



OPPORTUNITIES BULLETIN

OCTOBER 2025 ISSUE

APPLICATIONS TO JOIN OUR
SIXTH FORM IN SEPTEMBER 2026
NOW OPEN



Bishop Challoner
Sixth Form College



STAY IN TOUCH!

Bishop Challoner Sixth Form College



ASPIRE TO BE MORE



Discover



MATHS

CHEMISTRY & PH



Create New Application

Start New Application

OR

Sign In

Email or Username

Password



Remember Me

Forgot your password?
Trouble logging in?

Login



SCIENCE



CHEMISTRY

APPLY HERE



BISHOP CHALLONER SIXTH FORM

Choosing A Levels

A quick guide

Entry Requirements

The entry guidance below outlines the grades we expect students to have achieved to demonstrate their suitability for the course.

If you narrowly miss these grades, we will consider additional evidence on a case-by-case basis.

Subject	Entry Requirements
Art & Design	Minimum grade 6 in Art
Biology	Minimum grade 7 in Biology OR Minimum grade 77 in Combined Science Minimum grade 6 in Mathematics
Business	Minimum grade 6 in Business
Chemistry	Minimum grade 7 in Chemistry OR Minimum grade 77 in Combined Science Minimum grade 6 in Mathematics
Computer Science	Minimum grade 6 in Computing
Core Maths	Minimum grade 5 in Mathematics
Economics	Minimum grade 6 in English and Mathematics
English literature	Minimum grade 6 in English
Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)	Minimum of 5 GCSE's grade 4 and above. Students must manage their own time and meet deadlines.
French	Minimum grade 6 in French
Further Maths	Minimum grade 8 in Mathematics
Geography	Minimum grade 6 in Geography
History	Minimum grade 6 in History
Law	Minimum grade 6 in English
Mathematics	Minimum grade 7 in Mathematics
Media studies	Minimum grade 6 in either of the following: Media Studies English Language or Literature Either History or Geography
Philosophy and Ethics	Minimum grade 6 in Religious Studies
Physical Education	Minimum grade 6 in PE
Physics	Minimum grade 7 in Physics OR Minimum grade 77 in Combined Science Minimum grade 7 in Mathematics
Psychology	Minimum grade 6 in Biology, English and Mathematics OR Minimum grade 65 in Combined Science
Sociology	Minimum grade 6 in English Language or Literature
Level 3 Business	Minimum of 5 GCSE's at grade 4 and above (ideally to include both English and Mathematics)
Level 3 Criminology	Minimum grade 5 in English Language or Literature
Level 3 Health and Social Care	Minimum of 5 GCSE's at grade 4 and above (ideally to include both English and Mathematics)
Level 3 Sport	Minimum of 5 GCSE's at grade 4 and above (ideally to include both English and Mathematics)

WHAT'S IN THE OCTOBER 2025 ISSUE?

