


CAREERS NEWSLETTER

This newsletter is a collation of all the opportunities we have heard about from employers and universities. Please use the links included to read more information and apply to anything you are interested in. Links are underlined.

 [Listen to this newsletter](#)

OPPORTUNITIES

Happy PRIDE Month!  Everyone should feel valued and accepted in the workplace. There are many different ways that employers may demonstrate they are an inclusive organisation for LGBTQ+ employees and it can be useful for potential applicants to know what to look for. This guide provides a few examples, and there will be other excellent approaches that employers have in place.

Launched in 2021, The Queer Student Awards (QSAs) are the U.K.'s first standalone annual student awards event celebrating LGBTQ+ students, apprentices, interns and graduates who are proudly leading in their lives, and the communities around them. You can read about the 2026 finalists here.

That's the work place considered, but what support is available for LGBTQIA+ university students? Check out this guide to the different types of support that may be available, including scholarships and peer networks.

This week is also National Freelancer Week. Your guide to freelancing in the creative industries. Learn how to start, grow and succeed as a freelancer through short talks, videos and real advice from people working in the creative industries. All online, all on demand. A new talk topic will unlock each day this week.

Here is the Government backed advice and guidance to help you develop your business idea and identity, understand finances and funding and build your business in the right way from the start.

In this one hour Springpod Sprint, you will explore what it's really like to work in an area shaping the future: AI engineering. From the entry routes and pathways involved in entering the sector, to the most rewarding and challenging things about this revolutionary role. You'll understand what AI Engineers really do, what the job does during a typical week, and what salary and benefits come with the role. Plus, hear from an AI Engineer at AXA UK, and get to grips with the type of work you'd be doing during your Simulation activity.

JOB OF THE WEEK



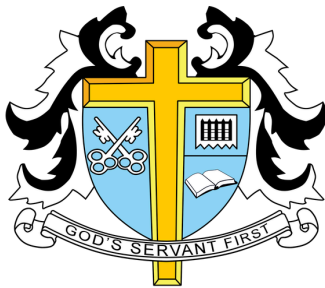
As a charity fundraiser, you'll raise awareness of the work charity organisations do, with a goal of seeking donations. In a larger organisation, you'll usually specialise in one specific area, but in a smaller one, you may cover several types of fundraising. This means you can choose a cause/charity that you're passionate about and make raising money for them your full time role!

LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION FACT

The "Assessment of priority skills to 2030" reported by the UK Government states that sectors such as Digital Technologies, Adult Social Care, Construction, and Engineering will experience the largest increases in job demand.

Source

If you have any questions please email Mrs Bradley at kbradley@st-thomasmore.southend.sch.uk



CAREERS NEWSLETTER

OPPORTUNITIES

There are lots of University Open Days taking place in June and July. You can find them on the [UCAS website](#), [UniTasterDays website](#) and the individual university websites (just search the name of the university followed by "open day" to find the correct web page). On UniTasterDays, you can also look at the [open day incentives](#) to see what discounts and travel support may be available.

An open day is the best way to get a real taste of university life. You can explore the local area, check out the facilities on campus, and speak to current staff and students. [Here's everything you need to know](#) to plan and get the most out of your visit.

University of East Anglia have pulled together a [helpful video guide](#) to make sure you get the most out of your day. You'll be able to speak to the lecturers and get those questions answered about the course you want to study. Meet current students on the campus tours who will give you their experiences. As well as visiting the accommodation to be able to decide where you want to live.

The [Parents' Guide to University 2026](#) will help you support the young people in your life to make an informed choice about university. It includes articles to guide them in deciding whether university is right for them, what they should study, and where they should study it. Contributions have been provided by over 80 university representatives from across the UK, along with expert voices from outside the sector, such as educator and TV personality Baasit Siddiqui.

Introducing [The Uni Guide Podcast](#): In this podcast series, the hosts will be providing listeners with the cutting edge and most up-to-date information and conversations about university. In plain English, without the jargon, and from the lived experience of everyone involved in the process - including guest experts, current students and recent graduates.

The [Student Room](#) is the UK's largest online community for school, college and uni students. Find friendly and supportive discussions on everything from GCSEs to uni life, from A-levels to Ucas applications.

EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT

"Our purpose is to connect everyone and use technology to improve lives. Whether you're joining us as a graduate or apprentice, this is more than just your first job — it's your first step into a career which makes a real impact on the people and world around you. Here, you'll find a place to belong. A space to explore your passions, discover your strengths, and build a future you're proud of." Find out more about [Vodafone here](#).

UNI SPOTLIGHT

"Nearly four out of five UEA graduates are [in professional work or further study](#). We use a range of teaching styles to inspire you, including hands-on classes, real-world research and exciting projects. And you can even enhance your studies with a placement or internship. All you need to do now is decide which of our courses is right for you." You can learn more about [University of East Anglia here](#).

If you have any questions please email Mrs Bradley at kbradley@st-thomasmore.southend.sch.uk





Mike Clark

I left St Thomas More High School in 2010 and went on to study International Business Management at the University of Kent, graduating with a 2:1. Like many graduates, I didn't have a completely clear idea of my long term career path, but I was eager to get started in a sales role.

My career began in telesales for a real estate media title in central London at Estates Gazette. Over the ten years I spent there I progressed from Sales Executive to Head of Business Development, gaining invaluable experience in sales, commercial strategy and leadership. During that time I also married my long term partner and we had two amazing children, which has hands down been the

most rewarding part of my journey so far.

Four years ago I made the move to CBRE, the world's largest commercial real estate advisory firm. I initially joined as a Director leading the Tech, Media and Telecom sector for the UK. Recently I was promoted to Head of Growth for London, a role focused on driving strategy and identifying opportunities across one of the most dynamic commercial real estate markets in the world. Throughout my career I've learned a huge amount about sales, but equally about **leadership**, **collaboration** and **building strong teams**.



PROFILE:

NAME: Mike Clark

JOB: Head of Growth,
London Markets, CBRE

SUBJECTS studied at A LEVEL: Business Studies,
Geography and ICT

What next? University of
Kent, International Business
Management 2:1

YEAR left STM: 2010



ALUMNUS OF THE MONTH

JUNE 2026



Outside of my day job, I've always had an **entrepreneurial streak**, something that runs in my family. Around 18 months ago a friend and I launched the *It's Only Kids Football Podcast*, which focuses on parenting and coaching in grassroots football and aims to improve the experience for kids, parents and coaches. What started as a passion project has grown quickly and recently ranked in the **Top 50 Football Podcasts in the UK**. Watching the podcast and wider business grow month by month has been hugely rewarding.

Looking back, my time at St Thomas More helped lay many of the foundations that shaped my career. I gained many qualities that have stayed with me throughout my professional life. Those early lessons around **resilience, teamwork** and **ambition** have played a big role in how I approach both business and leadership today.

Quote I live by:

“Embrace what you don’t know, especially in the beginning, because what you don’t know can become your greatest asset.” — Sara Blakely

