

# Year 12 Careers Tutorial Programme 2020





#### Introduction

This booklet contains information that will support the Year 12 Tutorial Programme, which is designed to help you start to plan and prepare for your future after Sixth Form, be that going to university, college, starting an apprenticeship or taking a gap year.

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- Gap Year and Voluntary Opportunities

# **Key Dates for 2020-2021**

Spring Term Year 12			
Leeds Apprenticeship Fair, First Direct Arena	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February 4-8pm		
Apprenticeship Presentation, Constance Green Hall	Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> February, 1.30pm		
Studying in Scotland talk, Careers Department	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> March 12.45pm		
STEM Careers Evening, Constance Green Hall –			
Opportunities in Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths	Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> March – 6-8pm		
Gap Year Lunchtime Presentations – Careers Department	w/c 9 <sup>th</sup> March - 12.45pm		
Summer Term Year 12			
Post-18 Options Information Evening for Parents	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> April - 7.00pm		
Year 12 Conference	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> – Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> June		
UCAS Apply opens	Early June – date tbc		
Autumn Term Year 13			
UCAS Apply submissions open	Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> September		
School deadline for applications to Music Conservatoires	Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> September		
School deadline for Oxbridge, Medicine, Dentistry, and			
Veterinary Science applications	Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> September		
School deadline for all other UCAS applications	Thursday 15th October		
School deadline for Art Foundation Diploma Courses	Thursday 19th November		
Spring Term Year 13			
Applications for Employment and Apprenticeships	January onwards		
Applications for Gap Year	January onwards		
Student Finance applications	January onwards		
Summer Term Year 13			
Acceptance of UCAS offers	May/June		
A Level Results	Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> August		

# **Booking a Careers Appointment**

The team of professionally qualified Careers Advisers and are here to offer you information, advice and guidance on all your options and assist you with your career plans. We will help you with the process of applying for university, college or employment and can help you find work experience placements.

You can have an appointment during your free periods and as many as you need during your time in the Sixth Form. We can also help you arrange work experience.

# Appointments can be booked at Careers Reception or by phoning 01423 818534

We are open Monday-Friday from 8.30am-5.00pm. You can access Careers Department information from the school website home page <a href="https://www.staidans.co.uk">www.staidans.co.uk</a>





# **Post-18 Options**

The main Post 18 options available to you after Sixth Form are as follows:

- Higher Education (University or College)
- Gap Year
- > Employment
- > Further Education (including the Foundation Diploma in Art & Design)

In 2019 students from St. Aidan's and St John Fisher Associated Sixth Form went onto the following destinations

	Higher Education	338
$\triangleright$	Gap Year	92
$\triangleright$	Employment	44
	Further Education	20

This is fairly typical of a Year 13 group of students and to find out more information on which universities and courses students applied to please see the Sixth Form prospectus on the school's website <a href="https://www.staidans.co.uk">www.staidans.co.uk</a>

# **On-Line Careers Resources**



#### www.staidans.co.uk

Careers Department link on homepage. Features information on:

- Universities and colleges
- > Student Finance
- Careers Information includes gap years
- Vacancies for students
- Writing application letters and CV's

## https://kudos.cascaid.co.uk/

A web-based resource to help students explore academic and vocational pathways including Apprenticeships, Post-18 learning and University options

#### www.nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.co.uk

A web-based resource offering careers advice and information on a wide range of jobs, training course resources and funding.



#### www.eclips-online.co.uk

Up to date information on thousands of jobs. The password to access this programme is **beachu02** 



# **Applying to University**



During the February and March Student Liaison Officers/Student Ambassadors from a selection of universities will talk to you about:

- > The benefits of going to university (Tutorials in mid-February)
  - How to choose a university
  - How to choose a course
  - What student life is really like
- > Student Finance and Budgeting (Tutorials in early March)

The university attending your tutorial will depend on what day your tutorial is on:

•	Wednesday 5th Feb	Sheffield Hallam (at SJF)
•	Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> Feb	University of Liverpool
•	Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> Feb	The University of Manchester
•	Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> Feb	University of Nottingham
•	Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Leeds Beckett University
•	Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> Feb	University of York
•	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	Durham University
•	Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	York St John
•	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> March	Lancaster University
•	Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	Northumbria University
•	Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	Newcastle University
•	Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	University of Leeds (at SJF)

