

Careers - Autumn Term Newsletter

What has been happening?

- Year 11: Have been meeting with colleges and completing college applications, writing personal statements and exploring Unifrog. Thanks to QMC, BCOT and Sparsholt for coming in and supporting our pupils.
- Year 10: Middlesex Aerospace visited a Year 10 assembly to talk to them about aerospace manufacturing and apprenticeship opportunities at the company. Please visit the company website for more details- they are a great local apprenticeship provider! www.middlesexaerospace.com
- Year 10 have also been visiting colleges via their open events. *See below for upcoming events.
- All students: We were delighted to welcome Basingstoke Police in November, as part of our lunchtime `Careers Chats` events. Students had the chance to try on their hats and ask about their jobs - finding out about the most interesting crimes solved, what they do in their everyday work, and asking questions about how to start a career in the police and the different roles within the service. The students were polite and engaged with our guests very well. Thank you to Basingstoke Police for making the time to come and connect with our students!



Careers Awards!

- WELL DONE! To the Year 11 winners of the Careers Week certificates & trophies. These students were nominated for going above and beyond and/ or trying things outside of their comfort zone and immersing themselves in the World of Work, during the World of Work week back in July. Winners: Jess, Maisie, Logan, Owen, Poppy, Jayden, Isabella and Ciaran.



- We have also awarded our first ever group of Careers Ambassadors! These students have gone above and beyond helping in the Careers Hub, helping with careers events, putting together a research pack of various careers, and shown 100% dedication to careers learning. Well done! The Blue Coat School Careers Ambassadors are: Kundana, Georgia, Tanmaya, Aurora, Alyssia, Kai and Joshua.



General Awards for careers dedication: Certificates have also been given to students who have shown additional interest in careers education. Well done to all those involved!

Green Careers Week

All students were set a Green Careers Week challenge on Satchel, using the Unifrog Green Careers tasks which got students to investigate sustainable careers. Well done to those students who took part. Those that did- their names were put into a prize draw; the winners are: Ethan & Erin (both Year 8).



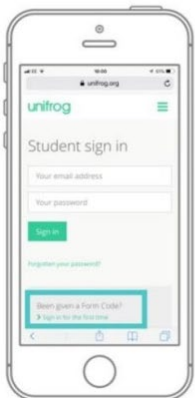
Engineer of the future!

Well done to George (Year 7) who put his engineering skills to good use and made a brilliant working model of a Medieval Trebuchet! This was part of the History Department homework challenge. George used a magnet for the Counter weight and added another underneath to increase the force. George has a bright engineering future ahead of him!



This term we have launched the use of the Unifrog platform. All students have been sent log in details to their school email accounts- they can get started at home and log in; ICT will also be supporting getting students logged in. Parents were sent a letter about Unifrog (letter available on school website-careers page) - it is highly recommended that parents log in and look at the wealth of information on the site, that can support students (and adults!) with careers- CV writing, finding out about colleges and university options, career options, quizzes, skills building etc. If you want to log in as a parent-

Parents & guardians, get signed up!



Code: BCBAparents



Scan this QR code or 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:

Sign up code for Blue Coat: [REDACTED]

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



Upcoming events:

- Assemblies with local apprenticeship providers (Years 8, 9, 10)
- Mock interviews (Year 10)
- College talks (Year 10)

Upcoming Open Events- Colleges

- Sparsholt: 1st Feb, 1st March, 30th April, 12th June - www.sparsholt.ac.uk/opensdays/
- BCOT: 3rd Feb- Apprenticeship Fair, 28th April Open event - www.bcot.ac.uk/news-and-events/events/
- QMC: 24th April - www.gmc.ac.uk/admissions/open-events/
- Peter Symonds- see their website for next events / dates

Next: Student Research Newsletter- Careers and FE learning
Work by Tanmaya, Alyssia, Georgia & Josh

NOVEMBER, 2024

THE BLUE COAT SCHOOL

IT PROJECT MANAGER



Written By : Tanmaya

WHAT IS PROJECT MANAGEMENT IN IT?

