

OxLEP Skills: Picks of the Week

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Oxfordshire  
CAREERS HUB

THE CAREERS &  
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COMPANY

## Picks of the Week: 16th January 2024

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

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

The Oxfordshire Apprenticeship Awards 2024 are open for entries and nominations until midnight on **Monday 19th February**. Why not showcase your work and careers programme by entering the Careers Champion Award, or encourage employers you work with to enter the Inspiring the Future Employer Award to recognise all they do to inform and inspire your students?

### Careers Fest - Parents/Carers Session

<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.

your networks, which will be available in the next couple of weeks.



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## National Apprenticeship Week 2024

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### Apprenticeships Webinar for Parents/Carers

<https://careersliveuk.com/partner/oxfordshire-careers-hub>

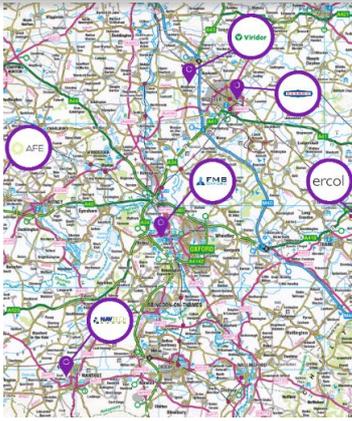
We are teaming up with LearnLive to run an apprenticeships awareness broadcast for parents and carers (students are encouraged to attend too!) on **6th February 2024 from 18:00-19:00**, which is during **National Apprenticeship Week**.

Parents/carers will be able to hear an overview of apprenticeships, watch Oxfordshire apprentices talking about their experiences, including Macy Richards, a Trainee Civil Engineer at Milestone Infrastructure, hear the employer perspective from Helen Johnson from the University of Oxford and ask any questions via a live chat with the speakers.

After the webinar, there will be an **opportunity to chat with employers** who offer apprenticeships via our **Find Your Future** virtual careers platform - <https://oxlepskills.co.uk/findyourfuture>

We have created a graphic that includes all the information and a QR code for booking, which you can [download here](#). Please share this via your own and your school/college social media channels to help promote the webinar.





[www.theengineeringtrust.org/apprenticeships/naw24](http://www.theengineeringtrust.org/apprenticeships/naw24)

The Engineering Trust are holding 7 apprenticeship employer open evenings during National Apprenticeship Week, at Viridor, FMB Oxford, Ercol, Barrus, Norbar, Advanced Fibreoptic Engineering and Navtech Radar. Students can get an insight into the work they do, tour their facilities and find out about engineering careers and apprenticeships.



## Activate Apprenticeships Webinar

[www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/gain-skills-for-life-become-an-apprentice-tickets-776362941457](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/gain-skills-for-life-become-an-apprentice-tickets-776362941457)

Activate Apprenticeships are holding a webinar for potential apprentices on **5th February from 09:15-10:00**. Attendees will hear an overview of apprenticeships, learn where to find vacancies and hear the view of an employer.

## Festival of Apprenticeships

[www.crowdcast.io/c/foa2024](http://www.crowdcast.io/c/foa2024)

This free online event from Pathway Group on **5th February from 12:00-13:00** is a one-stop shop for anyone looking to find out more about apprenticeships, from discovering opportunities with organisations first-hand, through to guidance on how to apply for and make the most of an apprenticeship.





### [Registration link](#)

Success at School are celebrating Apprentice Wednesday by holding an online 'ask an apprentice' panel discussion on **7th February from 18:30-19:30**. Attendees will hear from 3 apprentices and be able to ask any questions they have.

