

Why are graduates able to change jobs during the pandemic?

It has been recorded by the office of National Statistics that the 2020 pandemic has brought to light a shift in occupational switching and skill mismatching in the UK Labour Market of 2021. The first to lose their jobs were the unskilled workers whereas throughout the pandemic many graduates managed to hold on to theirs.

Due to the high skill set of the graduate, it is easier for them to retain their job positions and move around within the job market as their skills set allows them to have a wider range of choices as to the positions they can fill. Transferable skills allow for the graduate to easily switch from one job to the next unlike the workers in the total labour force of the UK.

Graduates do have a higher chance of finding and keeping work, but when changing jobs some graduates take positions that they are overqualified for, and of a lesser quality of work to secure themselves the job. Many graduates working in the hospitality and recreation sectors have become unemployed due to the pandemic bringing business to a complete stop for most and reduced activity for others, causing some to lessen their workload and work remotely from the comfort of their own home. This, in turn allows for a better matching of graduates to ideal positions as the ratio of skilled workers in the labour force to total workers in the labour force balances out.

Since the pandemic of 2020, I have changed my job from hairdresser to adhere to the social distancing rules set in place, to now working online.