



LIMAVADY
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Higher Education

SEPTEMBER 2019 – YEAR 14

Career Planning



"What Next?"

- Higher Education
- Work/Training – Higher Level Apprenticeships
www.apprenticeshipsni.info
- Gap year (www.yearoutgroup.org)
- Employment



Going to uni?

Studying a degree at university, college, or a conservatoire

[Search for courses](#)

Applying to university

[When to apply](#)

[How to apply](#)

[UCAS Tariff points](#)

[Personal statement](#)

[Key dates](#)

What and where to study

[Subjects](#)

[Choosing a course](#)

[Conservatoires](#)

[Open days and events](#)

[Apprenticeships](#)

After applying

[Interviews](#)

[Track your application](#)

[Decisions and offers](#)

Results and Clearing

[Exam results](#)

[What is Clearing?](#)

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Finance

[Tuition fees](#)

[Student loans](#)

[Managing money](#)

Student life

[Accommodation](#)

[Getting support](#)

[UCAS student discounts](#)

Going to university?

Studying at a university, college, or conservatoire?

To see these ads,
turn off your ad blocker.

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Alternatives to uni

Not sure if uni or college is for you? Find out what else you can do

Search for apprenticeships and jobs

Apprenticeships in the UK

- What's involved?
- Degree apprenticeships
- Find an apprenticeship

Internships

- Internships and volunteering

Gap year

- Gap year ideas
- Deferred entry to uni

Studying overseas

- Applying to study abroad
- What is Erasmus?



Going to university?

Studying at a university, college, or conservatoire?

This space contains info on open days, featured courses and more!

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Advertisement. [Why the ads?](#)

This space contains info on open days, featured courses and more!

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The Right Choice



- We believe that informed, sensible and realistic choices are invariably made over a long period of time.
- Be assured the proactive, self-reliant student is best placed to succeed in the 21st century.



Please remember....

Many sixth formers do not know what they want to do eventually; that's the norm. Approximately 40% of all graduate careers are not related to the subject studied at university.

1. Outstanding journalists are far more likely to have read English Literature, History or Politics than Journalism at university.
2. Lawyers can study a subject they're passionate about, get a very good degree and then "convert to law".
3. Chemists can become City bankers and politicians

What is more important than the subject studied?

Class of degree; ability, initiative and determination; internships/work placements/volunteering; university references

ALSO REMEMBER



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- ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE IS THE MOST
IMPORTANT ASPECT OF THIS
YEAR.....
..... GET THE
GRADES AND THEY CAN DO ALMOST
ANYTHING!



Having said that, we need the online UCAS form filled out asap. There is too much procrastination going on. Get the form completed!

Why go to university?



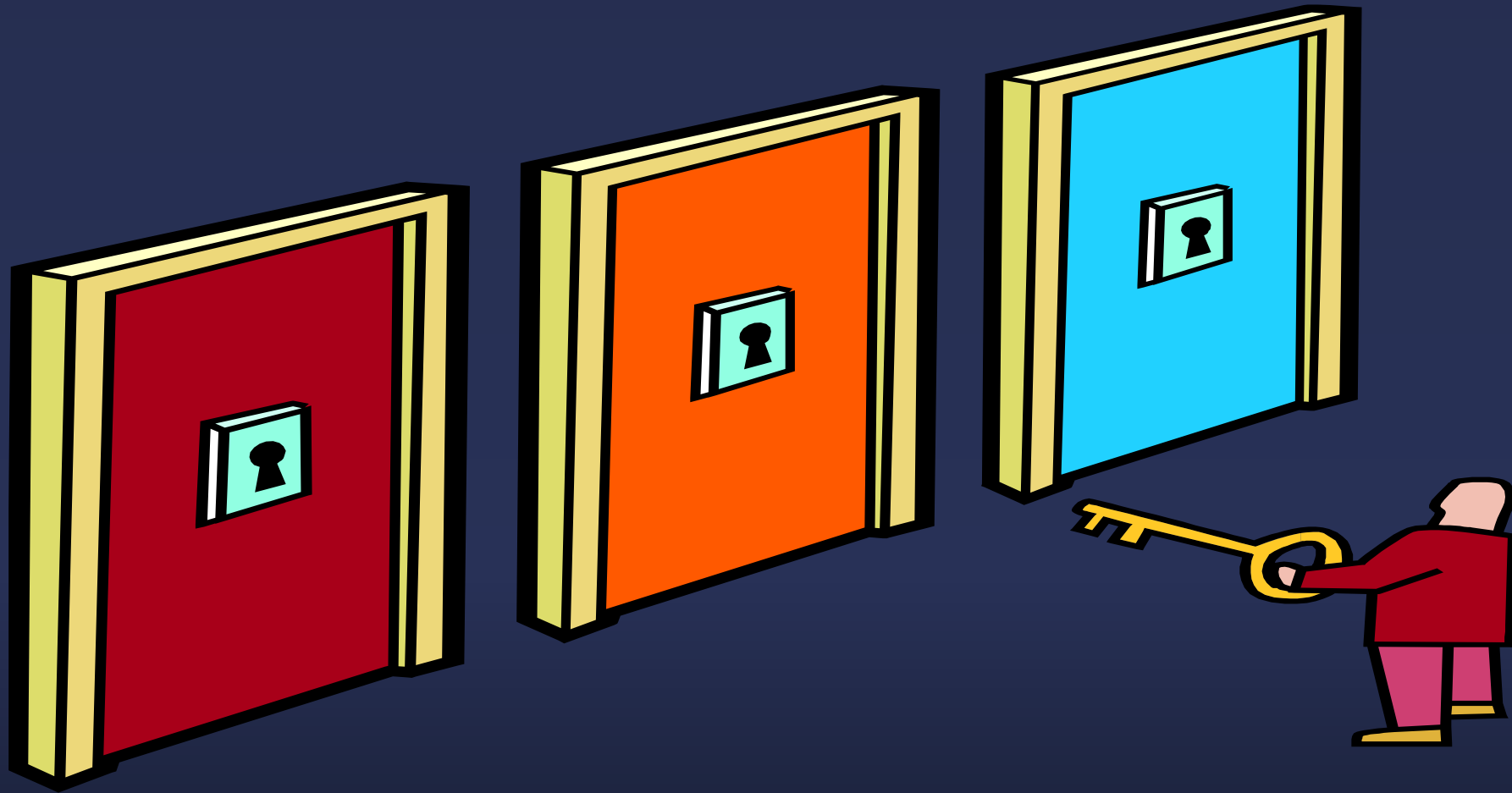
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- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7kgFfCWct4Q>



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Pathways



Good reasons not to go to university.....