NEW IN THIS MONTH

PAGES 7 - 14

SIXTH FORM & COLLEGE INFORMATION

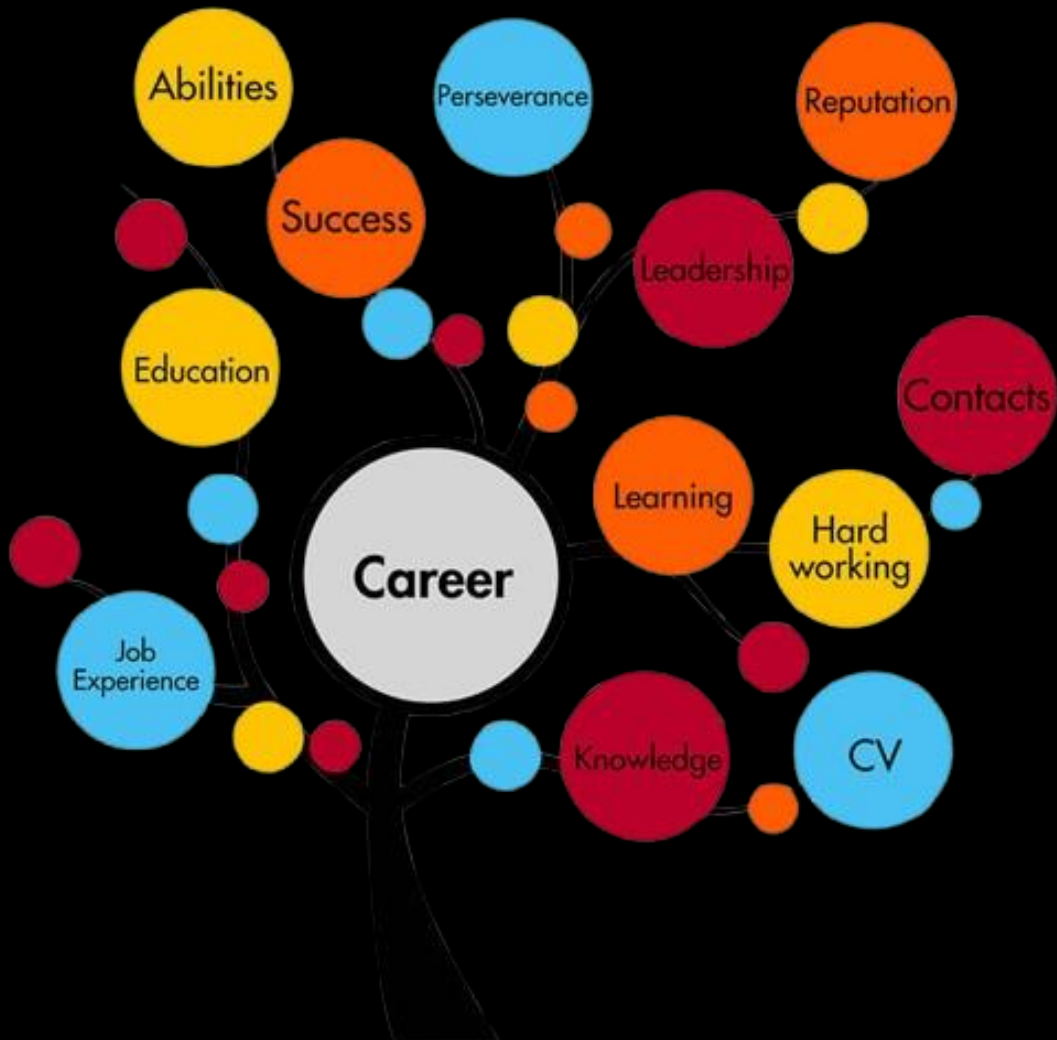
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WORK EXPERIENCE INFORMATION

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VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

PAGES 26 - 29



GRESHAM COLLEGE



Lectures that Inspire
Autumn 2025

Time to Think



The 2025–26 lecture programme has arrived! Journey from AI and ancient politics to the maths and music of nature, photography, and modern China. This year's free lectures explore society, science, beliefs, and the universe. Plus, enjoy the inaugural series from our new Professors of IT, Business, and the Environment.

Visit our website to register, view our full annual programme, or watch lectures from our back catalogue of over 3,500 videos.

Find us at: www.gresham.ac.uk
enquiries@gresham.ac.uk
020 7831 0575



SUPPORTING GRESHAM COLLEGE

"I am honoured to uphold the legacy of the oldest chair of mathematics, and a position of deep respect within the mathematical community. Public lectures allow us to bring the beauty and rigour of maths to everyone, enhancing understanding and inspiring new generations. **I encourage you to support our mission to keep these lectures free and accessible to all by donating today.**"

Alain Goriely,
Gresham Professor of Geometry

DONATE TODAY!
gresham.ac.uk/donation



Student Recruitment and Outreach activities for post-16 students

Student Recruitment and Outreach

Activities for post-16 students

Aston University's post-16 programme provides sixth form and college students, as well as offering fantastic opportunities for students to discover more about studying a particular subject at university.

