



Autumn 2019
EDITION 19

CAREERS

NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the Autumn 2019 edition!

Welcome to the Autumn edition of the Gordon's Careers Newsletter. We have another packed programme of career activities for all year groups this year. A good careers programme will ensure that all students will have an awareness of their strengths and qualities and options so that they are able to make well informed decisions about their next steps. To see our careers calendar [click here](#).

We have started to work with a local Enterprise Coordinator who will help us to connect with an even wider range of local employers who are willing to offer their time to talk to our students and in some cases offer work experience. We are always looking for more local employers to give talks, attend our careers fair and help with mock or real job applications, so if you can spare an hour or two during the year please let either myself or Caroline Sims know at careers@gordons.school.

Caroline Sims is our new Careers Lead at Gordon's School. Caroline has been working at the school for the past two years in the Design and Technology department as well as supporting the the work experience programme at the school.

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Caroline in the Captain's chair at Virgin Atlantic, Heathrow work experience visit



Mark Anderson



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Introducing the New T Level Qualification

T-LEVELS

THE NEXT LEVEL QUALIFICATION

Farnborough College of Technology and Salesian School are two of the first institutions in the country to have been selected by the government to offer technical levels (T Levels) – an alternative to A Levels and apprenticeships.

The first T Levels to be taught at both institutions are Education and Childcare and Digital Production, Design and Development.

T LEVELS: WHAT ARE THEY?

T Levels are new two-year, technical programmes designed with employers to give young people the skills that industry needs.

From 2020, they will give students aged 16 to 18 a technical alternative to A Levels and will help them to get a skilled job. T Levels will provide a mixture of:

- Technical knowledge and practical skills specific to their chosen industry or occupation
- An industry placement of at least 45 days in their chosen industry or occupation
- Relevant maths, English and digital skills
- Common workplace skills

Students who achieve a T Level will get a certificate recognised nationally by employers which will set out what they have achieved as part of the programme.

T Levels will offer students a mixture of classroom or workshop-based learning and 'on-the-job' experience in the following industries:

- Digital
- Construction
- Education and Childcare
- Engineering and Manufacturing
- Health and Science
- Legal, Finance and Accounting
- Hair and Beauty
- Agriculture, Environment and Animal Care
- Business and Administration
- Catering and Hospitality
- Creative and Design



T Level in Childcare to start in 2020

BY STUDYING A T LEVEL, STUDENTS WILL BE ABLE TO:

- Learn broad core knowledge and practical skills relevant to all occupations in their chosen industry from the beginning of their course
- Develop specialist technical skills relevant to at least one occupation

HOW T LEVELS WILL WORK WITH OTHER POST-16 CHOICES

T Levels will become one of three main options when a student reaches the age of 16, alongside:

- Apprenticeships for students who wish to learn a specific occupation 'on the job'
- A Levels or BTECs for students who wish to continue academic or vocational education

STUDENTS NOT READY TO START A T LEVEL

The government recognises that not all students who wish to start a T Level will be ready to do so at age 16. They plan to offer a 'transition' to help students get to the standard required to start a T Level.



T Level in Digital Production to start in 2020

T LEVEL PROGRAMME CONTENT

T Level programmes will include three mandatory elements:

1. Core Component

The 'core' will be split into two parts. One part will develop 'underpinning' technical knowledge and skills relevant to all occupations relevant in the the T Level's industry. This will require students to:

- Understand how the industry works
- Understand how occupational specialisms fit within the industry
- Know what the working practices in the industry are like

The other part is an employer-set project which will require students to apply their core knowledge and skills to achieve an employer-set challenge or brief.

2. Occupationally Specialist Skills

These skills will be delivered in a classroom-based environment (including, for example, workshops and simulated working environments). Students will provide evidence of achievement in work-specific skills that show they can work in their chosen industry.

3. Industry Placements

T Levels must contain a meaningful industry placement with an employer. These will last a minimum of 45 working days, but can last up to 60 working days.

Different ways of carrying out T Level industry placements are being piloted to see which work best for specific industries and providers. For example, the placement could be a continuous block of working days or distributed across the study programme. The government will confirm how industry placements should be delivered when the pilots have been completed.

