



FEARNHILL SCHOOL



Careerfile - Issue 55 20th January 2026

Happy New Year!

Welcome to the spring Term and the first edition of 2026.

Year 11 GCSE Mock Exams

The GCSE mock exams took place in December. Students received their results at the end of the Autumn term. This was a wake up call for some of our cohort that need to knuckle down and make these next few months count. It is not too late to improve and meet, or even exceed, target grades. See page 4 for revision tips.

Year 11 Sixth Form Interviews

Sixth Form Interviews are taking place on Tuesday 27th January for students who have applied to join our Sixth Form in September. Applicants have been invited to meet with a member of the Senior Leadership Team. Students who are not planning on joining Fearnhill Sixth Form will be invited to an Information and Guidance meeting at a later date, to discuss their initial plans. It's not too late to apply to join our Sixth Form, please email sixthform@fearnhill.herts.sch.uk if you would like further information.



Year 9 Options Process

The Year 9 Options process has begun. Students had their first assembly outlining the steps in place to make the best decisions possible. Our Year 9 Options Virtual Information Evening will take place on Thursday 26th February where parents/carers will have the opportunity to find out more information. Students will be using Unifrog resources in form time and there is a drop down morning before Options Evening. Please take a moment to look through [this](#) infographic (and on page 8) which has all the relevant dates of the process.

A copy of the Year 9 Options booklet will be available on the School website soon.

6th Form Prefect Applications - opening soon!

Applications for 6th form prefects will soon be open for this year!

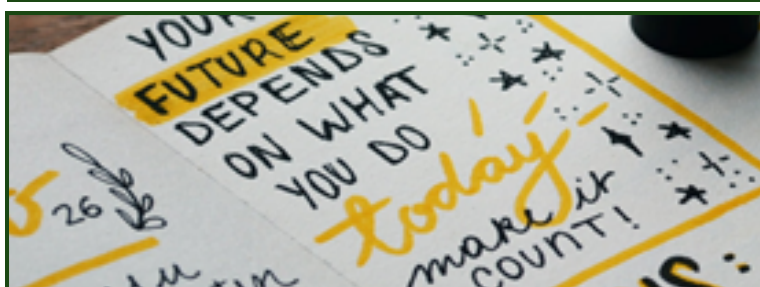
Watch this space!

Careers Alumni Event - final call!

Last chance to sign up to take part! Full details on page 2.

Ms Balchin, Careers Lead

Look out every fortnight
for new features -
all things career related!



Empowering Positive Change through Careers Education

We Need You!

Calling all Former Fearnhill Students - we need you!

I have been inundated with responses regarding this event and cannot wait to welcome familiar faces back to Fearnhill to share their career stories!

It is so lovely to hear what ex-students are doing now in their career and what it has taken to get to where they are. I am excited to see them inspire our current cohort in choosing their future pathways.

Don't worry, there is still time to get in touch! It doesn't matter what your journey has been since leaving school, we'd like to represent a wide cross-section of careers that might be available to our students.

If you'd like more information on how you can be involved in our Careers Event on Friday 13th March, please email:

admin@fearnhill.herts.sch.uk

Spread the word!

CALLING ALL FORMER FEARNHILL STUDENTS... WE NEED YOU!



Ms Balchin, our Head of Careers, would love former students to share their career stories to inspire our current students.

It doesn't matter what your journey has been since leaving school - bank manager or basketball player, barista or barrister - come and let our students talk to you about your career path.

If you'd like more information on how you can be involved in our Careers Event on Friday 13th March 2026, please email:

admin@fearnhill.herts.sch.uk

Services for Young People

Students should be reminded that they can **drop in and speak to Jo Bains - our Services for Young People Advisor on Thursday break-times in H0 (GRIT Room) or myself during morning registration.** They can use this time to ask any questions they may have regarding what to do next year. Students should sign up via email with the subject title 'Help Me Miss B' and an appointment will then be made for them to see me.

