



Super-Curricular Newsletter

This October, we're bringing you a fresh wave of opportunities to take your learning beyond the classroom. Alongside enrichment activities. This month is packed with apprenticeship opportunities, from exploring different career pathways to discovering top employers and application advice. Whether you're curious about your next steps or ready to take the plunge, there's plenty here to help you shape your future

Degree Apprenticeship Success

The new academic year is underway, and with UCAS deadlines approaching and apprenticeship opportunities opening up, this is a pivotal time for Year 13 students. It's also a great time for Year 12 students to start thinking about their future choices.

[The Sixth Formers' Guide to Degree Apprenticeships](#) is a free, 100-page digital guide, produced in association with the 'Department for Education,' The Careers & Enterprise Company, and Future Leaders UK, that aims to introduce students to degree apprenticeships and the employers that offer them.

Introduction to degree apprenticeships

The guide explains how degree apprenticeships offer a debt-free, salaried pathway to a university degree - and invaluable work experience at one of the country's leading graduate employers. Highlights include:

- an [introduction to degree apprenticeships](#) and how they work
- [types of degree apprenticeships available](#) to sixth-form school and college leavers
- exclusive interviews with degree apprentices working in [accounting](#), [banking & finance](#), [engineering](#), [law](#), [technology](#) and [business & management](#)
- [in-depth profiles](#) of leading degree apprenticeship employers across different industries and employment sectors expert advice on how to prepare for employers' [application & selection processes](#)



New

The essential guide to degree apprenticeships

Your free 100-page guide to how degree apprenticeships offer a debt-free alternative to a traditional university degree - for sixth form students, parents, teachers and careers advisers.

[Read the Guide](#)

2025 Edition

The Sixth Formers' Guide Degree Apprenticeships

Over 3,000 degree apprenticeships available for students leaving school or sixth form college in the summer of 2025.

CAREERS & ENTERPRISE COMPANY

SKILLS FOR LIFE

[#FUTURELEADERS](#)

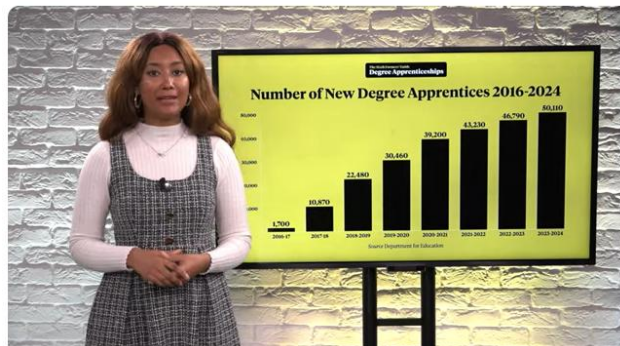


Special TV Programmes on Degree Apprenticeships

Here are some short clips we recommend watching for a quick introduction:

[What is a Degree Apprenticeship?](#) A 3-minute explanation of how degree apprenticeships provide an earn-as-you-learn university degree or professional qualification.

[Which Degree Apprenticeships are Available?](#) A 2-minute guide to the many different degree apprenticeships currently available to sixth-form school-leavers, from engineering and technology to law, accounting and business & management.



[University or a Degree Apprenticeship?](#) A 3-minute comparison of the traditional university experience, with the debt-free work-based route to the graduate job market that degree apprenticeships offer.

[Meet the Degree Apprentices](#) Interviews with current degree apprentices working at professional services firm BDO and banking & finance group JPMorganChase.

Employer News & Application Updates

[Barclays](#) is now accepting applications for its degree and graduate apprenticeships in Technology, Human Resources, Finance, and Retail Banking at locations including Glasgow, Northampton, Knutsford, and London. Read more about Barclays in the guide, then visit their website for full details and helpful tips on the application process.

Other employers will be opening applications for their 2026 degree apprenticeships soon. Students can register their interest with organisations such as [EY](#), [KPMG](#), and [AWE](#) to be among the first to hear when 2026 vacancies become available.

Share the guide

You can also follow them on [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#) for the latest apprenticeship news and employer updates on their vacancies, insight events and work experience opportunities.



Super-Curricular ideas

One of the key things that the University of Cambridge, and many other selective universities, look for in a student's application is that they have sought to explore their chosen subject through wider reading outside of the classroom.

In order to help you to guide students to material that may help them to do this we, in collaboration with colleagues from across the University, have [compiled a list of suggested reading and resources](#). This list is made up of suggestions only and are not required reading for applicants.

They also have a [super-curricular log](#) that students can use to record their super-curricular activities, and what they have learnt from them.

If you want to find out more about super-curricular activities, and why the University looks for them, then check out [this website](#).



**Pathways to the Professions 2025 Applications Are Now Open!**

Our Pathways programmes support disadvantaged students in **Year 12 – 13** to explore career opportunities in **Banking & Finance** (both in-person and online), **Consulting** (online), **Engineering** (in-person), **Law** (in-person and online), **Medicine** (in-person), and **Veterinary Medicine** (hybrid) [for free](#).

