



SURBITON

HIGH SCHOOL

Careers and Higher Education Newsletter

Spring 2022

Welcome to the latest edition of our Careers and Higher Education Newsletter which is full of information to help you find, or get further along, your career path. No matter which year group you are in, it's never too early to start! Find out more in the following sections:

Section 1

Careers Focus

Journalism Career Profile,
Law Society Talk,
Virtual Career Interviews

Section 2

Beyond the Curriculum

Volunteering,
Credit Suisse Inspire
Competition Winners

Section 3

Exploring Higher Education & Super-Curricular Activities

Alumni University Experience Q&A,
University Lecture Taster Courses,
Studying in the USA,
New London Fashion Academy,
Work Experience Programmes,
Gap Year and Apprenticeship
Opportunities,
What's Been Happening in School?

Section 4

Competitions

A selection of competitions
to enhance university
applications and
career options



Highlights



Volunteering, page 7 / **Alumni University Experience Q&A**, page 12 / **Studying in the USA – Things to Consider**, page 15 / **Space Science Work Experience Programmes**, page 22

Section 1 – Careers Focus

Each edition of our newsletter will provide an insight into the many different careers that are available for you to explore.

Career Insights

Years 7-13

Journalism Focus

Journalists can work for print and online newspapers, radio and TV stations, magazines, media and broadcast companies and creative digital media companies. Outside of journalism and media, there are plenty of options for you to use your creativity and communication skills. Other related careers include publishing, advertising and marketing, public relations (PR), corporate communications, political analysis, book writing and translation. Remember that many careers can be entered with any degree subject, so don't restrict your thinking to just these options.

Career Prospects

Many journalists start on local or regional newspapers. After a few years as a general reporter, many people move on to become senior or chief reporters, or specialist writers of some kind, such as regional or topic-specific correspondents, or feature writers.

Other career options include moving into news management by joining the news desk, moving into production or working on page layout and headlines as a sub-editor. It may also be possible to move overseas as a foreign correspondent, where knowledge of the language and culture is essential.

Many senior journalists and correspondents work freelance across print, broadcast and online journalism. Both radio and television offer newspaper journalists off-screen opportunities as researchers, writers and production assistants on the reporting or editing side of news programmes. Web publishing, in the forms of blogs or uploading news to the web as it happens, instead of waiting for daily or weekly paper deadlines, is increasingly important to UK newspapers.



Section 1 – Careers Focus

What Qualifications Will You Need?

Common routes into journalism are to take an undergraduate degree in journalism, or to take an undergraduate degree in a different subject (often an essay-based subject such as English or History) followed by a postgraduate journalism qualification. Either way, make sure that the course you choose is accredited by the **National Council for the Training of Journalists (NCTJ)** if you want to work for a UK-based news organisation. Alternatively, it is sometimes possible to get in with a non-journalism degree and no journalism postgraduate qualifications, or with an apprenticeship or similar programme instead of a degree.

Typical Skills Required

You'll need to show:

- strong written and oral communication skills
- a keen interest in news, current affairs, business and people
- accurate spelling, grammar and punctuation
- good organisation skills and the ability to work under pressure to tight deadlines
- an ability to grasp complex issues quickly and explain them in simple, concise language
- resilience, determination, flexibility, persistence, motivation and integrity
- flexibility to accommodate for breaking news and deadlines and willing to work long or unsocial hours.

Work Experience

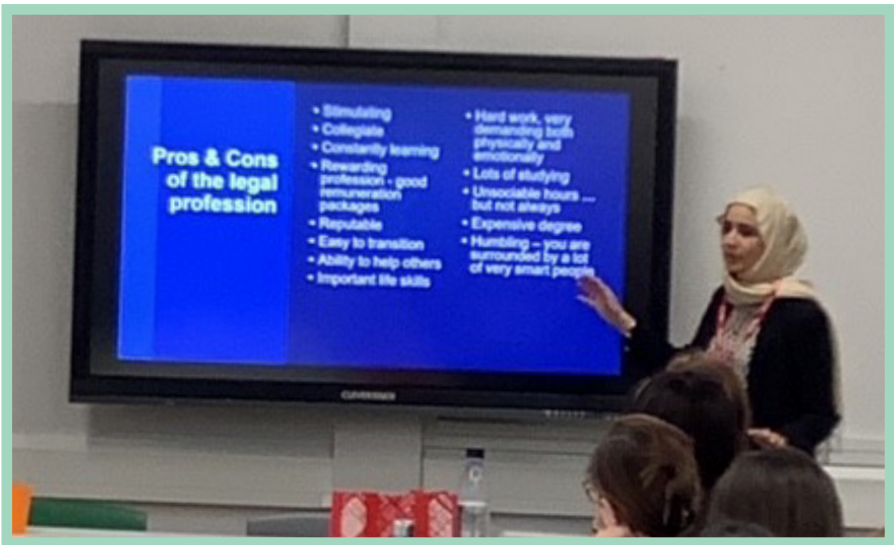
If your aim is to work directly within journalism, it's vital that you build up a portfolio of work and gain as much relevant experience as possible. Working on the Young Reporter Scheme at school, a student newspaper, magazine or radio station will be helpful. You could also start your own blog to develop your writing style and interview techniques.

Take advantage of any work placements to gain experience and make contacts within the industry. You could also find opportunities by contacting TV production studios, radio outlets, magazines and newspapers. Show an enthusiasm for their subject matter and ask if they have any work experience schemes. Writing voluntarily for websites, print publications or other media outlets will also add to your portfolio and display your skills.

Don't forget you can also use your **Morrisby online portal** to explore further.



The Law Society Guest Speaker, Mrs Zahra Irfan



The Sixth Form Law Society were joined by Mrs Zahra Irfan, a parent and lawyer working for an investment company in London. Mrs Irfan’s talk was very inspiring, providing lots of tips and insights into the law profession and how to become a lawyer or a barrister. The Law Society is open to all students in the Sixth Form with an interest in law and meets monthly. Contact **Mr Sanders** if you would like to join in or to find out more.

