED (LEVEL 3) APPRENTICESHIP IN ENGLAND, YOU WILL USUALLY NEED FIVE GCSE PASSES OR TO HAVE COMPLETED A LEVEL 2 APPRENTICESHIP, BUT THIS CAN VARY.

WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES?

- You will earn a salary. In the UK, apprentices under the age of 19 earn a minimum of £4.30 per hour for the first year. If you are over 19, you earn the national minimum wage for your age after the first year. However, some employers pay more!
- The hands-on learning style. For those who'd rather learn on the job than out of a textbook, an apprenticeship will be more suitable. Although coursework may still be required for some, the practical experience you get will aid you in beginning your career sooner rather than later.
- You will gain technical, job-relevant skills. On top of the workplace experience you get from working for your employer, you'll learn technical skills that are relevant for your job, which will feed directly into your future career. Moreover, you'll make a network of contacts, which will be useful for when you come to make your own way into the industry.

WHAT SHOULD I BE AWARE OF?

- Apprenticeships are only available in specific industries. Although the number of available apprenticeships is continuously growing, they're not available in every sector, so if you want to do a job that isn't covered, you'll have to consider other higher education routes.
- Apprenticeships can limit job flexibility. If you are completing an apprenticeship, it will result in a qualification relevant to a specific job role or industry. This can narrow down the options available to you afterwards, so if you want to keep more of your options more open, an apprenticeship may not be for you.





UNIVERSITY

AT UNIVERSITY, YOU CAN STUDY FOR AN UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE, WHICH TYPICALLY LASTS BETWEEN THREE AND FOUR YEARS. IN THE END, YOU GRADUATE WITH A BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN YOUR CHOSEN SUBJECT.

WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES?

- You can study a subject you love. If you have one subject that you want to delve into deeper, a bachelor's degree in that subject is an ideal choice – you'll get to explore it thoroughly with the help of lectures, seminars, tutorials, and a fair number of hours in the library.
- It keeps your options open. Universities can be a great choice for those who aren't 100% sure about the career they want to pursue yet. English degrees, for example, can lead to a range of career paths, from journalism to teaching, and even digital media. This isn't the case for every career path though: if you want to be a dentist, for example, you'll have to study dentistry. It's worth doing a bit of research before selecting your field of study.
- Freedom! By this, we mean that university will give you more opportunities to live and study as you would like, compared to other study options. You can continue to live at home if your chosen university is nearby and you want to save on accommodation fees or move to a different city, enjoying the student lifestyle that comes with it. Whichever you decide on, all students will have the opportunity to meet new people, explore different places and try new things.

WHAT SHOULD I BE AWARE OF?

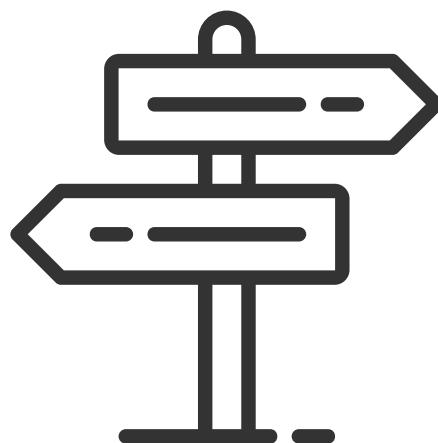
- It can be expensive. Tuition fees and living costs can be high. However, home students in the UK are eligible for student finance, which provides loans for students to help meet the cost of university study. You will not be required to pay back your student loan until you are earning over £27,295 a year if you study in England or Wales, or £25,000 if you study in Scotland. It will come straight out of your salary, so you won't even have to think about it.
- It requires academic study. It might sound obvious, but if you're excited to get a job and start your professional working life, a different option might be more suited to you. If you aren't keen on the prospect of spending hours every week completing the self-motivated academic study, an undergraduate degree might not be the right fit for you.





