

### WELCOME BACK!

We first started the careers bulletin last academic year during the first national lockdown as a way of communicating information that would support our students and parents/carers in preparing for 'life at Shenley'. I now sit here writing this bulletin in the same circumstances and in a position I don't think any of us could have predicted. I know that these times are challenging for all of us in so many different ways. I hope that these bulletins will support our students and parents/carers in helping to shape decisions for their future. We will continue to advertise upcoming virtual events and activities that we encourage you all to participate in to allow you to continue to develop your knowledge and confidence in careers related learning to allow you all to make informed decisions about your future.

### Year 11 Careers Appointments – Independent Careers Advisor

During the Autumn term when we were attending the physical school, some year 11 students had already received a one to one careers appointment with our independent careers advisor, Gurjit Matto. This is something that every year 11 student will receive. In the circumstances, these appointments are continuing to take place by telephone.

During these conversations, students and parents will have the opportunity to ask Gurjit for advice and guidance on their next steps when leaving Shenley in the Summer term. I have no doubt that all our year 11 students have already started their research, and in many cases, have been working on and submitting their applications. Gurjit works at Shenley Academy every Friday, and so should you seek a more urgent appointment, please send your request to the following email address: [elizabeth.stevenson@e-act.org.uk](mailto:elizabeth.stevenson@e-act.org.uk)

If you have already had your appointment either in person or over the telephone but still have additional questions or require further support, you are able to contact Gurjit directly by emailing: [gurjit.matto@e-act.org.uk](mailto:gurjit.matto@e-act.org.uk)



There are some exciting announcements to make with regards to our Aimhigher team. As Mr Beeston has now left the Academy, we have now appointed 2 Aimhigher Co-ordinators that will be working closely with our Aimhigher Ambassador Amber Smalley. I would like to congratulate both Georgia Dudley (maths teacher) and Reece Jacobs (assistant SENCO) as they have joined the careers team and are excited to explore some new projects and ideas to further support and give new opportunities to students involved in the Aimhigher programme. Both Mr Jacobs and Miss Dudley boast amazing experience within this sector with diverse backgrounds and a shared enthusiasm for pushing students to reach for their dreams and preparing them for future life after Shenley.

As the Aim Higher co-ordinator's they endeavour to inspire and motivate their students to focus on the plethora of opportunities presented to them within Higher education. Furthermore, their goal is to provide maximum support and encouragement, as well as ensuring they give themselves the best chance of working towards targeted goals. The end target is to assist the students in unlocking their unlimited potential and helping them to believe that they can achieve the most illustrious jobs within society.

As always, if there are any further questions or queries regarding the AimHigher programme or ways to get involved, please do not hesitate to contact:

Georgia Dudley: Aimhigher Co-ordinator  
[georgia.dudley@e-act.org.uk](mailto:georgia.dudley@e-act.org.uk)

Reece Jacobs: Aimhigher Co-ordinator  
[reece.jacobs@e-act.org.uk](mailto:reece.jacobs@e-act.org.uk)

Amber Smalley: AimHigher Ambassador  
[amber.smalley@e-act.org.uk](mailto:amber.smalley@e-act.org.uk)

## Upcoming Open Days/Evening – Post-16

Depending on any near-future government announcements will depend on if these events are virtual or physical. Please check all of the websites prior to any events for further information as some may require booking places.

### Halesowen College

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2021 4pm-7pm

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

### Cadbury College

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2021 4pm-7pm

[www.cadcol.ac.uk](http://www.cadcol.ac.uk)

### BMET

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2021

<https://www.bmet.ac.uk/open-events-enrolment>

### Access Creative College

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021

<https://www.accesscreative.ac.uk/open-events/>

### BOA

View a virtual tour of the campus <https://www.boa-openevent.co.uk/>

Live Q&A with BOA Principal on 26th January 2021

### University College Birmingham

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2021 4pm-7pm

Students can register their interest [online](#)

### Walsall College

24<sup>th</sup> March 2021

<https://www.walsallcollege.ac.uk/event/walsall-college-march-open-day-21/>

### Aston University Engineering Academy

Virtual tour and Principal Q & A

More info <https://auea.co.uk/>

### Solihull College

For the latest open day information

<https://www.solihull.ac.uk/news-events/virtual-open-event/>

### Solihull Sixth Form College

Open days (booking essential):

Thursday 4th March 2021

<https://www.solihullsfsc.ac.uk/applying/open-days/>

### UOB School Sixth Form

Online virtual open day

<https://uobschool.org.uk/our-sixth-form/how-to-apply/><https://sway.office.com/oAYQnQLEozin2wIS?ref=Link>

## STEM – Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics

Shenley Academy is getting to read to launch its STEM initiative, which will support our students to explore a career in STEM subjects. Under the current circumstances the focus on science and technology is evermore increasing and we want to encourage our students and our community to take advantage of the opportunities available.

On Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> January, 'The One Africa Network' is inviting you to join their expert discussion on 'Accelerating Black and African STEM Professionals and Businesses in the UK'. Further details can be obtained from the link below.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/new-street-birmingham/oan-stem-forum-2021/2244268975702857/>

We are exploring ways to start an online science STEM club for our years 7 & 8 students, which will move to the physical school once we are able to. Watch this space for further details and updates.

Enam Hoque  
Head of Science

## National Apprenticeship Week 2021

**National Apprenticeship Week** kicks off this year on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February. This will be an exciting opportunity for students and parents/carers to develop their understanding of apprenticeships and what type of apprenticeship you could be interested in. Even if you think you already know your future pathway, it is always good to see what else is out there as you may come across something unexpected that is perfect for you!

Event Brite are hosting hundreds of online virtual events ranging from general webinars and presentations about apprenticeships with nationally or in your local area, to more specific apprenticeship events about sectors and industries including law, construction, nursing, chemistry, engineering, project management, accountancy and so many more!

**There are events on the link below for both students, parents and staff!** This platform is certainly not an opportunity to be missed so please get involved and let me know if you do!

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/d/online/apprenticeship-events/?fbclid=IwAR1KJ7b-gxpXM-fMhc5PIItDm7z4v8n1yCmdZdG8ys8RUzbAiCVrnS8liwc>

## Careers Events and Activities

### National Careers Service Virtual Careers Fair – 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> January #Ideasforcareers2021

This event is not to be missed! There are a number of live Q and A talks from a range of businesses and organisations that students and parents may benefit from. Use the link below to book your virtual online space!

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/national-careers-service-virtual-careers-fair-day-1-registration-133361894015?aff=ebdssbonlinesearch>



### Virtual Apprenticeship Careers Fair 2021 by SPRINGPOD - 27<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Springpod are hosting a range of live evening apprenticeship talks with a range of apprenticeship employers. Have a look on the link below and book yourself a place if any of them interest you!

[https://apprenticeships.springpod.co.uk/?utm\\_source=campus&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=careersfairpromadmins\\_13\\_01\\_21#](https://apprenticeships.springpod.co.uk/?utm_source=campus&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=careersfairpromadmins_13_01_21#)



### UK University and Apprenticeship Search Virtual Fair – Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2021 12pm-6pm

This event will feature a wide range of universities, colleges, and apprenticeship providers from across the UK, allowing you to explore all of your post-16 and post 18 options in one place. Universities will include Russell Group, red brick, modern and specialist institutions, as well as colleges and apprenticeship providers. You'll be able to explore exhibition stands, live chat with admissions officers, student ambassadors, academics and recruitment teams to ask any questions you have, view prospectuses and information, and take part in 10 live and interactive webinars in the auditorium.

**This event is completely free of charge to students, parents and teachers from anywhere in the UK. Register on the link below!**

<https://ukuniversitysearch.vfairs.com/>



## Looking ahead...

As the uncertainty of the pandemic continues, it presents ongoing challenges for the planning of any future events. We endeavour to continue to support our students and families in a variety of aspects, including careers information, advice and guidance. We know that students will naturally be even more apprehensive about their next steps when leaving school, and we hope that information included in these career bulletins, as well as continued work in the curriculum will help to alleviate some of their concerns.

We will continue to circulate any upcoming virtual and online events that will be of use to you all, and ask that you participate in as many student and parent/carer events as possible in order to make informed choices about your future.

When we return to the physical school we will make every attempt to continue to deliver broad and exciting career provision for our students as outlined the careers section of the Academy website in order to support our students with their career plan development.

I hope you and your families are well and continue to stay safe.

Kind regards

Liz Stevenson  
Pastoral Support Manager and Careers Leader  
[Elizabeth.stevenson@e-act.org.uk](mailto:Elizabeth.stevenson@e-act.org.uk)



## Feedback

We encourage any student or parent/carer feedback about these bulletins or any events you may take part in. Any comments, suggestions or general feedback can be sent to:

[elizabeth.stevenson@e-act.org.uk](mailto:elizabeth.stevenson@e-act.org.uk)

[daniel.thacker-smith@e-act.org.uk](mailto:daniel.thacker-smith@e-act.org.uk)

Alternatively, please complete the short feedback form below (this usually loads more easily using Google Chrome instead of Internet Explorer). This feedback is welcomed from students, parents/carers as well as staff to help us review and develop our careers provision as an Academy:

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=GO7B01t5ske0wJc0nDNaDILxq\\_0fc1VPiq8M\\_TB\\_aNUN1ISMlhJMIFPODRCNVQ2VEVaWjJSUDVRTy4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=GO7B01t5ske0wJc0nDNaDILxq_0fc1VPiq8M_TB_aNUN1ISMlhJMIFPODRCNVQ2VEVaWjJSUDVRTy4u)