NB. All universities will hold drop-in sessions in the Careers Department or at St John Fisher's Sixth Form Café on the above dates between 1.00-1.30pm to answer individual questions

# Things to consider when choosing a university...

- Courses available
- Location and transport links
- Type of university
- Entry requirements
- Facilities and resources
- Reputation
- Extra-curricular activities
- Accommodation

# Things to consider when choosing a course to study...

- Course content
- Entry requirements subjects and grades
- Academic or Vocational
- o Work experience, sandwich year, study abroad
- Career opportunities and progression routes

#### **Useful Online Resources include:**

- o www.ucas.com
- o <u>www.ucas.com/conservatoires</u> music and drama courses
- o <a href="https://www.ucas.com/account/login-">https://www.ucas.com/account/login-</a> sign up for the ucas hub
- www.prospectusfinder.co.uk
- o <a href="https://www.prospects.ac.uk/-">https://www.prospects.ac.uk/-</a> discover where your degree could lead
- o www.whatuni.com
- o <u>www.which.co.uk/university</u>

# **Understanding the Jargon!**

#### **Bachelor Degrees**

These are the most common degrees, are for 3 or 4 years, and are titled as follows depending on the subject area and course content:

#### Examples are:

BA Bachelor of Arts
 BSc Bachelor of Science
 BEd Bachelor of Education
 BEng Bachelor of Engineering
 LLB Bachelor of Law

#### Master Degrees

It is possible to combine a degree with a postgraduate Masters qualification. These normally take 4 years and the entry grades will be higher than they would be for a degree. It is possible to start on a degree course and convert to a Masters course after the second year.

#### Examples are:

MScMaster in ScienceMEngMaster of Engineering

#### Foundation Degrees

These courses are vocational, practical, and last for 2 years. They require lower grades than a degree and are often taught at colleges of Further Education. It is possible to do an extra top up year to gain a degree.

#### Examples are:

- > Fdg Business Studies
- > Fdq Photography

#### Foundation Years/Extended Degrees

For some degree courses if you do not have the required A Level/Applied subjects or grades it is possible to do an additional foundation year to bring you up to the standard required for the degree.

#### Sandwich courses

Refers to vocational courses where you can spend a year in employment gaining relevant work experience related to your degree course. This is typically the third year and is often paid employment. Language courses involve a year abroad.

#### QTS

This applies to teacher training courses where you will gain a degree and qualified teaching status. This is relevant to Primary School teaching courses.

#### **Types of courses**

#### Single Degree

This applies to studying one main subject although there may be "taster" modules in other subjects

#### Joint Degrees

Covers two subjects generally in equal depth, although some universities allow you to "major" in one and study the other as a "minor" subject

#### **Combined Degrees**

These cover two or three subjects and there is usually the chance to specialise in the final year. Ideal if you are not sure what you want to do and would like to study a combination of subjects

#### Interdisciplinary Degrees

Involve a number of subjects linked to a particular discipline e.g. Media Studies, Environmental Sciences

## **Types of Universities**

#### Oxbridge

This is the combined name for the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge.

#### Redbrick

These are "traditional" universities, generally found in large cities and were built between the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and the Second World War. Examples would be Birmingham University and Leeds University.

#### **Campus**

These allow students to study and live on the same site. They are normally on the outskirts of cities and towns. York and Warwick universities are both campus universities.

#### New and Metropolitan Universities

These were formally polytechnics and are now universities. Traditionally they have offered more vocational courses but many offer a full complement of courses. Examples are Northumbria and Leeds Beckett University.

#### Russell Group and 1994 Group Universities

These are collective names for two groups of research led universities, who seek to promote excellence in teaching and research.

#### **Applying to study Law?**

You may be required to sit the National Admissions Test for Law by certain universities. For more information on this test, please see: www.lnat.ac.uk



# **Applying to study Music or Drama?**

In addition to applying for Music and Drama courses through UCAS you can also apply to Music and Drama courses at **UCAS Conservatoires** via the UCAS website.

