

Headteacher: Dr. J Bartlett – NPQH, PGCE, D.Phil, M.Chem **Specialisms:** Mathematics

11.2.21

Dear parents/ guardians of Year 10 students,

We are approaching the period of the year where all students should be considering their post-Secondary school options, whether it be to apply to Sixth Form, College or to complete an Apprenticeship – for year 10 students, this process should be started now in terms of research. Even though we are away from school, there is still a wide range of career links to explore and this is a great opportunity to find out about careers and career pathways.

The aim of this letter is to provide a starting point in terms of information about universities, colleges, apprenticeships and other routes into a career; alongside different employers and organisations.

Your child may already be interested in certain career pathways. There may be others they have never heard of - they should investigate these. Remember, we are all in a unique situation where new jobs and career pathways are opening up all the time; looking at as much information as possible will help your child make informed choices!

I'd like to start by flagging up the new 2021 (Virtual) Careers Fayre, which can be accessed at <https://aimhigherwm.ac.uk/careers-fayre-2021/>

Students can open the interactive PDF map and click to navigate to the careers content that interests them. Professions/sectors are displayed on the ferris wheel, while the stalls link students to information on work experience, CV writing/applications, interview skills, university etc. Moreover, there will be special events taking place throughout the winter and spring months. These will be posted on the main Careers Fayre page once dates are confirmed.

I can also recommend the UK University & Apprenticeship Search Virtual Event. Thousands of students regularly join their meetings to explore over 100 different universities, colleges and apprenticeship providers:

https://us4.campaign-archive.com/?e=test_email&u=0131882646c9c37f1693f4cca&id=ac58e2b494

Also recommended is Spotlight Talks, which brings together the UK's leading employers and apprentices to inspire young people from all walks of life, to take up technical career routes and apprenticeships. This can be accessed from https://www.worldskillsuk.org/careers-advice/spotlight-talks-inspiring-careers-excellence/?dm_i=5BD4,BKP2,325P1Z,1BLWW,1 with events happening in March.

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Finally, I'd like to signpost some of the local providers who are doing Virtual Open Days/ Evenings, which I've taken from our careers bulletin which was sent out on the 25th January. Please check all of the websites prior to any events for further information as some may require booking places.

Halesowen College Tuesday 27th April 2021 4pm-7pm <https://www.halesowen.ac.uk/>

Cadbury College Thursday 18th March 2021 4pm-7pm <https://www.cadcol.ac.uk/>

BMET Monday 8th to Thursday 11th February 2021 <https://www.bmet.ac.uk/open-events-enrolment/>

Access Creative College Monday 1st February 2021 <https://www.accesscreative.ac.uk/open-events/>

BOA View a virtual tour of the campus <https://www.boa-openevent.co.uk/> with BOA Principal on 26th January 2021

University College Birmingham Thursday 18th March 2021 4pm-7pm Students can register their interest online <https://www.ucb.ac.uk/>

Walsall College 24th March 2021 <https://www.walsallcollege.ac.uk/>

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/virtualopen-event/>

Solihull Sixth Form College Open days (booking essential): Thursday 4th March 2021 <https://www.solihullsf.ac.uk/applying/open-days/>

UOB School Sixth Form Online virtual open day <https://uobschool.org.uk/our-sixth-form/how-to-apply/>

Your child should also be aware that we have a dedicated staff member who leads Career Guidance, Ms Stevenson (elizabeth.stevenson@e-act.org.uk), and an independent careers advisor, Gurjit Matto (gurjit.matto@e-act.org.uk); both of whom are available for support and guidance.

As always, if you would like to contact me directly I can be contacted by email at Ben.Moy@E-ACT.org.uk. Thank you in advance for your continuing support.

Kind regards,

B Moy

Mr B Moy

Assistant Headteacher for Progress (KS4)