



Futures

Contact us:

<http://www.desborough.org.uk/school-life/careers/>

01628 634505 Ext: 540

Wise words from Desborough's Enterprise Adviser, Roshan:

It doesn't feel that long ago since I was leaving my secondary school in the East Midlands and heading to University and a career in Construction. I suppose I was lucky in that I knew quite early on what it was I enjoyed and wanted to do. But that wasn't until after tasting some other industries first and keeping my options open.

After an early ambition to be a pilot (turns out I'm scared of heights), and then a lawyer (which isn't all about big court cases) I landed upon a one-week work experience with a construction company. As I was still at school there wasn't much I could really do on site for health and safety reasons. But I loved the site experience, the sense of teamwork, and the opportunity to play with some heavy machinery! It also turned out that the subjects I enjoyed doing (design technology, maths and science) were suited perfectly for this industry so I was ready to give it a go.

When choosing my further education subjects however, I did make a conscious decision to remain flexible. STEM subjects open up such a broad range of possible careers and so I never felt like I was committing to anything too early. If construction didn't work out I could turn to manufacturing, teaching or design. But as I got into construction I realised just how many opportunities were available to me there; working in a digital environment (virtual and augmented reality), planning, commercial, design... the list is huge!

I started on site and have worked my way through to managing the design and delivery of a number of fantastic projects. I work with great teams and each day is completely different. Whilst I'm more office based now, I still get to walk the sites and speak to the people making things happen.

So, if I had any advice in choosing your career path I would say:

1. Try different things and expose yourself to different opportunities. This way you'll work out what you do and don't enjoy doing.
2. Do the subjects you enjoy as that'll lead you into a career you enjoy as well!
3. Remain flexible. You don't need to know where you're going to retire just yet. Every path will have plenty of choices!

Roshan Ratnapala

Associate Director - Project Management (Construction)
MACE

Meet the Careers Team

Mr D Clawson
Careers Leader

As Assistant Principal, Mr Clawson has strategic oversight of the careers programme at Desborough College, helping ensure it meets the current and future needs of our students.



Mrs C Sansom
Careers Mentor

Mrs Sansom is on hand to provide impartial information, advice and guidance, to help all students make choices about their future. Mrs Sansom also co-ordinates many of the events and opportunities that feature in our careers programme.



What Desborough did for me . . .

In each edition we're going to catch up with a recent Desborough leaver to find out what they're up to now, and how Desborough helped to get them there. We're so fortunate to be able to keep in touch with many of our alumni, and we always enjoy catching up, and when we can, getting them back in to speak to our current students.

If any alumni reading this would like to contribute to a future edition, get in touch!

Name: Kai McCann

Attended Desborough: 2013-2020

Currently: Studying Medicine at Keele University



At Desborough I studied Triple Science, History, German and PE at GCSE and History, Biology and Chemistry at A-level.

Desborough was a place that, looking back, was so comfortable for me. It was a place that I wish I could go back to, *often*. It is a testament to the type of development a young person needs in this world and that Desborough provides. If I was struggling in class, I always had a strong belief that teachers would listen, and they did. It was one of the main reasons I stayed on at sixth form level. I knew that the support from staff would be paramount to succeeding during my A-levels. And it was. For example, applying to Medicine requires an entrance exam, volunteering, work experience and an interview. I needed time for my entrance exam and my teachers understood, allowing me more time to study for it by extending my deadlines until the exam was over and I could use the sixth form centre to study until 7PM in the evening. It was a high-pressure situation made more comfortable by my teachers. I remember coming into school after a really tough time and becoming emotional over the situation. The way my teachers handled it was so important to me.

My teachers pushed me to carry on with my EPQ, one of the many enrichment programmes Desborough offers its Sixth Form students. This proved incredibly helpful during my interview stage of my medicine application. My EPQ was a safe experience I could go back to whenever I was stuck during my interview, it is something I believe I couldn't have got into medicine without. It was also incredible that I was able to get interview help in preparation for my interview at Keele university, something I needed to settle my nerves.

There are so many things I believe I couldn't have gotten into medicine without, and the help that Desborough provides its students with is key to making sure your application shines.