As a product of interviews, it was found that as a Project Manager in IT, you take on projects that aim to build new softwares. To ensure customer satisfaction, you often have to attend meeting with consumers.

It is coveted and you can expect a monthly salary of 2500 GBP working 40 hours weekly. Additionally, freelancers also thrive in this industry.

Flexibility and self-initiative are two of the most valued attributes in this profession.

As you need to collaborate significantly more, you might find yourself in disagreements, so it is crucial to keep a level head and maintain your composure.

Consult your Careers Lead to learn more

• SKILLS NEEDED

Technology requires a wide range of skills. Here are a few to help narrow it down:

- **Communication**
- **Organisation**
- **Coordination**
- **Budget and Resource Management**
- **Risk Management**
- **Technical Skills**
- **Teamwork**

You will also need to be flexible in your work schedules; this job could expect travel and night shifts making it difficult to find a work life balance



Network Security Analyst:

How they got into it:
Did a apprenticeship after leaving Secondary School then just kept working hrs was up in jobs

Pay range: 100 £ 160,000

What qualifications are needed for job
City and Guilds NVA Level 3

Pros

- Can work from home
- interesting and challenging

Cons

- Can be stressful

Apprenticeships

Pro: Stability (steady income, certification, guaranteed job)
Pro: Hands-on experience
Pro: Structure
Con: Commitment (1-3 years)
Con: Responsibility

With apprenticeships, you can

- Earn a wage and get ho
- Develop the skills needed for the job
- Work on the job for around 80% of your apprenticeship
- Get time for study related to your role
- Be on Career path with lots of future potential.
- Choose from a variety of job areas, including construction, catering, health, education, Science, civil engineering and digital technology
- Work towards a qualification while gaining practical experience

Quality technician

Educational Requirements:

- High School Diploma or GED: This is typically the minimum requirement.
 - Associate's degree: In fields like quality assurance, manufacturing, industrial engineering, or a related subject can be beneficial

Skills and Qualifications:

- Attention to Detail: Ability to identify deviations from standards and ensure quality
- Technical Aptitude: Knowledge of quality standards, regulations, and proficiency in using inspection equipment
- Analytical Skills: Ability to interpret data from tests and identify patterns
 - Communication Skills: Effective in both written and verbal communication to articulate findings and collaborate with teams
 - Problem-Solving: Strong skills to identify and resolve quality issues

Experience:

- On-the-Job Training: Practical experience in a similar role or industry is often required
- Professional Certifications: Certifications like those from the American Society for Quality (ASQ) can enhance job prospects

Responsibilities:

- Inspection and Testing: Inspecting raw materials and finished products to ensure they meet quality standards
- Documentation: Maintaining accurate records of inspections and testing
- Training and Collaboration: Providing training on quality measures and collaborating with various teams

Work Environments:

- Manufacturing Plants
- Pharmaceutical Companies
- Food and Beverage Industry
- Electronics Companies
- Automotive Industry.



Accounting:

What is exciting about a career in accounting?

It depends on the company, because some companies are more exciting to work for than others. For example, working for a brand like Merlin and finding out all of the upcoming projects before anyone else is quite exciting.

What are the benefits of working in accounting?

You get to speak to every aspect of the business, and you get to understand each area and what's easy and challenging for each. If there are challenges, you can help the department to fix them.

What are the global opportunities involved in accounting?

Yes. Every business of every size, in every country, in every sector, needs a finance function of some sort. That could be just one accountant or a whole team.

What is the accounting industry like?

There are a wide range of opportunities, however, I found it quite hard to get my first accounting job as I had no experience.

What can you do with an accounting degree?

Having an accountancy degree shows employers that you have lots of knowledge because you have passed many exams.

What is growth like in the accounting field?

I've worked as an accountant for 15 years and in that time, I have seen that there are many jobs for accountants. If you have lots of valid experience, the choice of jobs at different companies is a wide range.

What are the challenges of the job?

You have a lot of deadlines which can be quite stressful. Also, finance don't make money so companies often want value for money from their finance team which means that sometimes it can be an under resourced department.

