

SMITH'S WOOD ACADEMY



CAREERS

NEWSLETTER ISSUE 2.

JAN 2024

MONTHLY ROUND-UP OF POST 16, CAREERS, APPRENTICESHIPS AND WORK EXPERIENCE

All the latest apprenticeship vacancies and upcoming webinars!

Year 10 Work Experience

This year, year 10 **will not** be offered a mandatory week of work experience. If parents or carers want their child to do work experience, we encourage this during the school holidays.

However, there are a number of excellent work experience programmes that students can take advantage of. If and when this information is received by me I will list them in the monthly career's newsletter



Birmingham
Museums

Birmingham museums: <https://www.birminghammuseums.org.uk/about/careers/work-experience-and-academic-placements>



BAM Construction: <https://www.bam.co.uk/careers/work-experience-for-schools/school-work-experience-form>

Birmingham
City Council

Birmingham City Council:

https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20102/job_vacancies/466/work_experience

Believe in
children
Barnardo's

Barnados is holding an Open Day to share more about their study programme for young people 16-19 (24 with EHCP) who are not in education, employment or training (NEET). [Find out more here](#)

Solihull Apprenticeship Show 2023-2024

Wednesday 7th February 2024

4pm-8pm



With over 2,000 visitors in the last show at Cranmore Park, Solihull Apprenticeship Show is a popular event among students who are looking for entry-level jobs or apprenticeships as an alternative route for further education or work. The show is a great opportunity to:

- Learn all about apprenticeships and entry-level jobs opportunities
- Discover a variety of sectors and meet employers and training providers to discuss opportunities up to degree level
- Speak with apprentices to hear about their experiences
- Find out about the application process, where to find advertised apprenticeships and when employers open their recruitment windows

This academic year we are delivering two Apprenticeship Show's. Our first show was on 24 October 2023. The second show will be held during National Apprenticeship Week on 7 February 2024 at North Solihull Sports Centre. [Sign up with this link now](#)

Exhibitors

If you are a local employer and/or training provider and you are interested in exhibiting at this event please email lifeready@solihull.gov.uk and we will email you a booking form.

Please take a look at the Exhibitor [Directory](#) from the last show.

Getting to the event

The event is being held at North Solihull Sports Centre, Conway Road, Fordbridge B37 5LA

Free parking is available onsite.

In partnership with **Bank of America, Inspiring the Future** is running two **FREE virtual careers chats** to provide invaluable insights for students navigating the dynamic landscape of investment banking. [Find out more](#)



UNIFEST 2024

YEAR 10 ONLY



<https://aimhigherwm.ac.uk/unifest/>

<https://aimhigherwm.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Aimhigher-UniFest-2024-Brochure.pdf>

WHAT IS UNIFEST?

UniFest Summer School gives you the chance to explore university life, meet current students and staff and make new friends. With six summer school events to choose from at different universities across the West Midlands, you will have an action-packed, fun experience.

WHO IS UNIFEST FOR?

UniFest is for students in Year 10 at state-funded secondary schools in the West Midlands who are from backgrounds and communities that are less likely to consider university as an option. To apply for a place, you will need the support of your school and the consent of your parents or carers, and you should be able to answer “Yes” to at least one of the following:

- I live in an area where not many young people go to university
- I am a young carer
- I have a disability or learning difficulty
- I am in the care of my local authority
- I receive Free School Meals /FSM6/ Pupil Premium
- My parents or carers did not go to university

Unifest is an amazing opportunity for year 10 students to learn more about Higher education. It is completely free. **Applications form are available via the website here:** <https://bham.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/unifest-2024-application-form> and I would encourage parents to let Mrs Long know if you apply for your child. I will also be conducting an assembly in school to explain more to the students. **Deadline for applications is Friday 22nd March 2024.**

T Levels – Replacing BTEC's at Post 16



All children that attend Smith's Wood Academy students get asked one question all the time - what do you want to do when you leave school?

The government is asking all schools to push T Levels with years 9-11 as eventually, BTEC's are being replaced by these new T levels programs at 16-years-old. Imagine the curriculum of an A level merged with the vocational hands-on approach of a BTEC and you get a T Level. They are offered at Level 2 and Level 3.

Students will be learning about T Levels as part of their career's education, but I wanted parents and carers to get a head-start.

<https://tlevelinfo.org.uk/>

See the courses offered here: <https://www.tlevels.gov.uk/students/subjects>



I just wanted to make you aware of an upcoming opportunity to celebrate **National Apprenticeship Week** with National Highways.

They are hosting three spectacular webinars which will be discussing:

- Who are National Highways?
- Our apprenticeships and what it means to do an apprenticeship with us - what are we offering and what are the misconceptions.
- Our employee networks and how our apprentices can get involved.

Hear from some of their current apprentices about their experience and how an apprenticeship has equipped them with skills for life! they will finish off with a Q&A from the Recruitment and Talent specialists!

Find the link to register

Tuesday 6th February: [Here](#)

Wednesday 7th February: [Here](#)

Friday 9th February: [Here](#)

Our careers page is [here](#) where all our vacancies will also be going live on Monday 5th February.

Any issues please see contact details below

Molly Summerfield

HR Apprentice – Talent Team

Human Resources

National Highways | The Cube | 199 Wharfside Street | Birmingham | B1 1RN

Web: www.nationalhighways.co.uk

**If any parents/carers would like to speak to me about their child and any careers aspirations,
please do not hesitate to email me at d.long@smithswood.fmat.co.uk**

Regards, Mrs Long – Careers Advisor