

Newsletter

Dear Parents, Carers and Students

Welcome to the end of this busy productive term. From talking to students and staff, everyone is looking forward to some rest and relaxation over the Christmas holidays.

WELL DONE & CELEBRATIONS

Year 11 and Year 13 in particular deserve praise for their hard work and the way they have approached their mock exams. The mock results have been sent home today via email. We will be holding a live virtual information event to explain the plans for the rest of the year leading up to the external exams. We hope to answer your questions and prepare you for the virtual subject evening on Thursday 13 January to discuss mock results.

Year 12 received their GCSE certificates today during tutor period. It was lovely to see how proud they were and rightly so!

Year 7 enjoyed going on the theatre trip to see Robin Hood, Legend of the Forgotten Forest at Bristol Old Vic. I would like to thank Mrs Williams for organising the trip and to all the staff who accompanied on the two days.

Yesterday students and staff enjoyed a delicious Christmas dinner cooked and served by the in house caterers INNOVATE. I would like to thank Anne (head chef) and her talented team who served over 600 Christmas dinners yesterday! We are very lucky to have such delicious, healthy food here at BFS every day.

BFS CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANZA

I would also like to thank Mr
Pate and Ms Dawson for
organising another fantastic BFS
Live Lounge to celebrate
Christmas. If you were unable to
join at 5pm yesterday evening,
please follow the link to see our
talented students and get some
Christmas cheer.please check
out to get see our talented
students and get some
Christmas cheer.
https://youtu.be/wAlKVWCcPU0



GOODBYE

End of term often sadly means we need to say farewell to staff. This year we say goodbye and our best wishes for the future to:

Emma Hammond: Year leader Y7
Helen Millard: SEND department
Adbul Ahmed: Behaviour support
team

Jane Doyle: Support team

LETTERS TO PARENTS

I want to signpost the letter sent out today that explains the adjustments to the start of term to enable whole school testing to take place from Wednesday 5 to
Friday 7 January. We have
provided more information
about getting your child
vaccinated over the Christmas
holidays. All letters are on our
website if you need to check any
previous correspondence.

HOUSE WINNERS



In the final tutor period today,
Mr Walker announced the
winning house with the most
house points at this mid-way
point of the academic year. Once
again ASHTON house have come
out on top with 7241 house
points. There is still all to play
for in the coming months as we
add more competitions and
fixtures. Well done Ashton!

I do hope you all manage to stay well and safe over this Christmas break. I would like to wish you a Happy Christmas and New Year. We will be in contact if any plans change; for now, we look forward to starting term virtually on Wednesday 5 January with full face to face attendance on Monday 10 January.





Merry Christmas from Bristol Free School





PARENTS/CARERS

To our amazing parents/carers, thank you for your generous donation of gifts for staff, how lucky are we?





B&A CHURCH

Massive thank you to B&A Church who donated Christmas Treats to our vulnerable families and gifted chirstmas hampers to our staff.

Their church community Our Little Church communities take it turns to be part of the team helping to create & deliver Boxes of Hope on a Sunday afternoon to families in need around Bristol. If you need some help, please email the school so we can put you in touch.

ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING CALENDER 2022

	Bristol Free School - Assessment and Reporting Calendar - 2022								
	Term 3		Term 4		<u> </u>	Term 5		Term 6	
	Tuesday 4 January 2022 -		Monday 28 February 2022 -		Monday 25 April 2022 -		Monday 6 June 2022 -		
	Friday 18 February 2022		Friday 8 April 2022		Friday 27 May 2022		Thursday 21 July 2022		
	Week 1-3	Week 4-6	Week 1-3	Week 4-6	Week 1-3	Week 4-6	Week 1-3	Week 4-6	
		Interim Report	Subject Evening			Interim Report	EOY Exams	EOY Report	
	l		Thursday 10 March				Monday 13 June - Friday 24		
Year 7			3.00pm -				June		
		Interim Report		Full Written Report		Interim Report	EOY Exams	EOY Report	
	l			Thursday 7 April			Monday 13		
Year 8							June - Friday 24		
	Year 9 Options - Live Online	Interim Report				Interim Report		EOY Exams	
		Subject Evening	l .				l	Monday 27 June - Friday 15 July	
		Wednesday 26 January	l .				l	EOY Report	
		3.00pm - 7.00pm	l .				l	and the part	
Year 9									
		Interim Report		Full Written Report	Y10 Mock	Interim Report		EOY Report	
	l		l .	Thursday 24 March	Exams		Thursday 16		
Year 10	l				Monday 2 May -		June 3.30pm -		
1601 20	Curriculum			Mock 2	Friday 13 May		3.30pm -		
	Information -		l .	Monday 28 February - Friday 11					
	Live Event		l .	March					
	Thursday 6		l .						
	January		l .						
	5.30pm -		l .					Summer Exams	
	6.30pm								
	Subject Evening								
	Thursday 13								
Year 11	January								
		Interim Report			Interim Report		EOY Exams	Full Written Report	
V 12							Monday 6 June	Thursday 14 July	
Year 12							Friday 10 June		
		Full Written Report Thursday 27 January		Mock 2 Monday 28 February - Friday 11					
	Live Event	mursuay 27 January	l	March					
	Thursday 6		l	The state of the s				Summer Exams	
	January								
Year 13	5.30pm -								

KEY DATES

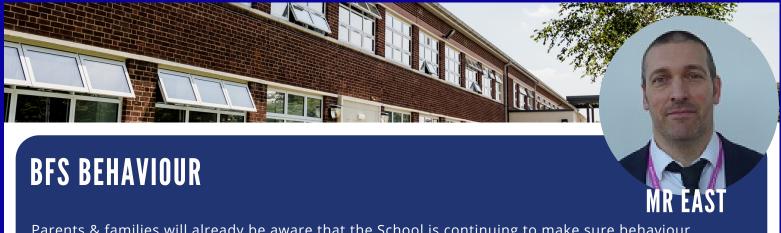
- Tuesday 4 January INSET day
- Wednesday 5 January Term starts with LFT testing and remote lessons
- Thusday 6 January Year 7 and Year 8 return to on site lessons
- Thursday 6 January Year 11 and Year 13 LIVE INFORMATION EVENT – 5.30pm
- Friday 7 January Year 9 and Year 10 return to on site lessons
- Monday 10 January All year groups on site lessons
- Thursday 13 Jan Year 11 Subject Evening – virtual
- Wednesday 19 January LIVE YEAR 9 OPTIONS EVENT – 5.30pm
- Wednesday 26 January Year 9 subject evening virtual

COVID-19

Students involved in home testing were issued two boxes of lateral flow tests to use during the holidays. They will receive another when they return.

All students should test over the holidays in line with national guidance. This means that they should test if they will be in a high-risk situation that day and before visiting people who are at higher risk of severe illness if they get COVID-19.





Parents & families will already be aware that the School is continuing to make sure behaviour standards and expectations for all students remain very high. Families have recently received a letter detailing areas of school life where there is room for improvement and the School really appreciates the support families will be giving to this. As a brief reminder – from January detentions will typically be sat on the same day that they are set. Where a student is set a detention parents will be notified of this through the normal classcharts app. At present this system does not support an automated email or text but the School is looking into whether this can be done in the future. If you are unsure of your Classcharts login please contact the normal school address.

