



SURBITON

HIGH SCHOOL

Careers and Higher Education Newsletter

Summer 2021

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

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Architecture Careers

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Career Insights

Law

Law is a stimulating, challenging and rewarding career. It offers huge variety, both in terms of areas of specialisation and working environments. The training is very specific to the profession but, unlike medicine, it is not a journey that you have to begin in the Sixth Form. Decisions can be made much further down the line than that.

Which A-levels should I choose?

There are no required A-levels for lawyers. A-level scientists qualify as lawyers every year. If you are a non-scientist at A-level, it is useful (but by no means essential) to select one essay-based, argumentative subject, such as English, History or Philosophy.

Do my A-level grades matter?

It is a misconception that all lawyers are triple A* students at A-level. However, it is fair to say that a strong performance at A-level is needed for the best law schools and the best training positions in the legal profession.

Some universities also require law applicants to sit an “aptitude for law” test, called the LNAT.

Do I need to organise lots of work experience in the Sixth Form?

Absolutely not. If you can arrange some, then great – there is certainly no harm and any work experience is worth mentioning on your personal statement and job applications. However, the most valuable legal work experience is best organised when you are at university by applying to the specific internship programmes run by the law firms and barristers’ chambers.

What should I study at university?

Again, the choice is yours. There is no need to study law, but if law interests you, then why not? The key is to choose a course at university that you think you will enjoy. If you are enjoying your study, you are much more likely to perform well and what the legal profession does want to see is a strong performance in your degree. There are lots of ‘Introduction to Law’ MOOCs available online that you could explore to check whether undergraduate law is for you, such as this ***Coursera MOOC from the University of London***.

What happens after university?

You need to obtain the professional qualifications required to enable you to work as a qualified lawyer. There are many providers of this professional training. You apply to them in the final year of your degree. The nature of the professional training varies depending on whether you intend to be a solicitor or a barrister.

Solicitor or barrister?

This link explains the differences between the two main areas of legal practice.



What is the pathway to qualifying as a solicitor?

You must pass both parts of the Solicitor’s Qualifying Examination (SQE1 and SQE2) and obtain two years of relevant legal work experience. SQE1 tests your academic understanding of the law. Clearly, you will need less time to prepare for this examination if you have studied a law degree than someone who has no legal knowledge at all. It will most likely take between two to eight months to prepare for the SQE1 assessment, depending on whether or not you studied a law degree at university. SQE2 assesses practical skills such as interviewing, writing and negotiating. You should allow up to three years in total after university to complete your exams and relevant work experience and qualify as a solicitor.

What is the pathway to qualify as a barrister?

All aspiring barristers must complete the Barrister Training Course (known as the BTC) after graduating from university. In addition, non-law graduates must obtain a postgraduate diploma in law first. You should allow up to two years after university to complete this process.

How can Surbiton High School help me?

Law has a healthy profile at School. We run a Law Society which discusses legal topics and legal reasoning, we offer law talks to the academic Scholars throughout the Senior School, we provide law lectures on our University Lecture Day, and we offer specific mentoring for law applicants, both for Oxbridge, LNAT and university applications generally. In 2020, a student gained a place at Oxford to read Law and in the two years prior to that, students went up to Cambridge to read Land Economy, a degree subject that has a significant law element. Law is much more in the mindset of Surbiton High School students than used to be the case, and each year a number of Surbiton High School students now head off to Russell Group universities to read Law or a law-themed degree.

By Mr David Sanders, Leadership Coach and Teacher, and Law Tutor at BPP Law School



Section 1 – Careers Focus

Career Insights

Architecture

Are you good at design and drawing? Do you enjoy maths or physics? Do you have an interest in buildings and the built environment?

As an architect, you'll design new buildings or extensions or alterations to existing structures and advise on the restoration and conservation of old properties. You may work on individual buildings or on large redevelopment schemes, and your responsibility can extend to the design of the surrounding landscape and spaces.

Typical entry requirements:

Five GCSEs including English, Maths and science. A-level subjects may include one or more of either Maths, Physics, Art and Design. Note that you don't necessarily need a science A-level and some architecture schools don't require Art A-level either, although a strong portfolio would be important. The portfolio of artwork should demonstrate a broad mixture of work, including sketches, freehand drawings, photographs and models. A one-year Foundation Diploma in Art and Design can be completed prior to the course, although it is not necessary or expected by top architecture schools.

Qualifications:

The traditional process for qualifying as an architect takes at least seven years of study and training and usually consists of:

- An ARB approved architecture degree (3 or 4 years)
- Practical work experience (1 year)
- A further full-time university course i.e. BArch, Diploma, March (2 years)
- Practical training (1 year)
- A final qualifying exam

You should do lots of research for architecture because the content and method of teaching is quite different from one college to another. You will need to know if you wish to pursue a very practical hands-on course or a more drawing/computer-based course for example.