Email: admin@fearnhill.herts.sch.uk

Subject: 'Help Me Miss B'

**Services for
Young People**

Careerpilot

Over the course of the next few weeks we will be providing you with details on some interesting and informative websites that students may find beneficial when deciding their future plans. It is advised that students put some of their free time aside to access some of these and navigate their way around the different options available to them.

Careerpilot is a free website with all the information and tools you need to explore your future career.

This is great for both students and parents/carers.

www.careerpilot.org.uk

What are you waiting for? Get surfing!!!

Any questions please see me.



Empowering Positive Change through Careers Education

Work Experience

Year 10 Work Experience has been confirmed for 2026!

This will take place from Monday 13th - Friday 17th July

Students will begin preparing for this in March, we will share a timeline of details and what they will be doing and when in the build up to them going out into the world of work.

The Benefits of WEX:

1. Employability skills
2. Insight into the work place
3. Increases your knowledge of your chosen industry
4. Maximises your chances of finding employment
5. Improves communication skills
6. Optimises your CV



Apprenticeship Fair 2026 - The Priory School



JOIN US TO EXPLORE EXCITING CAREER OPPORTUNITIES AND KICKSTART YOUR FUTURE!

EXPLORE VARIOUS APPRENTICESHIP OPPORTUNITIES.

MEET WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM DIFFERENT INDUSTRIES, LEARN ABOUT THEIR PROGRAMS, AND KICKSTART YOUR CAREER JOURNEY.

THE PERFECT PLACE TO CONNECT WITH POTENTIAL EMPLOYERS AND DISCOVER NEW OPPORTUNITIES.

DON'T MISS OUT ON THIS VALUABLE NETWORKING EVENT!

THIS EVENT IS FOR YEAR 10 AND UPWARDS ONLY

BOOK NOW

Special Mention - January

Harry 11N has found his passion for his future career path.

He would like to become an Archaeologist with his first choice after 11 to stay on in the sixth form. At Harry's Services for Young People meeting with Jo Bains they explored Archaeology related subjects and the different Archaeological jobs available to him in the future. However when Shuttleworth College came in to deliver an assembly, Harry knew that he had found his back-up plan. Harry has always been open to researching all the opportunities open to him. His attentiveness in the assembly led him to ask questions in person at the end and as a result plans to visit the College on open days. Great job Harry - this will definitely help you make informed choices for the future.

All students are advised to have a back-up plan i.e. a first and second choice for after Year 11



Top Tips for Revision

As we start the new year and following on from the Year 11 mock results assembly, it is important that you take the necessary steps to ensure you continue to maximize your learning potential. BBC Bitesize have some top tips for studying and revision:

1) Get organised

Organisation in Year 11 is so crucial. There'll be homework, deadlines, coursework, assessments, exams, prom planning, as well as everything else that comes with being a young person and enjoying life. In short: it's busy. Having your time planned is really important, so that you can make sure everything gets done, you do it justice and you also give yourself time to enjoy what you like to do outside of school. Use your personal planner, phone calendar or a piece of paper to plan what you need to do, when for, and how it's going to get done. Think about exactly where you are in each subject, what you need to work on, and how you're going to go about it. Talk to teachers, school staff, mentors and anyone else who's there to help, and use the advice and support that's available. You can do this, and you're the one doing it, but you can't do it all by yourself!

2) Understand perfection is not practical

Get this: you aren't going to get everything correct in every assessment. You still have a way to go, and mistakes are part of the process of learning. If something goes wrong, that's fine; look at what went wrong, think about why, and consider how you can make sure you learn so that it doesn't go wrong again.

3) Revision starts early!

The earlier it starts, the longer you have to re-revise information. And the more time you allow that to move to your long term memory, the easier it is to recall in exams. Plan your evening's revision out and bank that knowledge for the future.

4) Look after yourself

The most important thing about you is your physical and mental health, and Year 11 can be a stressful time for everyone. If you're struggling, if you're not well, if it's getting you down... tell someone. Only by talking can anyone help anything, so don't soldier on letting it get worse. Talk to someone who you trust and start to make things better.

