

OxLEP Skills: Picks of the Week

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Oxfordshire  
CAREERS HUB

THE CAREERS &  
ENTERPRISE  
COMPANY

## Picks of the Week: 21st November 2023

Please share the links in Picks of the Week 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](mailto:skills@oxfordshirelep.com).



## From OxLEP Skills

### Oxfordshire Apprenticeship Awards 2024

<https://oxlepskills.co.uk/oaawards>

The Oxfordshire Apprenticeship Awards 2024 opened for entries and nominations on Thursday 16th November. The awards will once again recognise the hard work and dedication of careers colleagues through the Careers Champion Award, which was won in 2023 by Claire Christiansen, Careers Lead at Larkmead School, with Jackie Mustoe, Careers Lead and Exams manager at Carterton Community College and Andy Hemming, Assistant Head at Chilworth House Upper School being highly commended. Why not celebrate the fantastic work you do by entering or nominating a colleague?

There is also an Inspiring the Future Employer Award to recognise employers who go the extra mile to engage and inspire the next generation. please do share with employers you work with so that they can be recognised for everything they do to inform and inspire your students.



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

Careers Fest will take place on **20th and 21st March 2024** at The Kassam Stadium. We are once again holding a 'twilight' session for parents and carers on **20th March with slots from 16:30-18:00 or 18:00-19:30**.

Please share the booking link and [this poster](#) with your parents/carers and encourage them to register. We also have a short film that you can share with them to give them an idea of what Careers Fest is like: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=JHPoV2\\_fY3E](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JHPoV2_fY3E). We will also share a flyer/poster with you shortly.



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## Oxfordshire Events

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### Oxford-Cambridge Interview Preparation Sessions

These sessions are for are for **Year 13** applicants to the University of Oxford (or Cambridge) and are designed to help them prepare for the interview process.

#### Live Demo. Academic Interviews Online

<https://oxford.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/oxford-for-north-east-demonstration-interviews-registratio>

This is a live 20-minute interview led by Oxford staff with a current Oxford student, in two sample subjects, one Humanities, one Sciences. Students can watch the interview happening, then comment and ask questions real-time using slido (they won't need to speak). These take place on **22nd** (History) and **29th** (Physical Sciences) **November from 12:20-13:00**.

#### Trinity College Interview Workshops

<https://oxford.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/trinity-college-oxford-interview-workshops-2023-registrati>

The first half of these 90 minute online workshops covers the context, format and content of interviews, the second half consists of subject-specific breakout rooms led by ambassadors from Trinity College, who take those subjects, on how to prepare, what to expect and tackling subject-specific sample interview questions. There are 4 sessions, arranged by subject, which take place from **16:00-17:30 from 27th to 30th November**.

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<https://abingdon-witney.ac.uk/events/open-day-november-bicester>

Abingdon & Witney College are holding an open day at their Bicester Construction Centre on **28th November from 16:00-19:30** where students will have the opportunity to tour the facilities, meet the tutors and find out about the courses and apprenticeships on offer.

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## Make Space for Girls Creative Workshop - Extra Date

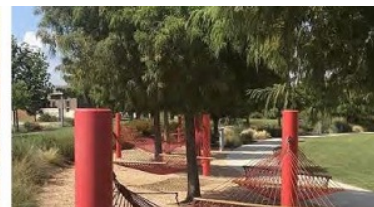
[Download information about the workshops](#)

**Update:** further to the information in last week's Picks of the Week, due to popular demand, Kerry has added an additional workshop date - **7th December**.

Kerry Lemon ([www.kerrylemon.co.uk](http://www.kerrylemon.co.uk)) is an artist commissioned by St Modwen to create a series of art events and sculptures for Kingsgrove in Wantage. As part of this work, Kerry is partnering with Make Space For Girls to explore what 16-19 year olds would like to see in the new Community Growing Space.

Kerry is running two free creative workshops (with lots of pizza!) on **7th December from 18:30-20:00** ([download a poster](#)) at Kingsgrove Wantage Academy School and **8th December from 11:00-15:00** ([download a poster](#)) at Abingdon & Witney College. Kerry is inviting **16-19 year olds who don't identify as male** to take part. There will be a follow up session via Zoom on 29th February from 16:00 where the planned design(s) will be presented.

