



**CENTRAL
FOUNDATION**
BOYS' SCHOOL

Central Futures

Guide



Contents

- Page 3—Successes
- Page 4—Opening the DOOR
- Page 5—Dedication
- Page 6—Organisation
- Page 7—Opportunities
- Page 8—Resilience
- Page 9—Year 12 calendar
- Page 10—Pathways
- Page 11—Is university best for me?
- Page 12—Is university affordable?
- Page 13—Which degree is best for me?
- Page 14—Should I move out of London?
- Page 15—How do I study abroad?
- Page 16—Is employment best for me?
- Page 17—Qualities of a top apprentice
- Page 18—How much will employment pay me?
- Page 19—Can I work abroad?
- Page 20—Useful contacts

Successes

Opening the Door

Central Futures is our dedicated programme designed to prepare you for your future beyond Central Foundation Boys' School. Whether that be continuing your studies at university, looking for an apprenticeship or going straight into employment, we aim to help you develop the right **qualities, skills and experiences** to be successful.



To ensure that these doors are open for you, we ask you to focus on four qualities which will feed into your academic qualifications:

- Be **Dedicated** to your studies
- Be **Organised** in your approach
- Make the most of **Opportunities**
- Be **Resilient** in the face of set-backs

Berkan Marasli – A*A*BB, Mechanical Engineering at University of Warwick

Yassin Ezrouki – D*D*D, Law at University of Manchester

Conor Davidson – AAB, Geography at UCL

Ray Rohman – AAB, Computer Science at Queen Mary

Leunor Xhemshiti – A*AB, Mathematics and King's College London

Rodi Gemici-Bektas – D*D*D*, Computer Science at Loughborough University

Jordan Spearman – D*D*D* International Relations at Loughborough University

Opening the DOOR

Dedicated

Organised

Opportunities

Resilient



Opening the DOOR

Dedicated

- Attend every lesson—maximise the amount of contact time you can have with teachers and other students
- Complete all homework—the work you do in class is not sufficient for getting the door open to universities and employers
- Go the extra mile—read widely in both fiction and non-fiction, and read literature both related to and unrelated to your course.
- Be broad in your approach to your studies—watch documentaries, visit galleries, go to museums, travel!



Opening the DOOR

Organised

- Use Show My Homework—ensure you never miss a piece of homework, and use teachers' extra resources.
- Meet deadlines—write down upcoming coursework, essay or assignment deadlines, and plan which weeks you will be busiest.
- Use the Central Futures website.



Opening the DOOR

- Use the Central Futures website to find eye-opening and helpful opportunities such as lectures and events.
- Make the most of free public lectures hosted by the London School of Economics, among others.
- If you have a Key Project tutor, or any tutor, ensure you attend every tutorial.

Opportunities



Opening the DOOR

- Learn from exam mistakes and do not be disheartened by them—every new qualification you take supersedes in importance the previous one. In other words, if your GCSEs did not go as well as you would have liked, then work hard as your A-levels or vocational subjects will matter more!
- Take advice—all staff are experts in their subjects and use their advice on your work to learn from mistakes and move.
- Have a growth mindset—do not think you cannot do something, just that you are not there yet!
- Stretch yourself—put yourself in difficult situations

Resilient



Year 12 Calendar

September

Inform the Central Futures Team if you are considering applying for Medicine, or to Oxford or Cambridge.

October

Sign-up for the first Central Futures website activities.

November

Inform Central Futures Team of your progress from the Central Futures website. This will continue throughout Year 12 and 13.

December

Sit **AP1**. **Attend** Central Futures Smart Choices Workshops.

January

Attend Central Futures Subject Specialists talks.

February

Visit universities that you are considering applying for.

March

Sit **AP2**.

April

Submit Central Futures Pre-Application.

May

Sit **AP3** and **AS-levels**.

June

Attend Central Futures Final Choices Workshops.

