

OxLEP Skills: Picks of the Week

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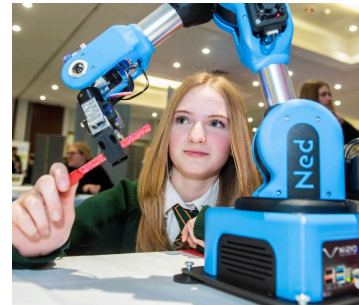


Oxfordshire
CAREERS HUB

THE CAREERS &
ENTERPRISE
COMPANY

Picks of the Week: 19th March 2024

Please share these links with your students, colleagues, parents and carers. If you would like to include anything in a future issue, please get in touch at skills@oxfordshirelep.com



From OxLEP Skills

Careers Fest - Parents/Carers Session

<https://careersfest2024twilightsession.eventbrite.co.uk>

Careers Fest takes place this week - **20th and 21st March** - and we have around 80 exhibitors looking forward to meeting 2,850 students who are visiting across the 2 days with their school/college. We also want to encourage as many parents/carers as possible to attend the 'twilight' session on **20th March**, which has **slots from 16:30-18:00 or 18:00-19:30**. Please help us to give it a final push through your parent/carer comms and social media channels.

You can download the [parent/carer guide](#) to help them plan their visit, as well as the [student guide](#).

You can also download our [communications pack](#) to help you raise awareness of the twilight session. This includes graphics and text that you can share via social media and email, a press release and [flyer](#).

Please share these via your own networks and share the pack with the person who looks after comms in your school and ask them to share via your channels.



Compass Evaluation Reminder

A reminder to please complete your Compass evaluation by **25th March**. Your Enterprise Coordinator will be in contact, please let them know if you have any questions.

Oxfordshire Events



OAS Open Day

www.oas.ukaea.uk/apprenticeships/events-and-open-evenings/apprenticeship-open-evening-april-2024-1/

At this Oxfordshire Advanced Skills apprenticeship open evening on **16th April from 18:00-19:00**, students will have the opportunity to tour the facilities, meet staff, current apprentices and employer partners.

Modern Languages Open Day

www.mod-langs.ox.ac.uk/schools-liaison-and-outreach/meet-us-person

This event on **11th May from 10:30-16:00** is a fantastic opportunity for students who are interested in learning about the University of Oxford's language courses, including French, German, Spanish, Italian, Russian, Portuguese, Modern Greek, Czech (with Slovak) and Polish. [Download information](#). Deadline to book: **8th May**.



Other Events



www.dfnprojectsearch.org

National Supported Internship Day is the first national celebration of supported internships in the UK. It was launched in 2023 by charity DFN Project SEARCH and is held annually on **27th March**. This is a great opportunity to raise awareness of supported internships.

Discover! Creative Careers 2024 - Virtual Parent/Carer Event

www.eventbrite.com/e/virtual-parent-carer-open-evening-to-discover-creative-careers-tickets-841439547337

Speakers for Schools is a UK-wide charity that gives young people from state schools and colleges fully funded opportunities to meet leading and local employers and gain valuable insights. They have partnered with the Discover! Creative Careers programme led by ScreenSkills and supported by employers from across the creative sector.

Parents/carers can join this virtual event on **18th April from 18:30-19:30** to hear directly from creative industry employers about roles available and the importance of creative skills in the workplace and find out about plans for Discover! Creative Careers Week in November. [Download a flyer](#).

HTQ Parent/Carer Webinar

[Link to register](#)

This Amazing Apprenticeships webinar on **24th April at 18:00** will help parents and carers to understand and explore Higher Technical Qualifications (HTQs) and the opportunities they present. You can [download an image](#) to help you promote it with your parents/carers.



Work Experience & Careers Programmes



www.wadham.ox.ac.uk/schools-and-outreach/summer-schools

Wadham College is running five-day residential classics, modern languages and biology & human sciences summer schools from **19th-23rd August for Year 12 students**. The summer schools are designed to give UK pupils studying in Year 12 a taste of what it's like to be an undergraduate studying at the University of Oxford. Applications close: **3rd May**.

