

# Careers Newsletter January 2025

## Unifrog and Career Planning

**Unifrog** - The complete destinations platform. Unifrog is the online careers platform that we use as a school and all students have an account. All year groups can benefit from using the platform where they can explore interests, record things they have done and skills they have used, find education and training opportunities and draft applications.

Parents can access a dummy student account on unifrog [here](#), by clicking on 'Been given a Sign up Code?' and entering CASFParents .

- **Year 9 Options**  
Find out what jobs different subjects could lead to help with your subject choices at the below links.
  - [BBC Bitesize - Jobs that use....](#)
  - [Unifrog - School subject matches](#)
- **Upcoming Unifrog Webinars** (accessed from the 'Unifrog Events' tool on the homepage)
  - Thinking About a Gap Year? – 3 Feb 16:30
  - Degrees in Engineering - 10 Feb 4.30pm
  - Careers in the Creative Industries - 10 Feb 5.30pm
  - Careers in Computing - 11 Feb 4.30pm
  - Nursing and Social Care Taster - 13 Feb 5.30pm
- **Working in Top Careers** [Student and Parent event series 6-7pm \(online\)](#)  
Highly paid, demanding and competitive fields continue to be highly popular amongst school students today. But how much do you really know about what it's like to work in these fields? Join InvestIN's network of professionals as they unpick the reality of working in top industries today, where they will be demystifying salary expectations, job security, work culture and how to stand out from the competition.
  - Parent webinar: Salary, Status and Stability – 5 February 7-8pm
  - Medicine and Medicine – 10 February 6pm
  - Engineering and Law – 11 February 6pm
  - Starting your own Business - 12 February 6pm

## Post-16 Planning

Attending open days/events is one of the best ways to gain inspiration, consider what subjects are the best fit and to get a feel for the different environments that sixth forms, colleges, independent training providers and apprenticeships have to offer.

Also see the apprenticeships section below.

Churchill Academy & Sixth Form - Applications are still open [Join our Sixth Form](#)

For students who have already applied, interviews have now started and will continue into term 4. Students need to check their emails for an invitation that they must accept or decline.

Follow the below links for the upcoming open and information events at our main regional providers. Further providers in the Bristol region can be found at this link [Post-16 Education - Bristol](#). Some providers also offer taster days/workshops and so check individual websites for details.

### General FE Colleges

- Bath College [Open Event 5 March](#)
- Bridgwater & Taunton College - [Campus Tours: 17 & 18 February all Campuses](#)
- City of Bristol College - [Open Evening 12 March](#)
- SGS (South Gloucestershire and Stroud) College [Open Evening 1 May](#)
- St Brendan's Sixth Form College [Open Evening 4 February](#)
- Strode College [Open Evening 13 February](#)
- Weston College - [Open evening 12 March](#), [February Half Term Workshops](#)

### Training Providers

- Access Creative College (Esports, Games, Media, Music and Computing) [Taster Day 25 February | Open Day 22 March](#)
- boomsatsuma (Creative & Digital Media, Photography, Film & TV, Sports Media, Games VR & VFX) [Open Days 4-6 February](#)
- Bristol City Robins Foundation (Sport, Sports Coaching & Development, Esports) [Open Evening 5 February | Taster Session 19 February](#)
- Hartpury College (Equine, Sport, Public Services) [15 March \(limited places - book online\)](#)

## Post-18, University Information and Events

[What is University Like?](#) - Wondering what it's really like to study at university? From taster days to student experiences and sample lectures, find out how you can get a flavour of university life – and if it's the right next step for you.

[Subject Tasters](#) – These subject 'Spotlights' give you the chance to try a university course before you apply. Delivered by the lecturers themselves you will gain insight into what it's like to study the course and give your personal statement a boost.

[University Open Days](#) – Enter the Uni name or open the calendar to see what's coming up.

[UCAS Course Search](#) – Open the filters and start searching for courses.

- **Creating an Online Application Portfolio (Brighton University)**  
[11 February 5-6pm](#). How to build an art, design or architecture portfolio.
- **University of Bristol Virtual Summer School (open to year 12 students)**  
Engage online with academics, student ambassadors and other prospective students. [Applications close 9 March 6pm](#).

## Apprenticeship Information

Students in years 11 and 13 and their parents/carers can receive information about apprenticeship events and vacancies by signing up to the apprenticeship email group. Email Ms McGonigal on [smg@churchill-academy.org](mailto:smg@churchill-academy.org) to request to join.

[Find an Apprenticeship](#) - Most apprenticeship job vacancies are advertised here. Run a search and create an account to set up an alert for new relevant vacancies.

[UCAS Apprenticeship Search](#) - Some employers now advertise vacancies here, particularly for Higher and Degree apprenticeships.