July

Submit personal statement.

August

Receive your AS-level results. **Prepare** for Year 13.

Year 13 Calendar

September

Meet with your Slaughter and May mentor about your personal statement. **Talk** to your family and friends about your choices.

October

Submit your final personal statement to Mr Samuel. **Submit** all Medicine, Oxbridge applications. **Prepare** to make final choices.

November

UCAS Application sent to universities by Mr Samuel.

December

Sit **AP1**.

January

Apply for Student Finance.

February

Visit universities that you are considering for Firm and Insurance choices.

March

Sit **AP2**.

April

Make final **Firm** and **Insurance** choices for universities.

May

Sit **A-levels**.

June

Finish **vocational qualifications**.

July

Start to search **Clearing** for available university courses.

August

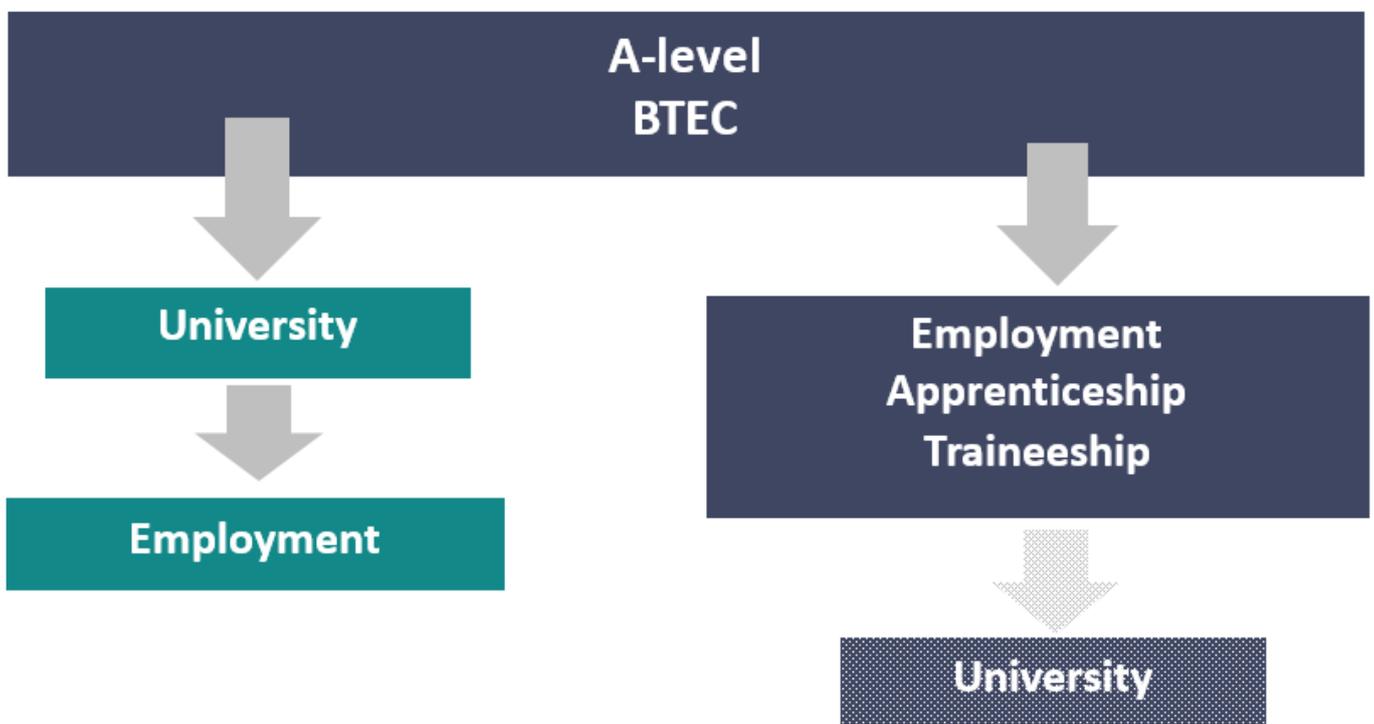
Receive your A-level results. Enter **Clearing** or **Adjustment** if your grades were not as expected but you still want a university place.