There are a sign up forms for [7th December](#) and [8th December](#) for interested students to complete and return to Kerry by **29th November**.



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## Talks at Somerville and Magdalen Colleges

Here are some exciting opportunities for students to attend talks at these University of Oxford colleges.

**Law Career Talk: Trespasser Syndrome in a Profession full of Privilege**

**22nd November - arrive at 17:45** for the talk at 18:00-19:30, Somerville College

This free, 90 minute talk by Professor Leslie Thomas KC is for **Year 11 and 5th form students** thinking of studying law at university or maybe as a career, with concerns about inequality in the profession

Any questions, please email Jackie Watson on [sa.secretary@some.ox.ac.uk](mailto:sa.secretary@some.ox.ac.uk)

### The Discovery of Pulsars

[www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-discovery-of-pulsars-a-public-talk-by-jocelyn-bell-burnell-tickets-759764976497](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-discovery-of-pulsars-a-public-talk-by-jocelyn-bell-burnell-tickets-759764976497)

**24th November at 18:00**, Magdalen College Auditorium

This 45 minute talk is for **any secondary school students** interested in hearing about a mysterious repeating signal detected 56 years ago in outer space that turned out to be pulsar: an incredibly small, dense, highly magnetic star that spins at high speeds and shines like a beam from a lighthouse. The talk is by Professor Dame Jocelyn Bell Burnell, who found the first pulsar, followed by 15 minutes of Q&A.

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## Other Events

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### We're Hiring! With Rare

[www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/were-hiring-with-rare-2023-tickets-745141497277](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/were-hiring-with-rare-2023-tickets-745141497277)

This this virtual event with games studio Rare on **6th December from 18:00-19:30** students can find out about their new paid internships, what it's like to work in the studio, who you would be working with and what it takes to get hired. They can meet some of the staff and get tips on how to land that dream job.



### Apprenticeships with Dunelm

[Link to register](#)

This webinar on **12th December from 15:30** with the Dunelm Early Careers will introduce the range of apprenticeships they offer, including from finance, retail, sustainability, logistics, buying & merchandising and insight & analytics and the vacancies that will be available in 2024.

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[www.empathy-week.com](http://www.empathy-week.com)

Empathy Week takes place from **26th February to 1st March 2024** and is a free festival of webinars, films, resources and events that explore the theme of 'Home' and develop the skill of empathy, a vital skill for success as it underpins the skills of great leadership, creativity and communication.



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## Careers Programmes & Bursaries

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### Discover Computer Science

[www.cs.ox.ac.uk/DiscoverComputerScience/DiscoverComputerScienceindex.html](http://www.cs.ox.ac.uk/DiscoverComputerScience/DiscoverComputerScienceindex.html)

This programme is for **Year 11 students of black and mixed heritage who identify as female**. It consists of 4 online computer science workshops and an in-person graduation day. The programme is free to with some travel grants available. The online workshops take place from **16:15 on 4 Wednesdays from 10th January to 28th February** and the in-person graduation day is on **Saturday 23rd March**.

Up to 4 students can be nominated by their school by emailing [ChChCS@cs.ox.ac.uk](mailto:ChChCS@cs.ox.ac.uk) using a school email address. You will then be provided with an application link to share with students and their parents/carers. They must complete the application by **22nd November**.

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### Inspire Critical Thinking

<https://sjcinspire.com/students/year9-11-inspire-programme>

Inspire Critical Thinking is a free online course for **Year 9-11 students** run by St John's College in collaboration with Oxford for South East. The course focuses on a central theme that is approached from a variety of subject viewpoints and each virtual workshop includes articles, interviews, recorded lectures and challenges developed by University of Oxford academics and students.

The theme for Inspire Critical Thinking 2023/24 is 'Does Crime Always Deserve Punishment?' The programme is made up of 4 workshops, that will be released each month between **January- April 2024**:

This year's Inspire Critical Thinking includes a range of exciting and engaging resources, with articles ranging from AI and crime to the use of DNA in evidence. They also include interviews with current researchers and students and further links to help participants hone their critical thinking skills and

Following the online classes, all registered students will be invited to attend an Inspire Virtual Summer School. For students in Year 11, there is also a competitive application process for a free Inspire Residential Summer School at St John's College. [Download a flyer](#). To register, students should complete the [registration form](#) by **13th December**.



