



WINTER 2015
EDITION 7



CAREERS NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the November 2015 edition!

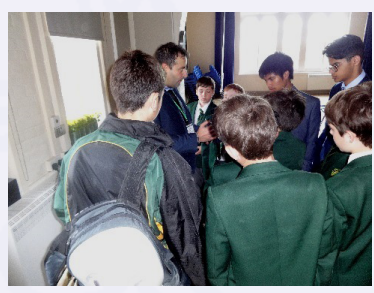
Welcome to the first career newsletter of the new school year 2015/16. Firstly we must give ourselves a collective pat on the back for achieving the Investors in Careers Award. I believe that it reflects our 'whole school' approach to careers with every department playing its part. Our Career Coordinator, Harriet Phillips, has worked tirelessly to knit the career programme together and deserves a special mention.

This term we have an excellent line up of career talks from visitors across a range of industries. Once again we've tried to focus on industries that pupils may not have considered in order to open their eyes to possible career opportunities in the future. We 'launched' our series with a talk on careers in the space industry, one of the UK's fastest growing industries. Surrey Satellite Technology Limited in Guildford visited the school to give a presentation and answer questions on this occasion. They are the world's largest manufacturers of small satellites. We also had a record attendance for our talk on careers in Formula 1 from Pedro Gomez who works at McLaren. Pedro is also a parent of two pupils at Gordon's.

Both visitors emphasized that their industry isn't purely crying out for engineers but people with a range of skills in areas such as sales, marketing and finance.

When making career decisions it's important to recognise that you can often carry out your skills in almost any industry. If you have a degree in finance and a passion for sport, why not work within sports finance. If you have a passion for travel and love the idea of marketing, why not do this within the travel industry? Research shows that "jobs and career environments are classifiable by the personalities that flourish in them."(John Holland, 1919-2008).

If you're surrounded by people with similar values and interests at work, there is a strong chance you'll really enjoy your job.



Guest speaker Pedro Gomez answers questions about McLaren and Formula 1



Which sixth former is wearing an old Lewis Hamilton helmet? Answers on a postcard!



Pupils fascinated by a McLaren F1 steering wheel

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Mark Anderson

GORDON'S PUPILS DECIDE TO STAY PUT

56% of last year's Y11 decided to stay on into the Gordon's Sixth Form – that's an increase of 10% on the previous year. 18% went to Farnborough Sixth Form whilst a small number joined Godalming College, Farnborough College of Technology and Merrist Wood College.

We wish them all the best.

JOB MAGNETS

The top 10 universities for graduates targeted by leading employers:

1. Manchester
2. Nottingham
3. Warwick
4. Cambridge
5. Oxford
6. Durham
7. Bristol
8. UCL
9. Imperial College London
10. Leeds

Source: *The Graduate Market in 2015*

BE INSPIRED...



I'm never going to put boundaries on myself ever again. I'm never going to say 'I can't do it'.



Nadiya; Winner of The Great British Bake Off 2015

FUTURE JOBS

In order to know what jobs will be in demand in the future it is important to get a grasp of what is happening in the world so we can see what the workforce implications are. Here are three UK developments to be aware of:

1. In 2012 the Tech economy contributed 7.6% of the UK's GDP. By 2025, it is estimated it will be 15.8% and will be the largest single business sector in the UK. Graduates in electronic and software engineering, artificial intelligence to name a few are likely to be in high demand in this industry.
2. With mental health sufferers living up to 20 years less, there has never been more need for committed professionals to work in this sector. Major depression is the no.1 psychological disorder in the western world. At the rate of increase, it will be the 2nd most disabling condition in the world by 2020, behind heart disease. Demand for clinical psychologists and other mental health professionals is likely to increase as more patients with complex mental health needs are referred to them for treatment.
3. There are 850,000 people living with dementia in the UK today (1.3 per cent). By 2025 the number is expected to rise to over one million and by 2050 it is projected to exceed 2 million. The adult social care sector currently employs 1.5 million people, and by 2025, it is estimated that another 1 million workers will be needed to meet England's growing social care demands.