Pathways

Our aim is that on leaving school at the end of Year 13, all of you have a choice on your pathway. We strongly believe that **if each of you takes all the opportunities afforded to you by the Central Futures team, focuses well in lessons and completes all homework**, each of you will have a number of different doors open to you at the end of Year 13.

There is a university degree out there for all of you. We have had both A-level and BTEC students go on to Russell Group universities, and if you achieve highly, each student can choose between a number of degree programmes. If your qualifications, skills or experiences do not match up to a Russell Group degree, there is still a degree that we can find for you, perhaps at foundation level. **After completing a degree, each graduate will then go on to start a job; this is why the Central Futures workshops on jobs and careers are still essential for everyone.**

There is also a job or apprenticeship out there for everyone. There are apprenticeships with entry requirements more stringent than the best university degrees – including AAA – and although these are very competitive, **they are worth considering for all of you.** If you are unsure about whether you want to do a degree or start an apprenticeship, it is worth remembering that you can do an apprenticeship or job for a few years and then start a degree.



Is university best for me?

Whichever pathway you chose when you leave school, it must be a choice you have made for a positive reason. We want all of our students to have the option to choose between a number of different options and make a decision based on what will be best for you, rather than simply falling into your only available option.

Academic discipline

University is a wonderful opportunity to become an **expert in a subject** that students have enjoyed at Key Stage 5. It is crucial to choose that subject carefully – you should consider going to the free public lectures that we advertise on the Central Futures Bulletin to test your interest in a subject – but when at university a new world of academic opportunities will be open to the students. You will have the chance to be taught by experts in their fields with qualifications above Masters Level and to talk about your subject with like-minded people. This is an amazing opportunity to excel in an area that only a handful of people have previously investigated. You will thrive in undertaking difficult tasks if you **work hard**—the step up from A-level or BTEC to degree is vast.

Soft skills

Many graduates of university degrees will not go on to use that subject in their day-to-day life as they enter careers or take on jobs. For example, History graduates will often go into law, advertising, accountancy or journalism, it is unusual for them to become professional academic historians. This is because undergraduate degrees teach the soft skills that are required to be excellent employees. At university, you will **be expected to write fluently**, and **talk confidently** in front of a large group of people, skills which are invaluable in all jobs. You will also be expected to **meet deadlines and work independently** for large periods of time.

Social opportunities, including sports and activities

Frequently students at university focus on their social life rather than their academic life. We recommend that all students make their choice based on academic reasons, however, the social experiences people have at university should not be neglected when considering whether or not to apply. By **meeting people with similar interests** you will meet life-long friends. Furthermore, these friends are likely to be **from very different backgrounds** and locations to what you are used to, which gives university students a diversity among their friendship group.

Not all degrees are created equal

Now that degrees do cost around £50,000, we do need to recognise that some universities provide better degrees than others and this will have an impact on future earnings and the “worth” of your degree. In particular, degrees from the **Sutton Trust 30** are more well regarded than others and those from **post-1992** universities give the lowest starting salaries.

Summary

Be ready to:

- Work hard to make the significant step up in difficulty easier
- Write and talk about your subject regularly and in great depth
- Meet new and like-minded people

Is university affordable?

Our unequivocal answer to this is, **yes**. We do not want any of you to be put off by the cost of university. The student loans cover all the costs, and all of you can take up **part-time jobs during term-time** and **full-time jobs during the holidays**, which are longer than school holidays. However, it is worth remembering that **not all degrees are born equal**: some will offer better prospects than others and will be more “worth your while”. Remember, **all universities offer bursaries** too, so research these.