## Free Scriptwriting Course

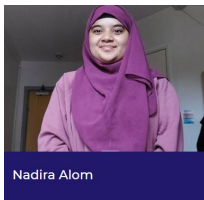
[www.bbc.co.uk/writers/opportunities/young-writers-national](http://www.bbc.co.uk/writers/opportunities/young-writers-national)

[Pentabus](#) rural theatre company are offering a free 6 month scriptwriting course for those **aged 16-30**. Through a series of online evening sessions, participants will work with experienced writers and directors to develop a short script, which will be produced and performed. Deadline to apply: **4th December**.

## Academic Futures Scholarships

[www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/graduate/access/academic-futures](http://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/graduate/access/academic-futures)

Academic Futures is a series of scholarship programmes that address under-representation and help improve equality, diversity and inclusion in the University of Oxford graduate student body. Up to 50 full awards are available across three programmes.



Nadira Alom



Sam Osbiston



Tiffany Campbell



Basira Rishad

## Amazon Future Engineer Bursary

<https://raeng.org.uk/amazon-future-engineer-bursaries>

The Amazon Future Engineer bursary is a national bursary programme aimed at supporting women A Level / Level 3 students from low-income households who wish to study computer science or related engineering courses at UK universities. Deadline to apply: **7th May 2024**.

## Lincoln College Teacher Conference

<https://lincoln.ox.ac.uk/study-here/outreach/teachers-and-schools/support-for-teachers/lincoln-college-teacher-conference>

This conference at Lincoln College is for educators and school leaders responsible for applications to Oxbridge. It is also useful for supporting high achieving students from disadvantaged backgrounds, or applications to competitive universities in general. It will take place in the **evening of 12th December and the day of 13th December**. The event is free of charge and there is free accommodation available at Lincoln College.

Delegates will learn about the application process, available bursaries and financial help for students and hear from academics involved in the interview process about how you can help students develop the skills we look for. The sessions throughout the day will cover topics such as: myth-busting preconceptions about accessing Oxford; student life in Oxford beyond academic work; academic life, applications and interviews. You will hear from Oxford staff, students and academics.

## UniTasterDays Regional Contacts

[www.unitasterdays.com/regional-contacts](http://www.unitasterdays.com/regional-contacts)

This new platform enables schools/colleges to make direct contact with university regional representatives in their area to arrange events and request support. The university might not be on your doorstep, but the regional contact may well be! A great way to expand your university engagement activities.



Resource description	Release date	When to use
<b>Subject Guide</b> Use the Subject Guide to help you choose the right course for your student.	Available now	British Science Week
<b>A-Z of Fe</b> Our Fe curriculum resource is available now.	Available now	
<b>Support</b> Check out the table below for some ideas to support your careers provision this Autumn term.		
<b>THE TERM AHEAD SPRING 2024</b>		
<b>Planning an A-Level/IB course</b> Support schools to understand the range of options available to their students.	Available now	LEET History Month February 2024
<b>National Apprenticeship Week</b> Open up all of the resources, including posters, videos, presentations and much more to make your NAOW 2024 a huge success.	Available now	National Apprenticeship Week 01-10 February 2024
<b>Celebrating Care Day</b> Use this resource to help care students understand how their apprenticeships can provide support.	Available 20th January 2024	Care Day 06th February 2024
<b>IT in schools</b>	Available 20th February 2024	National Careers Week

## Apprenticeships Planner

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

The Amazing Apprenticeships spring term planner lists a variety of events and campaigns in the school and careers calendars, along with relevant, high quality resources that can be used to celebrate these events and engage your students with apprenticeships.

## [Download the checklist](#)

The CEC have created a 'Make it Meaningful' checklist to help with BM5. The checklist and associated [resources](#) help you to ensure each encounter or experience is meaningful for all participants.

Implementation Engage with Intent		
What	To ensure that...	Completed
Brief participants	Students and staff are prepared for the encounter and they understand what they will be doing and what is expected of them.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Employers are briefed about their role and what to expect from teachers and students.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	HE, FE and Training providers are briefed about their role and the needs of the students.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Engage parents and carers	The learning opportunity is promoted to the wider school community.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Parent or carer engagement in the careers activity has been considered and factored into the planning.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Parents are informed that the careers activity is happening and are encouraged to continue careers conversations at home.	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Resources

### Taste for Work from McDonald's

<https://tasteforwork.com>

Taste for Work is a new employability programme from McDonald's in collaboration with the [National Schools Partnership](#). The programme teaches **young people aged 14-19** the key skills that they'll need in the workplace – starting with communication.

