

CAREERS CORNER MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



February 2021

Hello and welcome to the 4th edition of the John Port careers newsletter, "Careers Corner". As lockdown continues, the world of careers continues to be showcased mainly by virtual methods and once again, I advise all to research the websites and events in the subject areas and various sectors that are of interest to you. This will help to keep your options open which is vital as we continue to get a grasp of what the future potential employment landscape may look like.

It may also be worthwhile to dedicate a notebook, your, "Careers Notebook", to write down your findings and reflect on the pros and cons of what you discover and may then wish to pursue further.

As a devoted and impartial Careers Advisor, I am passionate with regards to equipping students with the necessary tools to commence their career pathway and aspirations with as much confidence and self-awareness as possible and this includes educating, providing information, advising and guiding at all times.

Keep researching and you will find all sorts of avenues and opportunities open up that you may not have previously been aware of which will eventually lead to destinations that again, you may not have thought applicable to you.

I have put together some useful websites and opportunities as a broad overview:

Derby College

Virtual Open Days – please follow the link and pre-register to attend.

<https://www.derby-college.ac.uk/news-events/events/tag/Virtual%20Open%20Day>

Burton College

Virtual Open Days – please follow the link and pre-register to attend.

<https://www.bsdc.ac.uk/events/864-virtual-live-talks>

Careermag for school leavers

The latest edition of Careermag for school leavers is filled with information, resources and tips to help guide you in taking your next steps. Covering a wide range of opportunities with employers and leading training providers, Careermag for school leavers has something for everybody.

<https://careermap.co.uk/careermag-students>

Lincolnshire Training Hub

Lincolnshire Training Hub is holding a presentation on the 2nd of March, at 7:30-8:30pm to aid Year 9-12 students in deciding whether applying for medicine is right for them.

This will be held by existing medical students who will explain the different aspects of this university course and how to weigh up the pros and cons, as well as pointing out resources that would help them in the application process.

<https://www.lincolnshiretraininghub.com>

Virtual Work Experience Opportunities – Work and life experiences are I feel invaluable in order to ascertain how you react in different situations, with different people and in various industries and sectors.



BT Insight Day

BT

[LEARN MORE](#)



CIM

The Chartered
Institute of Marketing

Marketing Virtual
Work Experience

**Chartered Institute of
Marketing**

[LEARN MORE](#)



Innovators Virtual Work
Experience

Vodafone

[LEARN MORE](#)



SPRINGPOD

Law Virtual Work
Experience

Springpod

[LEARN MORE](#)



SPRINGPOD

Teaching Virtual Work
Experience

Springpod

[LEARN MORE](#)



Nestlé

Employability Skills
Programme

Nestlé

[LEARN MORE](#)

[SEE ALL PROGRAMMES](#)

HSBC Work Experience

Opportunities across the whole of the UK, in financial services, investment banking, marketing, digital compliance and HR. The work experience opportunities will be available from June to August and will be 1 week long.

This is open to all Year 10, Year 11, Year 12 and Year 13 students – applications close on 21st February. The application link is: <https://bit.ly/3riRiT2>

APPRENTICESHIPS - DISCOVER THE OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE:

The Government Accredited website for apprenticeships is below – I would advise you to create and account and explore opportunities on a regular basis due to the constant changes of apprenticeships offered:

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>

PEARSON COLLEGE LONDON

Chartered Management Degree Apprenticeship. **Applications are now open.**

Interested in a Degree Apprenticeship for a September 2021 start? In order to be considered for the opportunities when they are available, you must first complete a general Chartered Manager Degree Apprenticeship application, going through our pre-screening process outlined below. Then we will be in contact when our Employer partners have roles available. Closing date is 26th February 2021.

<https://www.pearsoncollegelondon.ac.uk/pearson-business-school/degree-apprenticeships/chartered-manager-degree-apprenticeship>

APPRENTICESHIPS AT FUJITSU

Fujitsu offer a wide range of apprenticeships that your students can select from and we provide lots of support to help them adjust to the world of work once they join us. This support includes an incredible 24-month modular development programme, which allows your students to build and develop both their business and soft skills. If they prove themselves within our organisation, there are also fantastic opportunities available both in their role and in our apprentice community. The closing date for applications is 28th February 2021.

[View all roles](#)

THE NAVY

Joining the Royal Navy doesn't just set you up with skills for life and a good wage from day one. You'll experience travel, adventure, friendships and challenges - no two days will be the same. A career with the Royal Navy offers you more than any job you'll find in civilian life, you'll go places you've never been, experience things you wouldn't anywhere else, and develop skills you don't even know you have yet.

<https://www.royalnavy.mod.uk/careers/>

THE ARMY

Did you know that nearly all soldiers begin an apprenticeship when they join? There are 40+ apprenticeship schemes from animal care to vehicle maintenance.

<https://apply.army.mod.uk/what-we-offer/regular-soldier/skills>

Staff Journey: I have asked members of staff here at John Port to share their experiences of how they have arrived at their current destination.