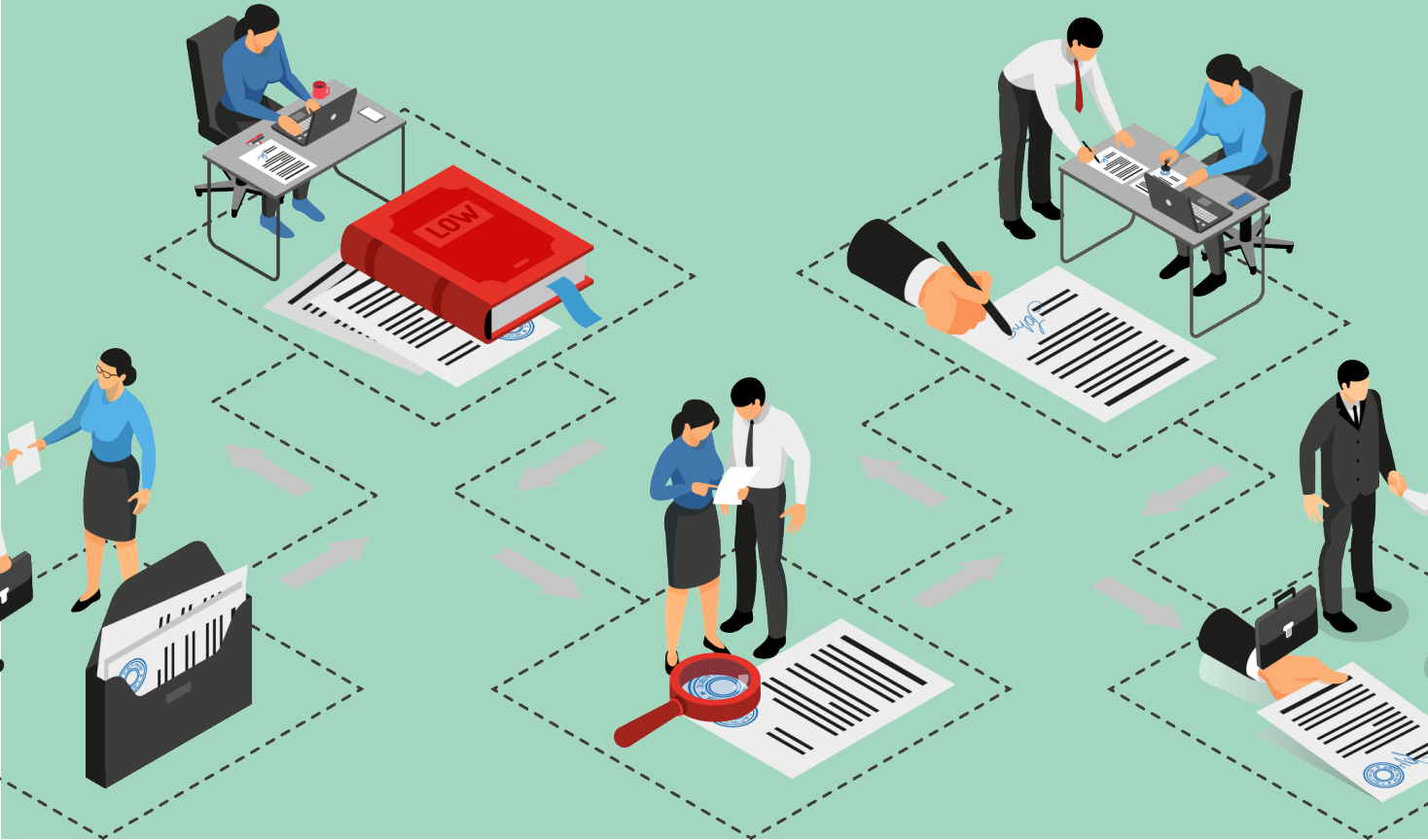
Qualifying as a Lawyer

Routes to Qualification



Pros and Cons of the Legal Profession

Pros	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stimulating• Collegiate• Constantly learning• Rewarding profession - good remuneration packages• Reputable• Easy to transition• Ability to help others• Important life skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hard work, very demanding both physically and emotionally• Lots of studying• Unsociable hours...but not always• Expensive, particularly at post- graduate level• Humbling - you are surrounded by a lot of very smart people



Section 1 – Careers Focus

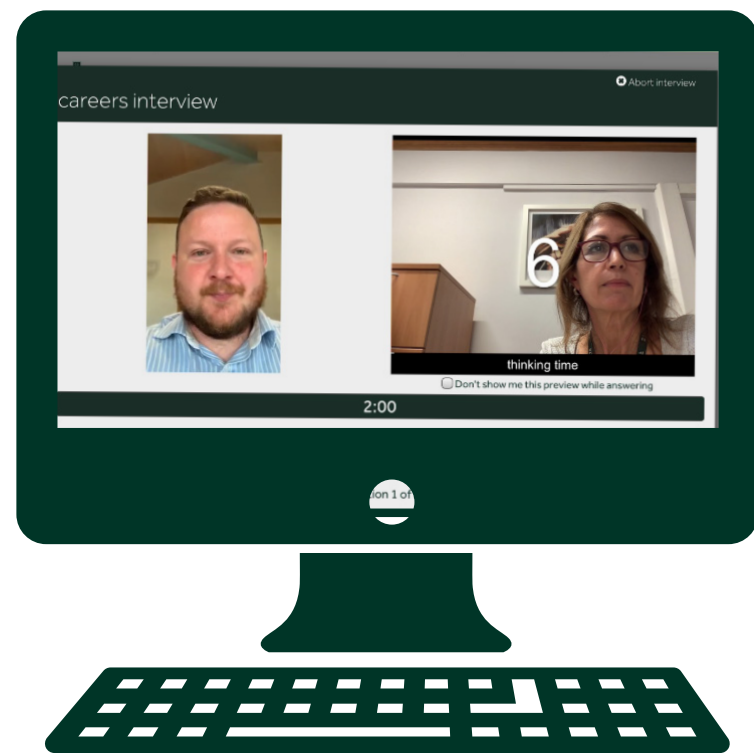
Virtual Careers Interviews

Years 7-13

We are excited to be rolling out a new virtual careers interview programme to our pupils in Years 7 to 11 during the Autumn and Spring Terms. These simulated conversations will help pupils to reflect on the future in a fun and self-reflective way in preparation for discussion about their GCSE choices, as well as activities higher up the School, such as the full Morrisby Careers Profile in the Summer Term of Year 10, and their one-to-one careers interviews that take place in the Autumn Term of Year 11.

