

Work Experience 2017

Why?

There are many activities and experiences that a student can engage in to make themselves more 'rounded' UCAS applicant. However, relevant work experience is increasingly viewed as an essential part of any good application for higher education and the world of work.

For candidates equally good on paper applying for courses / jobs, it could well be the work experience which tips the balance in favour of one candidate over the other. This is the case more than ever nowadays given the greater competition for places in higher education and for the job market. ***Students who plan to go into medicine, dentistry, teaching or veterinary science should try to find some relevant experience.***

When?

Work experience will be undertaken at the **end of the school year**. There are many other opportunities available to enhance your understanding throughout the year for areas such as law, dentistry and medicine. Lectures, working part-time in a care related fields, visits to law courts all are a useful part of the process.

Will I get help?

Students are encouraged to find their own placements and the school will give them guidance as to how to do so.

What if I don't know yet what I want to do in life?

Students may have a very clear / vague or no idea at all of the area of further study / work they may wish to go into so this will affect what – and when - they apply for work experience. Speakers, work experience and websites provided will help, but don't forget to ask for help if you need it.

Is the placement suitable?

It is up to the student to organize work experience. Ideally, the placement should fit in with a definite career or higher education plan. Please note that parents and students must ensure that they are happy with the working conditions of the placement (especially Health and Safety). Employers used to taking on work experience students will have health and safety procedures in place. However if there is any doubt about a particular placement arranged, then the student **MUST NOT do work experience there. Another placement will need to be found.** This also applies to placements where students from the school have gone to in previous years.

During and after the placement?

Please complete the Work Experience Booklet which will help you reflect and record upon and record your experience.

Jobs

The job market in the UK is constantly evolving. Research shows that jobs that were popular are not so any longer:

Top 5 Dream Jobs Now:	Top 5 Dream Jobs 50 years ago:
Writer	Teacher
YouTube Sensation	Scientist
Artist	Footballer
Photographer	Sportsman
Clothes Designer	Doctor

There are two articles below outlining jobs today. The first site is about the BEST jobs. The second is about the most POPULAR.

The twenty-five best jobs in the UK:

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/finance/jobs/11430227/Are-these-the-25-best-jobs-in-the-UK.html>

Ten most popular careers in the UK in 2016:

<http://www.alec.co.uk/free-career-assessment/top-10-most-popular-careers.htm>

Are you unsure of what you wish to do?

If you are unsure about what you would like to do, you might wish to consult the following websites:

National Careers Service

<https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk/advice/planning/jobprofiles/Pages/mechanicalengineer.aspx>

Prospects UK

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/mechanical-engineer>

If you wish to study law, medicine, engineering or architecture:

Medicine: <http://www.medschools.ac.uk/SiteCollectionDocuments/Work-experience-guidelines-for-applicants-to-medicine.pdf>

Law : <http://www.allaboutlaw.co.uk/law-careers/legal-work-experience>

Architecture: <http://www.allaboutcareers.com/careers-advice/work-experience/architecture-work-experience>

Mechanical engineer: https://www.tomorrowengineers.org.uk/Post_16/Work_experience/
<https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/my-career-options/mechanical-engineer>