

CAREERS NEWSLETTER

GORDANO SCHOOL CAREERS NEWSLETTER

DREAM BIG

May 2025

Event Success

Year 10 Mock Interviews:

Every year we are so impressed by the mature behaviour and attitudes of our Year 10 students on Mock Interview Day, and this year was no exception. The students were well prepared and even though some of them were a bit nervous before meeting their interviewer, they were able to talk with confidence about themselves and their interests. We are very lucky in that we have a wide range of supportive employers who are always very happy to attend this event. As they left they were full of praise about the interviews they had conducted; the Physiotherapist from Walnut Grove Clinic stated:

"All the year 10's should be super proud of how well they presented themselves. I certainly struggled to choose a winner of each of the sessions. I was impressed with the effort and friendliness from all, even the most nervous students, and how they all maintained eye contact and engaged with me to share their experiences and qualities that should get them the job."



Careers Spotlight – Preparing for the Military:



We were very pleased to have Chris Fletcher from the Military Preparation College in Bristol come in to talk to students about all of the different branches of the Military. He started by giving some background about his own military career and then he went into great detail about the application process and the levels of fitness required by the individual Armed Forces. This was a really interesting presentation packed full with essential information for students interested in getting into this type of career.

Upcoming Events

Year 10

Year 10 Work Experience 30 June – 4 July

We now have less than 70 students who still have to enter their placement details onto Unifrog. I know that many are still waiting to hear about their applications and there are still some students who have confirmed placements but haven't entered them yet. Please make sure that all placements are entered onto Unifrog as soon as possible and if your child is still struggling to find a placement email careers@gordanoschool.org.uk

We will start preparing students for their placements after the half term break with extended Tutor Time sessions.



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College Open Events

Target Audience: Y10+

- **City of Bristol College:** [FULL DETAILS](#)
14 June All Campuses and courses 10-1pm
- **South Gloucestershire and Stroud College(SGS):** [FULL DETAILS](#)
1 May 5.30-8pm: All Campuses
- **Weston College:** [FULL DETAILS](#)
- **Bridgwater and Taunton College:** [FULL DETAILS](#)
24 June 6-8pm Main Campus
- **Bristol City Robins Foundation:** [FULL DETAILS](#)
- **Boomsatsuma:** [FULL DETAILS](#)
13-15 May
- **Access Creative:** [FULL DETAILS](#)
Creative Workshop – 28 May



Weston College Events

- **Saturday 7th June | 10:00 – 18:00: Italian Gardens, UCW Centre & Winter Gardens Ballroom**
Join us for a full day of **music, performance, and curriculum showcases!** Expect a lively atmosphere with interactive “have-a-go” activities and the opportunity to explore a wide range of creative and academic displays.
This event is free and open to all – bring your friends and family!
- **Wednesday 11th June | Evening 6.30pm**
Loxton Campus
Come and experience our **Art Exhibition and campus tour** in a relaxed evening setting – a great chance to explore the talent and creativity of our learners.

Volunteer with North Somerset Libraries Summer Reading Challenge

Y10 +

North Somerset Libraries are looking for volunteers to help run this year’s Summer Reading Challenge. This could be an excellent opportunity for young people looking for work experience, experience to add to a CV, or volunteering opportunities for the Duke of Edinburgh Award. Volunteering is a great way to build confidence for young people.

The annual scheme encourages children aged 0 to 11 to keep reading throughout the summer holidays, develop their literacy, and have fun visiting the library. This year’s challenge runs from Saturday 5 July to Saturday 13 September, and volunteers aged 14 and over are needed to talk to children about the books they have read and to hand out rewards.

Flexible volunteering sessions are available at libraries across North Somerset during the summer and full training will be provided.

To apply email: www.n-somerset.gov.uk/src-volunteering Or scan the QR Code



Y11 Parent Announcement

We encourage all Year 11 students to apply for their chosen Post 16 pathway by January 2025. Please explore all options with your child. It’s important that students have at least a Plan A and a Plan B. For example: it is fully acceptable to put in applications for both Sixth Form and College and then decide later in Year 11 which route is most suitable.

There is still time to apply for a place at College but be sure to get your application in as quickly as possible as courses start to fill up!