With regards to medicine, much of it was up to me to decide, many of the choices I made were autonomous, with little input from the school. At the time this was difficult but reflecting now, it was incredibly important that those paths I went down were for me to journey alone. Besides, arranging work experience at a hospital can only ever be down to the student. Setting a date for your entrance exam is only ever down to the student. I realise that the comfort I alluded to earlier was an active effort by the school to facilitate my pathway and to make those decisions all the more rewarding

If you would like more information about applying to medicine I have provided a few links or you could contact Mr Clawson for my booklet for prospective students applying to medicine.

<https://www.themedicportal.com>

<https://www.medify.co.uk>

<https://www.medschools.ac.uk/studying-medicine>

QUIZ!

Take the famous Buzz Quiz [here](#) to discover your strengths and what makes you tick!

Labour Market Information (LMI)

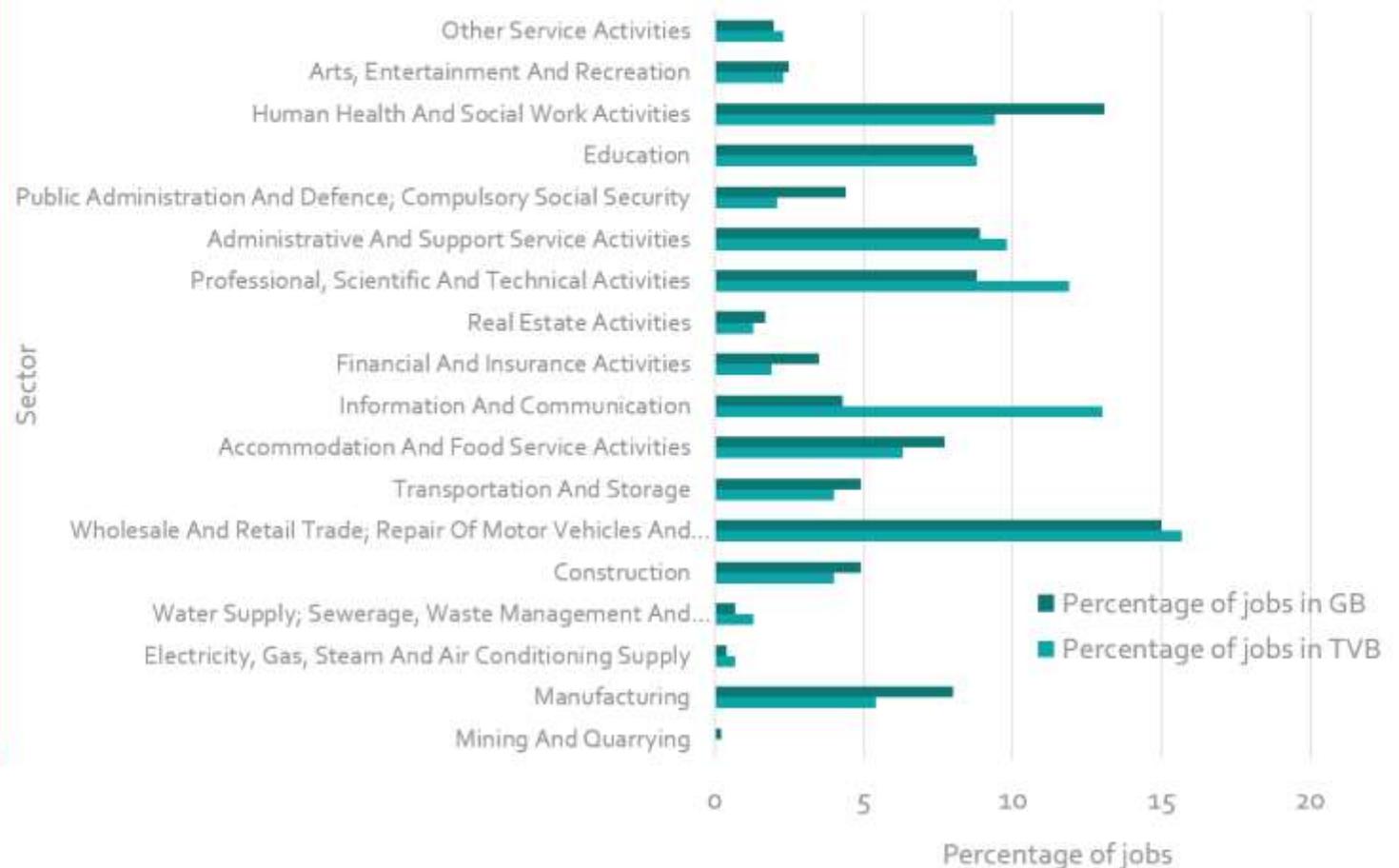
The Berkshire labour market is dominated by 'Digital Tech'

Key facts

The 'digital tech' information and communication sector dominates the economy in Berkshire.

