



## WEST COVENTRY ACADEMY 6<sup>th</sup> Form CAREERS NEWSLETTER – AUTUMN TERM 2022

Welcome to our Careers Bulletin, where I hope to share some exciting careers information for students Yrs 12 & 13 to experience even from the comfort of their own home. Some events may be year specific so please bear this in mind. I have tried to incorporate as much as I can without overloading, so please scan through & pick out possibilities and take the appropriate action, which is **Right for You!**

Additionally, as I find out about different opportunities, including apprenticeships for Yr 13 students, I will email students direct so they can assess if it is something they are interested in and to pursue further. Most information will provide the students with links in which to apply, register and find out more.

Please may I also remind you to access the Careers Tab on the school's website

([http://www.westcoventryacademy.org/life\\_at\\_school/careers.aspx](http://www.westcoventryacademy.org/life_at_school/careers.aspx)) as there is information for Students & Parents with useful links to Careers:-

**For Year 12 Students -** The **Widening Participation & Outreach Team at Warwick University** are offering a wealth of different programmes which would benefit students. The programmes normally run over the 2 years but often attract a lower grade offer for degree courses at Warwick University, the chance to apply for a £2k bursary and for the Warwick Scholars Programme, in some cases, possibly up to 50% discount on tuition fees.

Different Programmes on offer do have an eligibility criteria but if you don't meet it fully, it is still worth applying just in case. These programmes are competitive though and students must commit to the full year but benefit from so much:-

**Warwick Scholars** - is designed to help you to gain a place at Warwick by maximising your academic potential, developing skills that will help you to succeed here and providing insight and experience of what it will be like to study here.

**Realising Opportunities** - Realising Opportunities (RO) provides support during post-16 studies to develop the skills to be successful at university.

RO students benefit from increased information, advice and access to some of the country's leading research intensive universities. Students accepted on to RO follow a programme which ensures they are better equipped for university life and what research intensive universities can offer.

**Pathways Programme (Law, Engineering and Banking & Finance)** -is an engaging two year programme that gives students practical advice about university and the workplace in a particular sector, with the overall aim of leaving students feeling inspired and more confident about their future.

Students interested in a career in Law, Banking & Finance or Engineering will have access to academic lectures, employer engagement, CV and personal statement support in their retrospective stream. The programmes are two years long, starting in year 12 and finishing in year 13.

These programmes are all now open but do have closing dates in October. You can only apply to one of the Programmes so choose what is more beneficial.

To find out more & apply -

<https://warwick.ac.uk/study/outreach/whatweoffer/post-16-programmes/>



## WORK EXPERIENCE

Last year was the first-time school had opened Work Experience for Year 12 Students. This will occur for the new current Year 12 students and although dates are still to be confirmed, we envisage it to be in the Summer Term. However, it is never too early to be considering where students would like to work and get prepared. If students can have an Employer or 2 in mind and a draft email/letter sorted, so much the better. It will last for one week and students will need to find their own placement but if any have trouble sourcing a placement, I will be available to support them.

**SPRINGPOD** - <https://www.springpod.co.uk/virtual-work-experience-programmes/> Another platform to take part in some Virtual Work experience (some on offer include Journalism, Publishing, Law, Finance, Marketing, Teaching – too many to mention; students can also view professionals talk about their own Career Journeys via the 'Learn Lounge'. There are many on offer during October & February Half Terms so an excellent time to do a few hours as something extra & diverse.

**Speakers4Schools** <https://www.s4snextgen.org/> These offer a variety of Virtual Work Experience opportunities throughout the year so I would recommend signing up to see what there is on offer for your son/daughter to take part in. Many are within Construction/Engineering but there are many others on offer so please encourage your son/daughter to register to look through and apply for anything of interest- encourage them to widen their search & be open to experience.

### For Year 13 Students –

- **PwC - Accounting/Finance**



The 2023 School and College Leaver opportunities are now **open** and there are many routes through which students can join PwC.

For opportunities to join PwC straight from school or college, the full-time **School and College Leaver programmes** are designed to help them develop their business skills through real client work, while also completing formal training and studying towards qualifications. Explore these opportunities [here](#).

Perhaps students are looking for an opportunity where they can gain a degree and begin their career. Our **Flying Start degree programmes** offer the opportunity to kick-start a career and go to university at the same time. You can find out more about these [here](#).

Additionally students can also attend their upcoming **Virtual Classroom event series** where they can learn more about our opportunities, gain top tips for the application process, and find support in writing their UCAS personal statement. PwC are also hosting a parent and



teacher session to support you to understand professional apprenticeships. Find out more about our upcoming events including our Virtual Classroom series and register [here](#).

Visit our early careers website to explore the different options and apply [here](#).

## APPRENTICESHIPS

### Wanting to find out more about Apprenticeships?

If you answered yes, then our NGTU Apprenticeship Academy is perfect for you!

Starting on Wednesday 14th September, you can join our fun and FREE virtual 6 week programme to discover everything you need to know about apprenticeships.