Far too often these careers require professional connections, the ability to take on unpaid internships, and/or soft skills which aren't taught at schools in order to break in. Our Pathways programmes bridge that gap for disadvantaged students.

**Free courses**

OpenLearn is an initiative by **The Open University**, a globally recognized leader in open and distance learning. It offers **nearly 1,000 free courses** across **eight broad subject areas**, including science, technology, computing, business, health, education, arts, and social sciences. These courses are **designed for flexible learning**, allowing anyone to **start immediately** and study at their own pace. Most courses include **interactive activities, videos, quizzes, and downloadable resources** to support learning. Upon completion, learners can often receive a **free statement of participation**, which can be useful for building knowledge, enhancing skills, or adding to a CV.



[ALL COURSES ARE FREE](#)



[Why study with OU?](#)



Unsure about your career? Virtual Work Experience
[Free Virtual Work Experience | Springpod](#)
 Connect with world-leading organisations



Work Experience - [Work Experience – Speakers for Schools](#)



Tue 14 October, 9:30 - 10:30am

CREATIVE CRAFT Careers in Innovation and Sustainability

Discover creative craft careers that mix tradition with science, sustainability, and new tech! In this interactive event, students will explore how makers use eco-materials and innovation to shape the future.

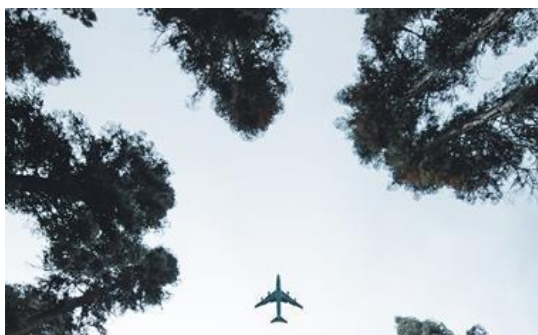
Best linked to: Art & Design, Design & Technology, History, Geography, Science, and Maths. [Register for Creative Craft Careers in Innovation and Sustainability](#)

Wed 15 October, 11-12pm

Flight Check: Exploring Medical Roles in AVIATION

Students will meet real aviation medical professionals. They'll discover the range of careers that combine medicine and aviation, and learn how science, health, and teamwork all play a vital role in keeping our skies safe.

Best linked to: Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Health & Social Care, PE, and Geography. [Register for Medical Roles in AVIATION](#)



Thu 6 November, 11-12pm

The Future of Flight: Innovation & Sustainability in AVIATION

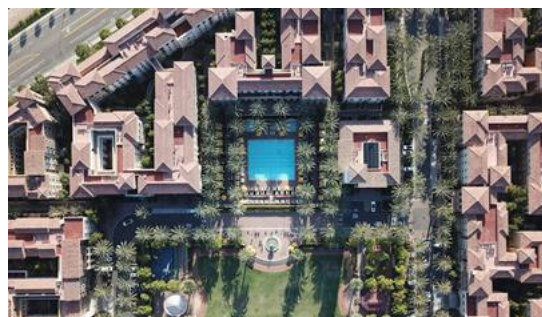
Explore careers in innovation and sustainability in aviation! Students will discover electric planes, green fuels, and industry careers while learning how science, technology, and problem-solving drive change.

Best linked to: Science, Design & Technology, Geography, Maths, Computing. [Register for Sustainability in AVIATION](#)

Tue 11 November, 11-12pm

Exploring Careers in TOWN PLANNING

Celebrate World Town Planning Day with this event introducing students to careers in town planning. Hear from professional planners about designing sustainable, inclusive, and vibrant communities, and the skills needed to shape the places we live, work, and play.



Best linked to: Geography, Maths, Design & Technology, Art, Environmental Science, and Computing. [Register for Careers in TOWN PLANNING](#)



Wed 12 November, 11-12pm

From Code to Cloud: Exploring STEM Careers with Amazon

Join us for a virtual event with professionals working on cutting-edge streaming and cloud technologies! Students will hear first-hand about the innovative work, discover a typical day, and explore the STEM skills powering these careers at Amazon.

Best linked to: Computing, Maths, Physics, Design & Technology, and IT

[Register for STEM Careers at Amazon Event](#)

Tue 18 November, 11-12pm

Unboxing the Future - Careers in LOGISTICS

Explore careers in logistics! Students will learn how warehouse, transport, and supply chain roles use teamwork, tech, and problem-solving to keep goods moving efficiently.

Best linked to: Maths, Business Studies, Geography, IT/Computing, and Design & Technology.