SAINT BENEDICT CVA SIXTH FORM

BE PREPARED: PLANNING FOR YOUR FUTURE





HOW TO PREPARE FOR YOUR PATHWAY

KEY STAGE 5 IS ARGUABLY ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT TIMES IN A STUDENT'S EDUCATION – YOU MAKE DECISIONS THAT ARE LIKELY TO AFFECT YOUR LIFE AFTER SCHOOL. HERE ARE SIX THINGS TO PUT IN PLACE TO SECURE YOUR OPTIONS FOR LIFE AFTER SAINT BENEDICTS...

1. CAREER GOALS
2. APPLICATIONS
3. SUBJECT CHOICES
4. WIDER READING
5. WORK EXPERIENCE
6. OPEN DAYS AND TOURS





UCAS CALENDAR

MAY – JULY 2023: PERSONAL STATEMENTS, SUBJECT REFERENCES, PREDICTED GRADES FOR YEAR 12.

17 MAY 2023: UCAS UNDERGRADUATE APPLICATION 2024 CYCLE OPENS. REGISTER STUDENTS FOR THE 2024 APPLICATION (CURRENT YEAR 12). STUDENTS CAN BEGIN COMPLETING THEIR ONLINE APPLICATION.

JUNE 2023: REGISTER FOR UCAT

5-9 JUNE: YEAR 12 ON WORK EXPERIENCE

15 JUNE: BRIGHTER FUTURES (P1) AND MOCK INTERVIEWS (P2-4)

15 JULY 2023: UCAS CONSERVATOIRES 2024 APPLICATION OPEN. THESE ARE FOR MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS ONLY.

AUGUST 2023: YEAR 12 TO SIT UCAT INDEPENDENTLY.

6 SEPTEMBER 2023: COMPLETED 2024 ENTRY UCAS UNDERGRADUATE APPLICATIONS CAN BE SUBMITTED TO UCAS.

3 OCTOBER 2023: 2024 ENTRY APPLICATION DEADLINE FOR MOST UCAS CONSERVATOIRES MUSIC COURSES.

15 OCTOBER 2023 (18:00 UK TIME): 2024 ENTRY DEADLINE FOR THE UNIVERSITIES OF OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE, AND MOST COURSES IN MEDICINE, VETERINARY MEDICINE/SCIENCE AND DENTISTRY.

25 JANUARY 2024 (18:00 UK TIME): 2024 ENTRY DEADLINE FOR ALL UCAS UNDERGRADUATE AND CONSERVATOIRES APPLICATIONS (EXCEPT FOR THOSE COURSES WITH A 15 OCTOBER DEADLINE).





1. CAREER GOALS

AT KEY STAGE 5, STUDENTS SHOULD BE FORMING THEIR PLANS FOR ONCE THEY LEAVE SCHOOL. THE EARLIER STUDENTS START CONSIDERING THEIR PLANS FOR THE FUTURE, THE MORE LIKELY IT IS THAT THEY WILL ACHIEVE THEIR GOALS.

- Deciding on what subjects and qualifications to study post-18, researching apprenticeships, shortlisting universities, writing a CV; students won't be able to start on any of these things until they have a rough plan for the future.
- Certain career paths require a particular degree (like veterinary science for vets) whereas for others, applicants simply need the right skills and experience. With this in mind, students should think about their career goals when choosing their post-18 education. Check out our Know-how library guide on the Student side of Unifrog, 'UK university degrees and careers: how they are linked' for more advice on this.
- When thinking about their future career path, students should consider their strengths, talents, and passions. Unifrog's Profile tools can be a good start, but speaking to a professionally trained careers advisor is essential.