BEHAVIOUR EXPECTATIONS

- Be prepared to learn
- 2 Allow others to learn
- 3 Work hard and stay focused
- 4 Be respectful to others and the school environment
- 5 Make a positive contribution to school

BEHAVIOUR PROCEDURES



TEACHER SETS BEHAVIOUR EXPECTATIONS

> At this point student is meeting the teacher's expectations

2

FORMAL WARNING

Student told they are not meeting expectations - they need to adjust their behaviour 3

SENT TO PARTNER CLASS

Student sent to Partner Class for remainder of the lesson. Detention the nex day in the dining



CALL

Student is collected and placed in internal exclusion. Further sanctions may apply

SAFEGUARDING

We hope all of our families and students have a wonderful Christmas but we also recognise that Christmas can be a really tough time for people. If you are struggling over the Christmas period then do seek support and some of the following may be of use:

https://www.youngminds.org.uk/young-person/blog/what-to-do-if-you-find-christmas-difficult/

https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/tips-foreveryday-living/christmas-and-mental-health/whychristmas-is-hard/



What to do if you find Christmas difficult

TELLSOMEONE@BRISTOLFREESCHOOL.ORG.UK

TERM 2 CELEBRATION

CELEBRATING OUR ALLSTARS

There are too many 'All Stars' from Term 2 to mention, from across all year groups, but thank you! You've been brilliant.

Don't worry, your hard work doesn't go unnoticed. Every 'All Star' has been entered into the raffle for some Amazon Vouchers.









	House	House Point Total-Term 2
1st	Ashton	7341
2nd	Canford	6765
3rd	Durdham	6757
4th	Blaise	6595







CONGRATULATIONS!



FREDERICK, Y7



FREYA, Y8



HOLLY, Y9





JOSHUA, Y10





ZAINAB, Y11





TEYA, SIXTH FORM



It has been a truly wonderful first full term for Year 7 at BFS. The

It has been a truly wonderful first full term for Year 7 at BFS. The cohort have settled into Bristol Free School life extremely well and I have thoroughly enjoyed seeing each student grow and develop into secondary school students. I am incredibly proud of so many students who continue to meet all expectations, arrive at school each day, work hard in lessons and bring such positive contributions to the school community. House leaders have officially been appointed and huge congratulations to the chosen house leaders this year. Well done to all those who applied, the most applications Year 7 has ever seen which is fantastic. Please continue striving and apply again in future years.

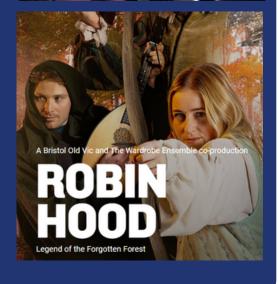
Some highlights of the term include extra-curricular clubs fully up and running, where students have come together afterschool for a variety of activities including PE, music, and drama. There has been such a positive atmosphere, sense of community and development of physical and social well-being. If you haven't managed to join a club yet, it's not too late to sign up in the new term! Staff have been working hard to create new clubs in January following feedback from the student council, so keep your eyes peeled. Some fantastic, mature discussions about Votes for Schools topics have been reported along with continued praise from all tutors on the levels of engagement in the tutor sessions. Year 7 have also finished Term 2 with the highest number of positive points in the school (9030), way out in front of other year groups. Congratulations on this fantastic achievement and keep this up until the end the year! Another highlight included the recent trip organised by Ms. Williams (English) to the Old Vic Theatre to see the production of Robin Hood. A superb show and wonderful experience for many of our students. Thank you Ms. Williams!

In term 3, there are so many wonderful opportunities and experiences to look forward to. But as you all know, I will no longer be Head of Year in January, so this is a final goodbye from me. I would like to thank all the wonderful students in Year 7 for making my role as Year Leader so great this year. Students are in wonderful hands with Ms. Ford who will be taking over. Good luck to all in your school careers. I will truly miss the students at BFS!

Have a lovely Christmas break and stay safe ready for the new term in January.









As Term 2 draws to a close, I am relieved at how much more of a settled year, we have had thus far. Since taking over the year group, I have been hugely impressed with not only the work ethic of the students, but also at how welcoming and friendly they have been to not only myself, but to all their new teachers this year. Whilst Year 8 can, at times, seem like a year with few key life events happening, I would strongly urge both you and your children to start having discussions about what subjects they may wish to study at GCSE. The options process comes fairly early on in Year 9 and can, if not careful, catch you unawares, sometimes leading to rushed decision making. Just getting those initial conversations started can be such a help to them.

