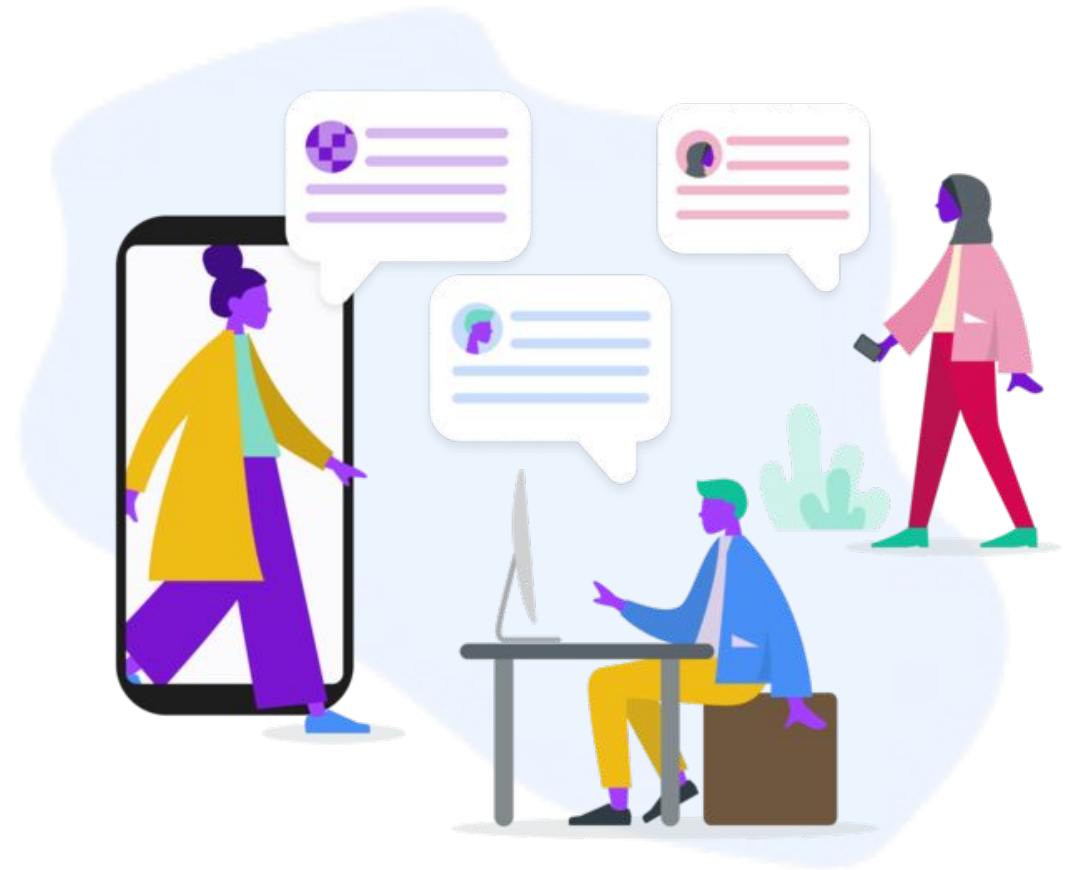


Rungway Guide

Alumnae and Mentors

Rungway is a safe and supportive online community where GDST students can seek advice on the topics most important to them, allowing them to connect with mentors or alumnae like you, other students and GDST staff.





Cheryl Giovannoni
GDST CEO

Welcome to GDST Rungway, our way of connecting our students with our alumnae network.

Through this online community, students post questions - with the option of anonymity - and access amazing women like you, from across our alumnae family to give them a steer on life after school; whether in the field of study and/or the world of work and careers.

Thank you for participating in this unique initiative: we hope you find it an invaluable resource.



Help students by sharing your experience, when it suits you.



Questions can be posted anonymously, but all replies are named.



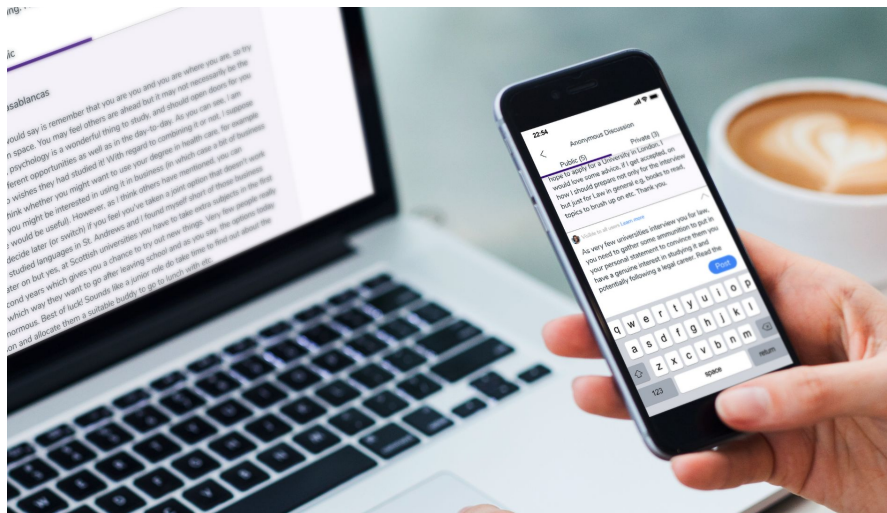
Students access strong role models for fresh perspectives & specialist knowledge.

