

Highlands School News



10 July 2020



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MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

BEHAVIOUR POLICY

Highlands School is committed to the highest standards of student behaviour. After becoming headteacher in September 2018 I concluded that we needed to review our policies and practices to make sure that our behaviour expectations are clear to students and we have a set of impactful rewards and sanctions to encourage good behaviour. Ms Phillips has led a seven month long consultation process and, working with staff, governors and students has written our new behaviour policy, a summary of which is published today as our special newsletter. We will be adapting some aspects of the policy in line with our plans and the DfE guidance for school reopening in September. Please read the parent information pack sent with this newsletter carefully as it contains important information. As part of inducting students back to school in September we will be running sessions to help them learn about the new behaviour policy. One change I would like to make you aware of is to uniform; from September only unmarked leather (or leather look) school shoes will be permitted at school. This means that Air Force 1, Converse and other trainers and pumps are not permitted.

SIXTH FORM INDUCTION FOR NEW YEAR 12 STUDENTS

We held our online sixth form induction day last week. Uptake was good and the feedback was positive. More information and all of our sixth form induction resources can be accessed from page 16 of this newsletter.

WELFARE CALLS

As the end of the term approaches we want to ensure that all our students begin their summer holiday on a positive note and look forward to the start of the new term in September. Next week all form tutors will be making welfare calls to the families of students in their tutor groups. This will be an opportunity for the tutor to speak to parents/carers and the students about their welfare and their remote learning.

SCHOOL REOPENING TO YEARS 12, 10 AND 9

Next week is the final week of face to face teaching for years 9, 10 and 12. Thank you to parents and carers, students and staff who have made the partial reopening of school possible. For those attending school, we have published our risk assessment and guidance documents. If you have not seen our plans, the key documents can be viewed by clicking this link **HERE**.



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10 July 2020

ARRANGEMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER

We have spent the last week working on plans for reopening school in September. We are committed to getting all our students back to school and we are committed to not reducing the curriculum or GCSE and A-level subjects for our students. We will publish our plans and risks assessment next week.

A reminder of the plans for the start of term, we will share specific details for each year group next week:

Thursday 3 September: staff training day Friday 4 September: staff training day Monday 7 September: year 7 induction day

Tuesday 8 September: year 7 and year 12 and 13 induction day

Wednesday 9 September - Friday 11 September: phased return of all other year groups

END OF YEAR ASSESSMENTS

From the 15 June, all subjects stopped delivering new topics and started providing lessons that allow students to review previous content in preparation for an end of year assessment. These assessments will take place in the final week of term (w/c 13 July) and will be set electronically via Google classroom. The assessments will provide students with an immediate score.

Alongside developing students' revision skills, the objective of these assessments is to inform class teachers of secure key knowledge and where there may be misconceptions. We do not want students to feel anxious about the assessment, and we would like to stress that each student's results will not affect grade predictions or setting. These results will allow class teachers to best shape their planning for the next academic year and address any specific knowledge gaps.

We also recognise that we cannot guarantee or ensure all students will be completing these assessments in standardised conditions, as they would have in school. We would encourage all students to attempt these online assessments, where possible, in normal assessment conditions. This is important as it will give teachers a more accurate picture of where their focus needs to be with planning so we can best support all students going forward.

To best support the preparation for this assessment we have also reviewed the way our current lessons are being delivered. Departments have started providing audio clips to narrate over slides to assist with explaining key concepts to students. Initial feedback on the audio explanations has been very positive. If audio clips do not work, students should use Google classrooms to let their teacher know. All subjects are now offering a weekly clinic, in these online clinics students will be able to post questions to teachers, who will be able to answer them.

Vincent McInerney, Headteacher

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#### COMMUNICATION WITH SCHOOL

Our pastoral team (heads of year, behaviour mentors and support staff) are working throughout the closure to support the students under their care. We have two email accounts, monitored each day. These are:

For safeguarding and well-being staysafe@highlearn.uk For IT and Google support itstudent@highlearn.uk

All students have a highlearn Gmail account. Please ask your children to check this regularly as they may have emails from staff regarding school work or staff carrying out supportive welfare checks.

### CELEBRATION OF STUDENTS' WORK

Some great artwork from students throughout the school.

