

# BURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL

## Careers Newsletter



Dear all,

In this month's newsletter, you will find details on virtual careers-related events, updates on UCAS and upcoming competitions. There are also links to various virtual work experience placements on offer from *Springpod*, which will take place over Easter.

During February half term, Natasja in Year 12 completed a week of virtual work experience with the Chartered Institute of Marketing.



*"This course allowed me to explore different aspects of marketing and explore potential career paths which was very useful, especially considering that face to face work experience hasn't been possible this year. I would highly recommend taking part in virtual work experience as the course can be completed at any time (all live webinars are recorded) so it can easily be fit around a busy schedule."*

### Virtual Events

**UK University & Apprenticeship Virtual Fair (Years 11-13)** – The fair takes place on 17th March, with another opportunity for pupils from Years 11, 12 and 13 to explore over 100 universities, colleges, and apprenticeship providers from across the UK. There will also be 10 live webinars, which are taking place on a range of subjects from apprenticeships to writing a personal statement. Please use this link for more information: <https://ukunisearch.vfairs.com/>.

**Careers in the Army (Years 7-13)** - With over 70 different job roles, there are opportunities for learning and development for everyone in the Army, including degree level qualifications before or during a career. To find out more about university funding, there is a live webinar on 31st March at 6pm. Click [here](#) to book your place for free.

**RAF Online Insight Day (Years 7-13)** - A career in the Royal Air Force is like no other. From the speedy role progression to the unrivalled skills and training you receive; all whilst travelling around the world and making friends for life, it really is *No Ordinary Job*. The RAF offer over 50 careers for professionals ranging from weapons systems operators to aircraft technicians; nursing officers to engineering officers; pilots to logistic officers; and flight operations officers to chefs. Click [here](#) to learn more about their upcoming insight days on 25th March and 20th April 2021.

**Cambridge Festival (Years 7-13)** - The new Cambridge Festival will take place from 26th March to 4th April 2021, with more than 350 free online events and activities for everyone. Please use this link for more information: <https://www.festival.cam.ac.uk/>.



The festival has also designed a magazine packed full of exciting activities to help students explore their wonderful world. Across its pages, you can travel to the moon, make your own perfume, write a secret message, and learn to tell the time with water! Please use this link for more information: <https://www.festival.cam.ac.uk/festival-zine>.

**KPMG Apprenticeships (Years 11-13)** - [KPMG](#) offers apprentices the opportunity to work across different industries and are designed for those who have, or are about to, finish school or college, and span areas such as Audit, Software Engineering, KPMG Law and Data & Analytics. At KPMG, apprentices gain valuable work experience, develop core skills, and will be supported in their study towards fully funded professional qualifications and accreditations, all whilst earning a salary.

## Competitions

Jesus College's annual essay competition, the [Lord Toulson essay prize in Law](#), is now accepting entries. The 2021 topic is "The government should take control of unoccupied homes and allocate them to the homeless. Discuss." Please note: the citation of English case law is neither required nor expected. This is a reflective, philosophical exercise, not a research project. The word limit is strictly 1,500 words in length. The deadline for entries is Friday 30th April 2021. For more information, please visit: [Essay prizes | Jesus College in the University of Cambridge](#).



JESUS COLLEGE  
CAMBRIDGE

## Virtual Work Experience

The following free virtual work experience programmes are all offered by [Springpod](#) for pupils in Years 10-13. All programmes will take place between the 6th and 16th April 2021 (during the Easter break). There will be approximately 10 hours of activity for you to complete with 5 or 6 live workshops. If you cannot attend those live, you will be able to catch up by watching recordings. The deadline for applications is 29th March 2021. Applicants will find out if they have a place on the programme on 31st March 2021.

**Law** - During this free two-week virtual work experience programme, you will meet a range of industry professionals from various legal areas of Law who will give you an overview of their experiences, both qualifying and within the industry, with opportunities for Q&A. You will learn about some of the key roles and responsibilities of Law practitioners throughout this programme, including legal research, advocacy and client communication, contractual interpretation, and legal analysis and drafting. Click [here](#) for more details.

**Marketing** - Begin your career in marketing with *Springpod's* Virtual Work Experience. This programme will award you with all that you need to know about a career in marketing, covering a complete range of skills that will open doors for your future career search. The programme will cover Marketing Principles, Strategy and User Personas, Marketing Campaigns, Social Media and Content, Marketing Analysis, and Career Pathways in Marketing. Click [here](#) for more details.