How it works

The app provides access to a closed community of GDST sixth formers, alumnae and staff.

Students can post a question any time, any place, from a computer or via the mobile app, and have it picked up and answered by one or more of our Rungway mentors (an alumna, member of staff or perhaps even a peer).

But here's the key. **Students can choose to post questions anonymously**; and **all responses are named** (which holds our mentors accountable for their advice). As a mentor, you can choose to reply privately, or you can share your reply for the benefit of all. Private conversations will be only visible to you and the student you're in conversation with.



Here's the process, in a nutshell:

- We've already got hundreds of mentors registered on the app and sixth formers from across the GDST actively posting their questions.
- Mentors can respond – always visibly, but with the option to choose whether their reply is a private conversation or an open conversation thread.
- This way, advice can be given one-to-one, or shared openly for a bigger conversation which others can join.

How to access

It's very simple. All mentors and mentees are invited to join the app by using this link:

<https://app.rungway.com/gdst/request-invite>

Please register, download the app to your tablet or phone, and start joining in the conversation. Browser access is available on a PC, too.

Safety and conduct rules

The GDST takes a safety first approach to any technology and has spent a lot of time to get all the assurances needed to know that Rungway is a secure platform, properly moderated, and with clear instructions for use.

In outline, safeguards have been built into the app which will identify risks to students in three areas:

- Content: being exposed to illegal, inappropriate or harmful material
- Contact: being subjected to harmful interaction with others
- Conduct: personal online behaviour that increases the likelihood of, or causes, harm

Three stages to the moderation system behind the app.

1. Stage 1: AI/ keywords pick-up
2. Stage 2: Eyes on (at Rungway.com)
3. Stage 3: Escalation, as required, to a nominated school staff member

When registering onto the app, all users will be asked to sign up to the terms of conduct.

Escalation and anonymity

All student posts on the app will always be anonymous. They can only lose their anonymity if they breach the terms of conduct; that is, if they are not following policy or are being abusive or breaking the law.

If there is a delicate wellbeing situation that requires escalation to a specialist, this can still be dealt with anonymously – over the app - and it is up to them whether they want to reveal themselves to receive more personal support from school.

As with all forms of digital communication, please use common sense. Don't use Rungway to:



Use inappropriate or unkind language that could hurt others or damage your, your school's or the GDST's reputation



Arrange in-person meetings or move conversations onto non-Rungway channels e.g. email, Whatsapp or other channels (an introduction can only be made through CareerStart@wes.gdst.net)



Make a threat or perceived threat of harm to yourself or others. Messages of this nature will be escalated.

GDST Rungway



Anonymous

I've just received my undergraduate degree confirmation in criminology and psychology, and I really want to do a forensic psychology masters. I applied for this next year, but wasn't successful. Does anyone have any advice on what opportunities I could do to gain experience?