Subject-specific activities

- ▼ College of Business and Social Sciences
- ▼ College of Engineering and Physical Science
- ▼ College of Health and Life Sciences
- ▼ Pathways to the Professions
- ▼ 'Thriving in Student Life: A Well-being Webinar'

[No Title]

Other Activities

- ▼ Visit Us On Campus
- ▼ Advice and Guidance
- ▼ Open Days
- ▼ UniBuddy

FIND OUT MORE AND APPLY HERE

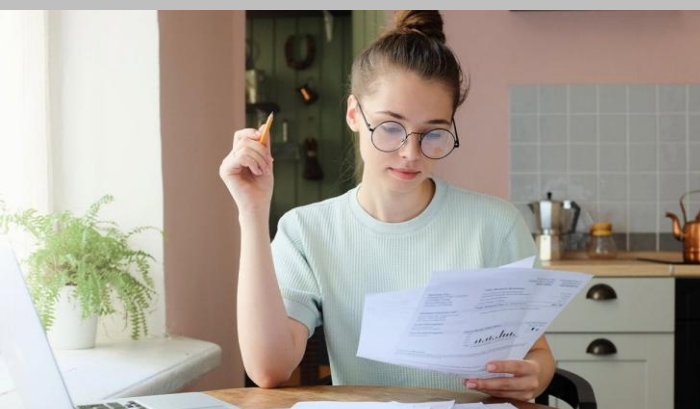


BIRMINGHAM CITY
University

SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES VIRTUAL HUB

We have created a range of resources for you to help you explore the world of Higher Education. From videos to how to guides, there's something for everyone and you can use these resources to support you with your choices about your future. These resources will help you from the beginning of your journey, when you are just starting to think about university through to preparing yourself for the move. These can be done at home individually and you can share them with your teachers and advisers.

Our aim is to provide you with a range of useful information and activities to help you with making decisions about your future.



NATIONAL SATURDAY CLUB

NATIONAL SATURDAY CLUB



Young people across the country are spending Saturday mornings at their local university, college or museum discovering subjects they love. Saturday Clubs are open to 13–16-year-olds of all abilities and are free to attend.

Joining the **National Saturday Club** is a unique opportunity to learn new skills, discover talents, meet new people, and find out more about further education, higher education and rewarding careers.



FIND YOUR LOCAL CLUB

Find your local Club – Apply to join

FIND A CLUB

NATIONAL SATURDAY CLUB

All Clubs Search by location

Find a Club





Dive in and start learning

Everything on the multi-award winning OpenLearn

Search over 1000 free courses, interactives, videos and more ...

**OVER 3000 FREE
COURSES AVAILABLE
– PERFECT TO
IMPROVE YOUR
PERSONAL
STATEMENT or CV**

Get inspired and learn something new today

You can use OpenLearn to



Study free courses

From 1 to 100 hours of learning - discover hundreds of free courses to inspire and inform everyone.

[Free courses >](#)



Earn while you learn

Earn a free digital badge or Statement of Participation as evidence of your learning to share with employers, friends and family.

[Find out more >](#)



For Study

Improve your study skills and get acquainted with student life with our expertly created courses and resources.

[For Study >](#)



For Work

Boost your employability skills and find useful resources to help you with your life outside of work.

[For Work >](#)

Pick a subject and start learning

[Money & Business >](#)

[Education & Development >](#)

[Health, Sports & Psychology >](#)

[History & The Arts >](#)

[Languages >](#)

[Nature & Environment >](#)

[Science, Maths & Technology >](#)

[Society, Politics & Law >](#)

[Digital & Computing >](#)

Sign-up now for free >



UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

Access to Birmingham

New

The Access to Birmingham (A2B) programme helps University of Birmingham applicants with little or no higher education experience to explore what studying at university involves.

The University of Birmingham has a long history of welcoming students from a wide variety of social and cultural backgrounds. We were one of the first universities to set up a fair access scheme for local students in 2000 and are proud to be able to offer you the support of our A2B scheme if you are studying at one of our partner institutions.

