

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

The Careers Guidance Team at Education Partnership North East would like to introduce you to our first Careers Newsletter. The aim of this newsletter is to keep you updated on information, events and key dates in relation to careers and your progression. We hope this will give you some helpful advice, information and inspiration about your future and point you in the right direction if you need any further support.

## About the Education Partnership North East Careers Guidance Team

We offer an impartial and confidential service which is accessible and open to all current and potential students. Access to the service does not depend upon existing or future attendance at the College. We can help you make informed decisions about your future choices and career development or change, to achieve your goals.

- Course choice (16-19, Adult and Higher Education) and career change
- Employment and progression opportunities and job seeking skills
- CV Writing, Interview Techniques and Application advice
- Apprenticeships and Training opportunities
- Labour Market Information (LMI)
- Professional qualifications and postgraduate study
- Referral to other services, if appropriate, with your consent

### Meet the Team

**Ruth Magnus** – Director of Student Services and Careers Lead for Education Partnership North East

**Deborah McHale** – Careers Guidance Officer for Sunderland College and Hartlepool Sixth Form

**Mark Ratcliff** – Careers Guidance Officer for Sunderland College and Hartlepool Sixth Form

**Michael Wildish** – Careers Guidance Officer for Sunderland College and Hartlepool Sixth Form

**Laura Graham** – Careers Guidance Officer for Northumberland College

### Appointments

If you wish to make an appointment with one of our professionally qualified and experienced Careers Guidance Officers, you can do so by:

- Contacting us on 0300 770 8000
- Calling into a main reception at any campus
- Book through your tutor
- Email: [guidance@educationpartnershipne.ac.uk](mailto:guidance@educationpartnershipne.ac.uk)



## Gatsby Benchmarks

The Gatsby Benchmarks are a framework which the College actively works to, for good career guidance developed to provide students with the best possible careers education information, advice and guidance.

1. A stable careers programme
2. Learning from career and labour market information
3. Addressing the needs of each student
4. Linking curriculum learning to careers
5. Encounters with employers and employees
6. Experiences of workplaces
7. Encounters with further and higher education
8. Personal guidance

## Options after College

- Continue with Further Education
- Progress into Higher Education
- Combine work and study with a Traineeship, Apprenticeship or Internship
- Employment
- GAP Year/Volunteering/Work Experience



## Useful Websites

### National Careers Service

[nationalcareers.service.gov.uk](http://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk)  
0800 100 900 or webchat

Provides you with information, advice and guidance on learning, training and work. Undertake a skills health check to find out about job categories and which job roles may suit you. Explore careers to find out what a job involves (entry requirements, skills, knowledge, salary, career progression etc) and if it's right for you.

### Prospects

[www.prospects.ac.uk](http://www.prospects.ac.uk)

A graduate website specialising in graduate jobs, postgraduate study, advice about work experience, internship opportunities and careers. Undertake a Career Planner or Job Match quiz to explore career options related to your skills, motivations and desires. Explore What can I do with my degree? to find out where your degree could take you.

### Not going to Uni

[www.notgoingtouni.co.uk](http://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk)

A site dedicated to helping students make informed decisions about their future by showing them opportunities that exist outside of the traditional university route.

### UCAS

[www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com)

UCAS stands for Universities and Colleges Admissions Service. It's the centralised service that students use to apply to university. Pretty much everyone who wants to study an undergraduate degree in the UK will have to apply through UCAS.

### Apprenticeships

[www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship](http://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship)

Main Government website for Apprenticeships, includes login for applying and search facility for current listings for all levels including Higher and Degree.

### Volunteering

<https://do-it.org/>

is a database of UK volunteering opportunities with a facility to search for an opportunity near you.

[www.sunderland.gov.uk/volunteering](http://www.sunderland.gov.uk/volunteering)

Government website to search for volunteering opportunities.

### Student Intranet

For current students there are also lots of resources on the Careers Section on our Moodle and Canvas websites.



## All About Apprenticeships

With an apprenticeship, you're employed to do a real job while studying for a formal qualification, usually for one day a week either at a college or training centre. By the end of your apprenticeship, you'll hopefully have gained the skills and knowledge needed to either succeed in your chosen career or progress onto the next apprenticeship level.