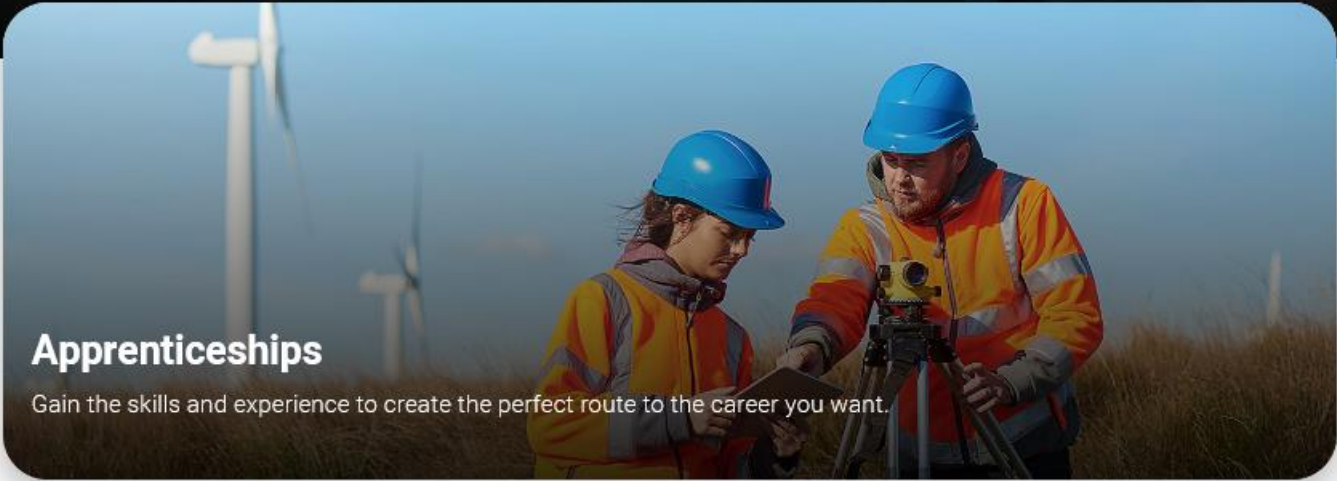


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- If they get a job the moment they leave school they'll make money now and not be in debt.
- A degree may be completely irrelevant to their ambitions
- If they are a good employee they'll have a head start on the career ladder. There are plenty of good role models.
- Some management trainee programmes for 18+ students are excellent
- They may have had enough with education, essays exams...

Alternatives to university

Apprenticeships, internships, and gap years



Apprenticeships

Gain the skills and experience to create the perfect route to the career you want.

Advertisement. [Why the ads?](#)

Advertisement. [Why the ads?](#)



Internships

Work at a company to learn new skills and gain experience in a particular industry or job role.



Gap years

Enhance your CV, travel, learn new skills, and much more...



Study overseas

Here are some options if you're considering studying a year, or all, of your degree abroad.

<https://belfast.deloitte.co.uk/school-leavers/>



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MY-SCHOOL Home - Complete University G... BBC Two - The Big Hospital Ex... Students | Deloitte US Careers School Leavers | Deloitte Bel... Search...

Deloitte. School Leavers Students & Graduates Professionals Future of Work

For the curious School Leavers

It's never too early to think about your future. For a head start on an amazing career, join us as a BrightStart Apprentice. You'll be earning while learning from day one, in a permanent job, completing professional qualifications that will take you anywhere you want to go in your career.

BrightStart Programme Application Process Your Career Path

BrightStart is an open invitation to clever, early...

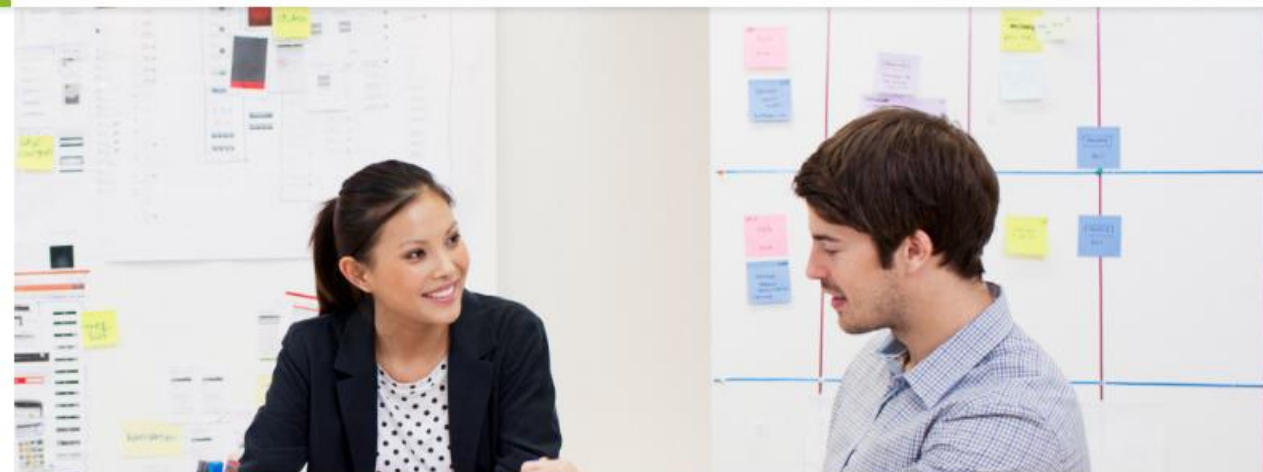
13 15:30 16/09/2019



This is an earn-while-you learn apprenticeship, with the chance to gain professional qualifications and get stuck in, helping to solve some of our clients trickiest problems.

Entry criteria - GCSE Maths B or above, GCSE English Language C or above. 104 UCAS points or above (completed in first sitting).

Applications open in September 2019



Human Capital Consulting



Technology Consulting



Tax Preparation Team



Pensions Audit Centre of Excellence



How many UCAS Points do I have?

Use the following to calculate how your AS and A Level grades are converted into UCAS Points:

AS Level	A Level	UCAS Points
–	A*	56
–	A	48
–	B	40
–	C	32
–	D	24
A	–	20
B	E	16
C	–	12
D	–	10
E	–	6

<https://www.pwc.co.uk/careers/school-jobs.html#/>



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MY-SCHOOL Home - Complete University G... BBC Two - The Big Hospital Ex... Students | Deloitte US Careers School Leavers | Deloitte Belfast School and College Leaver ...

School and College Leaver careers

Take the opportunity of a lifetime

What are you looking for today?

You're studying at school or college, but there's also a lot of focus on what's next.

We know you have career goals and ambitions. But do you decide to start your career or go to uni? Perhaps you want to explore new opportunities. You know you have to start work at some point, but when is the right time, and what is the right path? Whatever you choose, it has to be right for you.

or you're ready for a career right now, or in a few years, we've got real

Apply to PwC

Do apprentices progress quicker than graduates?

16 15:35 16/09/2019



Earn as you Learn

If you're leaving school, Kainos Earn as you Learn could be a brilliant move for you. Get paid to study for your degree part-time – and get valuable real-world experience while you do it.