YEAR 7





YEAR 8 DRAWING DRAPERY WITH TONAL RANGE







#### YEAR 9 LOOKING AT LINE, FORM AND COLOUR WITH MICHAEL CRAIG - MARTIN'S WORK



**YEAR 10.** 'I am so proud of my year 10 student Sandor Udvarlaky for painting these stunning watercolour paintings. Sandor has developed a love of art during lockdown and we had no idea he had this hidden talent! I am looking forward to my own unique autographed piece so that I can make my fortune when he becomes a famous artist!' Ms Polak





### **HEADTEACHER'S AWARDS**



**HEADTEACHER'S AWARD** 

Stephania Chrysanthou (Year 7)



**HEADTEACHER'S AWARD** 

Darcey Burt (Year 7)



**HEADTEACHER'S AWARD** 

Benjamin Gormley (Year 7)



**HEADTEACHER'S AWARDS** 

Kristiana Alexandrou (Year 9)







**HEADTEACHER'S AWARD** 

Renee Stoute (Year 10)

**HEADTEACHER'S AWARD** 

Nicole Mills (Year 11)



**HEADTEACHER'S AWARD** 

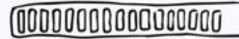
Constandinos Papageorgiou (Year 12)



# GOAL ACHIEVED







100%

### **ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS**



**PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION** 

YEAR 7



Irem Kurt



YEAR 9



**Eleanor Hunt** 

James Wright



**YEAR 11** 

Lydia Alexandrou

Ellie Muzzlewhite

**Ben Thomas** 

YEAR 8 CONSISTENT EFFORT



Michaela Wejszko

Jovan Kirton



YEAR 7 DANCE COMPETITION



Mea Branco



Henry Wakeford







**1KM RUN** 



Celik Ahmet



Kyrian Keliris

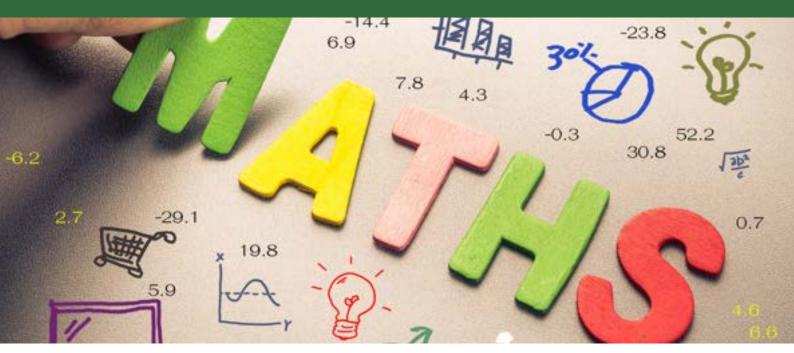
Regan King



Luke Davidson



Joshua Northrop



### **HIGHLANDS SCHOOL MATHS CHALLENGE 2019/20**

During this academic year students from years 7 to 12 have taken part in various maths challenges organised by the United Kingdom Mathematics Trust (UKMT).

#### SENIOR MATHS CHALLENGES (YEAR 12)

During the autumn term, ten of our year 12 further maths students took part in the senior maths challenge. Seven of these students achieved bronze awards and Alex Brennan achieved his 5th Gold award in his 6 years at Highlands School. Alex's score was so high that he was invited to take part in a European wide Maths challenge.

#### **TEAM MATHS CHALLENGES**

For the first time since 2012, Highlands School entered the senior team maths challenge regional final. The team consisted of Amelia Mills, Yagmur Haydaroglu, Charlotte Dodd and Orla Duffy (pictured from left to right). They competed against 29 other schools at City of London School. Although they did not win, they enjoyed the experience.

Unfortunately, Highlands School was unable to take part in the team challenge regional final for years 8 & 9 at City of London School, scheduled to take place on Monday 16 March.

#### INTERMEDIATE MATHS CHALLENGE (YEARS 9, 10 & 11)

In February sixty students from years 9, 10 and 11 took part in the intermediate maths challenge. Congratulations to those students who achieved silver and bronze certificates. Your certificates arrived after 20 March and I have them safely locked away ready to present to you in the next academic year.

