

Work Experience 2025

Mrs Jackson

Assistant Head, Belonging and Engagement

7 July 2025 – 11 July 2025



Mrs Jackson Assistant Head, Belonging and Engagement

Date	Event
w/c 13 January 2025	Launch WEXP Assembly including using Unifrog Letters to parents/carers sent out
Mon 27 January 6pm - 7pm	Parent/carer information event
HT3 and HT4	Student form time preparation sessions
18 March 2025	Futures Day – including mock employer interviews
January - July	Finding of placements Placement information inputted into Unifrog
January - July	Checking and administrative management of placements Reminders sent out for H&S information
Friday 6 June 2025	Deadline of placement information



Introduction to Unifrog and WEXP system

What is Unifrog?

- Unifrog believe that destinations where students end up after school is even more important than their academic performance. They partner with schools to support students to progress into the best opportunity for them.
- Unifrog do this by providing a one-stop-shop where students can explore their interests, then find and successfully apply for their best next-step after school.



Finding placements

Our big tip is around finding high quality placements. Many schools consider that this the hardest part of running a placement programme.

It would be great if all schools had an enormous address book of fantastic local employers delighted to host work experience, and also an amazingly well-connected parent body who easily find their children's placements and even pass on keen employers for other children. **What** you do on a placement is more important than **where** you do it. For example, every employer now has to deal with cybersecurity (so you can get first hand experience of this sector almost anywhere), and you can learn about healthcare when work shadowing in lots of non-hospital environments, e.g. at a care home.

In an ideal world: students should think carefully and laterally about what they want to learn on their placement, and they should also communicate it in advance to the employer.



Students being proactive

Proactive students can generally secure work placements for themselves. They need to think carefully about what sort of employer they are interested in, do some research online to find contacts, then send emails and make phone calls.

Some schools make time in the school day for students to learn how to write a good cold email, and find employer contact details online. This is probably one of the most transferable skills these students will ever learn at school!



Communicating with parents

Most parents will be able to find good placements you if they are motivated to do so. If they are employed, they can contact their own employer, or they can ask a friend's employer.

Many schools now start the process by sending a letter or email to the parents, inviting them to a virtual information evening about placements.

You can maximise the chances of being successful by:

- Communicating with parents early;
- The parents being clear on the benefits to their child of doing a placement;

- The parents being clear on the parameters (mainly when the placements should happen and for how long they should last);

- The parents being clear on the next steps (i.e., their child needs to iron out the placement details with the employer, and then use the Unifrog placements tool to get things started).



Dealing with the legals 1

Essentially: in most countries, a student on a placement is considered the same as a normal employee, and the employer's normal policies (i.e. Risk Assessment, Health & Safety, insurance, and data protection) should cover them. The employer should check their documentation to make sure that it is appropriate for having a young person at the workplace.

In terms of who is responsible for what: it's the employer's job to make sure that they have the right policies in place, and the school needs to take **reasonable steps** to satisfy themselves that the employer is acting responsibly. On the Unifrog placements tool, we explain to the employer exactly what policies are required, and the employer has to confirm that they meet all these requirements.

Out of an abundance of caution, the system instructs the employer placement lead to email to the school / college placement coordinator a copy of their Risk Assessment and Health & Safety policy if any of these apply: the student has special needs, illnesses or injuries that might affect the placement, it's the employer's first time hosting a placement, or the workplace is above low risk.

Dealing with the legals 2

•The placement provider (ie the employer) has primary responsibility for the health and safety of the student;

•The school's/college's role is solely to take reasonable steps to satisfy themselves that the employer is acting responsibly;

•Young people on placements are considered like normal employees of the host, so a company's normal Risk Assessment (RA), Health & Safety (HS) and insurance policies are sufficient. The employer just needs to make sure that what they have in place is appropriate for the age of the people hosted on the placement. For example, the RA and H&S policies need to take into account young people who might not be familiar with workplaces.

•Parents / guardians of students under 18 need to agree to the student going on a placement.



Safeguarding

- •The Employer placement lead (and whoever else is directly interacting with the young person on the placement) should be mature in their attitudes and able to establish good professional relationships with young people;
- Physical contact should be avoided where possible, with the understanding that sometimes it is unavoidable, for example when it is necessary to show someone how to operate machinery;
 If a student doesn't show up to their placement, or they have an accident during the placement, or the student commits a significant act of indiscipline, you must let the School placement coordinator know right away;
- •If a young person confides to an adult personal information that gives rise to concern for the young person's safety or the safety of others, the adult should:
 - Be open to listening and be non-judgemental;
 - Not promise to keep anything secret;
 - Write down what the young person said in as much detail as they can and as soon as possible pass on the information to the School placement coordinator.



