

November 2024

CAREERS NEWSLETTER

GORDANO SCHOOL CAREERS NEWSLETTER

DREAM BIG

Welcome to our first Careers Newsletter for the academic year 2024/2025.

Event Success

Careers Convention 2024

Our Gordano School Careers Convention is always a hugely popular event and this year was no exception. A large number of parents and students came along to talk to Universities, Colleges and a wide range of local employers about courses and apprenticeships. For the first time we trialled a 'quiet' half hour for students who can find such events overwhelming, and the feedback was positive.



Bristol Institute of Performing Arts commented:

"It was a wonderful event, and we had some great conversations with your learners, who were both aspirational and career-focused. I'd also like to commend your student helpers and ambassadors for representing the school so well. Their assistance with car parking, signing in, and overall support was invaluable, truly showcasing the dedication they have to the school and the fantastic work you're doing."

Y13 Early Applicant Day

We hosted the first LSP Early Applicant event in October. Year 13 students from Chew Valley, Churchill and Backwell Sixth Forms joined us to take part in an informative day to prepare for Oxbridge, Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary Science applications. Students heard from experts from Cambridge and Bristol Universities and the Royal College of Psychiatrists



Y6 Open Evening

On the Careers stand at Open Evening in September we enjoyed talking to Year 6 students about their future career ideas. We look forward to these students joining Gordano in September to continue these conversations.



Upcoming Events

Target Audience Y11

Post 16 Assemblies We have continued our Careers programme for Key Stage 4 students, starting with a series of talks during Friday Tutor programme related to their Post 16 pathways. Over the next few weeks students will hear from: Weston College, Gordano School Sixth Form, WTPN Apprenticeships and City of Bristol College. Students also held their Futures interviews with school staff Tuesday 22 October with careers team available for individual appointments. Lisa and Sue, the school Careers Advisers, can be contacted on careers@gordanoschool.org.uk if students or parents were unable to attend this event.

Gordano Sixth Form Open Evening – Thursday 14th November 5 - 7:30pm

This is an opportunity for students and parents to see the range of subjects offered at Gordano Sixth Form. You will be able to speak to teachers and students about each subject on offer. There will also be parent talks throughout the night providing an insight into what life at Gordano Sixth offers. We always encourage students to come and find out what Sixth Form life is like – they often think they know, but come away from the evening with a different view after talking to students currently studying these Post 16 pathways.

Target Audience: Y9+

Teatime Networking Event: Thursday 27 November 3:30 -4:30pm. Sports Industry is the theme for this event, which will mirror the format of ‘speed dating’ to allow students the opportunity to speak to six different organisations representing sports Industries. This event is open to Y9 – Y13 students. If your child would like to sign up please complete this [LINK](#)



College Open Events

Target Audience: Y10+

- **City of Bristol College:** [FULL DETAILS](#)
21 November All Campuses and courses
- **South Gloucestershire and Stroud College(SGS):** [FULL DETAILS](#)
18 November 10am -1pm: All Campuses
- **Weston College:** [FULL DETAILS](#)
13 November 5-7pm all campuses
- **Bridgwater and Taunton College:** [FULL DETAILS](#)
11 November 10 -1 Cannington Campus
15 January 6-8pm Main Campus
- **Bristol City Robins Foundation:** [FULL DETAILS](#)
11 November 6:30pm
- **Boomsatsuma:** [FULL DETAILS](#)
3-5 December
- **Access Creative:** [FULL DETAILS](#)
Taster Day Saturday 16 November
- **Onsite (Construction) Apprenticeship Open Event – 26 November 5-7:30pm** <https://www.onsitebristol.co.uk/>

Y11 Parent Announcement

We encourage all Year 11 students to apply for their chosen Post 16 pathway by January 2025. Please explore all options with your child. It's important that students have at least a Plan A and a Plan B. For example: it is fully acceptable to put in applications for both Sixth and College and then decide later in Year 11 which route is most suitable.

Work Experience

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Target Audience Year 10

Work Experience Week 30 June – 5 July 2025

Our work experience week last year was a fantastic success with the vast majority of students working with an employer in the community. We had some wonderful feedback from parents and employers about our students and we are hoping to replicate that success this year. Work experience is a great opportunity for students to experience what it is like to be in a working environment and learn about the attitudes and behaviours expected. This is a compulsory part of our employability programme which will develop through year 10 with units on applying for jobs and writing a CV, Mock Interviews and work experience. There will be a programme in place for students who do not secure a placement but it is no substitute for an actual placement. We have sent out lots of information about finding a placement and how to enter the details on Unifrog. If you have not received this please email the Careers Team on careers@gordanoschool.org.uk Deadline for entering placements is **Monday 31 March 2025**

Apprenticeship & Employment information



Target Audience: Y10 onwards

- Parents Apprenticeship zone – <https://amazingapprenticeships.com/parent-zone/>
- A guide on how to apply for Apprenticeships:
[PDF-a-guide-to-apprenticeship-applications \(ctfassets.net\)](https://www.ctfassets.net/)

Events

- Careers in Audit (RSM) RSM Bristol Early Careers Insight Event | RSM UK 7 Nov 4.00pm-7.00pm Temple Quay
[RSM Bristol Early Careers Insight Event | RSM UK](#)
- Careers in Accountancy (ACCA) Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams 4 Dec 6.30pm-7.15pm Online
[TEAMS LINK](#)

Degree Level Apprenticeships:

There are lots of Degree level apprenticeships currently available including Engineering, Civil Engineering, Town Planning, Project Management, Rail and Building Services.