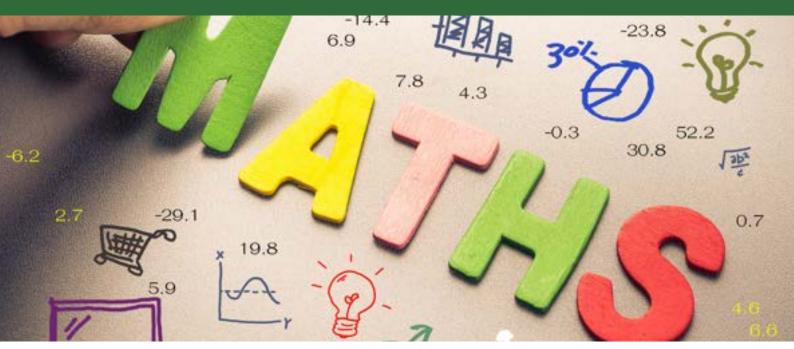
#### JUNIOR MATHS CHALLENGE (YEARS 7 & 8)

The junior maths challenge was due to take place on Thursday 30 April. However, the UKMT altered the challenge to an online platform. Forty of our year 7 & 8 students logged in from 30 June and completed their maths challenge online with some very successful results including six gold awards.

I look forward to seeing many of our fantastic mathematicians taking on the maths challenges next year.

#### Mr McMillan

**Head of Mathematics** 



### **LIST OF MATHS CHALLENGE AWARDS 2019/20**

#### Senior Maths challenge:



Alex Brennan



Amelia Mills, Charlotte Dodd, Ediz Djafer, Evan Eldridge, Orla Duffy, Owen Jones and Yagmur Haydaroglu.



#### Intermediate Math challenge





Chris Kkamaris, Ellie Brown, Peter Carlucci, Grace Chandler, Jack Kemp, Angelos Pappas, Ola Kania, Tvisha Gupta, James Brooks, Frankie Wang, Nathan Douglas and Katie Dowle.



Amara Anglin, Freddie Beacham, Augusto D'Agostino, Ellie James, Demi Panayi, Asia Petrie, Samantha Seibutyte, Ben Foggo, Hannah Griffith, Ella Joseph, Nicholas Andreou, Ella Klewin, Dino Achillea, Corey Beekmeyer, Blake Eldridge, Rosina D'Agostino, Alexia Horea, Zoeb Valiji and Christos Tokkallos.





Omar Hassan, Raafay Siddiqi, Kyrian Keliris, Charlie Northrop, Caden O'Brien and Stephanie Anastasiades.



Jeyla Guccuk, Jamie Janczur, Isaac Kedward, Kyri Antoniou, Hana Fahmy, Ally Griffith and Emma Dowle.



Regan King, Charlie Johnson, Christopher Anastasiou, Joseph Brooks, Daniel Drysdale, Eleanor McHale, Ashley Cullen, Dhiren Rasiah, Caitlin Morgan and Tyler Macdonald.



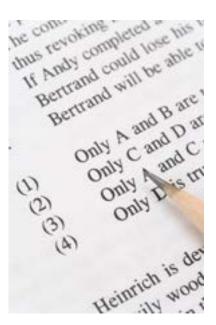


#### **EFFECTIVE STUDY TIPS**

#### TIP #6 Taking multiple choice tests

For your end of year assessments, you will encounter a number of multiple choice questions for each of your subjects. In the past, it may be that you have experienced multiple choice tests or quizzes in some subjects but for others this will be an entirely new way of being assessed. Some students like completing tests such as these because they are definite and there is no writing; while others may agonise over difficult choices and would prefer to express their ideas in a paragraph.

Nevertheless, the multiple choice assessment format has a number of advantages for students and teachers. Students can find the precise nature of the questions reassuring because it is definite and clear (a "you either know it or you don't" type of thinking). You will also be given feedback immediately after completing the test, allowing you to reflect upon how and why you got answers wrong. This means you can immediately learn from the mistakes you made. For teachers, we are also given exact information about what groups of students know and understand and this allows us to address misconceptions in our planning for next year.



#### 1. READ THE QUESTION CAREFULLY AND FULLY

Read a multiple choice question in its entirety before glancing over the answer options. Students often think they know what a question is asking before reading it and jump straight to the most logical answer. This is a big mistake and can cost you dearly on multiple choice exams. Read each question thoroughly before reviewing answer options.



#### 2. Answer the question in your head before looking at the options:

If you know the answer without looking at the options, that means you know this topic particularly well. You might want to write this down on a piece of paper as your early answer and then use the options to double-check your first response. Remember that this is the first stage of answering the question and you should follow the next steps too before making your final decision.





#### 3. Eliminate the wrong answers (the distractors) one by one:

If you are still unsure and haven't yet managed to write anything down, go to each of the options and make a clear decision on why each one is wrong or right. At this stage it is helpful to recite in your head, "Option A is wrong because..." or "I know this is correct because..."

