



# CAREERS @ NEWSTEAD



## Work Experience

Careers Week at Newstead 10th-14th July

### **Message from Mrs Brown**

*This month is all about work experience. A vital component of our ACE careers programme is **Experience**. We want to encourage students to take part in immersive work based learning opportunities to inform your career choices.*

#### **How do you know a career is suited to you and your strengths unless you test it out**

*So in the Summer term we will be doing just that! Year 12 will be taking part in our face to face work experience programme be that work shadowing, work placements or volunteering and Year 10 will be taking part in virtual work experience.*

*Work experience is not just about testing out a career but also developing soft skills such as team work, problem solving and communication, it's a way to broaden your network and identify the parts of a role where you feel most energised. So do take the time to research into work experience opportunities to ensure you capitalize on this amazing opportunity.*



### **Why is work experience so important?**

Work experience is a fantastic way to learn more about the world of work, and to gain valuable skills & experience that will look great on your CV/personal statement.

- It gives you the chance to try out your career ideas.
- You can find out what's involved in a job
- It helps you learn and develop new skills.
- Your confidence will be boosted
- It will help you with your team work and communication skills
- Your maturity and independence will be improved
- You can network which is a necessity in today's world of work





## Trying to find work experience

### When should I start looking?

Don't leave it until the last minute before thinking about your work experience placement. Places are sought after and are snapped up quickly. So use the Easter holidays to make a start

### I'm not sure what career I would like, so how am I meant to find a work experience placement?

Think about what you like to do and where your strengths lie. What are your favourite subjects at school? Could you turn your hobby into a career? What jobs have you heard about or seen other people doing?

### How can I look online for work placements?

Simply search the name of the business, followed by the words "virtual/work experience". This should direct you to a page on their website. Not all businesses advertise work experience opportunities, so contact them directly, attaching a CV & letter.

### Networking and communicating

- Talk to friends, family, neighbours to see if anyone you know has an idea for you.
- Try to think outside the box
- If you would like experience in a healthcare setting but can't get work in a hospital, chat to the local pharmacist or pop into your local care home.
- Also remember that you don't need to go to London for WEX, there are plenty of local businesses. Make contact with them by popping into their office armed with your updated CV.
- Finally, make sure that you have a professional sounding email address.

### GUIDELINES FOR YEAR 10 STUDENTS

- Your Virtual WEX runs on Tuesday 11th & Wednesday 12th July or Tuesday 11th - Friday 14th July if you are not doing DoFE
- You should do 6 hours of virtual work experience every day
- Details of your virtual work experience MUST be logged onto Unifrog with all details filled in
- Please note that Year 10 students are not permitted to do face to face work experience during Careers Week

## How to make the most of work experience

### Set goals

What do you want to get out of your placement or work experience? Learning a new skill? Getting advice on uni or apprenticeships? Meeting with different departments so that you get a good overall view of the company?

### Arrive on time

Check bus or train times in advance, find out how long it will take to walk to the company's building

### Be Proactive

Ask questions, offer to help, ask for more work if you have finished the first task.

### Network - this is so important for your future

Be polite, look lively and interested, talk to everyone, ask them about their role, add new contacts onto LinkedIn, you never know who you will meet in the future.

### "Thank you"

People have given up time to organise your work experience placement so please remember to say thank you to your contact and anyone else who has been helpful. You can also say thank you on LinkedIn too, after the event, and say why you found the placement helpful/interesting- it's all about standing out from the crowd.

## Please note following guidelines for Careers Week for Yrs 10 & 12



### GUIDELINES FOR YEAR 12 STUDENTS

- Your Careers Week runs from Monday 10th - Friday 14th July
- You should be organising 5 days of work experience but you can also do work shadowing or volunteering
- Details of your placements MUST be logged onto Unifrog with all information filled in, otherwise the WEX may not be able to go ahead

## Connecting curriculum to careers

"Creativity is the use of imagination or original ideas to create something". In this exciting and very varied industry, there is a wide variety of jobs for those with an artistic talent, a flair for design or a desire to perform. In addition, remember that if you love the creative world, you can still work in the finance, legal or other departments, getting the best of both worlds - something that you enjoy and something that you are trained for.



(There are far too many jobs in this industry to mention them all, so below is just a sample)

## Illustrators

Do you like bringing unique concepts to life visually? Illustrators work on advertising campaigns, blockbuster movies & the latest fashion lines.

Qualifications: no fixed pathway but a degree in fine art or graphic design would be useful. If you would like to be a medical, architectural or engineering illustrator for example, you may need a science or engineering degree in addition to an illustration qualification. National average salaries : Concept artists £28k, Graphic designer £26k, Animator £33k.

## Theatre

There are many roles in a theatre including a director, designer, stage manager, writer, actor etc. Would you like to build sets, props and design costumes? then the University of Creative Arts (which has links with the Young Vic & English National Opera) offers a "Design for Theatre & Screen" degree. You would need 112 UCAS points to do this degree, useful subjects may include English, Drama & DT.

## Fashion Designer

Apprenticeships are an excellent way of opening doors to creative careers. It would enable you to earn while you learn & gain valuable hands-on experience. Within the creative industries, networking is essential and fashion apprenticeships are a good way to build up industry contacts while actually performing the job. Advanced (Level 3) fashion and textiles apprenticeships are equivalent to A-level. If you did want to go to university, there are many courses on offer; University of Creative Arts, Central St Martins, Fashion Retail Academy for example. Average salaries are £30k (unless you head for the very top of your field then it could be significantly more!)

## Game Artist

Game artists use software packages to create the visual elements of a game in either 3D or 2D for one or more platforms, such as mobile, PC, arcade or console. You'll typically work as part of a team with designers, developers, animators and quality assurance testers, as well as those involved in the management and marketing of the game. Starting salary is £25k. A love of computing would be essential for this role.

### What's coming up at Newstead?

Careers Week 10th-14th July

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Speed Networking for Year 10

8 Billion Ideas for Years 7-9

Virtual work experience for Year 10 students

Work Experience placements for Year 12 students

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