The Digital Tech sector accounts for 13% of employees (compared to 4% nationally) and 18% of businesses in Berkshire and is responsible for almost a quarter of Berkshire's economic output.

Employee jobs by sector in TVB and GB



Skills, Sectors and Companies of the Future

Key facts

Management skills of various descriptions are highly sought after in the current labour market. This is also the case for STEAM skills.

Companies of various different types working with STEAM sectors are greatly in need of workers in the future.

Skills in short supply

Management & Leadership	Entrepreneurialism
Digital skills	Scientific skills
Engineering	Project management
Sales	Marketing
Health care	Public service management

Sectors and Companies needing workers in the future

Company Type	Sector
Mid-market firms	Digital Tech
Scale Up's	Engineering
Start Up's	Life Sciences
Public Services	Construction
Knowledge Intensive Companies	Social Care
	Hospitality
	Transport and distribution

Are there many jobs locally in...?

Key facts

The number of local job opportunities in different sectors / occupations varies considerably.

In IT, whilst there are lots of jobs, the skills required are very specific and therefore employers can struggle to fill roles.

Occupation	Number of jobs in Berkshire	Level of competition for jobs?	Examples of employers
IT / Software development	55,990	Low – lots of jobs	Vodafone, Microsoft, NHS, O2, SSE, Oracle, Westcoast, Avanti, Verizon, Open Text Corporation, HP, Thales
Warehousing / distribution	26,861	Low – lots of jobs	Tesco, Waitrose, Kuehne & Nagel, Brakes Group
Construction	18,345	Low – lots of jobs	Costain, Wood Plc, Balfour Beatty
Social care	14,280	Low – lots of jobs	Local authorities, Voyage Care, Sunrise Senior Living
Accountancy	9,754	Medium	Deloitte, EY, PWC, KPMG, Grant Thornton
Engineering	7,136	Low – lack of applicants	Wood Plc, Jacobs, Xtrac, Honeywell
Sports and leisure	5,432	Medium	Reading Football Club, Nirvana Spa and Leisure, John Nike Leisuresports Ltd
Catering (chefs)	4,519	Low – lack of applicants	Fullers, Compass Group, Hilton, Whitbread
Law	2,526	Medium	Pitmans, Blandy & Blandy, Osborne Clarke
Beauty	1,401	Medium	Sally Beauty, Aura Spa, Indigo Rye
Veterinary	544	High	Falkland Veterinary Clinic, Moor Cottage Veterinary Hospital
Psychologists	336	High	NHS, schools and colleges, police service
Computer game developer	Very few	High	Try Surrey or London



Did you catch our **'Meet the Apprentice'** series for National Apprenticeship Week? Catch up with former Desborough students, George, Phil, Abdullah, Scott and Harry [here](#)

The Parents' Guide to ...