Speakers for Schools

[Download a flyer](#)

Speakers for Schools have a range of virtual work experience, insight sessions and 45 minute inspirational broadcasts taking place this spring, including Santander, Wates, the NHS, Bentley and Mondelez. A couple of their forthcoming opportunities are highlighted below.



McDonald's

www.mcdonalds.com/gb/en-gb/teachers/work-experience.html

McDonald's have created a virtual work experience programme in partnership with Youth Employment UK, which showcases skills and behaviours that employers look for. The modules each take approximately an hour to complete and consist of a workbook with activities, supported by a number of short videos.

Virtual Work Experience for SEND Students

www.speakersforschools.org/results/?opp=F6B9083F-3502-48C5-C0AF-08DC2C848EDA

'Pathways to work: experience the world of work' virtual work experience for **young people with SEND aged 14-19** will take place from **24th-26th April** with two hour long sessions each day at **10:00-11:00 and 13:30-14:30**.

different industries, giving students plenty of food for thought. They will gain an insight into a variety of industries, with sessions from NHS England Choices College, Department for Work and Pensions, Leonardo Hotels and Mott Macdonald (2 more to be announced). The sessions will cover the routes into and potential career journeys, enable students to hear directly from industry experts and find out about the support available from employers to help them thrive in the workplace.

Please contact jenny.miller@speakersforschools.org with any questions about this opportunity. [Download a flyer](#). Deadline to apply: **10th April**.

National Grid Supported Internships

www.nationalgrid.com/responsibility/community/employability

'EmployAbility – Let's work together' is National Grid's employee-led supported internship programme for young people **aged 16- 24** with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). Let's work together has programmes running at two National Grid sites in Warwick and Wokingham. The aim of the programme is to raise aspirations and significantly improve the likelihood of a young person with learning disabilities achieving paid employment by providing supported, immersive work placements in our organisation.

They have also developed a toolkit for education providers and businesses who are planning on running their own Supported Internship programmes.

Green Skills & Sustainability Virtual Work Experience

www.speakersforschools.org/results/?opp=7FFE9623-C95A-41C2-11E2-08DC1283ACD5

Siemens Energy and Speakers for Schools invite **students aged 14-19** to an exciting 2 day interactive virtual work experience in the energy industry on **13th and 14th June from 10:00-14:00**. They will hear from professionals at different stages of their careers, who will share their experience working with circular energy, recycling, carbon footprint and carbon emissions and their career journey to date.

They will also take part in a CV masterclass, get advice on work and home life balance and the importance of communication. Deadline to apply: **16th May**.

Built Environment Work Experience Week

<https://careersliveuk.com/built-environment-work-experience-week-2024>

plan, cost, and design part of a new road in England.

Over the week, participants will meet a variety of people who work in construction and engineering, learning about their jobs and their route into construction. They come from a wide variety of backgrounds and their paths into their current job have not always been what you might expect.

They will also meet recruitment experts to give them hints and tips on CVs and interviews. With the help from their presentations, using their own skills and those of their team members, they will work to create a presentation which shows why judges should pick their company and its designs to build part of the new road.

There are two options to be involved in the week:

- Virtual delivery: take part in Built Environment Work Experience Week via an online platform
- In person delivery: if there is a site nearby with availability, participants will be able to visit a site for the week

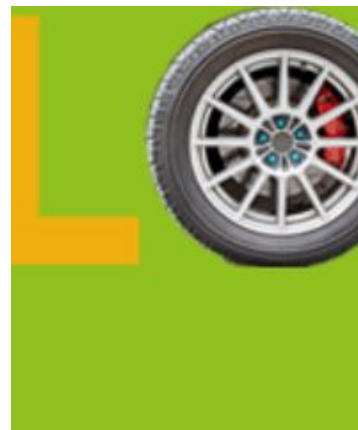
To register interest, visit the Careers Live page and click register now. If you are registering on behalf of students, you will need to fill out separate forms for each student.