PROGRESSION FROM T LEVELS

When they complete a T Level, students will be able to choose between moving into:

- A skilled occupation
- Higher or degree level apprenticeships
- Higher level technical study, including higher education

ARE GORDON'S STUDENTS INTERESTED?

We currently have one Year 11 student who has applied for the Digital T level at Farnborough College of Technology starting next September.

Where are they now? James Somerville

Business as Usual for Gordon's 2019 Leavers

Business/Management was the most popular degree subject started in September by our most recent leavers, with 11 students choosing this course.

45% of all leavers to university went on to take a STEM related degree.

Most Popular Degrees

Business/Management - 11

Law - 10

Engineering - 9

Psychology - 7

Economics - 6

Our 2019 Leaver Apprentices



Tom Robinson,
Sales
Apprenticeship
at IBM



Ellen McCarthy,
Sports Journalist
Apprenticeship
at Sky



Esme Holmes,
Chartered
Accountancy
Apprenticeship
at BDO



Daniel Howard,
Quantity
Surveying
Apprenticeship
at Evaluationqs

When did you leave Gordon's?

Having joined Gordon's halfway through Year 9 in 2011, I left at the end of Sixth Form in 2015.

What are your fondest memories of school?

I feel quite lucky to look back at school and feel as if I genuinely enjoyed every minute of it. Culturally I'm not sure there's another school like it. As someone who loves his sport I'll always consider myself fortunate to have had the chance to tour Guernsey with cricket and Bath with football – although I'm quite jealous of the opportunities today's students get!

What do you do now?

Currently I'm the Sales and Commercial Lead at a small recruitment agency called R2. We hire for roles in the disruptive tech space, known as 'FinTech' for companies like Monzo or Starling Bank which you may have heard of!



James Somerville
(Former House: Buckingham)

What made you decide to do the degree you chose?

I studied Politics at the University of Nottingham from 2015-2018. I chose it as it was a subject I hadn't had the chance to study academically before and it was of interest to me. At the time it was arguably more relevant than ever, as Brexit and a General Election occurred in my three years of studying it!

How relevant was your degree to what you are doing now?

The content of the course is not relevant at all. There is a lot more to University than the subject you study and the social and people aspects are what I utilise now. My job gives me the opportunity to connect with new people daily and the confidence I have in doing that stems from my time at University.

Tell us what you are doing now and how you got to be where you are today?

After graduating in 2018, I joined a graduate scheme in Birmingham working in Operations Management. Quickly I realised this wasn't the role for me and moved to R2 in April 2019, based in London. Graduates shouldn't be afraid to make a move early if they feel their first role isn't the right fit – it's easier to make mistakes at the start of your career, no one is going to walk into the perfect role at their first attempt! Since joining R2 I have built up so much more commercial awareness, being exposed to a variety of smaller companies that aren't as well known to most.

What are your plans for the future?

After six months at R2 I feel settled and am hoping to help the company grow out over the next few years. Hopefully in a years' time I will be leading a team myself and gaining some early exposure to management. Currently I live in London with my brother and I'm going to enjoy the social side of living whilst I can! If your first role is in London I can't recommend living there enough – it's a completely different experience to University.

Finally, what advice would you give to your 16 year old self?

Enjoy the lack of responsibilities whilst you still can! I look back at school now and think that I absolutely could have worked harder (I'm sure most of my teachers would agree!). From University onwards the responsibilities you have noticeably pick up and you have to adapt and become more independent. If I was 16 I'd say enjoy the summer ahead and get ready for A-Levels, they're not easy!!

UK Shortage Occupations

When considering your future career it's not simply thinking about your interests but it's also important to take into account the occupational needs of the UK. Of course, nothing is guaranteed but there is a strong chance that if you follow a path towards one of shortage occupation areas you have a good chance of success.

We all know that there is a national shortage of professionals within many STEM related occupations but it's worth noting the range of roles in the creative arts such as dancers, musicians and artists. Such roles have traditionally been shunned by parents and even some schools. Psychology is also worth a mention. Although it is a popular degree choice (seven of our students went on to study it in September), the majority of Psychology graduates (75%) do not continue on to postgraduate level to become psychologists. However, perhaps with mental health problems being an increasingly growing issue in our society, the need for psychologists is growing.



