

CAREERS UPDATE

This newsletter is a collation of all the opportunities we have heard about from employers and universities. Please use the links included to read more information and apply to anything you are interested in. Links are underlined.

CAREERS THIS WEEK

Year 7 will be learning more about how the character strengths we promote in school are important workplace skills. This week's focus is the importance of integrity and how it links to professionalism and reliability.



Year 8 are continuing to develop their understanding of the workplace. They will be building on their work last year about the Equality Act and specifically looking at disability rights. In teams, they will be drawing up a list of reasonable adjustments that might be made for a fictional employee.

Year 9 will spend time on Monday in assembly and period 3 on the first Modern Work Experience activity of the year! Zara is a former Wrotham student who now works for Collins Construction as a sustainability officer - she'll be setting a challenge for the whole year group!



Year 11 will be exploring how to make the most of open evenings - it's going to be a busy few weeks for Year 11 students and their families, booking and attending those. Wrotham School Sixth Form's open evening is on **Thursday 12th November**. There's a fantastic list of '[killer questions](#)' for open events that can be found [here](#).

Sixth form have a busy week as well!

Year 12 Work Experience dates have been announced - the week beginning **21st March**. Students and families can [use our Padlet](#) to search for opportunities and it's important to start searching now!

There are also **two trips available on Arbor**. First is the What Careers Live trip - a HUGE careers fair in London on **13th November**. Closes **16th October**. Second is limited numbers for a creative careers conference at the University of Kent on **2nd December**.



CAREERS ADVICE

Springpod is a fantastic work experience resource that I've been talking to a lot of Year 11s and sixth formers about this week.

It's FREE and offers:

- [online work experience programmes](#) from real employers
- [online university taster sessions](#)

You get certificates that can go on UCAS or job applications!

SUPPORT FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

Want to understand how work experience has changed for different year groups this year?

[Parent/carer guide to WEX in Years 7-9.](#)

[Parent/carer guide to WEX in Years 10-11.](#)

Please email me if you have any questions
ahollinshead@wrotham.kent.sch.uk

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OPPORTUNITIES



Black History Month 2026 in the UK takes place throughout October with the official theme "Honouring our Communities." Celebrating Black History Month means shining a light on achievements, recognising contributions, challenging inequality, inspiring future generations, and promoting greater understanding, inclusion and representation.



All ages: Did you know that the Black History Month website has a whole section for careers advice? With articles giving personal advice to young people and their parents, as well as for employers who want to learn from others about how to do things like setting up staff networks, there's loads to suit you at different parts of your career.



All ages: ICAEW (accounting) features a series of videos showcasing some of their most inspirational black members. They share their experiences and insights on issues such as leadership, skills and intersectionality. The videos are from a range of presenters, including senior professionals such as Ololade Adesanya, a Director at EY.



All ages: BHM Heroes is a broader collection covering people from sport, medicine, the military, arts and other professions. Profiles include Orthopaedic Surgeon Dr Samantha Tross, F1 Racer Lewis Hamilton, and Footballer Marcus Rashford.



Year 11-13: OuterCircle is an networking organisation helping young people access and succeed in apprenticeships. They arrange events, have current apprentices who act as mentors and an online community to help you succeed. Many of their members are from ethnically diverse backgrounds and can share their real, recent experiences of applying to (and securing!) apprenticeship opportunities.



Year 12-13: Want to hear from top companies about their degree apprenticeships and graduate opportunities for after university? The Young Pro app lists SO many insight events, usually online. This week, you can sign up for PwC, Lloyds Banking, Deloitte, Clifford Chance, Goldman Sachs and the City Century Live event in London, which focuses on solicitor apprenticeships. You'll need the app. Click here for iPhone and here for Android.



Year 9-13: How to write your first CV - a session from Dale at My Great First Job. He's won several awards for his work with young people in careers and he is hosting this free online workshop to help you, especially if you've never had a CV before! Sign up here for 6:30-7:30pm on Tues 6th Oct.

If you join any of these, please email me to have it added to your career records ahollinshead@wrotham.kent.sch.uk

JOB OF THE WEEK



Social
Worker

They are a trained care professional who helps individuals, families, and communities cope with difficult life challenges, improve their well-being, and protect vulnerable people from harm.

Social Workers usually work for local councils and sit within an adult or childrens team, depending on who they support. In England, they must be registered with Social Work England to legally work in the role.

LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION FACT

A disproportionately high percentage of Black African and Black Caribbean workers are employed as nurses, healthcare assistants, and social workers. For example, public sector statistics show that children's social care and NHS non-medical bands feature some of the highest representations of Black staff across public services.

Source

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OPPORTUNITIES



Year 9-13: Whether you're looking at apprenticeships, work experience, internships or graduate schemes, this session is your launchpad. Lloyds Banking Group are one of the world's biggest financial services companies, with over 30 million digital customers and brands you already know. On 6th October from 5-6pm, you'll find out how they help Britain prosper, what makes their culture what it is, and exactly when this year's opportunities open.



Year 11-13: Thinking about an AWE apprenticeship in nuclear technologies? This session on 6th October from 5-6pm is your chance to get fully prepped before applications open, with practical advice to help you feel confident when you apply. AWE's apprenticeship roles open on 12 October, so this is the perfect way to get ahead before then.



Year 10-13: Sevenoaks School have invited our students and their parents to two events soon and have asked us to share the booking links. Their US universities evening is Weds 7th Oct at 7pm. Their International University fair is Mon 16th Nov from 4:30pm.



Year 11-13: Are you a young woman or non-binary person aged 15-25? Are you interested in a free week's WEX over half term that is all about boosting your AI skills? With 3 days at their offices in London and 2 days online, STEMETTES have a fantastic opportunity from 26-30th October. [Click here to find out how you can apply!](#)



All ages: STEMMETTES have a day's activities for girls, young women and non-binary changemakers on 29th October. It's online and focuses on story-telling, from showcasing projects to clients, to communicating with investors or customers - it's such an important skill! [Click here](#).



Year 11-13: [This session from My Great First Job](#) takes place on 20th October and will show you how to really stand out on an applicant list. When you are having an interview for an apprenticeship or a place at university, you'll find that most of the applicants will have the same levels of qualifications as you... Standing out is super-important.



All years: [Createch is now live!](#) This is your guide to careers at the intersection of creativity and technology. Learn where creativity meets tech through short talks, real career stories and practical advice from people working across the creative industries. All online, all on demand. You must be registered to access the talks. Register for free.

EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT

[BAE Systems](#) is a UK engineering, technology, aerospace and defence company, working on projects including aircraft, submarines, ships, cyber security and advanced technology. Its extensive early careers programme includes work experience, apprenticeships, degree apprenticeships, undergraduate placements and graduate roles. Opportunities cover engineering, software, cyber, project management and business, giving young people routes to earn qualifications while contributing to large-scale projects.

UNIVERSITY SPOTLIGHT

[UCL](#) is a large university based in the heart of London, offering courses across subjects including sciences, engineering, humanities, languages, social sciences, architecture, education and health. Students join a diverse international community and can access research, societies, volunteering and career development opportunities. Its location can be particularly valuable for students wanting to experience city life alongside access to London's employers, cultural organisations and professional networks.

If you join any of these, please email me to have it added to your career records ahollinshead@wrotham.kent.sch.uk