CAREERS NEWSLETTER

October 2023



Spotlight on... Work Experience

Every year at the end of Year 10 (this year it is w/c 15th July 2024) our students go out on work experience which is an incredibly valuable opportunity to find out more about the world of work, develop transferable employability skills such as communication, teamwork and using their initiative, and to ensure career choices are right for them before picking their post-16 choices.

If you work for a company who may be willing to offer our students a work experience placement, please let Miss Cannam know so we can recommend you to our Year 10s who may need extra support finding a placement.

New Qualifications—T-Levels

T-Levels are new 2-year qualifications launched in 2020, which are being phased in to colleges over the next 5 years.

T-levels have been developed in collaboration with employers and businesses so that the content meets the needs of industry and prepares students for work, further training or study. They are equivalent to 3 A-Levels, but unlike A-Levels, students specialise in one industry, and there is a substantial work experience element of 310 hours minimum, or 45 days.

Cirencester College was one of the government's flagship colleges to launch T-Levels from 2020, and they now have 21 courses to choose from. Their new dedicated T-Level building opened this year. Gloucestershire College also offer T-Levels in four areas at their Gloucester campus, as do Hartpury College, and Stroud College are introducing T-Levels from next year.

For more information, please visit www.tlevels.gov.uk

Did You Know...?

Gloucestershire has over 29,500 businesses, including 89% microbusinesses with under 10 employees, and of which 10.7% are self-employed.

Our biggest employers include GCHQ, NHS, Gloucestershire County Council, Superdry PLC, St James' Place Wealth Management, Renishaw, EDF and GE Aviation.

> Search by Job Title or Employer

postcode

Apprenticeships

If your child is interested in applying for an apprenticeship after leaving school, they can register for alerts now but most vacancies will not be advertised until the spring term at the earliest, with many being announced from June-September of Year 11. We still recommend that students apply for a college place as a back-up, and there is also the option to start college then switch to an apprenticeship at a later date. We will include any vacancies we are sent in these monthly newsletters.

A good starting point is www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship

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[All levels] How far are you able to travel for work?

Some employers, such as NHS, will also advertise via their own websites, and local colleges may also advertise apprenticeships on behalf of employers.



We have recently signed up to the careers platform Unifrog. All students have an account, and parents can also sign up as a student to access the resources such as quizzes, information on post-16/18 choices, CV and application writing tools and the careers library.

Find an apprenticeship

Sign up using the QR code or at unifrog.org/student using the code TMKSparents

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Upcoming Dates—most require online booking in advance

Saturday 7th October—Stroud College (SGS) Open Day Saturday 14th October—Cirencester College Open Day & Hartpury College Open Day Tuesday 17th October—The King's School Sixth Form Open Evening

Saturday 11th November—Hartpury College Open Day Monday 13th November—Gloucestershire College Open Evening Tuesday 14th November—Archway Sixth Form Open Evening Saturday 18th November—Stroud College (SGS) Open Day Wednesday 22nd November—Marling Sixth Form Open Evening

Saturday 9th December—Hartpury College Open Day

Tuesday 23rd January—Pates Sixth Form Open Evening Wednesday 24th January—Stroud High Sixth Form Open Evening

Saturday 3rd February—Hartpury College Open Day Saturday 24th February—Hartpury College Open Day

Tuesday 5th March—Cirencester College Apprenticeships Evening Saturday 16th March—Cirencester College Open Day

Tuesday 30th April—Thomas Keble Post-16 Evening (for KS4 & parents)

Opportunities for Students

The NHS in Gloucestershire offer taster days and live Q&As for students in **Years 9-11** to find out more about different NHS careers. Coming up soon:

- **Dietetics Taster Day** on Wednesday 18th October, 9am-4.15pm, at Gloucestershire Royal Hospital—email ghn -tr.careers@nhs.net to book, and permission would need to be obtained from Mr Shaw for your absence.
- **Radiotherapy Open Morning** on Saturday 7th October, 10am-2pm at Cheltenham General Hospital—email ghn-tr.oncologyradiotherapy@nhs.net to book.
- **Careers in Digital Healthcare Showcase** on 19th October, 4.30pm-6pm, online via Zoom—register here: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN v5Fjt7CyT1KdknPRmIAzaQ#/registration

Virtual Work Experience

Speakers For Schools offer a wide range of virtual work experience and virtual insight days you can sign up to throughout the year to enhance any college applications or to find out more about an industry. More are added to their website every week. You can search for opportunities here: https://www.speakersforschools.org/work-experience-opportunities/





For students interested in a medical career (with humans or animals!) Medic Mentor offer virtual work experience several times per year in Medical, Dental, Veterinary or Allied Healthcare. Some programmes are free and some have a charge of £10 per session. It is a

6 month programme, one session per month, and you will follow real patients through their system as case studies. It is fully interactive and created/run by practicing doctors, dentists and vets.

Find out more and sign up at https://medicmentor.co.uk/virtual-work-experience-programmes/

For any help or support with your child's work experience or post-16 choices, or if you are able to support any of our careers events, please contact Miss Cannam, Careers Lead, at

vcannam@thomaskeble.gloucs.sch.uk