

DOWNSIDE SCHOOL

In partnership with FutureSmartCareers



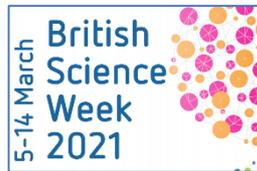
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

February 2021

In the newsletter this month



Meet the Russell Group



Science Week



Kings Summer School



NHS Careers Competition

Hurry! Meet the Russell Group Event



Taking place this Wednesday 10th February 12.00 – 7.00pm, this online and interactive experience will allow students to explore all 24 Russell Group universities and chat directly to their representatives and ambassadors. Students can also access information and videos about each university, link directly to Virtual Campus Tours to explore university facilities and accommodation, download prospectuses and take part in 13 live webinars in the virtual auditorium. To register and see more information click [here](#).

UCAS applications shows shift towards technology



New subject data from UCAS shows a big shift towards technology-based degrees mirroring recent trends, with the last decade seeing impressive growth in engineering and computer science subjects, including a 400% jump in acceptances to artificial intelligence (AI) courses. To see what subjects are going up and down click [here](#).

UK university accounts show signs of 'significant' COVID-19 risks



Details of how the downturn in international student recruitment is affecting some UK universities have emerged in the first tranche of financial statements to be published for the last academic year. Some of the statements for 2019-20 talk about “expected” declines in international recruitment this year of up to 30 per cent while others set out “worst-case” scenario planning of income from overseas students dropping by half. The Office for Students has warned that some universities were projecting falls in income from overseas students of more than 40% in 2020-21. Read more [here](#).

Law conversion course applications jump by nearly a quarter since pandemic



Faced with a contracting jobs market, graduates are turning to law as a more secure career choice. Applications for the Graduate Diploma in Law (GDL) increased by 22.5% in 2020. Providers say it's down to COVID-19, but courses are also now shorter and cheaper for non-law graduates. Tristram Hooley, chief research officer, says legal vacancies for graduates are holding up. “If you're already on that trajectory you are in a relatively good place. They are also currently offering a median starting salary of £38,250.” Read more [here](#).

Discover Uni – updated



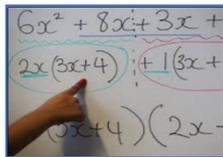
Discover Uni, the official resource provided by UK Gov has been updated. The site aims to demystify the applications process and help students make informed choices. Already providing advice and guidance and official information on entry qualifications and national student survey results, the website now includes figures from the Graduate Outcomes survey on students' earnings and perceptions of work after graduating, including whether learning from the course has been utilised. Explore the resource today at [DiscoverUni.gov.uk](https://www.discoveruni.gov.uk). For the pages for advisers and teachers, see [here](#).

Programme in Mathematics for Young Scientists



Applications are now open for PROMYS Europe Connect 2021. Designed to encourage mathematically ambitious students age 16+ to explore the creative world of mathematics. Participants tackle fundamental mathematical questions within a stimulating and supportive community of undergraduates, research mentors, faculty, and guest mathematicians. PROMYS runs online between 12th July – 6th August 2021 (4 weeks). For further details click [here](#).

Maths Careers



The [Maths Careers](#) website is an excellent resource for all students keen to find out how they can use Maths in a future career. It also features monthly articles and the title of January's was [What is the point of studying maths at GCSE?](#) This is an interesting read for students who are struggling with Maths or 'think I can't do Maths'.

Autism Internship Programme with the Civil Service



An exciting three-week work experience opportunity in the Civil Service is being offered to young people with autism, aged between 18 and 25 who have achieved a minimum of two GCSEs (or equivalent) in English and maths at Grade A*-C (or 4-9) or above. The programme will provide you with the chance to experience the Civil Service first-hand, gaining insight into the workplace. As part of the experience, you will also be able to participate in developmental coaching sessions and other activities. The closing date for application is 5th March 2021, the placement will start 19th July 2021. For further information visit the [Ambitious about Autism](#) website.

