

Sheldon School

BE KIND | BE BRAVE | BE THE BEST YOU



Welcome To Year 10 Work Experience information evening

'Every child deserves a champion - an adult who will never give up on them.'

Rita Pierson





Work Experience Programme 2025-2026

Mrs Tillotson



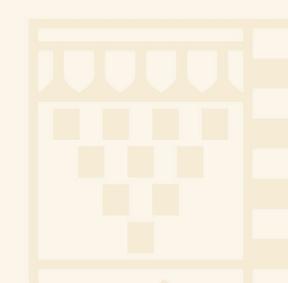


Aim



To provide pupils with an insight into the world of work, i.e. its environment, discipline and relationships.







Theodore Roosevelt



Catherine Whitehorn CBE – British journalist





and you will never have to work a day,

IN YOUR LIFE" -Confucius

Confucius

"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams."

Eleanor Roosevelt

 "In the 2020 Youth Voice Census, 86% of the young people surveyed felt that work experience helped them to make decisions about their futures, while 45% cited a lack of experience as their key barrier to gaining employment"

• Source: Education Development Trust



Youth Voice Census 2024

TO WHAT EXTENT DO YOU AGREE WITH THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT: "WORK EXPERIENCE HELPS YOU TO..."

| | Disagree to Strongly Disagree | Neutral | Agree to Strongly Agree |
|--|----------------------------------|---------|----------------------------|
| Build useful skills | 6% | 20% | 74% |
| Build networks and contacts | 9% | 28% | 63% |
| Understand what it feels like to be at work | 8% | 20% | 73% |
| Build experience that can help you get a job | 6% | 23% | 71% |
| Make decisions and choices about your future | 7% | 26% | 67% |

n=664 respondents





Youth Voice Census 2024



n=973 respondents







Objectives

- To develop the skills, attributes and qualities required for future employment
- To understand the relevance of education to earning!





What to expect

- W/c 15th June or W/c 22nd June 2026
- Assembly
- Parents Evening
- Tutor work
- Database for job ideas
- Virtual WEX opportunities





Opportunities



- Acorns pre-school nursery assistant
- Chippenham Golf Academy retail assistant
- Salvation Army
- Coppershell Animal Sanctuary
- Siemens engineering dept.





Opportunities





- Elkin Architects
- Lucknam Park Hotel
- Garden Vets
- Football in the Community –
 Swindon
- Equine centres
- JD Tyres





Work Experience

• 'I went into this week so nervous, but by Tuesday, I looked forward to work everyday. I really enjoyed handling old documents, my favourite being one signed by Elizabeth I! The best part was treated like an adult for the week.'

FW- Chippenham and Swindon History Centre





Work experience



"I really enjoyed my work experience as I learnt lots of new things about cooking and safety procedures"

Marley Whittaker - All In One Catering





Work Experience



• 'I enjoyed where I did my work experience because I got to remake a film poster of my choice. They also gave me sweets and let me play on the dart board'

N'Shaan Reid, Milk & Tweed

Work Experience

• 'I enjoyed work experience because it is a great way to enter in and explore the world of work. It's an awesome opportunity to try something new and pick up new skills on the way'.

• Ella Cruse Whatley Manor





Work experience

"I chose this placement because I have an interest in history, particularly local history.

We set up exhibitions & sorted out costumes to set the scene.

I learnt how to work in a team, I learnt about how a museum is run & I learnt how to use the computer system"

Jack Milton at Chippenham Museum & Hertige centre with Luke Anderson & Laura Hazeltine

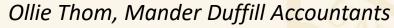




Work Experience

'I really enjoyed my work experience. Before
I had my placement, I had limited
knowledge in the business sector and was
rather indecisive on what job I wanted to
do. This experience allowed me to learn
new skills such as using exclusive software,
calculating tax and showing me all available
jobs. I would now love to be an accountant!'