Pupils are asked a series of pre-recorded questions relating to the future, ideas about education and career options, the factors to consider when assessing these and ways one can undertake research. For example, a question could be, “How might you find out more about a particular career option?” Answers could include work experience, looking at their Morrisby, contacting alumni or contacts working in that area, etc. Their response is recorded and then compared against a checklist of things people might typically say. Additionally, they will then receive an automated feedback email on presentational factors only, such as speed of speaking, the number of filler words used, etc.

These sorts of pre-recorded interviews are increasingly being used by companies to initially filter applicants. Practice for this purpose is not the primary aim here, and pupils will have an opportunity to do a virtual job interview in Sixth Form. However, this serves as an introduction to the software used.



Section 2 - Beyond the Curriculum

Volunteering

Did you know that voluntary work can improve your university, apprenticeship or work application?

Why Volunteer?

Voluntary work allows you to ‘give something back’ by dedicating your time to a good cause, but there are plenty of other reasons to volunteer:

- Just like other forms of work experience, volunteering gives you skills and experiences that can be included on any future applications you make for jobs, apprenticeships or university.
- It allows you to sample a new sector or role without any commitment to carry on if you don’t enjoy it. For example, you can find out whether you work better in a team or on your own, or in a large organisation or a small one.
- You might also gain commercial awareness by learning about how the organisation makes money and its different business areas.
- University courses and careers such as medicine, veterinary or architecture may require evidence that you have the competencies required to succeed in the chosen career.

Volunteer Ideas

Voluntary work doesn’t have to be relevant to your career ambitions; whatever you do will increase your confidence and develop skills that you’ll use in any career. However, it is especially useful if you have a particular career path in mind or are deciding between a few.

- Charity and public service is an obvious career area in which there are lots of volunteering opportunities, such as selling donated items in a charity shop or setting up fundraising events. If you’re interested in joining the police, you can volunteer as a **police cadet**.
- Local care homes or community groups such as **The Challengers Organisation** need volunteers to help at their local day centres for young people and disabled children.
- Volunteering in a hospital would be ideal experience to help you get onto a medical or nursing degree. However, often healthcare degrees also value (sometimes value more) volunteering that show you have the skills required to pursue a healthcare career even if it does not take place in a medical setting. For example, mentoring or teaching.
- You could volunteer at an animal shelter or with the **Blue Cross** if you want to work with animals, or help run the Summer Reading Challenge at your local library if you’re interested in working with children.
- If you want a career in publishing, volunteering in a public library or charity bookshop would be ideal as it allows you to familiarise yourself with different genres and authors outside of your usual reading material.
- Writing blogs, helping with social media or designing posters for an organisation you’re passionate about provides you with great experience in journalism, marketing or public relations.



Section 2 - Beyond the Curriculum

If you'd like to start volunteering but don't have a clear idea of what you might enjoy, use a mind map to generate ideas before narrowing it down. Start by listing any hobbies or interests you have. For example, if you have a favourite sport, you might be able to help coach the younger members of your local club. If you're interested in art or history, a museum might suit you. If you love being outdoors, you could help with conservation in a national park or nature reserve.

Types of Volunteering Opportunities: Location and Time Commitment

Another factor to consider when choosing a volunteering opportunity is how much time it requires and where it is based.

- A regular commitment (e.g., every Saturday afternoon) is a good way to volunteer near to where you live. Fitting volunteering around other extracurricular activities and your schoolwork will improve your time management in addition to the skills you'll pick up from the volunteering itself.
- For some university courses that like volunteering (eg. medicine), a regular commitment shows your interest in genuine rather than just "ticking a box" with a week at a hospital.
- You might want to volunteer for a longer block of time, such as in the school holidays.
- Voluntary work can also be a rewarding way to spend your gap year after leaving school, whether you choose to do a placement abroad or something closer to home.
- Some opportunities are not exclusively a regular commitment or a long, one-off block of time. For example, the National Trust, RSPB and Youth Hostels Association (YHA) all offer a mixture of one-day volunteer events, regular volunteer roles and residential opportunities.

How to Find Volunteer Work

There are a number of places you can find volunteering opportunities, depending on what sort you're looking for:

- local newspapers and notice boards
- the websites of any organisations you're interested in
- websites of organised schemes that involve volunteering, such as National Citizen Service or the Duke of Edinburgh's Award.
- at school, such as helping younger pupils with maths or spelling, or running an extracurricular activity for them.

If you don't see an advertised opportunity that interests you, there's no harm in asking an organisation if it has any vacancies available.

There's no law against under 16s volunteering, but it is sometimes not covered by an organisation's insurance policy, and some volunteering roles are unsuitable for under 18s. However, if you're too young for one role, there may be another that is suitable.

Section 2 - Beyond the Curriculum

Keeping a Record of Skills Gained From Volunteering

Noting down what you gain from volunteering will make it easier for you when the time comes to begin an application, and help you remember more detail in case you're asked about your volunteering at an interview. Make a note of any transferable skills from volunteering (such as communication skills or problem solving) that you develop, as well as:

- any positions of responsibility, such as training new volunteers
- achievements that you're especially proud of, such as overcoming a personal weakness
- any examples of you being creative or innovative, such as suggesting a new way of doing things and putting it into practice
- things that have strengthened your commercial awareness and familiarity with being in a workplace, such as attending strategy meetings or volunteer conferences.