[← BACK TO ALL STUDENT AND GRADUATE OPPORTUNITIES](#)

Student and graduate opportunities

→ [A.I.CAMP](#)

→ [CODECAMP](#)

↓ [EARN AS YOU LEARN](#)

→ [BLOG](#)

→ [GRADUATES](#)

What is Earn as you Learn?

At Kainos, we pride ourselves on our unique culture that values and invests in young talent. Our Earn as you Learn scheme, delivered in partnership with Ulster University, offers the best of all worlds: real world experience, a real salary with a real job and a degree in Computing Systems at the end of it. All while avoiding tuition fees and student loans!

Joining us as an Apprentice Software Engineer, you'll earn a great salary and all the benefits we offer our staff. You'll work four days a week, and the other day will be spent studying for your degree part-time at Ulster University, over four and a half years. We'll pay your tuition fees as well as your salary – altogether, it's a package worth up to

→ A.I.CAMP

→ CODECAMP

↓ EARN AS YOU LEARN

→ BLOG

→ GRADUATES

→ PLACEMENTS

→ WORK EXPERIENCE

Unbeatable benefits



Great salary

You'll receive a great salary every month



Tuition fees paid in full

You'll leave university with no debt



Books allowance

Support with the costs of course reading



Skills for Me training fund

£250 skills fund for any course of your choice



Mentor / career coach

Experienced mentor to give advice and support



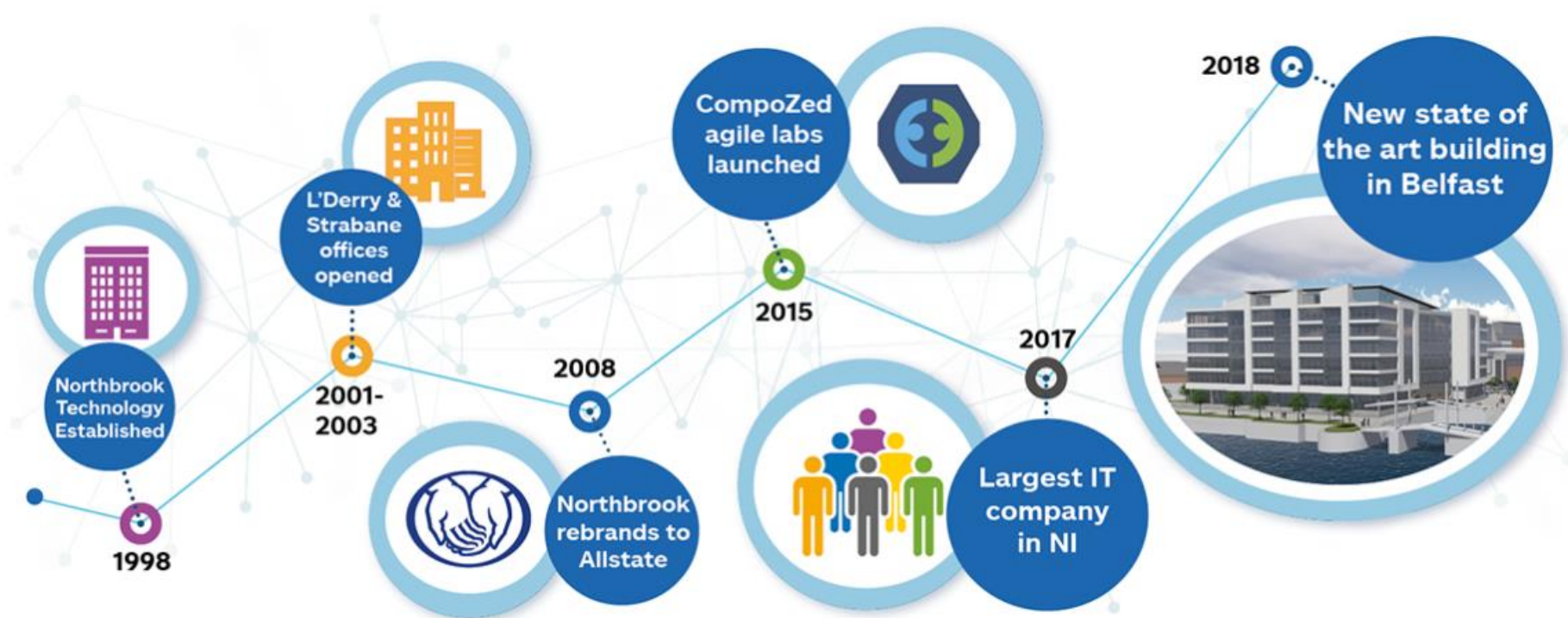
Flexible working hours

Work our core hours as they suit you

Earn as you Learn is now closed for 2018/19.



Allstate In Northern Ireland

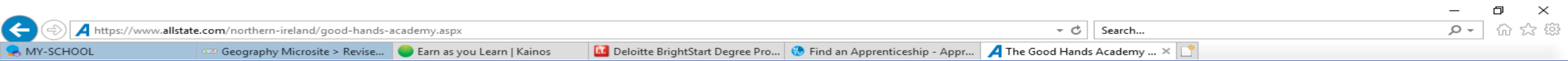


Click on the timeline to view larger image.

<https://www.allstate.com/northern-ireland/good-hands-academy.aspx>



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[ABOUT](#) [WHAT WE DO](#) [CAREERS](#) [NEWS & EVENTS](#) [CONTACT US](#)

IT Apprenticeship Program

Choose Friends. Choose Teamwork. Choose Personal Passions. Choose Diversity and Flexibility. Choose Empowerment. Choose Mentorship.

Choose leadership development. Choose the direction.

Choose giving back and getting more. Choose more than just a job. Choose Going places [without having to go places].

CHOOSE EARNING AND LEARNING. CHOOSE THE GOOD HANDS ACADEMY

Being part of the Good Hands Academy will allow you to graduate with a BSC Hons in Computing Systems while working, earning and learning in one of our technology teams. The 4-year program is a Higher-Level Apprenticeship (HLA) in partnership with Ulster University (UU). You will benefit from:

- ✓ Earning a competitive salary as you learn
- ✓ Permanent employment from day one
- ✓ Having your university fees paid
- ✓ A fantastic career with Allstate on completion

LOCATION

Belfast

JOB DESCRIPTION

You will attend Ulster University one day a week to complete a BSC Hons in Computing Systems and work 4 days a week on one of our technology teams, alongside experienced IT professionals. You will gain exposure to a range of cutting edge technologies, tools and methodologies. You will learn within a supportive and nurturing environment.



