

GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR MINISTRY OF EDUCATION & TRAINING 23 Queensway Gibraltar

Minister for Education & Training, The Hon C G Beltran

PRESS RELEASE

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CAREERS FAIR 2011

INFORMATION AND INVITATION TO THE MEDIA

Fair Date: Tuesday 22nd February 2011

<u>Time</u>

<u>Venue</u>

9.00 am – 1.00 pm John Mackintosh Hall Theatre (Open to Year 12 students only)

> <u>GIBRALTAR FOR EXCELLENCE</u> (sponsored by the Kusuma Trust)

> > * Opening Speech by the Hon Clive Beltran, Minister for Education and Training

* Presentations by UK Universities of Oxford, York and Imperial College London

5.00 pm – 8.00 pm Tercentenary Sports Hall (Open to the General Public)

CAREERS FAIR

* Around 50 Information Desks representing Employers, Service Providers from the Public and Private Sectors and UK Universities and Colleges Once again Bayside School, Westside School and the Gibraltar College have joined forces under the auspices of the Department of Education and Training to organise the biennial Careers Fair.

This Fair offers the community as a whole but very especially those students who are currently involved in making very important career decisions, and their parents, an opportunity to discuss face-to-face with employers, service providers and universities the realities of what is now an extremely competitive Higher Education and job market.

Over 50 information stalls manned by experts in their own field will offer vital guidance, direction and information to students regarding what the different job and career paths they are thinking of choosing really entail. The Fair can be described as the event that enhances and puts into perspective in a very practical and realistic manner what is covered in the Personal, Social, Health and Careers education programmes undertaken by students in schools and the college.

Students will learn that whilst it is important for them to obtain the academic qualifications required to succeed in obtaining a place at university or later a job, this represents one aspect of the process and that organisations expect potential students and employees also to possess other competencies and skills such as team-working, communication and organising.

In today's fast-changing world of work with continually expanding technological and other requirements, there is a clear need to keep future employees who are still in school fully abreast of what will be required of them so that they have every opportunity to plan ahead.

In addition, this year, and for the second time since the Careers Fair was started, three top universities from the UK sponsored by the *Kusuma Trust* are also involved in the event. On Tuesday morning the Universities of Oxford, York and Imperial College London will be giving presentations to Year 12 students on the different requirements for entry into their institutions as well as on important aspects of life at university, including very interesting insights into research projects currently being undertaken by them. This session is being organised for and is open only to Year 12

students. In the afternoon these universities as well as St Mary's University College will also be manning stalls at the Careers Fair that will offer information and guidance to all-comers.

The Minister for Education and Training, Clive Beltran appreciates the enormous value of the Careers Fair and is full of praise and support for the local educational institutions involved as well as those teachers, public and private sector employers and UK universities who through their commitment and hard work will once more make the Fair a successful, informative and very worthwhile event not to be missed.

Clive Beltran Minister for Education & Training