It has been a real joy to see so many of Year 8 taking part in after-school clubs. The turnout to rugby is very impressive and we have a very strong team in the making. Furthermore, it has been such a privilege to see so many actively taking part in crochet club with Miss Rowden and the offer of a 'tea-cosy' has been 'warmly' welcomed. It just remains for me to wish you all a very restful and relaxing Christmas and New Year and that you have joy in however you choose to spend the period.

What a term it has been! I am so impressed to see so many of the year 9s stepping up to meet expectations, face new challenges and embrace new opportunities, thank you! Lots of individual Year 9s are making excellent progress in lessons and tutor too.

SPECIAL MENTIONS

- Rosa, for attitude to learning, exceptional behaviour and resilience. (Mrs Kinnersley)
- Mia and Esha for big improvements to time keeping!!!! (Mrs Kinnersley)
- Lauren for getting 94 % in her Term 2 History assessment! (Mr Ruston)
- Evan for his attitude to learning and his achievements out of school (Mrs Kinnersley)
- Hollie, Momo, Emily, Max, and Simon G for Amazing Art!
- Congratulations to Elliot Street for securing a main role in the school production of Matilda (Miss Clifton)
- Well done to Mila and Lilly May for their performance in the KS3 Christmas show on Monday and thank you to Amelie for her help with rehearsals (Miss Clifton)
- Great overall number of housepoints for 9TG6 (from Mr Milstead)
- Lillyrose for huge leaps in resilience and facing challenges this term!
- Rosabel shows an incredible desire for perfection, and thinks carefully about everything she does.
- Ben relentlessly and enthusiastically reads Romeo and Juliet, regardless of character given, as does Elliot Street!



MISS BONNICI

YEAR LEADER ROUND UP

Another impressive area for year 9 this term for me seems to be the energy and resolve to get involved with extra-curricular activities, with nearly half the cohort signing up for Duke of Edinburgh and lots of PE EC!

Special mention to 9TG2 for being brilliant at taking part in more clubs and Susie and Elliot who passed their next music grades! A huge thank you from Miss Horton and us all to 9TG5 for their incredible donations to the food bank last Friday. Most students brought in at least three items each, which is spectacular!

We are sad to say goodbye to Max Torrey and Amelie Puetz this term who will be moving on to Clifton High School to continue to pursue their own extra-curricular interests in swimming more.

We wish you all the best in your new schools in 2022.

Wishing you all a very merry Christmas and New Year!





As another term draws to a close at BFS, we can reflect on a positive start to Year 10. This term has seen the reintroduction of sports clubs and fixtures and all Year 10 sides have been successful across several sports. The netballers, sports hall athletes and cross-country runners can all be very proud of their achievements. Unfortunately, the rugby season was brought to a premature end, however we look forward to a new set of sports next term.

One student has gone on to become the 11th best triathlete in the UK with some fantastic performances across the year! Well done, Elen!

This term has also seen a number of budding chefs. Unleashing their inner Gordon Ramsey, the GCSE food class have been wielding their wooden spoons and creating Michelin star meals. A recent creation of Moules Mariniere was a highlight amongst several other dishes.

The holiday gives us a chance to relax and recharge as we look forward to January and a new challenge. This will allow us an opportunity to consolidate learning from Term 1 and 2 in preparation for new content in Term 3. However more importantly, it gives us time with those around us.

Make the most of your time off with loved ones and enjoy a well deserved break.

See you in January!
Mr Tolman







undertaken their mock exams. The mature way students approached their studies for these was really pleasing and while there are things to work on, students have benefitted greatly from the practice this experience has given them. One thing I think all students needed to learn was the importance of having a pen! Whilst many experienced anxiety during this time, it is important to understand that this is to be expected and normal. Learning to deal with uncomfortable feelings is hard and takes practice but it is possible to overcome them. If a student feels that these feelings are uncontrollable then we are more than happy to try and support and provide guidance to parents on how to support their young people.