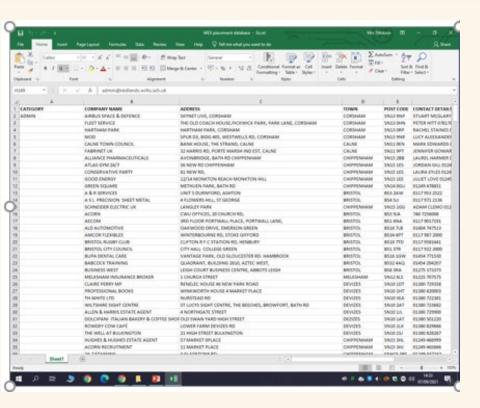
Work Experience

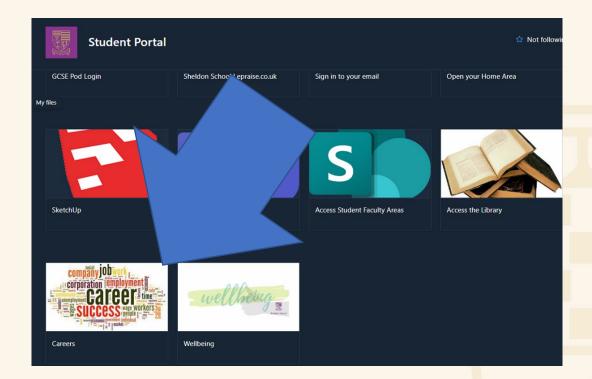
 'I really enjoyed my work experience because it was good to be outside and physically active. Building is something I enjoy. I also work for my dad's company outside school and during the holidays, so this helped my knowledge.'

Jacob Cabell, KMC Construction









We have compiled a database with of local companies that have taken students before which you will be given access to soon.

There is NO guarantee they will take students this year but is can be a good place to start.



Changing times

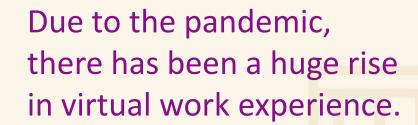
- In 2021 we had a mixture of physical and virtual placements
- Since 2022 the majority of students go out on a physical placement, but some still preferred to do a virtual placement
- Many of the virtual opportunities are in the holidays or at weekends so some students did both a virtual placement AND a physical placement.











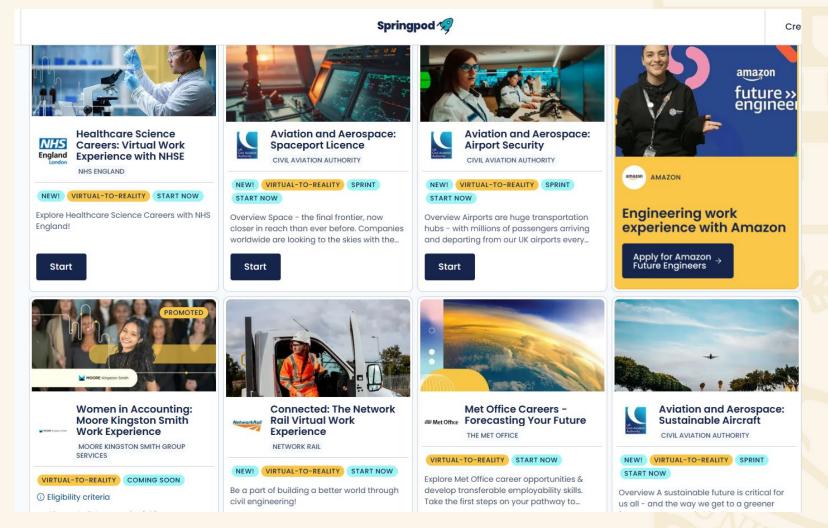
The range of opportunities available is vast and is not limited by location!

These are the main providers of virtual WEX

Students will receive updates of the key opportunities when they become available.



Examples of some virtual work experience opportunities





Online Career Days



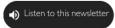
These are one days courses, usually at weekends – there is a charge £69.00



- Medicine
- Law
- Business
- Dentistry
- Midwifery
- Computer science
- Teaching
- Psychology
- Architect
- Veterinary







CAREERS NEWSLETTER

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 <u>underlined</u>.

OPPORTUNITIES



Virgin have launched their free, virtual work experience which is due to take place from 28th-31st July 2025. You will learn more about the company, hear from business leaders and get the inside scoop on life as an apprentice, intern or graduate at Virgin Media. You can apply for a place here.



Young people are set to benefit from 120,000 new training opportunities as part of a radical skills revolution, giving them the chance to develop skills where they are most needed across the workforce to rebuild Britain. More skilled brickies carpenters and healthcare support workers will soon be trained up as the government continues its drive to get Britain working Read the full press release here.



On 19th June from 3:30-4:00pm, Amazing Apprenticeships are offering a free webinar to any students that are seeking ar apprenticeship. It's never too early to start researching apprenticeships and the summer period can be a brilliant time to help to get ready. Register here to hear from experts explaining how to get ready!

JOB OF THE WEEK



Museum Curator

manage collections, plan exhibitions, and educate the public on topics relevant to the museum's exhibitions. They are often also responsible for managing volunteers

Watch the video to learn more about how much you could earn, working hours and pathways into the industry.

