

As you know, we have already recommended some steps you could be taking in these exceptional times, to help you and your future plans. Along with this advice, Mrs Bennett has now collated a list of really useful things you could be doing to help develop valuable skills, preparing you for the next step in your career. By taking up these opportunities it will also help to show employers that you have made the most of the situation, which is sure to put you ahead of others when you are looking for employment in the future.

#### **EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS -**

You are all learning valuable skills that will be helpful in the future. Communicating differently is just one of these skills and your IT skills are likely to have improved. In the future, when you go for an interview, whether it is for university, work experience, an apprenticeship, or a job, employers might well ask 'What did you do during COVID-19? How did you cope? How did you keep yourself motivated? Did you learn any new skills?'

#### Ways to make employers notice you:

Here are a few ideas which may help you to impress future employers with your lockdown activity.

**Learn a new skill** - learn to do something that has always interested you, this could be a practical skill like cooking, craft, computer skills or learning online sign language.

**Create opportunities** - don't wait for opportunities create them. You will have lots of your own ideas of how to use the time effectively doing things that you enjoy.

**Stay connected and communicate** - we can't speak face to face but develop your skills to ensure you stay connected using online apps.

**Build your commercial awareness** - now is a great time to develop knowledge of the area that you are considering after school. Use the internet to sign up for newsletters and explore training opportunities or listen to podcasts in your chosen field.

Write and update your CV - add a section to show what you have done during the lockdown.

**Enhance your digital footprint** - think about developing a more professional digital footprint using social media.

What can I do to use my time to develop my employability skills?

#### 1. Create / update your CV

Use the following websites to help you ensure your CV is completed.

https://barclayslifeskills.com/i-want-to-use-my-online-presence-to-get-ahead/school/cv-builder

https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/cvs-and-cover-letters/how-to-write-a-cv

## 2. Use the time to complete Upcoming virtual talks / courses

There are thousands of courses to choose from but try choosing one or two useful courses.

**TOUCH TYPING**- If you complete this course you will be able to save time and work more efficiently. You can watch the tutorials, test yourself along the way and gain a certificate at the end. <a href="https://sense-lang.org/typing/">https://sense-lang.org/typing/</a>

### Online courses from the Open University -

The Open University has wide range of free courses, which would be ideal to help you prepare for a university course. <a href="https://www.open.edu/openlearn/free-courses/full-catalogue">https://www.open.edu/openlearn/free-courses/full-catalogue</a>

## Online courses from Futurelearn -

Use the opportunity to complete some online courses which you can add to your CV.

**FIRST AID** - If you haven't got a first aid qualification currently this would be an excellent skill to gain over lockdown. <a href="https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/basic-first-aid">https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/basic-first-aid</a>

**STUDY SKILLS** https://www.futurelearn.com/subjects/study-skills-courses

**INTERVIEWS** https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/interviews

**CREATING YOUR FUTURE** <a href="https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/creating-your-future">https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/creating-your-future</a>

**CAREERS SUCCESS** https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/career-success

**CAREERS IN GAME DEVELOPMENT** <a href="https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/how-to-start-your-career-in-games-development">https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/how-to-start-your-career-in-games-development</a>

**COURSES FOR THOSE FOLLOWING A VOCATIONAL ROUTE** - If you are seeking an apprenticeship or would just like some useful skills (being able to do basic plumbing is very useful!):

## PLUMBING <a href="https://alison.com/course/introduction-to-plumbing-revised">https://alison.com/course/introduction-to-plumbing-revised</a>

Look at <a href="https://alison.com/">https://alison.com/</a> for other trades and courses.

#### **FOOD SAFETY**

https://www.cocoms.eu/mycompliance/PowerPointHtml5.aspx?page=a4ea52eb-01fa-43c8-9ef3-0213d5d0b471

#### Online lessons to build your skills -

MAPPING STRENGTHS https://hub.skillsbuilder.org/resources/mapping-strengths

GETTING A JOB https://hub.skillsbuilder.org/resources/getting-job

#### Finance online course -

As special online finance course will help you to understand finance and will give you valuable knowledge for the future.

https://www.nebulalearning.co.uk/home-study

### **Creating your account:**

- 1. In Google Chrome, navigate to: <a href="https://www.nebulalearning.co.uk/create-account">www.nebulalearning.co.uk/create-account</a>.
- 2. Click on 'Create account' under the Home Study Course icon
- 3. Click 'Add Coupon' and enter the below code.

Your school's coupon code is: CVCC1

\*The course is free to schools, use your school coupon code to disapply the listed £1 nominal fee (this is in place to deter spam sign-ups).

#### Logging back in at a later date:

- 1. In **Google Chrome**, navigate to: <a href="https://www.nebulalearning.co.uk">www.nebulalearning.co.uk</a> and click 'Log in' in the top right.
- 2. Enter your login details



#### **VIRTUAL TALKS FROM SPEAKERS IN SCHOOLS -**

Speakers for Schools are excited to present our VTalks schedule for week commencing 20th April. This schedule will be updated weekly and talks will be targeted to different age groups and will be accessible via the links included below.

https://www.speakersforschools.org/inspiration/vtalks/upcoming-vtalks/

To access the talks, links should be opened in a browser that is not Internet Explorer and students should join the live event anonymously, there is no need to create a login.

Further guidance on how to access talks can be found here

#### **Duke of Edinburgh's Award from home**

The Duke of Edinburgh's team have put together a programme they have called #DofEWithADifference which basically means just because we are in lockdown, does not mean your DofE has to stop. They have created a hub accessible from their website where you can find out all information. <a href="https://www.dofe.org/">https://www.dofe.org/</a>

## **USEFUL CAREERS WEBSITES -**

https://careerpilot.org.uk/

Complete the activities which have been highlighted for your year group.

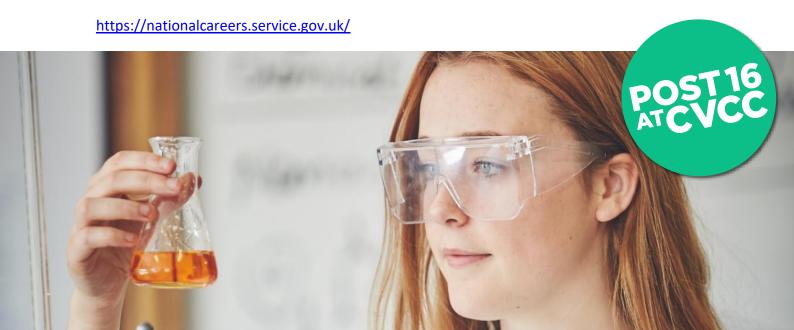
https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/careers

Take a look at the new Careers information which includes looking at jobs to protect the planet.

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zv6992p

https://www.mycareerspringboard.org/

https://successatschool.org/



# Information about apprenticeships -

http://www.allaboutschoolleavers.co.uk/

https://allaboutapprenticeships.co.uk/

https://www.gov.uk/topic/further-education-skills/apprenticeships

<u>'Building Greater Exeter'</u> have just launched a brand new website- if you're looking into construction as a career path check it out!

https://buildinggreaterexeter.co.uk/about-us/

If you have any careers questions in the meantime please don't hesitate to contact me - bennettn@clystvale.org

Take care

Mrs Bennett