Fees

As things stand, the maximum tuition fee a university can charge for its teaching for one year is £9,000. This means that most three year degrees cost £27,000 in tuition fees. However, every student who is a UK national, has “settled” in the UK, normally lives in England or has been living in the UK for three years, is entitled to **a loan that covers all the tuition costs**. The Student Loans Company, run by Student Finance England, will pay the university directly using that loan; this is significant because it means that you will never see the money that is being paid to the university and you will not have the opportunity to spend it!

Living costs

All those eligible for student finance can receive a maintenance loan, but there is no longer a maintenance grant. The amount you receive will depend on where you go to university and where you live. If you live away from home but go to university in London, you will receive the most. Below are the basic details for the last two years:

Full-time student	Loan for courses from September 2014	Loan for courses from September 2015
Living at home	Up to £4,418	Up to £4,565
Living away from home, outside London	Up to £5,555	Up to £5,740 (could rise to £8,200 if from a low-income household)
Living away from home, in London	Up to £7,751	Up to £8,009 (could rise to £10,702 if from a low-income household)
You spend a year of a UK course studying abroad	Up to £6,600	Up to £6,820

Now that there are no grants, there is more loan available for those of you that are from “low-income” households. Those living away from home at a London university could receive £10,702 this year and those living away from home at a university outside of London could receive up to £8,200.

Loan repayment

All student loan repayments are affordable. You will only start repaying once you earn over £21,000, and even then you will only pay £7 a month. At £35,000 a year you will only pay £105 a month. Furthermore, the loan is totally wiped out after 30 years and it is more akin to a tax as it is not considered a debt and does not affect a credit score.

Which degree is best for me?

There are no set rules when considering which universities and which courses to choose when applying for university. The best way to approach this is for you to make a list of what factors would make an excellent university experience for you and them and to find universities that match those factors. To help with this process you might consider:

The academic reputation of the university and the course at the university

Some universities are more well-known than others. This can be an advantage in many cases as it may get you an interview for a job based on the type of university they attended. However, the most important thing is whether the university can deliver **high-quality teaching and learning**. A university with a strong reputation might get someone an interview, but if the teaching was poor, you will get no further than the interview. Because of this, it will be worth checking the **academic reputation of the course** you want to study at specific universities. For example, the University of Reading might not be as well-known as the University of Manchester, but it far exceeds Manchester with regards to its teaching of Earth Science. The quality of teaching may not be known to future employers, but at interview and in the course of a career, the students who have made the most progress at university will go the furthest.

The location

We encourage all of you to apply for courses **outside of London** where possible. This is because it will broaden their horizons and encourage them to develop some independence. Of course, this is not possible in all cases, but if there are no barriers we recommend that they apply to and visit some universities in different areas. It will also be worth considering if you would prefer to live in a student campus – with all university buildings separate from the local city or town – or a city-based university.

The funding opportunities

Some universities offer more generous **bursaries and grants** than others. University is affordable, so this might not be the primary factor affecting your decision, but it might sway a decision for a Firm choice.

The course structure

Some courses come with opportunities to **study abroad** or to **work in a placement** for a year. These opportunities broaden horizons greatly and are often a fantastic learning opportunity. However, often they rely on high-quality provision from the university abroad that they send people to or the employers they have connections with, so it is worth investigating this. It is also worth checking how much teaching time you will have. If they you 30 hours of lectures a week but all lectures have 200 people in them, you will not have much contact time. If you have 14 hours of lectures a week with 200 people in them but also two hours a week of contact time as a group of four, you will be getting a lot of supervision.

Should I move out of London?

There are over 100 universities in the UK, including those as far afield as Inverness in Scotland and those that are a short trip across the Irish Sea such as Belfast. For many reasons, **we strongly encourage you to apply for two or more universities outside of London and to visit them.** There are also countless job and apprenticeship opportunities outside of London, though finding accommodation away from home will be easier through a university than an employer.