10 THINGS YOU PROBABLY DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT THE UK GAMES INDUSTRY

1. The UK games industry was worth over £3.9bn in consumer spend in 2014, up 10% from 2013. It is estimated to be the 6th largest video game market in 2014 in terms of consumer revenues, after the US, China, Japan, South Korea and Germany. (Source: Newzoo)
2. Grand Theft Auto V which is the most successful worldwide entertainment product of all time, including movies (grossing \$1bn worldwide in just 3 days). Since 2014 it has been the Number 1 top selling game of all time in the UK both in terms of units (5m) and value (£208m). Other global UK successes include Batman: Arkham City (developed by Rocksteady Studios) and Moshi Monsters which has over 60 million registered users.
3. Books based on video games were worth £14.5m in 2014, a rise of almost £10m from 2013, driven by the success of Minecraft books which totalled almost 2m units sold. (Nielsen BookScan)
4. Games sold more than video or music in 2014. The games market grew by +7.5% to reach £2.5bn, while video decreased by -1.4% to reach £2.2bn and music by -1.6% to reach £1bn.
5. The digital sales of games (£1.5bn) are bigger than the combined digital sales of video and music (£1.3bn).
6. There are 1,902 video game companies in the UK.
7. Between 2011 and 2013, the number of games companies grew yearly by 22%.
8. 95% of UK video games companies are micro or small businesses. The mean number of employees is 120 and the median 49.
9. The industry is mostly concentrated in London and the south of England (54.6% of all companies). However the Midlands and the North of England (with respectively 20.1% and 17% of all companies) have a higher presence of video games companies than other creative industries.
10. Amongst 18 'travel to work' areas identified as having a critical mass of more than 20 games companies, 12 have been identified as having high levels of games concentration (in employment or company number): Brighton, Cambridge, Cardiff, Guildford and Aldershot, Edinburgh, Dundee, Liverpool, London, Manchester, Oxford, Sheffield and Rotherham, and Warwick and Stratford-upon-Avon.

Source: Nesta, ERA

For more information visit <http://ukie.org.uk/research>



Veterinary Nursing

We all know how difficult it is to become a Vet, but what about Veterinary Nursing? Here's everything you need to know about a rewarding job working with animals...

A veterinary nurse works as a member of the veterinary team, providing expert nursing care for sick animals. Veterinary nurses also play a significant role in educating owners on maintaining the health of their pets. They carry out technical work and are skilled in undertaking a range of diagnostic tests, medical treatments and minor surgical procedures, under veterinary direction.

Training Routes

There are two routes to becoming a qualified veterinary nurse; either via vocational training or via a higher education qualification. Both routes lead to registration as a veterinary nurse.

Vocational Training

If you are very practically-minded, and want to get "stuck in" to a job in a veterinary practice, vocational training is probably best for you.

The Level 3 Diploma in Veterinary Nursing is a vocational qualification designed to prepare veterinary nurses for professional registration on the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons' Register of Veterinary Nurses. It is available on either a full-time basis or apprenticeship-style alongside a job in veterinary practice.

Herein lies the challenge. It is not easy to find work in a Veterinary practice because it is very competitive. Vets tell me that they receive letters almost every week from young people requesting work experience opportunities and internships. It's always best to start off with practices that you know. Better still if you know someone who works in one. And if you don't succeed at first, keep trying.

The usual minimum entry requirements for the Level 3 diploma are 5 A-C GCSE grades including Maths, English and Science.

Higher Education

A degree course will take a little longer than a vocational qualification and is more academic, but you will be required to undertake clinical placements in an approved training practice. The Higher Education route may therefore be an easier way to find a

placement because this is something that the university will assist you with.

A degree in veterinary nursing can lead to additional career opportunities, such as research, the pharmaceutical industry and teaching, in addition to work in clinical veterinary practice.

A number of institutions offer full-time integrated higher education courses leading to a Foundation or Honours Degree in veterinary nursing. These are listed below:

1. Anglia Ruskin University
2. University of Brighton
3. University of Bristol
4. University of Central Lancashire
5. Coventry University
6. Edinburgh Napier University
7. Harper Adams University
8. Middlesex University
9. Nottingham Trent University
10. University of Plymouth
11. University of Portsmouth
12. Royal Agricultural University
13. The Royal Veterinary College
14. University of South Wales
15. SQA, Glasgow
16. University of the West of England

Entry requirements vary so it is worthwhile checking with each institution.

Enrolling as a student veterinary nurse

Prospective vocational and higher education students must register with the RCVS regulatory body, in order to be able to legally undertake certain veterinary nursing procedures (outlined in Schedule 3 of the Veterinary Surgeons Act 1966). Your college or university will help you to do this when you commence your veterinary nursing course.



WHAT DO EMPLOYERS WANT?

Whilst you're in education it's important to think long term about employment. Even if you don't know what career path you want to follow it's important to not only gain good qualifications but to build on the skills employers are looking for. By developing these skills (through extra-curricular activities and work experience), you will be far more employable than your peers who don't, even if they have 'good grades'. Can you demonstrate that you have the following 'in demand' skills?

