



CITY OF LONDON
FREEMEN'S SCHOOL

Future Pathways Newsletter

Summer 2 2025

Wings of Hope Finalists

Last Thursday, two L5 students, Cara and Isabel, presented their Wings of Hope Achievement Award (WOHAA) journey at the House of Lords. WOHAA is a national social enterprise programme that helps students aged 13–18 develop key life skills through fundraising and charity work.

Their team, *Chocolate Strawberries*, raised funds through cake and ice cream sales to support projects in Malawi. We're proud to share that they've reached the finals, taking place this weekend at London Business School.

Best of luck, Cara and Isabel!



L5 Sixth Form Taster Day

On Tuesday 17 June, L5 pupils experienced life as Sixth Formers. They explored the various pathways available, attended four A Level subject tasters, and learned about the EPQ, Free Minds and Enrichment in the Sixth Form. The day also included time in the Sixth Form common room and a visit to the independent living facility.

A sunny BBQ lunch in the Italian Gardens provided a welcome break. The day concluded with a Q&A led by current prefects, offering valuable insights into Sixth Form life.

U4 Enterprise Day Finals

On Monday, six semi-finalist teams showcased the impressive initiatives they developed during last term's Enterprise Day. The panel of four judges was thoroughly impressed by the creativity and purpose behind each project. Highlights included:

- AI glasses that narrate the surroundings for visually impaired users
- A therapy animal environment to support mental health and well-being
- A digital music recorder and companion app
- Sports shoes with interchangeable soles for various activities
- AI-powered plant pot to assist in plant care
- A smart energy bot to reduce electricity usage and costs

After much deliberation, the judges awarded first place to Songify, whose innovative digital recorder aims to enhance music lessons.

Congratulations to all the semi-finalists.



National Careers Challenge Finalists

Following their success in May's National Careers Challenge, our winning team will represent the School at the finals at the Barbican next week. It promises to be an exciting event, and we wish them the very best of luck!



Unifrog: Supporting Future Pathways

Unifrog is an all-in-one platform that helps students explore their interests and plan their next steps after school. Freeman's students are already using it widely to research careers, universities, and apprenticeships. We're excited to expand its use further by introducing new tools, including:

- The **Placements Tool** for organising and recording work experience
- The **Common App Tool** for US university applications
- The **UCAT Tool** for students interested in medicine

We're also pleased to offer **parent access** to Unifrog, allowing you to support your child in exploring opportunities and navigating the platform together. We encourage you to explore the **Careers Library**, which features over 1,000 career profiles, and to speak with your child about how they're using Unifrog to shape their future. To make your account, go to www.unifrog.org/code and input the sign-up code **OFETPARENTS**.

You can also sign up to Unifrog's parent / caregiver newsletter to get expert advice and guidance on supporting your child with their next steps.



Oxbridge Panel

On Monday evening, we were delighted to welcome back three alumni who have studied or are currently studying at Oxford and Cambridge. They shared valuable insights into the application process, offered practical tips for success, and gave an honest glimpse into life at these world-renowned universities.

Their advice was both inspiring and informative, and we're grateful for their time and support in helping guide our aspiring applicants.

L6 Future Pathways Preparation

This half term, L6 students have been actively preparing for their next steps. Their journey began with a UCAS morning, where they explored the application process, started their UCAS forms, and began drafting personal statements. They also attended a talk from the University of Warwick on choosing the right course and university. To support their preparation further, students had assemblies on interview skills and making a strong first impression, delivered by external speakers. They practised using the STAR technique and participated in mock interviews, with parent volunteers, helping them build confidence for university and job interviews. We'll continue working with students to ensure they're ready to submit their UCAS applications in the autumn term.

Thank you to the parents who gave their time to help the students to develop these skills.





Future Pathways Newsletter

Summer 2 2025

Useful Links and Opportunities

The following are links to opportunities that have been sent to us that may be of interest. Please note that some may incur a cost and the School is not able to endorse them. Please click on the title to access the webpage.

Events or Programmes

What University? & What Career? Live – Sunday 14 September - Whether you're interested in higher education, an apprenticeship or something else we've got a range of helpful features facilitated by experts to answer any questions you might have and help you take your next steps with confidence.

Gresham College Lectures - provides free educational videos and lectures at university level, click here to watch the recordings of some that have taken place this year.