We could do with a few more architects in the UK too

Of course we can't forget the teaching profession. In addition to the STEM subjects, especially Maths and Physics, there is a need for more Computer Science and Mandarin teachers.

Vets and architects are also among the most in demand workers in Britain. A slowdown in immigration following the Brexit vote leaves some employers desperate for skilled staff. ([Telegraph Business](#))

"A large proportion of the job shortages in Creative Industries are those which require STEM skills, for example within video gaming, VFX, and animation. Many companies within this sector are SMEs that are competing for highly skilled IT roles with other higher-paying industries, for example the financial sector." ([www.mcvuk.com](#))

AS for our own recent leavers, only a handful moved on intending to follow these shortage occupation pathways, but of course, ideas can change and emerge over the next few years.



The UK has a shortage of orchestral musicians

Shortage Occupations	Most useful post 16 subjects required	Number of Gordon's Leavers in 2019 intending to follow this path
Architectural roles (eg architect, landscape architect, architectural technician)	Maths, Physics, Art/Design	1
Chef	L2 Catering	0
Quantity surveyor	None	2
Artist	Art/Design	0
Dancer/choreographer	Dance, Performing Arts, Confident 'en pointe'	0
Musicians (orchestral)	Music (grade 8)	2
Graphic designer	Graphic Design	0
Digital and IT occupations	IT, Computer Science	5
Paramedic	Science, Health and Social Care	0
Speech and language therapists	English, Modern Foreign Language, a Science	0
3D computer animators	Maths, Art, Computer Science	5
Games designers	Maths, Art, Computer Science	5
Cyber security experts	Maths, Computer Science	5

Please [click here](#) for more information.

Apprenticeships and Work Experience Opportunities



Pinsent Masons

If you're interested in a legal career, the Pinsent Masons work experience programme offers the perfect way to find out if it's the right career choice for you.

Join us on a week's work placement and you'll get a full overview of what it's like to work in a leading commercial law firm. You'll get valuable on-the-job experience and discover for yourself what law in practice is really like. What's more, the experience will give your CV a real boost.

Whatever your background, legal knowledge or experience it's a great way to get an insight into the commercial world and develop your skill-set. So, what are you waiting for?

Placement date:
17-21 August 2020 or 26-30 October 2020

Application deadline date:
31 March 2020

To apply, [click here](#).

PREMED PROJECTS

www.premedprojects.co.uk

Grants are available for students who would like to attend award winning medicine work experience days. This means you are able to attend at zero cost!

All courses are for students interested in healthcare careers aged between 14-18 years old.

The days include an application day for medicine, a hospital explorer course, a hospital anatomy course and a dentistry work experience day. The grant can also be exchanged for a longer weekend, one or two week UK work experience courses too.

You must use the code CAREERS when making a booking.

These courses will fill up extremely quickly so you/your child needs to [book here](#) in order to enrol.



Degree Apprentice Civil Engineer (PETER BRETT ASSOCIATES LLP)

Have you ever thought about the world around you – the streets, the buildings, the stuff that's hidden under your feet – and reckoned that you could do it cleaner, greener, better? Maybe a career as a civil engineer is for you!

What you will do in your working day
As an Apprentice at PBA, you will be part of an industry leading programme designed to develop the best engineers. We will pair you with an experienced engineer who will guide and mentor you through the initial phase of your career. You'll be involved in the design and delivery of some of our projects from start to finish. We will teach you how to use programmes such as Computer Aided Design (CAD) to produce drawings for building and infrastructure projects.

The training you will be getting:

We will teach you how to use programmes such as Computer Aided Design (CAD) to produce drawings for building and infrastructure projects. You will learn technical skills such as civil engineering calculations and report writing.

At the end of your apprenticeship you'll achieve a BEng in Civil Engineering.

What to expect at the end of your apprenticeship:

Once completing your apprenticeship you will be qualified to pursue a career as a fully qualified Civil Engineer and work towards chartered status with the Institution of Civil Engineers.

Desired skills and personal qualities

IT skills, analytical skills, team working, creative, initiative

Essential Qualifications

- ✓ A Level or equivalent English (Grade B)
- ✓ A Level or equivalent in any science (Grade B)
- ✓ A Level or equivalent maths or further maths (Grade B)

Annual wage:
£16,500.00
Working week:
Mon to Fri (9am to 5pm)
Total hours per week:
37.5
Expected duration:
Five Years
Possible start date:
01 Aug 2020

For further information and to apply [click here](#).