1. Communication skills
2. Problem solving skills
3. Time Management
4. Teamwork
5. Working well under pressure
6. Making well informed decisions
7. Self management

And here are a few comments from some employers:

'I like to see a young person with spark and personality.... somebody who is determined and tries to do their best everyday.'

'A positive attitude towards past experience is really important – if something went wrong, what lessons did they learn? How have they picked themselves up and moved forward?'

'My message to young people would be to be positive, try hard and do your best.'

'They need to prove that they have worked hard to get the experience or qualifications needed, even if they haven't done well at school. And if they have come straight from school they need to show a passion for learning the job and the will to take up training.'

'Positive attitude, willingness to get stuck in and work hard is extremely important.'

NIACE, The National Voice for Lifelong Learning

EY SCHOLARSHIP

£1,000 every year at university plus work experience!

Professional services firm 'EY' is offering a unique opportunity for students applying to university.

If you're looking to combine undergraduate study with fantastic work experience, then we have an incredible opportunity to share!

The EY Advisory Scholarship offers students the chance to receive three paid work placements within EY Advisory, a £1k bursary for every year they are at university and the opportunity to build valuable relationships and key skills.

Entry requirements

- Be in Year 13
- Studying towards A Levels

Deadline: 30th November 2015

To find out more about this fantastic opportunity visit:
<http://www.purepotential.org/events/opportunities-with-ey/>

APPLICATION DEADLINES

Year 13

If you are applying to university you should have completed and sent off your UCAS application by now. If not, you should aim to do it this month.

Year 11

If you are planning to apply for alternative colleges, please do so by the end of November. Remember, you can apply to as many colleges as you wish. The deadline for the Gordon's Sixth Form is 20th November 2015

JOB VACANCY

APPRENTICE SOFTWARE DEVELOPER

- Location: Woking
- Salary: £250.00 per week
- Closing date: 30 November 2015

Employer description:

You will be working for an independent management consultancy to not for profit, public sector, education, and health and social care organisations. Our consultancy practice undertakes a range of business and IT consultancy assignments supporting organisational development, service improvement, efficiency improvements, IT strategy, and supporting national initiatives and regulation. You will also be working through an award winning, Ofsted outstanding apprenticeship from QA - 94% go onto full-time jobs.

Job description:

We are looking for an apprentice to head up the client-facing support function and provide support for the business more widely.

The apprenticeship role will include:

- Providing 1st line telephone and online-based initial support to clients
- Undertaking initial reviews, quality control and investigation of all logged SIRs where possible to resolve them
- Ensuring that Quartz (software) releases are fully regression tested in time to meet monthly time table
- Undertaking detailed diagnosis of software issues reported by clients, using a range of technical and non-technical tools
- Developing with guidance, solutions to issues, which may include making software changes, database changes, and data changes; and testing those changes
- Undertaking small-scale developments of new areas of software within overall system

Skills required for this apprenticeship:

- Someone with good communication and teamwork skills
- Has an eye for detail and is a team player
- Is self-motivated and demonstrates a "can do" attitude
- Puts himself in customers' shoes and responds to their needs
- We are looking for a keen IT individual with a coding/programming background to develop into the coding role

Qualifications required:

Ideally 7 GCSEs (C and above) including Maths and English.

Training to be provided:

Software & Web Development Level 3 Apprenticeships | City & Guilds Certificate in IT Systems and Principles | C&G Level 3 Diploma in IT Professional Competence. And: | MTA in Software Development Fundamentals.

Apprenticeship duration:

12-14 months

Working week:

37.5 hours (Monday – Friday, 9 – 5:30)

To apply, visit <http://apprenticeships.qa.com/vacancy-search>

BEFORE GORDON'S...

"I worked for Pfizer in Drug Discovery (focusing on Pain and Allergy & Respiratory). My work involved performing assays (experiments) to test drugs in cells and tissues, analysing data, liaising with chemists and clinical scientists."

Ramla Ali, Biology Teacher

"I worked as an Insurance Broker for 6 years. I also worked as a KFC cook!"

