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Newsletter: Winter 2021

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Autumn Winter 2021 edition of the Careers Newsletter. During this time of advent we reflect upon what God has planned for us and the vocations we may choose in the future. In this edition you will find information on upcoming open days and taster days, as well as a job focus on Botanists. At the top right of the page is a link to give the careers team some feedback on the efficacy of the newsletter. If you could spare a few moments of your time to complete this it would be appreciated. From all of the careers team, we hope you have a restful and enjoyable Christmas.

CAREERS SUPPORT IN SCHOOL

If you need support you can get in touch:

careers@st-peters.solihull.sch.uk

Mr Grubb	Careers Leader
Mrs Chander	SLT with Responsibility for Careers
Mrs Simmons	Work Experience & UCAS Coordinator
Mrs Przyrodzki	Aspirations & Destinations Coordinator
Mrs Stajka	Independent & Impartial Careers Advisor
Mrs L Draper	SEND Careers Support

ONLINE CAREERS RESOURCES

You can follow us on Twitter [@stpeterscareer](https://twitter.com/stpeterscareer) or visit the school website's careers page. Opportunities and events are emailed directly to students, so keep checking your inbox. You can also use our fantastic Careers Platform, Start, by visiting www.startprofile.com. More info on Start inside!



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START - YEAR 7 (AND ABOVE)



ACTIVITIES AND RESOURCES

Start has a number of excellent Activities and Resources, designed specifically for each year group to guide you through the right information at the right time. They're easy to access and don't take long to complete. When you login to your Start Profile the My Activities section can be found at the top of your profile page. You can either click on the suggested activity or click on 'See all module and activities' to see what else is available.

My Activities



HOME LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Selling Yourself

In this activity you will reflect on what you're good at, your interests, your achievements and how you and others would describe you.

Open Activity

Spotlight Degree: Physics & Astronomy

Physics is the study of the universe; focusing on the nature and properties of matter and energy. Physics includes astronomy; one of the oldest sciences, however studying these two as a joint honours degree is perfect for any student wanting a deeper understanding the physical universe.



Both are experimental natural sciences, so you will employ scientific methods to formulate and test hypotheses that are based on what we can observe in the natural world. Your theoretical understanding will be refined through practical lab sessions, lectures and seminars.

Find out more [here](#)



JOB FOCUS: *BOTANIST*

Job description: Botanists are plant biologists who can work in a wide variety of settings. Some botanists work for colleges and universities as teachers or researchers. Others may find work in botanical gardens, zoos, arboretums, greenhouses, herbariums, medical laboratories, pharmaceutical companies, biotechnology firms, or government agencies.

Tasks you will undertake in the job: Your tasks will vary depending on which type of botany you choose to study and specialise in; tasks could include:

- identifying, classifying, recording and monitoring plant species and biodiversity
- ecological consultancy work, including surveys and environmental impact assessments
- managing a botanical collection
- searching for new species
- studying the effects of pollution on plant life
- identifying and purifying chemicals produced by plants for use in products like drugs, food, fabrics, solvents and building materials
- presenting research results in journals, books and at academic conferences
- training and supervising junior staff and volunteers
- teaching at a university



Qualifications you will need for this job: You'll usually need a degree in a subject like: Botany; Ecology; Environmental Science; Plant Biology; Plant Science. You'll also need a postgraduate qualification, like a master's degree or PhD, for teaching or research posts. Entry requirements needed for this level of study include: 2 or 3 A levels, or equivalent, including Biology for a degree or a degree in a relevant subject for postgraduate study. It may be helpful if you volunteer with a relevant organisation, like the Royal Horticultural Society and the Field Studies Council.

Skills you will need for this job:

Communication	Resilience	Organisation	Teamwork
Problem solving	Initiative	Creativity	Digital Literacy



JOB FOCUS: *BOTANIST*

Sectors in which Botanists would normally work: Botanists work in a range of different areas studying plant life. They can find work in botanical gardens, zoos, arboretums, greenhouses, herbariums, medical laboratories, pharmaceutical companies, biotechnology firms, or government agencies. Some botanists work inside in offices or laboratories. Others work in the field, studying plants in their natural habitats. Many botanists do both lab and field work

Type of work (full time / part time):

Salary: £22,000 average salary (starter) to £55,000 (substantial experience) - The UK average salary is £28,758



● Self Emp.: 10.7%
● Full time: 80.7%
● Part time: 8.6%



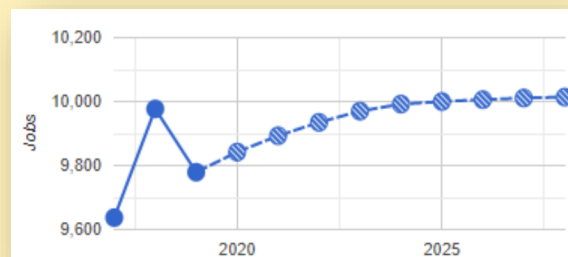
Working hours: 38 - 40 average working hours in the week (37.5 working hours in the average working week) – evenings; weekends and bank holidays (away from home)

