

Classroom to career

Newsletter for parents and carers January 2021

We're launching our new monthly careers newsletter for parents and carers with a special issue supporting National Apprenticeships Week 2021. You'll also find events, activities and resources on university, work experience, understanding the job market, skills and everything you need to help prepare young people to enter the fast-changing world of work.

National Apprenticeship Week 2021: get ready for take-off

National Apprenticeship Week 2021 launches in the second week of February – and it's your chance to see if it's right for your child.

Take three actions to put yourself in the picture:

1. **Download** the [Amazing Apprenticeships Parent Pack](#) to find out about everything from traineeships and T-levels to higher and degree-level apprenticeships, plus case studies on KMPG and the BBC.
2. **Book on one of the free after-school live virtual webinars below** for students, parents and carers organised by Bucks Skills Hub.
3. Research the individual apprenticeship opportunities to follow: from engineering apprenticeships at Bucks-based Martin-Baker, the world-leading manufacturer of aeroplane ejection seats (pictured), to Mars Wrigley in Slough, to national opportunities including Marks & Spencer, Vodafone and more.



An Introduction to Apprenticeships for Years 7-9

6 – 7pm, Tuesday 9 February 2021

- What exactly is an apprenticeship?
- Who should consider doing one?
- Why are apprenticeships different to other post-16 routes?
- What are the different levels of apprenticeships?
- Where are vacancies publicised?
- How does applying for an apprenticeship differ to applying for university?

Your introductory questions answered, plus hear direct from current apprentices.

[Click here to book your free place](#)

Finding and Applying for An Apprenticeship for Years 10-13

6 – 7.15pm, Wednesday 10 February 2021

- What are the different levels of apprenticeship?
- What does apprenticeship training look like?
- Which industry sectors offer apprenticeships?
- How do apprenticeship standards work?
- What's the application timeframe and how does it compare to UCAS?

Your in-depth questions answered plus top tips on:

- How, when and where to apply
- What employers are looking for
- How to make a successful application
- How to develop a professional online presence

Plus hear direct from current apprentice

[Click here to book your free place](#)

Classroom to career

Newsletter for parents and carers January 2021

More about APPRENTICESHIPS

Register now for the virtual National Apprenticeship Show

Register now for the National Apprenticeship show online on Wednesday 10 February: it's open until 6pm, so you could log on after school together with you son or daughter.



Encourage them to research exhibitors in advance that they're interested in and be prepared with questions. When the event is open you will be able to click on any of the stands and have either a text or voice conversation with representatives from that stand.

[Register for the free event here](#) and [view the list of exhibitors here](#)



UCAS Discover Apprenticeships

UCAS is broadcasting a week of live sessions on apprenticeships from Monday 8 February – Friday 12 February, sponsored by the National Apprenticeship Service. [Click here to see the line-up and book](#)

Apply now: live apprenticeship opportunities

Search for all live apprenticeship opportunities on the Government's [Find an Apprenticeship](#) website. We've highlighted a few current ones below.

World leader advertises local opportunities

Martin-Baker has just launched its September 2021 apprenticeship intake for students interested in a career in engineering: [see it on YouTube here](#).

The ejection seat manufacturer is looking to employ 6-8 new apprentices. Throughout the pandemic, all current apprentices and employees have continued to work within Government restrictions at their site in Denham, south Bucks.

[Visit Martin-Baker's website for more information and to apply](#)

[Download the advert here](#)



Find out about live apprenticeships with the NHS

Hear direct from the NHS team about live apprenticeship opportunities in healthcare for students leaving school. Current and former apprentices will talk about how their apprenticeship has kick-started their career.

[Register for the free event here](#)

[Find out more about NHS apprenticeships](#)



Classroom to career

Newsletter for parents and carers January 2021

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A Mars Apprenticeship helps you work, learn and earn

Mars Wrigley is now recruiting three engineering and eight manufacturing apprentices to start in September at its site in Slough.

Its 'best in class' apprenticeship programme provides hands-on experience, further education and mentorship. The deadline for applications is 8 February. [Find out more and apply here](#)



Marks & Spencer: Retail Management School Leaver Programme

[Find out more and apply before 17 February here](#) and [find out about early careers here](#)

BT: Advanced, Higher and Degree level apprenticeships now open, including Customer Service, IT & Technical Support, Software Development, Sales, Electronics, Data Analysis and Network Design.

[Find out more and apply here](#) and [find out about early careers here](#)

Vodafone: 2021 Advanced, Higher and Degree level apprenticeships now open, including Software Development, Cyber Security, Data Analyst, IT Consultancy Network Engineer, Project Management, Software Engineer

[Find out more and apply here](#) and [find out about early careers here](#)

Jaguar Land Rover: Apply before 15 February 2021 for the Applied Professional Engineering Degree Apprenticeship Programme (control systems; electrical and electronics; and manufacturing) and Level 4 Apprenticeship in Manufacturing Engineering.