Apprenticeship information

Target Audience: Y10 onwards

- Parents Apprenticeship zone – <https://amazingapprenticeships.com/parent-zone/>
- A guide on how to apply for Apprenticeships:
[PDF-a-guide-to-apprenticeship-applications \(ctfassets.net\)](#)

- [Choices](#) Magazine from Amazing Apprenticeships – a guide for Parents and Carers



Apprenticeship Opportunities

A lot of major employers will be opening their Apprenticeship schemes for applications now and over the next few months for students to start in September. Here are some websites to check for vacancies:

[Opportunities - Pathway CTM](#)

[Apprenticeships | Learn About Apprenticeships And Find The Right One For You \(ucas.com\)](#)

[482 Apprenticeship Job Opportunities \(notgoingtouni.co.uk\)](#)

[Find an apprenticeship - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Degree Level Apprenticeships:

Target Audience: Y12 & Y13

There are lots of Degree level apprenticeships currently available within a 10 mile radius of Portishead. [Search Here](#) for current degree apprenticeship vacancies.

Vacancy of the Month – Level 6 (Degree Apprentice)

Transport Planner – Pegasus Planning group, based Bradley Stoke, salary £23,809. closing Date 30th June 2025

[Transport Planner Apprentice – Find an apprenticeship – GOV.UK](#)

Apprenticeship Vacancies (Level 2 & Level 3)

Target Audience: Y11+

[Tesco Strong Starts Apprenticeship Programme](#) is now open for applications [Stronger Starts Retail | Tesco Apprenticeships & Graduates](#)

Vacancy of the Month – Level 3

Composites Engineering Technical Apprenticeship – IPECO, Clevedon, salary £15,000. Closing date: 23rd June.

Start date 1st September. [Composites Engineering Technical Apprenticeship – Find an apprenticeship – GOV.UK](#)

Vacancy of the Month – Level 2

Aquatics Technician – PURE Aquatics, Clevedon, salary £13,741. closing date

30th May. Start date 1st July [Apprentice Aquatics Technician - Clevedon – Find an apprenticeship – GOV.UK](#)

Gap Year/Internship Information:

Target Audience Y12/13

- Industrial Placement Schemes IBM Careers Placements (age 17 & over) https://www.ibm.com/uk-en/employment/entrylevel/#Futures_12_Month_Placement_Scheme
- Independent Gap Advice <https://independentgapadvice.org/>
- Yipiyap – Gap Year Employment Opportunity (tutoring) [INFO](#)



University Information

Target Audience Y12+



- University of Bristol are running free interactive **Student Faculty Insight Conferences**. Led by current undergraduate students, these conferences aim to inspire and inform students about studying at university from those who are living the experience right now.

Throughout the day, students will:

- Take part in small group activities with peers interested in similar subjects
- Join a student-led campus tour
- Explore what it's like to study at university
- Compare different courses and what they offer
- Research potential career paths and opportunities after graduation

These faculty-specific conferences will run from **1:00pm until 4.30pm**. To register interest, please complete the forms below:

[Health and Life Sciences Student Conference - 4 June](#)

[Science and Engineering Student Conference - 11 June](#)

[Arts, Law and Social Sciences - 18 June](#)

The deadline for registration is the **21st May 2025**. Once students have registered, they will be sent a confirmation email alongside further details. If you have any questions, please contact: uob-outreach-projects@bristol.ac.uk

- **Zoological Management and Conservation (SGS University)** Zoological Management & Conservation Degree Progression Event 8 July 10am-2.30pm Bristol Zoo Project
- **EPQ Support** Looking to expand your knowledge for your EPQ or wanting to further develop your interest area? Gresham College run free virtual session at university level in a range of different subject areas <https://www.gresham.ac.uk/>

Remember all universities are running events so please do check out their webpage for listings or visit <https://www.opendays.com/calendar/>