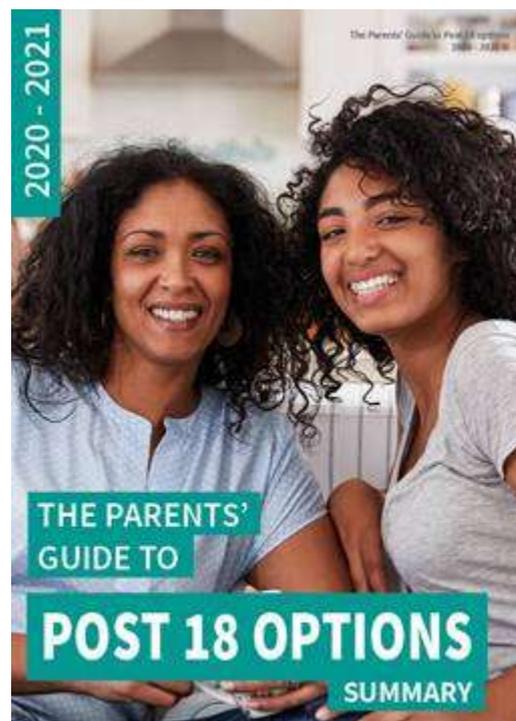
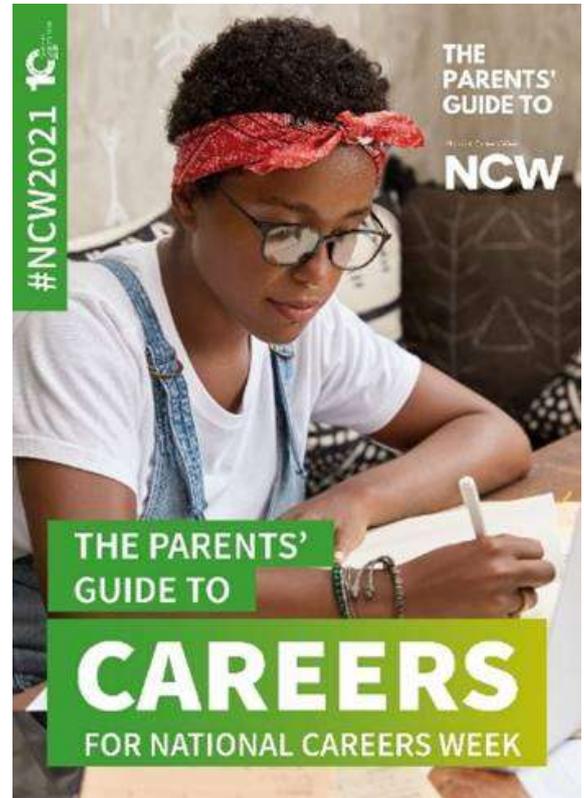
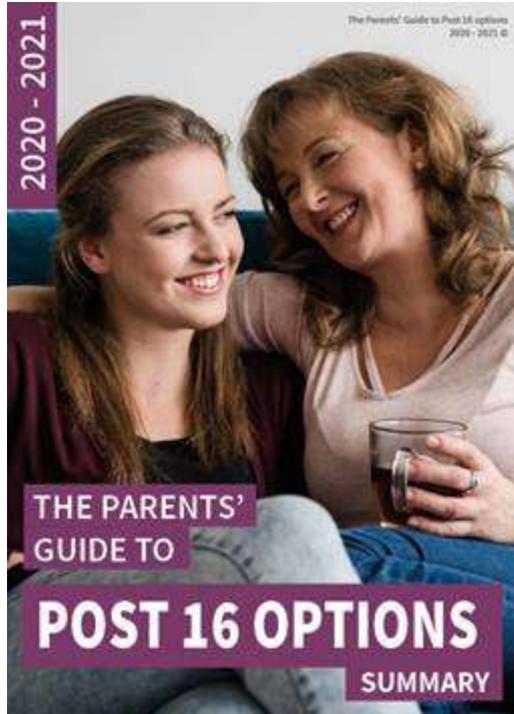
The Parents' Guide to Careers

National Careers Week is over, but there's still lots of useful advice in this free guide on vocational options when leaving school, whether that's after GCSE or sixth form.

[Click here to download your copy.](#)

Options after GCSE and sixth form

For parents that are unsure what options their children have after [GCSE](#) or [sixth form](#), these two handy guides give an overview of all the choices available. They also mention which options might suit certain learning styles better and why. Not all teens are suited to the A level then university route to careers! Of course, they cover that option, and also showcase other choices too.



Have you visited our website?