2. APPLICATIONS

UNIVERSITY

- All students who want to go to university should try to have the first draft of their Personal Statement completed by the end of summer holiday between Year 12 and 13. This means any extra reading or work experience that a student may wish to include in it must be completed before this time.
- Although this may seem early (given that the deadline for most applications is in January), many universities make offers as soon as they start receiving applications in September, so students who apply early have the best shot at earning a place.
- For students applying for medicine, veterinary science, dentistry, or any Oxbridge course, the application deadline is in October. The extra level of preparation that these applications require, combined with the earlier deadline, means that pupils should try to start planning their Personal Statement in Year 12.
- Tip: if a student is unsure on the particular course they wish to study, encourage them to start planning a more general Personal Statement, or even two separate ones for two different subjects. By writing about their enthusiasm and their experiences, they may find that their decision becomes clearer.

APPRENTICESHIPS

- Some students may already have a clear idea of their career path, and may not feel a university degree would be beneficial. For these students, an apprenticeship could be the perfect balance of work-based vocational training and theory-based learning.
- Students will usually need to know what level their current or most recent qualifications are before they start applying. This is because, although they may be able to apply for apprenticeships at the next level up, some apprenticeships will require skills in specific areas and students may only be able to apply at their current qualification level. Although this might seem like a sideways step, students shouldn't feel disheartened; an apprenticeship at any level will equip students with the experience they need to progress into their chosen career.





3. SUBJECT CHOICES

- The choices students make for sixth form will have the greatest impact on the options available to them after school. Certain subjects are mandatory for particular degree or apprenticeships, so students should carefully research the entry requirements of any courses they are interested in and tailor their subject choices to meet these. Unifrog's 'Impacted by school subject' search on the Subjects library can be a helpful starting point.
- You may be familiar with 'facilitating subjects', which were those most frequently asked for on degree entry requirement lists. These were scrapped in 2019, but some subjects still appear from time to time.
- For more information on this, login in to UNIFROG and go to their Know-how library guide 'Are facilitating subjects still useful?'.





4. WIDER READING

- Students applying to any pathway should be able to show a keen interest in their chosen field outside of class and evidence of wider reading (including documentaries, visits, podcasts, etc.) will help students show just that. It also develops curiosity and helps students to deepen their understanding of a topic. Encourage students to talk to their subject teachers, consult university reading lists online, and to check out Unifrog's Read, Watch, Listen tool to find reading material to suit them.
- 'Wider reading' doesn't just mean books. It can also include online courses, open lectures, podcasts, documentaries, summer schools, articles, and films. This is a student's opportunity to explore a subject on their own terms so it should not feel like hard work. If they're not finding their wider reading interesting, they need to look for something different.
- Tip: When mentioning wider reading in an application, students should avoid listing book titles at random. Instead they should give their own opinion and reflect on what they found interesting. Admissions tutors and employers want to see that students are capable not just of absorbing information, but processing and applying it too.

FOR A VARIETY OF PODCASTS, TEXTS, ARTICLES, WEBSITES TO FURTHER RESEARCH YOUR CHOSEN PATH, GO TO: [START](#) - [MOOCS](#) - [STUDENT](#) - [UNIFROG](#)





5. WORK EXPERIENCE

Work experience is valuable for all students. It helps them decide whether a career path would suit them, and can also look impressive on a CV and Personal Statement. For some degree programmes, like medicine or veterinary sciences, applicants are required to complete weeks of work experience in order to apply. Work experience can also be a real motivator for passing exams if it helps students to positively visualise their future.

When mentioning work experience in an application, students should carefully reflect on their observations and provide thoughtful insight, rather than giving a random list of their duties. This will demonstrate that their experiences have provided them with a greater understanding of their chosen field.

Questions for students to reflect on post-work experience:

- What did you enjoy about your work experience?
- What did you find challenging?
- What skills have you developed?
- How has it changed your understanding of the profession/industry?
- How does this affect your plans for the future?





6. OPEN DAYS AND TOURS

Open days and tours are often the one chance a student has to see a university, apprenticeship provider, or workplace before they apply. They are the perfect opportunity for applicants to ask professors, managers, and current students or employees any questions they may have.

To make the most of their time, students attending university open days should make sure the university is somewhere that they are genuinely interested in attending. It's a waste of time and money to travel miles to an open day, only to discover that the university does not even provide their course.

