

# Careers Newsletter

January 2024

Next week is National Apprenticeship Week and you can find out more about this pathway below. We also look at supporting year 9 students with their options as well as work experience and post 16 planning.

## Apprenticeships

Ahead of National Apprenticeship Week, our annual **Twilight Talk for families** is online tomorrow (1<sup>st</sup> February) 6pm-7pm. Emma Cox, Vice Chair of the South West Apprenticeship Ambassadors network, will be explaining what apprenticeships are and our Careers Adviser Suzie McGonigal will be able to answer questions about the core differences between apprenticeships and other options. The talk is aimed at parents/carers so that they can support students with making informed decisions about their post 16 and post 18 options.

There is no need to register, just join the Microsoft Teams meeting via the below link.

[Click here to join the MS Teams meeting](#) at 6pm on Thurs 1 Feb



## February Apprenticeship Information Evenings for Parents/Carers

Join the Western Training Provider Network in collaboration with the Institute of Technology, along with a panel of employers, apprentices, and training providers for an evening of information, myth busting and to hear from those currently completing an apprenticeship, employers with apprentices and the progression opportunities.

Follow a link below to book your place on one of these in-person events.

- Tues 20 Feb 17:30-19:00 [Bristol Cathedral Choir School](#)
- Weds 21 Feb 17:30-19:00 - [Priory Community School](#)
- Tue 27 Feb 17:30-19:00 - [Abbeywood Community School](#)
- Weds 28 Feb 17:30-19:00 - [Bath College](#)

See 'Post 16 Planning' below for further local apprenticeship events.

The Best 100 Apprenticeship Employers 2023-2024' can be viewed [here](#), with onward links to their careers sites.

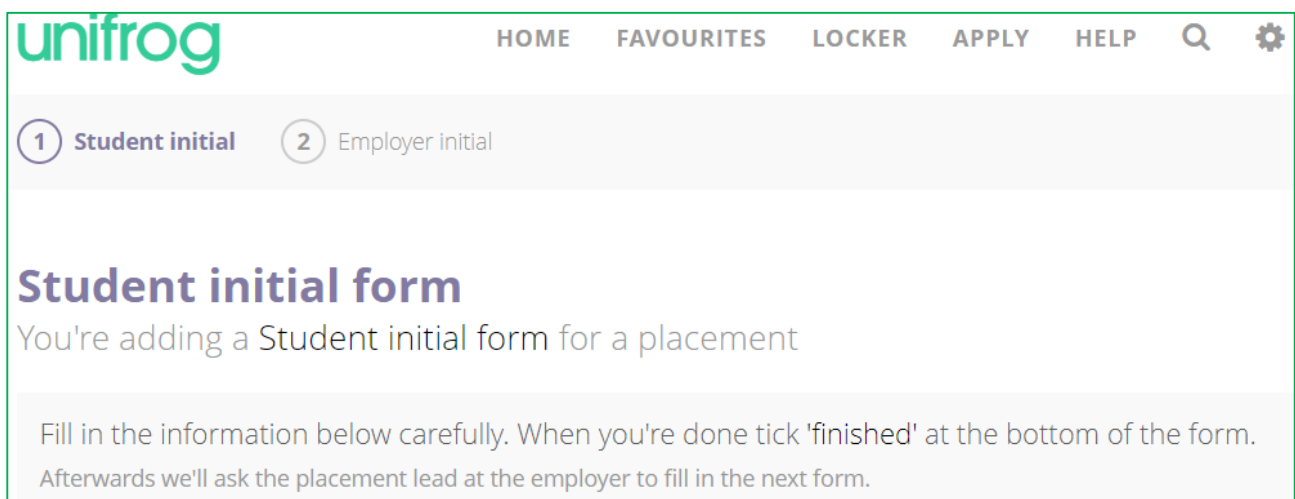
If students or family members want to be part of the apprenticeships email group, to whom information about vacancies and insight events is sent, please email Suzie McGonigal on [smg@churchill-academy.org](mailto:smg@churchill-academy.org).

### Work Experience for year 10 and year 12 students

February half term is coming up and if year 10 or 12 students haven't yet secured their summer work experience placement, it is a great time to make contact with employers during working hours.

**Year 10 work experience** is the week of the 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> July and all students need to find a placement. Employers who might not have responded/were previously unsure, may now be willing to consider a placement as we get nearer to July. The Student and Family Guide (plus consent form) can be found in the 'work experience' section at [this link](#) on our website and it provides detailed information as well as guidance to support with finding a placement.

**Year 12 students** should be looking for a placement that takes place between 8<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> July. Once they have been offered a placement, they must go to the 'Placements' tool from the homepage of Unifrog to complete the 'student initial form'. This triggers an email to the employer to complete their details and once complete an email is sent to parents/carers to provide consent.