Architecture Apprenticeships

Don't fancy going to university? Would you like to earn a salary, whilst training? Don't want to pay university tuition fees?

Then an alternative career entry route is through an architect degree apprenticeship. They combine practical experience in an architectural practice with academic training from a university. There are two architecture apprenticeships routes in the UK:

- Level 6 Architectural Assistant, including Part 1 qualification (4 years)
- Level 7 Architect, including Part 2 and Part 3 qualifications (4 years)

Further information can be found on the ***Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) website***. The Art Department are also available for further advice or guidance.



Section 2 – Exploring Higher Education & Super-curricular activities

Applying for Art and Design Courses

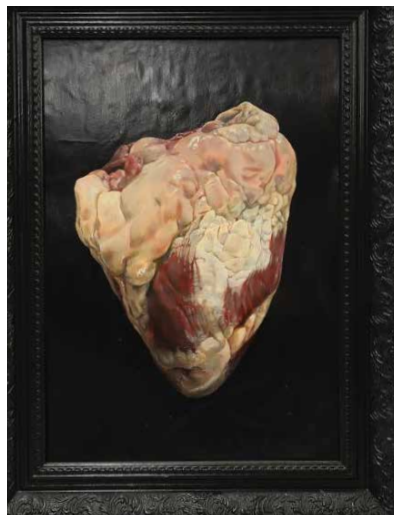
If you are thinking of applying to art and design courses at university or art school, then consider the following guidance from our Art Department who have many years of experience in helping students to apply for their chosen courses, including:



Katy, City & Guilds
London School of Art



Millie, Central Saint Martins,
University of the Arts, London



Charlotte, The Ruskin School
of Art, Oxford University

Key Facts

- This is a broad subject, and you have lots of options when it comes to applying for courses and degrees in art and design.
- If any student wishes to attend art college for a future career in a design field (such as fashion design) they usually and often have studied Art at GCSE and A-level.
- Portfolios are very important for applicants for art and design courses and the most useful subjects to have studied at A-level which are available at Surbiton High School include Art or Photography and Design Technology.
- The majority of foundation diplomas in art and design offered by colleges are free to students who are under the age of 19 at the time of starting the course. Most universities also do not charge a fee for those under the age of 19, though it is important to check this before applying.
- There are a few fee-paying foundations, such as London College of Contemporary Arts, The Royal Drawing School and Goldsmiths.
- Applications for foundation courses need to be submitted by 31 January prior to the year of entry, apart from at Ravensbourne and Epsom.

The different routes for studying art and design

- One-year general foundation diploma in art and design, followed by a three-year degree course.
- One-year pathway foundation specialising in a specific area i.e. fashion and textiles or graphics.
- Straight to do a three-year degree course - although most degree courses will not accept students without a foundation diploma.
- Four-year degree course. First year could be equivalent to a foundation year depending on where you study. This can also be referred to as year 0 of a degree course.
- Combined degree with Art.

Which is the right route for me?

- If you are undecided about the area of art and design you wish to specialise in, or you are not sure that a career in art and design is really for you, then choose a one-year foundation diploma in art and design.
- If you know that your area of interest is for example fine art, then you can choose a specialist mode foundation course, or apply directly to a four-year degree course.
- Combined degrees do not need a foundation.
- Architecture and History of Art do not require a foundation diploma for entry, but many architecture courses will ask for a portfolio of work.

Why should I do a foundation course?

Many art and design degree courses ask that students have a foundation year as this gives you time to develop as an artist or designer and decide in which area you would like to specialise in. The sorts of degree courses you can take are wide and varied. Foundation courses are often a reflection of what is offered at degree level. Degree tutors may come to the foundation courses and select students they wish to have on the degree.

The Art Department are always available for further advice and guidance.

Explore Further



Creative Careers



Creative & Cultural Skills



Art & Design Subject Guide & Resources at the University of Edinburgh



Course Examples at the University of the Arts London (UAL)



The Ruskin School of Art at Oxford University

The Turing Scheme



Thinking of studying or working abroad? The **Turing Scheme** is the new scheme to replace the ERASMUS programme (post-Brexit) to enable students to study and work in Europe. Find out more and sign up to their newsletter.

Gap Year Opportunities

One Year Paid Work Placement - Shrewsbury House School, Surbiton, Esher and Wimbledon



Thinking of taking a gap year? Want to earn some money and gain some work experience? Shrewsbury House School (Surbiton), Shrewsbury House Pre-Preparatory School (Esher) and The Rowans School (Wimbledon) are looking to appoint gap-year students for the academic year September 2021 to July 2022 in sports, academic and art placements. Further details are available on their **website**.

Gap Year Overseas Community Support Scholarships

Thinking you might take a gap year that includes helping a community in need overseas? **The Bulkeley Evans HMC Scholarship fund** is available for gap year projects between school and university. 30 scholarships may be awarded of between £200 to £800 for students who are members of HMC Schools (Surbiton High School is a member). More details are available on their website.



