

Advice & mentorship at your fingertips

GDST Runway is a safe, supportive online community.

Students can anonymously seek advice on the topics most important to them, allowing them to connect with mentors, alumnae, other students and GDST staff.





Cheryl Giovannoni
GDST CEO

Our mission is to find ways of connecting each girl with someone in the network... welcome to GDST Runway.

Through this online community, you can post questions - with the option of anonymity - and access amazing women from across our alumnae family to give you 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.



Search for the topics that matter to you and view the answers to other people's question



Post questions with the option of anonymity, when it suits you



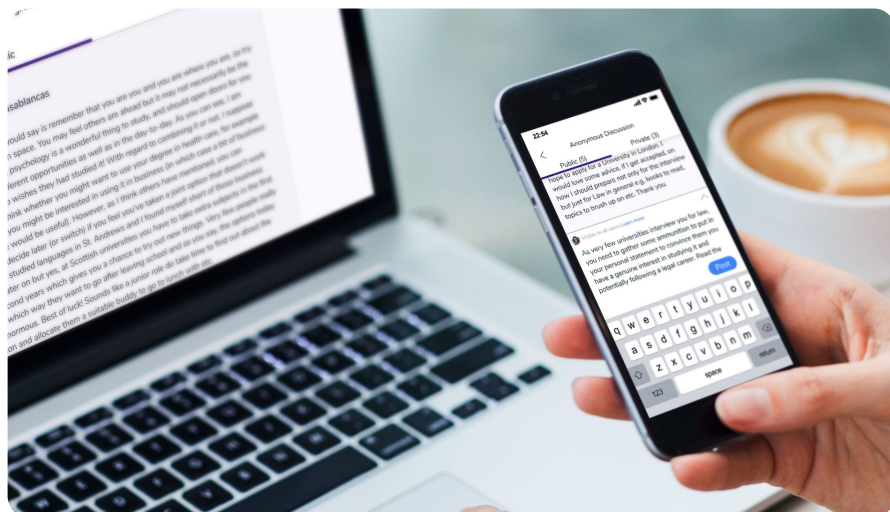
Access a wide pool of role models for fresh perspectives & specialist knowledge

How it works

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

You can post a question anytime, anywhere, from a computer or via the 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. **You can choose to post questions anonymously:** and all responses are named (which holds our mentors accountable for their advice). Your mentor(s) can choose to reply privately to you (one-to-one), or they can share their reply for the benefit of all. Private conversations will be visible to you and your mentor only.



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.
- As you start your GDST sixth form journey, we are inviting you to join the Rungway community.
- As mentees, you can post questions – anonymously if you want (but open to all).
- 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, that is properly moderated, and with clear instructions for use.

In outline, safeguards have been built into the app which will identify risk 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 users can post on Rungway anonymously. You will only lose your anonymity if you breach the terms of conduct; that is, if you 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 you whether you want to reveal yourself 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. (If this is appropriate this can be arranged only via CareerStart@wes.gdst.net))



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

GDST Rungway

Real discussions and testimonial



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

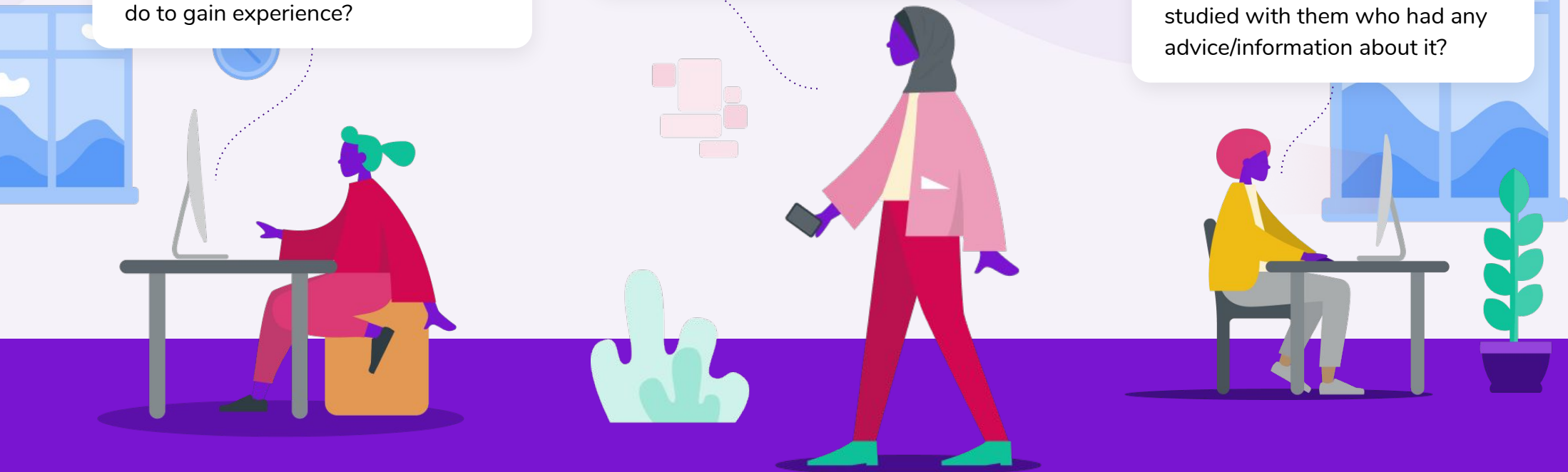
Medical student at King's College London

