

## Careers Advice and Guidance at Our Lady's Abingdon



At OLA we are working closely with careers professionals at Target Careers to deliver current information, advice and guidance around the next steps students at OLA should take to help them search out the career paths for their future.

To this end please see the handy links provided through the Target Careers website which give wide ranging advice covering a number of destinations for students from OLA both at post-16 and post-18.

Below we have listed a range of links and grouped these into categories to make them easier to navigate. Please feel free to copy and paste any of the links onto your career pages as appropriate.

### Advice on choosing your A levels

- Choose the best A levels, Scottish Highers or International Baccalaureate options for your future, whether you want to go to university or get a job straight after school or college: <https://targetcareers.co.uk/careers-advice/a-level-choices/315491-what-a-level-subjects-should-i-take>

### Career options

- Find out about different options by searching 12 careers sectors full of advice and information such as salaries you can expect to earn, the types of jobs available and what your options are with, or without, a degree: <https://targetcareers.co.uk/career-sectors>
- From academic librarian to youth worker: look through graduate job descriptions to find out what each job involves and the qualifications and skills that are most needed: <https://targetjobs.co.uk/careers-advice/job-descriptions>

## Advice for students interested in Higher Education

- TARGET careers university profiles give details such as number of students, student-staff ratio and average UCAS tariff needed: <https://targetcareers.co.uk/university-hubs/>
- A course search function allows you to browse thousands of courses by university, qualification level, study mode and region: <https://targetcareers.co.uk/search/courses>
- Find out what university rankings mean by looking at how they are calculated and what measures are used: <https://targetcareers.co.uk/uni/choices-about-uni/384889-what-university-rankings-mean>
- Take a look at these degree subject guides to help you decide what to study at university. Look at what content, teaching methods and contact hours would suit you best as well as what careers each subject might lead to: <https://targetcareers.co.uk/uni/degree-subject-guides>
- If you have a career area in mind, look at these various articles to help you understand what degrees would benefit your chosen path. From law to photography, design and TV there are over 15 different areas to explore: <https://targetcareers.co.uk/uni/degree-subject-guides>
- These university reviews tell you what the universities are really like and are written by current students: <https://targetcareers.co.uk/uni/university-reviews>
- Find out how much university will cost and get advice about tuition fees, whether you are from England, Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland: <https://targetcareers.co.uk/careers-advice/choices-about-uni/50-university-tuition-fees-and-funding>

## Building your CV

- Put together a CV that will show you in the best possible light, whether you are applying for work experience, an entry-level job or apprenticeships and similar programmes: <https://targetcareers.co.uk/careers-advice/applications-and-interviews/198-how-to-write-a-cracking-school-leaver-cv>
- Find out about online ability and aptitude tests for school leaver programmes, including numerical and verbal reasoning tests: <https://targetcareers.co.uk/careers-advice/applications-and-interviews/44-online-ability-tests-for-school-leaver-programmes-and-apprenticeships>
- Make sure your online application form stands out for the right reasons and helps you get the apprenticeship place you want: <https://targetcareers.co.uk/careers-advice/applications-and-interviews/42-top-tips-for-filling-in-school-leaver-programme-application-forms>

## University application support

- Find out how to ace your UCAS application with our advice articles on starting your statement, what you should include, how it should be structured and how you should handle offers: <https://targetcareers.co.uk/uni/applying-for-uni>
- Discover what is appropriate to wear for a university interview and what clothes you should avoid: <https://targetcareers.co.uk/uni/applying-for-uni/314689-what-to-wear-for-a-university-interview>
- Use our guide to deadlines to find out the key dates you need to know when applying to uni: <https://targetcareers.co.uk/careers-advice/applying-for-uni/52-when-to-apply-for-university-through-ucas>

## Work experience

- Find out about the different ways you can gain the work experience you need to impress employers and get hired, whether or not you go to university first: <https://targetcareers.co.uk/careers-advice/skills-and-experience/388-work-experience-for-school-students-what-you-need-and-how-to-get-it>
- Make the most of your work experience by finding out what to wear, how to impress and what you should do once it is completed: <https://targetcareers.co.uk/careers-advice/skills-and-experience/313849-how-to-make-the-most-of-your-work-experience-placement>

## Advice for your gap year

- Thinking of taking a gap year before starting university or beginning work on an apprenticeship? Plan ahead so you get what you want out of your time out: <https://targetcareers.co.uk/careers-advice/gap-years/180-how-to-have-a-well-planned-gap-year>

## University open days

- University open days are a fantastic way of finding out about the universities that you are thinking of studying at and the courses you might want to take. Here are some top tips for making the most of your visits: <https://targetcareers.co.uk/uni/choices-about-uni/313867-how-to-make-the-most-of-university-open-days>

## The UK's 100 most popular employers for school leavers

- Take a look at the 100 most popular employers for school leavers as voted for by school pupils: <https://targetcareers.co.uk/school-leavers-100>

## The UK's 50 most popular universities for school leavers

- Find out the 50 most popular universities in the UK as voted for by school pupils: <https://targetcareers.co.uk/top-50-unis>