Apply to A2B

Applications for the 2025/26 A2B scheme are open until 13 November 2025 for Medicine and Dentistry and 12 February 2026 for all other applicants.

Completing the programme will bring you a range of benefits including an alternative offer and funding. We encourage you to explore our programme information and eligibility and consider applying.

APPLY NOW

Benefits of taking part in the programme

Once you complete A2B successfully, you will receive two offers from the University of Birmingham, the standard offer and a [Pathways to Birmingham offer](#).

The Pathways to Birmingham offer is typically a reduction of up to two A level grades (e.g. BBB rather than AAB).

As well as the Pathways to Birmingham offer, you will also benefit from:

- Financial support
- Continued support and guidance from an experienced and dedicated A2B team
- Preparation for the transition from school to university study
- The opportunity to make new friends at a special induction event before you start university
- Becoming a Birmingham Scholar upon starting university
- Practice interviews for courses where relevant (Medicine, Dentistry, Social Work, Nursing, and Physiotherapy)

EXPLORE THE BENEFITS



UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM

Routes to the Professions

Routes to the Professions (R2P) is for Year 12 students looking to get a real insight into university study.

The programme gives you tailored support throughout the university application process. It focuses on courses and careers in Dentistry, Engineering, Law, Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Physiotherapy, and Social Work.

Applying to R2P

Applications for R2P 2026 are now open and are expected to close on 3 November 2025.

You must meet specific academic criteria to be eligible for this programme, so please read the information below before submitting an application.

Eligibility criteria

R2P is suitable for Year 12 students who have a strong commitment to study at the University of Birmingham and who are studying relevant qualifications for accessing degree programmes here.

To take part in the R2P programme in 2026 you must:

- Be currently in Year 12 (and have not taken a gap year)
- Be attending a Pathways to Birmingham partner school in the wider West Midlands area
- Meet the [Pathways to Birmingham criteria](#) and the academic criteria for your stream.

APPLY NOW

**COLLEGE & SIXTH
FORM OPEN DAYS**

**BIRMINGHAM
CAREERS SERVICE**
guiding young people

YOUR CHOICE
YOUR FUTURE

LOCAL COLLEGE AND SIXTH FORM OPEN DAYS

2025/26

CLICK ON THE LINK
BELOW TO ACCESS
INFORMATION ON
UPCOMING OPEN
DAYS.

**FIND OUT MORE INFORMATION
AND DATES HERE**

CAREERS LIBRARY

Entry Level Jobs CV Example



Career Planning Calendar (EHCP)



Year 10 Career Planning (EHCP)



Holiday Work for Young People



Information for Parents and Carers



Interview Hints and Tips (No Title)



Labour Market Information



What is a Careers Guidance Meeting



How to Open a Bank Account



Get your National Insurance Number



Everything you need to know about T Levels



Applying for Apprenticeships



Mental Health Support for Young People



Preparing for a College or Training Interview



Options Year Career Planning



Support for Young or Expectant Parents



**BIRMINGHAM
CAREERS SERVICE**
guiding young people



VISIT US

If you are a young person aged 16-19 (up to 25 for those with additional needs) and not in Education, Employment or Training and need help with your career choices, you can visit our Careers Advisers for a one-to-one guidance session.

THE LIBRARY OF BIRMINGHAM

[Book now](#)

[More info](#)



[No Title]