Competitions

Explore Video Competition

<https://outreachonlineblog.wordpress.com/2024/02/23/this-is-the-big-oxplore-video-competition>

The 2024 Oxplore video competition invites **Year 7-9 students** to submit a 3-minute video response and **Year 10-13 students** to submit a 5-minute video response to the question 'Should cars be banned in your region?'. Closing date: **3rd May**.





www.bbc.co.uk/ywa

Students **aged 14-18 years** can now enter the 2024 BBC Young Writers' Award with Cambridge University. All they need to do is write a story of up to 1,000 words – no theme, no subject: as long as it's a story and it's all their own work, they can submit it.

Deadline to enter: **25th March**.

Foyle Young Poets Award

<https://foleyoungpoets.org>

This competition is open to anyone **aged 11–17**. Each year, 100 winners (15 top winners and 85 commended winners) are chosen by two high profile poets, and receive their awards at an annual prize-giving event in the autumn. Deadline to enter: **31st July**.



DBACE 2024

<https://dbace.org>

DBACE supports visionary creative entrepreneurs **aged over 18** who are driven by a mission to build and sustain social value through their enterprise. The prize is made up of DBACE funding plus a year of tailored business support, designed to give 5 winners everything they need to take their idea or existing business to the next level. Closing date: **2nd April**.



For Careers Leads

Youth Voice Census 2024

www.youthemployment.org.uk/youth-voice-census-2024

Youth Employment UK have just launched their 2024 Youth Voice Census - this is a national survey open to **11-30 year olds** across the UK and is their chance to share how they feel about where they live, work and study, what is working for them now and what could support them better in the future.

students, so they can hear the voices of as many young people as possible.

SEND Advisory Network

[Express an interest](#)

Join Amazing Apprenticeships' free network of SEND professionals to hear about the latest resources being developed to support students and their families. The next SEND Advisory Network meeting is taking place online on **2nd May at 15:45**.



Amazing Apprenticeships Planner

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/resource/summer-term-ahead-planner>

Throughout the forthcoming term, Amazing Apprenticeships will release key resources to coincide with events and campaigns that provide an excellent way to engage students, staff, parents and carers in understanding and exploring apprenticeships.

Download the spring term planner to find out more.

The Advanced British Standard Consultation

<https://consult.education.gov.uk/advanced-british-standards-directorate/the-advanced-british-standard>

Over the next decade, DfE are seeking to introduce the Advanced British Standard (ABS), a new Baccalaureate-style qualification framework for 16-19 year olds. The ABS will:

- Bring together technical and academic routes into a single framework, taking the best of A levels and T Levels.
- Increase the number of taught hours for all students.
- Require students to study maths and English to the age of 18.
- Offer greater breadth, increasing the average number of subjects students take post 16, with students able to choose a combination of bigger and smaller subjects, called 'majors' and 'minors'.
- Have a clear offer for all students.

respond: 20th March.

Resources

Neurodiversity Celebration Week

www.neurodiversityweek.com/get-involved-schools

Neurodiversity Celebration Week 2024 takes place from **18th-24th March**. You can download a range of resources including posters for students to discover insights about famous neurodivergent individuals and inspirational messages.



Routes Into Work Guide

www.ndti.org.uk/assets/files/Routes-into-Work-Guide.pdf

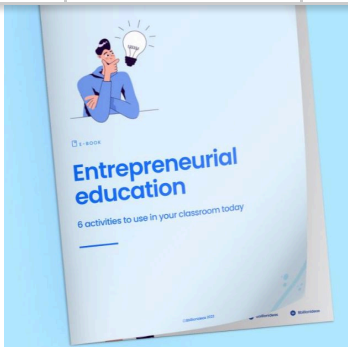
The National Development Team for Inclusion have a guide which shares information about options for young people with special educational needs and disabilities to help them move into paid employment.

Careers in Opera

<https://garsingtonopera.org/participate/careers-in-opera>

Garsington Opera has a page on its website where students can explore the different jobs involved in making an opera, including creative and technical, stage management, lighting, props and costume.