Taste for Work is a series of immersive challenges set in real-world scenarios which teach your students the essential Skills Builder skills they need for their future career. It starts with the [Communication Challenge](#), which guides students through three different types of language to help build their speaking skills.

Students will hear from real-world employees about how to use communication skills in the workplace and actively work to develop 'Skills Builder Speaking Skill Step 5' and meet Gatsby Benchmarks. Nasen have approved the challenge for all abilities, meaning students with additional needs will be able to benefit too.

**COMMUNICATION CHALLENGE (FOR AGES 14-19)**



### Climate Schools Programme

[www.climateschoolsprogramme.org.uk](http://www.climateschoolsprogramme.org.uk)

You can help your students explore solutions to tackling climate change and discover skills they didn't know they had through a new pilot schools programme, aimed at inspiring **11-14 year olds** to explore green engineering careers and tackle climate change head-on.

The Climate Schools Programme covers Science, Geography and English, as well as extra-curricular





### 06. Probability

Pupils calculate probabilities to estimate the effectiveness of social media adverts.

## ICAEW Maths Resources

[www.icaew.com/learning-and-development/icaew-maths](http://www.icaew.com/learning-and-development/icaew-maths)

ICAEW has released 15 new GCSE maths resources, which centre around topical issues in personal finance and economics by touching on themes such as inflation, cost of living trends and interest rates. Great for BM4!

## Dream Bigger Lesson

[Link to the resource](#)

The CareerSense and NatWest Dream Bigger workshop, designed for **students aged 16-18**, is a free, one-hour lesson that introduces young people to entrepreneurship, with optional support from a bank Ambassador.





[www.unitasterdays.com/university-support-for-schools/university-resources](http://www.unitasterdays.com/university-support-for-schools/university-resources)

UniTasterDays have created guides to university for students, parents/carers and teachers, as well as impartial subject videos, which introduce studying a range of different subjects at university to help students make informed university subject choices.

## Get Into Theatre

<https://getintothetre.org>

The Get Into Theatre website has lots of information and advice about jobs and careers in the theatre, route in and ideas for next steps.



## Driver Air Despatcher



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## Army Career Quiz

<https://armyjoin.mindmill.co.uk>

Students can work through a series of questions in this army career quiz to get suggestions on the types of roles that might suit them.

## Apprenticeships & School Leaver Programmes

### Accenture

[www.accenture.com/gb-en/careers/local/apprenticeships](http://www.accenture.com/gb-en/careers/local/apprenticeships)

Applications are open from now until **February 2024** for Accenture's Consulting Degree Apprenticeship based in London or Technology Apprenticeship scheme across London, Newcastle, Birmingham and Manchester.





[www.evelyn.com/careers/early-careers](http://www.evelyn.com/careers/early-careers)

Evelyn Partners are the UK's leading integrated wealth management and professional services group. They have a range of school leaver programmes available to start in 2024 and are running regular insight sessions for students to find out more.

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## Dates For Your Diary

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

### **Oxfordshire Advanced Skills Open Evening**

21st November, 18:00-20:00

OAS are holding an apprenticeship open evening which will give students and their parents/carers the opportunity to tour the facilities, meet current apprentices and employer partners and find out what it's like to be an apprentice with OAS. [Register here.](#)

### **Solicitor Apprenticeships Webinar**

21st November, 18:30-19:15

This insight webinar with Dentons is for Year 10-13 students who are interested in a career in law and their parents/carers and will inform them about what a solicitor apprenticeship is and how the programme works. [Register here.](#)

### **SkillBuild Final and Showcase**

22nd November, 10:00-15:00

Students interested in a career in construction can be inspired by watching finalists complete in the Skillbuild national final, take part in have a go activities and watch demonstrations in the construction showcase at the Marshall Arena in Milton Keynes. [Register here.](#)