Safeguarding – visits from staff

The short answer is that in-person checks are only necessary in unusual cases. Unfortunately, there is some confusion about this - with incorrect information sometimes being shared!

The school/college's responsibility is to take reasonable steps to assure themselves that the employer is acting responsibly, and that the student will therefore be safe during the placement. If you follow the standard steps on the Unifrog placements tool (doing things like finding out from the employer what the workplace is like, what the overview of the placement is, and asking them about their RA), then for most employers and their workplaces, and for most students, it is **not necessary** for someone to do an in-person check ahead of a placement happening, or during the placement.

Also, you do not need specific training in Health & Safety to make this judgement.

Someone coordinating placements at a school/college might decide that an in-person check is necessary if the specific workplace, or the specific student, make them think that this would be a good idea (for example, the workplace might involve heavy machinery, or the student might have special needs).



Safeguarding – DBS checks

Schools / colleges should decide whether to check if an adult is barred from working with children based on the specifics of a particular placement.
Normally checking means having the relevant adult do days or enhanced DBS check, including the children's barred list.

•A check might be necessary if all 3 of these apply:

- The student is likely to ever be on their own with an adult, without a second adult present, and
- The student is pre-16 at the end date of the placement, and
- The placement will last more than 3 days or runs overnight.

•For placements where the student is 16+, the school cannot request a DBS check of the employer

Safeguarding – DBS checks

On the Unifrog Placements tool:

•We strongly advise the employer that it's not a good idea for the person working with the young person to be alone with the young person.

•If the student is likely to ever be on their own with an adult, without a second adult present, AND the student is pre-16 at the end date of the placement, AND the placement will last more than 3 days, we:

- Ask the employer if they can ensure that relevant adults are not barred from working with children, and explain that this normally means that they have had a DBS check
- If the employer says 'no' to the above, we flag this fact extremely clearly to the school/college placement coordinator, explaining that they should likely refuse permission

Insurance

When people talk about the insurance that is required for placements, they are (or should be!) talking about **Employer's Liability Insurance (ELI).** This financially safeguards an employer against allegations of injury or illness to employees arising out of their employment, and in so doing it also safeguards employees, because it means that there will be money available should the employee make a successful claim. With a few edge-case exceptions (detailed below), it is a legal requirement for any employer.

In the UK and in many other countries, students on a placement are treated as employees of the employer for the purposes of insurance - so it's important that the employer has ELI in place.

Insurance

On the Unifrog Placements tool, for an in-person placement:

- •If the employer fits into one of the special categories , the tool asks the Employer placement lead what insurance, if any, the employer does have in place
- •Otherwise the tool asks employers to give details for their Employers' Liability Insurance, including sharing with the school / college a copy of their insurance certificate (even for a normal low risk placement, the UK's Health & Safety Executive recommends that schools / colleges see a copy of the employer's insurance certificate).
- •Employers upload their insurance certificate straight into the form. If they are blocked from doing this (a rare occurrence normally caused by an employer's firewall) then the form allows for them to email it to the placement coordinator instead.
- •If the Employers' Liability Insurance will have expired before the end date of the placement (or a day after the start date if the placement is marked as 'ongoing'), then the Employer placement lead must commit to updating the insurance details before the start of the placement. The system also sends the employer a reminder email to update their insurance details on the day after they've said that their insurance will expire.





Risk Assessment

GDPR and related data protection law

Fire Risk Assessment

Health & Safety policy



10 Huge Benefits of In-Person Work Experience

1. You'll enter the job market

6. You'll become familiar with a new industry

2. You get to apply your skills in a new context

7. You'll build your professional network

3. You'll gain new skills

- 8. You might find a career mentor
- 4. You'll begin to understand the industry

9. You'll identify your strengths

5. You get to learn about a new employer

10. You might land your dream job Unifrog

Other Types of Placement

Virtual placements

- Unifrog
 - log in and search through the 'Courses' Tool
- Springpod
 - Gain Virtual Work Experience. Earn certificates 100% free! |
 Springpod
- Speakers4school
 - Unlock Exciting School Work Experience Opportunities!

cdn.unifrog.org/video/n193u79dee/720.mp4



The Unifrog tools

Access all tools on Unifrog to learn what options are available, access good quality information,

and search for opportunities to support your child.