26 April	Nottingham Trent, Solent, Plymouth, Portsmouth, West London, Worcester
7 May	Keele, Leeds Trinity
7 June	University Centre Weston, Queens Belfast (£100 towards travel available)
14 June	Birmingham Met, Bournemouth, Queen Mary, SOAS, Bristol, West London
21 June	Kent, Oxford Brookes, Manchester, Central Lancashire, Chester, Chichester, Derby, Essex, Greenwich, Reading
28 June	City (London), Birmingham City, Bournemouth, Brunel, Cardiff, Keele, Nottingham Trent, Manchester, Hertfordshire
2-3 July	Oxford, Southampton (2 nd only)
5 July	Edge Hill, Kent, Aberystwyth, Kingston, Sheffield Hallam, East Anglia, Suffolk, West London
10-11 July	Cambridge
12 July	Lancaster, Roehampton
14 July	Manchester
3 Aug	Royal Veterinary College
15/16 Aug	Brunel, Worcester, York St John, Anglia Ruskin, Keele, Northampton, Sunderland
13 Sept	Cardiff, Imperial, Lancaster
19 Sept	Oxford
27 Sept	Huddersfield, Bath Spa, Sunderland

Dates and Deadlines:

[Dates and deadlines for uni applications | UCAS](#)

If you are applying for Oxbridge/Medicine/Dentistry/Veterinary find out all about the UCAT entrance tests here: [Test Format | UCAT Consortium](#)

Interested in Medicine?

See below a couple of interesting links on applying for medicine and an overview of the universities that offer medicine.

Year 11/12- [Statistical Overview of Applying to Medical School in the UK](#)

Year 12/13 - [All UK Medical Schools Interview Processes](#)

A guide to all Medical School entry requirements for 2025: [Entry requirements | Medical Schools Council \(medschools.ac.uk\)](#)

A guide to all Dental School entry requirements for 2025: [DSC-Entry-Requirements-entry-2025.pdf \(dentalschoolscouncil.ac.uk\)](#)

Labour Market Information

Target Audience All Years

Labour Market Information is key to making good Career choices as it researches and explains what job sectors are growing or declining. The following resources are useful to explore local and national LMI:

[Careerpilot : Jobs](#)

[Explore LMI data – LMI For All](#)

[West of England – Labour Market Intelligence](#)

[North Somerset Employment and Skills Strategy](#)

[Career Insights - Skills Connect](#) – West of England specific

LMI Focus – Software Developer

Software developers create and test programs that allow people to complete tasks, run services and use digital devices. They are needed to build and test low carbon and green digital products and services in the West of England region. It is predicted that this area will grow by 11.1% in the period to 2035.

[Careerpilot : Job sectors : Software & systems : Job profiles : Software developer](#)

[Explore LMI data – LMI For All](#)

[Software Engineering Jobs, Co-occurring Skills & Salary Benchmarking | IT Jobs Watch](#)

LMI



INCLUSION

The Careers Team work on an individual basis with students and also liaise closely with the SEND Department regarding student needs to ensure students receive appropriate advice. We will add useful website links here that may be helpful. If you have any questions please contact the Careers Team.

[Neurodiversity Hub - Resources for Students, Employers & More](#)

[Your Future Black Country](#) – focused on the Midlands but job profiles presented in accessible format for SEND students

[Success at School](#) – straightforward, easy to understand advice and information

[Youth Employment UK](#) – useful for entry level roles – comprehensive job and sector information

[Career guidance | Dyslexia Scotland - Dyslexia Scotland](#) – a useful guide you can download

[March 2025 - Choices Magazine](#) – Monthly parent and carer guide to Apprenticeships and Technical Education for students with SEND

The Careers Team -Who's who?

Mrs Fairs – Strategic Lead for Careers

Mrs Van Den Eekhaute-Jones – Teacher Lead for Careers

Mrs Gardiner – Careers Adviser

Ms Jones – Careers Adviser

If you would like to discuss your career ideas please contact careers@gordanoschool.org.uk for an appointment.



All students in Years 7 – 13 have a Unifrog log in

Students can email

careers@gordanoschool.org.uk if their log in needs renewing.

Parent login: **GDSCP**arents

How can Unifrog help me?

- Explore what subjects you would be interested in studying Post 16/18
- Explore different job profiles.
- Explore universities/apprenticeship opportunities.
- Discover and sign up for online courses
- Record all your key activities and achievements

www.unifrog.org