The screenshot shows the Unifrog website interface. At the top left is the 'unifrog' logo. To the right are navigation links: HOME, FAVOURITES, LOCKER, APPLY, HELP, a search icon, and a settings gear icon. Below the navigation is a progress indicator with two steps: '1 Student initial' (highlighted) and '2 Employer initial'. The main heading is 'Student initial form' in a large, bold, blue font. Below the heading is the text 'You're adding a Student initial form for a placement'. At the bottom of the page, there is a light grey box containing the instructions: 'Fill in the information below carefully. When you're done tick 'finished' at the bottom of the form. Afterwards we'll ask the placement lead at the employer to fill in the next form.'

## Year 9 Options

If year 9 students need help choosing optional subjects, they can try doing some research to find out about careers that subjects could lead to.

The 'Careers Library' tool in Unifrog is accessed from the home page and you can enter a school subject to see the job profiles of related careers.

- Students can [sign-in here](#) to their account using their school email address.
- Parents/carers can create a dummy student account [here](#) using the sign-up code: CASFparents



### Architect

Architects design new buildings and the spaces around them, and work on the restoration and conservation of existing buildings.

[Read the profile >](#)



### Furniture designer

Furniture designers develop and test ideas for new furniture.

[Read the profile >](#)



### Carpenter

Carpenters construct and repair wooden structures, fittings, and furniture.

[Read the profile >](#)

[BBC Bitesize](#) is another great website for exploring job profiles related to school subjects.

## Year 11 Destinations

It's important that year 11 students get their applications in for where they want to attend after year 11 (and if they hope to get an apprenticeship, they need to submit at least one application for a full-time education course as a back-up plan, in case they don't manage to secure an apprenticeship by September).

If year 11 students are unsure about where to go/what to do, they can apply and accept offers of places at more than one education organisation (and at colleges for more than one course). By accepting an offer of a place, the school/college will reserve a place for them on the course, however students are not obliged to start there and so can take some time after the pressure of revision and exams to make their final decision.

See the below section for exploring colleges and training providers in our area. **Applications to study at our Sixth Form are still open** for those students hoping to achieve three GCSEs at grade 5 and another two at grade 4, which is the base entry criteria. Follow this link to view available subjects, check any specific entry criteria and to apply [Subjects list](#).

## Post 16 Planning - Open Events and Taster Days

Most education providers will welcome year 10 as well as year 11 students to their open events. As we move through the academic year these events tend to be quieter and are a good opportunity for those year 10 students that are keen to get a head start with considering their post-16 options.

### General FE Colleges

#### [Bath College events](#)

- 6 March - Open Evening 4pm-7pm City Centre Campus
- 27 March – Open evening 4pm – 7pm Somer Valley Campus

#### [Bridgwater & Taunton College events](#)

- 14 & 15 February half-term taster mornings
- 22 February Apprenticeship Jobs Fair 6pm-8pm
- 24 April – Open Evening Cannington Campus 6pm-8pm
- 19 June – Open Evening Taunton Campus 6pm-8pm
- 20 June - Open Evening Bridgwater Campus 6pm-8pm

#### [City of Bristol College events](#)

- 29 February Apprenticeships Fair 11am-2pm
- 13 March Open Evening 5pm-7.30pm

#### [SGS College events](#)

- 25 April Open Evening 5:30pm-8pm

#### [St Brendan's Sixth Form College](#)

- 6 February 5pm-7pm

#### [Strode College events](#)

- 8 February Open Evening 5:30pm to 8pm

#### [Weston College events](#)

- 6 February Apprenticeship Open Evening 4pm-7pm
- 13 March Open Evening 5pm-7pm
- [12-16 February half-term workshops - \(years 10 and 11\)](#)

### Training Providers

#### [Access Creative College events](#) (Esports, Games, Media, Music and Computing)

- 27 February - Open Evening 6pm – 7:30pm
- Taster Evenings - 19 March onwards

[boomsatsuma open days](#) (Creative & Digital Media, Photography, Film & TV, Sports Media, Games VR & VFX)

- Week commencing 5 February

[Bristol City Robins Foundation](#) (Sport, Sports Coaching & Development, Esports)

- 30 January Open Eve 6.30pm All campuses
- 14 February Taster sessions (football and esports)
- 18 March Online Live Q&A Session – 6:30pm

Further providers in the Bristol region can be found at this link [Post-16 Education - Bristol](#)

### Useful links

Unifrog	<a href="https://www.unifrog.org/sign-in">https://www.unifrog.org/sign-in</a>
Careerpilot	<a href="https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/">https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/</a>
Prospects	<a href="https://www.prospects.ac.uk/">https://www.prospects.ac.uk/</a>
Find an Apprenticeship	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship">https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship</a>
UCAS	<a href="https://www.ucas.com/">https://www.ucas.com/</a>
Barclays Life Skills	<a href="https://barclayslifeskills.com/young-people/">https://barclayslifeskills.com/young-people/</a>

The Academy's careers adviser is Ms McGonigal, email: [smg@churchill-academy.org](mailto:smg@churchill-academy.org)