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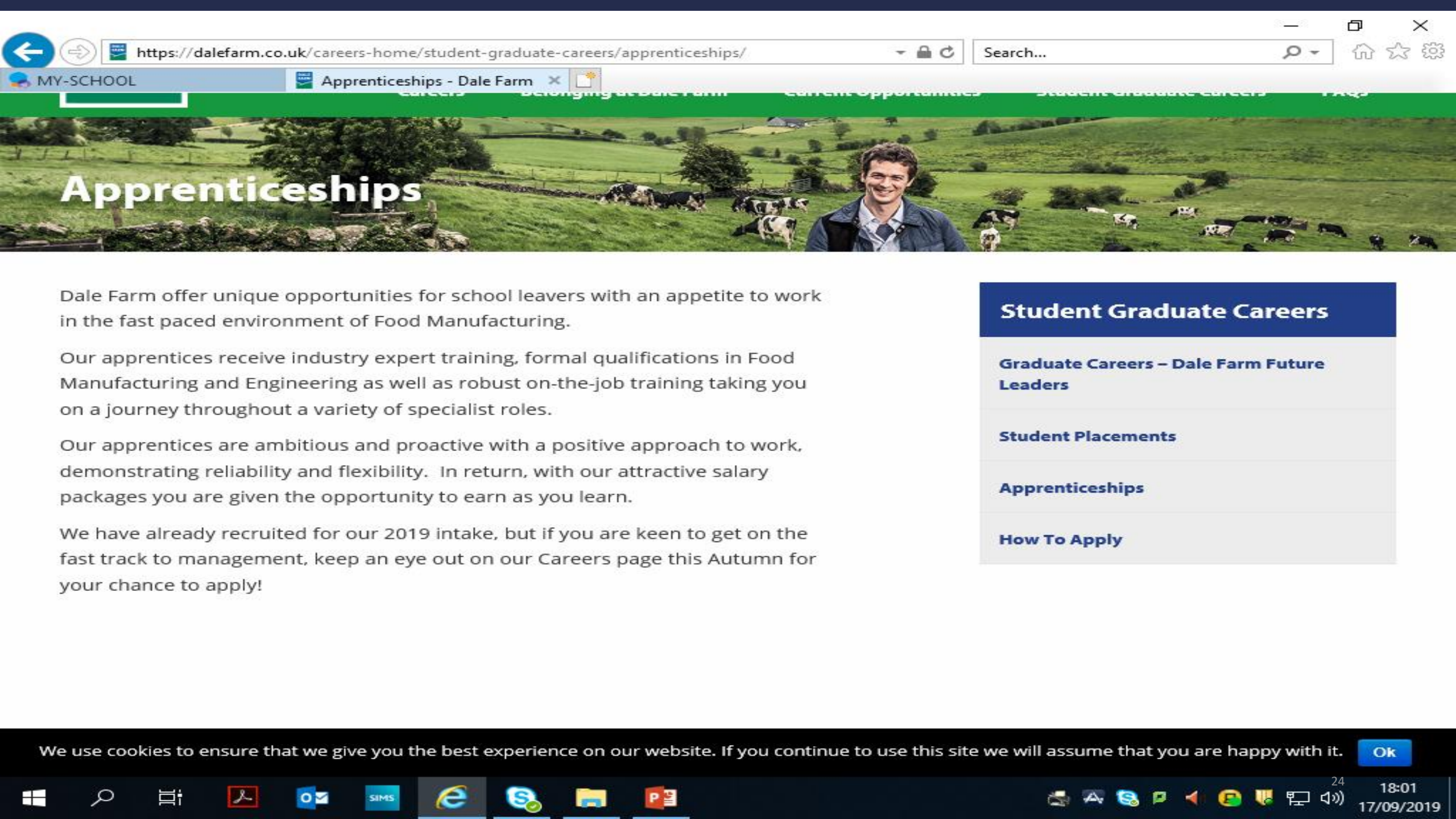
CyberFirst Bursary and Degree Apprenticeship

Applications for the CyberFirst Bursary and Degree Apprenticeship are now open for the September 2020 intake.

CyberFirst offers students a real choice after A Levels or whilst at University.

- A CyberFirst Bursary offers undergraduates £4,000 per year financial assistance and paid cyber security training each summer to help kick start their career in cyber
- A CyberFirst Degree Apprenticeship allows undergraduates to earn whilst they learn, ready for a job with GCHQ





Apprenticeships

Dale Farm offer unique opportunities for school leavers with an appetite to work in the fast paced environment of Food Manufacturing.

Our apprentices receive industry expert training, formal qualifications in Food Manufacturing and Engineering as well as robust on-the-job training taking you on a journey throughout a variety of specialist roles.

Our apprentices are ambitious and proactive with a positive approach to work, demonstrating reliability and flexibility. In return, with our attractive salary packages you are given the opportunity to earn as you learn.

We have already recruited for our 2019 intake, but if you are keen to get on the fast track to management, keep an eye out on our Careers page this Autumn for your chance to apply!

Student Graduate Careers

[Graduate Careers – Dale Farm Future Leaders](#)

[Student Placements](#)

[Apprenticeships](#)

[How To Apply](#)

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Ok



Everything you need to know about apprenticeships in Northern Ireland

Taking an apprenticeship in Northern Ireland

There is a growing range of apprenticeships – giving you the opportunity to enter careers in industries such as computer science, engineering, construction, to retail and accountancy. Here you will find everything you need to know about exploring your options, and how to search and apply for an apprenticeship in Northern Ireland.

To take up an apprenticeship in Northern Ireland you must be 16 years old or over, and be employed already, or about to take up paid employment in Northern Ireland.



Find out whether an apprenticeship would suit you.



Find out more about the types of apprenticeships available in Northern Ireland.



How you spend your time on an apprenticeship, and how you're assessed.



See what qualifications or experience you need to study an apprenticeship in Northern Ireland.



How to search for and choose the right apprenticeship for you.



How to apply for an apprenticeship, when to apply, and what happens afterwards.



University allows your child to....

- Further particular academic interests
- Develop new skills and personal qualities – independence, self-reliance, adaptability and the ability to communicate effectively
- Obtain a better job
 1. Some professions have been graduate only. For others a HE qualification is increasingly becoming the norm
 2. Graduates experience quicker promotion and earn more money
- Delay the decision for a few years

