



ST JAMES'

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

6th May 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: May Careers Newsletter

We are looking forward to supporting our Year 7-10 pupils in July with a whole day dedicated to careers, to build their employability skills and gain an insight into different jobs. Now that Year 11s have their leaving date set for the end of this month it is more important than ever that they are thinking about their next steps.

This month's newsletter contains useful information for parents and students on careers, labour market information and further/higher education support. What is especially exciting is the competition for our Year 10 students where one pupil will be selected as our 'Oxford Scholar' starting in September. There are also a number of virtual work experience opportunities for Years 10 & 11 and if they are interested they can find these on SMHW.

As always, Mrs Rarity and Miss Ashworth hold a careers drop-in in CS14 for students every Wednesday lunchtime for any students who have questions or want support with applications.

If any parents would like to contribute to our 'Spotlight on Careers' section of the newsletter then please email Miss Ashworth. We are still asking for parents and students to provide feedback on our careers support within school, and you can do this using one of our online forms:

- Parents click here: <https://forms.gle/r2NJ3HRQxHdxhgC18>
- Students click here: <https://forms.gle/CMDtFUJUUSFQSNuS7>

Miss Ashworth is the school's careers adviser, 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 included in this month's bulletin:

- Spotlight on Careers
- College deadlines information
- Stockport College Apprenticeships
- Oxford Scholarship Programme
- Stockport Youth Council
- NCS Programme Summer 2021
- Women in Leadership event
- Preparing Young People for Work event
- Virtual Work Experience
- Labour Market Information
- General careers information
- Latest apprenticeship vacancies for year 11



Spotlight on Careers



Felix Ling: My name is Felix and I work as an Organising Assistant for the National Education Union (NEU). The NEU is a trade union for teachers and other education workers and is the largest education union in Europe, with nearly half a million members. We campaign for better pay and conditions for our members and provide them with legal support if they have problems at work. If necessary, this means taking industrial action or 'going on strike'. My job in the organising team is to recruit more members and organise them to become more involved in their workplace, as well as support our national campaigns. Sometimes I have to send emails to tens of thousands of members per month, along with countless texts and phone calls. I also take part in campaigns and lobby politicians to change the education system for the better, but we also support climate strikes and movements such as Black Lives Matter. I got into union work through politics as I previously worked for an MP, and the NEU supported me in this. The best part of my job is speaking to members about their issues and organising them to organise themselves. The worst part is seeing how the hard work of teachers and students is not rewarded properly, and when the NEU is ignored by the Government

Cat Eccles, ODP: When I left school, I had no idea what I wanted to do. I knew I liked helping people, so I joined the ambulance service doing non-emergency patient transport. Through this I found out about ODPs (Operating Department Practitioners). I studied at Birmingham City University, attending lectures and also learning on the job on placements at local hospitals. We are the hidden heroes of the hospitals, working hard in theatres and many other areas besides. There are 3 areas in operating theatres - anaesthetics, scrub/surgery, and recovery. ODPs are trained to work in all of these areas, in all different specialities. We work side by side with surgeons, anaesthetists, nurses, radiographers and many more. We can also be found in other areas performing airway skills, such as in MRI, CT scans, A&E, and obstetrics. More recently, during the pandemic, our skills were required to assist in ICU looking after the most poorly patients. I love my job because I know I'm helping make a difference to people's lives. I get to see all kinds of surgery and we never stop learning as new treatments are developing all the time. No two days are ever the same and there are lots of opportunities to progress in the future.





Latest on local college deadlines (Year 11)

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

Stockport college also offer apprenticeships in the following areas:

- Building Services (engineering or design)
- Business and professional studies (includes learning mentors, accountancy, project management, business and administration, customer service, digital marketing, HR)
- Childcare (including play work, teaching support)
- Construction (includes brickwork, plastering, painting & decorating, wood/joinery)
- Engineering (includes electrical, operational, maintenance, manufacturing, tool making, food and drink)
- Health & social care
- Hospitality & catering (includes baker, chef, hospitality manager)
- ICT
- Motor Vehicles (includes body & paint work, maintenance and repair)
- Hairdressing
- Plumbing and gas
- Sport (includes activity leadership, exercise and fitness, Leisure Operation, Supporting Teaching & Learning in PE & School Sport, personal trainer)
- Science and pharmacy (includes lab technicians, science professionals, science maintenance technicians)

To apply or for more information on the above qualifications you can click here:

<https://stockport.ac.uk/apprenticeships/apprenticeships/find-an-apprenticeship>

Oxford Scholar

We have a new partnership with Oxford Scholastica, which provides students with online courses, internships and experience days to support students who may be interested in attending a Russell Group University in the future. As part of this partnership, 1 student each year will be selected to become our 'Oxford Scholar' and this student will receive free access to as many courses or internships as they would like through Oxford Scholastica. All other students will receive a 15% discount on courses offered by then and you can view these courses here: <https://www.oxfordscholastica.com/>

Our Oxford Scholar will be selected through a competition, for full details on how to enter please click [here](#).