## T Levels Day

### [Download the toolkit](#)

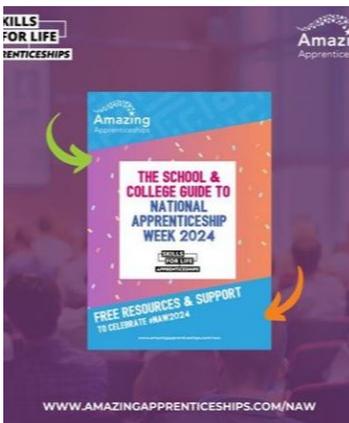
T Levels day will be held on **8th February** as part of National Apprenticeship Week. The day will showcase students, training providers and employers through social media channels and through national media. You can also [download comms assets](#).



## School and College Guide to NAW

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/resource/the-school-college-guide-to-naw2024>

Now updated, this key resource is perfect for careers leads and educators. It contains all resource links and instructions you'll need to celebrate the biggest week in apprenticeships. You can also watch the 3 minute long [explainer film](#).



## NAW2024 Sunday Surgery

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83149403485?pwd=emtFZnh5N3ZldGxETm9XclFaUW9yUT09>

On **4th February from 10:00-12:00**, Amazing Apprenticeships' Anna Morrison will be running an open surgery for those who have questions about National Apprenticeship Week.





<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/apprenticeship-arcade>

The Amazing Apprenticeships Apprenticeship Arcade is back for NAW2024 with a new whack-a-mole and 3 other games, as well as updated existing games, so your students can enjoy fun ways to learn about apprenticeships.

## Oxfordshire Events

### ACE Training Open Morning

[Download a flyer](#)

Students interested in a career in construction can go to ACE Training's open morning on **27th January from 10:00-12:00** to find out about their pre-apprenticeships and apprenticeships in bricklaying and carpentry. Open mornings will also take place on 24th February, 23rd March and 13th & 27th April.



**ACE TRAINING**

**ACE Training Open Mornings**

Interested in a career in Construction?  
Come & see what ACE Training can offer you!

You can take a tour of our workshops, meet the team & find out all about our Apprentice & Pre Apprentice opportunities in Bricklaying & Carpentry.

So, if you are planning ahead for your next steps after your GCSE's, or are currently on a course you are not enjoying then come & check us out.

We look forward to seeing you between 10am & 12pm on any of the following dates

- 27th January
- 24th February
- 23rd March
- 13th April
- 27th April



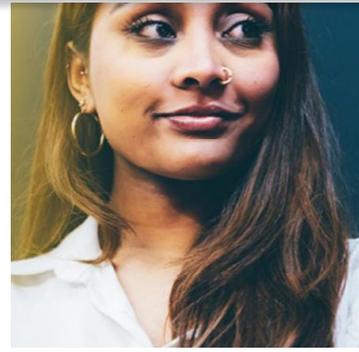
### Brookes Undergraduate Open Day

[www.brookes.ac.uk/open-days/undergraduate/undergraduate-open-day-saturday-17-february](http://www.brookes.ac.uk/open-days/undergraduate/undergraduate-open-day-saturday-17-february)

The next Oxford Brookes undergraduate open day will take place on **17th February** and includes campus tours, course and subject taster sessions, accommodation talks and the opportunity to meet staff and students.

<https://events.unibuddy.co/oxford-brookes-university/virtual/64e357e26de18d00281441d4>

These Oxford Brookes sessions aim to support students through their journey of applying to university. The next ones are covering applications on **23rd January** and getting the most from open days on **6th February**, both from **16:00-17:00**.



## Other Events



## Crayola Creativity Week

<https://creativity-week.squarespace.com>

Crayola Creativity Week takes place from **22nd - 28th January**.

There are a range of daily activities, videos and resources that you can access to help your students explore their creative interests, including a livestream creative assembly on **24th January at 13:00**.

## Horticulture Careers Webinar

[www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/horticulture-careers-discovery-event-discover-plant-based-careers-tickets-789956670667](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/horticulture-careers-discovery-event-discover-plant-based-careers-tickets-789956670667)

This webinar with RHS Learning on **24th January from 09:15-09:35** is an opportunity for **Year 7-12 students** to explore the world of horticulture and the type of roles available within the sector, from garden design to plant breeding.