King's College London Summer and Winter School Programme.



King's College have now released further information for their Winter and Summer Pre-University programmes. The programmes are aimed at students from 15 to 17 years and are intensive academic experiences for students interested in exploring a subject at undergraduate level, in order to prepare for their university future. To find out more about what's on offer, when and the cost click [here](#).

Space Careers Conference 6th and 7th March 2021



The UKSEDS National Student Space Conference, now in its 33rd year, is the premier event for students interested in space, usually uniting them with academics and professionals from across the country to network, share knowledge, and discuss the challenges facing the sector. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, NSSC 2021 is now online. Attendees can engage with a variety of organisations in the online careers fair, watch talks and ask questions. For further details see [here](#).

British Science Week



British Science Week is a ten-day celebration of science, technology, engineering and maths that will take place between **5th and 14th March 2021**. The [BSW-21](#) website provides ideas for how to engage young people at home or in the classroom. More activities will be announced over the next few weeks. [Smashing Stereotypes](#) aims to highlight the diversity of the STEM workforce, the broad range of jobs and careers available, and that scientists are just like other people.

UK Games Careers Week debuts March 26th, 2021



There's a rich diversity of games training and career programmes across the games industry, but it can be difficult to find them," BGI vice chair Claire Boissiere said in a statement. "This Games Careers Week will convene, signpost and promote all those amazing programmes to young people, parents, educators and anyone thinking of a change in career, so they're easier to find and more accessible to people from any background in the UK". For more information see [here](#).

Will the pandemic mean an increase in students applying to science?



According to *The Guardian*, growing numbers of young people are feeling inspired by the scientists they've watched on TV and read about online during the pandemic. A [recent poll](#) of 1,000 four to 18 year-olds by the British Science Association found that 59% are more tempted by careers in science than they were prior to the pandemic. Read the article [here](#).

NHS Careers Competition



NHS Careers are running their annual careers competition. Students in KS3 are challenged to research and choose an NHS career that interests them and create materials to promote it, starting with a job description to capture key responsibilities, along with any qualifications, skills and experience needed. The aim is to produce a fun and lively job advert to appeal to their peers. Students can enter individually or in teams of up to four. The closing date is **Friday 30th April 2021**. To find out more and check out their resources see [here](#).

UniTaster Days & Webinars



This is the time of year when students in the first year of the Sixth Form start to think about university visits and taster days. The [unitasterdays](#) website has details of many taster days opportunities. Students can search for events (live or virtual) and see their on-demand webinars which cover a wide range of degree subjects.

Masterclasses offer chance to win a trip to Spain or Switzerland



Glion and Les Roches are offering a series of masterclasses for students aged 15 to 18 years, covering topics such as 'Why Digital Marketing is one of the keys to business success' and 'The New Entrepreneurial Mindset'. Students are invited to attend four Masterclasses and submit a short 250-300 words essay on "Why we should choose you?" for the chance to win a trip to visit campuses either in Switzerland or Spain. To see the whole range of classes, click [here](#).

Time to Apply for an Apprenticeship?



Amazing Apprenticeships now have a Time to Apply page where they list National Employers who have apprenticeship vacancies. It's a quick way to see some of the vacancies currently available. There's links to the employer's website, hints and tips for applying and closing dates. To see what's around today click [here](#).

Rolls Royce Degree Apprenticeships



Rolls Royce is currently recruiting Degree Apprentices in Engineering and Mechanical Engineering to work at their Bristol site. You'll need 120 UCAS points, the required subjects vary depending on the apprenticeships required. The **closing date is 26th February 2021**, for more information see [here](#).

Work It on YouTube



The Careers and Enterprise Company have a channel on YouTube. Their '[Work It](#)' videos are from young people to young people, with a focus on transitioning from education to work. The clips cover a range of work sectors.

Careers Helpline



We welcome enquiries from schools, parents and students. The helpline is staffed between 9.00am and 5.00pm Monday to Friday at helpline@futuresmartcareers.co.uk.



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