

Report shows that 70% of secondary school students admit to future career fear

The Careers after Covid report published today by Launch Your Career, has revealed that 70% of secondary school students do not know or are unsure about what they want to do for a career when they leave school.



United Kingdom, West Midlands, May 13, 2021 ([Issuewire.com](https://www.issuewire.com)) - The [Careers after Covid](#) report published today by [Launch Your Career](#), has revealed that 70% of secondary school students do not know or are unsure about what they want to do for a career when they leave school. Three-quarters of students (78%) admitted they are worried about making the right choice of career.

The report also reveals that nearly half of secondary school teachers (48%) say their school's ability to

give career advice to students has worsened since the start of the pandemic. One in five (19%) of secondary school students say they have not received any advice from their school since the first lockdown over a year ago.

Many students (47%) responding to the survey revealed that any advice they had been given had not been personalised to them.

The news comes as students are already coping with disruption to learning, exams, and friendships as a result of the pandemic.

Furthermore, Covid-19 has hampered opportunities for work experience and one in four students (28%) revealed they had no practical experience of the working world, not even via a visiting speaker organised by their school.

David Chapman, vice-principal of Aston University Engineering Academy (AUEA) said: **“After a year of seeing businesses failing, people being furloughed, and parents losing jobs, young people are more unsure than ever about their own career opportunities. We need to find new ways to engage them in their future work choices.”**

The turmoil brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic has also impacted what students want to do after school, with more than half (54%) saying they have now changed their career ideas, making it even more important that they receive good advice to make the right choices.

David Chapman, vice-principal of Aston University Engineering Academy (AUEA) said: **“We have flipped the careers advice journey on its head and rather than asking ‘what do you want to do?’ we find out more about them as people. With a short personality quiz, we discover each student’s strengths and then research careers they might find fulfilling based on their answers. This starts to open doors for them and helps a young person feel more positive about the future.”**

Chris Jeffries, CEO, and founder of Dev Clever, the company behind Launch Your Career, said: **“Just when good careers guidance is needed most, schools are finding it hard to give quality advice and work experience opportunities. The pressure of the pandemic means they are having to focus instead on plugging curriculum gaps. But young people also need to plan for the future to help them engage in the lessons they are being taught in class today.”**

“Schools need to look for simple ways to expose students to potential career choices that would suit their personality and engage and excite them in their future. And employers need to be more actively involved so students know what options are available to them once they leave education.”

The research also revealed that three quarters (76%) of secondary school teachers agree students engage more with lessons when technology is used and 34% of students indicate technology could be used to explore career options.

Aston University Engineering Academy is using Launch Your Career’s virtual reality experience to engage students in their career journey. David Chapman from AUEA said: **“The virtual reality experience hooks our students into their personalised career journey. It uses gaming techniques they are very familiar with to grab their attention in a way that a normal careers lesson cannot.”**

“It opens up their eyes to why they come to school each day and shows how the subjects they are learning lead to a real career.”

Other interesting findings from the report include:

- 92% of parents have discussed potential career options with their child, however, a third (33%) do not feel equipped to give careers advice.
- Nearly half (48%) of students want to see which careers would suit their interests and personality.

The *Careers after Covid* report is available at www.launchyourcareer.com/careersaftercovid to download and contains advice and guidance for schools and parents. The free personality career quiz is available to all students at www.launchyourcareer.com.

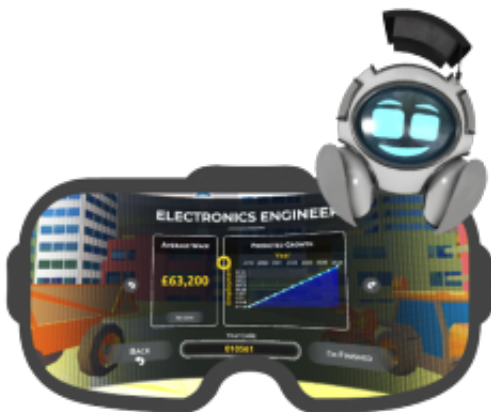
Launch Your Career is an online and virtual reality experience for young people which provides career guidance based on a student's personality. Students use the tool to find out what makes them tick – whether they are an introvert or extrovert, whether they like to plan or are more of a seat of your pants type. Their spirit animal is unlocked based on their answers and they can see careers highlighted that might interest them.

Built on engagement, gamification, and fun, Launch Your Career immerses young people in their career journey. With a VR headset, students are absorbed in a quest to find out about jobs that interest them, and what they need to do to secure them. It's the perfect tool to revitalise career advice.

Launch Your Career is the brainchild of digital innovation experts, [Dev Clever](#).

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