LABOUR MARKET

All students will be emailed a copy of an up to date careers newsletter weekly

Please encourage them to have a look through and see if there are any opportunities you are interested in (the newsletters are then put onto the school website)



Feedback

- In 2025 99% of Sheldon students, who were able to, went out on placement
- 99% of students said WEX was worth doing
- 98% of students said they enjoyed their week
- 81% of students felt that their confidence in dealing with adults had improved
- 75% of students felt that their self confidence had improved





Preparation

- A briefing session to go through requirements such as times, lunch, phones etc. (May 2026)
- Target setting for their week
- Interview practise
- Tutor work
- Health and safety briefing EVERYONE
- Diary to be completed each day really useful for future job applications, UCAS references etc.



During the week

- Week 1 15th June 2026
- Week 2 22nd June 2026



- Staff visits/phone calls
- Communication there is an emergency telephone number manned





After the week

Thank you letters

Diary – check completed

Action plan – for the future





Introduction to Unifrog: Parents Evening







What is Unifrog?

Unifrog believe that destinations - where students end up after school - is even
more important than their academic performance. They partner with schools to
support students to progress into the best opportunity for them.

• Unifrog do this by providing a one-stop-shop where students can explore their interests, then find and successfully apply for their best next-step after school.





The Unifrog tools

Access all tools on Unifrog to learn what options are available, access good quality information, and search for opportunities to support your child.





Post 18 Intentions

Locker

Applications list

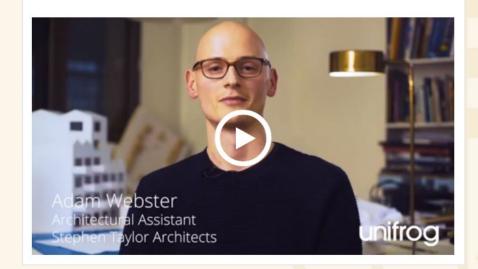
Careers Library

- Over 1000 career profiles
- Presents information from a range of sources, including local and national LMI
- Includes qualifications and skills needed, interviews with industry professionals and labour market information
- Explores progression opportunities and what a working week really looks like



Architect

Architects design new buildings and the spaces around them, and work on the restoration and conservation of existing buildings.



UK Universities

English Literature - 3FT/6PT BA (Hons)







English Literature offers the opportunity to study an exciting range of modules, blending the study of classic texts and literary traditions with current theoretical models for understanding literature as a dynamic, global phenomenon. Our course is renowned for its impirational teaching and research excellence. In the 2013 National Student Survey (Source: Unistats), 93 per cent of students agreed that staff had made the subject interesting.

Full-time undergrads at the uni: 13905 Domestic / Int1 undergrads at the uni: 84% / 16%

■ Website Open Day Course page Cinance page Disabilities





Getting in

Overall Application success rate

UK Application success rate

Entry requirements A Level

Full-time 3 Years: Grade B in A-level English Literature or English Language required.

Entry requirements UCAS points 112 points

IMPORTANT; check the course page to see if your qualifications are accepted.

Additional requirements

GCSE: GCSE English - Grade 5.2 x further GCSE - Grade 4, normally to include Maths.

Last year's successful applicants

89.8% of successful applicants did the same qualification types as you, and of these a typical result was: A Level: C

'Oxford Brookes is spread across three suburban campuses in Oxford and the small university city has a friendly feet. Oxford Brookes pionesred the modular system of study and the academic year is split into two semesters rather than three terms. The university has a strong reputation for sport, and there are also strong links with industry. Despite the fact that the city is tiny, nightlife is lively and students enjoy studying here."

Campus or City: CAMPUS



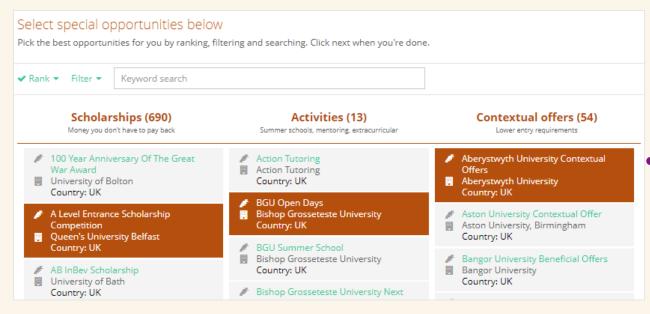
- Students can enter subject of interest and projected grades to see all relevant university courses available in the UK
- Rank and filter opportunities by factors like hours of lectures, price of accommodation and graduate job rates
- Get direct links to university information pages, with impartial information on courses and institutions
- Save unlimited shortlists to refer back to later