EDT are running a series of insightful competency based Masterclasses over the summer break. These will be run by experienced industry professionals and after the sessions you will receive a certification of completion which is a great addition to your CV/Portfolio. Relationship Building & Interview Preparation, World Class Project Management, A Career as an Engineer, Presentation Skills

Be the Chancellor of the Exchequer! Does the world of finance, public services or politics interest you? Perhaps you are considering a future apprenticeship, A Level or degree study in one of these areas. Then try the '**Be a Chancellor**' interactive quiz available on the **Institute for Fiscal Studies**:- Be the Chancellor | Institute for Fiscal Studies

Games, VFX and Animation – Programming Skills - Build your confidence in programming with this guide from Escape Studios. Tutors and industry experts share free online resources and offer advice on getting started with programming for this creative industry. Available online at:- Programming Guide | Escape Studios - Animation, Games and VFX

Immerse Education Essay Competition - Participate in the Immerse Education Essay Competition for a chance to win a full or partial scholarship to our university and career preparation programmes.

Minds Underground - Are you curious about the world around you? Join an international community of like-minded thinkers, Curious Minds! It is entirely free to join with members receiving resources to support their academic studies, essay competitions and academic event recommendations.

What Next? –15 November 2025, considering your post-school or college choices? If you are aged 15 to 19 and want to discover the best university or apprenticeship options, this is a truly unmissable event! Tickets are completely free and available now, book yours today for fast-entry access to discover the best school leaver options, all under one roof.

Future Financial Advisor - Future Financial Adviser is a community where young people can access career advice and learn about opportunities within the financial advice profession.

The University of Law – click to access podcasts from the University of Law.

Oxford Springboard Videos - These videos are intended for school pupils in Years 11, 12 and 13. Each offers an introduction to a new topic, plus lots of activities and further resources to explore. When you click on a topic, we'll ask you a few questions and then play the video you've chosen.

British Airways - the Emerging Talent team run 'virtual 'drop in' sessions for you to ask any questions about our emerging talent programmes and opportunities



Future Pathways Newsletter

Summer 2 2025

University Events

The Students' Guide 2025 - Perfect for students thinking about university and including insights from 65+ university experts. It covers the new UCAS personal statement, information on the first tuition fee rise since 2017, and researching universities during a cost-of-living crisis. Plus, student finance tips from Martin Lewis!

The Parents' Guide to University - packed with expert advice to help parents and carers support students with their university decisions.

University of Cambridge - Get free up-to-date application advice on every step of the application process.

FAST Webinar Series from Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge These webinars, on Monday evenings from January 2025 help to guide you through the process of completing your Cambridge application. Click [here](#) for information on admissions tests.

University of Oxford - What student life here is really like' official guide will take you through everything from how you'll learn to our wide range of clubs and societies.

Oxford Admissions Tests - Candidates will be able to register for their admissions test free of charge via the [Oxford Admissions Test Registration portal](#) any time from 18 June until 19 September (6pm BST). When registering, they will create their own user account profile and select the relevant test. They will also be able to request access arrangements, for example extra time, providing they are able to upload accompanying supporting evidence from a medical or educational specialist. Candidates who require access arrangements are strongly encouraged to read carefully our [admissions tests policy on access arrangements](#) to ensure their supporting evidence meets the required criteria. We also recommend that school staff responsible for providing this evidence, such as specialist teachers, SENCOs, year heads, UCAS coordinators, or head teachers, review the policy to ensure the documentation they submit is compliant.

The University of London Taster Course programme - provides Year 12 students with a taste of what life at a university in London is like. Taster courses are free to attend and give you an opportunity to try out a variety of subject areas at numerous participating universities.

UCAS – University Open days – use UCAS to search University Open Days or UCAS Discovery events can be found [here](#)

Complete University Guide – information on university open days and virtual events.

Studying Abroad or Gap Year Opportunities

GVI (international volunteering, gap year and internship provider) is now hosting free Virtual Open Days every Tuesday at 13:00 EST/18:00 GMT and you're invited! They'll be sharing details about their programs in some pretty incredible locations.

Thinking of Studying in US – Visit the Fulbright College Day on 26-27 September. Make the most of the day by preparing ahead. **Education USA** has comprehensive information on their higher education system including choosing a university, funding, how to apply and obtaining a visa/preparing for study:- [Undergraduate study in the USA | Fulbright](#)

The University Guys – for information and help on studying outside the UK

InvestIN – Applying to Study in the United States – click on the link to access the recording of their recent webinar on how to make a successful application to University in the USA.

Thinking of Studying in Australia – Visit the [Australia and New Zealand University Fair](#) on Saturday 15 November. Many universities will be in attendance to answer questions.



Future Pathways Newsletter

Summer 2 2025

Apprenticeships

Ask An Apprentice - Student mentors, apprentices who have been where you are now, are here to help. Get honest answers from people who get you.

British Army - Imagine skiing down pristine slopes, organising adventurous trips, and exploring diverse cultures around the globe. With the Army, these experiences are within your reach. The Defence STEM Undergraduate Sponsorship (DSUS) not only helps fund your university education but also provides financial support for Adventurous Training and travel opportunities

Tesco – A retail giant revolutionising grocery, technology and logistics with innovation, sustainability and endless student opportunities.