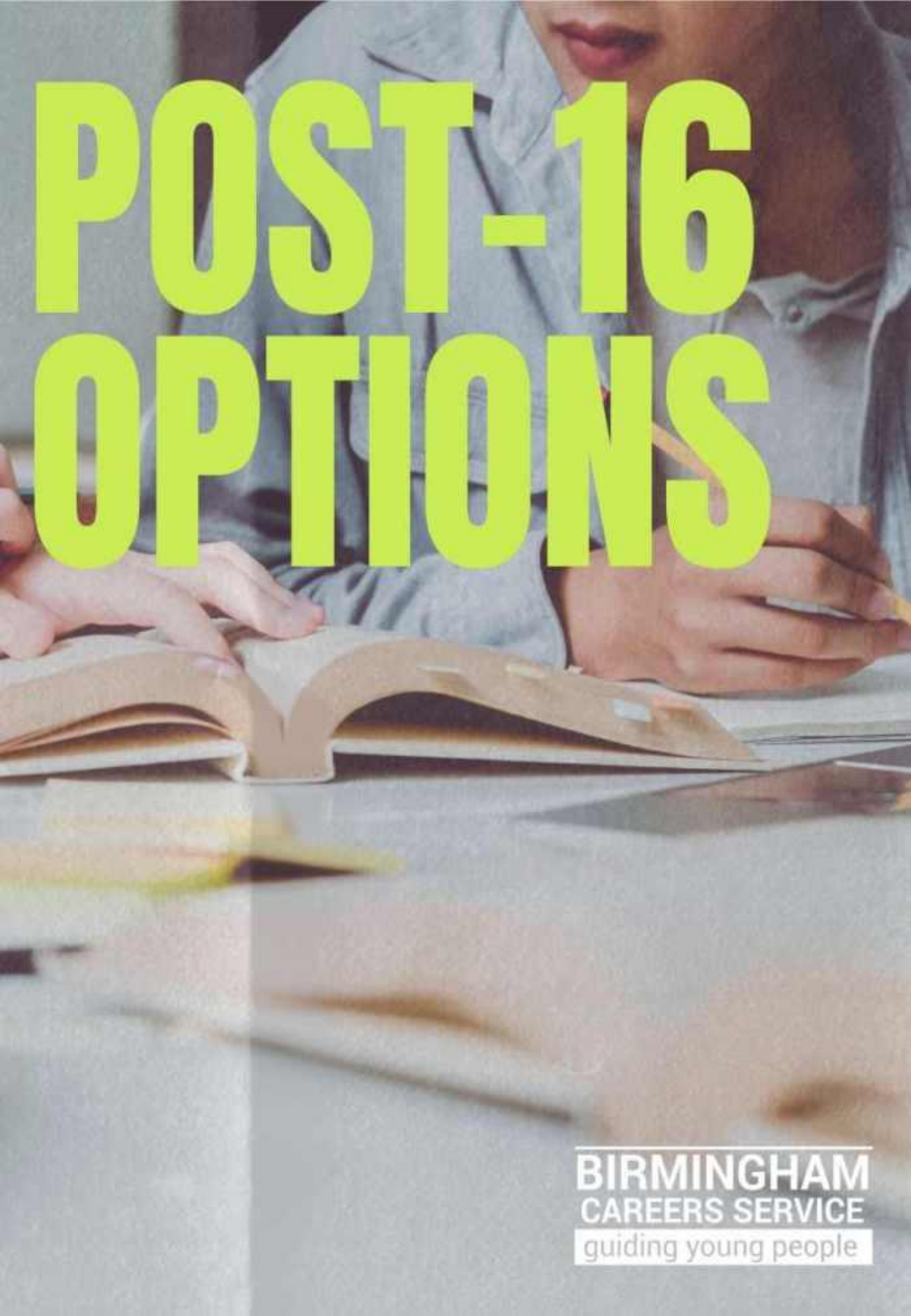
**BIRMINGHAM
CAREERS SERVICE**
guiding young people

CAREERS ADVICE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

At The Library of Birmingham

If you are aged 16-19 (up to 25 for those with additional needs) and not in Education, Employment or Training you can now visit our fully qualified Careers Advisers at The Library of Birmingham where we can help you with career choices, apprenticeships, training, jobs and education choices. Book using our online form today!