<https://page.8billionideas.com/entrepreneurship-learning>

This free e-book contains 6 activities that you can use in your classroom and adapt to almost any age group. The activities range from 'Problem Detectives' which encourages students to tackle unfamiliar obstacles to 'The £5 Challenge' which encourages teamwork and out-of-the-box thinking.

Apprenticeships

Milestone Infrastructure

www.milestoneinfra.co.uk/apprenticeships-level-23

Milestone Infrastructure are currently recruiting for a number of Level 2 Highway Maintenance Skilled Operatives for their Abingdon and Banbury depots. Students will need to be a minimum of 16 years old and the starting salary was £19386 (based on 40 hrs per week) in 2023. This role is asking for Maths and English GCSE at a grade 4 or above, however if students do not have these qualifications the training provider will support them to gain these as part of the apprenticeship.

Applications are going live in April, but students can [register their interest](#) now. There are also useful guides for both students and parents with further information.

If you would like to invite Milestone Infrastructure into your school to support any upcoming events and to speak to students about this opportunity please get in touch with John Murray at john.murray@milestoneinfra.co.uk.

Oxford Health Nurse Cadets

www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/careers/vacancies/#!/job/v6123816

The Thames Valley Nurse Cadets programme at Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust is aimed at **16 year olds** who want to work in the NHS. The Cadetship takes the form of a Level 3 Senior Health Care Support Worker Apprenticeship. Cadets are employed by the Trust on a 22 month Fixed Term Contract, so it's a great way to earn as you learn - gaining nationally recognised qualifications and building a wealth of practical experience working alongside experienced colleagues.

Cadets work 30 hours per week - split between study (7.5 hours per week) and 3 x clinical shifts, working

a Band 2 salary, which adjusted for 30 hours per week is currently approximately £17026 per year.

“Being a Nurse Cadet is amazing because it gives you a good opportunity meet new people and see what the working world is like. So far, I have met some amazing new people and have learnt so much about the NHS”- 2021 Nurse Cadet

The programme is designed with career progression in mind. Successful Nurse Cadets - upon completing their apprenticeship - are assisted to achieve an interview for a range of further development opportunities according to their interests:

1. Interview to join the Trust as a Band 3 Health Care Support Worker on a permanent contract.
2. Interview to progress on to a Nursing Associate apprenticeship, which can then lead on to a Nursing Associate Band 4 post, or if wanted, further apprenticeship to become a Registered Nurse.
3. Interview to start a Registered Nursing Degree with Oxford Brookes.

Deadline for applications: **1st April**. Applicants must be available to attend face-to-face interviews on 11th April 2024 and selection day 28th June 2024.

Oxford Health are holding two live Q+A events for individuals and their families/carers to find out more about the programme. Please contact Claire Becker at claire.becker@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk for information and a Teams link.

- 21st March, 16:30-17:30
- 8th April, 18:30-19:30

Transport for London

<https://tfl.gov.uk/corporate/careers/apprenticeship-roles-list>

Transport for London are currently recruiting for a range of roles from level 2 to 6 in business, engineering, the London Underground and technology to start in September 2024.





<https://buildyourfuture.withgoogle.com/apprenticeships>

Google are currently recruiting for apprentices worldwide, with roles in the UK including digital business and software engineering.

Dixon Wilson

[Link to the opportunity.](#)

Dixon Wilson offers the opportunity to kick start a career in personal taxation without the need for a university degree through their tax apprenticeship scheme, based in London. Closing date: **30th June.**



Dates For Your Diary

Listed here are events that have featured in previous Picks of the Week.