5) Be yourself... and don't compare

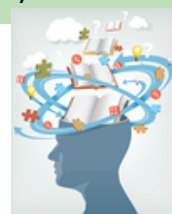
All anyone wants from you is your best. Not your friend's. Not your sister who left school three years ago with top grades in everything – YOURS! Run your own race and don't compare yourself to anyone else. It's sometimes hard when your friends are all getting exams back and talking about what they got, but your future is not about them, it's about you, doing your best, and being the very best version of yourself.

6) Enjoy it!

Massive things will happen this year which, right now, you're in control of. Take control of your future and own it. Enjoy the highs, get help through the lows, and make sure, when you reach the end, you've done the best you can.



Do you have any tips or advice that aren't mentioned above, that you feel would be beneficial to share with your peers? If so please email admin@fearnhill.herts.sch.uk with 'Top Revision Tips' in the subject bar.



Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 20th January
Year 11 Parents Evening

Thursday 23rd January
6th Form Insight Session

Tuesday 27th January
Year 11 6th Form Interviews

Monday 9th-Friday 13th February
National Apprenticeship Week

**Tuesday 3rd February
& Tuesday 24th February**
Year 12 Volunteering
at Best Before Cafe

Key Word/Phrase of the Fortnight

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE



COMPUTER SYSTEMS ABLE TO PERFORM TASKS NORMALLY REQUIRING HUMAN INTELLIGENCE, SUCH AS VISUAL PERCEPTION, SPEECH RECOGNITION, DECISION-MAKING AND TRANSLATION BETWEEN LANGUAGES.

Obscure / Obsolete Job Titles



Donutler

assists medical staff in a hospital, or the servant of a military officer.

Apprenticeship FAQs

See the results of your work with a manufacturing, processing and logistics apprenticeship, as you turn raw materials into products

Manufacturing is the process of adding value to raw materials by turning them into products. Almost every object we use has been manufactured in some way, either in a large factory or a small workshop, helping supply other industries with the materials needed to do their job.

Any questions please [contact us](#).



Manufacturing,
Processing & Logistics
[Apprenticeships](#)

Unifrog's Apprenticeship Fair

From understanding apprenticeships to learning what it's like to work in different industries and acing your application, this fair is a great opportunity to explore your options and get your questions answered by the experts. Join live sessions with employers from across the UK and speak directly to their representatives to achieve your dream apprenticeship!

This event is to inspire students to consider a broad range of apprenticeships at our virtual apprenticeship fair on
Wednesday 11th February 2026!

Students will gain expert advice on how to find the right apprenticeship for them and apply successfully in live sessions with top employers including the BBC, Aldi, and Unilever. The fair is free for all students and ideal for Yr 10-13, making it easy for students across these year groups to connect with a diverse range of employers. Students are welcome to drop in for just one or two sessions, or they can stay for the full fair.

There is a full schedule planned, so sign up now to learn all about the world of apprenticeships.

unifrog APPRENTICESHIP FAIR

Wednesday 11 February 4pm - 6pm



Join our virtual fair to learn all about the world of apprenticeships.



scan
here to
sign up

Get your questions answered by the experts.
Join live sessions with employers from across the UK and speak directly to their representatives to achieve your dream apprenticeship!

Employer of the Week

A&O SHEARMAN

Work in a law firm that spans the UK, US, and UAE



Who?

We aim to redefine what 'law' means. Pushing boundaries, getting creative, and embracing cutting-edge technology are some of the things that matter to us.

We've been one of the **law market leaders for over 90 years** by finding innovative ways to solve the ever-evolving challenges our clients throw at us. **Whether you're into law, technology, or just making a big impact,** you're in the right place.

How?

Virtual work experience 

 Training contracts

Level 7 apprenticeships 

 Graduate programmes

Scan to learn more & connect with this employer

Just make sure you're signed into Unifrog first!



What sort of careers can I access?

Solicitors advise clients about the law and prepare documents for court cases.

Barrister's clerks help barristers to organise their workload, schedule meetings, and prepare for trial.

