

Careers @ICHS

Your monthly guide to advice, events and opportunities at ICHS

Welcome to the first edition of the ICHS Careers newsletter. We aim to give you the most up to date advice and information regarding future prospects and Careers. If you would like to contribute to the next edition of the newsletter, please contact Miss Hennessy at s.hennessy@ichs.org.uk or in room 230.

Useful links:

www.prospects.ac.uk
nationalcareers.service.gov.uk
www.studential.com
www.ucas.com/understanding-apprenticeships

Choices after GCSEs

Thinking ahead to Summer 2021? If so, it could be that you are already considering your next steps. From further study to the world of work, there are a lot of options out there. Read on for some suggestions.

1. Talk to your form teacher.

No matter what your GCSE results may look like, your form tutor will be able to give you feedback on your educational progress over the years, so they are a great person to talk to for advice.

2. Chat to the Careers advisor.

It's important that you feel you've considered all the choices available. Your school Careers advisor can go through your options and help you to make an informed decision. They also may have access to online portals and information that is not online.

3. Further study.

Whether you decide to stay on at your school sixth form or attend another school, this route will prepare you for A-level study and higher education. The benefits of continuing at your sixth form is that you'll know what to expect in terms of working environment and you'll be familiar with the teachers and their way of teaching.

4. Explore apprenticeships.

An apprenticeship is a paid training program which you would be expected to undertake until at least 18 years of age. Currently there are excellent opportunities in apprenticeships, and the huge advantage is that you learn on the job whilst training for a qualification and earning money.

Links: <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/>
<https://www.topapprenticeshipemployers.co.uk/> <https://www.gov.uk/become-apprentice>

University changes 2020: what to expect

- ⇒ **Online learning:** Currently there is no government guidance on this, however Universities such as Cambridge University and the University of Manchester have announced online learning will take precedence this year.
- ⇒ **Blended Learning:** The biggest change happening this year is the new approach to University learning called "Blended Learning". This is when the course is taught with a mixture of online learning and with minimal face to face lectures taking place.
- ⇒ **Changes to Fees?** No. The government says university students in England will still have to pay full tuition fees, even if their course is taught online this year, despite student petitions to change this.
- ⇒ **Any changes to student loans?** Student loans are calculated on household earnings, but if the income of a parent drops by more than 15% then a student can qualify for a bigger loan.

Super Curricular activities - what are they?

You've probably heard of "extracurricular activities." Super-curricular activities are related to further study or experience, beyond that which your teacher has taught you or what you've done for homework, and show that you can engage actively with your subject. This may include further research or reading, watching videos online or downloading lectures/ted talks around the subject, taking a skills course online or even visiting museums or institutions where you can explore your subject further. Super-curricular activities are particularly important when applying for top universities, as they show an enthusiasm and curiosity for the subject you want to study and demonstrate the capacity for independent learning. Super-curricular activities are also excellent for your personal statement.