Students can also arrange to visit their future employer or apprenticeship provider for a tour or informal chat. This will help them get a feel for whether the work environment will suit them. It will also give them the chance to ask any burning questions whilst showing off their keen interest in a role or opportunity.

Tip: Sometimes university applicants feel pressure to visit every one of their five universities – which certainly has benefits, but can be costly and time consuming. Another option is to pick just two or three open days before submitting the UCAS application; they can then visit another one or two of their choices after they receive an offer.

FOR FURTHER DEATILS ON 2023-2024 OPEN DAYS GO TO: [UNIVERSITY EVENTS FOR SCHOOLS AND OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES](#) | [UNI TASTER DAYS](#)





BE PREPARED TO BE PREPARED!

WHETHER YOU ARE LOOKING AT A DEGREE APPRENTICESHIP, WORK EXPERIENCE OR UNIVERSITY, YOU WANT TO LOOK IMPRESSIVE AND HAVE LOTS TO SAY ABOUT YOURSELF. EMPLOYERS AND UNIVERSITY PROVIDERS WANT TO KNOW YOU ARE INTERESTED IN THEM AND YOUR CHOSEN COURSE. THE BEST WAY TO DO THIS IS TO RESEARCH AND READ AROUND YOUR SUBJECT.

1. HOW TO WRITE AN AMAZING PERSONAL STATEMENT
2. WHY MOOCS MATTER
3. VIRTUAL WORK EXPERIENCE AND CATALOGUE OF PROVIDERS
4. HOW TO INTERVIEW WELL
5. UCAT TESTS (MEDICAL STUDENTS ONLY)





HOW TO WRITE AN AMAZING PERSONAL STATEMENT

THE PERSONAL STATEMENT IS YOUR CHANCE TO DEMONSTRATE THAT YOU'D BE AN EXCELLENT STUDENT FOR THE COURSES YOU'RE APPLYING TO. IT CAN SEEM LIKE A BIG TASK THOUGH WITH NO CLEAR STARTING POINT AND AN ODD REQUEST TO 'SHOW OFF'. THIS IS WHAT YOU NEED TO DO...

Make every word count! You only have 4,000 characters (that's spaces and punctuation included) to make a great impression on an admissions team, so you need to be economical with your words. There are two ways of tackling this: keep everything concise, and have a clear structure to avoid veering off on a tangent.

Your structure will also help with your word count, and will make your statement simple to follow - admissions staff have to read thousands of Personal Statements, so make their job easy for them!

- Section 1: why do you want to study this subject? (up to 1,200 characters)

You should use lots of detail and specific examples in this section.

- Section 2: what have you done in the past that makes you particularly suitable to study the subject? (up to 2,400 characters)

You can discuss any course related work or voluntary experience here.

- Section 3: what else have you done that would contribute to the university community (up to 400 characters)

You do not need to go into lots of detail here- keep it brief.

Once you have a basic outline, the rest of the editing and drafting process should be fairly straightforward - just select your best examples for each section and carefully edit the language to keep it concise and academically focused.

The majority (80-90%) of a UK Personal Statement should concentrate on how you will make a great student in your chosen subject with lots of detailed examples. To keep the focus, ask yourself 'does this explain why I am a good applicant?' at the end of each example or description. Each point in Sections 1 and 2 should provide evidence that you have the **right skills, experience, or attitude for learning for this particular subject**. If the point or example doesn't show this, it needs to go even if you spent a long time writing it! Be ruthless in your editing!





WHY MOOCS MATTER

MOOC STANDS FOR MASSIVE OPEN ONLINE COURSE. MOOCS ARE TAUGHT BY UNIVERSITIES ACROSS THE WORLD AND COVER A HUGE RANGE OF TOPICS. THEY CAN HELP YOU GET TO GRIPS WITH A NEW SUBJECT, AND THEY LOOK SUPER IMPRESSIVE TO TEACHERS, COLLEGES, APPRENTICESHIPS, UNIVERSITIES, AND FUTURE EMPLOYERS.