JLR - An apprenticeship programme at JLR opens doors to innovation and technology like no other, enhancing your skills and engaging your curiosity.

Volkswagen Group -Volkswagen Group is one of the world's leading automobile manufacturers and the largest carmaker in Europe. Earn while you learn and be part of an innovative team that uses leading edge technology with a focus on customer service

BBC Apprenticeships - The BBC's award-winning apprenticeship schemes could be your chance to start an exciting career across a wide range of jobs in the media industry. With opportunities in the areas of business; digital, data and technology; engineering and operations; journalism; and production, there's a place for you, with us, at the BBC.

KPMG – interested in an apprenticeship at KPMG, click for more information.

PwC – Sign up for virtual events to find out more on School and College Leaver programmes.

Lloyds Bank Apprenticeships with around 20 different roles available, there's something to suit almost every interest.

Accounting Apprenticeships –Have you considered an accounting apprenticeship? The following links will provide you with more information **AAT** , **ACCA** and **ICAEW**

Deloitte - programmes that have been designed to help you build your career your way, as you develop the skills you'll need to make an impact that matters to you. Find out more about paths with Deloitte that could be right for you.

Choices – the **June** and July edition of the ultimate guide to apprenticeships from Amazing Apprenticeships.

Amazing Apprenticeships – find out more about apprenticeship and their benefits and join virtual events on how to make a successful application for apprenticeships.

Top 100 Apprenticeship Employers – Earlier this year, the Department for Education launched the new Top 100 Apprenticeship Employers for 2024, during a special live TV programme. Click to watch it.

Not Going to Uni – click here to access information about apprenticeships and careers and here to access their **podcasts**.

Advanced Therapies Apprenticeships Community - We develop apprenticeship programmes, designed to train and upskill individuals for the ever-growing and thriving life sciences industry.

Sixth Formers Guide to Degree Apprenticeships Programme – Click to watch the 45-minute programme which explains how degree apprenticeships offer a debt-free route to a university degree or professional qualification - and will provide expert advice and guidance on which degree apprenticeships are available in 2025 and how to apply. Click here to access the **guide**.



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Summer 2 2025

Medics

Live Virtual NHS Healthcare Careers Work Experience Programme - created and delivered by healthcare professionals. You can select from one day or a full 6 month work experience programme where you will follow patients from admission to discharge in the high fidelity simulation suite, designed to provide you with an immersive experience from the comfort and safety of home.

Applying to Medicine - this popular Medic Mind FREE course, will give an insight into the medical application.

NHS Careers Untapped - The NHS Careers Untapped NHS Team are pleased to announce upcoming webinars showcasing some more of the great jobs available in the NHS.

Get into Medicine and Get into Dentistry Events from Medic Mentor – equipping aspiring medical and dental students with the tools to sidestep common mistakes and pitfalls and ace their application to university.

Work Experience or Careers

Young Professionals – Click to access a range of opportunities including virtual work experience.

INVESTIN Weekend Career Experiences - Students will learn directly from some of the world's best professionals - doctors, lawyers, engineers, investment bankers and more. **You are entitled to 10% discount on any bookings if you use the code FREEMENS10. Last few days to register for the August courses.** Several Freeman's pupils have done these courses and found them really useful.

UCAS – Virtual Work Experience.

Unifrog Virtual Work Experience Week – you can join the courses that have already taken place, there are opportunities with several organisations including BBC, British Army & Forvis Mazars.

British Airways - Inspire is our award-winning work experience programme that gives students a taste of what we do at British Airways and showcases what a career in aviation looks like with the nation's flag carrier.

Virtual Work Experience – Virtual Work Experiences is a free service covering 110+ careers and provides fun exploratory activities for students and goes a long way to providing answers to finding, affirming, and developing a student's career choice.

Pathway CTM - Connecting young people, schools & parents with leading global brands. Providing employability skills training, free careers events, and work experience & apprenticeship opportunities!

Springpod Virtual Work Experience - In-depth, interactive and informative virtual work experiences from industry experts in the world's leading employers.

Careers Days – CareerDays.co.uk is for any student aged 13-18 who wants to experience different careers or gain work experience in their chosen field. From medicine, law, performing arts, psychology, business or becoming a vet, we have a 1-day online event for you, designed to give you an insight into life in your chosen field.

Prospects – learn more about internships, online experience, work placements, shadowing, volunteering and part-time work.

LawCareers.Net – click here for the [Beginners Guide to a Career in Law](#) and here for [The Law Apprenticeships Guide](#)

British Army Scholarship Scheme - The Army Officer Scholarship Scheme guarantees them up to £10,000 in financial support, starting in academic year 13. Our scholarship also guarantees them a place at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst and a career as an Army Officer when they finish education.

UniTaster Days - Search the directory of university events, watch webinars or listen to podcasts