<https://careersliveuk.com/vaultex-uk>

Cash processing firm Vaultex UK are running a series of virtual Careers Live broadcasts. The first one on **30th January from 10:00** is about careers in HR. This will be followed by monthly broadcasts covering tech, finance and operations.

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## Apprenticeship Accelerator

[Link to the event](#)

Join RateMyApprenticeship and some of the UK's Best Apprenticeship Employers for round two of their exclusive look at apprenticeships on **1st February from 17:00-18:40**, where you'll discover how to ace the application process.



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## Careers Programmes & Work Experience

### Williams Racing Work Experience

[www.williamsf1.com/careers/early-careers](http://www.williamsf1.com/careers/early-careers)

Williams Racing's work experience is aimed at **Year 10-13 students** and provides a unique view of how an F1 team runs. The aim of the week is to help students understand the various jobs and routes in F1 and provide them with the tools to set on the pathway to get there. Dates for the 2024 weeks are:

- 8th - 11th April
- 28th - 31st May
- 17th - 20th June
- 16th - 19th July
- 27th - 30th August

This year, Williams will be running an Esports work experience week alongside their 'standard' work experience. Applications for both are now open and close on **2nd February**.

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## Oxford Brookes Summer Schools 2024

Applications are open from **15th January to 15th April** for Oxford Brookes' residential summer schools for **Year 12 students** in July. With the opportunity to explore subject areas within the four faculties - Technology, Design and Environment, Humanities and Social Sciences, Health and Life Sciences and the Oxford Brookes Business School, students will discover what being a university student is all about and delve into a subject area of their choice. The summer school is free to attend with all travel, meals and accommodation provided, free of charge.

Brookes are currently taking bookings for both virtual and in person assemblies for January and February, where a member of the team can provide your students with more information and explain the benefits of the residential summer schools. If you would like them to come in please contact the team by emailing [brookes.summerschools@brookes.ac.uk](mailto:brookes.summerschools@brookes.ac.uk) and they can arrange a talk at a time that works best for you.



## Storytelling for Film and TV

<https://quigleystutorials.thinkific.com/courses/Storytelling>

This free online course from Quigleys Tutorials Enrol will teach participants the art of transforming raw ideas into captivating short films that'll leave audiences spellbound. There are 13 lessons, covering the process from the idea to making a film.

## Competitions

### French Writing Competition

[www.kcl.ac.uk/news/a-level-french-writing-competition-2023](http://www.kcl.ac.uk/news/a-level-french-writing-competition-2023)

This competition invites **Year 12 and 13 students** to submit an original piece of writing in French. Each participant will be invited to a workshop and prize-giving ceremony at King's College London in March. Closing date: **20th February**.



## For Careers Leads

[www.ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk/what-we-do/training-and-consultancy/our-training-courses/understanding-autism-for-careers-and-employability-professionals](http://www.ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk/what-we-do/training-and-consultancy/our-training-courses/understanding-autism-for-careers-and-employability-professionals)

This free course has been developed in partnership with Ambitious about Autism and a range of qualified professionals as well as autistic young people and will support those who are offering careers advice or guidance in a range of settings. It takes place virtually over 4 hours and there are 8 date options to choose from between January and May.

They are training individuals, groups and organisations to be confident in supporting applicants throughout the application process and will share details of their Employ Autism placements, Transition to Employment toolkit and support attendees to develop and adapt careers information and guidance sessions. [Download a flyer](#).

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## Advancing Access Virtual Conference

[www.advancingaccess.ac.uk/cpd-events/content/virtual-conferences](http://www.advancingaccess.ac.uk/cpd-events/content/virtual-conferences)

Advancing Access provides a variety of CPD resources, online events and offline conferences for teachers and advisers to help them support students' progression to Russell Group universities.

