



1st March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Thank you to all who engaged with our first careers bulletin in February, hopefully it helped to give an insight to the latest activities and information on careers. This is the March careers bulletin, with information about what's been happening throughout February and what's coming up in March.

This week is **NATIONAL CAREERS WEEK** which means there will be lots of information and events happening online for parents and pupils to engage with and I will list some of these in this newsletter.

We're also really keen to get the feedback of students and parents on how our careers provision is going within the school. If you get the chance, we would be grateful if you could fill in the feedback form for parents [here](#), and the feedback form for pupils [here](#).

Miss Ashworth is the school's career advisor, and if you would like to contact her with any questions about careers or for advice then please email her at g.ashworth@stjamesheadle.co.uk.

What's been happening:

- 4th February: year 9 options evening
- 8th-12th February: Manchester College live sessions
- 8th - 14th of February: National Apprenticeship Week
- 1st - 5th March: National Careers Week
- 22nd February - 5th March: Fairtrade fortnight
<https://www.fairtrade.org.uk/choose-the-world-you-want/>

What's included in this month's bulletin:

- Spotlight on Careers
- College deadlines info
- Events and opportunities for parents and students
- Information sources for careers info

Spotlight on careers:

The next couple of pages will have some statements from people in different careers to give you an insight into what different jobs and careers are like as part of national careers week.



Lesley Dixon, Youth Worker: I began my youth work career when I was 20 years old. I had always been passionate about supporting and encouraging others to reach goals! It was during the counselling training that I realised that childhood experiences were so important, and so I became a youth worker. Youth work is varied, it's very different from when I first started, the stereotype of a youth worker playing pool is a stereotype! Youth work is so much more, it's a conversation, it's listening, it's seeing something in someone that sometimes hasn't been seen before.

I have had the privilege of watching young people grow, develop and believe in themselves, by taking part in projects, youth councils, and using activities like abseiling, mountain walking and public speaking. Youth work is a journey, as a youth worker we learn from young people and that helps the relationship be equal, free from power and different from other relationships, for example last year I became a vegetarian because young people educated me about being more climate conscious. If anyone is thinking about youth work, there are lots of routes and options You can email me directly l.dixon@youthfocusnw.org.uk or follow me on [@youthfocusnw](https://www.instagram.com/youthfocusnw) for more information.

Victoria Vernon, Junior Doctor (GP trainee): I'm a junior doctor who is training to be a GP. I've wanted to be a doctor since I was a child! I enjoyed science at school (and history- especially history of medicine!) I had a disabled brother who was in and out of hospital when I was growing up and this gave me the idea. 15 years later and I'm pretty sure I made the right choice. To be a doctor I needed good GCSEs and Alevels particularly in science subjects. Then I applied to study medicine at university. This was a 5-year course. After graduation I could officially call myself doctor! I then went on to "foundation training" this is a paid job as a junior doctor mostly based in hospital but with some time in a GP practice. As a junior doctor in hospital, I spent most of my day seeing patients with my consultant, writing notes, ordering tests and scans and performing practical procedures like taking blood. I love the interaction with patients and helping them feel better. Sometimes we can't make people better and this can be difficult. Constantly changing hours when working shifts can be very tiring. You need to look after yourself and your colleagues.



What I enjoy most is seeing patients and figuring out what is wrong with them. I love working with children and the elderly. I like sticking with my patients and seeing them again. That's why I chose to continue training to become a GP. This is a further 3 years working as a doctor whilst training. There are other specialties from A&E to Radiology to Surgery. These all have their own training programs that range from 3-8 years long. So, there is something for everyone.



Domanic Smith-Jones, Solution Engineer at Auth0: I help organisations understand how the technology I sell at Auth0 can help them to solve their business challenges. To be able to do this effectively I need to have certain skills. These include good communication skills, technical ability, and trustworthiness. Although I work closely with the sales team, it is my job to help the customer make the right decision on what they NEED. This means that sometimes, I may tell them not to buy our software at all if they could do better with something else, or I don't feel we have what they need.