University Virtual Open Days 2021



The majority of universities are providing virtual open days during the Summer Term. Research, forward planning and **bookings are usually required**, even for the online events, so keep an eye out on the university websites for confirmed dates as some open days can fill up very quickly.

Students will not be allowed to attend university open days during a school day without permission (which will only be granted in limited circumstances) unless as part of a school activity. The dates below only include dates that do not fall within a school day. Many virtual open days may be recorded so students don't need to miss lessons and can be watched at any time – check each website. Also, some universities are now starting to book for on-campus open days. **Opendays.com** list many of these; however, some are launched on the university websites before they appear on the website.

University	Dates
Aberdeen	Tues 31 Aug
Birmingham	Sat 3 July - live event and online
Cambridge	Thurs 8 July and Fri 9 July virtual live events; 5 - 18 July online events – must register in advance
Cardiff	Sat 3 July
Glasgow	Wed 1 Sep
King's College, London	Sat 24 July – Sat 1 Aug
Liverpool	Online resources available
London School of Economics (LSE)	Lots of online resources available
Loughborough	Dates TBC
Nottingham	Dates TBC – June, July and Sep
Oxford	Thurs 1 July - check for events outside of school hours only or pre-recorded sessions
Plymouth	Sat 9 Oct
Portsmouth	Sat 3 July
Queen Mary's (UoL)	Sat 3 July (on campus and virtual)
Royal Holloway, University of London	Online resources available
Sheffield	Online only
Southampton	Sat 3 July, Sun 4 July
St Andrews	Autumn dates TBC - online talks and tours available
University Arts London (UAL)	Course specific online events throughout term

	University
1	Oxford
2	St Andrews
3	Cambridge
4	Durham
5	LSE
6	Bath
7	Loughborough
8	Warwick
9	Imperial
10	Lancaster

Rank	Institution
1	Oxford
2	Stanford
3	Harvard
4	California Institute of Technology (Caltech)
5	Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)
6	Cambridge
7	Uni of California, Berkeley
8	Yale
9	Princeton
10	Chicago

Rank	Institution
11	Imperial
16	UCL
27	London School Economics (LSE)
30	Edinburgh
35	Kings
51	Manchester
77	Warwick
91	Bristol
92	Glasgow

Department for Education Essential Guide for Student Finance

This **guide** will help you to understand the financial support available to help you to pursue higher education. As well as details on tuition fees, loan amounts and repayment thresholds, there is information about extra financial support that may be available for those who need it.

MONEY MATTERS

THE ESSENTIAL FREE GUIDE
STUDENT FINANCE 2020/2021

Undergraduate Academic Scholarships

There are a variety of scholarships available for university courses offered by universities, companies and private individuals. The selection below shows that a little research can reap valuable rewards!



The Scholarship Hub – Start your research with this **website**, which is full of information on UK scholarships, grants or bursaries for university.

Cambridge University – **Khattar-Harrison Scholarship** – This was awarded to a former student, Megan, in 2019 - £5,000 p.a.

Manchester, Leeds and Birmingham Universities – These universities offer various scholarships for a range of subjects.

Durham University - **Various scholarships** are available across different subjects, including the BP Scholarship for students identified by STEM and management/economics departments providing £3,000 p.a.

Newcastle University – **Various scholarships** available for most subjects.

Birmingham University - **Physics Academic Scholarship** - £1,000.

Army Medical Services Bursary – Doctor, dentist, nurse or veterinary scholarships up to £75,000 for the duration of the course.

Army Officer Scholarships – Apply from Year 12 for Sixth Form and university financial support - £9,000 over 4 years.

Business Scholarship – **1st Formations** are offering £600 to 10 successful business applicants.

York University **English or undergraduate scholarships** - £1,000 for academic achievement.

Southampton University - **Electronics and Computer Science scholarship** – Female applicants only, up to £3,000.

Bristol University - **Undergraduate scholarships, Biology and Physics scholarships** - £2,000 p.a. for female students.

Bath University - **Undergraduate scholarships, Arts scholarship** – Up to £1,500 for students in the performing arts, backstage skills or visual arts.

Royal Holloway, University of London - **English scholarship** – £5,000 over 3 years

Bath University **Sports Scholarships** - £5,000 p.a.

Queen Mary University, London - **Business and Management Scholarship** - £4,000 off year 1 fees.

Gap year working scholarships – **The Bulkeley-Evans HMC Scholarship Fund** – Between £200 - £800 awards.

Oxford University Alumni Top Tips

Former Surbiton High School students, Katie and Julia, have some great tips and a personal insight into life at university.

Top Tips for Year 11s Considering Oxbridge as they enter Sixth Form:

Ensure the three (or sometimes four) subjects you choose at A-level are academic strengths and interests as Oxbridge will be looking for AAA-A*A*A depending on the course (this is good advice for any student, not just those considering Oxbridge. Avoid randomly changing an A-level option on Results Day without getting advice as the A-level may vary considerably to the GCSE).