The time is right

This time of your life is the perfect time to move out of London: you have a **natural break** from your time at school to the next stage of your life and many of your friends will be moving away. Furthermore, if you are in the fortunate position of having no caring duties at home then now is a good time to move away from home before you develop ties at home, such as having a family of your own to look after!

Inflated London requirements

In our experience, London universities that are outside the Russell Group have higher entry requirements than their equivalents outside London, particular for City, Westminster and Brunel. This might be due to the increased number of applications to these universities resulting from their location; the universities therefore might feel justified in increasing their requirements. Our advice would be to apply to universities outside London of similar reputation and standing as their **entry requirements are frequently lower.**

Broadening horizons

Many of you have spent all of your life living in London and all of you have lived in London at some point! It is really important that you broaden your horizons by living somewhere else for a while. This will give you a **sense of identity with the rest of the UK and a wider frame of reference.** You will also meet people from different backgrounds and different perspectives.

Three years

For those of you applying to university or to do an apprenticeships, these are particularly good opportunities to live away from London and away from home as they are **time limited:** at least you know that in three years you can return to London if you want to!

Independence

Sooner or later **you will need to move out of your family home.** The longer you delay this, the more difficult the process will become.



How do I study abroad?

Studying abroad is becoming an increasingly attractive proposition for many school leavers. There are a number of great universities in Europe which are as close to London as some of the universities in the UK.

Why?

There are some fantastic universities in Europe that can provide you with an **excellent education** and a great degree. Plus nearly all of these universities offer degrees in subjects that are **taught in English**, so there is no need to speak the language. The degrees in Europe are also considerably **cheaper** than degrees in the UK, while most UK degrees will result in repaying £50,000 of loans, some French and German degrees will cost £15,000 in total. However, there is no student loan available for these overseas degrees.

Where?

Anywhere! Clearly, countries like Australia, Canada and USA offer high-quality, reputable degrees taught in English. However, all over Europe there are established and well-regarded universities that offer degrees taught in English.

How?

The most affordable way to get a taste of university life abroad is via an exchange programme, where you are enrolled in a UK university degree but take part of their course overseas. You remain eligible for student loans in the UK and may even be able to access grants to help with their costs. One of the best-known exchange schemes is the **Erasmus** programme, an initiative of the European Union that is run by the British Council in the UK. As well as whatever maintenance loans they are eligible for at home, Erasmus participants also receive a grant from the European Commission to cover the additional costs arising from living abroad. This varies from €270 (£215) to €370 per month depending on the country they are studying in. Students do not have to pay any tuition fees to the international university and at present the fees due to their UK institution are also waived for the period they are away, providing the study period is a full academic year of 24 weeks.

For individuals who want to take an entire degree overseas, the financial situation becomes a bit more difficult. Student loans are **not available** via the Student Loans Company for students who plan to study outside the UK. Most EU countries do have some type of scheme that provides loans and financial aid to students, however these are not usually open to students from other member states. While tuition itself is free in some EU countries, prospective students can often find themselves with no way of funding their living expenses. The Scandinavian countries present a good example of the funding dilemma many students face — on the one hand there are no tuition fees in Denmark, Finland, Norway or Sweden, but on the other hand, these are notoriously expensive places to live and a significant sum of money will be needed for living costs. You will need to **have saved in advance and have found a part-time job**.

Another option for funding overseas study is scholarships. There are **scholarships** available to those looking to study abroad but **competition is fierce**, particularly at undergraduate level. These can be awarded on merit or need and vary in the level of assistance provided. In the US, universities award about 1,000 scholarships to foreign students each year, ranging from partial scholarships to what's called a "full-ride", where all of a student's tuition fees and expenses are covered.

Is employment best for me?