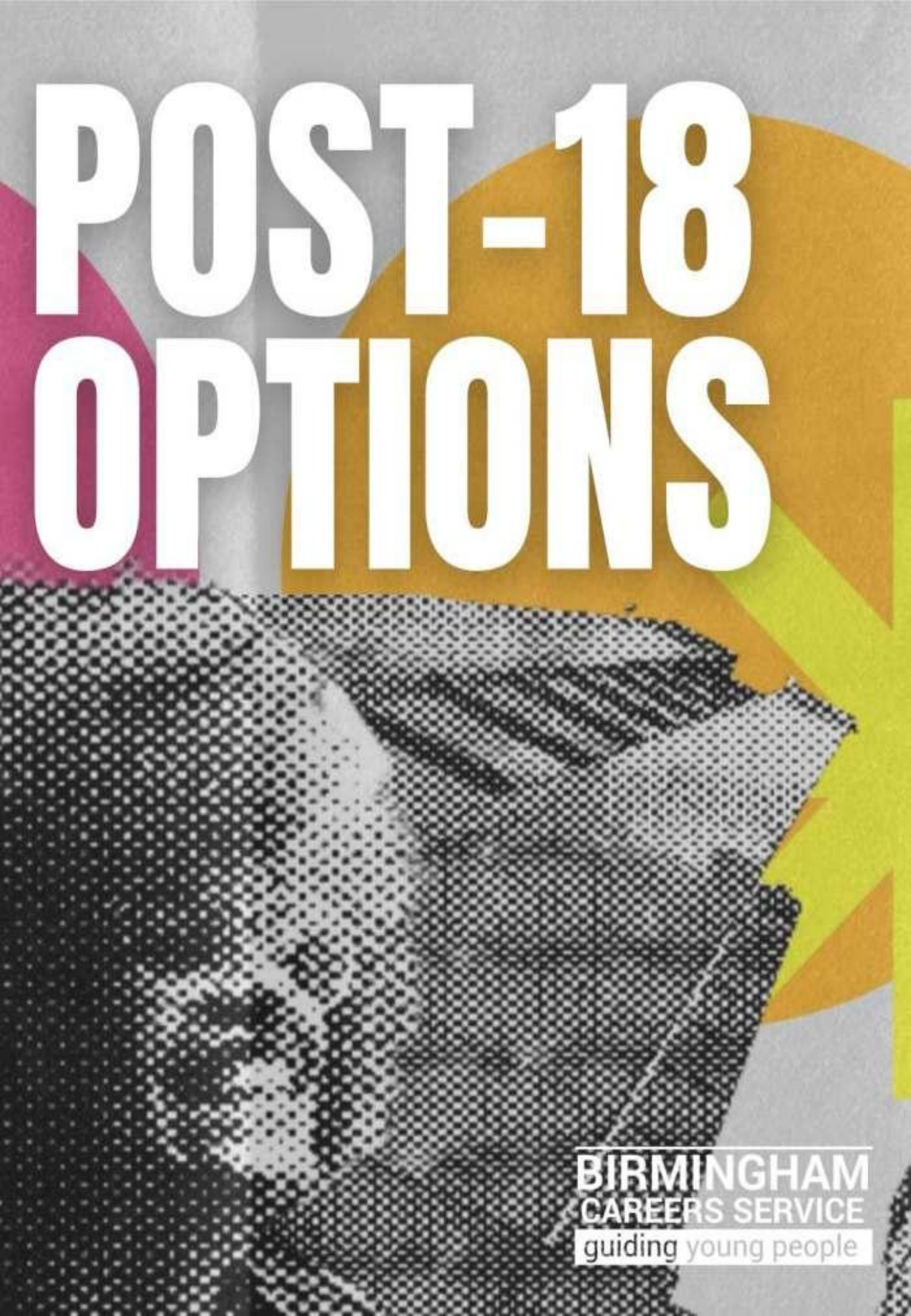
[BOOK NOW](#)



POST-16 OPTIONS

BIRMINGHAM
CAREERS SERVICE
guiding young people

POST-18 OPTIONS

The background of the poster is a collage of abstract elements. It features large, overlapping circles in shades of orange, yellow, and pink. A prominent halftone pattern, consisting of a grid of small black dots, covers a significant portion of the lower half of the image. The overall aesthetic is modern and graphic.