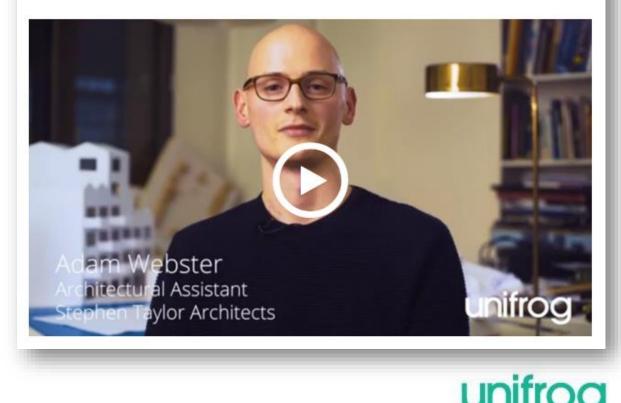
Quizzes	Exploring pathways	Recording what you've done	Searching for opportunities	Drafting application materials	Making applications
Interests profile	Careers library	Activities	UK universities	UK Personal Statement	Post 18 Intentions
Personality profile	Subjects library	Skills	US universities	Classes	Locker
Work environments	Know-how library	Interactions	European universities	Subject References	Applications list
profile	МООС		Oxbridge	CV / Resumé	
Skills profile Webinars		Canadian universities	Writing tool		
	Read, Watch, Listen		Asian universities	Common App Essay	
			Australasian universities	US recommenders	
			MidEast and Africa unis	Notes for Reference writers	
			Irish universities	WITTERS	
			Special Opportunities		unifrog
			Events		a mog

Careers library

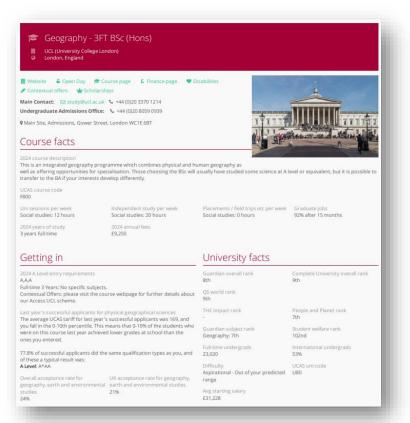
- Over 1000 career profiles
- Presents information from a range of sources, including local and national LMI
- Includes qualifications and skills needed, interviews with industry professionals and labour market information
- Explores progression opportunities and what a working week really looks like

Architect

Architects design new buildings and the spaces around them, and work on the restoration and conservation of existing buildings.



UK Universities



- Students can enter subject of interest and projected grades to see all relevant university courses available in the UK
- Rank and filter opportunities by factors like hours of lectures, price of accommodation and graduate job rates
- Get direct links to university information pages, with impartial information on courses and institutions
- Save unlimited shortlists to refer back to later