They are holding a free virtual conference on **7th March from 15:20-17:50**, which will feature an exhibition hall with all 24 Russell Group universities and a range of CPD webinars delivered by UCAS and representatives from the Russell Group too. This event and their offer supports schools and colleges to meet Gatsby Benchmark 7.

The following webinars will be taking place:

- UCAS Update: supporting student applications for 2024-2025 entry
- Results day resilience: preparing students for Clearing
- Crafting confidence for interview triumph
- Maximising university outreach schemes for ultimate impact
- Demystifying Russell Group Universities: because "not for me" is a myth
- Unveiling potential: information on contextual offers

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## Unleashing the Power of STEM in Environmental Sciences

'A Call to Action for a Greener Tomorrow' - in a world facing unprecedented environmental challenges, with the climate crisis at the forefront, it's time to empower the next generation with the tools, knowledge and innovative spirit needed for a sustainable future. This initiative isn't just about learning; it's about sparking

The diversity in environmental sciences doesn't mirror our society, especially in comparison to other scientific fields. This initiative aims to inspire and guide more A Level STEM students from BAME backgrounds to step into the exciting world of environmental sciences.

#### Activities planned for 2024:

- 1. School Visits: Unveiling the Magic of STEM in Environmental Sciences** Join us as we embark on a thrilling journey to schools across SE England, led by passionate STEM Ambassadors. We're not just visiting; we're bringing a festival of knowledge and inspiration right to your doorstep. Imagine an assembly where the wonders of STEM come alive.
- 2. Summer School: A Hands-On Experience in University Research Life** Picture this: 40 students, 10 schools, 2 transformative days at the University of Reading. It's not just a visit; it's an immersive experience in the heart of environmental science. Field trips, seminars, labs – this is where future environmental scientists are born.

#### How your school can get involved:

- 1. Set the stage:** book a school visit, especially during Science Week (8th–17th March) and beyond.
- 2. Spot the talent:** help identify the bright minds in A Level Maths and other STEM subjects.
- 3. Gather insights:** facilitate surveys to gauge students' interests and understanding of environmental sciences.
- 4. Nurture future scientists:** select students for a group essay challenge, mentored by PhD STEM Ambassadors and industry STEM Ambassadors, to explore the significance of STEM in environmental sciences.

Contact Oscar Martínez-Alvarado at [o.martinezalvarado@reading.ac.uk](mailto:o.martinezalvarado@reading.ac.uk) at the University of Reading and/or Dr Ajay Sharman at [a.sharman@stem.org.uk](mailto:a.sharman@stem.org.uk) at STEM Learning for details.

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## Try Before They Apply: UCAS and Springpod Collaboration

[www.ucas.com/corporate/news-and-key-documents/news/students-get-opportunity-try-they-apply-through-ucas-collaboration-springpod](http://www.ucas.com/corporate/news-and-key-documents/news/students-get-opportunity-try-they-apply-through-ucas-collaboration-springpod)

Students exploring their options through UCAS will be able to virtually experience university and the world of work, thanks to a new strategic partnership with careers platform Springpod. The new agreement, announced on 11th January and due to go live in spring 2024 will enable those with an account on the UCAS Hub to explore, interact with and sample university subjects, courses and work experience online for the first time before they apply.

The collaboration will bolster UCAS and Springpod's joint missions to support students in exploring their future options and, as a free service, improve social mobility by broadening horizons, removing barriers

## T Levels Focus Group

Nearly 100 careers advisers, leaders and teachers participated in the latest Amazing Apprenticeships T Level survey. They would now like to discuss some of the ideas that have been put forward and invite you to join a short focus group. Please click on your preferred date to register to join them:

- [Tuesday 30th January](#), 15:30-16:30
- [Wednesday 31st January](#), 10:00-11:00
- [Thursday 1st February](#), 15:30-16:30

## Higher Education Providers Accepting T Levels

[www.gov.uk/government/publications/t-level-resources-for-universities/providers-that-have-confirmed-t-levels-suitable-for-entry-on-one-course](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/t-level-resources-for-universities/providers-that-have-confirmed-t-levels-suitable-for-entry-on-one-course)

The latest list released by the Education and Skills Funding Agency includes the names of 144 higher education providers that have confirmed that they will consider T Levels for entry onto at least one course at their institution. This list is not exhaustive and there are likely to be differing entry requirements for different providers and courses. Admissions offices can be contacted directly should students require further information on entry requirements.