#### 4. If in doubt, rank potential options:

Sometimes, we may still be unclear on the final answer. In this case, you may have two or three options which could be correct. On your paper, put them in order from most likely to least likely and try to find another compelling reason for your strongest to help make your final decision.





#### 5. Miss out, but always review:

If there is a question you really don't know the answer to and you have done all of the stages above, then you should move on. If you have spent five minutes and are still unclear, you will end up becoming quite stressed and not in a good place mentally for doing your best in an assessment. Take a note of the question number or the question itself, move on to other questions and then come back to it. Before submitting your test do check that you have answered all the questions.

Finally, we all want to wish you the very best for your end of year assessments.

Mr Couzin



I hope that you are all keeping safe and well. We have had a really strange term but when we work together we can all achieve what we want to. I know that lots of you have been finding it very difficult just doing work on a computer but have risen to the challenge and have produced some amazingly creative products in your own homes

I have missed seeing you all around the school building and in my classroom cooking great food, but I know that lots of you have used some of your time to learn how to make new dishes and share them with your families. I hope that you will continue to do this when school fully restarts next term.

As we approach the end of school year, I am feeling sad as this is my last year teaching at Highlands as I am retiring. I wish you all a restful summer holiday and hope that you will return to school in September with renewed energy for the challenges ahead.

Best wishes to you all,
Mrs Southern





#### Dear students,

I hope you are all well and staying safe. It's been a long time since I have seen you all and I genuinely miss you! I hope you have managed to enjoy the lovely weather we have been getting even though I am sure you are all busy with school work. Keep going, only two more weeks, woohoo! I have seen some excellent work from my art students and some impressive work from other subjects that your teachers have been sending me to put into our assemblies so we can send you postcards home. Well done! You have done so well in these difficult times, I am so proud.

Remember, that in between doing your work, take regular breaks, do exercise, take some time for yourselves and spend time with your family and friends. Continue with those acts of kindness too! Try to do something enjoyable every day, but try to do something other than being in front of a screen! Board games and card games are fun, you know!

Take care, have a great summer and I will see you in September!

Best wishes,

Mrs Chrysostomou







## NOTICES AND CONTACTS





#### FREE SCHOOL MEALS

For those parents/carers in receipt of free school meals for their child, please note that you will receive a week's FSM allowance on Monday 13 July for the last week of term. You will then receive a 6 week voucher for each child, for the summer holiday period, in line with the Government's announcement of the Covid Summer Food fund.

Please check your inbox (or junk folder) for emails from Edenred.

For any queries, please contact Mrs Czupich, School Manager on czupichs@highlearn.uk

#### STAY SAFE

We have a dedicated email address for students who are struggling and if you feel you need support you can send an email to staysafe@highlearn.uk where a member of staff will receive and respond to your email within 24 hours.



Alternatively, if you would like to speak to someone anonymously, you can also call or chat online with trained professionals at Childline. www.childline.org.uk



#### CHANGE OF CONTACT DETAILS

If there is any change to your contact details, e.g. you have a new mobile number or email address, or you have a change to the people who are the emergency contacts we hold on record for your child, please can you ensure that you send us an email with this information for the attention of (FAO) Ms Naomi Brand, Office Manager. This will enable us to update our records and ensure you do not miss any important emails, newsletters or messages.

postbox@highlands.enfield.sch.uk





### LAMDA SPEECH & DRAMA TUITION & EXAMINATIONS

As part of the extended Drama curriculum at Highlands School, students in all year groups have the option to take LAMDA Speech and Drama examinations. As well as being a globally recognised qualification, LAMDA exams build confidence, develop public speaking and acting skills as well as audition techniques. Higher grades even carry valuable UCAS points, used for gaining college and university places.

Suitable for all levels of experience, ages and abilities from grade 3 (beginner/year 7) to grade 8 (advanced, gold medal, year 12/13). Classes are every Wednesday during term time, starting after normal lessons and last for 1 hour. A full timetable will be published before term begins. Group classes are restricted to 6 students while social distancing requirements are in place. Solo and online lessons are also available on request.

Tuition is supplied by an external provider with a team of qualified and experienced tutors and students should expect to take exams once a year, usually in the summer term. Exams take place at Highlands School. Group lessons cost £10 per week per student, and can be paid termly in advance or by monthly direct debit (admin fees may apply).

For more information or to book a class, please email Mr McGinley in the Drama department on mcginlew@highlearn.uk or postbox@highlands.enfield.sch.uk.