Every Wednesday from 4-5pm, all you need to do is simply join from a school computer or your own computer at home and follow along each week with our Head of Education, Jess. You do need to commit to this. It is free of charge and even though it started last week, you can still apply for Week 2 (starting today) onwards. They will send you a booklet to complete and there is homework (but this isn't compulsory); its to help you.

Not going to uni is a website <https://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk/> that is beneficial to also register as they can email you when national vacancies arise. Please be aware that for many, such as the Higher/Degree Apprenticeships it could mean travelling or moving away but is an excellent opportunity.

**Sign for the NGTU Apprenticeship Academy for FREE now >**

What will we be covering each week?

Week 1: What apprenticeship am I looking for?

Week 2: Where can I find apprenticeships?

Week 3: How can I write successful applications?

Week 4: What to expect at interview

Week 5: What to expect at assessments

Week 6: How to manage my applications

[jess@notgoingtouni.co.uk](mailto:jess@notgoingtouni.co.uk)

[www.notgoingtouni.co.uk](http://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk)

## SUBJECT SPECIFIC

### NHS Work Experience – for both Yr 12 & 13 Students

Work Experience applications are open online for one week at the beginning of every month. This is being offered via all the 4 local trusts altogether.

Those seeking work experience can Apply Here - [Apply Here - NHS Apprenticeship Hub \(localhealthcareershubs.co.uk\)](#) – when applications are open

Please find below the upcoming schedule for when Applications open

#### Advert opens

Friday 30th September 22

Monday 31st October 22

Friday 2nd December 22

#### Advert Closes

Midnight Sunday 9th October 22

Midnight Sunday 6th November 22

Midnight Sunday 11th December 22



Friday 30th December 22  
Monday 30th January 23

Midnight Sunday 8th January 23  
Midnight Sunday 5th February 23

**NHS Virtual Work Experience Programme commencing on Sunday 2nd October.**

Students considering a career in the Allied Health Professions (AHP) are encouraged to secure a place on the programme as soon as possible. This will allow them to complete several sessions of work experience before the UCAS deadline for NHS Health Careers in January. Please note there is a charge for this but if anyone is experiencing financial difficulty, Careers may be able to support this programme.

<https://alliedhealthmentor.org/product/live-virtual-work-experience-programme/>

Once they've registered, students will be emailed links to their virtual work experience portals.

Students are awarded a Work Experience Certificate for every session they complete. Those who complete the full 5 month programme will be awarded a Highly Commended Reference from the Presidents of Allied Healthcare Mentor. These are fantastic additions to their CVs and UCAS applications!

This programme is suitable for students in years 10 - 13 who are interested in the following careers:

- Nursing, Midwifery, Paramedicine, Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Dietetics, Radiography, Prosthetics and Orthotics, Speech and Language Therapy & Pharmacy

During the work experience day, students will follow 2 patients from their initial presentation to recovery. They will gain a unique insight into how patients interact with a variety of healthcare professionals and what it's like to work in an NHS multidisciplinary team.

Attendees will have the opportunity to interact with healthcare professionals throughout each day. This will empower students to make an informed career decision and demonstrate their commitment to healthcare in their UCAS applications.

Students can register individually at any time throughout the 5-month programme using the link below. We recommend booking early to gain as much out of this programme as possible. Places are £10 a session to cover administrative and technological costs.

<https://alliedhealthmentor.org/product/live-virtual-work-experience-programme/>

**Webinars organised by Team@Success in partnership with IBM & PwC**

**IBM Apprenticeships Information Webinar**

**12 October 2022 at 6.30-7.15pm**

(for students in years 10 to 13, parents are welcome to join)

[Book your place today](#) Join the FREE insight webinar organised by Team@Successat School in partnership with IBM to find out about their apprenticeship opportunities.

**PwC Women in STEM Webinar**

**19 October 2022 at 6.30-7.15pm**

(for parents and students who identify as female in years 10 to 13)

[Book your place today](#) Join the FREE insight webinar organised by Team@Successat School in partnership with PwC to find out about opportunities in technology and accounting.



## HIGHER EDUCATION/UNIVERSITY

Especially for Year 13 students this is the time to be writing Personal Statements and ensuring your choices are right for you for Application to University 2023.

Many Universities are holding Open Days, so please refer to the University Website checking the Open Days area and book yourself on so you can learn more about the university & course/s, or via <https://www.opendays.com/>

If still unsure, please spend some time looking on JED/Higher Ideas (below) & the UCAS website - <https://www.ucas.com/>

## JED/HIGHER IDEAS

These are websites which WCA students can access via [www.careersoft.co.uk](http://www.careersoft.co.uk) using the school's Access Code – 8852x6qg. This is especially helpful for students with no or few careers ideas. There's an initial quiz to help them to start thinking but then students can explore further, looking at what subjects are useful to take, what degree would be useful etc the Higher Ideas link is especially useful for students considering Higher Education and can look geographically what degrees are offered where, looking at 1 subject or a combined subject degree.

Students are most welcome to seek Information & Advice from myself and normally I do see students from both Yrs 12 & 13. They can refer themselves or tutors/teachers can request on their behalf.