ST JAMES'

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Stockport Youth Council

Stockport Youth Council is a group of young people who represent other young people locally with councillors and decision-makers. They also have 2 members of Youth Parliament, who get to go once a year to London to debate like MPs in the House of Commons

The youth council has created a newsletter for young people across the borough, which you can read here: <https://spark.adobe.com/page/YjtBomvSsz2uD/>

Anyone can get involved in the Youth Council as long as you live in Stockport Borough Council and are aged 11-18. It's a great opportunity to have a say in decisions that will impact on young people locally, as well as something to put on your CV when it comes to applying for jobs or college. The youth council is a great way for any students who are interested in work around helping others, or anything about politics and government. If you would like to get involved then you can email steve.davies@stockport.gov.uk

NCS Summer 2021

- NCS is a 2-3-week summer programme for students that have just finished Year 11, it is an opportunity to develop skills and do voluntary work in the community.
- It usually includes 2 residentials where you'll complete lots of outward-bound activities and then a week or so of community action.
- This is a great opportunity for students to have something on their future job applications, especially when work experience has been limited this year

For more information visit their website: <https://wearencs.com/summer>

Women in Leadership

Meet Your Future (MYF) is hosting an exciting session that will provide young women and girls the opportunity to hear from women who hold senior roles in industry. They will be speaking about their professional journey, experiences and what skills they have learnt along the way

When? Tue, 11 May 2021, 12:15 – 13:15 BST

To register, please follow [link to Eventbrite](#)

Preparing Young People for Work (event for parents)

Steph McGovern - preparing young people for the future of work 4th May There can be no doubt that the last year has changed both education and the labour market beyond recognition.

We'll be asking what does the impact of the pandemic mean for the future of work? Has it accelerated the megatrends we were already seeing – the fourth industrial revolution, Brexit and the climate crisis? What does that mean for how we prepare young people for their uncertain and rapidly changing futures?

Join The Edge Foundation and Envision for this interactive and engaging seminar chaired by broadcaster and journalist Steph McGovern to explore these questions and share your perspective:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/rethinking-employability-preparing-young-people-for-the-future-of-work-tickets-144391176897?s=03>



Greater Manchester Higher: 'Parents' Week'

10th - 14th of May: these events will give parents advice on how best to advise their children when it comes to making decisions about further and higher education

SESSION 1: A Parent's Guide to Higher Education

This session will provide an overview of higher education pathways and the importance of GCSEs and future decision-making. Hear from a current graduate about their route into HE! For parents/carers with children in secondary school

- Monday 10th May, either 1-1.45pm or 6-6.45pm
- 1pm:<https://mmu-ac-uk.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMsfuGupjwsGdW239sgFwElpEMhymLqYKt->
- 6pm:<https://mmu-ac-uk.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0qdu6qqTwiH9MCCIsLJmg7xzksgKy9Rcd>

SESSION 2: Let's talk money!

This talk will provide a simple breakdown of the current student finance system and additional support available

- Wednesday 12th May, either 1-1.45pm or 6-6.45pm
- For Parents/carers with children in secondary school and sixth form/college
- 1pm:<https://mmu-ac-uk.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAqf-2upzkoGtWwFUIFEw32MhmkwhGlx8H6>
- 6pm:<https://mmu-ac-uk.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcrd-6srjqHt2QM7n8BQNHCUQfQq79X0Hz>

SESSION 3: Ask Us!

An exclusive live Q&A day, where you can ask our friendly team any remaining questions about university, careers and education

- Thursday 13th May - 10am-6pm
- For Parents/carers with children in secondary school and sixth form/college
- <https://gmhigher.ac.uk/events/parent-week-askus/>

Virtual Work Experience opportunities for year 10 and 11

If you or your son/daughter are in year 10 or 11, a number of opportunities for Virtual Work experience were sent out on Show My Homework, if there are any that you would like to take part in, then please get in contact with Miss Ashworth



Labour Market Information

Top 10 Largest Employers in Stockport by number of Employees

1. Stockport Council
2. Stockport NHS Foundation Trust
3. The AA
4. BMI Alexandra Hospital
5. Lex Autolease
6. Together Trust
7. MY CSP
8. BskyB
9. CDL
10. Department for Work and Pensions

General 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>

Latest apprenticeship vacancies for Year 11

This is the last careers newsletter our Year 11 students will have before finishing. The latest apprenticeship vacancies have been shared on SMHW with all Y11 students and if they require any support in applying for these apprenticeship opportunities then they can come to Miss Ashworth for help.

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