[Register for Careers in LOGISTICS Virtual Event](#)



Wed 26 November, 11-12pm

CREATIVE CRAFT Careers in Media and Music

Explore behind the scenes in film, TV, music, and beyond! Join us for an interactive virtual event to discover the craft careers that bring stories and performances to life. From building sets and making props to creating wigs or costumes, and crafting instruments, explore the skilled professions that shape the creative industries.

Best linked to: Art & Design, Design & Technology, History, Geography, Science, and Maths.

[Register for Creative Craft Careers in Media and Music](#)



Undergraduate Study



Cambridge Event Listings

There are several events hosted by the University of Cambridge which may be of interest this term. These events are free of charge, and many in-person events offer free accommodation and/or travel bursaries. As always, the full list of upcoming events is available on the [Cambridge Events Listings page](#),

Lucy Cavendish Academic Attainment Programme – Year 12

Applications are now open for the Lucy Cavendish College Academic Attainment Programme! The AAP is a two-year, free programme for around 1000 high-achieving UK state-school students in Year 12 (S5 – Scotland/Year 13 – N.I.) who meet certain Widening Participation criteria. The focus of this programme is on raising attainment, by providing students with further support in their A-Level studies, and in making applications to competitive universities. Students will also receive advice from the Lucy Cavendish College Admissions Team on every stage of the university application process across the two years, and they will complete a Supracurricular Exploration Project to encourage them to think more seriously about their degree choices.

We have had some fantastic results from previous participants, with **9 in 10 receiving offers** to study at Russell Group universities, and participants almost doubling their chances of being offered a place at either Oxford or Cambridge. Our [website](#) has even more information about this exciting programme, and it also contains the link to apply. Any questions?: email outreach@lucy.cam.ac.uk

Students can apply here: <https://forms.office.com/e/Sz6MBs6K2Z> until 7th October 2025

STEM SMART – Year 12

STEM SMART is a widening participation initiative from the University of Cambridge in association with Isaac Physics, to provide free, complementary teaching and support to UK students in Year 12 who are considering applying to Biological Sciences, Physical Sciences, Computer Science, or Engineering courses at university. Students receive weekly remote learning tutorials, and may be selected to attend a four-day residential in Cambridge in August 2026.

Students can apply via the [STEM SMART website](#) until 31 October 2025.

Subject Interview Webinars, September – Year 13

Magdalene is collaborating with other college to host Subject Interview Webinars in late September. Currently we have over 25 subject sessions planned, covering all but Linguistics and Archaeology courses. Academics will talk through typical interview questions, and students can have a go at answering them.

Students can sign up here: [Pembroke Interview Webinars](#)

Magdalene College Application Support Webinars – Year 13

Magdalene are running a series of webinars for Y13 students applying to Cambridge this year. There is one webinar from Pre-registration required test, and three interview webinars. The interview webinars will include current students, who will talk through their interview experience.

Students can book their place [here](#). Bookings close at 9am on the event date.

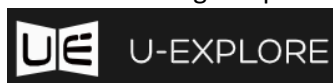


Why do I need to do super-curricular activities?

You can develop a deeper into your subject in many ways, such as:

- reading books, specialist magazines and journals
- visiting museums and galleries
- watching films and documentaries
- listening to podcasts
- attending online seminars and lectures
- entering academic competitions

Think about the ideas you are discovering, consider the arguments being made, and form your own thoughts and opinions about them. You might find it useful to discuss what you are learning with a friend, relative or teacher which could be great practice for an academic interview.



[Start](#) | [Future Talent](#) | [Explore employer opportunities \(u-explore.com\)](#)

Remember to keep a record of your activities so you can accurately reflect on them when writing your personal statement.

Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

Why do the EPQ qualification?

- The EPQ is awarded UCAS points worth half an A-Level
- It provides an opportunity for you to extend your abilities beyond the A-level syllabus
- It prepares you for university or your future career
- It is recognised by universities and employers

If you are going to study medicine, dentistry, veterinary or apply for a course at a Russell Group university then you should complete an EPQ qualification.

New uptake for any student thinking about starting the Extended Study Qualification!

Meet in 213 on Monday during registration (10.30 start).

UK University and Apprenticeship Fair, Friday, 7th November 2025 Anfield Stadium

The whole of Year 12 will be attending the **UK University and Apprenticeship Fair** on **Friday, 7th November 2025** at **Anfield Stadium**.

The cost of the trip is **£6.50 per student** to cover the cost of the buses.

This exciting and informative event will give students the opportunity to speak directly with a wide range of exhibiting universities and apprenticeship providers, helping them explore future pathways and opportunities.

[UK University Search Fair Liverpool Autumn 2025](#) | [UK University Search](#)

UCAS Deadlines

All personal statements should now be drafted and presented to ONE relevant member of staff.

All UCAS applications should have been started and linked to the College using the buzzword: stanselms2026

Early Applicants must submit and pay for their completed applications by Friday 26th September.

All other students must submit and pay for their completed applications by Monday 3th November.