



This newsletter is designed to keep you up to date on Careers offerings over the next month or so, including general events and information, information on Universities, Apprenticeships and Work Experience. If you have any questions or anything you'd like to know please email on of the team below.

### The ORA Careers Team

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Our Careers Adviser, Louise Brazier, is in school on Wednesday for booked appointments for Year 11 and Sixth Form, but is also available for drop-in chats at break and lunchtime - the careers office is on the first floor, on the corridor in between the humanities stairs.



## The Quality in Careers Standard >>>>

We have held the national Quality in Careers Standard Award for 2 years now and are being re-assessed in July. Watch this space!

This national award provides external recognition of the high-quality careers education, information, advice, and guidance provided at the school. It recognises that we are a school that can demonstrate that we are working towards the Department of Education's Gatsby Benchmarks, which are a measure of the provision of excellent careers education, information, advice, and guidance for all students from year 7 to year 13.

**COMPLETE**  
**CAREERS**



## ORA Careers Website

Have you looked at our careers section?

<https://ormistonriversacademy.co.uk/for-students/careers-guidance>

The careers section is kept as up-to-date as possible and is a great source of information across many aspects of Careers Education. There are some links to key websites that you are encouraged to visit. We would also encourage students to regularly access and use the website so please take time to talk to your child about it. If you feel we are missing information that would be useful to you, please let us know.

## Going to University?

Calling all Parents of and Sixth Form students!

- [The Uni Guide's A level explorer](#) - type in your A level subjects to discover possible degree subjects.
- UCAS information on [choosing courses](#).
- [UCAS videos](#) have lots of useful videos on choosing courses and applying
- [Discover Uni](#) - compare subjects, universities and colleges, look at student satisfaction ratings and explore figures about getting a graduate job after completing a course
- [The Guardian University Guide 2023 - the rankings | University guide | The Guardian](#) - league tables of all subject areas taught at UK universities, and profiles of those subjects

You can also visit [www.UCAS.com](http://www.UCAS.com) for more details on universities and applications.





## T Levels: What are they?

T Levels are new courses, which follow on from GCSEs and are equivalent to 3 'A' levels. These 2-year courses, which were launched September 2020, have been developed in collaboration with employers and businesses so that the content meets the needs of industry and prepares students for work, further training or study.

T Levels offer students a mixture of classroom learning and 'on-the-job' experience during an industry placement of at least 315 hours (approximately 45 days).

Amazing Apprenticeships have put together a film where you can find out more about them and hear from a wide range of teachers, careers advisers, students and employers  
<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/resource/what-are-tlevels-film/>



## Careers Talks

We have held many Masterclasses again this year. We are always looking for people in employment to deliver 40-minute mini talks, which will make students aware of different career pathways and how to pursue them. There is so much they can learn from you; an insight to your role, advice on how you got to where you are now and your experiences since leaving education. These are held 2.20-3.20pm. We are looking for a wide variety of sectors and roles

Please contact Fliss Compton on [fcompton@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk](mailto:fcompton@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk) if you would like to deliver a careers talk.



## Year 10 and Year 12 Student Work Experience July 2023



In July 2023 our current Year 10 and 12 students will be heading out on a week of Work Experience. We want students to start thinking about where they can go for their placement. Maybe a family member or friend they could ask, or parents/ carers may have a colleague they can ask

### **Can you offer a placement?**

**In July 2023 our students will be completing a week of work experience and we would like to hear from you if you can offer a placement.**

**If you are able to help please get in touch via email to Fliss Compton on [fcompton@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk](mailto:fcompton@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk)**

**Please include your contact details and profession**

**We look forward to hearing from you**

**ORA Careers Team**



## **A Parents Toolkit for Career Conversations**

It has long been acknowledged that the most influential people in a young person's life are their parents or carers, and that many of the ideas related to their careers and future are formulated in their early school years and through conversations with family members. Talking Futures is a recently released suite of resources, designed to help schools support parents to have informed and constructive careers and education conversations with their children. The website is full of useful information and guidance on the various pathways available. There are loads of helpful conversation starting points to help parents approach the subject with their children, which can be the trickiest part. The earlier these conversations take place; the more informed and prepared students are when they reach Year 11. Visit the site at <https://www.talkingfutures.org.uk/> and make it your go-to website for up-to-date information!



