

WELCOME TO OUR FIRST CAREERS NEWSLETTER

January 2020
Issue 1

UCAS Round-up

At the end of last term here at the College, just over 300 students had registered with UCAS to start in 2020, and we are already hearing back from students about their offers and plans.

The UCAS deadline for applications was January 15th - you can still apply, but you will now be considered a late applicant. If you have decided that University is for you then it is not too late; please make an appointment to discuss your plans with one of the Careers team as soon as possible.

We love stats, so here are a few from UCAS. Did you know that 706,400 applications were sent into UCAS 2018 /19 this is an increase of almost 70,000 from ten years ago? Also, the top five most popular degree courses in the UK are: 5) Design courses, 4) Computer Science, 3) Law, 2) Psychology and the top place goes to Nursing.

(source: The Telegraph 15.11.19)



**Help, I need
some careers
advice!**



Email
**careers@abingdon-
witney.ac.uk** for an
appointment or pop in to
Abingdon **D017**
Witney **CH103** and
Common Leys in the
Reception area.

Students are very welcome to pop into the careers rooms, where we can answer quick questions and book you in if need a bit more time.

In a nutshell, a careers interview typically last around 30-45 minutes. It is your chance to explore your ideas, talk through and find out your options - you won't be told what to do! That is not what we are about, but we can guide you through the options and help you to decide that best route for you.

Look on our new web page for student support and careers here:
www.abingdon-witney.ac.uk/support/careers-guidance

Make an appointment with a Careers Adviser if...



- You want help with applying to University.
- You want help to secure an apprenticeship.
- Your CV needs brushing up and you'd like to be more confident in an interview situation.
- You'd like to explore your options for after college.
- You are completely stuck and do not know what to do after completing college.

Careers Service for Adult Learners

Whether you are learning for leisure, returning to work after a break, or considering a career change, the careers team can help with your next step:

- Advice and general course information
- 1-1 confidential career guidance interviews
- Help with CVs and interview skills
- Information and advice on apprenticeships and other training opportunities

Book an appointment or just drop in for a chat with Cathy.

Cathy is based at Abingdon and The Union, and works part-time on Mondays (8.30am-12.15pm), and Wednesday and Thursday all day.

Contact:

Cathy King-Spooner
Tel: **01235 216 486**

For email, please contact via the team inbox below, and mark for my attention:

careers@abingdon-witney.ac.uk

Careers News & Upcoming Events

- New Nursing bursaries of £5000(+) a year to study Nursing and some allied professions see NHS website: www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/news/new-grant-announced-nursing-midwifery-and-many-ahp-students
- Careers Fair at Witney Campus (in partnership with the West Oxfordshire schools) over 70 stands on Wednesday 29th January 4pm-8pm. All students and families welcome. More info: www.abingdon-witney.ac.uk/events
- Diamond Light Source are holding two open evenings for prospective apprentices on 28th January and 6th February both 5pm-7pm. More information here: www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-diamond-experience-apprenticeship-open-evenings-tickets-82978331423
- UK Atomic Energy Authority are holding an apprenticeship evening on 3rd February 2020. More information here: www.ccfе.ukaea.uk/event/ukaea-apprentice-scheme-open-evening/
- National Apprenticeship Week is the 3rd-9th February and National Careers Week is the 2nd-7th March - keep up to date on Yammer!

January Spotlight Apprenticeships

Some of you may have seen a recent post on the careers page on Yammer about the volume of Degree Apprenticeships advertised in England. We monitored this in the last week of term last month when things are typically quiet, not so it would seem in the world of apprenticeships. In 4 days, there were 15 Degree Apprenticeships added and this number will increase each week and peak around June 2020.

So how do I get an degree apprenticeship? All apprenticeships are listed on the live vacancy website and the number available changes every day. The website is www.findanapprenticeship.gov.uk and choose degree apprenticeships from the drop down menu. Also, the website Not Going To Uni has listings of higher and degree apprenticeships www.notgoingtouni.co.uk - here you will see the wide range on offer, from project management to town planning, logistics to engineering!



Several things to remember!

- Some will have January closing dates for a September 2020 start, others have a March closing date for applications.
- Some will be in other areas of the UK, so see this as a bit like going away to university; you may need to find accommodation / house share but you will be earning a good salary so it's worth considering those further afield.
- No fees to pay, you get paid, typically £16-18,000 per year, and your company funds your degree course.

Not looking at a Degree Apprenticeship? Well there are many Intermediate, Advanced and Higher ones to choose from.

At the time of going to press, there were 134 Apprenticeships on offer in Oxfordshire with 14 being added in the last 4 days (as of 10.1.20).

If you are planning on taking up an apprenticeship after you complete college, register on the National Apprenticeship website: www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk and also don't forget to check in regularly with Oxfordshire Apprenticeships: www.oxfordshireapprenticeships.co.uk. There are also the ones Abingdon and Witney College offer in partnership with local employers: www.abingdon-witney.ac.uk/apprenticeships

Useful websites to help with career planning

We thought it might be useful to remind you about some of the excellent resources and websites to help you with your future plans and pathways.

Don't forget to have a look at the online careers 'one stop' resource called eCLIPS at www.eclips-online.co.uk.

Here you can research different careers, find out everything about applying to jobs, interviews, CVs, volunteer opportunities and so much more!

Plus it links directly with the National Apprenticeship website. You will need a password to log in - this is **FUTURES2019**.



www.oxme.info

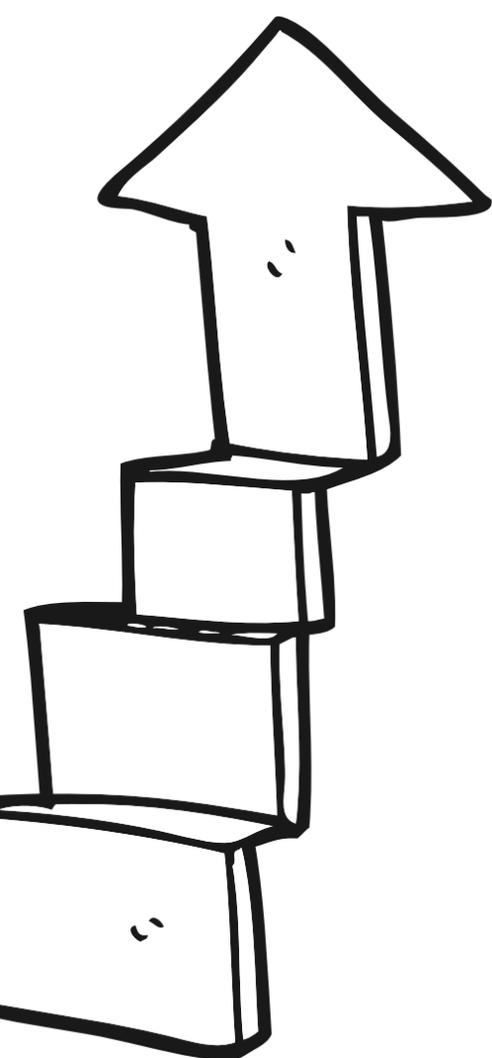
www.notgoingtouni.co.uk

www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship

www.thestudentroom.co.uk

www.thescholarshiphub.org.uk

www.ratemyapprenticeship.co.uk



**Look out for our next edition
in February!
In the meantime, keep an eye
on Yammer for any careers
related news.**