#### IMPORTANT LIBRARY NOTICE

Following the email that was sent on 2 June 2020, we have had a number of enquiries regarding the return of textbooks. Unfortunately we cannot facilitate the return at this time due to social distancing and advice from the local authorities. Please keep your textbooks and any other books that belong to Highlands School safe until we can hopefully receive them back in September.





## HIGHLANDS SIXTH FORM VIRTUAL INDUCTION DAY 2 JULY

Thank you to all the students who participated in the Highlands sixth form virtual induction day and live Q&A on 2 July. Please see the induction site **HERE**.

Highlands sixth form is ambitious and committed to ensuring the success of all students. We are keen for students to join us in a collective effort that sets us all on a route to excellence. During the sixth form induction day students were able to meet new members of the Highlands team joining in September including Mr Depala, the Director of Maths and Whole School Numeracy and Dr Lens, STEM Coordinator. They bring a wealth of experience to the school and the sixth form, including links in medicine, veterinary science and biochemistry with KCL, Oxbridge and UCL. The site also includes subject introductions from these members of staff and current students detailing their experiences.

If you were able to join us for the induction day please could you provide feedback using the Google form **HERE**. This would be much appreciated.

Sign on day takes place on the 20 and 21 August 2020 for Highlands students. Details will follow shortly. We look forward to you joining us in September.

Miss Husseyin

**Director of Sixth Form** 







## PIERS MORGAN WELCOMES LAUNCH OF NCTJ VIRTUAL SUMMER SCHOOL

The National Council for the Training of Journalists (NCTJ) has launched an online summer school, designed to introduce journalism for beginners. Over the next two months, the free summer school will release a video masterclass each week via the NCTJ's YouTube channel, on topics such as news gathering, interviewing skills, media law, sports journalism, and broadcasting. Contributors include NCTJ patron and Sky News correspondent Alex Crawford, and the BBC's Rianna Croxford.

Journalist, Piers Morgan, also started out his training with the NCTJ qualification and has stated the skills he learnt there. These skills include, how to spot and construct a story, how to interview people, how to navigate the strange worlds of national and local politics, the law, and even how to take shorthand notes at 100 words per minute which has stayed with him throughout his career.

Register your interest **HERE**.

#### **IMPERIAL 360**



You'll have an opportunity to hear department talks, learn more about the admissions process and ask questions to academic staff and current students in a live Q&A session.

Simply register your place via this link **HERE**.

Imperial College London is holding a week of STEM talks, where you can hear from various departments about their subjects, including:



**Natural Sciences** – 14 July (includes life sciences, chemistry, physics and mathematics.)



**Medicine** – 15 July (includes biomedical science and medicine.)



**Engineering** – 16-17 July (includes separate specialisms.)



**Student support and wellbeing** – 18 July



#### **APPRENTICESHIP**

An apprenticeship is a chance to learn from the best, develop essential soft skills and gain industry-specific qualifications, all while being paid. Apprenticeships are recognised as a springboard to success and no longer a safety net for those who don't achieve academically. In fact, last year, over 121,000 under 19 year olds started apprenticeships, and on average there are up to 27,000 vacancies online at any one time.

#### WHAT'S AN APPRENTICESHIP?

An apprenticeship is a genuine job where you will be employed by a company, get paid a salary and be entitled to paid holidays and sick pay. You will be working towards qualifications that are relevant to your job.

#### AN APPRENTICE WILL:

- work alongside experienced staff.
- gain job specific skills.
- learn a wage and get holiday pay.
- be given time for study related to their role (the equivalent of one day a week).

#### WHAT LEVELS ARE THERE?

There are different levels of apprenticeships available. The level you start at will depend on your current qualifications and the opportunities available in the sector you are interested in. Sometimes you may have to start on a lower level apprenticeship even if you already have a level 3 qualification.

| Name Lev                                                                 |                                                                                    | Entry requirements                                                                                                                                                                | Length       |  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--|
| Intermediate<br>(equivalent to 5<br>good GCSE<br>passes at grade<br>9-4) | 2                                                                                  | Might not need qualifications. Must be over 16 and have the ability to complete the programme.                                                                                    | 12-18 months |  |
| Advanced<br>(equivalent to<br>two A level<br>passes/level 3<br>diploma)  | 3                                                                                  | You usually need five good GCSEs or to have completed an Intermediate Apprenticeship.  If you have A levels, you may still need to start at this level to get the job experience. | 18-48 months |  |
| Higher<br>(equivalent to a<br>foundation<br>degree and<br>above)         | 4-7                                                                                | You usually will have completed an advanced apprenticeship or have done a level 3 course such at A levels or BTEC.                                                                | 24 months +  |  |
| Degree<br>(equivalent to a<br>bachelor's or<br>master's degree)          | valent to a apprenticeship or have done a level 3 course such as A levels or BTEC. |                                                                                                                                                                                   | 24 months +  |  |