Please note the school deadline for applications for Music courses is Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> September.



You can also apply to Drama Schools who have their own application systems. Details of these courses can be found on <a href="https://www.dramauk.co.uk">www.dramauk.co.uk</a>

# Applying to study Medicine, Veterinary Science or Dentistry?

Many universities offering these courses require students to sit a UK Clinical Aptitude Test (UCAT) or BioMedical Admissions Test (BMAT) For more information on these tests, please see:

www.ucat.ac.uk www.bmat.ac.uk







# Applying to Oxbridge?

Additional support will be available to students applying to the universities of Oxford or Cambridge – please see Dr. Murray (St. Aidan's) or Mr. Melville/Dr. M. Langstaff (St John Fisher).

Please note the school deadline for Oxbridge courses is Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September.

# Applying to study Art and Design?

Certain universities and colleges of Art and Design prefer applicants to have completed an Art and Design Foundation Diploma prior to applying.

These one-year courses are studied at Colleges of Further Education and you need to apply for them directly. Local colleges offering these courses are:

- www.harrogate.ac.uk
- www.leeds-art.ac.uk
- www.yorkcollege.ac.uk

You can of course also apply direct to universities for courses starting in 2021 and also apply for a Foundation Diploma. Please be aware that Art Foundation Diploma courses have application deadlines so check with colleges.

Please note the school deadline for Art Foundation courses is Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November.



# **UCAS Tariff – 2021 entry**



Entry to courses will depend on your predicted A Level and BTEC grades and many universities use the UCAS Tariff below when making offers of places.

Some universities will make you an offer based on predicted grades e.g. AAB. Others will ask for UCAS points e.g. 120 which could be BBB

# Use the TARIFF CALCULATOR on the UCAS website to work out your UCAS points

A Level 3 subjects	UCAS Tariff Points	BTEC Dipl. Double Award	BTEC Ext. Cert.	AQA/ WJEC Ext. Cert.	AQA/ WJEC Cert.	Cambridge Technical Ext.Cert./ Intro Dipl.	GCE A Level	GCE AS Level	Core Maths	EPQ
A*A*A*	168									
A*A*A	160									
A*A A	152									
AAA	144									
AAB	136									
ABB	128									
BBB	120									
BBC	112	D*D*								
BCC	104	D*D								
CCC	96	DD								
CCD	88									
CDD	80	DM								
DDD	72									
DDE	64	MM								
DEE	56		D*	D*		D*	A*			
EEE	48	MP	D	D		D	Α			
	40						В			
	36									
	32	PP	М	М		М	С			
	28				D*					A*
	24				D		D			Α
	22									
	20							Α	Α	В
	16		Р	Р	М	Р	Е	В	В	С
	12							С	С	D
	10							D	D	
	8				Р					Е
	6							Е	Е	

It is important you apply to universities and courses for which you will meet the minimum entry requirements.

Universities will take into consideration your GCSE grades and your A Level and BTEC predicted grades. You do need to *check entry requirements* very carefully as they do vary between universities and courses and can be changed at any time.

#### www.ucas.com



You will need to use this website for all the following when applying to university

- Where to study
- What it costs
- Course search
- > Apply
- Track progress

Information on all university courses can be found on the UCAS website:

