

DAILY MIRROR JOBS

Edited by **TRICIA PHILLIPS**

mirrorjobs@mirror.co.uk



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FISH4JOBS

THINK 'DRESS TO IMPRESS'

If you've got your exam results and are about to hit the world of work for the first time, you need to ensure you ace interviews.

Before you've spoken a word, your appearance will have made a crucial first impression, so what you wear can be a key to your success. Here Fish4Jobs.co.uk spells out the general rules on interview dressing.

CLOTHING: Go for a more formal look than you would on a working day - wear your most polished and professional outfit. For women, this could mean a smart dress or suit, while men should opt for a suit and tie.

Dark colours look most professional. Off-limits are items you might wear when socialising or relaxing at home, so steer clear of jeans, hoodies, T-shirts, hats and anything too tight or revealing.

FOOTWEAR: Clean and polished shoes are a must. Trainers, flip-flops and excessively high heels should never be worn. If it's shoes you would wear on a date, they're probably not appropriate.

ACCESSORIES: When it comes to jewellery, stick to subtle pieces. A simple silver necklace or smart watch can give your outfit elegant flair, but save anything flashy for another time. Make sure your hair is well-groomed and your breath is fresh. The purpose of your interview outfit is to show that you take pride in your appearance, are serious in your interest for the role and you respect the interviewer. Make sure you plan your outfit ahead of time - you don't want to miss out on a great opportunity because you wake up on interview day and realise you don't have a tie.

Use your A-levels to be an apprentice

IT'S D-Day for thousands of anxious students as they get their A-level results today.

Many will get the grades they need to head off to university, but there will be others who may not quite hit the heights they expected.

If you're one of them, it's vital to remember you still have a whole world of opportunities available, from using the Clearing system (see below) to help you find a university place, to vocational training and earn-and-learn opportunities so you can begin taking the first steps towards a successful career.

Some options mean you get a paid job and can study for a degree at the same time - bagging one for free without the student debt.

Two years ago, Ashleigh James, 20, from Slough, was one of those lining up to get her A-level results. She needed more than two of them to be above grade C to start an apprenticeship with mobile giant O2 as a finance analyst.

Ashleigh says: "I initially started applying to universities but I had no real clue what I wanted to do. I couldn't decide between business studies, finance, criminology or physical education degrees.

"I began to realise I would much rather be out working. I also thought it made no sense to get into debt for something I wasn't sure about. In my final year at school I started looking for apprenticeships and found this one with O2. I really liked the look of it."

While her twin sister Stephanie went off to Warwick University to study Spanish with French, Ashleigh stayed at home and started on a two-year apprenticeship working towards getting



IT ADDS UP
Ashleigh is an accountant for O2

her Level 4 CIMA (Chartered Institute of Management Accounts) certificate, which counts towards a degree.

"It has suited me perfectly," says Ashleigh. "The learning is flexible so I can fit it around my work and life. Plus work gives me time to study too."

And Ashleigh loves the job. "I love the orderly world of finance. It is all about problem solving and number crunching - right up my street."

Her current role has her collating actual and predicted data for various parts of the business, including pay-as-you-go and insurance, using various formulas and models.

With no experience, and little confidence after trying public speaking

I've even bought a car and have been saving too

at school, Ashleigh can't quite believe that twice a month she is now reporting to managers at meetings.

She says: "It was terrifying to start with but now I know what I am doing and understand the business more I get a real buzz from doing it."

Ashleigh, who is about to start the O2 graduate programme which will allow her to finish her degree in finance and become a fully qualified accountant, doesn't feel she has missed out on the university experience.

She explains: "I get to visit my sister and friends at their universities pretty frequently, which keeps me busy at weekends. While I haven't left home yet there are some pluses around that. I

JOBS BOARD

Looking for work? Look no further as our Get Britain Working campaign finds 39,162 vacancies up for grabs this week.

We scour the UK to find out who has vacancies, and where, to help you head in the right direction for work.

We've teamed up with our brilliant website Fish4Jobs to create a one-stop jobs shop on our website. Visit mirror.co.uk/jobs for lots more guidance and work.

Domino's 1,500 jobs

Pizza chain has opportunities nationwide for delivery cyclists, including moped and e-bike riders, and drivers using either their own or company cars, plus pizza makers and in-store crews. <https://corporate.dominos.co.uk/working-for-us>

Advanced Supply Chain Group 150 jobs

Recruitment is underway for staff at a newly opened warehouse in Corby, Northamptonshire, for this international logistics firm. Vacancies include site shutters, quality control and warehouse operatives. Full-time roles with shift patterns. <http://careers.advancedsupplychain.com>

Apprenticeships 19,227 jobs

See above for earn and learn opportunities.

Fish4Jobs 16,735 jobs

Nottinghamshire Fire & Rescue Services is recruiting, Royal Mencap Society is hiring across southern England, and Parks of Hamilton has roles for coach drivers and technicians.

Dixons Carphone 1,000 jobs

Vacancies across stores and contact centres in Sheffield, Preston and Loughborough. <https://careers.dixonscarphone.com>

Job Fairs 400+ jobs

Tomorrow: York's Park Inn by Radisson, and Milton Keynes' DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, both 10am till 1pm. Monday: Royal Victoria Place, Tunbridge Wells, 10am-4pm; also Newport Leisure Centre, South Wales 10am-3pm. thejobfairs.co.uk www.eventbrite.co.uk mohammadasghar.org.uk/events/oscars-skills-and-jobs-fair

IT 15

Graduate roles available for IT professionals. For more information, visit www.fish4jobs.co.uk

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