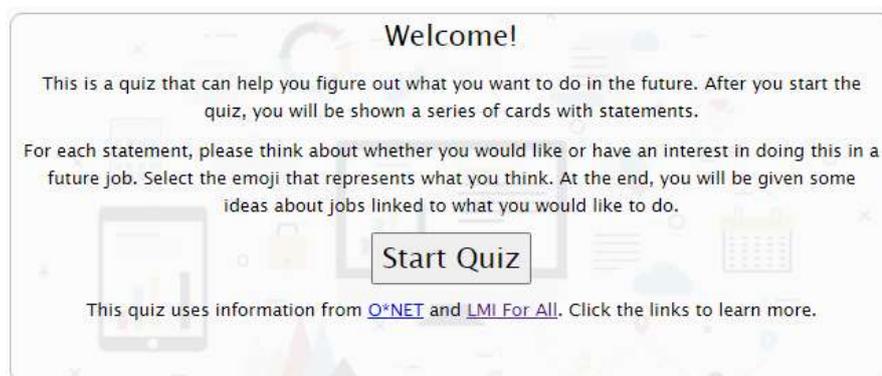
On our careers webpage you will find more information on our careers programme and how it looks at each key stage. You will also find copies of recent careers letters advertising opportunities and events.

Visit it here: <http://www.desborough.org.uk/school-life/careers/>

We've also made the following functions available for our students to explore and enjoy:

Explore jobs linked to your skills and interests using Skillsometer

Skillsometer can help you discover what jobs you might like to do in the future. You will be presented with a series of statements. Select the emoji that shows how you feel about each statement. You will be given suggestions of jobs linked to what you most enjoy doing



Explore different occupations using Careerometer

Careerometer can be used to explore and compare key information about occupations, help you learn about different occupations and identify potential careers

It provides access to a selection of UK headline data relating to pay, weekly hours of work and future employment prospects for different occupations, as well as description of the occupation.

Simply type in the title of the job you are interested in and the widget provides a series of options from which you can select the most relevant to you. You can then look up another two occupations and compare. You can also select 'display the UK average' and compare the information with the occupation you have selected.



Don't forget: students can make an appointment to see our Careers Mentor by emailing: christinasansom@desborough-college.net

Make the most of the Easter break

GREEN SKILLS WEEK

5th-9th April 2021

Speakers for Schools will be running a Green Skills Week in the Easter holidays.

Green skills are defined as 'the knowledge, abilities, values and attitudes needed to live in, develop and support a sustainable and resource-efficient society. They are the skills needed to adapt products, services and processes to climate change and the related environmental requirements and regulations.

Green skills will be **needed by all sectors** and at all levels in the workforce (e.g. scientists and engineers supporting nuclear and renewable energy, environmental impact consultants, technicians able to install energy efficient measures for homes and businesses).

Green Skills Week will introduce students to **sector leaders and potential employers** within Green technology and finance and will offer **insight days, practical experience** and access unique training and recruitment opportunities.

To take part students need to sign up to Speakers for Schools [here](#)

MORE EASTER HOLIDAY EVENTS

BT Virtual Work Experience Day
6 April 10:00 – 15:00

NHS Virtual Taster Day, Mental Health Focus
15 April 10:00 -15:00

Introducing the NEW GSK STEM Education

Student Zone: This brand-new section of the [website](#) has free, interactive activities and information for students aged 11-14. The activities can be student-led, or assigned as part of a home learning curriculum. They are aimed at giving STEM subjects a real-world context.



Interested in a career in the Army? Take a tour of the roles available across the Army's seven careers streams [here](#)

Dates for your diary – virtual work experience

[National Grid - Thinking about a career in energy ?](#)

- Dates: 27 - 29 April 2021 (4pm – 5pm)
- Eligibility: 16 – 19 year interested in employability opportunities at the National Grid.
- Application Deadline: 8 April 2021

[Green Skills in Consulting & Construction with Jacobs](#)

- Dates: 28 April 2021
- Eligibility: 15 – 19-year-old with an aptitude for STEM subjects.
- Application Deadline: 8 April 2021

[Y11 VWEX within Cisco`s Tech/Business Departments](#)

- Dates: 5 - 9 July 2021 (9:30am – 4:30pm)
- Eligibility: Year 11 students curious about a career in technology.
- Application Deadline: 9 May 2021

[Royal Air Force Careers Insight - Access All Areas](#)

- Dates: 19 May 2021 (10am – 3pm)
- Eligibility: 15 – 19 year olds interested in finding out more about opportunities in the Royal Air Force.
- Application Deadline: 19 April 2021