Credit Suisse Inspire Programme Competition Winners!



At the beginning of summer '21, a team of five Year 13 students at Surbiton High School took part in the Credit Suisse Inspire Programme. The challenge was to create a fundraiser to raise as much revenue as possible for Credit Suisse's charity partner, Cancer Research. We were allocated an advisor from Credit Suisse to help us with the process.

At first the task seemed difficult; it was slightly awkward discussing and challenging others' ideas over Zoom. The process required us to be as creative and innovative as possible to design a fundraiser that was feasible, realistic and practical and would

generate the most revenue, whilst being interesting for participants. Working and collaborating in a team ensured that we made decisions by incorporating and building on everyone's ideas. After much planning and discussion, we came up with the name 'Wonder Women' (a nod to our all-girls' school) and we decided that our fundraiser would be (what Surbiton High School do best) - a fashion show. It would take place at Credit Suisse offices all around the world, at around the same time.

We know that fashion accounts for around 10% of greenhouse gas emissions from human activity. So, with environmental considerations in mind, wanting to avoid 'fast fashion', incorporate our passion for upcycling as well as to help increase profit margins, we decided that all the runway outfits had to be made solely from clothing bought at Cancer Research charity shops and modelled by staff from Credit Suisse offices around the world.

After spending an hour listening to other schools' presentations, it was finally our turn. All members took part, and our pitch was presented to a panel of judges, the clients (Credit Suisse) and to the other school competitors via Zoom again. We presented our ideas and described how the events should be run and included details of costs and a projected profit. We managed to present to the panel in a concise manner while conveying all the key elements. I was very impressed by how confident and clear everyone was, and it was clear to see that the judges were impressed too. The quickfire questions at the end of the presentation taught us that a well thought through process while building an idea is essential; this ensures that the solution is foolproof and will stand up to scrutiny.

I loved hearing other school competitors' pitches and how their creative ideas would be both feasible and profitable charity events. Some of them were inspiring and well thought through, so we were thrilled when we learned that Surbiton High School's Wonder Women team were declared joint winners of the Credit Suisse Inspire Programme. For part of our prize, we have been invited to the Credit Suisse offices in Canary Wharf to discuss implementation of our fundraiser in real life; this is an experience that we are all extremely looking forward too.

There was such a lot that we learned from taking part in the Inspire Programme, including collaborative decision making and working as a team. It was also a great opportunity, although nerve-wracking, to practice presenting online - a valuable experience, as a large part of the future world of work will be online.

It was interesting talking to our advisor about his journey which led him to working at Credit Suisse. As a group of young people interested in working in business as a career, we found it very inspiring. We learned about the range of employment opportunities on offer at a multinational company such as Credit Suisse; finance, IT, marketing, law and banking.

Finally, Cancer Research is a fantastic charity, doing an amazing job and it's great to know that our idea will help to raise much-needed funds.

By Year 13 students - Marina, Dasha, Saoirse, Kaaviya and Harriet



Section 3 – Exploring Higher Education & Super-curricular activities

Studying in the USA - Some Things to Consider



Applying to the USA for university is an exciting prospect for many reasons. But, before jumping into an application, it’s worth thinking about a few important things first.

Can You Afford it?

This might seem like a harsh question to ask, but it’s easily the most crucial. US colleges are very expensive, at least on paper. Without any help, you can expect to pay around \$50-60,000 (£37,000-44,000) per year, for four years. There are lots of ways of reducing that cost, but you need to be a very good student or have a real talent in something to be eligible for means-tested aid or scholarships.

Do You Fit the Learning Style?

You might like the idea of America, but are you the right fit for the style of learning there? It’s very different to most places in the world, in that you don’t normally specialise straight away, and you will have to study a range of subjects before you decide on your major. This is the idea of ‘Liberal Arts’, and that isn’t for everyone. But for many, the chance to really understand what you enjoy and are good at, whilst developing other learning skills, is a great opportunity.

Note that maths plays a big role in most subjects in the US. If you want to study Business, for example, it’s pretty much essential that you took it at school to age 18.

Remember that some subjects, like Medicine and Law, can only be studied at graduate level in the US, so you might prefer to study those at undergraduate level elsewhere.

Which Colleges are the Right Fit for You?

You can’t simply apply to loads of colleges and hope that you get in; you need to understand what they’re looking for in a student. This varies massively between colleges and isn’t just academic: it’s social and cultural too. If you want to make a success of your applications and want to end up at a place where you can really thrive, you absolutely must understand this notion of fit and do plenty of research.

Admissions officers are trained to assess people on dozens of criteria to determine if they’re the right fit, and if you know for sure that you’d get on well there, you’ll be able to make honest, heartfelt applications that resonate with the admissions officers.

What do You do Outside of School?

Being a really good student isn’t enough to get you into a US college. You need to show that you’re someone who cares about other things, and who takes part in the world around them. Colleges want to see responsibility, community involvement, intellectual curiosity, commitment, and lots more. If you don’t have hobbies and interests that you’re passionate about, how are you going to prove this?

Section 3 – Exploring Higher Education & Super-curricular activities

Do the things you enjoy, but always look for opportunities over and above what is just given to you.

Have You Taken the SAT or ACT Entrance Test?

There are two main entrance tests: the SAT and the ACT. Students choose one of these tests to take. Broadly speaking, students who prefer maths do the SAT, and students who prefer English do the ACT. These tests are run by rival companies, but both are equally accepted by all colleges in the US. The tests are broadly similar: both contain English, reading, maths, and data analysis questions, and the ACT has an optional essay. Both tests take around three hours to complete without the essay, are almost entirely multiple choice, and are very time pressured.

Many colleges are now test-optional, which means you don’t have to submit the SAT or ACT in order to apply. But there might be situations where you must (like scholarships), or where a good score will help your application. Most likely, you will choose to take one or both of these tests to support your applications to US universities. It is possible to take the tests multiple times, in order to improve your score. Universities will use your best results in making their admissions decision.