Useful information:

<https://inhabitat.com/infographic-edible-medical-or-just-bizarre-here-are-50-amazing-facts-about-plants/50-amazing-plant-facts/>

<https://www.bioscience.com.pk/topics/botany/item/688-interesting-facts-on-botany>

This job in the future: The workforce is projected to grow by 5.9% over the period to 2027, creating another 6,300 jobs. In the same period, 40.3% of the workforce is likely to retire, creating 42,600 job opportunities.



TEACHER'S CORNER– MISS GOODMAN

Each edition of the Careers Newsletter will feature the university profile of a St. Peter's teacher. This may inspire you or encourage you to ask them about their course or university that you may also have an interest in. They are more than happy to be approached in person or via email.

Where did you study?

- Swansea University
- Birmingham University

Course studied:

- Swansea University (Geography BSC)
- Birmingham University (PGCE)

Interesting info/memories about your course or university?

Doing Geography at University was brilliant, firstly because I enjoyed the subject but also because of the opportunities that were made available. I had the opportunity to spend 10 days in Vancouver with great course mates, something that I will not forget.

Being in Swansea, I was by the sea so being just a step away from the beach was idyllic and having BBQ's on the beach with my friends was perfect.

Being an only child, I was surprised that I enjoyed being far away from home as I am close to my parents. However, it made me closer as I had so much to fill them in with when I went home and when they came to see me.

First job after University:

Waitress at a restaurant in Bromsgrove and I worked in a local café in town on Saturdays.

How did you get into that field?

I know it's ironic that I teach Maths but I really enjoyed Geography and I was interested in places and thought that by doing this subject, it wouldn't stop me from becoming a Maths teacher. I never found maths easy so I appreciate what students go through when they find something challenging.



TEACHER'S CORNER– MISS GOODMAN

Any other info regarding your Higher Education you would like to share?

Join as many clubs as you can and take any opportunities that come your way as you will only get this chance once (hopefully).

One big piece of advice from me would be to go to a different University to your closest friends. This makes you so much more confident as you have to make friends for yourself and interact with others. At the end of the day, everyone is in the same boat.



How long have you been teaching?

This is my 6th year teaching at St Peter's.

Finish the sentence: Being a Maths teacher is the best job in the world because... when you ask "when am I ever going to use this in real life?", I can say that I use it in my job."

What one topic do you really enjoy teaching and why?

I enjoy teaching data as I like collecting the information and analysing it for example graphs are really useful for showing patterns and I could see these links when I did my Geography degree.

Can you recommend a book all children should read before leaving school and the reason why?

Lord of The Flies because it teaches the importance of working as a team, something that is vital in life whether it be through sport or through learning in the classroom.

A powerful teaching tip or philosophy, which shapes your teaching practices?

I don't get it ... YET. Have resilience.

One learning tip / resource you recommend for anyone taking A Levels?

Constantly revisit topics that have been taught.

DiscoverUni

As you begin thinking about your future – whether that's studying for a traditional undergraduate degree, a degree apprenticeship, or if you're just not sure – [Discover Uni](#) has all the most up-to-date information you will need to make the right choice.

Is uni for me?



You might not yet know if university is right for you. This guide can help you to think about your options and the support available if you choose higher education.

How will I pay for it?



Many of you might be worried about the cost of a degree. Discover Uni has advice on the different loans and grants that are available around the UK

What do real students think?



It can help to hear from undergraduate students themselves. Our 'student stories' section features videos of students sharing their own individual experiences of higher education.

How do I choose a course?



You might know you want to go to university or college, but haven't yet decided what to study. This guide can help you think about what will be most important when choosing a course.

How do I find a course?



Once you have thought about what you want to do, you can search, save and compare courses with our new compare courses feature. Discover Uni uses the latest official student and graduate survey data.



Upcoming Taster Days: [Find out more](#)

Christmas Lecture - Am I An Ape?

University of Birmingham

Am I An Ape? School of Biosciences Christmas Lecture with Professor Jerry Pritchard for Year 7/8 students.

Event Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 **(There is 1 other date available)**

[View Event](#)

[Institution Profile](#)



UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM

Business and Enterprise Taster Day

Aston University

A taster day for year 12 & 13 student to learn more about Business and Enterprise courses at Aston University.

Event Date: Thursday, January 20, 2022

[View Event](#)

[Institution Profile](#)



Aston University
BIRMINGHAM UK

Law Taster Day

Aston University

A taster day for year 12 & 13 student to learn more about what it would be like to study Law at Aston University.