Check specific subject requirements on the **Oxford** and **Cambridge** course pages e.g. Further Maths can make your application much more competitive in Physics, Computer Science, Economics at Cambridge and Engineering.

If doing an EPQ, try to align your EPQ topic with your degree. If you don't know your degree subject yet, keep your title open. It's odd to an Oxbridge admissions tutor if you're applying for Theology and your EPQ is on maths!

Extra-curricular (i.e. sport, music, etc) are not relevant to an Oxbridge application. Therefore, while it's good to have something to balance your studies, perhaps avoid taking on too much extra-curricular as you will need time to undertake super-curricular studies (i.e. academic studies relevant to your degree beyond A-level) and your A-levels - as well as time to unwind!

If you need advice about choosing your A-levels for Oxbridge (or any other universities for that matter), remember you can email Terry McDermott on **terry.mcdermott@surbitonhigh.com**.

Apprenticeships & Degree Apprenticeships – Another Route into Employment



When you think of an apprentice, what do you think of? Chances are, it may be an image of a teenager in a hard hat and high-viz jacket, learning a manual job from a more experienced colleague – and that is possibly not the career path that you had in mind.

The truth is, that there is so much more to apprenticeships than that old stereotype. Apprenticeships now come in many forms, representing a wide range of professions. **There are now plenty of amazing opportunities in higher level apprenticeships, including degree and even masters levels, and covering a wide range of industries such as technology, engineering, business, accounting, HR, media, law, healthcare – even teaching!**

Before I joined Surbiton High School, I worked for a global technology company, managing many of their early professionals. This covered graduates of course, and also university placement students, but also, more recently, apprentices. I was constantly impressed by the responsibilities that they were given, and I can honestly say that they were treated as equals by their peers, and certainly not held in lower esteem – they were definitely not there to just brew the tea! Indeed, some of those apprentices were working on cutting-edge technologies, such as artificial intelligence, and working with high-profile, household name clients. Some other apprentices were working on the technology behind the scenes at the Wimbledon tennis championships.

The term, “apprenticeship”, covers all possible levels, from a level 2 (which is roughly equivalent to GCSE), all the way up to level 7 (master’s degree level). As a school leaver with A-levels, you would probably be focused on a higher apprenticeship (level 4 or 5), or a degree apprenticeship (level 6).

So, who would suit an apprenticeship? Honestly – it’s open to anyone, as an apprenticeship is an equally valid choice when leaving school. It has the benefit of providing paid employment in a valuable and highly-skilled profession whilst gaining a recognised qualification. In the case of a degree apprenticeship, this includes being paid whilst gaining a degree, and having no student debt at the end! It also may suit some people better than a degree course.

A key element of all apprenticeships, regardless of the level, is the mix of on-the-job and off-the-job learning. All apprenticeships require a minimum of 20% of the time doing off-the-job training, which may be one day per week or maybe one week per month.

There are a number of resources out there to help you find an apprenticeship, some of which are included at the end of this article. Also remember that if you are applying to a company for a degree apprenticeship, you need to still obtain the A-level grades required for the university course.

It’s also worth checking some of the big employers who take large numbers of apprentices. Examples include BT, RAF, Accenture, Civil Service, PwC, IBM, Santander, Goldman Sachs, BBC, Lloyds, AstraZeneca and the Bank of England.

If you are interested in knowing more about an apprenticeship, then I would be more than delighted to discuss this with you – please don’t hesitate to come and see me in the Sixth Form study area, or email me **jon.white@surbitonhigh.com**

Mr Jon White, Academic Mentor, Sixth Form & Year 11

Explore Further

The Scholarship Hub - **Degree Apprenticeship Guide**

Prospects - **Degree Apprenticeship Guide**

Amazing Apprenticeships

The Degree Apprenticeship Hub – Degree apprenticeship guide and vacancies

GOV.UK Find an Apprenticeship – Database of apprenticeship for all levels of qualification

RateMyApprenticeship – Website focusing on degree apprenticeship information and vacancies

Institute for Apprenticeships & Technical Education – Government body that oversees all apprenticeships

GetMyFirstJob – Lots of available apprenticeships, degree apprenticeships and work experience

DLA Piper – Solicitor Degree Apprenticeship – Study for your LLB Legal Practice whilst working in a commercial law firm, with regular rotations

Allsop – Degree apprenticeship scheme - gain work experience towards becoming a chartered surveyor, time off for a fully-sponsored BSc in Real Estate whilst earning £18,000 p.a.