**Journalism** - During this free two-week virtual work experience programme, you'll take an in-depth look at print, broadcast and photojournalism as well as a variety of roles within the industry. You will meet professionals working in many of these areas and roles in webinars, which will give you a chance to ask them your questions. Finally, you will complete work and assignments to get an understanding of what life in the journalism industry is like. Click [here](#) to find out more.



**Finance** - During this two-week programme you'll cover the following areas: An overview of the UK's financial industry, Accountancy: its theory and the associated ethics and laws, The UK tax system, Banking, including investment banking, auditing, trading, security and fraud, Insurance: you'll learn what's involved in broking, claims handling, and surveying, Financial advice, including investment, mortgage and pensions advice. Click [here](#) to learn more.

**Engineering** - The engineering industry is one of the most interesting fields in the world, due to its wide-ranging nature. Pursuing a career within the industry can open more doors and lead to roles across numerous areas including Civil, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering. That is why this virtual work experience programme will leave no stone unturned. From structural analysis to data modelling, you will cover a whole range of crucial topics and skills that you will need during your career. Click [here](#) for more information.

There are further sectors and industries offering work experience such as; Teaching, Business Management, Broadcast Journalism, TV & Film, Technology, Graphic Design, Veterinary Sciences, Hospitality, Fashion, Politics, Dentistry. [Please visit the Springpod website for more information.](#)

## Careers in the news

**UCAS News** - The release of university application and acceptance figures for the 2020 cycle reveals record UK application (41.5% for 18 year olds) and acceptance rates (89.1% for 18 year olds). UCAS have released their report '[What happened to the Covid cohort?](#)' in which they examine the impact of last year's applications on the planning for the future landscape of university applications.

Trends in subject choices at university - the continued popularity of STEM subjects shows no sign of declining. Acceptances to computer science courses have risen by almost 50% (From 20,420 in 2011 to 30,090 in 2020); and acceptances to engineering courses are up 21% from 25,995 in 2011 to 31,545 in 2020. Acceptances to the newer Artificial Intelligence (AI) courses have seen a 400% rise in the past decade (from just 65 in 2011 to 355 in 2020).

Other trends in the data release show:

In July, UCAS reported that the number of new nursing applicants between 15 January and 30 June was 63% higher than the same period last year (12,840 in 2020,



compared to 7,880 in 2019). The first lockdown period (23 March – 30 June deadline) itself saw nearly double the number of applications to nursing relative to the same period in the year previously (up 98% on 2019)

With the expansion of medical places in the last few years, acceptances to medicine courses are at the highest level on record, growing 37% since 2017. However, UCAS have also seen a significant increase in the number of students applying to study Medicine so demand for places remains high.

Law increased from 22,720 acceptances in 2011 to 29,105 acceptances in 2020.

Business increased from 61,100 acceptances in 2011 to 75,515 in 2020.

Psychology acceptances increased from 16,685 in 2011 to 26,200 in 2020.

Humanities subjects have decreased in popularity over the last decade. English studies have seen a decrease from 10,020 acceptances in 2011 to 6,980 this year in 2020 and History and Philosophical studies from 15,060 in 2011 to 12,870.

There is some concern around the significant decline in students choosing to pursue language subjects. For a post-Brexit Britain, the need for languages is likely to remain strong, yet acceptances to Modern Language degree courses have decreased by 36% - from 6,005 in 2011 to 3,830 in 2020. This decrease in demand is seen alongside a decrease in language A Level entrants over the same timeframe.

## Careers resources

**BBC Bitesize careers (Years 7-11)** - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/careers/>  
Whether you are deciding what to study, taking your exams, planning a career, or just curious, BBC Bitesize has short video clips to help explain the world of work, with advice from people who've found the right path for them. There is also more information about working at the BBC [here](#).



**Careers profiles (Years 7-13)** - If you are looking for information on a specific career or are searching for inspiration, you can browse the careers profiles at [Indigo](#).

You can also find more information about Careers & Options Advice here at Bury Grammar School. Finally, I am available for appointments to talk through any questions you might have, please email me [hgreene@burygrammar.com](mailto:hgreene@burygrammar.com) to make an appointment

Ms Hannah Greene  
Head of Careers