Increasing numbers of school leavers are choosing employment over university, and rightly so. There is a plethora of fantastic school leaver, apprenticeship and traineeship opportunities out there many with **high quality training opportunities and salaries** comparable with university graduate salaries. It would be sensible for you to weigh up all options before making a decision taking into consideration rising university fees, graduate unemployment and employment market trends.

There are many different routes into employment you can take including **school leaver programmes, apprenticeships and traineeships**.

What is a school leaver programme?

School leaver programmes, often called higher apprenticeships, are aimed at high achieving Year 13 students with A-levels or equivalent qualifications, who are intelligent enough to go to university but have decided instead to enter the world of work. Increasingly more and more companies are offering school leaver programmes as they find taking students on at this stage very attractive. You will often end up, after three to four years at a similar stage as a graduate would entering the organisation.

Industries include:

Asset and Investment Management, Banking & Finance, Construction, Engineering, Hospitality, Media, Professional Services, Public Services & Science & Technology

Levels and entry requirements:

Most programmes involve studying for further professional qualifications or a degree. These are paid for by the employer. Generally companies are looking for 240+ UCAS points.

Businesses offering School Leaver Programmes



What is an apprenticeship?

An apprenticeship is an opportunity to gain a recognised qualification and develop professional skills while also earning a salary working in a business or public sector organization. Apprenticeships can last between one to four years and are available in a wide range of industries.

Industries include:

Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Care; Arts, Media and Publishing; Business, Administration and Law; Construction, Planning and the Built Environment; Education and Training; Engineering and Manufacturing Technologies; Health, Public Services and Care; Information, Communication and Technology; Leisure, Travel and Tourism; Retail and Commercial Enterprise

Levels and entry requirements:

Intermediate (Level 2) – Five GCSEs or equivalent

Advanced (Level 3) – Five GCSEs at A* to C, and some employers may ask for A-levels or BTECs

Higher (Level 4) – Five GCSEs at A* to C and three A-levels or equivalent

What is a traineeship?

A traineeship is an education and training programme with work experience that unlocks the great potential of young people and prepares them for their future careers by helping them to become 'work ready'.

Designed to help young people aged 16 to 24 who do not yet have the appropriate skills or experience, traineeships provide the essential work preparation training, English, maths and work experience needed to secure an apprenticeship or employment.

Levels and entry requirements:

You can apply for a traineeship if you are aged 16-24 and are qualified below Level 3. You can also of course start in an entry level role in a company. Entry level roles tend to train you on the job however do not require you to work towards a formal qualification.

Qualities of a top apprentice

A high-quality apprentice is in many respects similar to a high-quality student at both school and university. You have had the chance to develop all of these skills in your school career, and you should strive to continue to show them while doing your apprenticeship.

Commitment

The most successful apprentices will be **excited about starting** their apprenticeship and will be **committed to learning** and working throughout their minimum one year. Employers are investing time and money in apprentices and you will need to be able to demonstrate in your application and interview that you are interested in the field and committed to the apprenticeship.

Positive attitude to learning

Apprenticeships provide a unique opportunity to **earn money while learning**. The purpose of the apprenticeship is to get a **qualification**, which means you will benefit greatly from showing a positive attitude to learning. Juggling work with studying for the qualification can be tough, so ensure that you have positive ways to deal with this challenge.

Communication

All places of work and education require candidates to be good communicators. In unfamiliar surroundings you will need to effectively **communicate with strangers in your team**. This is an exciting opportunity to develop **written and oral** communication skills that are used in work and in practice and not just in exams. You should take all the opportunities that are afforded to you to practice writing fluently and speaking in front of a large audience to prepare you for this.

Work well under pressure

The workplace can be stressful and there will be times when you might feel overwhelmed by the pressures. All apprentices should try to **plan effectively** the tasks that they need to complete so that they do not come all at once. All applicants should therefore have spent some time in a professional environment or on a work placement to give them exposure to the pressures of working life.