Police Force Apprenticeship Programme – Earn from £18,000 p.a whilst you learn

Virgin Media Digital User Experience Degree Apprenticeship – 3 A-levels required (BCC); salary £24,000 – £26,000, 48 months

Virgin Media Apprenticeships – Various roles, including civil engineer and solutions design engineer

Barratt developments Quantity Surveyor Degree Apprenticeship – Earn £24,000 p.a

Aston University CapGemini IT Degree Apprenticeship – The company will pay your full tuition fees

Unilever Degree Apprenticeships – 36 months, A-level entry roles available, including data scientist, data analyst, packaging, food and business administration

Stateside Foods **Packaging Technologist Degree Apprenticeship** – On-the-job training and studying for students interested in food, business and management

RAF Advanced Apprenticeship Scheme - Defence Photographer – 18-month programme available from age 16+, salary range from £15,600 – £20,000

BBC Apprenticeships – Explore roles within production, design and engineering, journalism and business

Amazon Degree Apprenticeships – Including IT support and automation engineering degree apprenticeships, minimum 2 A-levels required, 48 months

EY Business and Consulting Apprenticeships – Various roles, including digital and technology, business consulting and tax business; A-level entry

KPMG Apprenticeships – Including digital software engineering and auditing

JP Morgan Apprenticeships – Various financial services roles available

Tech Partnership - Tech industry backed degree apprenticeships

Section 3 - Beyond the Curriculum

Work Experience – Why do it and What are the Benefits?

During a student’s academic journey, there are landmark events and experiences that standout and are remembered in later years and for many, Work Experience Week is one of these.

It is the first opportunity to engage with the working world, gain a sense of what it is like to be an adult and connect with those in professions which you aspire to do in the future.

In the last year, it has been practically impossible to engage in any work experience due to closures and restrictions to stem the spread of the pandemic. This forced many organisations to adopt new and innovative ways to continue operating, primarily on a virtual platform.

In response, a unique work experience programme was created at Surbiton High School that could be delivered on a virtual platform, emulating what rapidly became the standard for many within the working community as the way to connect and do business.

This ensured that students could benefit from the invaluable learning outcomes gained from work experience which can be a life-changing experience in so many ways, including:

- **Test out a career and gain hands-on experience and a real feel for what a role involves**

This could be a positive experience and strengthen your resolve to pursue a particular career. Even if the role turns out to be not what you expected, it is still a valuable experience and then at least you know early on to start exploring other options.

- **Develop employability skills within a place of work**

This is crucially important for future job applications where you will be asked to provide specific examples of a time when you demonstrated a skill such as presenting, teamwork, problem solving, managing tasks, communicating effectively. Work experience enables you to develop your skills and have concrete examples of applying these to provide as evidence of your suitability for a job.

- **Build long term-term connections and make a good impression**

Effective networking with professionals who may be able to help you progress your career in the future can mean the difference between having a regular or an exceptional career.

- **Demonstrate your commitment to a career**

This is particularly true with vocational careers such as medicine, where several weeks of work experience in a caring environment is essential for demonstrating your understanding of the qualities required to work in this field and your commitment to the profession.

- **Learn about yourself and the kind of workplace environment you want to be in**

For example, would you prefer a creative or a structured environment? Do you enjoy working for a large corporate or are you most productive in a relaxed intimate office environment? You can start learning about different work settings and the impact this may have on your choice of profession.

Even if a student doesn't have a set career in mind, any work experience is a positive step in venturing out into the world of work. And as the saying goes, if you don't try, you will never know.

Don't just take our word for it! Watch these videos of our current Year 13 students who talk about their Year 11 work experience and how it shaped their career ideas and plans.

- **Student testimonials**

Listen [here](#) to Jasmine in Year 13 talking about her work experience for medical school at Epsom Hospital and a GP surgery.

Listen [here](#) to Annabel talking about her work experience at EY, a professional services firm.

- **Virtual Work Experience**

Don't forgot to look online for virtual work experience programmes which are now commonly accepted as an alternative to on-the-job work experience by universities and employers. Examples include the **NHS Virtual Work Experience Programme** or a variety of **Legal Virtual Work Experience Programmes**.

By Ziba Leckie, Assistant Director of Careers (leads on work experience)