There are four main reasons to take a MOOC through UniFrog:

- 1.They can introduce you to new topics. If you have a niche hobby or field of interest, it might be hard to find related learning opportunities at school. MOOCs give you the chance to study all kinds of subjects at different levels.
- 2.They give you a flavour. Studying for a MOOC can help you decide if a specific field of study is right for you. It's a way to test the waters, and see for sure if you are interested in the subject.
- 3.They're impressive. Taking the initiative to complete an online course shows that you're a dedicated student and that you're an independent learner who is happy to go the extra mile.
- 4.They can boost your skills. Whether it's learning a language, exploring cryptography, or brushing up on Python, completing a MOOC will help you learn something new that you can bring to the workplace or your studies.





VIRTUAL WORK EXPERIENCE (VWEX)

VIRTUAL WORK EXPERIENCE IS BEING OFFERED IN MANY DIFFERENT INDUSTRIES AND CAN BE COMPLETED IN YOUR OWN TIME. IT WILL ALLOW YOU TO USE YOUR TIME IN A WAY THAT BUILDS YOUR SKILLS AND ALLOWS YOU TO EXPERIENCE DIFFERENT INDUSTRIES IN A DIFFERENT MANNER. SOME OF THOSE IDENTIFIED BELOW NEED TO BE APPLIED FOR AS SPACES ARE LIMITED WHILE OTHERS ALLOW ANYONE TO SIGN UP.

INFORMATION ON ALL OPPORTUNITIES CAN BE FOUND BELOW, JUST CLICK ON THE LINK TO LOOK INTO THESE.

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OVER THE NEXT THREE PAGES, PLEASE FIND LINKS TO A RANGE OF VIRTUAL WORK EXPERIENCE PLATFORMS.





VWEX PLATFORMS

SPRINGPOD

THIS IS AN ONLINE PLATFORM FOR EARLY CAREER ATTRACTION, ENGAGEMENT AND RECRUITMENT TECHNOLOGY THAT ENABLES STEM EMPLOYERS TO REACH A LARGE NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN A WAY THAT THEY UNDERSTAND, AND THAT EXCITES THEM.

THEY ADVERTISE VIRTUAL WORK EXPERIENCE OPPORTUNITIES THAT HAVE TO BE APPLIED FOR BUT YOUR ACCOUNT IS FREE.

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

FUTURE LEARN

AN ONLINE DATABASE OF FREE COURSES AND VIRTUAL WORK EXPERIENCE OPPORTUNITIES IN A RANGE OF IN-DEMAND AREAS. THESE ARE LED BY RENOWNED EDUCATORS AND ACADEMICS FROM LEADING UNIVERSITIES AROUND THE WORLD.

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

BARCLAYS LIFE SKILLS

THIS EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY GIVES STUDENTS AN INSIGHT INTO AN INDUSTRY THAT TRADITIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE WOULD MAKE DIFFICULT TO ACCESS AND IS WELL WORTH INVESTIGATION.

<https://barclayslifeskills.com/i-want-virtual-work-experience/school/virtual-work-experience>

UCAS TASTER COURSES AND LECTURES

HERE IS A LINK TO THE UCAS WEBSITE WHERE YOU CAN RESEARCH SUBJECT SPECIFIC ONLINE TASTER COURSES – IT HAS EVERYTHING FROM OPTOMETRY TO LINGUISTICS! REGISTER AND ATTEND FOR FREE. THIS IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO INCREASE YOUR KNOWLEDGE IN PREPARATION FOR UNIVERSITY AND YOUR PERSONAL STATEMENT.