Do they offer work experience?



Where?

- UK offices in London and Belfast
- Offices in over 40 countries

Applications open:
Throughout the year



INVESTIN - CAREER QUIZ



☒ Review of your skills

☒ Recommended subject choices & resources

☒ Top tips from professionals

Discover Your Future Career

Our quiz is designed to help students aged 15-18 discover an industry that aligns with their aspirations. Through a series of questions, we'll assess your skills and interests, and analyse how these align with different career sectors.

You will then receive an email detailing your results and which career we believe you should consider.

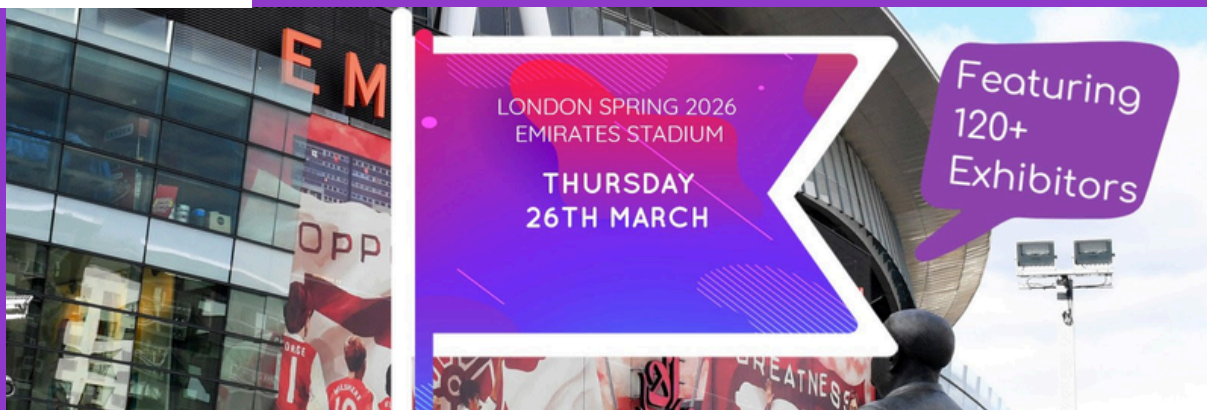
Plus, you will receive a personalised report identifying your strengths and what you can be doing now to help with your future career.

Ready to embark on your career journey? Take the quiz now!

The Graduate Job Market & Degree Apprenticeships



UK University & Apprenticeship Search are delighted to announce that we will be returning to the Emirates Stadium, London for our University & Apprenticeship Fair on the Thursday 26th of March - Find Out More.



Why Attend?

These events bring together a wide variety of exhibitors, including Russell Group, red brick, and modern universities, as well as apprenticeship providers representing leading UK companies and local organisations.

Students will benefit from:

Vital seminars on UCAS personal statements, degree apprenticeships, student finance, and more - delivered by university and industry experts.

Interactive demonstrations.

Student and teacher catering areas.

Digital brochure with university and apprenticeship help and advice.

Interested In Booking ?

To reserve places or for more information, please email Jude@ukuniversitysearch.co.uk.