While some universities say that these tests are optional, this is actually a chance to have something in your application that most US applicants will also have. The benefit of this is that it will let admissions officers compare your performance as an international applicant with your peers in the US. A strong score gives you one more highlight to include with your application.

Can You Write?

There’s no getting away from it: you are going to have to write essays. You’ll have to write an average of two to three application essays for each college to which you apply, and once you get there, you’ll be submitting lots of written papers. If you really hate writing (and reading), then you might want to consider a more numerate degree in the UK or other location.

Have You Got the Time?

The US has the most complex application process in the world, and it takes time to make a good application. If you’re planning on applying to other systems as well (especially Oxbridge), consider how little time you are going to have. Start early!

Some websites for further research:

- ***Study in the USA by Prospects***
- ***FulBright Commission, Studying in the USA***
- ***USA University Guide***
- ***USA Sports Scholarships – Sporting Elite***
- ***UES Expert Admissions – US college application support service***
- ***AStarFuture – Study Abroad***

Section 3 – Exploring Higher Education & Super-curricular activities

Alumni University Experience Q&A

**Naomi - History and Politics,
Birmingham University**



UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM

What A-levels did you take?

Maths, Physics, History and AS Further Maths.

What was the main reason for choosing your university?

The well-being support and the specialisms of some of the politics lecturers. Also, the campus and good first year accommodation.

What three words best describe your first term?

Friendly, assistance when needed and self-motivation.

What, if anything would you change about your university?

Attendance recordings and participation levels.

What has surprised you most about your course and university learning?

A focus on placing the topic in current debate, i.e., in recent historiography, rather than teaching you the content.

What have you found the most difficult about the transition from Sixth Form to university?

The reading amount and academic language of non-fiction texts.

What advice would you give to a Year 13 leaver about to start university?

Join the things you're passionate about and put the effort in - go to office hours and lectures/seminars and ask questions if you don't understand or want more information.

How do you envisage using your degree after you leave university; do you have a career in mind?

Not much idea about careers, but the university careers service is very wide.

Section 3 – Exploring Higher Education & Super-curricular activities

**Élodie – Biology,
Bristol University**



University of
BRISTOL

What A-levels did you take?

Biology, Maths and English Literature.

What was the main reason for choosing your university?

I loved that it was less of a campus university, where the campus is more integrated within the city. I also really liked my course at the university!

What three words best describe your first term?

Exciting, overwhelming and fun.

What has surprised you most about your course and university learning?

It's much more independent, especially since lots of my lectures are still online and you have to be the one to organise your work and when you will do it. I'm studying Biology, and my course is much more focused on animals rather than humans, which I was initially worried about as I really liked human biology at A-level. Now I've started the course, I'm loving it and found lots of areas of the course that I didn't know about or think I would be interested in while doing A-level, as you get to learn about the subject in much more depth.

What have you found the most difficult about the transition from Sixth Form to university?

I didn't realise how busy and overwhelming university would be at the start, as there is so much going on and so many new things to try, that it's sometimes hard to balance everything. Also, even though you meet some really great people, it can be hard when you miss friends from home as the friendships you have at university are all new and you aren't yet as close with them as your school friends.

What advice would you give to a Year 13 leaver about to start university?

Try not to worry too much about university, as even though it's a big change and there will likely be times in the first term that are harder or more difficult, you will have lots of really fun times too!

How do you envisage using your degree after you leave university; do you have a career in mind?

I would really like to stay in the area of biology or zoology. I don't think I want to do a PhD, but I think I might possibly do a masters at a different university or maybe abroad. I am going to try and find some work experience in the area of wildlife documentaries, especially since the BBC is based in Bristol, as that is an area that I think I might enjoy!

Section 3 – Exploring Higher Education & Super-curricular activities

Alumni University Experience Q&A

Clara - Environmental Earth Sciences,
St Andrews University



What A-levels did you take?

Geography, Biology and Psychology.

What was the main reason for choosing your university?

The location (Scotland) and the size.

What three words best describe your first term?

Exciting, memorable and fun.

What has surprised you most about your course and university learning?

The independence that is expected of you.

What have you found the most difficult about the transition from Sixth Form to university?

Knowing how to reference and cite, knowing how to write an essay with limited guidance.

What advice would you give to a Year 13 leaver about to start university?

Learn how to reference and cite, put yourself out there with confidence, everyone is in the same position as you and wants to make friends.

How do you envisage using your degree after you leave university; do you have a career in mind?

I might use my degree to go into the environmental and sustainability sector but ultimately, I would like to be a teacher

Section 3 – Exploring Higher Education & Super-curricular activities

Surbiton Super-Curricular Bible (password: silvergreen)



This **booklet** is a bible of all things super-curricular (those academic activities that go beyond your curriculum studies). As well as encouraging students to explore their subjects in more depth and breadth than they might have done otherwise, it also enables them to explore subjects that are not offered in School. In so doing, it will help students to make more informed choices about their university subject and develop the independent study skills so valued by universities. In due course, it will help students to find the content that will help them write their UCAS personal statements.

Please follow the Career Department’s new **YouTube Channel** for tips on exploring and using super-curricular resources.



Section 3 – Exploring Higher Education & Super-curricular activities

New Fashion Courses!

Jimmy Choo Launches London Fashion Academy

Luxury footwear fashion designer, Jimmy Choo, has launched a new Fashion Academy in London’s Mayfair, that will not only offer specialised practice-based Fashion Design courses from foundation to postgraduate level, but pupils will also learn entrepreneurial skills by being offered space in his Mayfair boutique. Pupils can apply directly at www.jca.ac.uk or via UCAS for September 2022 entry.



