

# **CAREERS @ NEWSTEAD**

Creating opportunities for success

# Post 16 Options

# Introduction from Mrs Dalton

Dear students,

Embarking on the journey beyond the classroom can be an exhilarating yet challenging time for students as they navigate the myriad of post-16 options. At Newstead, we understand the importance of providing comprehensive and up-to-date information to guide students through this pivotal phase of their educational and professional lives.

This edition of our newsletter is dedicated to shedding light on the diverse array of post-16 opportunities, equipping students with the knowledge and insights needed to make informed decisions about their futures. Whether it's exploring various career paths, delving into educational pathways, or staying abreast of emerging trends in the job market, we're here to empower students to make choices that align with their passions and aspirations. We obviously realise that most of you will stay with us onto Sixth Form, but we believe in empowering you to make your decision an informed one.

#### **Contents**

#### Page 1

 Introduction to this month's newsletter

#### Page 2

- Looking at post 16 Options
- What's Happening at Newstead

#### Page 3

- Connecting Curriculum to Careers "Spotlight on Neuroscience"
- Unifrog News



## Post 16 Options

#### **A Levels**

A levels are subject based qualifications that can lead to university, further study, training or work. 3 or more A Levels can be studied over a 2 year period. See our website for subjects that we offer at Newstead and the entry requirements.

#### Level 3 Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships are for students who wish to learn a specific occupation. They combine onthe-job training with studying for nationally certified qualifications.

Level 3 apprenticeships are paid, and include any reward scheme and annual leave that the company offers. Apprenticeships currently available include HSBC, BAE, Siemens, Sky, JLR (Jaguar Land Rover). The Armed Forces accept young people from the age of 16 and offer apprenticeships including business, IT, engineering and construction.

Next steps are a higher or degree apprenticeship, professional qualifications or employment.

#### IB Diploma Programme

The International Baccalaureate curriculum is made up of subject groups including languages, social sciences, experimental sciences, mathematics and arts. A second language is also included. The IB aims to broaden students' educational experience and challenge them to think critically.

#### T Levels

These are 2 year courses taken after GCSEs and are an alternative to A Levels, apprenticeships and other 16-19 courses.

They focus on vocational skills and can provide several progression options for students including skilled employment, apprenticeships or higher education.

80% of the time is spent in a learning environment and 20% is spent completing a 45 day industry placement which helps the students gain valuable experience. T Levels are unpaid.

# What's happening - Careers@Newstead



#### **Career Guidance Interviews**

Year 11 students continue with their 1:1 guidance interviews. These will help them with their post 16 options.

#### **Careers Trips**

Two successful trips were held his month, to an advertising agency and also to an engineering fair which helped students make informed decisions about their future and gave them some knowledge of the industry.

#### Congratulations!

Well done to the Year 10 students who were successful in becoming Career Representatives. Thank you to all who applied.

#### **Mock Interviews**

Many of our wonderful alumni have offered to give mock interviews to those Year 13 students who have received an interview at their chosen university. Thank you also to staff who have helped with this process. Good luck to the students!

#### Careers@lunchtime sessions

**Wednesday 29th November**: Aviation, specifically concentrating on the new BA fully funded scheme for pilots. This will be held in room 615 at 1.10pm.

Wednesday 7th December: Q/A session with alumni for potential Year 12 and Year 13 medical students, again to be held in room 615 at 1.10pm.

# CONNECTING CURRICULUM TO CAREERS

#### What is neuroscience

The study of the nervous system, from structure to function, from development to degeneration, in health and in disease. This is an exciting field with many discoveries yet to be made, such as a cure for Parkinson's Disease.



#### What A Levels are needed

An A Level in Biology or Chemistry plus another science. Maths, Further Maths, Physics or Psychology would also be acceptable. However always check with the university as entry requirements differ.

#### What post 18 qualifications are required

A science based undergraduate degree, such as Biochemistry, Biology, Biomedical science, Pharmacology or Psychology. It is also possible to enter with a degree in Computer Science, Chemistry, Engineering or Physics. This would then be followed by a PhD.

#### What skills are required

A keen interest in the nervous system, strong research & communication skills, good at critical thinking, scientific writing skills to be able to contribute to journals, patience (as research progresses slowly), the ability to work independently but also be part of a team, excellent organizational & time management skills, and finally have motivation to read scientific research to keep up to date.

#### Salaries in this field

A neuroscience assistant could earn between £25k-£35; starting salaries for post doctoral researchers start from £32k.

#### Work experience and summer placements

To gain voluntary opportunities, contact charities that support people who are struggling with neurological issues such a Parkinson's, dementia or brain injuries. Also, the BNA, British Neuroscience Association, produces a list of organisations that offer funding for 6-8 weeks undergraduate summer research placements.



### **Unifrog News**

All students will shortly be set specific work on their Unifrog accounts