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?



Frequently Asked Questions

Is this really anonymous?

Yes. So long as you use Rungway for its intended use, we promise that anonymous really does mean anonymous. When you post an anonymous question over Rungway, nobody at your school, within the GDST or any of our alumnae mentors will know your identity. We think it is important that all our students can ask for help without judgement - from anyone.

What sort of questions should I ask?

The Rungway platform will let you conveniently access our incredible alumnae community. You can ask about anything - career, uni applications, life choices, personal experiences or dealing with mental health issues - whatever you like! The GDST community is there to support you!

How do I access GDST Rungway?

You'll receive an email with details of how to log in to your Rungway, which you can access on your smartphone or over the web.

You will find the Rungway app in the Apple store and also Google Play.

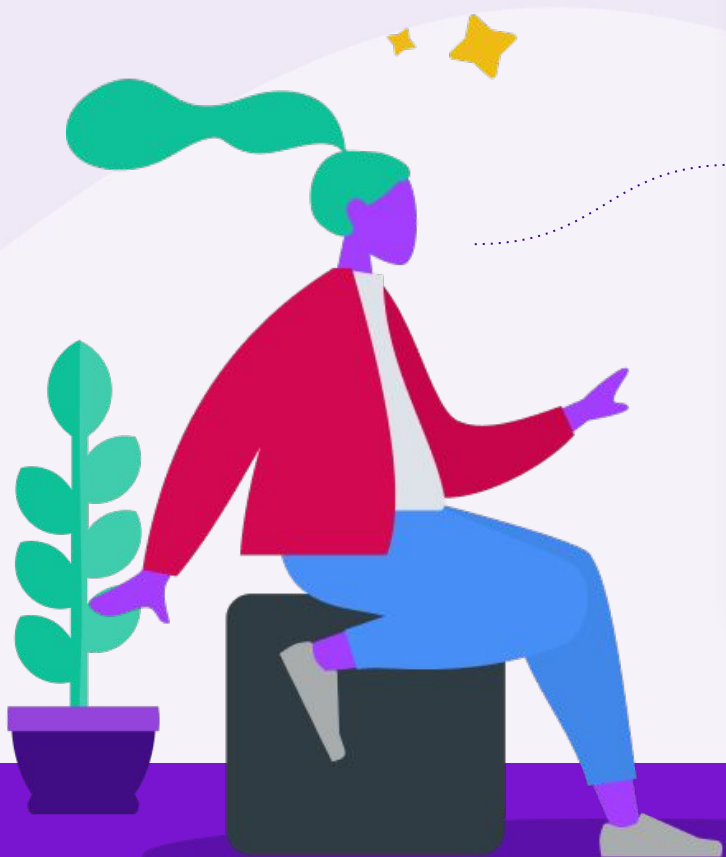
The rungway® Story

In 2016, the GDST's CEO, Cheryl Giovannoni, stated her vision – which was “**to find ways of connecting each girl with someone in the network**”. Since then, it has been looking at different ways of delivering on this goal and has turned to technology to provide an accessible and inclusive solution.

After consulting Student Council, we got a steer on what sort of mentoring would be most valuable. Sixth formers highlighted that they wanted **mentoring that provided immediate, flexible support that 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 meets 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?



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