## T Levels Webinar

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_Hlsp9S-cRPGIVXFDuycCYw](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Hlsp9S-cRPGIVXFDuycCYw)

At this webinar on **26th February from 15:30**, you can hear from T Level training providers about their application processes and how students can be supported to research their options so that they can be certain that they are making the right choice in selecting a T Level.

## Resources

### New Resources from The Careers & Enterprise Company

<https://resources.careersandenterprise.co.uk/resources/careers-education-resources-apprenticeships-and-technical-education>

A range of e-learning bitesize resources supporting educators and careers leaders to inspire students to choose technical education and apprenticeships as prestigious career pathways.

### English as an Additional Language (EAL) Careers Resource

<https://resources.careersandenterprise.co.uk/resources/english-additional-language-eal-careers-resource>

The aim of this resource is to raise career aspirations for those students who have struggled to access Careers due to language barriers. This can be used in school by any member of staff as there are clear instructions of how to deliver.

## Tech Live Lessons

<https://techshecan.org/live-assemblies>

These live lessons in **February and March** will help pupils to understand different technology roles and inspire them about a future career in tech. The lessons are free and delivered by qualified teachers.



**Safer Internet Day:  
Tech for Gen AI  
(Age 11-14)**



## Everyone Can Create

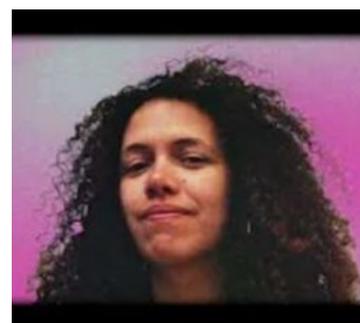
<https://education.apple.com/learning-center/T020408A?backTo=%2Flearning-center>

Apple's Everyone Can Create includes four project guides for students to learn fundamental skills and techniques of video, photography, music and drawing.

## Careers in Photography

[www.youtube.com/@photoworks\\_uk](http://www.youtube.com/@photoworks_uk)

As part of Discover Creative Careers, Photoworks have interviewed photographers about their work and career path in a series of short films.



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## Trainee General Practice Assistant Apprenticeships

[www.frimleyhealthandcare.org.uk/professional-resources/apprenticeships](http://www.frimleyhealthandcare.org.uk/professional-resources/apprenticeships)

Trainee general practice assistant apprenticeship vacancies with Frimley Training Hub are now live for 5 roles across GP practices in Oxfordshire, including Bicester and Oxford. There are also roles in Windsor, Slough and Bracknell. Links to all are below:

[Apprentice Trainee General Practice Assistant - Bicester, OX26](#)

[Apprentice Trainee General Practice Assistant - Oxford, OX4](#)

[Apprentice Trainee General Practice Assistant - Windsor, SL4](#)

[Apprentice Trainee Business Administrator - Slough, SL3](#)

[Apprentice Trainee General Practice Assistant - Bracknell, RG12](#)

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## Oxfam

<https://platform.multiverse.io/apprenticeships/data-technician-standard-level-3-digital-business-accelerator/service-operations-apprentice-at-oxfam-ltd>

Oxfam are recruiting for a Level 3 Digital Business Accelerator apprenticeship in their Service Desk team with training provider Multiverse. Please note the eligibility criteria outlined below for this role:

1. **Age 18 - 24** (may be of interest to former students)
2. Maths + English grade 'C' at GCSE or equivalent
3. Must not hold an undergraduate degree
4. Must have the right to work in the UK

The application deadline is **5th February** and the start date will be towards the end of March 2024.