Section 3 – Exploring Higher Education & Super-curricular activities

University Lecture Taster Courses



FREE ONLINE UNIVERSITY COURSES

There are many free online courses (sometimes known as MOOCs – Massive Open Online Courses), lectures, podcasts and much more, offered by the best universities worldwide. They are not only interesting but can also help you to explore your potential university subject(s) and evidence your interest in your chosen degree in your UCAS personal statement. Portals for exploring what’s available include:



Portals for exploring what’s available include:

- MOOC
- Futurelearn
- Coursera
- Open Culture
- Oxford University Podcasts

Thinking about a degree in a subject you haven’t studied before? MOOCs are not just a great way to display supra-curricular engagement to impress universities for any subject, they are particularly useful to test whether you find a new subject that you haven’t studied at School interesting.

For example, thinking about a law degree? **Consider this Introduction to Common Law MOOC.**



Section 3 – Exploring Higher Education & Super-curricular activities

Online Careers Programmes

YEARS 10 - 13

There are some great courses available that are being made available in person or online (fees apply). These are a great way to explore areas of interest, to help with university applications or to find out more about a career you hadn't maybe considered before.



The **InvestIN programmes** prepare pupils for the world's most competitive and prestigious careers through these immersive career experience programmes (**fees apply**). Please note that the educational establishments used for the locations are not providing any of the course content. Courses include programmes for 'The Future... Investment Manager, Entrepreneur, Lawyer, Political Leader, Doctor, Nurse, Psychologist, Engineer, Computer Scientist, Publisher, Artist, Music Producer, International Development Expert, Accountant, Architect, Dentist, Entrepreneur, Fashionista, Environmentalist, Film Maker, Forensic Scientist, Journalist, Management Consultant, Marketing Executive, Sports Person, Vet and Video Game Designer.'



Medical School Virtual Work Experience Programmes



Brighton and Sussex Medical School have designed this excellent **free** online course to provide a virtual work experience for those looking to apply to medical school. You will be introduced to the NHS

before exploring the roles and skill sets of six different medical specialists. Along the way, you will also consider some of the challenges and wider issues doctors face. Access the course **here**.

Section 3 – Exploring Higher Education & Super-curricular activities

Healthcare Virtual Work Experience Programmes - St George's University Hospitals

4 - 15 April – Virtual Psychology Work Experience

So you love to know what makes people tick, but you don't know what field of psychology is right for you? We've got you covered! In this psychology virtual work experience programme, you'll hear about the grisly history of psychology as well as the fields of psychology we know.



Pupils must apply by 30 March through **Springpod**.

4 – 8 April – SWL Healthcare Heroes: this week will give insight into a variety of roles in healthcare, including nursing, AHPs and medicine. It will include live presentations and Q&As from colleagues from different specialities in the hospital.

The virtual work experience is open to any pupils aged 14 to 18 from southwest London. Pupils will require a laptop/tablet/smart phone/internet and a quiet space during the session.

Pupils can register their interest through **Springpod**.

HSBC Work Experience Programme (June-August 2022)



The UK Work Experience Programme is for pupils looking for a work experience placement with a leading global bank. The programme provides opportunities to gain some hands-on experience, develop your knowledge of banking and financial services, and explore the careers available at

HSBC in the UK. Pupils should note that this is an unpaid work experience programme.

Work experience placements will be through June to August 2022 and will be delivered virtually and in-person for the duration of one week.

Event date: June to August 2022

Applications close 20 February 2022.

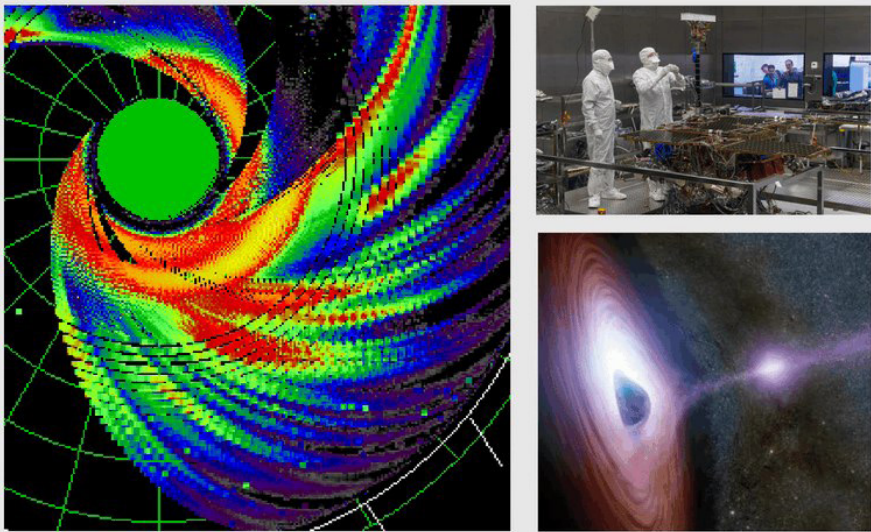
For more information and to apply, please click **here**.

Section 3 – Exploring Higher Education & Super-curricular activities

Online Space Science Work Experience Programme

YEARS 11 - 13

Mullard Space Science Laboratory SPACE SCIENCE WEEK



Are you a GCSE or A-level student* interested in space science, astrophysics or engineering?

Apply for Space Science Week! **4th - 8th July**

Interested?

Email p.elwell@ucl.ac.uk with:

- 1) Cover Letter
- 2) CV

Application Deadline: 9AM on 22nd April 2022
* Applicants must be aged 16–18

- 🚀 Online work experience programme
- 🚀 Opportunity to visit a world leading space laboratory
- 🚀 Hear from expert scientists and engineers working on space missions with NASA and ESA
- 🚀 Use real data from space to explore cutting edge science



Section 3 – Exploring Higher Education & Super-curricular activities

Christie's Art House Apprenticeship Programme

The world famous Christie's Art Auction House have some amazing **apprenticeship opportunities** available in art, HR, compliance, and within lots of their business operational departments. The closing date is **31 March** with a start date of the end of August 2022. A former Surbiton High School student is part of the programme and is more than happy to talk to you about it if you would like some further information. Contact the Careers Department if you would like more information.



Gap Year Paid Work Experience Opportunities

Rowans School, Wimbledon and Shrewsbury House School, Surbiton.