Alan Walters, IT Teacher



26 & 27 February 2016 / NEC, Birmingham

STUDY ABROAD ROADSHOW

We recently hosted a Study Abroad Roadshow at the school where several universities from around the world were on hand to give advice to students considering, you've guessed it, studying abroad. Here are 4 facts you may or may not know about studying abroad:

1. Tuition is free in most of Northern Europe or considerably cheaper than the UK e.g. £1600 in the Netherlands – compared with £9,000 per year in the UK.
2. Whilst the USA seems to be the most popular destination for scholarships and bursaries, students can still find funding opportunities in Canada, Australia, and Europe. The advice is to approach the institution directly as they will know what students can apply for.
3. There are over 1000 undergraduate programmes taught in English across Europe. Students can still develop their language skills further because institutions in Europe will offer language classes for international students.
4. Back in 2013, the Association of Graduate Recruiters (AGR) said that two-thirds of CEOs are now expecting to see some form of international experience on the CVs of young people. Studying abroad could well be the very thing a student needs to stand out from the crowd.

BEFORE GORDON'S...

"I was a Woman Police Constable with the Metropolitan Police for 8 years. After two years as a beat bobby I worked in clubs, vice and obscene publications in the West End of London followed by TDC (Trainee Detective Constable) on the Crime Squad at Heathrow Airport. I also worked in Cabin Crew with British Airways for 10 years." **Julie Richardson, House Assistant, Buckingham**



The Study Abroad Roadshow passed by in October



Inspiring Tomorrow's Innovators

11 November 2015

3.30pm—5.00pm

Surrey Sports Park, Guildford

Surrey GU2 7AD

Free event for 6th Formers, FE students, Year 10 and 11 students (and their parents)

Are you considering a career in science, technology or engineering?
How can you choose between all the opportunities available?

Would you find it useful to meet with working scientists and engineers representing around 30 different employers - from start-up companies to huge multi-nationals?

We are delighted to offer you the opportunity to attend a session of TeenTech Surrey especially designed for 6th form, FE, Year 10 and 11 students and their parents.

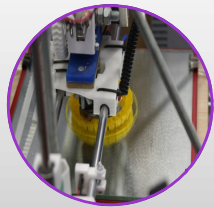
When? Wednesday 11 November 2015, 3.30-5.00pm

Where? Surrey University Sports Park

Who will be there? A range of exhibitors from STEM industries, such as:

- GSK - learn about development and large-scale manufacture of cosmetics and household products.
- Air Products, National Grid, BOC - find out about graduate and apprenticeship opportunities in engineering.
- Surrey Satellites Technology Ltd - learn about satellite engineering in space!
- Samsung, Sony, Maplin, JVC - find out about the latest opportunities and innovations in media and electronics.

What will happen? Around 30 different companies will be attending with hands-on exhibits explaining the science and technology they work with. You will have the opportunity to discover more about the latest technology, as well as quizzing lots of scientists and engineers about what their jobs involve.



FORTHCOMING CAREER EVENTS

Tuesday 24th November 2015

A Career in the Art and Design Industry - P7

Tuesday 8th December 2015

A Career in the Performing Arts Industry - P7

Tuesday 12th January 2016

A Career in the Animal Industry - P7

Tuesday 26th January 2016

A Day in the Life of an Apprentice - P7

Tuesday 9th February 2016

Tomlinscote Careers Fair (All Y9)

Tuesday 9th February 2016

A Career in Air Crash Investigation - P7

For further career events, please keep an eye on the school website:

www.gordons.surrey.sch.uk/careersevents

or follow us on Twitter:

[@GordonsCareers](https://twitter.com/GordonsCareers)



WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Sandy Wibrew

When did you leave Gordon's?

I left the school in 1996 but lived there whilst I went to Sixth Form at Collingwood College until 1998.

What do you do now?

I own and run a business called 'Click and Jump' which is a skydive agency. I arrange tandem skydives and first jump courses for people all over the UK. Our main USP is that we are the sole tandem agent for the Red Devils Freefall team promoting and organising their tandem events.

What sequence of events led you to where you are now?

To be honest I felt a little directionless when I left college! My initial career goals had not materialised so I worked in admin and customer service for a number of businesses before moving on to work within the newspaper industry for well over 10 years. First I worked as a Typographer/Ad Designer and then as a PA for the Regional Director. I loved the newspaper industry. However I didn't agree with many of the changes to newspaper production and so decided that I needed to move on.

I have always been around skydiving - since I completed a parachute jump course through the CCF whilst I was living at Gordon's School. At that time I met my husband and even though I decided it was not my hobby, I loved being around the sport and worked for many years on the weekends at a parachute centre as a tandem coordinator and in the manifest. My husband had started Click and Jump and when he moved on, I decided to take over and run the business where I have been for about 5 years now.