What you'll learn depends on the role that you're training for. However, apprentices in every role follow an approved study programme, which means you'll gain a nationally-recognised qualification at the end of your apprenticeship.

### Apprenticeship Levels

Just like a college course, apprenticeships come in various different levels, see below for further information:

#### Intermediate

- Level 2 (Equivalent to 5 GCSEs grades 4-9)
- Lasts for 12-18 months

#### Advanced

- Level 3 (Equivalent to 2 A-levels)
- Lasts for 18-48 months

#### Higher & Degree

- Levels 4,5,6,7 (Equivalent to a Foundation Degree or above)
- Lasts for 24 months+



### Useful Websites for Apprenticeships

**Main Government website**  
[www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship](http://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship)

Includes login for applying and to receive text alerts as well as being able to search for current listings for all levels including Higher and Degree.

**Find an Apprenticeship**  
[www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship](http://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship)

Browse by category or search by keyword (can include job title or employer)

**Higher and Degree Apprenticeship Information**  
[www.gov.uk/government/publications/higher-and-degree-apprenticeships](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/higher-and-degree-apprenticeships)

The place to find out all you may need to know about higher level and degree apprenticeships including; A complete guide to Higher and Degree Apprenticeships and vacancy listing.

**What's new for Apprenticeships? - 7 Top tips**  
<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/whats-new-7-top-tips>

**Amazing Apprenticeships**  
<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/>

A leading organisation to help educators, employers, parents and students navigate the world of apprenticeships and traineeships. Links to the latest resources and the latest news. Download a Parents' and Carers' Pack - <https://amazingapprenticeships.com/parents>

**Institute for Apprenticeships**  
[www.instituteforapprenticeships.org/apprenticeship-standards](http://www.instituteforapprenticeships.org/apprenticeship-standards)

Search Apprenticeship standards for the latest information on apprenticeships which have been approved and those which are currently being developed.

**The Apprenticeship Guide**  
[www.apprenticeshipguide.co.uk](http://www.apprenticeshipguide.co.uk)

Find out about industry sectors, latest news, advice, resources and the latest vacancies

**Not Going to Uni (NGTU)**  
[www.notgoingtouni.co.uk](http://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk)

Find out about the latest vacancies, industry sectors and search for jobs and opportunities

## All about University

Going to university and gaining a Higher Education qualification is a great way to expand your knowledge, enjoy new experiences, gain independence and meet new people. It can increase your earning potential and develop essential skills needed for entry into your chosen career.

The official UCAS deadline for 2021 entry was the 29th January 2021, but you can still make a late application – it is best to check directly with the Universities of your choice for advice.

### 2021 entry - Top Tips!

What do you need to do to make an application?

- Familiarise yourself with [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com). Everything you need to know is on here!
- Decide on the degree you want to do and at which Universities - you get 5 choices.
- Check entry requirements carefully. Every university is different in what they ask for. The UCAS Tariff calculator can help you plan.
- Complete a personal statement which is tailored to your chosen course. It's a good idea to get feedback on your personal statement - your first version is unlikely to be what you submit.
- Go to UCAS and follow the instructions to register and apply for 2021 entry. (Remember to check what your college's buzzword is - you'll need this to register!)

### Already sent your UCAS application for 2021 entry

You will need to make an application for student finance via Student Finance England.

Once you have received all your offers – you will then need to make your Firm and Insurance choices.

If moving away from home, organise your student accommodation with your firm choice.

You still have options! There are services such as Extra, Clearing and Adjustment which allow you to add new choices. If you have not used your full 5 choices, you can pay the extra fee and apply for more through UCAS track.

### Important Dates & Information For Your UCAS Application 2021

Visit: <https://www.ucas.com/advisers/managing-applications/application-deadlines>



## Key Dates and Events



National Volunteers Week – 1-7 June 2021

Meet and Exceed week - 26 April 2021

Progression Week - 14 June 2021

You will find dates for college open events on our websites:

[sunderlandcollege.ac.uk](http://sunderlandcollege.ac.uk)

[northumberland.ac.uk](http://northumberland.ac.uk)

[hartlepoolsixth.ac.uk](http://hartlepoolsixth.ac.uk)