How to be a star candidate

It is often easier to secure a role as a school leaver than as a graduate when there is more competition however this does not mean that securing employment will be easy. If employers are investing both time and money in training you then they need to be sure they choose the right candidate. The qualities employers are looking for will vary according to the job role, however all are looking for these key elements:

- 1) **Interest in the role and company** - you can achieve this by researching the companies you would be interested in working for, attend industry networking events and find out about job roles and opportunities for progression.
- 2) **Ability to demonstrate skills and commitment to learning new ones**—you need to identify the skills that you need for the job role and be able to show the employer you have these. This could be through projects at school or through extra-curricular activities. Employers will also want to see that you have an aptitude to learning new skills.
- 3) **Demonstrate that you work well independently and within a team**—all roles will have elements of team work and you need to show that you have interpersonal skills and are able to take direction as well as work independently. Consider getting involved in school enterprise projects or enrichment activities such as the Duke of Edinburgh award to develop these.

How much will employment pay?

The reason going straight into employment from school is an attractive alternative to university is that you will be paid a salary while gaining industry experience. However, the salaries employers offer vary greatly between different sectors. Below are some guidelines on what you can expect.

School leaver programmes

The reason that school leaver programmes are such an attractive alternative to university is the fact that you will work towards a Level 4 qualification without having to pay lots of money for expensive tuition fees. What is even better is that you will be paid a salary by your employer. As most of the school leaver programmes do not fit into the accredited apprenticeship frameworks and you will not be employed on a 'Contract of Apprenticeship', companies are obliged to pay you at least the National Minimum Wage rather than the standard apprenticeship wage of only £2.73 an hour. Many employers pay much more than this; although lots do not disclose how much they pay, below are some examples.

KPMG—£20,000

National Audit Office £22,497

National Grid Engineering programme—£18,000 - £23,000

Marks & Spencer—£18,000

These salaries are comparable with many graduate salaries but by the time your peers finish university you will already have three to four years industry experience.

Apprenticeships

Unfortunately apprenticeships tend to have a lower salary; although the National Minimum Wage for apprentices is £2.73 the apprenticeship providers that we work with as a school encourage their employers to offer at least the London Living Wage. There are some amazing apprenticeships out there but you need to carefully consider if an apprenticeship is the right option for you. It is unlikely that you would be able to afford to move out of home on an apprentice wage so it is worth speaking to your parents about whether or not they are happy for you to continue living at home and how much they would expect you to contribute to the household once you are working.

Entry level jobs

Again these will vary from employer to employer but as this is not an accredited apprenticeship employers will have to pay you at least the minimum wage. The employers that we have dealt with over the last couple of years have been City Firms and below are examples of the wages/salary they have offered for roles that our students have moved into.

Junior Accounts Assistant—£20,000

Junior IT Technician—£18,000

Client Services Assistant—£6.50/hour

Which route is best for me?

Although it may be tempting to go for the roles with highest starting salaries it is important that you consider the training provided and opportunities for progression. This is something you may want to discuss with an employer at the time of interview. You need to consider all options for the career or industry you are interested in and look at what each programme has to offer and how much you want to commit. If you feel that you have had enough of studying it would not be wise to apply to a school leaver programme where there is significant study involved; you may be better suited to an entry level job where you will gain skills and experience in the role.

Can I work abroad?

There are a number of different gap year programmes for school leavers as well as various opportunities to study and work abroad. You may be undecided about what it is that you want to do, have a break before starting university or want to perfect a language all of which are great reasons to consider spending some time abroad.

Working abroad has a whole host of benefits including learning a new language, experiencing a new culture, meeting new people, gaining independence and bolstering your CV. If you have decided to move abroad it is essential that you carefully consider what you will do as well as how you will finance your trip. Although you may secure paid work you will need enough money to cover your first few months living costs.

English teaching

As an English speaker there are many opportunities to teach giving you the opportunity to live and work in almost any country in the world. Although it may be possible to find work without a teaching qualification you can enhance your chances by completing a TEFL course. There are many companies who will help you find work after you complete your training. These courses can be expensive however and need some careful researching.

