

Monday 4th brings us the annual 'National Careers Week (NCW)', a week-long celebration of careers related activity. It is a week the school has marked since 2020, and I am, on behalf of Shrewsbury School, privileged to be an [ambassador](#) for. There's a range of related activities taking place in school for this week, with the biggest one being our fourth 'mock assessment centre' afternoon on Thursday which our Lower 6th are taking part in.

One of the main parts of this afternoon is the mock interview aspect, which is such a valuable experience for students to make the most of. At some point all of you will have an interview, so here are a few tips.

- a) Structure your responses. For this event, the majority of the questions will be [competency](#) themed, a great opportunity to demonstrate your skills, qualities and relevant experiences. To do this in a way that makes sense, you might wish to utilise the [STAR](#) approach to your interview answers.
- b) Practice. Practice. Practice. Lower 6th are now more familiar with our brilliant interview software (ShortlistMe) and the majority have completed a practice interview. There's a host to choose from on this [link](#) which you can access at any time you want, and will help you feel more confident in these situations.
- c) The Headmaster wrote about this [topic](#) in 2020, and shared some really useful pointers. He also recommended a quality TV programme which I am old enough to remember!

To conclude, I thought it might be helpful to highlight seven external opportunities which you may wish to consider to coincide with NCW.

- 1) The virtual careers fair which is available from Monday is always worth a visit. It's typically very interactive, and full of resources from a variety of industries. You can do this via this [link](#).
- 2) There are a couple of brilliant opportunities with global organisations with imminent closing dates for applications. [UK Work Experience Programme | HSBC Holdings plc](#) closes for application 2nd March [Virtual Insight Programme at PwC | Early Careers | PwC UK Careers](#) closes 8th March.
- 3) This site has a calendar of events, both in person and online. Subscribe on this [page](#) to be kept up to date with any opportunities.
- 4) This [platform](#) really came into their own during the pandemic, in my view, and have continued to offer a plethora of work related activities for pupils to engage in.
- 5) Unifrog continues to host a wide range of webinars. This [one](#) caught my eye, but there are plenty of others to choose from if that's not of interest!
- 6) Another site which is worth a visit, particularly for some national work experience placements, is the Student Ladder [website](#). It has a range of different resources, some aimed at university students, others a school pupils.
- 7) We are a partner school with Investin, meaning that if students take advantage of one of their work experience [programmes](#), you can enjoy a 10% discount. There are some amazing schemes available, but please pay close attention to the cost!

Have a great weekend.

Best wishes,

Mr Wain