



## DID YOU KNOW THAT.....

- Tuesday is believed to be the most productive day of the working week
- Laughter boosts your immune system by enhancing your antibodies (which help fight infections) and increasing your immune cell count.



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## Volume 3 Issue 2 : Spring 2021

Welcome to the Soham Village College Careers Newsletter. This goes out to all SVC staff, parents, the governing body, our Trust's primary schools and selected local businesses and other stakeholders.

During the current lockdown period, this smaller version will come out on a more regular basis, to provide careers-related support to all student and parents

The usual Gatsby Benchmarks article has been updated with a status check to show how we are progressing towards each standard.

We hope that you continue to find this newsletter useful and interesting.



If you want to find out more about anything in this newsletter, please contact the Careers Team.

Likewise, if you have any feedback on what you have read or have items you wish us to include in future editions please let us know.

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## The Gatsby Benchmarks



The Gatsby Benchmarks provide a framework around which schools can develop and improve their careers programme. We are working toward adopting all of the benchmarks over the next couple of years, and have made good progress since Sept 2018 with Benchmarks 1, 5, & 8 fully achieved, and Benchmark 7 close to completion.

Work will continue across 2020/21 to achieve as many of the other Benchmarks as possible. This is far from being simply a tick-box exercise to meet government expectations — through pilot schemes the Benchmarks have been proven to raise students' aspirations and make them as work-ready as they can possibly be.

1. A stable careers programme	100%
2. Learning from career and labour market information	60%
3. Addressing the needs of each student	81%
4. Linking curriculum learning to careers	81%
5. Encounters with employers and employees	100%
6. Experiences of workplaces	25%
7. Encounters with further and higher education	90%
8. Personal guidance	100%

# Quality in Careers Award



We continue to work towards gaining this national award which aligns perfectly with the Gatsby Benchmarks. The award ensures the school is delivering the type of careers programme the government has indicated and that students will benefit from.

In order to gain the award, we must provide sufficient current evidence to demonstrate that we meet all the national quality assessment criteria. As with the Gatsby Benchmarks, we can already provide evidence in many of the areas, such as the way we provide personal guidance to students through 1-2-1 meetings, meaningful employer engagement, and how we assess the impact of activities through student, tutor and parental feedback.

Significant progress has been made over the last 12 months to not only continue gathering the required evidence but also put in place new measures and processes to meet the standards of

## The impact of COVID 19 on our Careers Programme

As you can imagine, the current pandemic has had a major impact on the careers programme in the school, and will continue to do so for some time yet.

Many of our usual activities have been cancelled or postponed until they are safe to deliver.

Some virtual events were held in the Autumn term to ensure students were supported as much as possible, and we are looking at what can be done this term.

## Careers Website

<https://www.sohamvc.org/post16careers>

The careers section is always kept as up-to-date as possible, and is a great source of information across many aspects of Careers Education. There are some links to key websites that you are encouraged to visit.

We would also encourage students to regularly access and use the website so please take time to talk to your son/daughter about it.

If you feel we are missing information that would be useful to you, please let us know!!

## Careers Policy, Strategy and Programme

We are required to publish our policy, strategy and programme so that they are available for all to read. All schools had a statutory requirement to do this by September 2018.

All three publications can be found on the Careers section of the school website:

**Policy** - this is our guiding principle and determines what should be done at the top level. It is approved by the Advisory Board and reviewed every 3 years

**Strategy** - this is our comprehensive plan which helps to shape what we do and provide more detail and structure. It is a flexible plan and is reviewed every six months

# Yr11 Post 16 - next steps

All Yr11s have now submitted their college and sixth form applications, or are continuing with their apprenticeship research. We have been very impressed with how they have all dealt with the process, considering they haven't currently been able to visit any of the colleges yet.

All applications will be acknowledged by the colleges. Please ensure students respond to all emails received, as they will all request different information at different stages.

Colleges will start to make contact with students over the next few weeks to arrange their guidance meetings. So far these are the dates or arrangements we are aware of -

**Hills Road - Monday 8th & 9th February**

**Long Road - Thursday 11th & 12th February**

**Oakes College - Friday 26th February & Monday 1st March**

**CRC - from the 1st week in February**

## Guidance meetings guidelines

- Colleges will contact students directly, usually via their primary email address provided in their application..
- Colleges will indicate if the meeting is to take place on-line or via telephone
- For on-line meetings, colleges will request that a parent/carer is also invited to meet Safeguarding requirements.
- Colleges will either make an offer during the meeting, or shortly after.
- Students are advised to accept all offers at this stage to keep their options open as wide as possible. They can make a final decision once they receive their results in August.
- Colleges are hoping to be able to invite students in for a tour later in the year depending on how the pandemic situation develops.