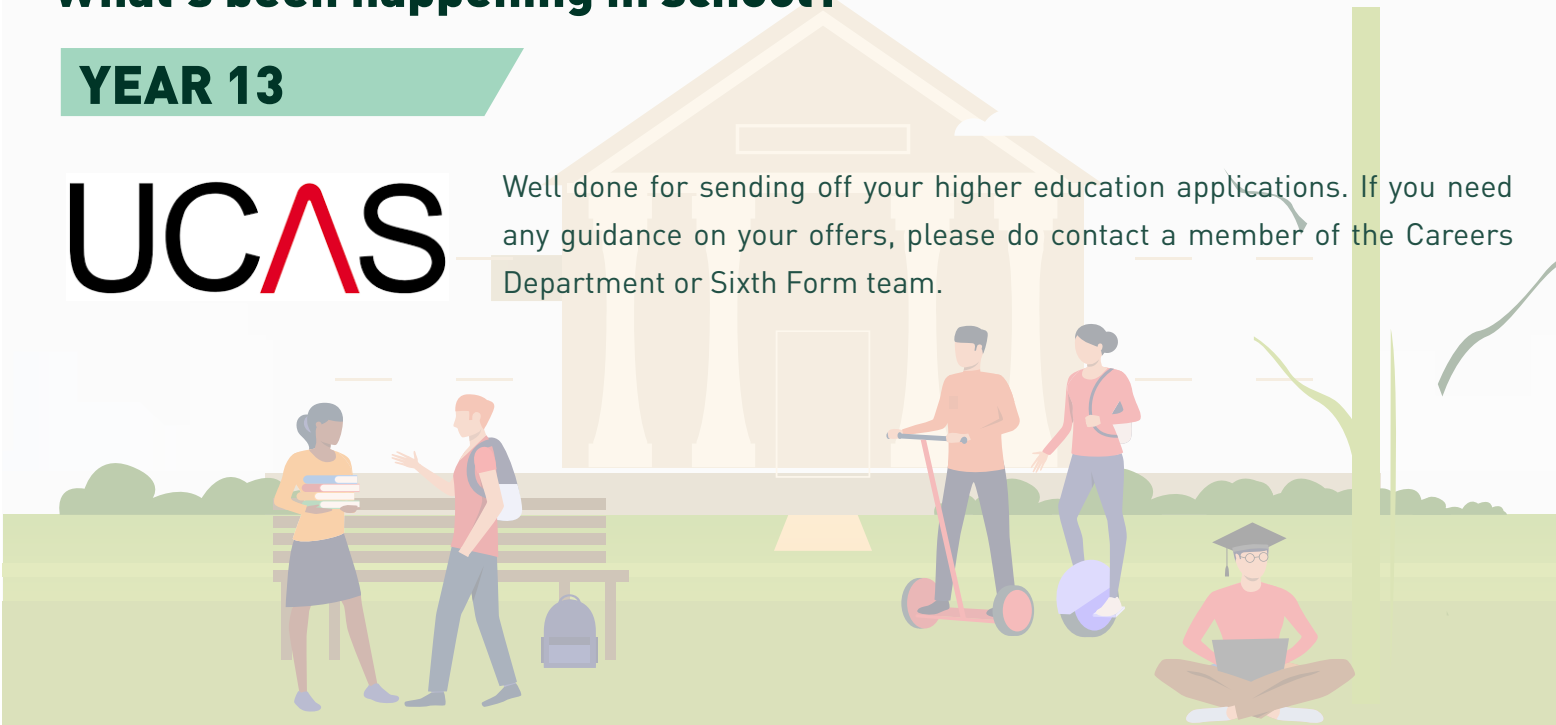
Paid roles for Gap Year Assistants within either of these local schools, from September 2022 to July 2023. Find out more on their school websites: **Shrewsbury House** and **The Rowans School**.

What's been happening in school?

YEAR 13

UCAS

Well done for sending off your higher education applications. If you need any guidance on your offers, please do contact a member of the Careers Department or Sixth Form team.



Medical School Virtual Multiple Mini-Interview (MMI) Practice



In November, the Year 13 medical, veterinary and dental students were provided with a virtual multiple mini-interview practice event, to help them prepare for the medical school’s application process. We also offer practice and advice for any student invited by a university to an interview regardless of the subject. If you need any help, please do ask.

Oxbridge Mock Interview Practice – The Year 13 students who have applied to Oxford and Cambridge Universities attended virtual mock interviews with external specialist interviewers in May and again in November 2021, just before the real interviews in December. There was also a mock interview exchange with Kingston Grammar School in November. Our interview preparation provides invaluable practice for our applicants, enabling them to use the feedback to hone their skills ahead of the real thing.



YEAR 11

A-level Choices

During the Spring Term, you will be making your A-level choices. To help with this, all pupils had a one-to-one careers interview during the Autumn Term to discuss career aspirations and study options, using the Morrisby profile report that you completed in Year 10. Personalised reports and action plans, subject videos and the Sixth Form prospectus have been provided to help with your decision making. After your mock exams, you will meet with the Sixth Form team to discuss your choices.

If you need any further help researching career options, speak to a member of the Careers team. UCAS also have a great **website** for further information and advice.

A-level Pathways

During the Spring Term, you will meet individually with the Sixth Form team to discuss your chosen higher education subjects. You can of course arrange to meet with a member of the Careers team any time before then if you need any information or have a query.

In the Sixth Form, we typically offer five different A-level pathways:

- Three A-levels
- Three A-levels plus the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)
- Three A-levels plus AS level Mathematics
- Three A-levels plus AS level Further Mathematics
- Four A-levels

There is no preferred or standard pathway. Therefore, the choice will depend on your future aspirations and course/university choices.

YEAR 9

GCSE Options

Year 9 is an exciting year where pupils get the first real opportunity in their academic careers to follow their own passions and decide how they want to spend the next two years of their schooling. A virtual options evening took place in January to explain all that you need to know about the process and what to consider when making choices, to enable GCSE choices to be made in early February.