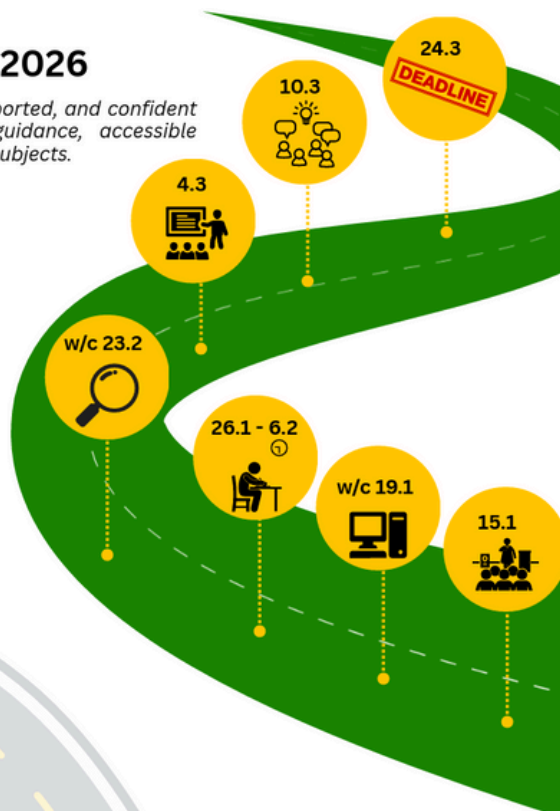
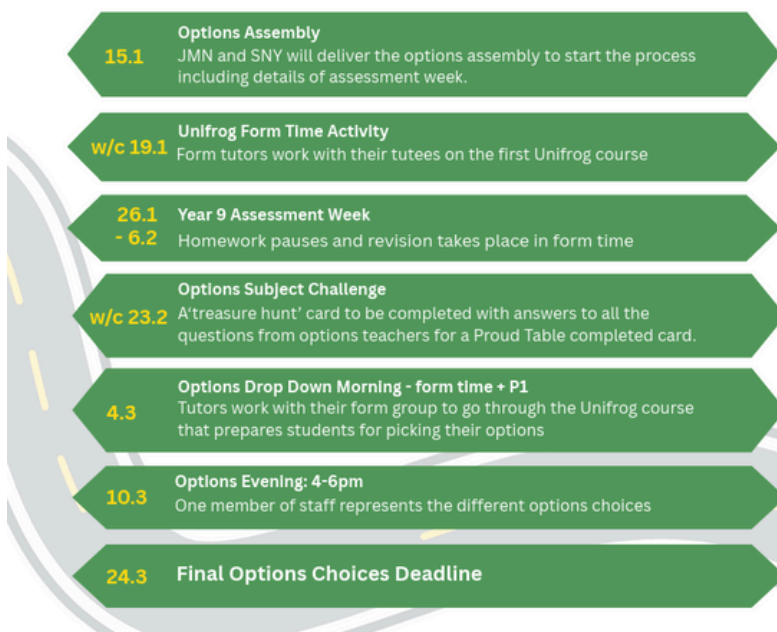
Empowering Positive Change through Careers Education

Year 9 Options Timeline



Year 9 Options Timeline 2026

Aim: To ensure all Year 9 students feel informed, supported, and confident when choosing their options by offering clear guidance, accessible information, and meaningful opportunities to explore subjects.



'How to Become A...' Podcast

'HOW TO BECOME A...',
A PODCAST DESIGNED TO SPARK CURIOSITY
AND PROVIDE REAL-WORLD INSIGHTS INTO
A WIDE RANGE OF CAREERS FOR YOUNG
ADULTS AND CHILDREN.

EACH SHORT, ENGAGING EPISODE FEATURES
PROFESSIONALS FROM DIVERSE
INDUSTRIES SHARING WHAT THEY DO, HOW
THEY GOT THERE, AND WHAT ADVICE THEY'D
GIVE TO ASPIRING STUDENTS. WHETHER IT'S
"HOW TO BECOME A... INTERIOR DESIGNER"
OR "HOW TO BECOME A... FILM PRODUCER"

THIS PODCAST BRINGS CAREER EDUCATION
TO LIFE IN A WAY THAT'S FUN, RELATABLE,
AND INFORMATIVE. NO CELEBRITY DRAMA,
JUST REAL ADVICE, MOTIVATION AND
PRACTICAL INSIGHT.

HOW TO BECOME A...

featured GUESTS

- S1** Restaurant Founders
- S1** Talent Agency Business Owner
- S1** Chief Officer of a Super Yacht
- S1** Film Producer
- S2** Large Format Illustrator
- S2** Sustainability Entrepreneur

UPCOMING EPISODES

- Chris Eubank Jnr's Agent **S3**
- Fashion Photographer **S3**

Instagram, TikTok, YouTube, Spotify, Apple Music icons

LISTEN, FOLLOW, SHARE

Empowering Positive Change through Careers Education

Medic Mentor

Real Students. Real Journeys. Honest Reviews.