Event Date: Wednesday, February 9, 2022

[View Event](#)

[Institution Profile](#)



Aston University
BIRMINGHAM UK

College Have A Go Session: Sport and Fitness

University College Birmingham

Our college 'Have a Go' sessions gives your students a flavour of life at UCB and the opportunity to find out more about our vocational college courses through practical sessions with our expert team of staff. All of the sessions are FREE and include FREE parking.

We can deliver this event at our institution or at your school or college. Please contact us to arrange a date.

[View Event](#)

[Institution Profile](#)



UCB
University College Birmingham

UCAS TIMELINE UPDATE - YEAR 13

10 Jun 2021 Students to have completed **first draft** of their Personal Statement and emailed this to their form tutor.

30 Jun 2021 Students to have registered with UCAS and completed the Personal Details section.

17 Jul 2021 Internal deadline for students interested in studying medicine, veterinary medicine/science, and dentistry, and courses at Oxford or Cambridge to notify Mrs Przyrodzki of course choice and admissions tests and complete Personal Statements.

7 Sep 2021 Students to have completed final draft of Personal Statement and emailed this to their form tutor.

8 Sep 2021 First day for receipt of completed applications.

1 Oct 2021 Internal application deadline for courses in medicine, veterinary medicine/science, and dentistry, and courses at Oxford or Cambridge.

15 Oct 2021 Application deadline for courses in medicine, veterinary medicine/science, and dentistry, and courses at Oxford or Cambridge.

19 Nov 2021 Internal application deadline for all UCAS Applications.

26 Jan 2022 Equal consideration application deadline.

25 Feb 2022 Extra opens.

22 May 2022 Student Finance Application Deadline.

UCAS

At the heart of connecting
people to higher education



PERSONAL STATEMENT TOP TIPS- YEAR 13

Personal Statement Top Tips



UNIVERSITY OF
LINCOLN

The Personal Statement is an important element in your university application. Here are our top tips to help you to put yours together.

Planning is key

Make a list of what you want to include. This will prevent you from going off track.

Keep your statement subject specific

Demonstrate why you are interested in studying your chosen course.

Tell us about your work experience

Detail your work experience, what you learned, and how these skills apply to your chosen course.

Tell us about your transferable skills

Talk about your transferable skills, such as team work and communication, and how they will support you at university.

Be positive about yourself!

It's important to sell yourself and pick out your key skills and strengths.

Ask for help

Don't be afraid to ask for support and make sure you ask someone else to proof read your statement when it's finished.

Use plain English

It's important that your statement is clear so avoid using overly complicated words and phrases.

Always be honest

It is always important to tell the truth in your personal statement as you may be asked about it later.

Take your time

While it's important to start early, don't rush your personal statement. The UCAS application deadline is 26 January.





Cooper Parry: Accountancy Apprenticeships

Hi There,

I work for Cooper Parry, and we wanted to reach out to you around our Early Careers roles and specifically about our apprenticeship roles as we wanted to highlight our opportunities for your final year students who may be considering their options after leaving next year

Every year we have a large intake of both graduate and school leavers who join us from around the East and West Midlands who we support with paid apprentice across our Audit, Tax and R&D Functions. Successful Students get ongoing professional development right through to the point of becoming professionally **qualified accountants** and advanced professional certification alongside Degree level accreditation. We smashed a record intake in 2020/21 intake in September this year taking on a whopping 57 candidates through our Early Careers programme.

We are truly passionate about our people here at Cooper Parry and have had such success with our School Leavers working here, many of who now hold senior positions in the Business, So we would love it if we were able to highlight ourselves and our opportunities.

This year we were voted **the No1 Accountancy firm to work for in the UK by Best Companies** and have won awards for our apprenticeship programme at the "all about group" Early careers awards so we really think we can offer a fantastic start on the career ladder to students.

I have included a link to our early careers page on the website which may help paint a bit of a picture for the Student's and also included links to the adverts for them to apply.

The roles would all start in Spring/Summer 2022.

Cooper Parry Website: <https://cooperparry.com/>

Early Careers Infor: <https://bit.ly/301b8Wl>

Apprenticeship Adverts:

[R&D Incentives Trainee - Engineering, Science or Technology – Midlands & London - Spring/Summer '22 \(adp.com\)](#)

[Tax Trainee - Midlands \(East or West\) - Spring/Summer '22 \(adp.com\)](#)

[Audit Trainee - Midlands \(East or West\) - Spring/Summer '22 \(adp.com\)](#)

COOPER PARRY



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careers@st-peters.solihull.sch.uk





hopeful
attentive
faith-filled
generous
eloquent
intentional
learned
prophetic
wise
grateful
discerning
compassionate
active
truthful

Upcoming Open Days: [Find out more](#)

January

- 08 Anglia Ruskin
New College of the Humanities
University of Plymouth
Teesside University
The University of Law
University of Hull
- 15 Coventry University
Dudley College
Plymouth College of Art
University of Derby
- 19 University of East London
University of West London
- 22 Brunel University London
Buckinghamshire New University
University College Birmingham
University of South Wales



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TOP 100 APPRENTICESHIP EMPLOYERS

Rank	Employer	Sector	Apprenticeships	% of Employees	New Starts 2019-20
7	Optionis Group	Professional services	2 3 4 5 6 7	25.3%	139

Who are Optionis Group?