[Find out more and apply to the degree programme here](#) and [the Level 4 Apprenticeship here](#).

[Find out more about early careers here](#)

Fujitsu: Apply now for apprenticeships at all advanced, higher and degree level, including Digital & Technology Solutions, Software Development, Business & Administration.

[Find out more and search for roles here](#)

Sign up for science and tech open evening

Students interested in science, engineering, computing and technology can sign up to a virtual Apprenticeship Open Evening on Thursday 11 February from 6 – 7 pm to learn about apprenticeship opportunities and meet current apprentices.

It's hosted by the Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC) which offers advanced and higher-level apprenticeships suitable for both post-16 and post -18 leavers.

[Find out more information and register on Eventbrite](#)



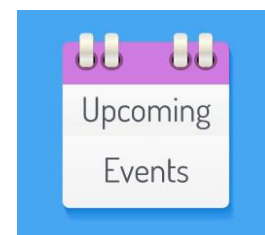
Classroom to career

Newsletter for parents and carers January 2021

More about APPRENTICESHIPS

Virtual apprenticeship events listing

Here's a round-up of free virtual events listing on apprenticeships across a range of industry sectors – from accounting to health, gaming to construction – but keep an eye open for others.



Company/ event title	Apprenticeship area	Date/ time	More information/ registration
Life at Deloitte: spring virtual careers events	Audit Governance Risk Management Tax Technology	Various events throughout January and February	https://www2.deloitte.com/uk/en/pages/careers/articles/student-events.html/
Introducing Santander apprenticeships	Financial Crime Corporate and Commercial Banking	Thursday 4 February 5pm	https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/introducing-santander-apprenticeships-tickets-133095820181
St. James's Place Virtual Apprenticeship Open Evening	Accountancy Project management Technology Human Resources Business Operations	Thursday 4 February 4.30 – 6pm	https://www.sjp.co.uk/careers/students-and-graduates/school-leavers
NHS Apprenticeships virtual insight event	Healthcare - various	Monday 8 February 5pm	https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/nhs-apprenticeships-virtual-insight-event-tickets-138230307571
An Introduction to Apprenticeships for Years 7-9 with Bucks Skills Hub	Various	Tuesday 9 February 6 – 7pm	https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/an-introduction-to-apprenticeships-for-years-789-tickets-136256965251
Nestlé apprenticeship virtual discovery event	Finance Chartered Management Digital Marketing	Tuesday 9 February 5pm	https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/nestle-apprenticeship-virtual-discovery-event-19th-january-and-9th-february-tickets-132284772315
Women in Construction – Apprenticeships by School of Built Environment & Architecture	Apprenticeships available within construction and the built environment from architecture to quantity surveying	Tuesday 9 February 5 – 5.45pm	https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/mca-women-in-construction-apprenticeships-tickets-133977736015
Finding and Applying for An Apprenticeship for Years 10-13 with Bucks Skills Hub	Various	Wednesday 10 February 6 – 7.15pm	https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/finding-applying-for-an-apprenticeship-for-years-10-13-tickets-136263135707
UK Games Industry internships, graduate schemes and traineeships	Gaming	Thursday 25 February 4pm	https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/uk-games-industry-internships-graduate-schemes-and-traineeships-tickets-125319561181

Classroom to career

Newsletter for parents and carers January 2021

WORK EXPERIENCE

Arrange VWex in half-term and beyond

Keep young people focused on developing their future goals by taking up virtual work experience placements this February half-term and beyond.

Experience in the physical workplace is difficult due to COVID-19 restrictions, but many employers now offer virtual alternatives: [read more on Prospects](#).

Do encourage young people to search and apply for placements now. Check if any age or geographical restrictions apply: they are often for 16+. Those listed below are all free unless specified.



General placements:

- [Speakers for Schools](#): register now for live opportunities this half-term, currently featuring Willmott Dixon construction, the RAF, NHS nursing and more.
- [Springpod](#): sign into view live opportunities this half-term ranging from [law](#) to [Vodafone](#)
- [The Forage](#): learn career skills from Fortune 500 companies law, accounting, finance, engineering and more.
- [Student Ladder](#): an overview of opportunities for 16-18 year olds
- [Barclays Lifeskills](#): learn general employability skills while spending a day with a digital agency
- A lighter take on work experience: [watch comedian Rhod Gilbert on the BBC](#) as he tries out work experience placements in a variety of roles or experience [The Nine to Five with Stacey Dooley](#)
- [IDEA](#): the Inspiring Digital Enterprise Award helps develop digital, enterprise and employability skills for free through online challenges.
- [Investin](#) (PAID FOR): 12-18 year olds can experience role-plays, seminars, simulations and networking sessions for 20 popular careers. £135/student for one-day programmes: use 'GROUP10' for 10% discount.
- [Careerdays](#) (PAID FOR): One-day tasters in medicine, veterinary practice, dentistry, law, midwifery, business, psychology, performing arts costing £59 (bursaries available).