Super-Curricular Activities

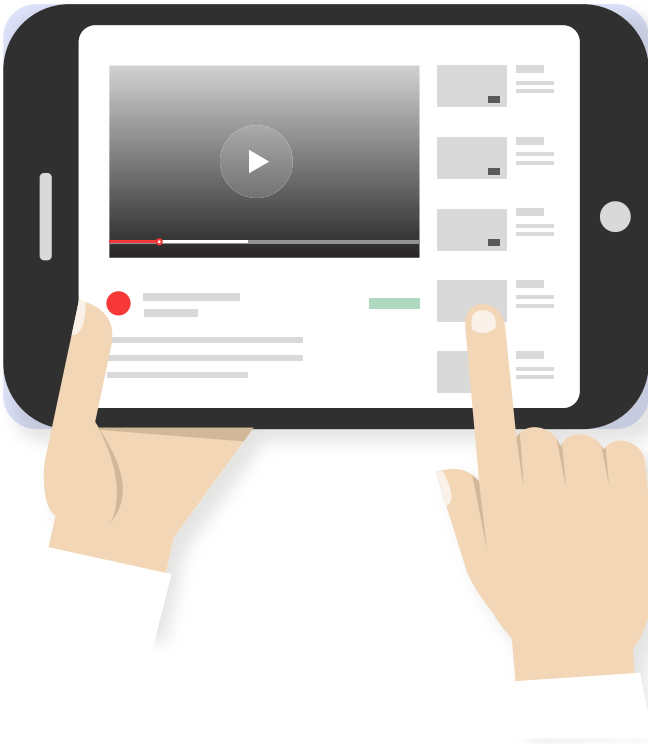
There are a range of enrichment activities available for all year groups aimed at helping students choose a subject, to develop their skills or knowledge in a particular area, or to experience life at a particular institution. Take a look at what's available:

SHS Super-Curricular Bible (password: silvergreen)



This **booklet** is a bible of all things super-curricular (those academic activities that go beyond your curriculum studies) and 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.



University Lecture Taster Courses

Cambridge University Subject Masterclasses



Subject masterclasses are subject-specific events that offer academically-able students in Year 12 the chance to experience typical undergraduate teaching at the University of Cambridge, and to get a flavour of what it's like to be a student there.

Each **masterclass** includes:

- two taster lectures delivered by leading academic staff from the university
- the opportunity to discuss and ask questions
- an introduction to the Cambridge admissions process
- the opportunity to hear about life as a Cambridge student from current undergraduates.

Subject masterclasses take place throughout the year. New subjects and dates are added regularly, so refer to the website for the latest classes. Early booking is essential and there is a **cost of £12.50 per person. All classes are outside of school hours or on Saturdays or during the holidays, and you must sign up in advance.** Note that although many masterclasses are in the Spring or Summer Terms of Year 12, some do take place in the Autumn Term, so please do keep an eye out over autumn.



University of London Free Online Taster Courses



The Taster Course Programme provides students with a taste of what life at a London university is like. All the taster courses are free to attend, and you can choose a course from a variety of subjects ranging from voice and drama, to medicine and nursing, to computing and business. All courses are available online. Attendance must be outside of school hours only.

Engineering & Design Online Taster Talks



Delivered by University of Bath academics, these **five-minute taster talks** are designed to introduce students to new concepts and include downloadable classroom activities:

- Building frequencies - why structures move and shake, and how structural engineers can tune buildings to make them safe
- Dealing with waste water - what happens once our used water goes down the drain and how engineers are changing the way we manage this important resource
- Great architecture - using an ancient formula to assess how we can define great design and build sustainably for our future
- Energy harvesting - creating small amounts of power from the world around us
- Tomorrow's electronics - the new materials that will power the electronics of the future.



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*

Oxplore

YEARS 7 - 13



Could we live on another planet? Could we end poverty? Could we live without laws?

Oxplore is an innovative digital outreach portal from the University of Oxford. The ‘Home of Big Questions’ aims to engage those from 11 to 18 years with debates and ideas that go beyond what is covered in the classroom. Big questions tackle complex ideas across a wide range of subjects and draw on the latest research undertaken at Oxford. Oxplore aims to realise aspirations, promote broader thinking and stimulate intellectual curiosity.

Summer Schools

YEARS 7 - 13

This year, there are some great summer courses available that are being made available 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.

InvestIN Programmes – ultimate live online or in-person career experiences for ages 12-18