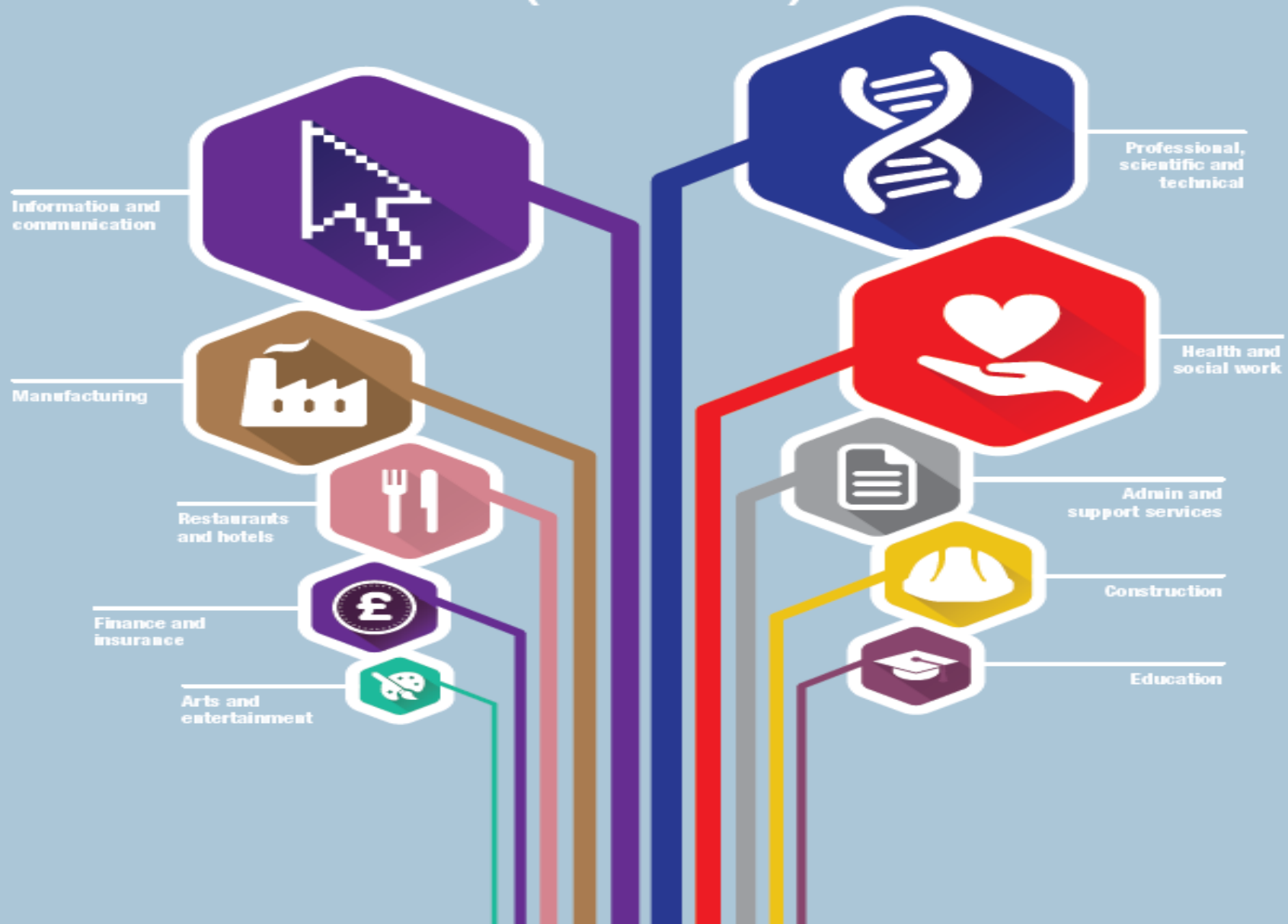
IMPORTANCE OF SKILLS

The more you learn the more you earn

By continuing into further and higher level education you can greatly increase your earnings potential and employment prospects.



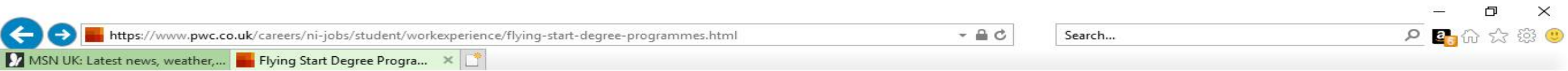
Top 10 growth sectors (2018-2028)



<https://www.pwc.co.uk/careers/school-jobs/jobs/flying-start-degrees.html>



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NI Student Careers



Menu



Work experience > Flying Start Degree Programmes

Flying Start Degree Programmes

PwC has partnered with Queen's University Management School to develop an employability scholarship programme for undergraduate students



<https://conferences.theiet.org/power-academy/apply/index.cfm?>



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Browser tabs: Course - Belfast Met, Course - Belfast Met, economy-ni.gov.uk, Guide to UK Degree Apprentic..., 11 - 19 year olds (CyberFirst) - ..., NIE Networks' Scholarships 20..., IET Power Academy - contact ...

Power Academy

Engineering scholarships
Supporting undergraduate students in electrical and power engineering at leading UK universities

[Apply now](#)

University partners

Useful links

- [Help](#)
- [Cookies](#)
- [Privacy statement](#)
- [Accessibility](#)
- [Modern Slavery Act Statement](#)
- [Legal notices](#)

Flyer

[Flyer 2019](#)

Partners - universities

The Power Academy aims to direct more students to Power Engineering courses with a mix of financial incentives, technical training and business education.

The following universities are partners in the Power Academy scheme:

- The University of Bath
- Cardiff University
- Imperial College London
- Loughborough University
- The University of Manchester
- Newcastle University
- Queen's University Belfast
- University of Southampton
- University of Strathclyde

Partners - associate universities

- Heriot-Watt University
- Liverpool John Moores
- University of Liverpool
- University of Birmingham

[View the full University partner and associate partner profiles above.](#)

Other IET awards

[View other IET awards](#)

#IETpoweracademy

Tweets by @IETawards

IET Awards
@IETawards

We are excited to announce our 2019 Apprentice of the Year Award shortlist. George Amall, is an apprentice Siemens Rail Automation. George is a great ambassador, regularly attending STEM events to encourage the next generation into engineering. Read more: [ow.ly/aGks50wbqPR](https://www.ow.ly/aGks50wbqPR)

30

17:32
16/09/2019



The NIE Networks' Scholarship programme – now in its fifth year – is open to first and second year electrical engineering students at Queen's.

The scholarship, which is worth up to £36,000, includes an annual £2,750 bursary towards tuition fees, a £250 book and software allowance each year, a paid summer placement of 8 weeks throughout the duration of the scholar's studies, a one year paid industrial placement, a NIE Networks' engineering mentor and student membership of the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET).

Self Assessment



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- (a) Focus – you have a clear sense of purpose and direction.
- (b) Information – you have a sound knowledge of the courses you are interested in.
- (c) Realism – You are setting high standards and applying for courses with entrance requirements that you are capable of meeting.
- (d) Scope – You have researched the opportunities in this area. You are aware of alternative opportunities and are open-minded in relation to considering them if necessary.
- (e) Tactics – You have demonstrated that you can plan and take the necessary steps to implement your primary career ideas and progression plans.

CAREER PLANNING



It's always your next
move - start planning now!

I would like to work in a hospital.

Would you say you:

strongly disagree kind of disagree don't really mind kind of agree strongly agree

Question: 1/30



REAL-LIFE STORIES

What is it really like to work for the NHS?



VIDEO STORIES

Check out what our staff have to say



CAREERS A-Z

We have over 350 different roles to choose from

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We use cookies to give you the best online experience. Please let us know if you agree to all of these cookies.