Explore particular industries:

- Architecture and design: offered by [Halliday Fraser Munro](#)
- Law: visit [The Lawyer Portal](#) or [Prime Commitment](#)
- Healthcare and veterinary practice:
 - [get an insight into the role of a GP here](#)
 - get an introduction to the NHS and explore [six different medical specialists here](#)
 - [get free live virtual work experience for students wanting to be a doctor, dentist or vet here](#)
 - [get an insight into life as a vet here](#)
 - join the live [NHS VWex programme for allied health professionals](#) (including nursing, midwifery, paramedics, physiotherapy and more). Places are £10 to cover admin costs; free if from a low-income background.
- Marketing and design: offered by [Hunter Bevan](#)
- Retail (food and grocery): find out about [Institute of Grocery Distribution's work experience weeks](#) in May and July
- Teaching: read about [real-life experiences](#) and find out about training to teach events
- Travel: get an insight into different [careers at British Airways](#)

Classroom to career

Newsletter for parents and carers January 2021

UNDERSTANDING THE JOB MARKET

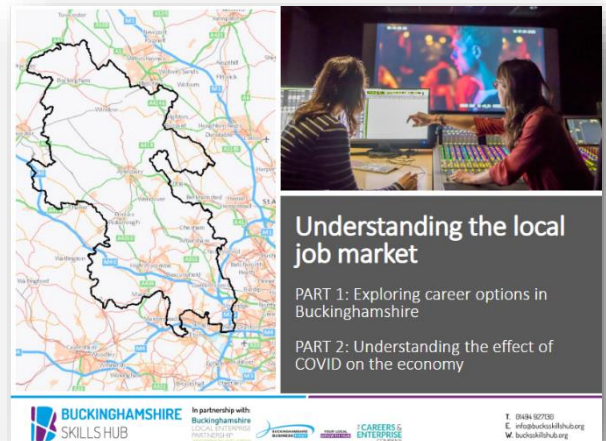
Discover local career opportunities

Young people might aspire to work in London, internationally or stay in their university town – but it's also worth knowing about opportunities on their doorstep.

[Download this overview of the local Buckinghamshire economy](#) and find out about growing industry sectors including space (really!), high tech engineering, film & TV and healthcare.

You can also watch these recordings (together with your son or daughter) featuring local employers and education providers:

- [Where next? Employment, education or apprenticeship?](#)
- [Understanding the job market: what's on your doorstep?](#)



Industry sector spotlight: Healthcare and medical technology

Each area of the economy has a different story to tell. We'll take a look in each issue at a sector where job opportunities are growing: this month we feature healthcare and medical technology.

- **Nationally ...** Did you know that the largest employer in the UK healthcare sector is the NHS, which employs more than 1.5 million people – placing it in the top five largest workforces in the world? We've all heard of doctor, nurse and physiotherapists, but did you know there are more than 350 different roles available within the NHS? [Try this 5 minute quiz](#) to see which one might suit you.

[Get a detailed overview of the healthcare sector at Prospects](#)

- **Locally ...** In Buckinghamshire, the position of registered general nurse was the highest job in demand in 2020, while 'health and social work' formed the second biggest employment sector.

[Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust](#) employs around 6,000 doctors, nurses, midwives, health visitors, therapists, healthcare scientists and other support staff caring for more than half a million patients every year. The Trust provides care in people's homes, from five community hospitals and from two acute hospitals. Stoke Mandeville Hospital is home to the UK's National Spinal Injuries Centre.



Visit [Health Careers](#) to find out about working in the NHS, explore roles and hear real-life stories from staff.

[Watch a range of health careers videos here](#)

Medical technology or 'medtech' is also a growth area: from syringes, artificial limbs and implants (like hip replacements) to complex hospital equipment and devices which diagnose or treat patients (such as scanners or pacemakers). Research careers such as: biochemist, laboratory technicians, data scientist, virtual reality developer, artificial intelligence engineer.

Johnson & Johnson



GE Healthcare

Research careers at global leaders [GE Healthcare](#) and [Johnson & Johnson](#) which both have bases in Bucks.

