



CAREERS @ NEWSTEAD

Creating opportunities for success

Post 18 Options

Introduction from Mrs Dalton

Dear students,

We have been extremely busy in Careers this month organising mock interviews for the scores of students who have applied to study Medicine or Dentistry. Ms Robinson has also organised 40 mock interviews for students who have been invited to Oxford or Cambridge to discuss their application further - we are so proud of what they have achieved so far and are keeping everything crossed for offers come January.

With this in our minds we thought it appropriate to share many of the post 18 options available to you when you depart from Sixth Form. The range of opportunities can be quite daunting but we hope you will find this newsletter helpful in making an informed decision. Unfortunately, it is impossible to answer all questions within one leaflet, so please speak to your tutor, or myself (hdalton@newsteadwood.co.uk) if you have any questions or concerns, or simply want to talk to someone about the different pathways, and what might be the most appropriate choice for yourself. Finally, remember, once you have secured good A Levels with us, you have many doors open to you!

Best wishes for the Festive Season!

Ms Dalton

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Post 18 Options

University

Reasons to go to university

- You will receive a degree.
- You'll be taught by industry experts/well-respected academics.
- You'll also grow as a person, make new friends and learn to live independently.
- You can have access to placements & work experience opportunities
- You'll be in control of your time & your learning.

Reasons not to go to university

- Loans for tuition and accommodation will need to be taken out, which may be challenging/problematic for some families.
- You'll have to do a lot more independent studying than at school.
- Living away from home works well for some students, but it can be difficult for others and could affect mental health.
- Good time management is essential.
- Long reading lists are an integral part of university. If you prefer a hands on method of learning, this may not be for you.

Work

Obviously you don't need to continue studying or go on a gap year - if you want to enter the 'world of work', that's fine too.



Apprenticeships

A higher apprenticeship (level 4 & 5) is equivalent to the 1st year of an undergraduate degree or foundation degree whereas a degree apprenticeship (level 6 & 7) is equivalent to an undergraduate or a masters degree.

Apprenticeships give you the opportunity to gain a degree while getting industry experience, and earning a salary. They take three to six years to complete, depending on the course level. 20% of the time will be spent studying and 80% working. Applications for apprenticeships open at various times of the year so check online.

Reasons to consider an apprenticeship

- You'll get real-life experience working & your degree.
- Your degree is fully paid for, so there's no cost.
- You'll get paid a salary just like a normal employee.

Reasons not to choose an apprenticeship

- You'll need to balance working and studying at the same time.
- You won't qualify for any student loans.
- Apprentices don't always get the traditional 'university experience'.

Gap Year

It is important to think of a gap year as not simply 'a year off' but time to develop yourself and your skills before taking the next step in your education or career. Become a medical volunteer in dentistry, paediatrics, surgery or midwifery, teach children or gain hands on experience with turtles or elephants. Choose from a wide variety of places such as Nepal, Vietnam, Ecuador, Peru or Cambodia. Travelling opens your eyes to the world and different cultures & languages. Some students enjoy, and need, time away from studying although it may be harder to get back into the routine of studying and learning once the experience is over.

What's happening - Careers@Newstead

Mock Interviews

Over 60 students have received invitations to interview for a wide range of degrees including medicine, archaeology and engineering, and all students have received a mock interview. Good luck!

Work Experience

Last week, years 9 -13 received the first of many work experience opportunities for the February half term. Please logon to 'Speakers for Schools' if you haven't already done so. WEX is invaluable to put on your CVs and personal statements.

Congratulations

to the following students who have secured places on the Women in Finance Programme: Dheepti, Suvi, Angelina, Jennifer & Julia.

Career Guidance Interviews

Year 11s continue with their 1:1 guidance interviews which will help them with their post 16 options.

Careers@lunchtime sessions

Wed 7th Dec: Two alumni visited school to run an informal Q&A session for potential Year 11, 12 & 13 medical students. All the students found the session very helpful.

January 2024: Two sessions are planned: Bromley Health Care and the British Army. Watch out for student emails and also posters on the TV screen & the Careers Noticeboard.

Year 12 Face to Face Work Experience

This will take place from Thursday 11-Wednesday 17 July 2024 (5 days). Students should start making contact with potential employers and applying for places as soon as possible.

CONNECTING CURRICULUM TO CAREERS



What is aeronautical engineering?

This branch of engineering covers how aircraft are designed, constructed and powered, how they are used and how they are controlled for safe operation.

What A level grades do I need for university?

A*AA or AAA in maths, physics and chemistry.

What could I hope to earn?

Starting salaries are from £25k-£28k but with experience the salary can increase to £40k.

What are the top aerospace/aeronautical engineering universities in the UK?

Imperial College, University of Bristol, University of Bath and the University of Leeds

What apprenticeships are available in this industry?

The Royal Navy run an accelerated apprenticeship scheme which leads into working with the most advanced aircraft. After training, apprentices become part of the team that maintains, services and inspects the Fleet Air Arms' helicopters and fighter jets. Starting salary £37k.

The Ministry of Defence offers a 5 year degree apprenticeship at MOD Abbey Wood for students with 3 A grades at A Level in Maths and Sciences, preferably Physics. Applications close early December each year.

What should I put on my personal statement?

Experience doesn't have to be directly in an engineering field. Instead highlight your technical aptitude, teamwork skills and problem solving abilities. You should have an interest in how things work, be naturally curious & creative and have initiative

Does Nasa accept aeronautical engineers?

The conditions are engineers with a masters degree or doctorate in aeronautical engineering or related field and a minimum of 5-10 years experience



Unifrog News

Please remember to log any work experience or volunteering onto your account. If you can't access your account please email careers@newsteadwood.co.uk