<https://www.ucas.com/events/exploring-university/learn-about-university-taster-course>





VWEX PLATFORMS

FIRST AID TRAINING

THERE IS ALSO THE OPPORTUNITY TO RECEIVE CREDITED FIRST AID TRAINING WHICH IS CERTIFIED ON COMPLETION OF THE COURSE. THIS IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED WAY TO SPEND SOME OF YOUR TIME BOTH FOR SKILL DEVELOPMENT BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH THE KNOWLEDGE AND CONFIDENCE TO POTENTIALLY SAVE A LIFE.

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

UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM VIRTUAL LECTURES

LISTEN TO A LECTURE BY THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM – THERE'S EVERYTHING HERE FROM ACCOUNTANCY TO ZOOLOGY!

<https://www.nottingham.ac.uk/virtual/catch-up/index.aspx>

MEDICAL COURSES AND EXPERIENCES

Medic Mentor Virtual WEx

<https://medicmentor.co.uk/university-hospitals-birmingham-trust-virtual-work-experience/>

Investigate online WEx (Physiotherapy)

<https://www.nhsborders.scot.nhs.uk/patients-and-visitors/our-services/allied-health-professionals/physiotherapy/virtual-work-experience/>

Midwifery

<https://www.vwes.co.uk/midwifery-wex>

<https://pathwayctm.com/video/virtual-work-experience-day-with-nursing-and-midwifery-professionals/>





VWEX PLATFORMS

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

THIS APP AND WEBSITE ARE A FANTASTIC WAY OF CONNECTING STUDENTS WITH HUNDREDS OF OPPORTUNITIES AND THOUSANDS OF EMPLOYEES. THE APP ALLOWS YOU TO TAILOR NOTIFICATIONS TO YOUR INTERESTS AND PROVIDES YOU WITH IMMEDIATE INFORMATION ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE.

<https://young-professionals.uk/>

GRADUATE CAREERS FOR BRIGHT MINDS

A FREE E-LEARNING PLATFORM, FULL OF EXPERT ADVICE TO HELP YOU PREPARE FOR THE WORLD OF WORK AND STAND OUT ON APPLICATIONS. PROGRAMMES ARE AVAILABLE IN: CORE CAREER SKILLS, APPLICATION PROCESSES, COMMERCIAL AWARENESS, LEADERSHIP, HOW TO GET INTO COMMERCIAL LAW

[Graduate Careers For Bright Minds](#) | [Bright Network](#)

ROYAL COLLEGE OF GPs

OBSERVE GP IS AN ALTERNATIVE TO WORK EXPERIENCE FOR ASPIRING MEDICS AGED 16 AND OVER, WHO ARE LIVING IN THE UK. IT IS A FREE INTERACTIVE VIDEO PLATFORM PROVIDING INSIGHTS INTO THE ROLE OF A GP AND THE WIDER PRIMARY CARE TEAM.

https://www.rcgp.org.uk/training-exams/discover-general-practice/observe-gp.aspx?fbclid=IwAR1WFg9Q3UsJa1UzPbsQTWpdh-7p09kaEuxot8yK7bsxaKEAayUL_CCxpM

BRIGHTON AND SUSSEX MEDICAL SCHOOL

THIS COURSE PROVIDES A 'VIRTUAL' WORK EXPERIENCE FOR THOSE LOOKING TO APPLY TO MEDICAL SCHOOL. YOU WILL BE INTRODUCED TO THE NHS BEFORE EXPLORING THE ROLES AND SKILL SETS OF SIX DIFFERENT MEDICAL SPECIALISTS. ALONG THE WAY, YOU WILL ALSO CONSIDER SOME OF THE CHALLENGES AND WIDER ISSUES DOCTORS FACE.

<https://.thinkific.com/courses/VWE>





HOW TO INTERVIEW WELL

GOT A JOB OR APPRENTICESHIP INTERVIEW COMING UP? NO WORRIES - FOLLOW THIS GUIDE AND YOU'LL LEAVE EVERYONE IMPRESSED.

Prepare, prepare, prepare!

Prepping for an interview may not sound fun, but it'll be your secret weapon. It'll give you confidence going in and show that you care about your course, apprenticeship or job.