National Apprenticeship Week is 10-16 February and we are kicking it off with a twilight talk for families the week before to introduce them. Then there are a host of free events, with a selection below.

- **Introduction to Apprenticeships for Families - Twilight Talk 4 February 6-7pm Online.** Join Churchill Academy's Careers Adviser Suzie McGonigal and guest speaker Emma Cox, Chair of the West Midlands Apprenticeship Ambassador Network, for this talk aimed at families of those in years 10 – 13. Find out what apprenticeships are as a post-16/post-18 option and how to secure one. No need to register, just [join this MS Teams Link next Tuesday at 6pm](#) .

- **Apprenticeships with EY- [4 Feb 6:30-7:30pm Online](#)**  
Explore the range of apprenticeships opportunities at EY in Audit, Tax and Technology, to help you discover which programme is right for you. A current EY apprentice will share their personal journey, experiences, and the incredible growth they've achieved through EY's apprenticeship program.
- **Careers with Lloyds Banking Group [8 Feb 10am](#)** (in-person – central Bristol)  
Designed for students and parents to look inside one of the UK's largest apprentice employers, learn all about the changing landscape of FinTech, career opportunities and try your hand at different next generation roles at Lloyds Banking Group. Book early to get a place!
- **Apprenticeship Insights - Hosted by BAE Systems – [10 February 17:30-18:30 Online](#)**  
BAE are a multinational technology-led defence, aerospace and information security company. Find out about the apprenticeship opportunities on offer, with talks about BAE careers, interactive Q&A sessions, and the chance to meet current apprentices.
- **NHS Apprenticeships - Introducing Data Careers – [11 February 6:30pm Online](#)**  
This session is perfect for students and parents interested in how young talent can break into data careers in healthcare. It's also an opportunity to understand the real impact data apprentices are making in areas like improving patient care, driving innovation, and transforming NHS operations.
- **Warner Bros. Discovery - [11 February 6pm Online](#)**  
Learn about apprenticeships in the entertainment industry. You will hear from some incredible apprentices about their decision to go down the apprenticeship route, what they do day to day and how they have found entering the world of work.
- **Unifrog Apprenticeship Fair [12 February 4pm-6:30pm Online](#)**  
Learn all about the world of apprenticeships. Explore the latest apprenticeship opportunities, attend live sessions with top employers, and network one-on-one with professional experts to get top tips on how to find and apply for your dream apprenticeship.
- **Thatchers Talent Open Day [15th February](#)** (in-person – Sandford)  
Students and parents/carers can join Thatchers at Myrtle Farm for an insight into what it's like to be an apprentice there. Talk to current apprentices, the apprenticeship Training Provider, and meet their dedicated team.

## Work Experience

Year 10 Work Experience takes place 7-11 July and placements should be in-person

Year 12 Work Experience is 14-18 July and may be a blend of in-person and virtual

[Click here](#) for further details relating to Work Experience. Remember, once a placement has been found, it should be added to unifrog using the Placements Tool. Follow [this link](#) for how to do this.

**Year 10 work experience** placements need to be in person, confirmed to you by the employer and then **added to unifrog by 28 March** and so any students who don't yet have a placement need to start reaching out to employers in earnest. The February break is the last opportunity to easily contact many employers during their working hours and so please don't leave it too late!

- **Atkins Realis 7-11 July** – Register your interest as soon as possible [at this link](#)  
Explore a wide range of disciplines at this engineering firm, including project management, quantity surveying, NetZero initiatives, building surveying, social value, and much more. This is a fantastic opportunity for students to gain insight into various career paths and develop their skills in a professional environment.
- **Burges Salmon Bright Sparks 7-11 July**  
Wondering what a job in a law firm could be like? Travel and food expenses are paid at this work experience placement in Bristol. [Apply here by 3rd Feb](#)

**Year 12 work experience** can be in-person or virtual.

- Weekend WEX opportunities with InvestIN, either live online or in London - [follow this link to register with InvestIN](#)
  - Doctor | Architect | Entrepreneur | Computer Scientist | Artist - **9 March**
  - Lawyer | Dentist | Engineer | Filmmaker | Forensic Scientist - **16 March**
  - Banker | Psychologist | International Politics | Fashion Designer | Vet - **23 March**
- **Burges Salmon Bright Sparks 14-18 July**  
Wondering what a job in a law firm could be like? Travel and food expenses are paid at this work experience placement in Bristol. [Apply here by 3rd Feb](#)

## Useful links

Careerpilot <https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/>

Prospects <https://www.prospects.ac.uk/>



UCAS <https://www.ucas.com/>

Barclays Life Skills <https://barclayslifeskills.com/young-people/>

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