BIRMINGHAM
CAREERS SERVICE
guiding young people

UniTasterDays

How can UniTasterDays help
with your university decisions?



UniTasterDays is a directory of university events for school groups and individual students.



SEARCH FOR UNIVERSITY EVENTS,
BROWSE ON DEMAND WEBINARS,
ACCESS RESOURCES AND MUCH MORE

**FIND OUT
MORE HERE**



YR10 WORK EXPERIENCE 2026 DATES

IMPORTANT DATES AND ACTIONS
FOR STUDENTS

WHEN IS WEX WEEK?

**MONDAY 29TH JUNE – FRIDAY 3RD JULY 2026
(5 DAYS)**



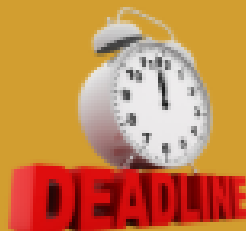
**HAND IN YOUR COMPLETED
MEDICAL FORM**

**ASAP BUT NO LATER THAN FRIDAY
24TH OCTOBER 2025**



**EMAIL/PHONE/VISIT EMPLOYERS
REQUESTING A WORK PLACEMENT**

**ASAP BUT NO LATER THAN FRIDAY
19TH DECEMBER 2025**



**FINAL DEADLINE FOR NOTIFYING
MRS NEWTON OF YOUR PLACEMENT**

FRIDAY 27TH MARCH 2026

ANY QUESTIONS? SEE MRS NEWTON

FUTURES FOR ALL



Work Experience Finder

Search by company, industry or key word



It's easy to
get started

1 Discover work experience

Browse, search and filter our opportunities to find what suits you.

2 Register, sign in and apply

To apply, you need an account – it's quick, free and simple to sign up.

3 Application review and decision

Once your application has been submitted your teacher will review it before it's sent to the employer who will let you know if you're successful!



Browse by industry



Browse by subject



Browse by closing soon



View all opportunities

MEDIC MENTOR

MAKE A DIFFERENCE



WORK EXPERIENCE (WEX)

If you're a student with aspirations of becoming a doctor, then the Medic Mentor Virtual Work Experience Programme is an incredible opportunity that you won't want to miss. Developed in partnership with the University Hospital Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust, this programme provides a comprehensive and immersive virtual experience that will give you a real insight into the world of medicine.

All you need to do is attend a Get Into Medicine conference to start accessing the Virtual Work Experience straight away!

[SIGN UP HERE](#)

[SPEAK TO DOCTORS](#)



Virtual Medical Work Experience a Students Review

 [Copy link](#)

**VIRTUAL
WORK
EXPERIENCE**
a Students Review



MEDIC MENTOR
Watch on  YouTube



WORK EXPERIENCE

Discover your next work experience program

Try searching for subjects, companies, or industries



FILTERS



PROMOTED

A Future Connected: Virtual Work Experience with CityFibre

CITYFIBRE

NEW! VIRTUAL START NOW

Planning, Design, Installation and Support Roles with CityFibre

Start



PROMOTED

Healthcare Science Careers: Virtual Work Experience with NHSE

NHS ENGLAND

VIRTUAL-TO-REALITY START NOW

Explore Healthcare Science Careers with NHS England!

Start



PROMOTED

Digital Careers in Health and Care with Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent ICS

STAFFORDSHIRE AND STOKE-ON-TRENT ICS

VIRTUAL START NOW

Discover the Digital Side of Health and Care with Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent ICS!

Start



AD

amazon AMAZON

Amazon TV Production Work Experience

Apply in 30 seconds →



PROMOTED

Siemens: Early Careers

SIEMENS

VIRTUAL START NOW

Start your journey with Siemens' early career pathways.

Start



PROMOTED

Aviation and Aerospace: Spaceport Licence

CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY

VIRTUAL-TO-REALITY SPRINT START NOW

Overview Space - the final frontier, now closer in reach than ever before. Companies worldwide are looking to the skies with the...