YEAR 7

Modern Foreign Languages Options

During the Spring Term, pupils will be choosing which two of their four languages they would like to drop, effective from Year 8.

Section 4 - Competitions

YEARS 7-13

There are a range of competitions available to pupils throughout the year which, apart from being fun and interesting and lots offering cash prizes, they also look great on a UCAS application form and are particularly helpful in helping you to stand out if you are applying for highly-competitive courses.

If any competition has a limit on the number of applications per school, please let us know your plan to enter before entering. Carefully note any age restrictions.

If you are in Year 7 to 11 - contact **Mr Reeves** and **Ms Gore**

If you are in Year 12 or 13 - contact **Mr McDermott**

The competitions are updated annually, so keep an eye on the websites for the latest competitions.

Art	Closing Date	Year Group
The Nancy Rothwell Award (Art & Science) – The Royal Society of Biology	July (opens March)	Years 7 - 13
Classics		
Classics Essay Competitions (Cambridge University)	Various (questions released in December)	Year 12
Economics		
Young Economist of the Year (Royal Economic Society and The Financial Times)	June	Years 11 -13
The Marshall Society Essay/Article Competition (Cambridge University)	September	Years 11 -13
Engineering		
The Big Bang UK Young Scientist Competition: The Big Bang Competition	January - March	Years 7 - 13

English	Closing Date	Year Group
Peterhouse Thomas Campion English Prize (Peterhouse, Cambridge)	February - April	Year 12
Christopher Tower Poetry Competition (Christ Church College, Oxford)	November - March	Years 11 -13
Royal Commonwealth Essay Competition	March - June	Years 7 -13
Connell Guides Essay Prize	September	Years 10 - 13
BBC Young Reporter Competition	March	Years 7 -13
French		
French Film Competition (Oxford University)	December - March	Years 7 - 11
Geography		
Royal Geographical Society Competitions	Various	Years 7 - 13
Young Geographer of the Year	October	Years 5 - 13
German		
German Olympiad Competitions (Oxford University)	March	Years 5 - 13

History	Closing Date	Year Group
<i>Julia Wood History Essay Prize (St Hugh's College, Oxford)</i>	February	Years 12 & 13
<i>The Historical Association Historical Fiction Prize and the Joan Blyth Memorial Prize</i>	June	Years 5 - 13
<i>The Young Walter Scott Prize (History)</i>	September	Years 11 -13
<i>Peterhouse Vellacott History prize (Peterhouse College, Cambridge)</i>	February	Year 12
Law		
<i>Lord Toulson Essay Prize in Law (Jesus College, Cambridge)</i>	April	Year 12 & 13
Linguistics		
<i>Linguistics Essay Prize (Trinity College, Cambridge)</i>	August	Year 12
Mathematics		
<i>National Cypher Challenge (A nationwide, online code-breaking competition)</i>	Monthly	Years 7 - 13
<i>UK Mathematics Trust (UKMT) Challenges - Junior, Intermediate and Senior</i>	Various	Years 7 - 13
Music		
<i>Robinson College Music Composition Competition</i>	February	Years 7 - 13
Media		
<i>Journo Resources – list of Student Journalism Competitions</i>	Various	Years 7 - 13

World Photography Organisation	Closing Date	Year Group
<i>www.worldphoto.org</i>	Various	Years 7 - 13
<i>Young Financial Journalist Competition (with the FT)</i>	December - March	Years 10 - 13
Philosophy		
<i>University of Sheffield Philosophy Essay prize</i>	March	Years 10 - 12
<i>Lloyd Davis Philosophy Prize (Oriel College, Oxford)</i>	April	Year 12
<i>Trinity College Cambridge Philosophy Essay Prize</i>	May	Year 12
Science		
<i>Imperial Faculty of Natural Sciences - Schools Science & Innovation Competition</i>	September – December	Years 7 - 13
<i>Chemistry Olympiad (Royal Society Chemistry (RSC))</i>	September - January	Years 12 & 13
<i>Kelvin Science Prize (Peterhouse, Cambridge)</i>	December - April	Year 12
<i>British Biology Olympiad (The Society of Biology)</i>	From November	Years 12 & 13
<i>Beamline for schools (in association with CERN) – Physics</i>	March	Years 7 - 13
<i>The Nancy Rothwell Award (Art & Science)</i>	March - July	Years 7 - 13
<i>C3L6 Competition – Cambridge Chemistry Challenge (Cambridge University) Online Challenges</i>	June	Year 12
<i>The Big Bang Competition – The UK's top Science and Engineering competition</i>	March	Years 7 - 13

Spanish	Closing Date	Year Group
Spanish Flash Fiction competition (Oxford University)	April	Years 7 - 10, 12 & 13
The Queen's Commonwealth Competition		
The Queen's Commonwealth Essay Competition - Royal Commonwealth Society	March - June	Years 7 - 13
Theology and Religion		
Keble College Essay Competition in Theology & Religion	June	Years 12 & 13
Various Subjects		
A number of colleges run competitions covering a range of subjects, so always check these out.		
Annual Essay Competition (Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge) Fitzwilliam Essay Competitions - History, Land Economy, Architecture, Ancient World/Classics, Archaeology, Medieval World	Spring	Year 12
Bank of England School Competitions	Various	Years 7 - 13

Useful Websites

- **UCAS** (university applications)
- **Morrisby Careers Guidance**
- **Prospects** (careers guidance)
- **The Medic Portal** (advice for aspiring medics)
- **University open day listings**
- **Surbiton High School Digital Learning Space**

Careers Team Contacts

Just a reminder that the Careers Department are in the Study Area on the 2nd floor of the Sixth Form when in School. Come along and have a chat or arrange to speak to us online:

- Mr McDermott**, Director of Careers and Head of Oxbridge
- Mrs Leckie**, Assistant Director of Careers (leads on Work Experience)
- Mrs Parsons**, Careers Officer



Thank you to all students, staff and parents who have contributed to the production of this newsletter.