Aside from mock exams we also have cause to celebrate the amazing achievements of our Year 11 netball team who became Bristol Champions once again! An extremely talented group of students who have remained unbeaten throughout their entire time at BFS. Congratulations, we are all really proud of you! We have also had the first meeting of our Leavers Committee who will be leading on the end of Year 11 celebrations. If you have a suggestion, please find your tutor representative who will be able to share it at our next committee meeting.

Finally, I wish all students and their families a restful break and look forward to seeing everyone renewed and focused for the start of term 3



LOTS OF FUN IN SCIENCE!

Miss Goodbody's class finished their term of exciting experiments in Science with some festive fun demonstrations from Mr Fernandes and Miss Board including the wondrous Whoosh Bottle and the always spectacular Elephants Toothpaste!





BFS DRAMA

MATILDA - SCHOOL PRODUCTION

MISS CLIFTON

Rehearsals for this year's School production of Matilda are in full swing! We have an excellent cast and behind the scenes team who are working enthusiastically to put together an entertaining show for you. Performance dates are 6th,7th and 8th April at Redmaids School. Please can students who want to help out with costumes for the show come along after school every Thursday in CG02.



CHRISTMAS PANTO!







EVIE'S NHS BAKING

Evie, in Year 11 did some baking for the NHS during the lockdown. Every week for about 3 months she baked cupcakes along with some other Ladies who also baked. Each week they were taken to the emergency and ICU departments of the BRI. The departments were really grateful for this kind gesture during the difficult times and looked forward to seeing what cakes had been baked each week. A book has now been produced with some of the recipes from the baking and Evie is featured in the book. She has two pages of her recipes and also has two pages with her icing tips.

The book is on sale at the Wallace and Gromit shop in the Mall for £9.95 and all proceeds go to the Bristol Children's hospital.

GRAND BAKES & CUPCAKES

Available to order this Christmas!



In this recipe book, you will find easy to make, delicious bakes, from cupcakes to traybakes and biscuits. By purchasing a copy you are helping to support Bristol Children's Hospital and the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at St Michael's Hospital. Thank you.

GIVE EVIE'S ICING TIPS A GO!





YEAR 11 NETBALL

This week we celebrated our Year 11 netball team after retaining their title of Bristol Schools' Champions for the third time since 2018.

They first won this title back in Year 8, and I have been lucky enough to take the group through to Year 11 where they have played outstanding netball each year in order to be crowned Champions of Bristol. This year they faced Ashton Park, who proved to be tough competition with height on their side. After the second quarter, the score was tight and Ashton Park were closing the gap. However, as always, the team came back even stronger with a determination to win for our final year.

The game ended 25 - 9, after some extraordinary goals scored by Amber and Georgia. I am incredibly proud of all students who contributed to this team over the last four years. Some are not present in the picture, but have received the recognition they deserve in school. Congratulations on this fantastic achievement that will go down in the history books at BFS!







WELL DONE! YOU DID BFS PROUD

BFS SIXTH FORM VS STAFF

Staff v Sixth Form netball. What a fun end to term 2! A very close game. 13-9 to the staff! Players of the match were Miss Billing and Lucy W. Huge thank you to Megan and Amber in Y11 who umpired the game and didn't take any nonsense from the staff! Looking forward to a rematch next term!



THE LANGUAGE AMBASSADOR SCHEME

HAVE A LOOK AT WHAT SOME OF OUR LANGUAGE AMBASSADORS HAVE BEEN UP TO!

During term 2, the Language Ambassadors have been running the Christmas Card Competition! We have had some amazing entries, but we could only narrow it down to a winner per Key Stage. Congratulations to the following:

KS3 - Poppy - An amazing entry written in Swahili!

KS4 - Zainab - A Christmas card written in Urdu!