Although I do have a degree (Computer Science and Management Studies) it's not 100% necessary for a role like mine. However, it DID mean I was able to take some shortcuts in getting here. I left 6th Form College with A-Levels and worked 6 months at IBM on a pre-university scheme. I then spent 6 months working in France, and then went to Nottingham University. I left with a degree and joined the IBM Graduate Scheme as a Computer Programmer. This looks good on a CV and in some cases allowed me some leeway when looking for future roles. I OpenText with only 2 years exp when they wanted 5 because they respected the IBM Grad Scheme.

Georgia Wells, Biomedical Science: I am studying to go into research as a biomedical scientist. Following my A levels, I went to university to study pharmacology which looks at the action and effects of drugs within the body. I am now a master's student but hope to do a PhD or work for a pharmaceutical company (such as AstraZeneca). For my studies, I spend most of my time in a laboratory researching enzymes and proteins involved in cancers and how drugs target them, I then produce scientific papers based on the methods and results. I decided to go into this career because I always loved science and analytical thinking, and it is a great way to be able to help people by developing drugs and trying to find cures for diseases. The best part about my career is being able to spend time in the laboratory designing experiments and getting to analyse all the data I produce. Sometimes days in the lab can be long and some of the experiments can become repetitive, however, I could not see myself in any other career besides science as it is really rewarding seeing your work published and contributing to scientific research.





Latest on local college deadlines (Y11):

Cheadle & Marple College

Deadline for applications for the 2021 entrance has been extended - applications submitted at any time will still be considered.

The Manchester College

Applications to The Manchester College for 2021 remain open and you can apply at any time.

Stockport College

Applications to Stockport College for 2021 remain open and you can apply at any time

Careers events and opportunities for parents & pupils

NATIONAL CAREERS WEEK

- 1st-5th March
- GMACS are hosting a series of exciting events throughout the week.
- <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/meet-your-future-national-careers-week-gm-2021-tickets-142074979087>

CHESTER ZOO: Careers in Conservation events

- 11th-13th March
- Multiple workshops and webinars on working in conservation
- Click the link to see the schedule and different events on offer:
- <https://www.chesterzoo.org/what-we-do/careers-in-conservation/>

RAF Careers: webinar for international women's day

- 8th March, 2pm - 2:30pm
- Click the link to sign up or read more
- <https://amazingapprenticeships.com/raf-iwd/>

STEM Careers Fair

- 1st-5th March
- A Careers fair with 25 national employers showcasing careers in a variety of sectors from healthcare to engineering, and finance research
- We'd like to welcome you to the careers fair, you can access it at: <https://stem.exhibition.app>
- The fair will be open from 8am on Monday 1 March until 6pm on Friday 5 March.
- Attendees will be able to watch videos, explore challenges and try out activities from 25 national employers, all ready to showcase the best of their industry. Employers at the event include: Public Health England, BBC, RAF, JustEat, IBM, Google, AECOM and more.
- STEM Ambassadors from most of the employers will be available to answer questions, in a secure and monitored online chat environment, from 10-11am and 2-3pm each day. We will collate some of the most popular questions and answers and make them available after the week.



STEM Ambassadors:

- This is a programme for Year 11 Pupils who are interested in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) to be paired up with a STEM mentor who can help provide you with information and advice when it comes to careers in STEM.
- You can read more or sign up for the programme here:
https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/GJB8G6N?respondent_id=%5brespondent_id_value%5d&user_data=%5buser_data_value%5d

Careers information

RateMyApprenticeship: have created an 18-minute video for students and parents to give an outline to understanding what apprenticeships are and how you can become an apprentice:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WRdQAsO6PzI>

Apprenticeship information: Here's a great summary by RateMyApprenticeship about where apprenticeships can take you if you choose to do one:

https://www.ratemyapprenticeship.co.uk/advice/where-can-your-apprenticeship-take-you?utm_source=emailCampaign&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=int-09022021-naw-3-blog&dm_i=30Z1,14G7B,81SIGY,4BSBX,1

Latest apprenticeship vacancies for 2021 school leavers

***NEW* Siemens: Rail Engineering Apprenticeship**

- Qualification: Level 3 Rail Engineering Technician
- Location: Manchester
- Start Date: September 2021
- Closing Date: 31st March
- Length: 3 years
- Entry Requirements: 5 GCSEs grade 4+ (including English and Maths)
- Apply & more info:
<https://jobs.siemens.com/jobs/235282?lang=en-us&previousLocale=en-US>