## OTHER NEWS & UPDATES

CRC will be running a virtual online Open Morning on Saturday 30th January from 10am—12.30pm. Register at <https://www.camre.ac.uk/about/events/open-days/>

## Welcome to our newest team member!!

We welcome our new Careers Adviser who joined us this week. Julie Anderson has spent the last few years working as a qualified Careers Adviser at Hills Road, and so has plenty of experience working with young people and advising them on their future plans. Julie will very soon be working with our Yr10s by providing online 1-2-1 personal guidance meetings.

Watch out for the Post 16 introductory letter due to be sent to all Yr10 parents soon, with more details of how these meetings can be booked plus some early guidance on the Post 16 application process and timelines.

# Careerometer:

## A fun interactive tool to compare jobs

Use the Careerometer to compare different jobs — salary, working hours, etc.

Veterinarians		Nurses		Carpenters and joiners	
Weekly Pay <b>£660</b>	Annual Pay <b>£34,320</b>	Weekly Pay <b>£660</b>	Annual Pay <b>£34,320</b>	Weekly Pay <b>£590</b>	Annual Pay <b>£30,680</b>
Hours/Week <b>36h</b>	Hourly Pay <b>£18</b>	Hours/Week <b>36h</b>	Hourly Pay <b>£18</b>	Hours/Week <b>45h</b>	Hourly Pay <b>£13</b>
<b>Workforce Change</b> (projected)		<b>Workforce Change</b> (projected)		<b>Workforce Change</b> (projected)	
Growth <b>8.7%</b>	Replacement <b>53.7%</b>	Growth <b>8.7%</b>	Replacement <b>53.7%</b>	Contraction <b>-2%</b>	Replacement <b>50.4%</b>
<small>The workforce is projected to grow by 8.7% over the period to 2027, creating <b>2,300</b> jobs. In the same period, 53.7% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating <b>13,900</b> job openings.</small>		<small>The workforce is projected to grow by 8.7% over the period to 2027, creating <b>65,900</b> jobs. In the same period, 53.7% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating <b>407,500</b> job openings.</small>		<small>The workforce is projected to contract by -2% over the period to 2027, losing <b>4,900</b> jobs. In the same period, 50.4% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating <b>122,300</b> job openings.</small>	
You might find this job in Veterinary Social work		You might find this job in Health Residential care Social work Public admin. & defence Education		You might find this job in Specialised construction Construction Civil engineering Wood, etc Furniture	
<b>More info</b>	<b>Clear card</b>	<b>More info</b>	<b>Clear card</b>	<b>More info</b>	<b>Clear card</b>

Powered by LMI For All.

You can access the Careerometer through the Careers section of the school website

<https://www.sohamvc.org/lmi>

Type in the first career that you think you might be interested in and select from the drop-down list, then add your second and third choice to see the comparison.

This tool is a great example of Labour Market Information, or LMI.

It has been proven through research that the more young people know about and access LMI, the more informed their future decisions will be.

# Careers Stuff To Do.....

## Tim Peake Q&A event—Thurs 21 Jan 5pm-6pm

Your chance to meet the UK Astronaut Tim Peake and ask him about his career, training and time in space. Register here [Meet Tim Peake](#)

\*please note that for GDPR purposes, parents/carers must register for this event on behalf of under 18s

## Careers Videos to watch

Personal research is a key element of careers education. There are plenty of resources out there to be accessed and used. Here are two very useful websites that students can access themselves, whatever age they are in -

[Articles Archive - icould](#) - lots of useful short videos relating to different careers

[Explore careers by job sectors - BBC Bitesize](#) - a website packed with careers videos and advice

**More resources will be added  
over the coming weeks!!!!**

# Career Quiz

Take the quiz to see which job areas might suit you, then start exploring opportunities – from [apprenticeship](#) and [traineeship](#) to [researching some job families](#). There's a huge variety of options you may not have thought of.

Take the Buzz Quiz

Find out which animal you are

Take the Buzz Quiz



- Find out what your strengths are and what makes you tick
  - Find out which celebrity you are most like
- Find out the types of jobs that might match your character
  -

Click on the [Buzz Quiz](#) link to start your career research journey!!