Optionis Group state that they are the market-leading professional services provider to contractors and small businesses, specialising in accountancy, tax, and umbrella employment solutions. They have six offices, and over 450 employees, across the UK, with Headquarters in Warrington, and they are still growing.

The Optionis Website states the following as their 4 values which underpin all that they do at Optionis. Each valued member of the team is expected to put these core values into practice every day through the work that they do and the impact they make.



We are one team

We lead by example

We thrive when we're at our best

We're always learning

Optionis Apprenticeships

AAT Accounting: An AAT apprenticeship with Optionis takes place over thirty-six months and covers Level 3 and 4. How quickly you progress will depend on your enthusiasm, application, dedication and achievement through the levels of your AAT qualification. You will finish your apprenticeship equipped with the knowledge and skills you need to start your career in accounting.

Business Administration: They offer Business Administration Apprenticeships ranging from Level 2 to Level 4, so that you can develop and progress. These apprenticeships are designed for those who work in an administrative role and will help you gain a range of administrative skills to help you support your business and eventually grow into managerial roles.

Customer Services: A Customer Service apprenticeship at Optionis will help you develop and grow. Through Level 2 and Level 3 of this qualification, you will gain in-depth knowledge and skills in all aspects of customer service, from understanding systems and resources and responding to clients to managing team and individual performance.

You can view their current apprenticeship opportunities and apply online: [More Information Here](#)

1 Level of apprenticeships provided in 2019-2020 2 Percentage of employees that were apprentices in March 2020 3 Number of apprentices that started an apprenticeship between 1st April 2019 and March 31st 2020
And link to the top with the numbers 1, 2 and 3.

Apprenticeships 1

% of Employees 2

New Starts 2019-20 3



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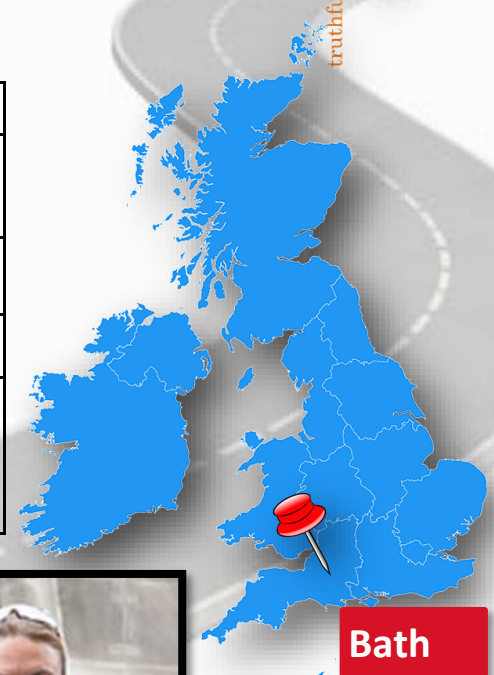
UNIVERSITY OF
BATH

National rankings (UK)

Complete University Guide (2022)	9
Guardian (2022)	6

Global rankings

Academic Ranking of World Universities ARWU (2021)	301-400
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Bath

Notable Alumni:

Science

Doug Altman, founder and Director of Centre for Statistics in Medicine and Cancer Research UK Medical Statistics Group

Arts and Media

Ash Atalla, TV producer

Business

Paul S Allen, business magnate and President of Cognis Corp

Sports personalities

*Heather Stanning, gold medallist in rowing

Pamela Coockey, a member of the England netball team that won bronze at the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games



University Faculties

- Engineering & Design
- Management
- Humanities & Social Science
- Science



History

The University of Bath can trace its roots to the Merchant Venturers' Technical College (whose alumni include the physicists Paul Dirac and Peter Higgs), an institution founded as a school in 1595 and a technical school established in Bristol in 1856 which became part of the Society of Merchant Venturers in 1885.

Meanwhile, in the neighbouring city of Bath, a pharmaceutical school, the Bath School of Pharmacy, was founded in 1907. This became part of the Technical College in 1929.

The college came under the control of the Bristol Education Authority in 1949; it was renamed then the Bristol College of Technology, and in 1960 the Bristol College of Science and Technology, when it became one of ten technical colleges



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