



Careers Education

GA TSBY BENCHMARKS 2, 3 and 4
 Learning from career and labour market information
 Addressing the needs of each pupil
 Linking curriculum learning to careers



Career of the week - Solicitor

Monday 28 September 2020

Labour market information

<p>Employment Status</p>	<p>Future Employment The predicted number of people employed in this job throughout the UK</p> <table border="1"> <caption>Future Employment Data</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Number of people employed</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2017</td> <td>134,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2018</td> <td>136,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2019</td> <td>138,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2020</td> <td>140,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2021</td> <td>142,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2022</td> <td>144,000</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Year	Number of people employed	2017	134,000	2018	136,000	2019	138,000	2020	140,000	2021	142,000	2022	144,000
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<p>Gender Split</p>	<p>Starting Salary</p> <p>£11,000</p> <p>Source: U-Explore National Research</p>	<p>UK Average Salary</p> <p>£43,268</p> <p>Source: U-Explore National Research</p>	<p>Typical weekly hours estimate</p> <p>36</p> <p>Source: UKCES LMI For All - Annual Survey of Hours & Earnings</p>	<p>Videos:</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WjE8QhrhfFw</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C2hy5eLVedo</p>													
<p>Useful GCSE / BTEC subjects for this career: History, Drama, English. BTEC Business. There are no set subjects required to study law at university</p>																	
<p>Job title:</p>																	
<p>Solicitor</p>	<p>Solicitors work in the community justice sector and provide people - known as clients - with specialist legal advice and acts for them on all kinds of personal and business matters.</p>																

<p>Career Pathways / Entry requirements:</p>	<p>University In order to qualify, you could:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> do a law degree, then complete the postgraduate Legal Practice Course do a non-law degree followed by the Common Professional Examination or Graduate Diploma in Law <p>To get into some universities you'll need to pass the Law National Aptitude Test (LNAT).</p> <p>Entry requirements</p> <p>You'll usually need:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 A levels or equivalent a degree in any subject for a postgraduate course <p>Apprenticeship You could do a solicitor degree apprenticeship to qualify as a solicitor. This route usually takes around 5 years and you'll need your employer's support to do it.</p> <p>Entry requirements</p> <p>To do this apprenticeship, you'll need:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C), or equivalent, including English and maths 3 A levels or equivalent <p>Work You could start with a legal firm and do on-the-job training like the Chartered Institute of Legal Executives (CILEX) Level 6 Professional Diploma in Higher Law and Practice. You would then complete a period of further training to qualify as a solicitor.</p> <p>The usual minimum entry requirement for this role is a degree or postgraduate qualification (Please check each university for their specific course entry requirements). After you have completed your degree or postgraduate conversion degree, you must take the Legal Practice Course (LPC) on a full or part-time basis. Following the LPC, all trainee solicitors must complete a training contract that lasts two-years full-time or four-years part-time. Alternatively, you could become a legal secretary and by examination, become a fellow of the Institute of Legal Executives which will allow you to apply to the LPC courses. This is a really competitive career to get into so it can be really helpful if you try to do some relevant work experience before applying for jobs.</p>
<p>Skills required:</p>	<p>You'll need:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> legal knowledge including court procedures and government regulations excellent verbal communication skills to work with different people active listening skills analytical thinking skills for working on complex cases knowledge of English language for explaining legal matters to non-experts to be thorough and pay attention to detail excellent written communication skills the ability to accept criticism and work well under pressure to be able to use a computer and the main software packages competently
<p>What you'll do:</p>	<p>Day-to-day tasks In this role you could:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> advise and represent clients in court instruct barristers or advocates to act for clients draft confidential letters, contracts and legal documents research legal records and case law attend meetings and negotiations manage finances and prepare papers for court use plain English to explain complex legal matters to clients keep up to date with changes in the law
<p>What you'll earn:</p>	<p>Salaries can vary a lot, depending on your employer and location but as a guide, newly-qualified solicitors would normally earn around £11,000 a year. With experience, salaries would then rise to around £43,000 a year. Top salaries for this role are around £96,000 a year.</p>
<p>Working hours, patterns and environment:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solicitors officially work between 9am and 5pm, Monday to Friday, but the working hours can be longer and you may have to take work home with you on a regular basis. You could work in an office, in a court, in a prison or at a police station depending on your specialism. The work can be pressurised at times as you will be expected to make difficult decisions.
<p>Career path and progression:</p>	<p>With experience, you could become a partner in a private practice firm of solicitors. As a commercial solicitor, you could manage an in-house legal department.</p>

Related careers:

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