# Choose your future Use the search bar to enter a subject



Select a course type
Undergraduate / Conservatoires



Filter the list of institutions using the drop down boxes



Click on course title at chosen university



Scroll down for entry requirements



Review course content and modules offered



Use hyperlink **View course details on provider's website** 

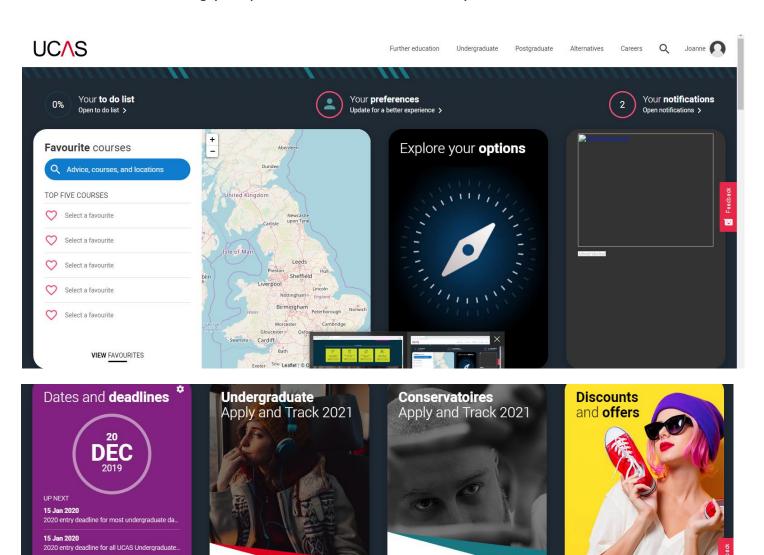


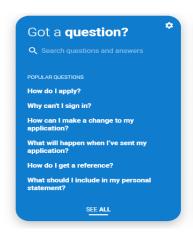
# **UCAS – Create your Hub**



#### https://www.ucas.com/account?returnUrl=/dashboard

Build an information portal that is completely personal to you. Search for universities, colleges, courses, apprenticeships, and open days, calculate your UCAS Tariff points, and start writing your personal statement – all from your UCAS Hub.





OPEN TIMELINE

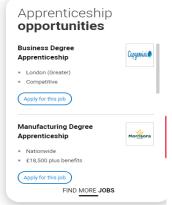


Application not yet available.



Conservatoire application not yet

available



LATEST DISCOUNTS AND

OFFERS

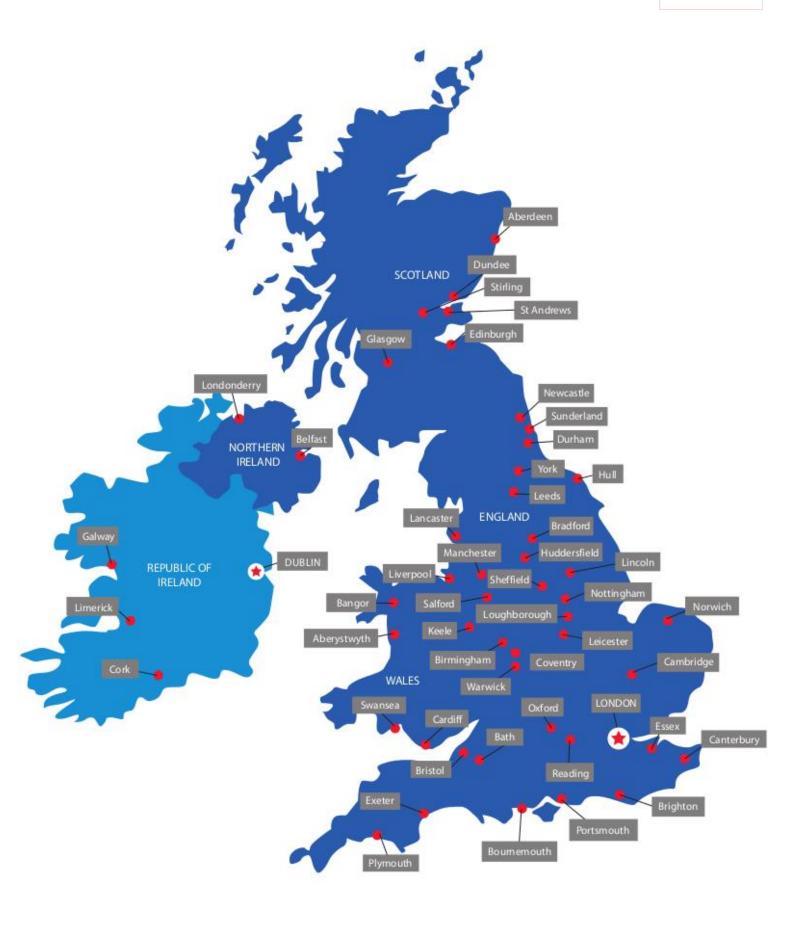
# **UCAS** Research Notes



Course	University	Entry Requirements	Open Days	Notes
			-	

# **UCAS Universities Map**







It is important when researching universities that you do go and visit them to have a look around and find out more about the actual courses and facilities. Most universities have open days where they open the university for prospective students and allow you the opportunity to visit departments, accommodation, and the student union and attend talks on courses and university life.