Yes, I agree

No, take me to settings

TWO

The Big Hospital Experiment

Home Episodes Clips

Watch now

Episode 1

Series 1 Episode 1 of 4

Fourteen young people start their first week volunteering for a radical social experiment at the Royal Derby Hospital to deliver patient care on the NHS frontline.

18 days left to watch 59 minutes

Show more

Last on

Wed 4 Sep 2019
21:00
BBC TWO

More episodes

PREVIOUS

You are at the first episode

NEXT

Episode 2

Series 1

See all episodes from The Big Hospital Experiment

https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m00084z1



Reminder

- UU Family Open Day at Coleraine Campus Sat 21st September 9.30 – 2.00
- UU Family Open Day at Magee Campus Sat. 28th Sept 9.30 – 2.00
- UU Family Open Day at Belfast Campus Sat 5th Oct. 9.30 – 2.00
- University of Dundee – Friday 20th September
- University Roadshow – Friday 27th September
- Interview Skills Evening 17th Oct. 7pm – most of UCAS form to be completed by 7th Oct. (personal details, academic results, courses, personal statement)
- Higher Education Event – NWRC 5th November 10am -12am including Higher Level Apprenticeships.

Informed Choices



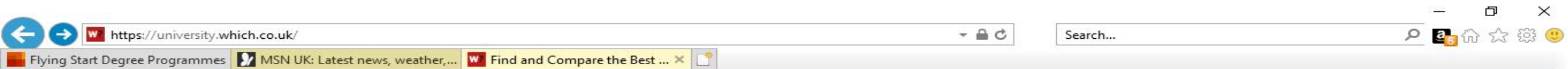
- Justify your choice of course and institution.



http://university.which.co.uk/



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Find a course ▾

Where to study ▾

Get advice ▾

Teachers ▾

What to study, where to go and
how to get there

Courses	Universities	Advice
Course name eg psychology	Location: city, town or county	
<input type="text" value="Search for courses"/>	<input type="text" value="All locations"/>	<input type="button" value="Search"/>

In Ucas Clearing 2019? Don't miss our Clearing guide for help and advice >



<https://www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk/league-tables/rankings?s=Accounting+%26+Finance>



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Browser address bar: <https://www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk/league-tables/rankings?s=Accounting+%26+Finance>

Search bar: Search...

Taskbar: Flying Start Degree Programmes, MSN UK: Latest news, weather, MSN UK: Latest news, weather, Accounting & Finance - To...

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I AGREE

▼	7th	▼ 2	Loughborough	156	4.19	2.97	96	97.4	PROFILE														
▲	8th	► 0	Queen's, Belfast	159	4.00	2.88	94	96.6	PROFILE														
<div><h3>Subject Table Rankings</h3><table><tr><th>Year</th><th>Ranking</th></tr><tr><td>2015</td><td>30th</td></tr><tr><td>2016</td><td>10th</td></tr><tr><td>2017</td><td>11th</td></tr><tr><td>2018</td><td>10th</td></tr><tr><td>2019</td><td>10th</td></tr><tr><td>2020</td><td>10th</td></tr></table><p>It may have placed 53rd for Accounting & Finance in 2012, but Queen's University, Belfast has since established its place within the top universities in the UK for the subject area. Postgraduate choices at Queen's Management School include an MSc in Accounting and Finance.</p></div>										Year	Ranking	2015	30th	2016	10th	2017	11th	2018	10th	2019	10th	2020	10th
Year	Ranking																						
2015	30th																						
2016	10th																						
2017	11th																						
2018	10th																						
2019	10th																						
2020	10th																						
▼	9th	▼ 2	Exeter	159	4.21	2.85	91	96.3	PROFILE														
▼	10th	▲ 3	Aberdeen	180	3.84	3.02	88	96.1	PROFILE														

CLEARING

0 Con

CLEARING

0 Compare Universities

41

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12/09/2019



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- <https://www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk/>

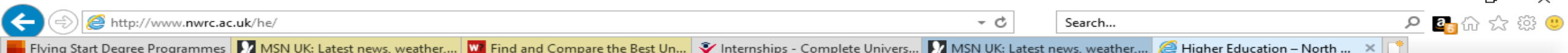
IF YOUR SON/DAUGHTER WANTS TO STAY IN N.IRELAND THERE ARE NOT TOO MANY OPTIONS.....READ EACH PROPECTUS/WESITE AND DECIDE ON THE COURSE!!

- Grades will determine. You must stress this to students.
- Does a student need to be doing 4 subjects? If grades drop to AABB, the offer of AAA will not be met: rejection/more difficult to get that place.
- What contingency plans do they have in place?

<http://www.nwrc.ac.uk/he/>



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We use cookies to facilitate course search/applications, analyse/understand site traffic, tailor content and provide social media features. Please let us know if you agree to all of these cookies? take me to your [Cookie Policy/Instructions](#) page.

YES, I AGREE

Employer-Focused Programmes

We now have an extensive range of Foundation Degree and Higher Level Apprenticeship programmes on offer, which are validated and partnered by our colleagues at Ulster University, Queens University Belfast and other leading third level institutions.

These courses include **Higher Level Apprenticeships** in:

- Accountancy
- Mechanical Engineering
- International Hospitality & Tourism Management
- Electronic & Electrical Engineering
- Software Development
- Civil Engineering
- Early Years

Our new range of **Foundation Degree** options include

- Business & Enterprise
- Sustainable Construction
- Early Childhood Studies
- Responding to Alcohol & Drug Use
- Electrical and Electronic Engineering

These are employer-focused programmes and provide ambitious and motivated learners with the perfect opportunity to gain new technical skills and expertise while undertaking paid work placement at the same time... Infact, these are the programmes which we believe are set to **fulfill the needs of employers in the future** – by creating a more talented and skilled workforce,



Busy mum Suzanne swaps calculator for lab coat

12 SEP, 2019 0



NWRC to host intellectual property event

11 SEP, 2019 0



Belfast Metropolitan College



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- <https://www.belfastmet.ac.uk/full-time/higher-education/higher-level-apprenticeships/>



Full-time

Available Courses

Levels of Study

Further Education

Higher Education

Entry Criteria

University Level - Foundation Degrees and Degrees

HNDs

Higher Level Apprenticeships

International Students

Consumer Protection

International Students

Advice for Parents

How to Apply

Home / Full-time / Higher Education / Higher Level Apprenticeships

Higher Level Apprenticeships

Higher Level Apprenticeships are designed to help those in work develop higher skill levels, awarding qualifications equivalent to the first stages of Higher Education (i.e. Level 4 or Level 5). They are aimed at anyone who has completed A Levels (or equivalent). [Find out more about the Levels of Study.](#)

This new model for apprenticeships is appealing to employers too. Our programmes align with the needs of businesses by meeting their growing demand for higher level skills. Today, upskilling is the key to growing our local economy.