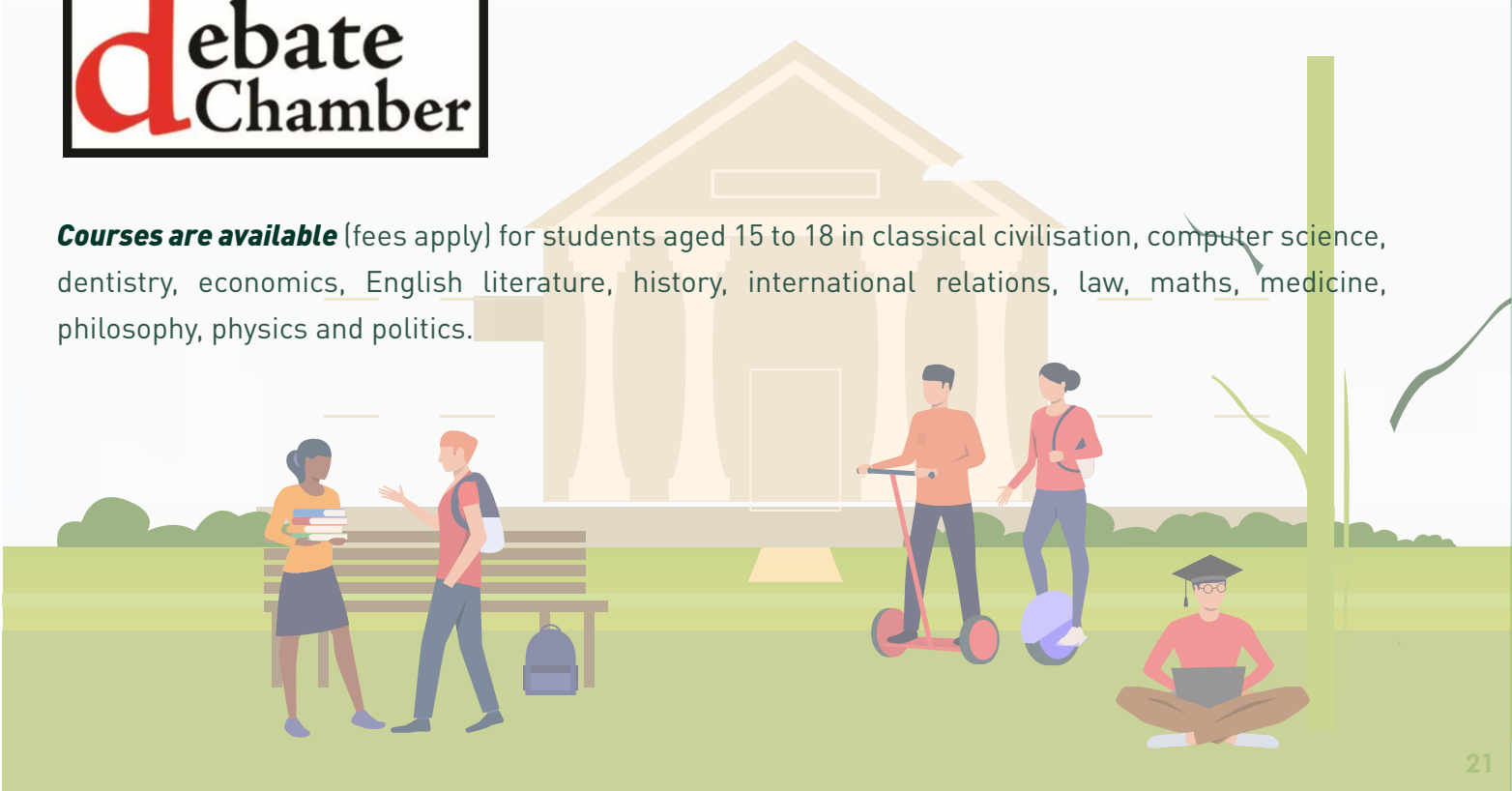


The **InvestIN programmes** prepare students for the world’s most competitive and prestigious careers through these immersive career experience programmes (fees apply) in architecture, art, computer science, dentistry, engineering, entrepreneurship, fashion design, filmmaking, international development, investment banking, journalism, law, management consultancy, marketing, medicine, music, politics, psychology, publishing and veterinary science. Please note that the educational establishments used for the in-person locations are not providing any of the course content.

The Debate Chamber Online Summer Schools



Courses are available (fees apply) for students aged 15 to 18 in classical civilisation, computer science, dentistry, economics, English literature, history, international relations, law, maths, medicine, philosophy, physics and politics.



Section 4 - Competitions

There are a range of competitions available to students 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 standout 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: paul.reeves@surbitonhigh.com and rachel.gore@surbitonhigh.com

If you are in Year 12 or 13 - contact Mr McDermott: terry.mcdermott@surbitonhigh.com

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

Art	Closing Date	Year Group
<i>The Nancy Rothwell Award (Art & Science) – The Royal Society of Biology</i>	July	Years 7 - 13
Classics		
<i>Classics Essay Competitions (Cambridge University)</i>	Various	Year 12
<i>Classics (Drama) The David Raeburn Prize (Oxford University)</i>	June	Yeas 7 -13
<i>Oxford University Classics Creative Writing Competition</i>	Various	Year 12
Economics		
<i>Bank of England and Financial Times School Blog Competition</i>	January	Years 12 & 13
<i>Young Economist of the Year (Royal Economic Society and The Financial Times)</i>	June	Years 11 -13
<i>The Marshall Society Essay/Article Competition (Cambridge University)</i>	September	Years 11 -13