### **City of Oxford College Open Evening**

22nd November, 16:30-19:30

Students and their parents/carers can attend this open event at the City of Oxford College to meet tutors and current students and find out about the courses and facilities at the college. [Find out more.](#)

### **National Illustration Day**

24th November

The Quentin Blake Centre for Illustration are launching the first National Illustration Day. They have created a lesson resource to show how illustration is important in so many ways, from packaging to road signs to video games. [Find out more.](#)

24th and 25th November

Skills London jobs and careers fair for 14–24-year-olds and their families will be held at ExCeL London, offering up to 35,000 live jobs, training and apprenticeships under one roof. The fair is free to attend and connects you with over 100 potential employers, education and skills providers to give practical advice and information. [Find out more.](#)

### **ACE Training Open Mornings**

25th November, 27th January and 24th February, 10:00-12:00 on

ACE Training are holding open mornings for students interested in a career in construction and their parents/carers to drop in to see the workshops, meet the team and find out about apprenticeships and pre-apprenticeships in bricklaying and carpentry. [Download a poster.](#)

### **BP Apprenticeships Series**

Starts 28th November, 18:30-19:30

This virtual miniseries for Year 10-13 students starts with an 'all about apprenticeships' session, which gives an opportunity to meet with current apprentices and take part in a live Q&A. This is followed by an online application assessments session on 12th December and an assessment centres session on 9th January. [Find out more.](#)

### **AWE Apprenticeships Parents Event**

29th November, 17:00-19:30

This in person event for parents/carers of students in Years 11-13 will take place at AWE in Reading. They will learn about AWE's apprenticeship programmes, spanning Level 2 to Level 6 in diverse fields such as business, lab technician and nuclear engineering. [Find out more.](#)

### **Protecting Our Planet Day**

30th November, 09:00-16:30

Protecting Our Planet Day is inspiring live-streamed event from the UK Space Education Office at STEM Learning, in collaboration with the European Space Agency and the UK Space Agency. [Register here.](#)

### **Apprenticeship Accelerator**

30th November, 17:00-19:30

RateMyApprenticeship are holding this virtual event on for students to hear from some of their 'UK's Best Apprenticeship Employers', meet current apprentices and get the low down on how to apply for an apprenticeship and what it's like to work as an apprentice. [Find out more.](#)

### **National Interview Week**

4th-8th December

Oppidan Education and YourGamePlan have partnered to deliver the first ever National Interview Week, a programme that will deliver 5,000 free interview sessions for students in Year 12 and up. There are 30-100 free places available per school or college. [Find out more.](#)

Students in Years 10-13 and their parents/carers can join Accenture for an insight webinar to hear from apprentices and the recruitment team about starting a professional career within consultancy or technology and how to make their application stand out. [Register here](#).

### **Careers in Business Virtual Expo**

6th December, 08:30-17:30

This event from ACCA and Success at School is for students aged 13-18. Throughout the day there will be multiple live and interactive sessions covering jobs and roles available across various areas of business and entry pathways e.g. T Levels, apprenticeships and university. [Register here](#).

### **Service Children Pupil Voice Event**

6th December, 09:45-14:30

Schools are invited to bring up to 6 Key Stage 3 Service children to this event, which aims to bring together Service children from across the county to share their experiences, hear their voices and have some fun! Deadline to request places: 21st September. [Find out more](#).

### **Chemistry Conference at Trinity College**

12th December, 15:45–16:45

The Department of Chemistry is hosting its first Christmas Chemistry Conference for Year 12-13 students - A Quantum Christmas Robin - at Trinity College. [Find out more](#).

### **Army Apprenticeships & Scholarships**

16th January, 18:30-19:30

This webinar offers valuable insight into educational and career opportunities within the Army and will discuss apprenticeships, bursaries and scholarships. Parents/carers and educators are encouraged to attend. [Register here](#).

### **Oxford Brookes Science Bazaar**

3rd February, 09:30-16:00

Oxford Brookes Science Bazaar is a free event for all the family and is most suitable for students aged up to 16 years. There is an autism friendly early opening from 09:30-11:30. [Register here](#).

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## **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

[Oxfordshire Your Futures](#)

[Get The Jump](#)

[Uni Taster Days](#)

[Provider Access Legislation](#)

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[Amazing Apprenticeships](#)[Your Game Plan](#)[Find Your Future](#)

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