How to prepare:

1. Research the employer

Don't just rely on the info provided in the job description. Head over to the company's website and look at their mission and their recent projects. The goal: Find out what makes this company unique. You're likely to be asked why you want to work at this company in particular, and it's great to be able to point to specific things about them. Plus, it might give you ideas for questions to ask at the interview.

2. Find out what they're looking for

A lot of interviewers use a technique called 'skill-based questions', which basically means they want you to prove you have the right skills for the job. Start by using the job description to create a list of five key skills required for the role. The goal: Understand exactly which skills they're hoping to see you demonstrate.

3. Match your experience to the job

Now for the tricky bit – think back over your experience to date and try to find examples of how you've demonstrated those skills. Think outside the box and draw on a wide range of experiences – anything from helping out with a school assembly to work experience placements.

On the day...

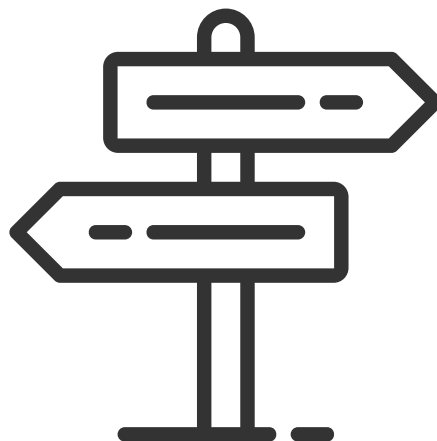
- Dress smartly – you probably won't need to go out and buy a full suit but aim to dress as smartly as possible whilst remaining comfortable.
- Take a copy of your CV and a copy of your preparation notes in case you're asked to wait a while.
- Set off half an hour earlier than you need to, just in case.
- At the interview, keep an eye on your body language – smile and shake the interviewer's hand when you meet them, avoid slouching in your seat and maintain eye contact where appropriate. It's also usually okay to take notes, but ask first.
- Don't rush your answers – take the time to think them through before you answer.





SAINT BENEDICT CVA SIXTH FORM

BE PREPARED: POST-18 STUDY OPTIONS





(A) UNIVERSITIES AND HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

OVER THE NEXT FEW PAGES, CLICK ON THE LINKS TO BROWSE THE LISTS OF UNIVERSITIES AND THEIR COURSES. GO ON A VIRTUAL CAMPUS TOUR, OR BOOK ON TO AN OPEN DAY! YOU CAN ALSO FIND INFORMATION ABOUT COLLEGES THAT PROVIDE HIGHER EDUCATION TRAINING.

UCAS

UCAS | At the heart of connecting people to higher education

DIGITAL AND SOFTWARE

Course Finder | Escape Studios

COURSE FINDER

Home - Student - Unifrog

OPEN DAYS

University Open Days & Virtual Tours - Complete University
Guide (thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk)





(B) APPRENTICESHIP ROUTES

OVER THE NEXT FEW PAGES, CLICK ON THE LINKS TO BROWSE THE LISTS OF APPRENTICESHIP PROVIDERS. GO ON TOUR, OR BOOK ON TO AN OPEN DAY!

APPRENTICESHIP FAYRE

Festival of Apprenticeships

CAREERS TV

Graduate Careers Live!

APPRENTICESHIP LIST

Degree Apprenticeships 2023 (highfliers.co.uk)

UNIVERSITY OF
NOTTINGHAM
APPRENTICESHIPS

ENG116223 Apprentice Technician – Mechanical
/Electrical/Electronic Engineering Department (Fixed term,
Multiple posts) - Jobs at the University of Nottingham

HSBC

UK Apprenticeships | HSBC Holdings plc

ROLLS-ROYCE

Apprenticeships & School leavers | Rolls-Royce

APPRENTICESHIP DATABASE

<https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk>

LAW AND THE BAR

Get Into Law Conference - Law Mentor