Nikki Kerdegari

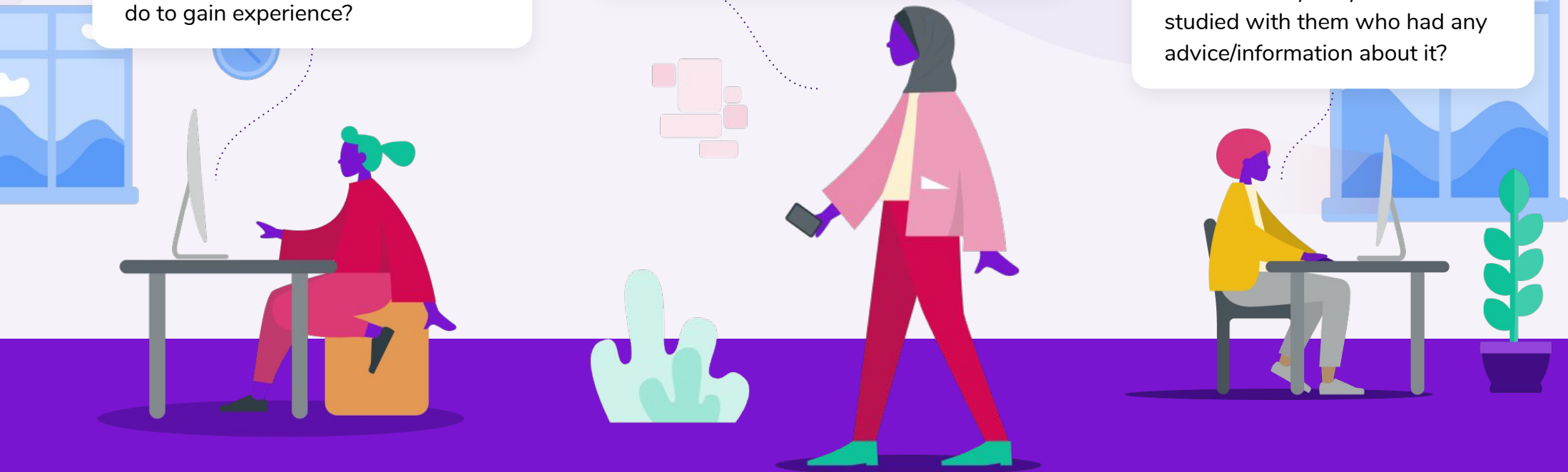
Medical student at King's College London

By using Rungway I have been able to help lots of prospective medical students and answer their questions about the application process, from how to prepare for the admissions tests and writing a personal statement to the best way of making notes in lectures. As someone who doesn't have parents in medicine I know how daunting the application process can be so I love that Rungway lets me use my experience to help other students out!



Anonymous

Just got my A level results but have decided that I don't want to go to the university I got a place at and instead have applied for a different course with The Open University. I was wondering if there was anybody who had studied with them who had any advice/information about it?



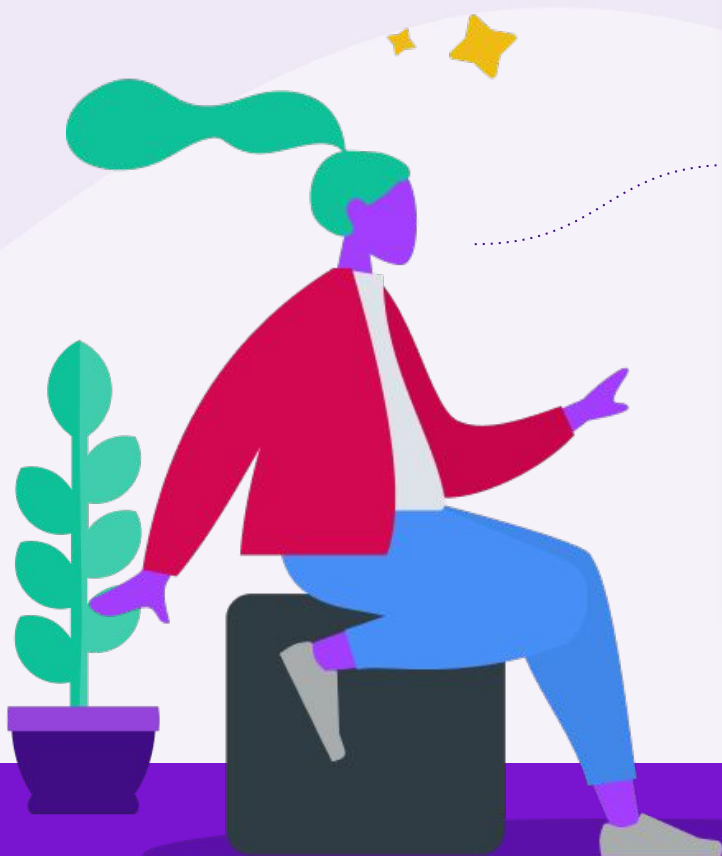
The rungway® Story

In 2016, the GDST's Chief Executive, Cheryl Giovannoni, stated her vision, which was **"to find ways of connecting each girl with someone in the network"**. Much research later into the best way of delivering on this goal, we turned to technology to provide the most accessible and inclusive solution.

And after consulting with our Student Council, we got a clear steer on the style of mentoring that would be most valuable to students: **mentoring that was immediate, flexible, gave them wide access**, and did not require a long-term commitment or relationship.

The GDST met Rungway.com through its CEO and founder, and former GDST Trustee, Julie Chakraverty. The task then was to work closely with Julie and her team to adapt Rungway specifically for the GDST's purposes and to ensure that it met its high safety standards for all students, mentors and staff.

Since Rungway's launch we have welcomed 2,500 users to the GDST platform and look forward to welcoming you to the Rungway community soon!



[Log In Rungway](#)



Got a question about Rungway?



Charlotte Clayton
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