Volunteering

There are hundreds of gap year volunteering projects in areas such as conservation, education and sports coaching. There are lots of organisations that run volunteer projects

Paid work

Although it is possible to find employment independently it may be a good idea to do this via an organisation who can support you with travel arrangements, insurance, visas and provide links to employers. Going abroad as part of a programme will also mean that you are likely to meet people just like you who are keen to learn about the new country, culture and experience new things.

Organisations that can help



How can I prepare for employment?

Finding out what you want to do

As you are in Year 12 you have the luxury of time. You do however need to use this time wisely to figure out what it is that you want to do. The best way to do this is to do as much research about the careers that interest you. Find out the different entry routes, qualification requirements and experience needed. We would also advise you to open up your mind to careers you have not previously considered. There may be a perfect job out there for you but if you don't know it exists. Sign up for as many career insight sessions and talks as you can. If you decide it's not for you then it is time well spent.

Getting work experience

There will be opportunities for all year 12s to apply for work experience placements. No preferential treatment is given to any student, all students must apply through a formal application process just as you would for any job vacancy. The application process will vary from employer to employer but will usually involve submission of a CV and covering letter. All work experience positions will be advertised on the Central Futures bulletin so you need to be proactive and look for the opportunities as soon as they come out. To give yourself the best chance possible of being successful in gaining a work experience placement ensure that you sign up to the Central Futures Employability Skills sessions.

Employability Skills

What are employability skills?

Employability skills are the skills that you need not only to gain employment but to progress within your chosen career. Employers are not only interested in your grades and experiences but also your transferable skills. Transferable skills are those skills which can be applied in a variety of different contexts. Examples of these are communication, team work, leadership & problem solving.

Where can I learn these?

As part of the Central Futures programme we will be running employability workshops, some of which will be compulsory and will teach you the basics. Others will be optional however if you are serious about getting work ready then you will be signing up. We are also very lucky that lots of our partner businesses are running employability sessions for our students. Places on these are usually limited so again keep an eye on the bulletin for up and coming opportunities.

Build up networks

Every contact you make could be a future opportunity. You are lucky that through the Central Futures programme you will come into contact with lots of businesses and professional from a wide range of industries. Always make a good impression and try to maintain contact where possible. You never know when you might need to call on someone to help with an application, provide advice or be a referee.

Useful contacts

School Contacts

Mr William Samuel

For university questions
samuelw@cfbs.islington.sch.uk

Mr Stevens

For employment questions
stevensl@cfbs.islington.sch.uk

Mr Harriott

For Key Project questions
harriottm@cfbs.islington.sch.uk

Ms Dionne Shaw

For information, advice and guidance
shawd@cfbs.islington.sch.uk

University

www.ucas.com – Where to register and search for courses

www.unifrog.org – Course & university search engine, ask the Central Futures team for login details.

<http://www.russellgroup.ac.uk/> - Information about the 24 Russell Group universities

<http://www.scholarship-search.org.uk/> - Find undergraduate scholarships, grants and bursaries

<https://www.gov.uk/student-finance/overview> - Student Finance official website

<http://www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk/international/studying-overseas/funding-overseas-study/> information on studying abroad

<http://www.fundingusstudy.org/> information on funding studying in USA

University League tables

The Guardian: <http://www.theguardian.com/education/universityguide>

The Complete University Guide: <http://www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk/league-tables/rankings>

Employment

Sites to register for advice and guidance

<https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk/Pages/Home.aspx>

<http://icould.com/>

Sites to register for updates on apprenticeships and jobs

<https://apprenticeshipvacancymatchingservice.lsc.gov.uk/>

<http://www.futuretalent.org/>

<http://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk/>

<http://www.stepintothenhhs.nhs.uk/> - NHS and healthcare apprenticeships