Civil Engineer

Qualifications

- An above average fluency of numeracy
- Confident in communication
- Analysing, as you will need to analyse substantial amounts of data
- Project management

- Engineering or a master's degree in civil engineering

| Fields of Engineering | Working Hours |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">-Structural-Transportation-Environmental-Maritime-Geological | You can expect to work around 40-50 Hours per week. |
| <p>Salary</p> <p>Engineers get paid an average of £45,524 per annum.</p> <p>EXPECTATIONS:</p> <p>You can expect to be going around to different sites to monitor health and safety, talking with clients, creating blueprints using Computer Aided Design, investigating the effects on the environment, and judging if projects are practical by weighing costs, time, & labour</p> | <p>Statistics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- There is an overall increase in engineering professionals of 41.4%- There is around 12,000 Engineers in Hampshire- The top 3 most paid areas are 1. London, 2. East of England, 3. East Midlands |

Senior technician

Educational Requirements:

Associate or bachelor's Degree: Typically in fields like engineering, technology, computer science, or a related discipline

Certifications: Industry-specific certifications such as CompTIA A+ for IT technicians, ASE Certification for automotive technicians, or EPA Section 608 Certification for HVAC technicians can be beneficial

Skills and Qualifications:

- **Advanced Technical Skills:** Proficiency in diagnosing and troubleshooting complex technical issues

- **Leadership and Mentoring:** Ability to lead and mentor junior technicians, providing guidance and training

- **Project Management:** Experience in managing and executing complex technical projects

- **Communication Skills:** Strong verbal and written communication skills to effectively collaborate with teams and document procedures

- **Problem-Solving:** Excellent problem-solving skills to address and resolve technical challenges

Experience:

- **Extensive Experience:** Typically requires a minimum of 5 years of experience in technical support, maintenance, or a related field

- **Hands-On Experience:** Practical experience in troubleshooting, maintenance, and repair tasks

Responsibilities:

- **Technical Support:** Providing advanced technical support and troubleshooting for complex issues

- **Process Improvement:** Designing and implementing process improvements to enhance system efficiency and reliability

- **Mentorship:** Leading and mentoring junior technicians, helping them develop their skills

- **Project Coordination:** Coordinating with cross-functional teams to ensure seamless project execution

- **Quality Control:** Performing rigorous quality control checks and validation procedures

Work Environments:

- Manufacturing Plants
- IT Departments
- Automotive Industry
- HVAC Companies
- Telecommunications

entrepreneur

Educational Requirements:

- No Formal Education Required: While a degree isn't mandatory, many entrepreneurs benefit from education in business, finance, marketing, or a related field
- Continuous Learning: Staying updated with industry trends, market demands, and new technologies is crucial

Skills and Qualifications:

- Innovative Thinking: Ability to identify market gaps and create unique solutions
- Risk Management: Comfort with taking calculated risks and managing uncertainties
- Leadership and Management: Strong leadership skills to guide teams and manage business operations
 - Financial Acumen: Understanding of financial management, budgeting, and investment
- Networking: Building and maintaining professional relationships to support business growth

Experience:

- Practical Experience: Experience in the industry you wish to enter can be highly beneficial
- Mentorship: Learning from experienced entrepreneurs or business mentors can provide valuable insights

Steps to Becoming an entrepreneur:

1. Identify a Problem or Need: Find a gap in the market that you are passionate about addressing
2. Develop a Business Idea: Create a unique solution or product to address the identified need
3. Create a Business Plan: Outline your business goals, strategies, financial projections, and operational plans
4. Secure Funding: Explore funding options such as personal savings, loans, investors, or crowdfunding
5. Build a Network: Connect with other professionals, potential customers, and mentors
6. Launch Your Business: Implement your business plan and start operations
7. Market Your Business: Use marketing strategies to promote your product or service and attract customers
8. Adapt and Grow: Continuously evaluate your business performance and adapt to changes in the market

Work Environments:

- Startups
- Small Businesses
- Tech Companies
- Retail
- Service Industries