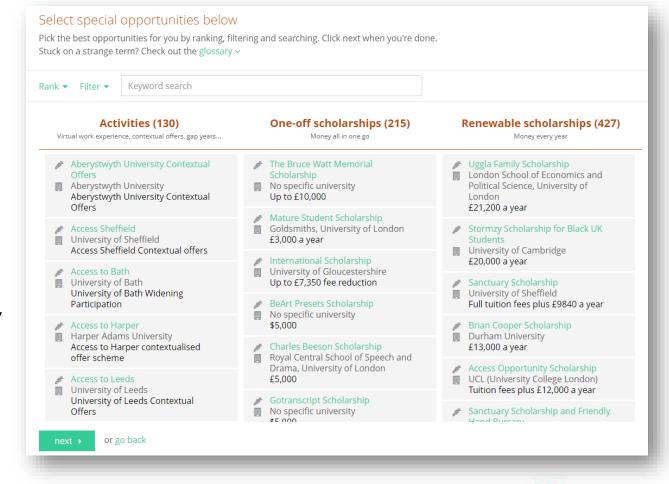
Apprenticeships

+ Apply 9 88-90 Straight Road SL4 2RX Do you enjoying helping people and making a positive impact in their lives? Are you caring, reliable and passionate? If you feel you have these unique qualities, we would love you to join our team. You will deliver high quality personal care following the care plan and individual resident wishes to ensure the comfort and dignity of each resident. At Choice Care Group, you will be working towards an Adult Care Worker Level 2 Apprenticeship standard over the course of 15 months An apprenticeship with Choice Care Group will be not only a meaningful, active and rewarding job, but a possible new career as well and the opportunit to work with a fun, dedicated team. Choice Care Group is looking to appoint a Health and Social Care Apprentice to work in one of our homes. The successful candidate will work towards achieving a Level 2 Adult Care Worker Apprenticeship Applicants should be at least 16 years old and not in full time education. By the end of your Apprenticeship you'll have gained new skills and experience. If you're new to adult social care, then an Apprenticeship is one of the besi ways to get into the sector and start your career You'll work alongside experienced staff and learn the skills and knowledge required for you to be a skilled and confident worker As an Apprentice you will be supporting adults with learning disabilities, mental health disorders and complex needs in a residential care environment providing a high standard of care and support. Key Responsibilitie Deliver high quality personal care following the care plan and individual resident wishes to ensure the comfort and dignity of each residen Delivery of care that it is of high quality and maintains the dignity and well-being of residents - Understand t he importance of privacy, dignity, choice and consent and uphold these basic rights at all time Contribute to the individualised person centered care planning process of each resident and recording appropriate interactions and observations Complete all regulatory and statutory training requirements and comply with all company policy and procedures whilst at work Carry out responsibilities for residents ensuring that residents receive one-to-one quality time when on duty Employer & Training facts Apprenticeship facts Applications open 24 October 2023 July We provide specialist care and support for people with learning disabilitie autism, mental health conditions and associated complex needs. Our Weekly wage purpose is to help everyone in our care to live safe, happy, meaningful and 30 October 2023 £296 fulfilled lives, regardless of their challenges, where they're valued, respected, listened to and supported, living as independently as possible. 15 Months Requires improvement 19 miles

- Students can find live apprenticeship vacancies
- Vacancies are updated daily
- Rank and filter opportunities by factors like distance from home, weekly wage and application deadlines
- Direct link to the 'apply' page
- Each apprenticeship vacancy includes practical information about the opportunity, employer and training
- Save unlimited shortlists to refer back to later

Special Opportunities

- Includes £5 million-worth of grants, bursaries, scholarships, contextual offers and extracurricular activities
- These can be filtered by circumstances or characteristics, depending on the access requirements of the opportunity
- Includes direct links for applying
- Unlimited shortlists can be created and referred back to



Weekly summary emails

- Parents can sign up to receive weekly summary emails
- This summary will show you any shortlists your child may have made on the Unifrog platform
- It will also detail any interactions logged against your child, such as Careers Fairs taking place or careers interviews coming up

¡Hola! Here's what Rebecca Scannapieco has been up to on Unifrog Check out what Rebecca did on Unifrog yesterday. Rebecca Scannapieco SO, 2021 (Y12) Rebecca was sent Comments by Miss Scannapieco at 12:46 - "Complete the Personality guiz by next Monday." She also was sent Comments by Teacher at 13:09 - "Have a look at this intro video before our session on Friday and complete personality quiz." She was also added to Interactions by Miss Scannapieco at 12:45 - "5 June 2020: Unifrog intro video Have a look at the video link below and use this to navigate yourself round the platform. Have this done by next Wednesday!' She also finished a UK universities at 12:47 We hope these emails are useful, though if you'd rather not receive them please don't hesitate to unsubscribe at any time. Unifrog is an online platform your child has access to via their school which tries to help them find and apply for the best next step for them after school. Please check us out at www.unifrog.org. We're also on twitter at @unifrog. **Best wishes** The Unifron team

unifrog



GDPR is a regulation in EU law on data protection and privacy for everyone within the European Union and the European Economic Area.

Unifrog takes data security very seriously, and as such, has several features in place to protect school and student data.

We only use EU data centres, have multiple firewalls, layered-access security and more. Information on this can be found at unifrog.org/about#security



Other cool stuff

The Unifrog platform contains so much more than what we can show you today, that was just four of their many tools.

So why not see for yourself? Sign up as a student and access the tools in exactly the same way that the students do.

You never know, there might be a new career just around the corner!



Parents & guardians, get signed up!





Scan this QR code or go to

www.unifrog.org/student and click 'Sign in

for the first time'

You'll be asked for some details and a Sign

up Code. This is what you need:

<<sbhsparents>>

After signing up, log into Unifrog using your email address and password via the

student sign-in page!

