



WEST COVENTRY ACADEMY CAREERS NEWSLETTER – SPRING TERM 2021

Welcome to a Careers Bulletin, where I hope to share some exciting information for students to experience. Some may be for students of certain ages so please take note.

Also, don't forget to access the Careers Tab on the school's website as there is information for Students & Parents with useful links to Careers such as:-

JED/HIGHER IDEAS websites where WCA's students can access via www.careerssoft.co.uk, using the school's Access Code – **2e2j9smm**. This is especially helpful for students with no or many careers ideas. There's an initial quiz to help them to start thinking but then students can explore further, looking at what subjects are useful to take, what degree would be useful etc

Currently, all Year 11 students are being invited to attend a Careers Meeting with myself to discuss their ideas and to ensure they have a plan in place for Post 16, be it remaining at 6th form, attending a Fulltime college course or ensuring they have a definite offer of an Apprenticeship in a chosen Vocational area. In many cases, I would additionally consider a Plan B. Not all students have been seen and my priority this term is to speak with the remaining students, ensuring they have a plan in place. Please talk to you son/daughter and ensure they make suitable applications and if you need further advice, please do not hesitate to discuss this with me.

For Year 11 Students:-

WEST COVENTRY ACADEMY 6th FORM

All Year 11 students were introduced last term to WCA 6th Form delivered by Mr Griffin. There is further information via the school's website using the 6th Form Tab. Just to note, there will be a Virtual Open Evening, followed by a Live Subjects Q&A Information Session offered later in January and applications will be then open for students to apply.

http://www.westcoventryacademy.org/sixth_form/joining_our_sixth_form/default.aspx

COLLEGE

There are a number of local Further Education Colleges which offer a range of Vocational Subjects at various levels, mainly 1-3. These courses are fulltime so please access the various college websites for further information. All of their Open Evening/Days have been offered virtually and further information is on their websites.

Students are advised again to apply early to ensure an offer of some type of Interview and conditional offer of a course for September 2021 start. Please do NOT leave until the last minute

Coventry College – Campuses – City & Henley - <https://www.coventrycollege.ac.uk/>

Warwickshire College – Campuses – Leamington Spa, Rugby, Warwick Trident (Engineering) and Moreton Morrell (Land-based, Animal Management Courses) - <https://wcg.ac.uk/>

Solihull College - <https://www.solihull.ac.uk/>

Stratford upon Avon College - <https://www.stratford.ac.uk/>

NWSLC – North Warwickshire & South Leicestershire College - <https://www.nwslc.ac.uk/>



APPRENTICESHIPS

This will not be as easy as previous years and young people need to be 'Job Ready', equipped with the necessary skills and mind-set of working for an employer and learning.

Most opportunities will be offered from late Spring/early Summer Term, HOWEVER there are some areas such as in Engineering/Manufacturing offered by the larger Employers who will be recruiting from last Autumn Term for a September 2021 start.

There is a general Government Apprenticeship website to look & apply - <https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/apprenticeshipsearch>

But also look at Employer's own websites as what is on offer above is not an exhaustive list and young people need to do their own research or send speculative CVs to Employers.

There are local colleges (see above for Colleges' websites) and Training Providers who have links with Employers and support students in their Apprenticeships so students can apply/register an interest direct to them.

MGTS – Midland Group Training Services (Engineering) - <https://www.mgts.co.uk/>

MTC Academy (Engineering) - <https://the-amtc.co.uk/apprenticeships/>

Coventry & Warwickshire Training – (Various Vocational areas – HD, Business Admin, Accounting, Childcare, IT etc) <https://www.cw-chambertraining.co.uk/>

Heart of England Training – HOET – (Various including Hair & Beauty, School, Business Admin) - <https://www.hoet.co.uk/>

SCCU – (School, Childcare, IT, Business, Sports apprenticeships) - <https://sccu.uk.com/training-programmes/stn-apprenticeships/>

CV WORKSHOPS

This has been delivered to all Year 11 students, with students encouraged to complete & save their CV at home and to be organised for Yr 10 students later this term.

For Students Yr 10+

VIRTUAL WORK EXPERIENCE

Unfortunately school were unable to facilitate Work experience, as we know it, last year and also this year for Year 10 students, however, there have been and continue to be offered some virtual Work Experience placements where students can register to attend. It may be during a Half term holiday or a Saturday or working a few extra hours, so please read up on any offers. These are normally offered via a platform such as Teams or similar and encourages students to develop Independence, Teamwork, Resilience plus demonstrates to prospective Employers that they took up opportunities and gained Confidence along the way.