[Royal Air Force Careers Insight - Access All Areas](#)

- Dates: 20 May 2021 (10am – 3pm)
- Eligibility: 15 – 19 year olds interested in finding out more about opportunities in the Royal Air Force.
- Application Deadline: 20 April 2021

[NextGen Nurse - Meet the people behind the masks](#)

- Date: 14 May 2021 (10am – 2pm)
- Eligibility: 14 – 19 year interested in helping to save and improve people`s lives.
- Application Deadline: 22 April 2021

[Virtual Work Experience with the national tourism board – VisitBritain/VisitEngland](#)

- Date: 2 – 4 June 2021 (10am – 3pm).
- Eligibility: 16 – 19 year interested in learning what opportunities working in tourism could provide.
- Application Deadline: 2 May 2021

[WGSN: The world's #1 fashion trend forecaster](#)

- Date: 24 May 2021 (4pm – 6pm).
- Eligibility: 16 – 19 year olds interested in helping brands to stay relevant and secure their place in the future.
- Application Deadline: 26 April 2021

[Green Skills National Competition with Anglian Water](#)

- Dates: 26 May 2021 (09am till 15:00)
- Eligibility: 14 – 19 year olds keen to fight climate change.
- Application Deadline: 12 May 2021

[M&S Insight Session - Understanding Social Action](#)

- Dates: 2 June 2021 (10am – 11:30am)
- Eligibility: 16 – 19 year interested in learning about social action and routes into M & S.
- Application Deadline: 12 May 2021

[Hive Projects: Introduction to the Built Environment](#)

- Date: 3 June 2021
- Eligibility: Year 10 and 11 students keen to learn about design and engineering.
- Application Deadline: 30 April 2021

[Marketing and Business Development VWEX with RIFU](#)

- Dates: 26 May 2021 (10am – 3pm)
- Eligibility: Year 10 and 11 students keen to learn more about a career within Product Design, Project Management, and Sustainability Research.
- Application Deadline: 5 May 2021

[Victrex – How Can Plastics Improve the Environment?](#)

- Dates: 2 June 2021
- Eligibility: 16 – 19 year olds interested in a career in information technology.
- Application Deadline: 30 April 2021

[Careers in Construction - Dragados](#)

- Dates: 1 June 2021 (10am -12pm)
- Eligibility: 15 – 19 year old interested in apprenticeships and careers in construction, transport and infrastructure.
- Application Deadline: 1 May 2021

For a full list of placements - [sign in here to search and apply.](#)



Online learning - FREE!

Don't study because you need to. Study because knowledge is power. Study because they can never take it away from you. Study because you want to know more. Study because it enhances you. Study because it grows you.

Online course	Description	Get started
Future Learn	Choose from hundreds of online courses from top universities and specialist organisations.	https://www.futurelearn.com/courses
Gresham College Lectures	Many of our lectures are useful for A-Levels, and also for career and study decisions, for personal statements, for 'stretch and challenge' and to those planning to do Extended Project Qualifications (EPQs).	https://www.gresham.ac.uk/schools
MOOC.ORG	Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) are free online courses available for anyone to enrol. MOOCs provide an affordable and flexible way to learn new skills, advance your career and deliver quality educational experiences at scale.	https://www.mooc.org/
Open University Short Courses	Explore a subject without the time commitment with a short course from The Open University. Choose from courses in Business, Health, Languages, Science, or Technology. Choose from a range of subjects that can help you build a new skillset, delve into a new hobby, or offer continued professional development in your career.	http://www.open.ac.uk/courses/short-courses
The Skills Toolkit – National Careers Service	Free courses to help you learn new skills or change jobs. Including general skills that apply to all sectors and more specialised skills.	https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/find-a-course/the-skills-toolkit
University of York - MOOCs	Designed by York academics, our massive open online courses (MOOCs) are free and open to everyone. Engage with university-level study, explore a new subject area or to prepare for higher education more generally.	https://www.york.ac.uk/study/moocs/
YourGamePlan	The courses available fall into the following categories: Career Planning, Application and Interview, Skills for the Workplace, Behaviours for the Workplace, Improving your Mental Health and Lifestyle and Introduction to Industries. YourGamePlan have also partnered with ACCA to provide an 'Introduction to Accounting' course	http://www.yourgameplan.co.uk/

Online learning cont. . . .