These normally take place during the summer term and at the beginning of the autumn term. You are normally required to book a place on an open day. Parents and Carers are welcome to attend as well.

Many universities also offer post application open days and these are in the spring term and you are usually invited to these after you have applied and been made an offer. They tend to be more specific about the actual course applied for.

Remember not all universities will interview students for their courses, so open days are an ideal opportunity to find out more about the university and if it will suit you – it may not be as attractive as it appears in the prospectus or website!

To find out when open days are on please see

- ➤ Individual university websites section on open days
- www.opendays.com dates of open days
- https://www.ucas.com/ucas/events/find/type/open-day

**Before you go to an open day** – check that you will meet the entry requirements for the courses at that university.



# and Taster Courses

Many universities and organisations offer summer schools to Year 12 students where they can find out more about specific courses and universities. Many courses are residential so you get to experience life as a university student. There will be a charge for some courses but others will be free although there may be eligibility criteria that you will have to meet.

Examples of summer schools are:

- ➤ **Headstart** (Engineering and Science) <u>www.etrust.org.uk/headstart.cfm</u>
- > Oxford University www.uniq.ox.ac.uk
- > London universities www.london.ac.uk/tasters
- > **Sutton Trust** <u>www.suttontrust.com</u>
- ➤ Workshop Conferences <u>www.workshop-conferences.com</u>





Increasingly more students are considering studying at a university abroad due to the changes in fees for UK universities. There are some wonderful opportunities and courses taught in English are available at universities in Europe, USA and Australia. It is important to research your options thoroughly and check out all the implications of studying abroad. It is unlikely you will receive student loans and will have additional travel and living costs to consider.

Websites on studying abroad can be found on the Careers Department website at **www.staidans.co.uk** 

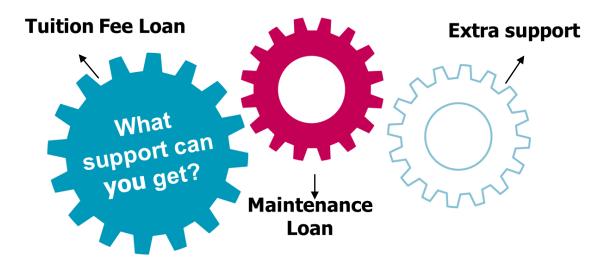


Work experience is required for certain degree courses such as Medicine, Dentistry, Nursing, Midwifery and health professions such as Physiotherapy, Radiography etc. It is also essential for Primary Education, Social Work and other caring professions.

The Careers Department can help you find a work experience placement.

# **Student Finance and Budgeting**

We have invited in representatives from universities week commencing **2**<sup>nd</sup> **March** to talk about student finance and fees. They will also advise you on the costs of going to university and the financial support available to you.



#### **Tuition Fees and Loans - An Overview**

With tuition fees of up to £9,250, how can you afford to go to uni?

- Eligible students **won't** have to pay any tuition fees up front
- A Tuition Fee Loan is available to cover the fee charged by a university
- or college\*
- A Tuition Fee Loan doesn't depend on household income
- SFE pay the Tuition Fee Loan directly to your university or college
- The loan is repayable, but only when your income is over £21,000 a year



\*Up to £9,250 for full-time courses at a publicly funded uni or college or up to £6,165 for approved courses at private providers.