## Did you know these jobs even existed?...

Netflix Tagger

Food Stylist

Chocolate Taster

Professional  
Bridesmaid

The Queen's  
Piper

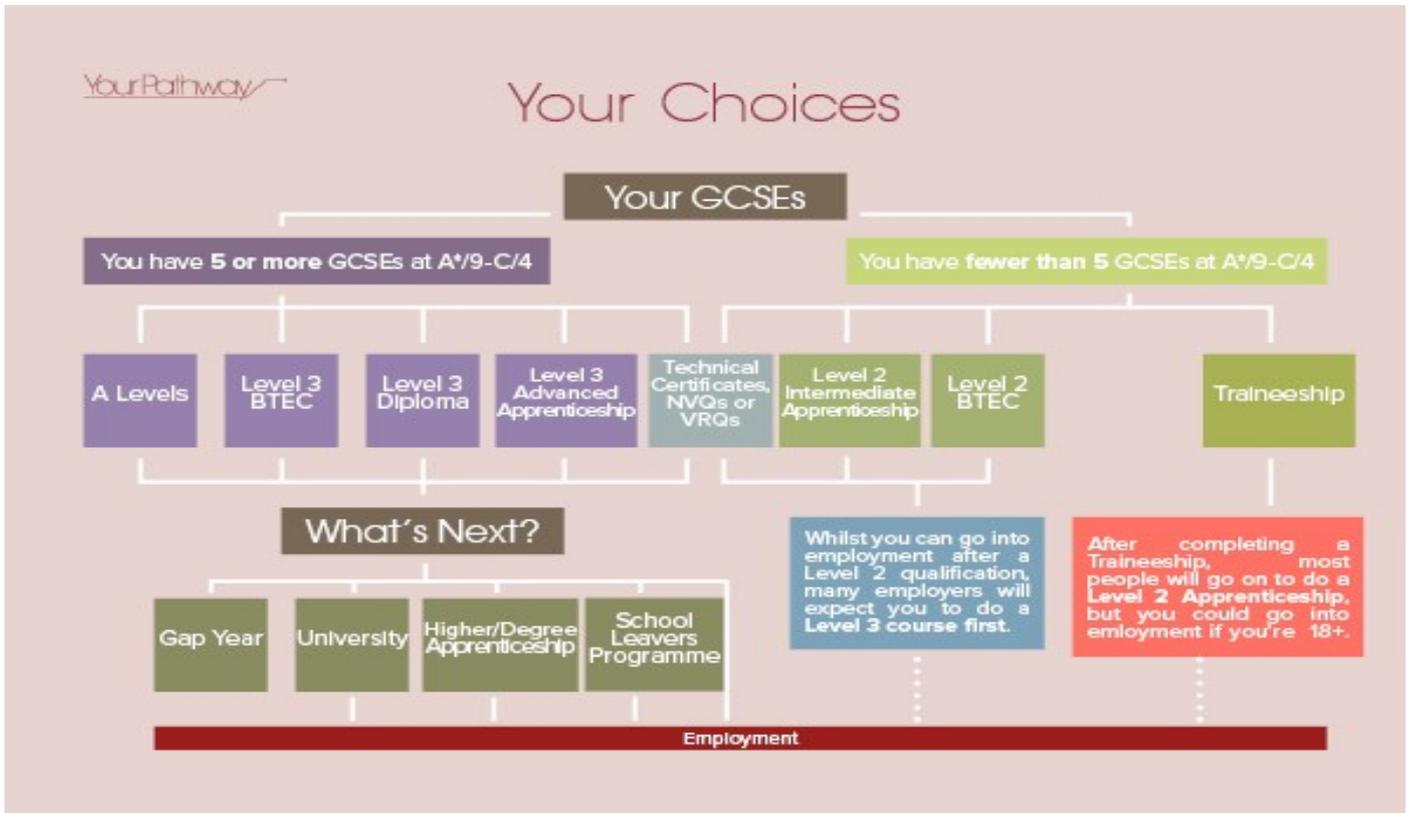
Waterslide Tester

Pet Food Taster(!)

Body Part Model

Professional Sleeper  
(aka Bed Tester)

# Qualifications



The range of courses available to students can appear to be a bit mind-boggling sometimes, and this is one area that students need to be clear about when they start looking at their options.

Colleges will have their own specific entry requirements but the table above can be used as a general guide.

Some colleges will require specific grades in certain subjects in order for students to study that course. Colleges that offer courses linked to apprenticeships may advise that a student should apply for a 1 year vocational course first to gain the basic industry knowledge rather than move straight to an apprenticeship. This will increase the chances of finding a suitable employer.

**Research** is the key for all of this, so the sooner students can start looking at options and ask questions the better.

## Feedback

If you have any feedback about specific careers events we organise then we are very happy to receive them.

Likewise, if you have any suggestions about events you feel we should be putting on, or employers/businesses you would like us to invite into school, then feel free to let us know. We are always open to new ideas or proposals!!

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