

Our Ref: JS/JB

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Parents / Carers / Students

## **Post 18 Pathways**

As Year 13 start to finalise plans for their post-18 destination and our Year 12 students are about to embark on a programme of research, information and guidance sessions to determine their post-18 destination, I thought it would be useful to provide you with detailed information and links to support this process.

The main platform we use at the Post 16 Centre is [Unifrog](#). This programme brings into one place every undergraduate university course, apprenticeship opportunities and college courses in the UK, including colleges at Cambridge and Oxford. This allows students to easily compare and choose the best university courses, apprenticeships or further education courses for them. They can also explore exciting opportunities further afield by looking at English taught undergraduate programmes available in Europe and the USA.

Additionally, the platform helps students successfully apply for these opportunities by writing their personal statement, applications and CVs and guiding them through the process.

If you are considering Higher Education, an Apprenticeship or a alternative destination, you may find the following links helpful in your research:-

### **Intended Destination - University**

[UCAS](#) – is the organisation through which you apply for most HE institutions in the UK. It tells you how to apply and provides information on courses as well as finance and support. This is all done via the UCAS Hub and your application will be linked to the Post 16 Centre, using a ‘buzzword’ to allow an academic reference to be added to support your application.

All universities have open days throughout the academic year. Visiting a university is the best way to ‘fact find’. You will be able to visit subject faculties, sample lectures, visit accommodation and speak to existing students. This link provides up-to-date open day information - [University and College Open Days](#)

[Whatuni?](#) – is a great website to help students research universities and the courses they offer. The ‘Career Matcher’ tool provide ideas for degree subjects to study based on the A levels subjects you are currently studying.

[Which? University](#) and [Best course 4 me](#) help with finding the best UK university and degree course for you including ideas of what to study and where!

[The Complete University guide](#) – has information about university rankings, where and what to study, how to apply, student finance, student life, graduate careers, distance learning and studying

abroad. [People and Planet](#) website lists annual rankings of UK universities by environmental and ethical performance

[The Open University](#) – offer degrees through distance learning

[Applytouni](#) provides information on the application process for university including a list of all universities in the UK, their tuition fees and open days.

[The Sutton Trust](#) – organises one-week summer schools and residentials to give students a taste of university life and a programme of support.

Some universities require students to sit an externally set examination as part of their selection process. This includes students apply for Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science courses along with students applying for certain universities / subjects. Visit [Cambridge Assessment Admissions Testing](#), [The Admissions Test for Law \(LNAT\)](#) (used by universities to select students for their law courses) and [The UK Clinical Aptitude Test \(UKCAT\)](#) (used in the selection process by a consortium of UK university Medical and Dental Schools) to find out more.

### **Intended Destination – Apprenticeship**

If you are not submitting an application to study at university then, [Not going to uni](#) is a great website to compare apprenticeships, gap years, distance learning and jobs as an alternative to HE.

The official Department for Education website for apprenticeship vacancies and detailed information is found here - [Apprenticeships](#).

[Getmyfirstjob](#) offers you a whole new way to find [Apprenticeships](#), [Degree Apprenticeships](#), [Work Experience](#) and [Graduate](#) opportunities to get ahead. It's not just a search tool – you can be connected with the [Best Employers](#), [Colleges & Providers](#) and Universities to get you on the right track faster.

[studential](#) has information on Further Education, Gap Years, Apprenticeships, British Armed Forces and many more options.

The Unifrog Apprenticeship Tool is also a great way of exploring live apprenticeship opportunities along with any of the following links, which are great examples of where you can carry out your research for live apprenticeship opportunities:-

[Find Apprenticeships](#)

[Amazing Apprenticeships](#)

[Institute for Apprenticeships](#)

[National Careers Service](#)

[UCAS - How to find an Apprenticeship](#)

[Prospects](#)

## **Intended Destination - Employment**

For some students, completing their A Level studies is the final stage of their education process. Full time employment is a great alternative to further education or an apprenticeship. Traditional job applications involve writing a cover letter to accompany your CV. Companies use a variety of job application processes these days, including online forms, personality assessments and 'in-tray' exercises or assessments. Learning about these applications in-depth could help you immensely when you apply for a job.

Below are a number of links to employment opportunity websites that also contain information about the different types of job applications that you can prepare for when you start your job search, followed by some tips to help you ace your applications.

<https://uk.indeed.com/>

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

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

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

<https://www.gov.uk/find-a-job>

<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/careers-advice/advertised-job-vacancies>

## **Taking a Gap Year**

[The Year Out Group](#) – includes over 30 gap year organisations that provide opportunities at home and abroad.

[Yipiyap](#) recruit high-achieving gap year students to deliver in-school and online provision for schools and colleges across the UK. This is a paid opportunity for any gap year students who may wish to build upon their professionalism and work skills within an educational environment before heading off to university or pursuing other routes

## **Studying abroad**

[A Star Future](#) provides information and guidance to British students looking to pursue their undergraduate studies abroad.

If you are considering continuing your education in the United States of America, then visit [Fulbright Commission](#). They are experts in providing detailed information, advice and guidance on studying in the USA.

I trust you will find the above information helpful with your post-18 pathway progression.

Yours sincerely



**Mrs J Shea**

**Head of Outwood Post 16 Centre**