Please refer to this [guide](#) for a list of Higher and Degree Apprenticeship Vacancies – please note though this isn't all vacancies and best practice is to search employer websites, 'find an apprenticeship – gov website [Search Here](#) and www.notgoingtouni.co.uk

- **KPMG Application Support Session** - KPMG are offering a support session online for students considering applying for September start. [More Info](#)

Apprenticeship Research

Many employers are now opening their Apprenticeship schemes for applications for students to start in September. Here are some websites to check for vacancies:

[Opportunities - Pathway CTM](#)

[Apprenticeships | Learn About Apprenticeships And Find The Right One For You \(ucas.com\)](#)

[482 Apprenticeship Job Opportunities \(notgoingtouni.co.uk\)](#)

[Find an apprenticeship - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

<https://www.gradcracker.com/search/all-disciplines/degree-apprenticeships>

All our students also have a Unifrog account and can access apprenticeship information from this portal.

Gap Year/Internship Information:

Target Audience Y12/13

- Industrial Placement Schemes IBM Careers Placements (age 17 & over) https://www.ibm.com/uk-en/employment/entrylevel/#Futures_12_Month_Placement_Scheme
- Independent Gap Advice <https://independentgapadvice.org/>
- Yipiyap – Gap Year Employment Opportunity (tutoring) [INFO](#)



University Information

Target Audience Y12+

Looking to expand your knowledge for your EPQ or wanting to further develop your interest area? Gresham College run free virtual session at university level in a range of different subject areas

<https://www.gresham.ac.uk/>

Remember all universities are running events so please do check out their webpage for listings or visit <https://www.opendays.com/calendar/>

- **York University** (online) [Free online courses - Study at York](#), University of York Film-making, Physics, Bioeconomy, AI, English, Archaeology, Philosophy, Sociology, Psychology, Nursing, Chemistry, Biology, Law, Engineering, Art History.
- **University of Sheffield** [Subject tasters | Undergraduate study](#) | The University of Sheffield Online or on-campus taster sessions in a variety of subjects
- Swansea University - Masterclass Series 18 – 21 Nov (6-7pm) Full details of subject webinars can be found [HERE](#)

Interested in Medicine?

Please find links below on applying for medicine and for an overview of the universities that offer medicine.

Year 11/12- [Statistical Overview of Applying to Medical School in the UK](#)

Year 12/13 - [All UK Medical Schools Interview Processes](#)

A guide to all Medical School entry requirements for 2025: [Entry requirements | Medical Schools Council \(medschools.ac.uk\)](#)

A guide to all Dental School entry requirements for 2025: [DSC-Entry-Requirements-entry-2025.pdf \(dentalschoolscouncil.ac.uk\)](#)

Labour Market Information

Target Audience All Years

Labour Market Information is key to making good Career choices as it researches and explains what job sectors are growing or declining. The following resources are useful to explore local and national LMI:

[Careerpilot : Jobs](#)

[Explore LMI data – LMI For All](#)

[West of England – Labour Market Intelligence](#)

[North Somerset Employment and Skills Strategy](#)



LMI Focus – Health and Social Care

This sector is the biggest employment sector in the West of England and includes a wide range of career options from Business Admin to Doctors, Clinicians, Care Workers, Hospital Porters and so many more.

[Health & social care - Skills Connect](#)

[Health and Social Care LMI](#)

SEND Information

The Careers Team work on an individual basis with students and liaise closely with the SEND Department to ensure students receive appropriate careers advice. We share some useful website links below. If you have any questions please contact the Careers Team.

[Neurodiversity Hub - Resources for Students, Employers & More](#)

[Your Future Black Country](#) – focused on the Midlands but job profiles presented in accessible format for SEND students

[Success at School](#) – straightforward, easy to understand advice and information

[Youth Employment UK](#) – useful for entry level roles – comprehensive job and sector information

[Career guidance | Dyslexia Scotland - Dyslexia Scotland](#) – a useful guide you can download



All students in Years 7 – 13 have a Unifrog log in

Students can email

careers@gordanoschool.org.uk if their log in needs renewing.

Parent login: **GDSCPARENTS**

How can Unifrog help me?

- Explore what subjects you would be interested in studying Post 16/18
- Explore different job profiles.
- Explore universities/apprenticeship opportunities.
- Discover and sign up for online courses
- Record all your key activities and achievements

www.unifrog.org

Contact us for further help: careers@gordanoschool.org.uk