## **Maintenance Loan – Maximum Levels for 2020/2021**

Parental Home	Up to £7,747
Live at home while you study	
Elsewhere	Up to £9,203
Live away from home and study outside of London	,
London	Up to £12,010
Live away from home and study in London	,
Overseas Study	Up to £10,539
Living and studying abroad as part of a UK course	,

#### **Extra Support**

Many universities and colleges offer financial support to their students through bursaries and scholarships:

#### **Bursaries:**

- linked to personal circumstances and often, household income
- · awards can include discounted tuition fees, accommodation or cash

#### **Scholarships:**

- linked to academic results or ability in an area such as sport or music
- can be subject specific and are usually limited in numbers

Other financial help and support may also be available if you:

- have children or an adult dependent on you
- have a disability, including a long-term health condition, mental-health condition or specific learning difficulty

**Turn2us** is a national charity that helps people in financial hardship gain access to charitable grants – check their website at <a href="mailto:turn2us.org.uk">turn2us.org.uk</a>

## Student Loan Repayments - An Overview

- You won't make repayments until your income is over £25,000 a year
- If you study a full-time course, you will be due to start repaying in the April after graduating or leaving higher education
- You will repay 9% of your income over £25,000 and if you're employed deductions will be made from your pay through the HMRC tax system\*
- If your income falls to £25,000 or below your repayments will stop
- Any outstanding loan balance will be cancelled 30 years after entering repayment
- Example:

Annual Income	Monthly Repayment
£25,000 and under	£0
£27,000	£15
£29,500	£33
£33,000	£60



\*If you move/work overseas you will repay 9% of your earnings over the repayment threshold for the country you are living in

For more information, please see:

- > www.gov.uk/studentfinance
- <u>www.ucas.com/student-finance-england/living-costs-full-time-students</u>



# **Notes on Student Finance and Budgeting**

# Planning a Gap Year

A gap year is typically the year between Sixth Form and university and provides an opportunity to do something else outside of education. Many students use the year to gain work experience, employment, learn new skills e.g. language and travel, the choice is limitless!

It is very important that you do plan your gap year well in advance and have a plan of what you want to do and when you want to do it. Universities are usually fine about students taking a gap year as long as you plan to do something constructive and useful during the year. Do check with them beforehand as to what their policy on taking gap years is – some courses may prefer you not to have a gap year due to the nature of the subject.

We recommend you apply to university in Year 13 and request a deferred place (2022 entry). This means that you can have everything sorted out before you go on your gap year. You also have the option of applying for 2020 entry and then requesting a deferred place to 2022 later in Year 13 in case you change your mind about having a gap year. This is at the discretion of the individual university.

For more information on gap years please see the Gap Year section of the Careers Departments website.

A very useful website is **www.yearoutgroup.org.uk** as it has information on the key accredited gap year companies who offer gap year opportunities.

On **the week beginning March 9<sup>th</sup> 2020** a representative from a Gap Year company will do a presentation on the benefits of having a gap year and offer advice on how to plan and organise your gap year before or after university.



# **Notes on Gap Years**

# **Going to College**

Going to college may be a viable option for students who want to gain further qualifications before university or employment.

#### **Art and Design Foundation Diploma**

This one-year course is required by many competitive and popular Art and Design degree courses and is offered at local Colleges of Further Education. You apply direct to each college and application forms are available on the college websites.

Local colleges of Further Education are as follows:





#### www.harrogatecollege.ac.uk









www.lcm.ac.uk



www.lcm.ac.uk



www.leedscitycollege.ac.uk



www.askham-bryan.ac.uk

# **Research Notes on College**





Many students do go into employment directly after A Levels and have the benefit of gaining invaluable work experience and getting their foot on the career ladder. Employers do recruit students with A Levels and many offer structured career programmes specifically for students with A Levels especially in areas such as Business, Accountancy and Retail.

It is also possible to do an apprenticeship after A Levels and this is where you can also earn and learn. You will work for an employer and receive training and the opportunity to gain an NVQ level 3 qualifications in your chosen occupation. You will still have the option of going to university later if you choose to and some employers may even sponsor you through your studies.

The Careers Department is regularly notified about vacancies from employers and can help put you in touch with companies and organisations who offer employment opportunities for students with A Levels. We can help with writing CV's, completing application forms and interview practice. Please see the Careers Departments website section on employment where we post vacancies and relevant websites to help you find employment.

The following websites are also very useful:

- www.notgoingtouni.co.uk
- www.apprenticeships.org.uk
- https://www.ucas.com/apprenticeships-in-the-uk



## The following companies recruit Sixth Form Students:









RAIL PROJECTS













Deloitte.