Gresham College's free public lectures (running since 1597) will be continuing online in January 2021 until Easter. Our lectures are delivered by world-class experts in fields ranging across the arts and sciences, and they include lecturers like Professors Chris Whitty who is speaking about [Vaccination](#) on 10 Feb, Edith Hall (Classics), Leslie Thomas QC (Law) and Joanna Bourke (Cultural History).

You can sign up for monthly email updates here: [gres.hm/schools](https://www.greshamcollege.ac.uk/schools).

2020-21 LECTURES:

ASTRONOMY

A series called [Cosmic Vision](#) by Astronomy Professor Katherine Blundell, and another by Visiting Professor Roberto Trotta, [The Unexpected Universe](#).

BUSINESS / ECONOMICS

A series on [The Psychology of Finance](#) by Business Professor Alex Edmans; a series on [Intergenerational Justice](#) by Visiting Professor Martin Daunton.

CLASSICS

[Great Thinkers](#) series includes Plato and Aristotle, by Visiting Professor Edith Hall.

ENGLISH

[The Powers of the Novel](#) by Visiting Professor John Mullan, a series on 'classic' film, [Exploding the Film Canon](#) by Visiting Professor Ian Christie.

GEOGRAPHY

Two short series about the environment, [Our Connected World](#), and [How to Build a Just and Prosperous Planet](#) by Professor Jacqueline McGlade.

HISTORY

A fascinating series on [Evil Women](#) in history by Professor Joanna Bourke; a series on [England's Reformations](#) by Professor Alec Ryrie; a [Black History Month](#) series; a series about [Darwin](#) and his impact by Visiting Professor Jim Endersby (may also be useful for Science); a series on [Great Tudor and Stuart Houses](#) by the Provost Simon Thurley (architecture history) and lots of one-off lectures.

IT

[Great Ideas From Computer Science](#) by Professor Richard Harvey, which includes algorithms, data, programs and networks; a lecture on [AI and Humour](#) by Visiting Professor Yorick Wilks.

LAW / POLITICS / CITIZENSHIP

[Death, the State and Human Rights](#) by Professor Leslie Thomas QC will discuss police restraint and inquests into deaths in custody (Black Lives Matter); [The Politics of the Courtroom](#) by Visiting Professor Thomas Grant will weigh the balance between politicians and the courts.

MATHEMATICS

Gresham Professor Sarah Hart will look at [Mathematics in Music and Writing](#), Professor Kevin Buzzard will ask [Will Computers Outsmart Mathematicians](#), Dr Kit Yates discusses [The Maths of Life and Death](#).

MEDICINE

[Major Debates in Public Health](#) by the Chief Medical Officer for England Professor Chris Whitty will include a lecture on [Vaccination](#); and [Performing Medicine](#) by Visiting Professor of Medical Education Roger Kneebone includes a [lecture on knife crime](#).

MUSIC

Russian Piano Masterpieces by Music Professor Marina Frolova-Walker with pianist Peter Donohoe; 100 years of BBC Radio by Visiting Professor Jeremy Summerly; Dr Xenia Pestova-Bennett will look at Toy and Cyborg Pianos.

ARCHIVE LECTURES

Recent highlights in the archive include a career-relevant series on Business Skills by Alex Edmans, which includes lectures on your CV, time management etc; and two series by Sir Jonathan Bate on Classic Shakespeare and Wordsworth and the Romantics; we also have a strong series on the applications of Mathematics for example, in the film industry, the maths of climate change, etc by Professor Chris Budd.

[CLICK HERE](#)

brownejacobson^{LLP}

Virtual Law Work Experience 6th & 7th April 2021

An insight to a top 50 law firm, 5 UK offices,
1,000+ employees, £50m turnover

Interactive workshops with real solicitors working
across different areas of law

Breakout rooms and sessions covering off
specific areas of law and their different
departments (Legal, HR, Tech & more!)

Learn how a law firm operates, what a week in
the life of a solicitor looks like, what career paths
exist in law firms for those wanting to work in law
but not as a solicitor

Open to all 16 - 18-year olds across the UK

DM us for your application link!