Apprenticeships



- Students can find live apprenticeship vacancies
- Vacancies are updated daily
- Rank and filter opportunities by factors like distance from home, weekly wage and application deadlines
- Direct link to the 'apply' page
- Each apprenticeship vacancy includes practical information about the opportunity, employer and training
- Save unlimited shortlists to refer back to later

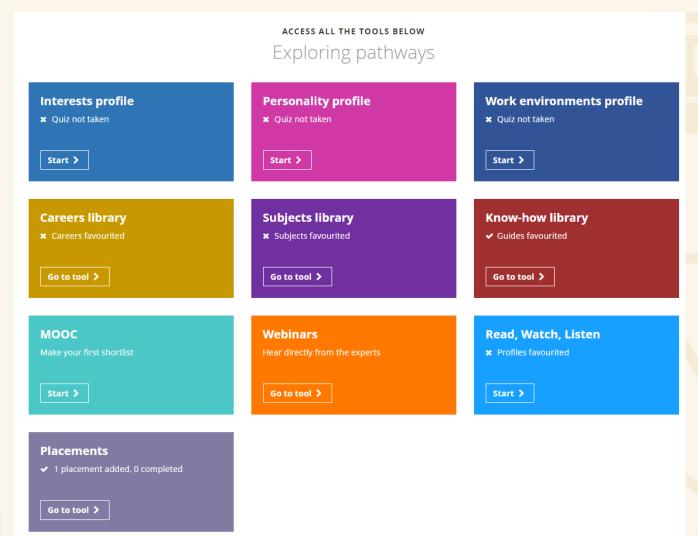
Special Opportunities



- Includes £5 million-worth of grants,
 bursaries, scholarships, contextual offers
 and extracurricular activities
- These can be filtered by circumstances or characteristics, depending on the access requirements of the opportunity
- Includes direct links for applying
- Unlimited shortlists can be created and referred back to



Work experience 'Placements' tool





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Student initial form

You're adding a Student initial form for a placement

Fill in the information below carefully. When you're done tick 'finished' at the bottom of the form.

Afterwards we'll ask the placement lead at the employer to fill in the next form.

| * In person or Virtual | select \$ | | | | |
|---|--|---------------------|---------------------|--|--|
| * Placement coordinator | pick one \$ | | | | |
| | This is the school / college staff member who will be coordinating the placement from your school's / college's side. | | | | |
| * Name of placement business / organisation | eg Lottie's little bakery | | | | |
| * Placement start date | day 💠 | month \$ | year \$ | | |
| Placement end date | leave blank if - \$ | leave blank if - \$ | leave blank if - \$ | | |
| * Describe the time commitment | eg Full time | | | | |
| * Employer placement lead: name | eg Elon Musk | | | | |
| * Employer placement lead: email | eg emusk@gmail.com | | | | |
| | Important: this must be correct, or we won't be able to progress the placement. | | | | |
| * Employer placement lead: email (again) | eg emusk@gmail.com | | | | |
| | Do you agree to: - Unifrog sending your details to the employer email address you've provided; - Abiding by any confidentiality policies held by the employer; - Observing all safety, security and other policies laid down by the employer; - Informing the employer and school as soon as possible of any absences? | | | | |

☐ Yes, I agree to **all four points** above.

Other cool stuff

 The Unifrog platform contains so much more than what we can show you today, that was just four of their many tools.

• So why not see for yourself? Sign up as a student and access the tools in exactly the same way that the students do.

 You never know, there might be a new career just around the corner!





Parents & guardians, get signed up!



Go to www.unifrog.org/student and click

'Sign in for the first time'

You'll be asked for some details and a Sign up

Code. This is what you need:

SHDNParents

After signing up, log into Unifrog using your email address and password via the student sign-in page!





How you can help?

- Support their choice of placement and making contact with the employers
- **Encourage** to try something different
- Attendance and punctuality make sure they can actually get to their placement and communicate if unable to attend
- Unifrog the electronic form will automatically be sent to you for approval
- Understand they might be more tired, irritable than usual.......



A plea.....

- It is becoming increasingly difficult to find employers who, for various reasons, are willing to take students on work placement.
- If you are able to help, please leave your details on the sheet at the back of the room.
- •Thank you!



Any questions?

Feel free to email me if you have any questions or add your email address to the sheets at the back, together with your query, and we'll get back to you as soon as possible.

ttillotson@sheldonschool.co.uk