Classroom to career

Newsletter for parents and carers January 2021

UNIVERSITY

Explore university options from home

Sign up for [UK University Search](#) updates to find out more and register for free virtual fairs attended by universities and colleges including Russell Group, red brick, modern and specialist institutions – plus webinars on UCAS personal statements, clearing and student finance.



Young people can speak directly to admissions teams and recruitment officers to gain a better understanding of the range of post-18 options available to them and download lots of helpful resources.

[Put the Spring Virtual Fair in your diary on Wednesday 17 March 2021 from midday to 6pm](#)



russellgroup.vfairs.com

Meet the Russell Group

Meet all 24 Russell Group Universities at this free virtual event on Wednesday 10 February from midday to 7pm.

Designed for students aiming to study at a Russell Group university, this virtual event will allow them to explore all of them in one place, talk to their representatives, take part in webinars and go on virtual campus tours.

[Find out more and register](#)

Interested engineering, business or law?

The University of Nottingham is running webinars on applying to study degrees in engineering (28 January), business (3 March) and law (4 March) from 6 – 7pm. [Find out and book more here](#)



Let's talk about uni

Book your son or daughter onto one of The University of Hertfordshire's free virtual talks during February and March to have your questions about university answered, be inspired by taster lectures and industry talks from leading experts, plus boost A level/level 3 performance through masterclasses including:

- 3 February, 4 - 5 pm – Get started: Application Process and Personal Statements
- 10 February, 4 - 5 pm – Get ready! Preparing for life at university – what's it like?
- 24 February, 4 - 5 pm – Money, Money, Money: Student Finance and Budgeting for students
- 24 February, 7 - 8 pm – Student Finance Information evening for parents



[See for the full list of upcoming events and book here](#)

Classroom to career

Newsletter for parents and carers January 2021

PERSONAL GUIDANCE AND 1:1 SUPPORT

Free expert 1:1 careers guidance for young people in Bucks

Higher or further education? Sixth form? Training or apprenticeship? Employment?

Talking about taking their next step with a trained careers counsellor can help young people choose which one's right for them.

If your son or daughter is in Year 11, 12 or 13, you can arrange a free virtual advice session (funded by The Careers & Enterprise Company) – now extended until the end of February.

[Click here to book](#), call 01494 927137 or email info@bucksskillshub.org

Explore HE 1:1 mentoring

Would your Year 12/13 benefit from talking through their options with a current university student?

Study Higher's free online mentoring programme lets them benefit from their knowledge, ask them for advice and gain some tips on writing their personal statement.

The trained mentors are from Bucks New University, Oxford Brookes University, the University of Oxford and the University of Reading.

[For more information and to apply by 14 February 2021](#)

FREE 1-TO-1 EXPERT CAREERS ADVICE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

WHAT'S RIGHT FOR ME?

- ? Are you in Year 11, 12 or 13?
- ? Need help deciding what to do next?

Higher or further education? Sixth form? Training or apprenticeship? Employment? Talking about your next step with a trained careers counsellor will help you choose which one's right for you.

Click here, call 01494 927137 or email info@bucksskillshub.org to arrange a free virtual advice session.*

*Available 13 Aug 2020 to 28 February 2021.

Supported by:
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE BUSINESS LEADER
THE CAREERS & ENTERPRISE COMPANY
HM Government



STUDY HIGHER

Classroom to career

Newsletter for parents and carers January 2021

BACK PAGE NEWS

FOCUS ON SKILLS: What have you learned in lockdown?

Wouldn't this be a good interview question?

One very good answer would be 'I learned a new skill'. The Government's [Skills Toolkit](#) offers excellent free short digital courses for young people, including: business & finance, digital design & marketing and computer science & coding.

Course providers include The Open University, Google, Amazon and FutureLearn. If they have 'an hour to skill', it's a great way to boost their CV or personal statement and job prospects. Younger pupils will need some help, which is a great opportunity to share your own experience.

[Explore courses here](#)



Share your own career path

Bucks Skills Hub have shared their 3 student home learning resources to help students explore career options and stay motivated.

Why not take some time to go through them with your son or daughter and share learnings from your own career path? Click to download:

- [Isolation Inspiration #1: Explore careers](#)
- [Isolation Inspiration #2: Find your future](#)
- [Isolation Inspiration #3: Life lessons from lockdown](#)

Quick careers directory

Need some quick and easy inspiration to boost motivation?

Dip into these careers websites for video stories and activities. Encourage young people to find what interests them – and focus on how to get there.

- [BBC Bitesize Careers](#)
- [iCould](#) (everyone loves the Buzz Quiz – which career animal are you?)
- [Career Pilot](#)
- [Careers Box](#)
- [National Careers Service](#)