As a work-based programme, a Higher Level Apprenticeship enables you to 'earn while you learn' and to gain an internationally recognised academic or professional qualification.



Department for the
Economy
www.economy-ni.gov.uk

SKILLS
TO SUCCEED

APPRENTICESHIPS

This project is part-funded through the Northern Ireland European Social Fund Programme 2014 – 2020 and the Department for the Economy.

Accountancy Higher Level Apprenticeship

Belfast Met has launched this new initiative with our two-year Accountancy Higher Level Apprenticeship, leading to a Level 5 qualification, equivalent to a Foundation Degree or Higher National Diploma.

All Higher Level Apprenticeships include a combination of on- and off-the-job training. The off-the-job element is delivered by Belfast Met on a day-release basis for a two-year period. Blue chip Belfast accountancy firms providing on-the-job training include Goldblatt McGuigan, ASM Accountants and RSM McClure Watters.

How Can Your Career Benefit?

- Employability – Acquire valuable knowledge, practical skills and work experience, together with an internationally



Foundation Degrees

- Belfast Met Higher Education courses run in conjunction with other universities

Ulster University

Belfast Met students completing a course run in collaboration with Ulster University can become 'Associate Students' of the University when they enrol on their course which provides them with a number of benefits eg: library and sports centre access.

- [Foundation Degree in Science in Health and Social Care](#)
- [BSc \(Hons\) in Social Work](#)
- [Foundation Degree in Software Engineering](#)
- [Foundation Science Degree in Marketing](#)
- [Foundation Science Degree in Accounting](#)
- [Foundation Science Degree in International Hospitality Management](#)
- [Foundation Science Degree in International Travel and Tourism Management](#)
- [Foundation Science Degree in Event Management](#)
- [Foundation Degree in Architectural Technology](#)
- [Foundation Degree in Property Planning and Housing](#)
- [Foundation Degree in Construction Engineering with Surveying](#)
- [Foundation Degree in Civil Engineering](#)



- **Queen's University Belfast (QUB)**

Students enrolled on a Belfast Met course run in collaboration with QUB will also have a number of benefits such as access to the library and computers centres, membership of the sports facilities, clubs and societies.

QUB Courses:

- Foundation Degree in Biological Sciences
- Foundation Degree in Mechanical Engineering
- **QUB in conjunction with St Mary's and Stranmillis University College**
- Foundation Degree in Early Childhood Studies
- Foundation Degree in Health, Physical Activity and Sport



Open Days

Student Registration

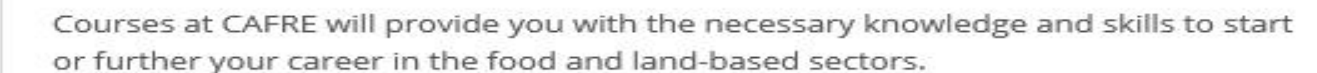


Awards Days

Accommodation












Courses



Find a course

Pick from the disciplines below and find a course to suit you.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Agriculture |  |
| Equine |  |
| Floristry |  |
| Food |  |
| Horticulture |  |
| Land-based Engineering |  |
| Postgraduate Courses |  |
| Veterinary Nursing |  |
| Industry Short Courses |  |

What am I saying?



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- Always have options.



UCAS Application

- We want all students to complete the UCAS application form. They may not submit it but it should be completed.
- The form will prove very useful in the future if they are applying for jobs, courses etc.
- The form must be “completed” by the 7th October for the Interview Skills Evening.
- Early applicants for Medicine, Dentistry etc should have their application completed by 24th Sept.

Setting Targets



By now they should:

- Have registered online for UCAS Apply
- Have completed most of the form
- Have decided what subject they will apply for
- Have a shortlist of universities to apply to
- Have completed the second draft of their personal statement
- Will give their personal statement to me if they are applying to Oxbridge, Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary.
- Have asked you, their tutor or subject teacher to read over their personal statement

Decision Time



- What to Study?
- Where to Study?
- How to Apply?
- What about Finance?





What to Study?

- Something they have done before?

They enjoy it, know what it involves and they want to study it in more depth

- Something vocational?

They have very clear career plans ie they know that they want to be a doctor, vet, dentist

- Something completely different

Philosophy, Archaeology

STEM Courses



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- Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths. Government is keen that more young people take courses in these disciplines. Certainly the job prospects with these subjects are better and are expected to improve in the future. There are also more bursaries available in these subjects.



Length of Course

- Normal Degree – 3 years

4 years in Scotland – offers more flexibility
studying 3 subjects in 1st year

Medicine/Dentistry – 5 years+

- Sandwich Courses – periods of paid work between periods of study (4 years). A year long internship – approx 35% of graduate jobs are filled this way
- Languages – year abroad.
- Accountancy, Biomedical Sciences, Physio. etc – Check accreditation/exemptions from professional examinations.

Beware....

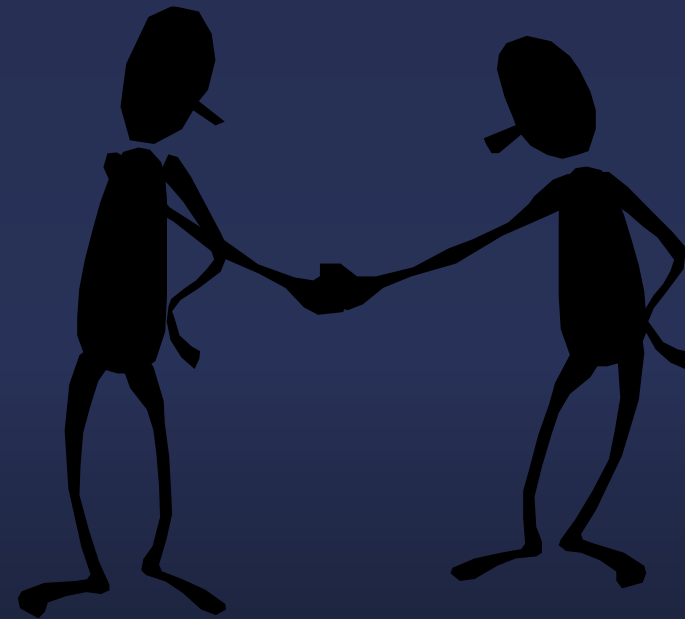


- An astounding 20% of students drop out in their first year at university.
Top reasons
- Course was not what I expected/wanted
- Financial Problems
- Lack of support from university
- Course too difficult
- Feeling isolated and lonely
- But the most common reason? They were in the wrong place at the wrong time, for them.
- Your child must feel right about both the course and the university.



Lowest Drop-out Rate

- University of Cambridge 1%
- UCL 1%
- University of Oxford 1%
- University of Bristol 2%
- University of Nottingham 2%
- University of Durham 3%





Choosing the Right Course

- Interest/enthusiasm for subject area
- Entry requirements
- Type of course/teaching style
- Subject and course content
- Assessment
- Opportunities for placements/work related skills
- Professional accreditation
- Career prospects



<https://www.ucas.com/>



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How do They Apply?

