

Careers Newsletter

November 2021

Year 11s have started their mock exams this week and year 13 students are busy considering their options, preparing UCAS and apprenticeship applications for next year. Year 10 students have started looking for their summer work experience placements and year 9s are starting to consider their GCSE option choices. We're also rolling out a new careers education support platform across all year groups called unifrog. It's certainly a busy time of year for all and I hope the below is useful for students, parents and carers.

Unifrog – helping students to find their future

All students now have access to a new user-friendly platform called unifrog which supports careers education and helps students to compare and apply for onward opportunities successfully.

Unifrog is being rolled out to all year groups within PSHE lessons and tutor time but students are able to use it at any time to access information about careers, CV building, writing personal statements, recording competencies including leadership and team work, 'how to' guides for Universities, links to apprenticeships, simple ways to sign up for MOOCs and much more.



"We bring all the available information into one single, impartial, user-friendly platform that helps students to make the best choices, and submit the strongest applications."

Student login here: [unifrog sign-in](#)

Skills and Competencies

There are eight key skills that young people need in order to succeed in education and beyond. They open doors, unlock your ability to learn, prepare you for university, college, or an apprenticeship and empower you to land your ideal job.



Unifrog is aligned with these skills and allows students to understand the detail behind each one and record examples of where you have demonstrated a competency. You can then track and build your ability in each area, leading to a bank of examples for use with applications and at interviews. Login and go to the 'Competencies' area under 'Recording what you've done' section.

Parental engagement plays a vital role in essential skills development because many activities outside of school help to build these skills. Find out why these skills are important and what you can do to support your son/daughter here [Skillsbuilder - parents and carers](#)

Employer Encounters

Throughout their time at school we offer students various encounters with employers to explain sectors and the careers within them, help students to understand the link between what is being studied and careers and to raise aspirations.

As an example, last year we started working with new local business [The Food Works South West](#) who provided a World of Work day activity for year 10s. This year they have visited the Academy twice, bringing food industry experts with them to give talks to our year 13 Food Science students. As well as sourcing an in-person work experience placement for a student, they topped it off by inviting us to join their official opening with guest of honour, Princess Anne the Princess Royal.



We have worked closely with Thatchers for some years now and they continue to inspire our students with talks about apprenticeships and skills that employers are looking for, participating in key events and donating (age appropriate) competition prizes. They have also employed ex-Churchill students as apprentices and these alumni have come in to give talks about their journey and so the whole cycle can be seen by current students. This year we are also planning a visit where Applied Science students will be able to observe in practice some of the theory around Food Production that they are learning.



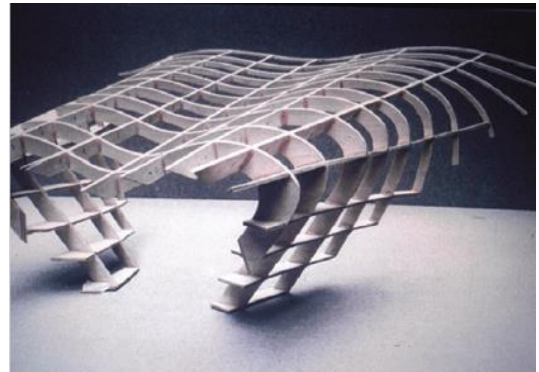
Thank you to all businesses and individuals who help our students understand the world of work better. If you are interested in being involved with the school, we have many different types of activities that are beneficial to our students and staff. Please contact [Suzie McGonigal](#) in the first instance.

Careers Focus - Architecture

Architecture is a regulated profession in the UK and the quickest route to qualification takes seven years. Full or part-time study as well as degree apprenticeships are available. Follow this link to [RIBA - How to become an Architect](#) and also download their 'Think Architecture' pdf which includes advice about entry requirements and portfolios.

The study of architecture is a combination of arts and sciences, and some universities will ask for A Level Maths and/or Physics, but not all. Most prefer you to have studied Art or another design-related subject, and you will normally need to provide a portfolio of your work, as drawing is the essential skill for becoming an architect.

To develop your interest in architecture and to learn skills and understanding in spatial modelling as well as interpreting a client brief, follow this programme of [Virtual Work Experience](#)



Post 16 Options

All 16 year olds have to stay in some form of education or training until they are 18. Do you know what your options are after year 11? Now is the time to start exploring and making the decision about what you want to apply for and where. Follow this link for information and a short video about your options [BBC Bitesize - Post-16: What next?](#)

Churchill Academy's Sixth Form applications are open and the prospectus and application form can be found here [Churchill Academy Sixth Form](#). Get your application in by the 5th January for the best chance of your subject choices being accommodated.

Follow the below links to some local education providers to find out what they can offer you.

General Further Education providers

- [Bridgwater & Taunton College](#)
- [City of Bristol College - School leavers](#)
- [SGS \(South Gloucestershire & Stroud College\)](#)
- [Strode College - school leavers](#)
- [Weston College - School leavers](#)

Specialist Training Providers

- [Access Creative College, Bristol](#) - Creative Industries - computing, events, games, media and music
- [BIMM Institute, Bristol](#) - Music production, music performance and song writing



- [Boomsatsuma](#) - Creative Industries including creative & digital media, sports media production, games, VR & VFX, Film & television, photography, acting and dancing
- [Bristol City Robins Foundation](#) - sports, sports coaching, e-sports
- [Outdoor College](#) - Holistic Land based studies
- If agriculture, equine and/or animal care & management are your interest, see Bridgwater & Taunton College above as they are our nearest [National Land Based College](#)

Useful links

Unifrog	https://www.unifrog.org/sign-in
Careerpilot	https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/
Prospects	https://www.prospects.ac.uk/
Find an Apprenticeship	https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship
Not Going to Uni	https://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk/
UCAS	https://www.ucas.com/
Barclays Life Skills	https://barclayslifeskills.com/young-people/

The Academy's careers adviser is Ms McGonigal, email: smg@churchill-academy.org