Pursuing your dream of becoming a doctor may feel overwhelming, but remember that countless successful doctors have faced similar challenges and doubts. Believe in yourself and your abilities, focusing on your strengths and passion for medicine. Medic Mentor and its community of supportive students and mentors are here to guide you. Embrace the journey, knowing that success comes from resilience and learning from setbacks. Trust in your intelligence, drive, and passion, taking it one step at a time and seeking support when needed. Never lose sight of your dreams, for you have what it takes to achieve them.

The Medic Mentor website has numerous videos of med students sharing their journey. Meghan is in their 5th year at Cardiff University. Click [here](#) for Meghan's story.



MEDIC MENTOR
YOUR MEDIC FAMILY

Career of the Month - January

Note down at least one thing you think you know about these subjects.

YR 7

Chemical technician

1. What skills are important for a chemical technician, and how do you use them in your life?
2. Which task would you find most exciting as a chemical technician, and why?
3. When might teamwork be really important for a chemical technician?
4. What hobbies or interests could help you build skills for becoming a chemical technician?

YR 8

Biochemical engineer

1. What do you find most interesting about this career?
2. What skills would be helpful for a career as a biochemical engineer?
3. How does this job require creativity and problem solving?
4. What are some ways this work might make a difference in the world?

Unifrog's 'Career of the Month' and 'Subject of the Month'! Students can log on to Unifrog and watch a video interview with a professional or university student and answer reflection questions.

Broadcast journalist

YR 12

1. What part-time jobs or experiences could help you develop the skills needed for a career in journalism?
2. What do you think would be the most exciting part of working as a broadcast journalist?
3. How could studying subjects like law, business, or sociology prepare you for this role?
4. Why is it important for journalists to be open to feedback on their work?

Ecologist

YR 9

1. What school subjects or skills might help you prepare for a career as an ecologist?
2. What steps could you take now to explore a career in ecology?
3. Which part of an ecologist's job do you think would be the most interesting, and why?
4. What might be challenging about working as an ecologist, and how could you prepare for it?

YR 10

Armed forces personnel

1. What about this role interests you most?
2. What might be challenging about a career on a submarine?
3. What skills are important for armed forces personnel?
4. What can you do now to explore a career in the armed forces?

Audiologist

YR 11

1. How could working in a shop or café prepare you for this career?
2. Why do you think managing admin tasks might be a challenge for an audiologist?
3. How could subjects like science and maths give you the knowledge and skills needed to understand hearing loss and treatments?
4. Why is teamwork and clear communication important for audiologists when working with GPs and ENT specialists?

YR 13

Early years practitioner

1. What part-time jobs or experiences could help you develop the skills needed for a career in journalism?
2. What do you think would be the most exciting part of working as a broadcast journalist?
3. How could studying subjects like law, business, or sociology prepare you for this role?
4. Why is it important for journalists to be open to feedback on their work?

External Opportunities



Watch video on YouTube
Error 153
Video player configuration error

A vibrant community of gifted young musicians aged 8 to 18 who come together to develop their talent within the Royal Northern College of Music.



Open Day

Saturday 24 January
9.30am to 12.30pm

Register today!



Open Day

Thursday 5 February
5.00pm to 7.30pm

Register today!

Students are advised to check their school email accounts weekly, if not daily! Careers information and opportunities are sent regularly and we wouldn't want them to miss the deadlines. These are copied to parents/carers as well for reference. A few of these opportunities are listed here.

COMPUTER GAMES TASTER DAYS

4 February 2026
4 March 2026

BOOK NOW



Open Day

Saturday 31 January
10.00am to 1.00pm

Register today!

Would you like to gain **virtual work experience** and discover how **Google** uses data to shape the future?
Meet the team from **Google**, gain **essential skills** and **certification** too!



FIRST STEP - Year Groups 7-9

Want to be a YouTuber? Dig into the data sources that could make you go viral.