#### WHAT CAN THEY EARN?

The national minimum wage (NMW) for apprentices is £4.15 per hour. The apprentice NMW applies to apprentices aged under 19 or aged 19 or over and in the first year of their apprenticeship. Apprentices aged 25 and over, and not in the first year of their apprenticeship, will be entitled to the national minimum wage.

| Year       | 25 and over | 21 to 24 | 18 to 20 | Under 18 |
|------------|-------------|----------|----------|----------|
| April 2020 | £8.72       | £8.20    | £6.45    | £4.55    |



#### DO YOU GET A JOB AT THE END OF YOUR APPRENTICESHIP?

There are over 1,500 different types of jobs you can do an apprenticeship in across 170 different industries, ranging from law to graphic design, advertising to electric vehicle engineering and veterinary nursing to floristry.

Take a look at the list **HERE**.

#### WHERE DO I LOOK FOR AN APPRENTICESHIP?

With so many opportunities on offer, there are several ways you can find an apprenticeship.

More information, including videos of current apprentices, is available at apprenticeships.

You can search and apply for vacancies on **GOV.UK search & apply**.

If you would like to view more information on a selection of well known employers you can visit the vacancy snapshot at amazing apprenticeships.

If you are interested in working for a particular employer, take a look on their website to see what they are offering.



#### IT'S TIME TO SHAKE THE STIGMA ATTACHED TO APPRENTICESHIPS

Whilst university remains a sought after route for school and college leavers, the rising cost of university tuition fees have caused many to reconsider their options. This explains why more and more young people are turning towards apprenticeships.

Myth 1: Apprenticeships are for underachievers and school dropouts.

**Reality:** More and more A-grade students are choosing to do apprenticeships.

With hundreds of top employers who offer high demanding graduate schemes now offering apprenticeships, many career-driven students are skipping university to go straight into work. Competition for higher apprenticeships is tough. Whilst one in three 18 year olds received an unconditional university offer in 2019, it is likely you will need to apply for several vacancies before being successful in securing the perfect apprenticeship.

Each scheme offers school and college leavers the chance to kick start their career, without the debt incurred by going to university. All apprentices are paid at least the national minimum wage, with many companies paying more to attract the best candidates.

Myth 2: Apprentices are financially worse off than graduates.

**Reality:** An apprenticeship is a debt-free path to success.

Myth 3: Apprenticeships limit your future career prospects.

**Reality:** An apprenticeship opens many doors.

The truth is, whether you end up at university or in an apprenticeship, the soft skills gained will apply to almost any career you put your mind to. These include time management, teamwork, leadership, problem solving and negotiating.

Think apprentices are lumped with tedious tasks like making tea? Think again. Apprentices must cover a wide range of tasks in order to successfully complete the programme. Their employer is obliged to give them practical and relevant work that supports their professional development, ensuring they come out ready to work.

**Myth 4:** An apprenticeship is not a proper job.

**Reality:** Apprentices are given real responsibility.

Myth 5: Apprenticeships are limited to trade industries

**Reality:** Schemes are now available in a wide range of sectors

Traditionally associated with industries like construction, electrical and plumbing, apprenticeships are often overlooked in favour of further education. However, young people today can choose to do an apprenticeship in almost anything, including aerospace engineering, banking, law, digital marketing, teaching and fashion. There are some zany apprenticeships out there too, such as brewing, papermaking and beekeeping.

Whilst university is a brilliant option for some, it is not a one-size-fits-all solution, nor does it guarantee you will land your dream job. An apprenticeship is a viable alternative that could see you reaching your career goals much sooner than you think.

### **TOP 100 EMPLOYERS**

Rate my apprenticeship have the top 100 Employers for school & college leavers 2019. The rankings are based entirely on the opinions of apprentices and school leaver trainees from 100 UK organisations. Apprentices completed surveys analysing everything about their employers and training programmes, from skills development, career progression and training to company culture. **Top 100 Employers** 

Mrs Laurenzi - laurenzs@highlearn.uk