- UCAS
 1. Five Courses
 2. Personal Statement
 3. Forecast Grades
 4. Reference
 5. Application Fee £24
 6. Internet Application

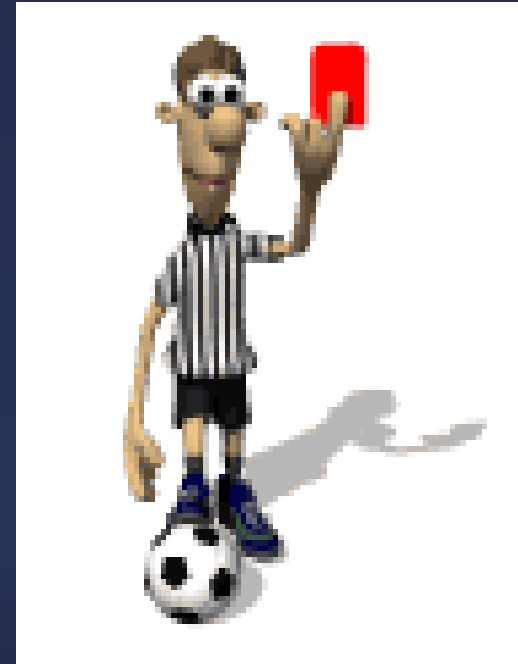


Reference



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- Sources of information?
- Teachers
- School Records
- Student Interviews



Completed applications must be received by UCAS before the following dates:



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- 15 October – anyone applying to Oxbridge, medical, dentistry or veterinary schools. As we have to add the reference, all forms must be completed and sent to referee by the end of September
- 15 January – final closing date
- We want to have these application forms sent by the end of this term. Offers/rejections will come back earlier and students will have more time to plan their response.



EARLY APPLICATION IS ADVISED



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All students applying to University are advised to make early application.



The UCAS application form, when completed, represents 'a statement of intent and strategy for the future'.



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- Quality time spent in personal research.
- Prospectuses and Websites
- Visits and Conventions
- UCAS Publications



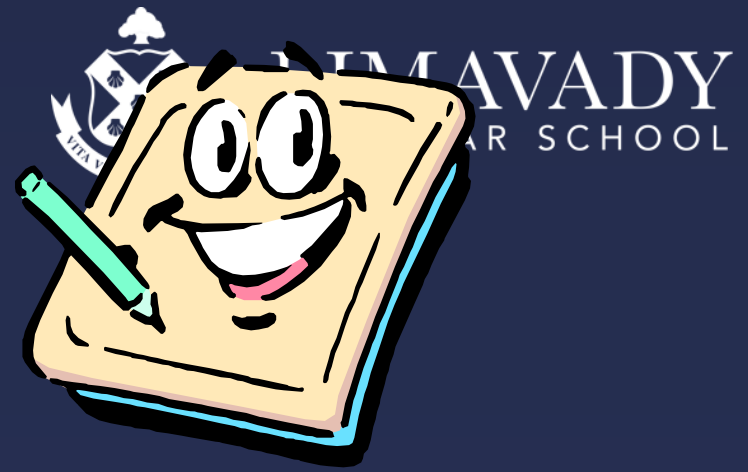
Required Tests



- It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that they are registered for BMAT, OXBRIDGE TESTS, UCAT, HPAT and LNAT.
- They need to arrange a chat with myself or Mrs Skuce. Most have been given information and told to visit the websites!!

PERSONAL STATEMENT

- Opportunity to influence admissions tutors
- Opportunity to explain their motivation
- Approximately 500 words (4000 characters)
- Avoid waffle
- Several drafts required
- Complete final draft by end of Sept
- May form basis of interview questions





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www.ucas.com



Statement should include..

- Course Choice – reasons and interest in subject. May fill up to half of the finished article. Evidence that they understand what they are applying for and have thoroughly researched it:
 - Books they have read?
 - Work experience?
- Current Studies – interests, enjoyment. Show what a keen and committed student they are.
- About themselves– have they attended taster courses, open days, lectures? Responsibilities, interests, extra-curricular etc.





Then What?

- Considered by each university and response is:
 1. Conditional offer made or
 2. Reject or
 3. Unconditional offer
- Offers made on tariff points or grades
- UCAS sends each decision to applicants



How many UCAS Points do I have?

Use the following to calculate how your AS and A Level grades are converted into UCAS Points:

AS Level	A Level	UCAS Points
–	A*	56
–	A	48
–	B	40
–	C	32
–	D	24
A	–	20
B	E	16
C	–	12
D	–	10
E	–	6



And Then?

- Student selects two offers
 1. Firm Offer
 2. Insurance (should be lower grades)
- A two-way contract





UCAS Extra – before results (Feb-
early July)

Examination results decide all

Adjustment?

Clearing

How can you support the application process?



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- Don't book holidays at key times e.g. results day. Don't let them book holidays at this time.
 - Support your son or daughter's management of their application.
 - Make sure they read everything they are sent..... carefully!
 - Prepare them for living away from home:
 - cost of living – paying bills
 - independent living skills – cooking and washing
- **Be there...**
 - comforting, proofreading, encouraging, testing, practicing etc.



- www.studentfinancenl.co.uk



www.studentfinancenl.com



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For February time students will need:

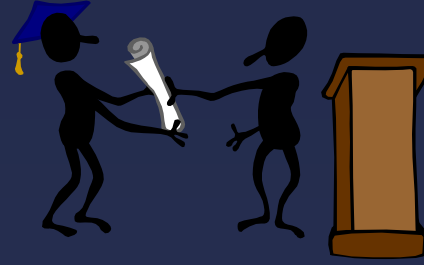
- A bank account that their loan can be paid into 3 times per year
- A passport or original birth certificate as proof of identity
- You will need your P60 from the previous year

Applying to Institutions in the Republic of Ireland



- Apply online at www.cao.ie
- No personal statement is required
- No Fees except for a registration fee in recent years (3000 Euro approx.)
- The same access to a student loan.
- Opening date early November and closing date is beginning of February.
- Level 8 courses are honours degree courses
- Some of the most competitive courses require 4 A2 subjects (Vet, Med, etc). Test required HPAT Ireland for Medicine

The Value of a Degree



- There is value in every degree but it is what the individual does with their time during their degree and their learning after the degree that is the key.
- Employability skills can be greatly enhanced through work placements.
- An employer wants an employee who learns quickly, reflects on what he/she has learned and applies it .





Degree Plus

Degree Plus is a unique and innovative programme that allows Queen's students to gain accreditation for skills and experiences gained outside of their academic programme.



- <https://www.ulster.ac.uk/business/employers/edge-award>

SUCCESS



Being a Graduate makes a real difference:

- improves specialist knowledge
- improves transferable skills
- improves job prospects
- improves earning potential