If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact me and please do remember to use the careers link on the website (Life at school – Careers) for further information and upcoming events.



### **APPRENTICESHIPS/EMPLOYMENT (for Yr 13 Leavers)**

Below are just a few of the larger local (West Mids) Employers who offer some fantastic opportunities. They are competitive and strict on Entry Requirements.

**KPMG** - <https://www.kpmgcareers.co.uk/apprentice/> offering Audit, Law, engineering + more and also offering a 2 day Virtual Work Experience to get an insight in to working for a Global Firm. 2023 Apprenticeship Programme will open in the Autumn

**JLR** – offering **L7 Finance Digital Technology (Whitley) – Applications open NOW** (others including L6 Supply Chain, Digital Technology Solutions & L3 Advanced Manufacturing will open January 2023 & applications close March 2023 but register your Interest now and check out entry Requirements  
[https://www.jaguarlandrovercareers.com/content/Apprentices/?locale=en\\_GB](https://www.jaguarlandrovercareers.com/content/Apprentices/?locale=en_GB)

**PwC** - <https://www.pwc.co.uk/careers/student-careers/school-careers/our-programmes/flying-start-degrees.html> You can register your interest now

**IBM Degree Apprenticeships** Register your Interest now  
[https://www.ibm.com/uk-en/employment/entrylevel/#Degree\\_Apprenticeships](https://www.ibm.com/uk-en/employment/entrylevel/#Degree_Apprenticeships)

**National Grid, Warwick Advanced & Higher Apprenticeships** – Register an Interest  
[https://jobs.nationalgrid.com/UK/content/Apprentices/?locale=en\\_GB](https://jobs.nationalgrid.com/UK/content/Apprentices/?locale=en_GB)

**Siemens (Birmingham)** Register an Interest. Normally offer Advanced & Degree Apprenticeships in areas such as Business, Engineering, IT etc  
<https://new.siemens.com/uk/en/company/jobs/search-careers/apprenticeships.html>

**Severn Trent (Coventry)** offering Office-Based – Various and Practical/Technical Apprenticeships different levels. Register an Interest.  
<https://www.severntrent.com/careers/graduates-undergraduates-and-apprentices/apprenticeships/>

**Arup Engineering (Birmingham)** – Design, Built environment, Civil Engineering. Vacancies will start November but you can register for Alerts. <https://www.arup.com/careers/early-careers/apprenticeships>

#### **Engineering - MGTS & MTC Academy**

Both specialise in providing & training young people in engineering. This is normally a 4 year programme where paid by the employer but spends the 1<sup>st</sup> year of training solely at the Training Centre/Provider.

Entry Requirements Maths – 5 & 4s including English Language & Science

<https://www.mgts.co.uk/> This Training provider solely trains young people and has strong links with local Employers wanting to recruit Engineering Apprentices. For further information, they are offering some Drop in sessions, one during Half Term **Tues 26<sup>th</sup> October 10am – 2pm** and **Tues 2<sup>nd</sup> November 4-7pm**. Students need to be working towards a Grade 5 particularly in Maths and min 5 x Grade 4s including English Language & Science.

MTC Academy (Engineering) [www.the-mtc.org](http://www.the-mtc.org) 02476701801- <https://the-amtc.co.uk/apprenticeships/for-apprentices/open-events/> **Dates TBA but normally 6-8pm**



**GENERAL USEFUL APPRENTICESHIP SITES:-**

Please don't forget the general Government Apprenticeship website to look & apply -

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

Register on <https://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk/> where they will email you direct with Apprenticeships & Employment opportunities – please note many will be in the UK so may not be local.

Also look at Employer's own websites as to what is on offer. The above is not an exhaustive list and young people need to do their own research or send speculative CVs to Employers.

There are local colleges (see above for Colleges' websites) and Training Providers who have links with Employers and support students in their Apprenticeships so students can apply/register an interest direct to them.

Also, **Indeed** also offer Apprenticeships as well as Employment - <https://uk.indeed.com/>

MGTS – Midland Group Training Services (Engineering) - <https://www.mgts.co.uk/>

MTC Academy (Engineering) - <https://the-amtc.co.uk/apprenticeships/>

Coventry & Warwickshire Training – (Various Vocational areas – HD, Business Admin, Accounting, Childcare, IT etc) <https://www.cw-chambertraining.co.uk/>

Heart of England Training – HOET – (Various including Hair & Beauty, School, Business Admin) - <https://www.hoet.co.uk/>

SCCU – (School, Childcare, IT, Business, Sports apprenticeships) - <https://sccu.uk.com/training-programmes/stn-apprenticeships/>

Yours sincerely,

*Chris Day*

**Mrs Chris DAY**

**Careers Advisor & Work Experience Co-Ordinator – West Coventry Academy**

☎ via School 024 76426200 Extn 237

☎ 07788 406473 (mobile)

✉ e-mail : [staffcrb@westcoventryacademy.org](mailto:staffcrb@westcoventryacademy.org)