***NEW* BT: Customer Service Apprenticeship**

- Qualification: Level 2 Customer Service Practitioner
- Location: Salford
- Start Date: September 2021
- Closing Date: 31st March
- Length: 18 Months
- Entry Requirements: n/a
- Apply & more info:
<https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/apprenticeship/-575721>



***NEW* Refrigeration & air conditioning apprenticeship**

- Qualification: Refrigeration air conditioning and heat pump engineering technician Level 3 (A level)
- Location: Manchester
- Start Date: August 2021
- Closing Date: 31st March
- Length: 3 years
- Entry Requirements: 5 GCSEs grade 4+ (including English and Maths and either ICT or D&T) #
- Apply & more info:
<https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/apprenticeship/1000009946a>

***NEW* Andrew Collinge: Apprentice Hairdresser**

- Qualification: Level 2 Hair Professional
- Location: Trafford, Manchester
- Start Date: September 2021
- Closing Date: 31st July
- Length: 2 years
- Entry Requirements: 5 GCSEs grade 4+
- Apply & more info:
<https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/apprenticeship/1000009946a>

***NEW* United Utilities: Field Service Engineer Apprenticeship**

- Qualification: Level 3 Rail Engineering Technician
- Location: Macclesfield
- Start Date: September 2021
- Closing Date: 7th March **(CLOSING SOON)**
- Length: 3 years
- Entry Requirements: 5 GCSEs grade 4+ (including English and Maths, and science or technology)
- Apply & more info:
https://www.unitedutilities.com/corporate/careers/current-vacancies/#page_id=ss_job_display&page_key=15962.1

Barclays Apprenticeship Scheme

- Qualification: Foundation Level 2
- Location: Manchester
- Start Date & closing date not announced
- Length: Up to 2 years
- Entry Requirements: 5 GCSEs grade 5+ (inc eng & maths)
- Apply: Applications are not currently open for this apprenticeship, but you can register your interest for this scheme or read more about it:
<https://www.ratemyapprenticeship.co.uk/jobs/3589/barclays/register-your-interest-foundation-level-2-apprenticeship>



AstraZeneca: Engineering Apprenticeship

- Qualification: Level 3 Diploma in Engineering and then a HNC Level 4 in engineering
- Location: Macclesfield
- Start Date: September 2021
- Closing Date: 19th March
- Length: 4 years
- Entry Requirements: 5 GCSEs grade 4+ Grade 6 in maths
- Apply:
<https://careers.astrazeneca.com/job/macclesfield/multi-skilled-engineering-apprenticeship/7684/18467276>

Busy Bees Childcare Apprenticeship

- Qualification: Early Years Practitioner Level 2
- Location: Cheadle Hulme
- Start Date: 1st September 2021
- Closing Date: 30th June 2021
- Length: 16 months
- Entry Requirements: n/a
- Apply: <https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/apprenticeship/-569220>

BT Customer Service Associate Apprenticeship

- Qualification: Customer Service Associate Level 2
- Location: Manchester
- Start Date: 1st September
- Closing Date: 31st March
- Length: 18 months
- Entry Requirements: n/a
- Apply: <https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/apprenticeship/-568596>

Proseal Engineering Apprenticeship

- Qualification: Maintenance and operations engineering technician Level 3
- Location: Macclesfield
- Start Date: 13th September
- Closing Date: 31st May
- Length: 4 years
- Entry Requirements: 5 GCSEs grade 5+
- Apply: <https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/apprenticeship/reference/100008827>



Corra Linn: Apprentice Dental Nurse

- Qualification: Dental Nurse level 3,
- Location: Stockport
- Start Date: 29th July
- Closing Date: 29th July
- Length: 18 months
- Entry Requirements: Maths & English grade 4 and above
- Apply: <https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/apprenticeship/reference/1659755>

You can speak to Miss Ashworth, the school careers advisor, if you would like any help or support in filling in apprenticeship applications, writing CVs or interview preparation.

Yours faithfully,

Miss G Ashworth
Careers Advisor