A big thank you to **Mr. Andi Mitchell – Director of Faculty of Expressive Arts – here is his story.**

After completing my A levels, I didn't know what I wanted to do as a career and so I had not applied to university. My family had very little money and the prospect of me going to university just seemed beyond reach. I wanted to travel and see the world but doing that, with no money, seemed a bit of a pipe dream. What I ended up doing is working in the USA, in Connecticut, as an Au Pair to three pre-teen children. It was an opportunity to see the world but one where I would get paid to do it. This experience opened my eyes to how children learn and develop.

When I returned to the UK I applied to university to continue in a subject that I loved very much – Drama – but being a sceptic and knowing that I didn't want to go into an Acting career I also chose to do a joint honours course in Sociology. My aim at this point was to be a Drama Therapist or a Social Worker. In order to pay my way through university I worked as Criminal Clerk in a Barrister's Chambers where my responsibility was to assign council to cases going to the Crown Court. The variety of work; from Fraud to Murder, meant that I was exposed to a lot of a world I had not, to that point, experienced. It was a very different world I was experiencing at University but it allowed me to see a very wide view of society and the world around me. Whilst at University I took the opportunity to spend a semester at University where I went to IUP in Pennsylvania. Whilst this was an experience very different from University in the UK it was another opportunity for me to get some life experience.

Upon completing my university course, I decided to travel, back to the USA and spend time with the people I had met on my course there. It was from here that I decided to apply for Post Graduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) at Bretton Hall, then part of the University of Leeds. Having always avoided the prospect of teaching (my adoptive mother was a teacher) I couldn't escape her mantra "Train as a teacher and then you will always have the prospect of employment even if you don't go into teaching". I was accepted and then embarked on my training as a teacher. I had to attend two different schools plus a short stint teaching primary aged students. The two schools that were chosen for me were very different in their demographic but I completed my year and started to apply for teaching jobs.

Having successfully securing a job as a Drama and English teacher in a school in inner city Wolverhampton I prepared once more to move my whole life to a new city with people I didn't know. Again, it was an experience that I was not fully prepared for. The school was hard. The students were different. The accent was indecipherable and I was supposed to teach them. Whilst the year was difficult and the students had various difficult emotional needs I found that they also had compassion and cared deeply about their achievements. I knew though that what I wanted to do was teach Drama and not have to teach any English – loved it as a subject but didn't like being tied to classroom desks, I would find any opportunity to do practical lessons in English much to my mentors' disappointment (she wanted me to love English as much as she did). I completed my Newly Qualified Teacher (NQT) year and applied to a school in Derbyshire where I was successful in teaching just Drama to the full 11-18 age range. I never left.

I started as a main scale teacher and took the first opportunity I could to get some responsibility. Initially being responsible for KS3 Drama. Sadly after a few years my new mentor/Head of Department/Head of Faculty died leaving a space open for Head of Drama to which I was appointed. I didn't feel ready to run an entire faculty at the time so ran the Drama department learning how to manage staff (sometimes successfully and sometimes badly – one thing they never taught me in training was how to be a manager). After a few more years the position of Director of Faculty came up and I had to interview for the role with a number of other candidates. The interview day was long; I had to teach a lesson, be interviewed by students, do a responsibility sorting task and then go through a gruelling interview with members of the Senior Leadership Team. I was successful. And the rest ... is history ... and my future.

LOOKING FOR A DIFFERENT ROUTE TO ACHIEVE YOUR CAREER GOALS?

T LEVELS COULD BE THE ANSWER! AN EXCITING NEW PATHWAY

You now have a new study option after you've completed your GCSEs: welcome to the world of T Levels. A T Level is a two-year qualification which brings together classroom learning and an extended industry placement on a programme designed in partnership with businesses. You'll spend 80% of your time in the classroom and 20% with an employer to gain valuable industry insights.

Equivalent to three A-levels, a T Level equips you with the knowledge and experience you need to get straight into employment, an apprenticeship or higher education. The T stands for 'technical' and your studies will include core theory, concepts and skills for a specific industry area.

WHY CHOOSE A T LEVEL?

- They've been developed with over 200 top-name employers to give you the skills and knowledge you need.
- You'll spend at least 45 days on industry placement to learn what a real career is like while you're continuing your studies.
- On passing your T Level, you'll receive a nationally recognised certificate to help you move into skilled employment or a higher apprenticeship.
- Your qualification will also be worth UCAS points if you want to continue into higher education at university or college. A T Level Distinction* is worth the same as three A-levels at A* grade.

To find out more about T Levels on offer locally, Derby College offer various opportunities:

<https://www.derby-college.ac.uk/t-levels-welcome-to-the-next-level>

If you have any particular requests with regards to information on a subject area or topic to be included in next month's newsletter or have any queries or concerns whatsoever, please do not hesitate to contact me on **sco@johnport.derbyshire.sch.uk**.

Take care and stay safe!

Mrs Coulson - Careers Advisor