



POSTGRADUATE BULLETIN

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ADRIFT AND GOING NOWHERE?

Yes, this impolitic young man has cast off his moorings, lost his oars, his rudder, his sense of direction and is drifting helplessly at the mercy of the elements. Where will he end up? Shipwrecked? A castaway? Drowned?

This Bulletin has regularly encouraged school leavers not to cut their ties and settle for a gap between school and enrolling on a postgraduate course. It's very interesting that this 'No Gap' policy has also been confirmed as the wisest route as the result of a recent study, backed up by a Department of Education report. Their findings were:

- School leavers who move straight from school to higher education are more confident in their academic abilities;
- They are more focused on completing their courses;
- Gap-takers tend to earn less by age 30 with significantly lower hourly wages.

It's essential to have a clear sense of direction and know where you are going. The next article shows the pathway that has been mapped out for us. Just follow it without any hesitation!

A RUDDER AND A STEER

For students who have not yet enrolled on a postgraduate course it is not too late. We would like to repeat the excellent advice from a well-known source that **in the current climate you will not achieve without doing postgraduate studies**. Guidance from the same source sets out a clear suggested pathway of postgraduate studies from age 18 to ages 20 or 21. Accountancy comes first, because you can turn an accountant into a salesman, but not the other way round.

Approx. Age	Suggested Course
18-19	Accountancy
19-20	Sales & Marketing
20-21	Project Management

The above guidance runs parallel with previous valuable direction received –

“The eleventh hour workmen created their own work, they created their own value. That’s just a word to the twelfth graders, and the thirteenth graders, and the fourteenth graders, and the fifteenth graders. Just do something extra.”

If you have recently completed a course which you started at school and you are still under age 21 **please don't stop studying!** Enrol on the next level or on another course, as advised above.

The excellent guidance provided leaves us in no doubt about what to do and how to do it.

Our advice is to visit <http://postgraduate.focus-school.com/courses/>, select a course that interests you, or that links with your job role at work, enrol and get going.

EXCELLENCE OF EMPLOYER SUPPORT



A most valuable incentive to encourage a student's committal to a postgraduate course is the employer's enthusiastic support. He will soon realise that he is employing someone whose IQ is continually increasing!

This is what a student said recently:

When my boss suggested I should take a postgraduate course I thought: 'That's a real challenge! I'll do my best.'

We've tracked down the 'boss' and asked him a few questions. Here are his interesting replies:

Q: *Why did you push your employee to go in for postgraduate studies?*

A: I didn't exactly push her to do postgraduate studies. She was already very motivated but didn't really know what to do, so together we tried to find a course that linked with her job role here.

Q: *What influenced your choice of a course?*

A: Looking at the recommended courses, we found one but thought it would be a bit too easy. Students should have the backbone to go for a challenging course that is not so easy. There's no point choosing an easy course that doesn't call for much brain power because it could be a waste of time and money.

It's better to get a stiff neck from aiming too high, than a hunch back from aiming too low!

Q: *Would you have a word of encouragement for young ones regarding postgraduate studies?*

A: Do not let what you think you can't do interfere with what you haven't tried to do. Have the courage to start a tough program, wake up early, work hard day after day, never give up, and that will prepare you for many other challenges you'll have to face in life.

Q: *And a special word for business owners on this subject?*

A: Postgraduate studies ensures that your student employees are fully occupied from day 1. They have to plan each day carefully in order to pursue their studies and at the same time be efficient in their work.

URGENT MESSAGE TO CIMA CERTIFICATE STUDENTS

A new CIMA Certificate syllabus is due to be launched on 11th January 2017. This means that **students should plan their studies to pass their current module by 10th January**. Modules passed before that date will be credited and won't need to be retaken. Students who overrun the January 10th deadline will need to purchase a new course in the equivalent module under the new syllabus. Students due to book their next module before 11th January should book the new syllabus materials so that they can take their exam in 2017.

More details can be found at <http://www.cimaglobal.com/Qualifications/cert-ba/> or contact your college provider.

“The value of time in youth is the greatest of all time.”