If you have any further questions regarding the role at Oxfam or the Multiverse apprenticeship, please contact [kamila.domagala@multiverse.io](mailto:kamila.domagala@multiverse.io).

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## Medical Doctor Degree Apprenticeship FAQs

[www.hee.nhs.uk/our-work/apprenticeships/medical-doctor-degree-apprentice-frequently-asked-questions](http://www.hee.nhs.uk/our-work/apprenticeships/medical-doctor-degree-apprentice-frequently-asked-questions)

Health Education England have compiled a list of frequently asked questions and answers about the new



## BBC

[www.bbc.co.uk/earlycareers](http://www.bbc.co.uk/earlycareers)

The BBC is offering over 100 entry-level apprentice roles across the UK, on 15 different Level 6 (degree) and Level 7 (higher/masters) apprenticeship schemes in technology, journalism, business and production management.

## Marsh McLennan

<https://careers.marshmclennan.com/eu/en/student-opportunities>

Marsh McLennan is the world's leading professional services firm in the areas of risk, strategy and people. They bring together experts from across four global businesses — Marsh, Guy Carpenter, Mercer and Oliver Wyman and have a range of early career opportunities.



## Dates For Your Diary

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

### 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.](#)

### SOFEA Post 16 Options Evening

17th January, 17:15-19:00

SOFEA are holding an open evening for students and supporting adults to find out about SOFEA's post 16 options including, their pre-apprenticeship programme and their approach, tour the facilities and meet staff. [Register here.](#)

South Central Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust are holding a series of virtual live events covering the patient transport service from 10:00–11:30, call centres from 12:00–13:30 and paramedics from 14:00–15:30. [Find out more.](#)

### **Women in the Army**

23rd January, 11:00-12:00

At this webinar, students will hear how women make their mark in the Army and hear about a typical day for women in the Army. They will also be able to ask questions during an interactive Q&A. Download a poster. Deadline to apply: 5th January. [Register here.](#)

### **CBRE Real Estate Apprenticeships**

23rd January, 18:30-19:30

This webinar is for students in Years 10-13 who are interested in exploring a career at CBRE, the world's largest commercial real estate and investment services firm. They will learn about apprenticeships at CBRE and hear from current apprentices. [Register here.](#)

### **Things I Wish I'd Known**

Next meet: 29th January

Things I Wish I'd Known is for any young creative aged 13-18 with questions about the music industry that need answering. Held monthly on Zoom, each meet-up will be led by guest artists chatting about careers and mistakes to avoid. [Find out more.](#)

### **Google Digital Apprenticeships**

30th January, 18:30-19:30

At this webinar, students can hear from the Head of Apprenticeships at Google alongside two current apprentices about the different opportunities available in Digital with Google. [Register here.](#)

### **Deloitte ASPIRE Insight Event**

1st February, 18:00-19:00

This virtual event is for Year 12 students to get an insight into the programmes Deloitte offer. They will also have the chance to network with potential employers and get a certificate for attending. [Register here.](#)

### **Oxfordshire Advanced Skills Apprenticeship Open Events**

1st February, 13th March and 16th April, slots at 18:00 and 19:00

Oxfordshire Advanced Skills are holding open evenings for students to meet tutors, employer partners and apprentices and tour the facilities. [Find out more.](#)

### **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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Empathy Week 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. [Find out more.](#)

### **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.](#)

### **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.](#)

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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](#)

[Careers Leader Training](#)

[Into Games](#)

[Amazing Apprenticeships](#)

[Your Game Plan](#)

[Find Your Future](#)

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For more information on any of the articles in this update, or to send us an something to include, please contact us at: [skills@oxfordshirelep.com](mailto:skills@oxfordshirelep.com)

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