KS5 – Alishba - Once again, an outstanding entry also written in Urdu!

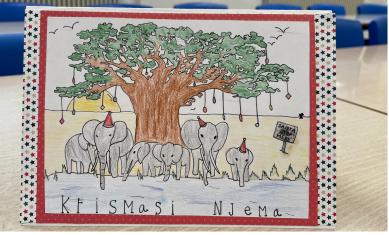
It was a pleasure looking through these Christmas cards and seeing our diversity in cultures and languages here at BFS displayed through this competition. Merry Christmas and see you in the new year!

CONGRATULATIONS POPPY













BFS COMPUTER SCIENCE

PROGRAMMING CLUB FOR GIRLS

The programming club for girls at BFS is doing fabulous activities. Year 7 girls participated in Hour of Code Activities. Well done Chloe and Emily for completing Hour of Code and receiving certificates. Year 8 girls are currently participating in the CyberFirst Girls competition - cracking codes on cryptography, logic and networking. We have two amazing teams participating in CyberFirst competition.





MRS RAMANANDI



TEAM B: THE JOLLY LITTLE
PYTHON TEAM
EMILY, GRACE, IMOGEN
AND PIPPA



Two teams from Y8 participated in CyberFirst Girls competition. Both the teams have scored excellent scores in the competition. Congratulations to Team Python Assassins United for qualifying for the finals. Ava, Ellie, Sama and Rosie will be competing against 12 other high scorer teams for the finals on 8 February.

Well done to The Jolly Little Python team
- Emily, Grace, Imogen and Pippa for
participating in the competition.





KS3 PROGRAMMING CLUB

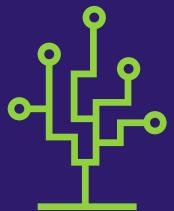
KS3 Programming club students had an interesting session of programming 4tronix robobit buggy this week. They have learned how to move robocars in different directions, control speed, stopping and redirecting robocars using sensors with computer program.











ENTRIES FOR AMAZON GETIT APP DEVELOPMENT COMPETITION IS NOW OPEN FOR Y8 STUDENTS.

DEADLINE IS 8 JANUARY, 2022.



Running between the fall and spring terms of the school year, AWS GetIT invites teams from different schools to an app-building competition to solve real issues faced by their school or community. Along the way, participants learn practical digital and IT skills, experience working as a team, and gain self-confidence by presenting ideas to wider audiences. Students will participate in group of maximum four students. Interested students can email at n.ramanandi@bristolfreeschool.org.uk



SHOW RACISIM THE RED CARD



Show Racism the Red Card School would like to take this opportunity to thank you for participating in our annual fundraiser, Wear Red Day. It was our biggest Wear Red Day ever, and it would not have been such a success without your support. We would like to invite you to participate in our annual School Competition 2022, which is now open!

SHOW RACISM THE RED CARD

SCHOOL Z

The Competition encourages young people from schools and other educational settings to produce creative work with an original anti-racism theme. The competition is held annually and thousands of young people take part. The competition is free to enter and open to young people of all ages and abilities. Entrants can produce work in a widerange of activities, including artwork, creative writing, film/music & T-shirt designs!

The entries are consistently inspirational and SRtRC make sure that many have a resonance beyond the competition, by using them in educational resources and magazines, on the campaign's website, social media channels, YouTube and a Calendar, each year.

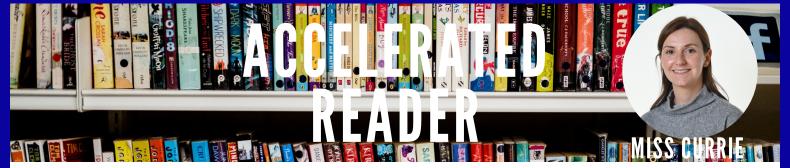
All competition winners are invited to a special Awards Ceremony with prizes presented by special guests, including current and former professional footballers For more information please visit our website:

http://www.theredcard.org/competitions/









This term, all classes in Years 7 and 8 have been competing in the Accelerated Reader Points Race! When students quiz on their books, points are awarded to their team. The higher the score, the more points awarded.