EY Degree Apprenticeship in Digital and Technology (ERNST & YOUNG LLP)

Working in supportive teams in either Assurance, Consulting, People Advisory Services, Tax or Transactions, you'll help EY and our clients find new ways of using artificial intelligence and other innovative technologies to improve their business. You can specialise in data analytics within one of our service lines.

Determination, ambition and energy are essential in this role. Above all, you'll be passionate about technology.

Desired qualifications:

If you're passionate about technology, business and have a minimum of Level 2/ GCSE (or equivalent) in English language and maths and have completed three A Levels, five Scottish Highers or equivalent by the time the programme starts, this programme is for you. For our Data Analytics Consulting programme, you'll also need A Level or equivalents in maths.

Desired skills and personal qualities:

You don't need to have any prior technical experience or qualifications - we are looking for people who are passionate about technology and have a strong desire to learn. Our degree apprenticeship offers you the chance to combine a business and technology career in a fast-paced, rapidly expanding field.

You'll work as part of small high-performing teams, so working well with others, as well as being able to think critically, is essential.

Wage: Competitive salary
Working week:
Mon - Fri (9am to 5.30pm)
Total hours per week: 37.5
Expected duration: Four years
Possible start date: 7 Sep 2020
Apprenticeship level: Degree Level 6

For more information and to apply [click here](#).

What's On?



The interactive World Skills Fair at the NEC

21 November: Year 9 trip to World Skills Fair, NEC Birmingham

The nation's largest experiential skills and careers event, covering the area of nine football pitches. Leading employers offer have-a-go experiences and talk to young people about what's important to them – their futures. Independent careers advisors are also on-hand to give 1:1 expert advice.

Spotlight stages give visitors the opportunity to get close to business leaders and young professionals.

At the core of the event are the National Finals of the WorldSkills UK Competitions where young professionals compete against their peers for a chance to win medals in their skill and the possibility of representing the UK on the international stage.



3 - 6 December: Y11 and 6th Form trip (selected students) to the National School and College Leaver Show 4pm – 6pm

On 3 and 4 December 2019, Ascot Racecourse, will host the National

School + College Leaver Show with over 80 employers, FE Colleges, Universities and GAP providers participating. A bumper audience of 15,000 young people is expected (Year groups 11,12 and 13), teachers/staff/lecturers, parents and carers in a lively, interactive, fun and informative setting. The National School + College Leaver Show is a 'one stop shop' for anyone who wants to find out what is available to them post further education.



11-14 March 2020, NEC Birmingham

The Big Bang UK Young Scientists & Engineers Fair is the largest celebration of science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) for young people in the UK. It is an award-winning combination of exciting theatre shows, interactive workshops and exhibits and careers information from STEM professionals.

The Fair gives young people the chance to hear from inspiring engineers and scientists from some of the UK's biggest companies and find out about the opportunities available in STEM. Visitors can join us to discover virtual reality, medicine, marine biology, film and TV, space exploration, explosive chemistry, crime-solving, robots, computer coding, microscopic bugs, giant trucks and more.

If you wish to take your child over the weekend please [register here](#).

Discover Your Future

Launch of a new student information website, Discover Uni

[Discover Uni](#) is a new, UK-wide website which provides clear, impartial advice and guidance on higher education options.

It comes as new polling reveals that parents need more support to help their children make good decisions about university.

[Read our press release.](#)

In our latest blog post, Emma Maskell, OfS's Head of Student Engagement and Information, reflects on her own, less-than-exemplary information experiences as a student and teacher.

[Read the blog post.](#)

Career Industry Talks

(Period 7)

- 9 January 2020 - A Career as a Pilot
- 23 January 2020 - A Career in Film

Gordon's School Careers Fair

- 10 March 2020 - 5pm-8pm



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- Jade Bielski, ELT instructor

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- Wilderness Medical Training
- River Crossings
- Water and Cave Rescue Training
- Kayaking Training and Qualifications



Career Opportunities

You will receive job support upon completing the course, as well as a chance to join Gapforce and become the next Expedition Leader for our programmes all over the world.

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 www.gapforce.org