

Thank you for taking the time to read the final Futures Bulletin before we break for the Half Term. For those who are doing exams I hope these are going well, and best wishes for all of those embarking on mock assessments on our return.

I don't expect many of you will have much free time over the May Exeat, but if you do, I would encourage you to visit this [report](#) which was released last month, entitled the 'Future of Jobs' and is published by the World Economic Forum. It is a bit of a beast (296 pages!) but there are various parts which are more relevant than others and some helpful summary sections. Here are some of the key headlines I thought were worth sharing:

- Over 85% of organizations surveyed (803 companies in total) identified increased adoption of new technologies and broadening digital access as the trends most likely to drive transformation in their organization.
- More than 75% of companies are looking to adopt 'big data', 'cloud computing' and 'artificial intelligence' in the next five years.
- Companies today estimate today that 34% of all business-related tasks are performed by machines, with the remaining 66% performed by humans. It is anticipated that by 2027 this will be closer to a 50/50 split.
- Globally, in the next five years, 83 million jobs are expected to be lost and 69 million to be created, a reduction in employment of 2% across the world.
- In terms of where there will be the biggest areas of job creation, the top five are AI and Machine Learning Specialists, Sustainability Specialists, Business Intelligence Analysts, Information Security Analysts and FinTech Engineers.
- Additionally, large scale job growth is expected in education (particularly in the HE and FE sector), digital commerce and agriculture.
- 'Green jobs' are on the rise, with Sustainability Analysts and Sustainability Managers, along with Sustainability Specialists, making up three of the top ten fastest growing jobs in the past four years, with further growth expected.
- Organizations predicted 26 million fewer jobs in record keeping and administration roles by 2027, covering professions such as cashiers, ticket clerks, data entry, accounting, bookkeeping and executive secretaries. This is clearly linked to the increased adaptation of technologies.

Some genuinely fascinating information here and plenty to reflect on. As is also widely reported it is likely that as Shrewsbury School pupils you will go on to have very fluid careers, moving across different industries and professions. Consequently it is important to think about what skills and competencies you might need to have to thrive in most industries. Here are the top five considered to be most in demand over the next five year period:

1. Creative Thinking
2. Analytical Thinking
3. Technological Literacy
4. Curiosity and commitment to lifelong learning
5. Resilience, flexibility and (mental) agility

I believe then that despite all these predicted changes, you are well placed to embrace all these now. I would suggest strongly that all five of the skills / competencies listed can be developed significantly at school, whether that is in the classroom, on the sports field, or through the co-curricular offerings. Indeed, that applies to us as staff members! If you keep embracing key moments to develop these qualities, you will be well placed to meet the many future opportunities that this report identifies.

Best wishes,

Mr Wain