The winner for the Autumn-Winter Term 2022 is...8Y1!

8Y1 finished with 1778 points and every student in the class contributed by quizzing. They have now received their prizes and certificates. Congratulations 8Y1! In second place were 7TG7 with 1216 points and in third, 8Y3 who finished with 1208 points. We have had excellent participation from the students since the start of the year and I have been really impressed with their hard work and enthusiasm for reading. A big well done to everyone! Starting in January we will reset the race and there will also be some changes. The first change is that we will be using an average from every class to work out their standing in the race – all points earned will be added together and divided by the number of students. This will make it fairer for classes which have fewer students in them.

We will also have two separate races for Years 7 and 8, so there will be two sets of prizes at the end of the school year. The quizzing will reopen on 4 January so students can start quizzing on all the books they have been reading over Christmas.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!









BFS CAREERS



MR
PARRY
HEAD OF BUSINESS AND



EMPLOYER TALKS

Last week we were delighted to host our first employer talk of the academic year, with Darren Jones, the Labour Member of Parliament for Bristol North West, giving a talk to KS4 and KS5 students about a career in politics. Darren is the Labour Member of Parliament for Bristol North West and the Chair of the House of Commons Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Committee.

He also sits on the Joint Committee on the National Security Strategy and the Liaison Committee, which scrutinises the work of the Prime Minister. Darren is also a leading voice on technology policy, chairing the All Party Parliamentary Groups on Technology and National Security, Data Poverty and the Parliamentary Information, Communication and Technology Forum.

The talk was inspiring as Darren gave the students information about the many different roles and opportunities that are available in politics. I particularly enjoyed the question and answer session afterwards where the students asked some excellent questions.



BFS CAREERS







CAREERS EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

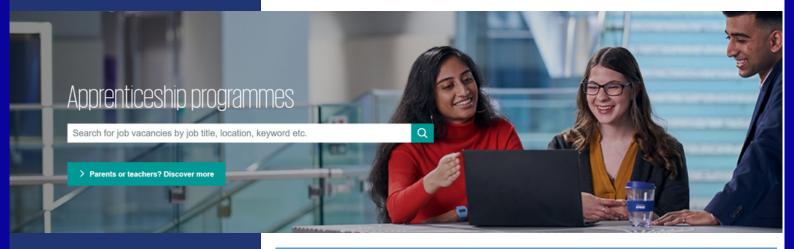
Applications for KPMG Apprenticeships are now open

They've got a range of opportunities for you to share with your students to lead them into a rewarding career path.

Their Apprenticeship programmes include:

- Audit
- Audit Data & Analytics
- Consulting KPMG360°
- Consulting Managed Services
- KPMG Business Services
- KPMG Law
- Software Engineering Degree Apprenticeship
- With programmes available across the UK, their apprentices have the opportunity to earn and learn, be part of their collaborative community of people, and be inspired to build a rewarding future.

https://www.kpmgcareers.co.uk/apprentice/? utm_source=springpod&utm_medium=html&utm_content=appsgeneric_teachers&utm_campaign=2115-kpmg-sr22-applaunch_springpod_html_apps-generic_teachers_static_wow_dec21



WHY CHOOSE KMGG APPRENTICESHIPS



"KPMG in the UK is part of a global network of firms. We work with businesses of all sizes and across different industries, using innovative approaches and new technologies to help businesses improve the way they work, shaping the future for our clients and the communities we work in.

We know that deciding which career path to take is an important and often challenging decision, but it can also be an exciting one. Our Apprenticeship programmes offer the chance to gain practical work experience and build core skills within our global network of firms. You'll be supported to achieve professional qualifications and accreditations, such as diplomas and degrees, and earn a salary - all at the same time"