Engineering	Closing Date	Year Group
<i>The Big Bang UK Young Scientist Competition: The Big Bang Competition</i>	May	Years 7 - 13
English		
<i>Peterhouse Thomas Campion English Prize (Peterhouse, Cambridge)</i>	Dec-March (on hold 2021)	Year 12
<i>Christopher Tower Poetry Competition (Christ Church College, Oxford)</i>	March	Years 11 -13
<i>Royal Commonwealth Essay Competition</i>	June	Years 7 -13
<i>Connell Guides Essay Prize</i>	May	Years 7 - 11
<i>BBC Young Reporter Competition</i>	October	Years 7 -13
French		
<i>French Flash Fiction Competition (Oxford University)</i>	December	Years 7 - 11
Geography		
<i>Royal Geographical Society – David W. Smith Memorial Prize</i>	March	Year 12
<i>Young Geographer of the Year</i>	October	Years 5 - 13
German		
<i>German Olympiad/German Classic Essay Competitions (Oxford University)</i>	Various	Years 7 - 13
<i>A German Classic Essay Competition (Oxford University)</i>	September	Years 12 - 13

History	Closing Date	Year Group
Julia Wood History Essay Prize (St Hugh’s College, Oxford)	July	Years 12 & 13
The Historical Association Historical Fiction Prize and the Joan Blyth Memorial Prize	May	Years 7 - 13
The Young Walter Scott Prize (History)	October	Years 11 -13
Peterhouse Vellacott History prize (Peterhouse College, Cambridge)	December (on hold 2021)	Year 12
The Robson History Prize (Trinity College, Cambridge)	May	Year 12
Law		
Lord Toulson Essay Prize in Law (Jesus College, Cambridge)	April	Year 12
Linguistics		
The Nancy Rothwell Award (Art & Science) – The Royal Society of Biology	July	Years 7 - 13
Linguistics Essay Prize (Trinity College, Cambridge)	August	Year 12
Mathematics		
National Young Mathematicians Awards	October - November	Years 7 & 8
National Cypher Challenge (A nationwide, online code-breaking competition)	Monthly	Years 7 - 13
UK Mathematics Trust (UKMT) Challenges - Junior, Intermediate and Senior	Various	Years 7 - 13
Young Financial Journalist Competition	November - January	Years 10 - 13

Media	Closing Date	Year Group
Journo Resources – list of Student Journalism Competitions	Various	Years 7 - 13
Young Financial Journalist Competition (with the FT)	November - January	Years 10 - 13
Philosophy		
University of Sheffield Philosophy Essay prize	April	Years 10 - 12
Lloyd Davis Philosophy Prize (Oriell College, Oxford)	June	Year 12
Trinity College Cambridge Philosophy Essay Prize	May	Year 12
Edgar Jones Philosophy Essay Competition (St Peter’s College, Oxford)	September	Year 12
Science		
Imperial Faculty of Natural Sciences - Schools Science & Innovation Competition	September – December (on hold 2021)	Years 7 - 13
Chemistry Olympiad (Royal Society Chemistry (RSC))	September - January	Years 12 & 13
Kelvin Science Prize (Peterhouse, Cambridge)	December (on hold 2021)	Year 12
British Biology Olympiad (The Society of Biology)	January - February	Years 12 & 13
Beamline for schools (in association with CERN) – Physics	April	Years 7 - 13
Royal Society of Chemistry Analyst Competition	February	Year 12
The Nancy Rothwell Award (Art & Science)	July	Years 7 - 13

C3L6 Competition – Cambridge Chemistry Challenge (Cambridge University)	June	Year 12
Hertford College Unsung Heroes of Science	April	Years 12 & 13
Spanish		
Spanish Flash Fiction competition (Oxford University)	December	Years 7 - 10, 12 & 13
The Queen’s Commonwealth Competition		
The Queens Commonwealth Essay Competition - Royal Commonwealth Society	June	Years 7 - 13
Theology and Religion		
Keble College Essay Competition	June	Years 12 & 13
Various Subjects		
A number of colleges run competitions covering a range of subjects, so always check these out. Newnham College Essay Prizes (Cambridge University) – Biological Sciences, Engineering, History, Modern and Medieval Languages, Music, Philosophy and Physical Sciences	March - May	Year 12
Humanities Writing Competition (Girton College, Cambridge) (this competition can be linked to a wide range of humanities subjects)	April	Year 12
Annual Essay Competition (Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge) (last year this included Land Economy, Architecture, Ancient World Classics, Archaeology)	March	Year 12
Oxford University Academic Competitions	Various	Various
New College of the Humanities (cash prizes) - competitions in Art History, Creative Writing, Data Science, Economics, English, History, Law, Philosophy, Politics and International Relations, Psychology	February	Year 12

Useful Websites

- UCAS (university applications) www.ucas.com
- Morrisby Careers Guidance www.morrisby.com
- Prospects (careers guidance) www.prospects.ac.uk
- The Medic Portal (advice for aspiring medics) www.themedicportal.com
- University open day listings www.opendays.com
- Surbiton High School Digital Learning Space www.learn.surbitonhigh.com



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:

terry.mcdermott@surbitonhigh.com

Mrs Leckie, Assistant Director of Careers (leads on Work Experience):

ziba.leckie@surbitonhigh.com

Mrs Parsons, Careers Officer:

paula.parsons@surbitonhigh.com



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