One of my bosses at interview told me my CV was a mess because I had not stayed within a particular career path. I was able to explain to him that most of my roles had been admin based and I actually progressed towards the role I was interviewing for; to be his PA. This role taught me a lot about business and that I was pretty good at organising people. Combining that with my various admin roles, I feel they have all led to where I am now.

How clear were you about what you wanted to do after leaving school?

I did initially have two clear goals, I either wanted to join the army, or I wanted to join the metropolitan police. I was not selected for the police as they felt I was too young and should go and get some life experience which knocked my confidence a little! Being around military people all my life and despite being in the cadets at Gordon's and loving it, I realised that I just wasn't as suited to joining as I thought I was and that I did not want an all consuming career.

What do you enjoy about your work?

I love most of my work! I do get stressed and never have enough time especially since I now work part time so that I can spend time with my daughter. However I feel I am very lucky and being my own boss I can do that! As someone who easily works alone, I thrive on sitting at my computer getting everything done, dealing with people, charities, clients and making people's experience the best it can be. On the flip side I love attending the Red Devil's tandem days, being with people, having fun with the team and being around skydivers, seeing the results of the work leading up to the event. I also feel very proud that we help people to raise thousands of pounds for charity. I love the idea that my work helps people in need and our company philosophy reflects that.

How would you compare school life to working life?

Life at Gordon's for me was very whole, I loved it! It felt like a little world that was safe, fun and inspiring. The teachers and people around me really did ensure that I knew my worth, that I could adapt to anything and deal with whatever challenge has been thrown at me.

I found college very difficult because it was all so different and looking back, think this was probably why I allowed a few setbacks to throw me off course a little. When I moved on into my working life I found that the confidence and discipline the school had instilled in me was a real benefit.

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School is hard. People say it is the best time of your life and yes in many aspects, it is. However it is easy to forget the exams, personal dramas and challenges that you face as a student. The microcosm of school is intense, the world is all consuming. When you move on to a working life that 'world' is still there, it is just more diluted and yes everything is a lot bigger and the responsibility is different. There are bigger consequences to mistakes.

You will find that there are still those that dress fashionably, those that just get on with their work, some go above and beyond and do well and the lazy people who do what is needed to get through the day and nothing more. Women can be just as 'catty' as girls, men just as petty as boys. People, teenagers or adults, will always be competitive, kind, thoughtful and relentless!



What advice would you give to your 18 year old self?

Go to university! Maybe not straight away, have a year or two of fun jobs that would teach you how to live or even travel a bit. However have it as an option - it could give you more choices later in your life. I probably should have considered teaching as a career, I know I would have been good at it, but to do it now is a little harder! At the time I was so sick of education I didn't even think about going to university. It wasn't an option for me. Then I started having too much fun to even consider going back in to education!

What advice would you give to pupils who will be leaving school next year?

- Don't be disheartened by knock backs, try again! There is usually more than one way to get to your end goal.
- Consider university even if it is not something you wish to do straight away. Have it in reserve; in fact I think for many it is beneficial to take a year or so out of education.
- Take jobs you enjoy, silly ones that will give you skills that you never imagine you will need but will teach you how to work with a wide spectrum of people.
- From the moment you start work remember to have a work life and a personal life and never let go of that. It is very easy to allow work to take over your whole world. My motto is that you should work to live not the other way round and I can honestly say I have had a lot of fun and most of it outside of work.
- Find a sport, hobby or something physical that you can do; just for you, to relieve stress, stay fit and be active.
- Take your leave, have a lunch break (they are usually unpaid anyway) and always be professional, admit to mistakes early on so they can be rectified and be honest with yourself.
- Set yourself some life goals; where would you like to go, who would you like to be. The first thing my business coach asked me to do was to visualise how I would like to live my life, what cars I would like, where I would go on holiday etc. by visualising where you want to end up you can then make sure that you make the right decisions in between.
- Value your mistakes - they teach you as much as your victories; just admit and recognise them, work out where to go next and move on.

“

Don't be disheartened by knock backs. Try again! There is usually more than one way to get to your end goal.

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UCL

Lloyds Scholars Spring School: Alternative Paths to the City

Considering a career in the financial sector, but not sure about studying a finance related degree?

If so, then UCL's Spring School could be for you!

- Find out how different degrees can lead to a career in the city
- Sample university life and learn more about UCL
- Learn about the Lloyds Scholars scholarship and programme

Dates: 16 – 19 February 2016



Apply at: www.ucl.ac.uk/wp/lloyds-scholars

Application deadline: 4 January 2016