Oxford Brookes Taster Days

Starting 11th March 2024

Oxford Brookes University is holding a series of subject taster days for Year 12 students. They are free to attend and cover different topics and subject areas from one of their four faculties: Humanities and Social Sciences, Oxford Brookes Business School, Health and Life Sciences and Technology and Design and Environment. [Find out more.](#)

Open Doors Week Visits in Oxfordshire

18th to 23rd March

Open Doors takes visitors behind the scenes to showcase the fantastic range of careers available in construction. There are several events already listed in Oxfordshire, including: Oxford Railway Station with Kier - 19th and 20th March, Culham Science Centre - 19th and 20th March, JSP meet the manufacturer day - 19th March [Find out more.](#)

Kier Open Doors Visits at Oxford Railway Station

19th and 20th March, 09:00-11:00, 12:00-14:00 and 14:30-16:30

Kier have signed up to the 'Open Doors – Get Into Construction' scheme and the Oxford Railway Station project will be opening its doors to schools and colleges for a few sessions over 19th and 20th March.

[Register here.](#)

19th and 20th March

Henley College is holding an information event on 19th March from 18:00-20:00 and a college campus tour on 20th March from 10:00-12:00 for students to see the facilities, find out about courses and meet staff and current students. [Find out more.](#)

Mansfield Humanities Study Day

25th March, 10:00-16:00

This study day at the University of Oxford Mansfield College is for Year 12 students who are interested in studying a humanities subject at university. Students will take part in multiple academic workshops from different humanities subjects on the theme of 'monster hunt'. Deadline to register: 26th February. [Register here.](#)

Somali Students Access Day

25th March, 09:30-16:00

Trinity College, the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies (OCIS) and the Somali Society are joining forces to offer Year 12 students with Somali heritage the opportunity to experience an academic taster, gain information about admissions and hear from current students with shared identities. Download a poster. Deadline to register: 18th March. [Register here.](#)

Better Together

28th March, 09:30-14:30

Better Together is an opportunity for family carers, professionals and organisations who support children and young people with SEND aged 0 - 18 (or up to 25 with an EHCP) to work together to find a positive way forward to improve services and outcomes. [Register here.](#)

Shakespeare Schools Festival

28th March, 19:00-22:00

A night of 4 abridged and adapted Shakespeare plays, performed by Year 10-12 East Midlands school students at Magdalen College. A great opportunity to see unique versions of the plays and support young people with great aspirations as they take to the stage. [Register here.](#)

Lloyds Careers Live

2nd April, 17:00-18:00

The next Lloyds Careers Live will look at their careers in client management and customer care. [Register here.](#)

BAME Humanities Study Day

4th April, 09:00-15:00

Magdalen College, University of Oxford are holding a virtual humanities taster study day for Year 12 students from Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic backgrounds. Deadline to apply: 25th February. [Register here.](#)

Success at School and the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries are holding a series of three webinars ranging from what is an actuarial career to an application skills masterclass with all the tips on how to ace interviews and pass numerical reasoning tests. Each webinar will be covering a different topic. [Register here](#).

History Study Day

17th April

St John's College, University of Oxford are holding a History and History of Art Study Day for Year 12 students. Attendees will meet Oxford tutors and students and experience academic taster sessions.

Deadline to apply: 20th March. [Register here](#).

Russell Group Webinars Fair

30th April to 2nd May

UK University Search and the Russell Group are holding five 90-minute sessions, each featuring a different topic and five or six expert panellists who will offer clear, impartial guidance for students looking at taking the next step in their educational journey plus Q&A. [Find out more](#).

UK University Search Fairs

There are lots of UK University & Apprenticeship Search fairs taking place at universities and stadiums in spring 2024, including at Oxford Brookes University on 12th June. The fairs give students the opportunity to meet universities and apprenticeship providers and attend seminars. [Find out more](#).

Useful Links

These include some of the resources that have been shared in previous issues as a reminder.

[Oxme.info](#) - everything for young people in Oxfordshire

[OxLEP Skills](#)

[Oxfordshire Your Futures](#)

[Oxfordshire Local Skills Dashboard](#)

[Get The Jump](#)

[Provider Access Legislation](#)

[Careers Leader Training](#)

[Into Games](#)

[Amazing Apprenticeships](#)

[Find Your Future](#)

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