Wednesday 28th January - 4.30 pm

NEXT STEP - Year Groups 10-13+FE

Google Joins Forces with Gen Z Creators to Launch the Pixel 10!

Thursday 29th January - 5.00 pm



REGISTER NOW



www.digdata.online



Pathways to Property

London – 13th March

Cambridge – 17th March

4 day residential, University of Reading –
14th-17th July.

- [Insight Day application form](#) - applications close 15th February
- [Summer School application form](#) - applications close 19th April

Starting Your Career in Real Estate
Insight days



External Opportunities



National Audit Office

FREE ONLINE EVENT

KICKSTART YOUR CAREER IN AUDIT!

[Register here](#)

10 FEBRUARY, 6:30-7:15 PM





**APPRENTICESHIPS IN LAW:
OPPORTUNITIES & INSIGHTS FROM TLT**

WEDNESDAY 11 FEBRUARY, 6.30PM-7.30PM

REGISTER NOW [here](#)





Online Event

FROM FILM SETS & FESTIVAL STAGES TO SPORTS ARENAS!

YOUR FUTURE IN HEALTH & SAFETY: START YOUR CAREER WITH NEBOSH & EARN A MEDIAN SALARY OF £50,000 A YEAR!

[Register here](#)

12 FEBRUARY, 6:30PM - 7:30PM



Hitchin & Letchworth Sea Cadets

Our outcomes framework for Sea Cadets:

We developed a framework to help us map our impact for young people. It means we can explain more clearly why we do what we do and how we achieve positive outcomes for young people.



STAND OUT

Letchworth & Hitchin Sea Cadets

Experience	Intermediate outcomes	Long-term benefits
What is offered - Adventure & challenge - Progressive training - Personal development - Competitions & events	Life skills - Motivation - Self confidence - Leadership - Teamwork - Communication - Citizenship - Innovation	Attendance & engagement in school
What makes it special - Nautical focus - Customs & traditions of the Royal Navy - Breadth of activities & experiences with opportunities to specialise	Values - Respect - Loyalty - Self discipline - Commitment - Honesty & integrity	Improved post 16 destinations/ labour market participation
What is the cadet experience - Positive relationships - Sense of belonging & identity - Inspirational	Qualifications - Internally accredited - Externally accredited (BTEC, DoE & national governing body)	Long-term wellbeing
		Reduced risky/ problem behaviours
		Increased participation in communities

MSSC

MARINE SOCIETY & SEA CADETS

THE LEADING MARITIME CHARITY FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND LIFELONG LEARNING



Empowering Positive Change through Careers Education

External Opportunities

Yr 11
Yr 12
Yr 13



ALLIED
HEALTHCARE
MENTOR

1-Day Programmes - £10 each

1st February 2026

1st March 2026

12th April 2026

3rd May 2026

7th June 2026

5th July 2026

Bundle - £50

All dates

If you would like to attend the full 6 month work experience programme, you can register for all 6 days at a discounted price, saving you £10!



Take your first steps towards a healthcare career with the UK's only Interactive Virtual Work Experience Programme created and delivered by healthcare professionals. You can select from one day or a full 6 month work experience programme where you will follow patients from admission to discharge in the high fidelity simulation suite, designed to provide you with an immersive experience from the comfort and safety of home. Simply select the dates below and save £10 if you opt for the full 6 month work experience programme. Students will be awarded certificates for attending each day. No work experience day is the same (as in real life), but students will gain insight into a variety of healthcare settings.

Yr 11
Yr 12
Yr 13



King's College London
Medicine and Dentistry
Lecture Series



2026

[Apply here](#)

Tuesday or Friday 5-6:30pm from March - July

Lectures will be held online via Zoom Webinar. Over the course of the lecture series, you will hear from a variety of guest speakers from different specialties in medicine and dentistry. You will also learn about the application process with sessions on the UCAT, personal statements, and interview. The lecture series is your one-stop-shop on your journey to making a successful application to medicine or dentistry!

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