## The Step-Up Expo



The UK's first expo for teens' education, careers, and life choices: Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July  
The Step-Up Expo is coming to Olympia, London! This free event will guide students and parents through the wealth of 16+, 18+, and long-term choices on offer to them. They'll get the chance to join workshops on topics like choosing what to study, and how to apply for universities, jobs, and work placements. And they'll hear from guest speakers like Radio 1's Jack Saunders and Celebrity Masterchef Sabrina Gidda.  
Further details and free tickets are available here: <https://stepupexpo.co.uk/>

**The National Citizen Service (NCS)** is a national personal and social development programme for 15-17 year olds, largely funded by the Government. NCS takes place in the summer holidays

### Why do NCS? Summer 2023

NCS looks good on college and UCAS statements and develops skills employers want



NCS gives young people a chance to meet new people and build confidence

NCS helps young people be heard in their local community

NCS is fun and a great way to spend the summer

NCS held an assembly after Easter to introduce the programme to students. Registration can also take place directly on the NCS website [www.wearencs.com](http://www.wearencs.com)



## Employability Skills - What do Employers want?

This is not an exhaustive list, nor should the skill in lower positions be viewed with any less importance than higher placed skills. Certain roles might require a certain combination of these skills, and individuals experience in some skills will increase as they become more experienced in their role or industry.

### **10 - Numeracy & IT**

The ability to work with numbers and demonstrate good IT skills is almost a given these days, and all businesses need to see young people with at least passes in Maths and English. Many businesses have bespoke IT systems and so a good grasp of IT is required in order to make this training possible.

### **9 - Problem Solving**

The ability to spot and overcome potential problems is seen as a real strength. It encourages lateral thinking and allows employees to overcome hurdles

### **8 - Valuing Diversity and Difference**

Respecting and seeing value in other people is a large part of a modern business's ethos, which helps create an understanding of fellow employees and a harmonious workplace.

### **7 - Negotiation**

Employees will usually be involved in negotiation regardless of their role, be that with colleagues, managers, suppliers or customers. The skill of being able to compromise but also stand your ground is one that can take years to perfect.

### **6 - Teamwork**

Most businesses need strong teams to succeed. The ability to work well within a team is a skill businesses really look for in potential employees.

### **5 - Communication & Interpersonal**

Communication is always key. The ability to relay information and instructions is a must, in order for all the other skills in this list to be demonstrated. Quite often a lack of effective communication is the cause of many workplace conflicts.



#### **4 - Ability to Learn and Adapt**

Flexibility is a strong skill in the workplace. The ability to adapt to new situations, and to self-reflect and learn from experience helps to ensure businesses can keep up in a fast-paced work environment.

#### **3 - Working Under Pressure and to Deadlines**

Pressure and deadlines exist in all jobs, so the ability to prioritise workload and cope with pressure enables businesses to meet targets and goals, which in itself leads to growth and continual success.

#### **2 - Organisational Skills**

Businesses need structure and planning, so the ability to be organised as an individual and also within a team is of high importance.

#### **1 - Using Initiative and Self-Motivation**

This is a difficult skill to identify in potential employees but regarded with high importance. The ability to think ahead and have the confidence to follow your own instinct allows businesses to support empowerment within their employees. Managers are able to trust their teams and promotes career development.



## **Apprenticeships**

#### **What are they?**

Apprenticeships allow young people to combine work and study by mixing on-the-job training with classroom learning. The apprentice is employed by the company and given the same rights as a standard employee (sick pay, holiday entitlement etc)

#### **Who are they for?**

Anyone!! But particularly those that enjoy learning new things and want to maybe move away from full time education and feel that they will respond better to being in a working environment.

What are the different levels? There are 4 levels, however only 2 that a 16 yr old can take -



- Intermediate, leading to a level 2 qualification
- Advanced, leading to a level 3 qualification

### **How would a young person find an apprenticeship?**

Vacancies can be found through the National Apprenticeship Service website, [Find an apprenticeship - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) through colleges, or direct with a company. Suitable vacancies for current Yr11s are advertised from about April onwards, although they are encouraged to practice their research skills much earlier. Some bigger companies have end of January application deadlines.

### **What industries offer apprenticeships?**

These days apprenticeships are offered in wide range of professions, from accounting, banking and graphic design, to construction, hairdressing and engineering.

**What can apprentice earn?** Usually between £105 – £260 per week

**How long are they?** It varies, but usually 1–4 years. Many companies can offer a permanent job at the end.

Some key stats.....

- 321,400 apprenticeship starts in 2021/22 (down 0.3% on 2021/22)
- 49% of apprentices in 2021/22 were female, 51% were male
- 20% of new apprentices in 2021/22 were under 19 years of age
- The current National Minimum Wage rate for an apprenticeship is £5.28 per hour aged 16-18

### **Useful Websites for finding Apprenticeships:**

- [Not Going To Uni: Apprenticeships & Work Experience in the UK](#)
- [The Top 10 Best Apprenticeships in the UK in 2022 \(careeraddict.com\)](#)
- [Who are apprenticeships for? | Apprenticeships | UCAS](#)
- [Apprenticeships, Free Qualifications and Pre-Employability Courses - The AIM Group](#)
- [Amazing Apprenticeships](#)