Speakers4Schools offer a variety of Virtual Wexp Opportunities throughout the year so I would recommend signing up to see what there is on offer for your son/daughter to take part in. Many are within Construction/Engineering but there are others such as **Tescos for Yr 10 students** offering Technology, Clothing, Manufacturing/Creativity, **Army – Sandhurst**, **Santander** offering CV Workshops , **Global Climate** Publishing, **L’Oreal Beauty – Sales/retail/Marketing & Business**, **Visit England – Tourism**. Please encourage your son/daughter to Register to look through and apply for anything of interest- encourage them to widen their search & be open to experience. <https://www.s4snextgen.org/>

FUSION - Fusion connects the expertise, innovation and resources of three world-leading engineering businesses; Morgan Sindall Infrastructure, BAM Nuttall and Ferrovial Agroman, to design, construct and operate innovative engineering solutions for large, complex infrastructure programmes. Fusion have worked with our students before and they gained some excellent skills from their experience.

- **Dates: 17th – 19th February (Half Term)**
- **Eligibility: Students must be 14+ . Students in the areas of Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, Coventry and Warwickshire, Hertfordshire and Northamptonshire will be given priority.**
- **Application Deadline: 11th January 2021**
- **What does the experience involve?**

This work experience opportunity will enable students to understand more about working in the construction industry, and open their eyes to a number of different career paths they may not have known even existed, these include archaeology, ecology, engineering and planning.

Through spending time with different departments and functions, students will learn about how the departments play a part in completing the project, and over the course of week students will prepare their own project, which they will present to the Fusion team at the end of the week.

Teamwork, problem solving and presentation skills, are only a few of the skills that students will be working on throughout the VWEX

Places are limited so please encourage your students to apply as soon as possible to have the best chance of success. N.B Opportunities may close early if too many applications are received.

New Virtual Work Experience Opportunities Recruiting Now:

- **[Publishing and Communications VWEX with Springer Nature](#)**
- **Dates: 15th – 19th February 2021.**
- **Eligibility: 16 – 19 year olds keen to find out more about editorial, communications, marketing skills.**
- **Application Deadline: 15th January 2021**

- **[Build Yourself with Wates VWEX](#)**
- **Dates: 16th February 2021.**
- **Eligibility: 14 – 19 year olds keen to find out more about a career in construction, development, and property services.**
- **Application Deadline: 5th February 2021**

- **[Willmott Dixon Management Careers VWEX- Future Leaders Wanted](#)**
- **Dates: 15th - 19th February 2021.**
- **Eligibility: 14 – 19 year olds interested in management careers in construction.**
- **Application Deadline: 31st January 2021**



- [VWEX for ambitious open-minded young women – careers within construction](#)
- **Date:** 15th - 19th February 2021. Sessions will run from 10:00 – 15:00
- **Eligibility:** 14– 19 year olds interested in management and the diverse careers in the construction sector.
- **Application Deadline:** 15th January 2021

- [Start Your Road to Success: AMEY](#)
- **Dates:** 15th - 17th February 2021.
- **Eligibility:** Creative 14 – 19 year olds interested in an industry that keeps the country moving.
- **Application Deadline:** 22nd January 2021

- [Humankind Research: Social Impact Market Research VWEX](#)
- **Dates:** 24th February 2021
- **Eligibility:** 16 -19 year olds who are keen to gain insight into market research and communications.
- **Application Deadline:** 17th February 2021

- [ST EMpowered Women Working in the Water Industry](#)
- **Dates:** 15th February 2021.
- **Eligibility:** 16 – 19 year olds interested in a career in problem solving and a clean environment.
- **Application Deadline:** 21st January 2021

- [Communications Agency VWEX with Cicero/AMO](#)
- **Dates:** 15th – 19th February 2021.
- **Eligibility:** 15 – 19 year olds interested in a career in digital media, communications, or market research.
- **Application Deadline:** 15th January 2021

- [VGC Group Virtual Work Experience](#)
- **Dates:** 15th – 19th February 2021.
- **Eligibility:** 14 – 19 year olds interested in the construction and support services sector.
- **Application Deadline:** 15th January 2021

- [Create and Market Content for a Fashion Brand](#)
- **Dates:** 15th – 17th February 2021.
- **Eligibility:** 16 – 19 year olds interested in content creation and social media management.
- **Application Deadline:** 15th January 2021



Springpod - <https://www.springpod.co.uk/virtual-work-experience-programmes/> Another platform to take part in some Virtual Work experience (some on offer include Journalism, Law, Finance, Marketing, Teaching, employability Skills plus an Insight day offered by BT; students can also view professionals talk about their own Career Journeys via the 'Learn Lounge'.

Chris Day

Mrs Chris DAY

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