Start



PROMOTED

Lift Off - with the Civil Aviation Authority

CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY

VIRTUAL-TO-REALITY START NOW

Virtual work experience in aviation & aerospace regulation. Live talks with industry experts, quizzes & activities to explore...

Start



PROMOTED

Building Your Future

JLL

VIRTUAL START NOW

Discover the ins and outs of real estate alongside two industry giants - JLL and Meta.

Start



PROMOTED

Women in Accounting: Moore Kingston Smith Work Experience

MOORE KINGSTON SMITH GROUP SERVICES

VIRTUAL-TO-REALITY COMING SOON

Eligibility criteria

Looking to build a meaningful future? Discover exciting career opportunities in accounting, business advisory, and more...

Apply



PROMOTED

HR Work Experience with CIPD

CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF PERSONNEL AND DEVELOPMENT

VIRTUAL START NOW

The world of HR awaits you! Learn the role of HR, explore career opportunities, and note down our top tips to succeed!

Start



PROMOTED

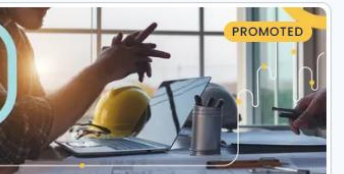
Accountancy and Advisory Services

MOORE KINGSTON SMITH GROUP SERVICES

VIRTUAL START NOW

Ready for a future that counts? Check out exciting career opportunities in accounting, business advisory services and beyond with...

Start



PROMOTED

AtkinsRéalis Virtual Work Experience programme

ATKINS REALIS

NEW! VIRTUAL START NOW

AtkinsRéalis is a world-leading firm. With a team of visionaries at the helm, they help change the world. Want to join them?

Start



SPEAKERS for schools

Work Experience

Welcome to our work experience opportunities page – the perfect place to start your career journey! Explore the latest placements on offer from hundreds of employers across a wide range of industries.

Search for a specific employer or use the filters on the right to help you find online placements based on your age or the industry you're interested in. Then simply click on the 'Read more' button to go through to our portal to apply.

Work Experience

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Search for a specific employer or use the filters on the right to help you find online placements based on your age or the industry you're interested in. Then simply click on the 'Read more' button to go through to our portal to apply.

FIND OUT MORE

DISCOVER!
FAIR
Discover! "Behind the
Scenes" of Live Shows
Employer: Fane
Age: 16 - 19

Ready, Set, Code! 3-day Tech
Work Experience (Virtual
Event - UK wide)
Employer: Kainos

Pathways to Work | SEND
Employer: Speakers for Schools -
East of England
Age: 14 - 19
Industry: Leisure/Sport
Type: Virtual work experience
Date: 24/04/2024
Timings: 10:00 - 14:30
Duration: 3 days

Date range

Start date

End date

Type of opportunity

VOLUNTEER BRUM



GET INVOLVED IN YOUR COMMUNITY

volunteerbrum.org

There are countless opportunities to get involved and support your local community, and it can start with **volunteering!** Volunteering is giving your time freely to benefit others or the environment, and it's a rewarding way to get involved.

From sports and physical activities to youth work, befriending, research, conservation, and so much more, charities, voluntary, and community groups across the city offer amazing opportunities for you to make a difference.

Volunteering is not only a chance to **support local people and causes** —it's a fantastic way to **meet new people, try something new, develop valuable skills, and be part of something**.



NCVO champions the voluntary sector and volunteering because they're essential for a better society. We do this by connecting, representing and supporting voluntary organisations.

Volunteering can make a real difference to your own life and the lives of those around you. There are loads of ways to get involved and plenty of organisations that can help you find your dream role.

So how do you go about finding the right volunteering role for you? Here are three steps to follow:

1. Think about what interests or excites you.

This could be something you enjoyed doing before, or something completely new.

2. Think about what time or skills you can give.

With so many opportunities to choose from, it's a great idea to narrow down the choices by deciding what you're willing to give.

3. Get researching!

NCVO doesn't hold a list of roles, there are simply too many. But you can:

1. go to your local volunteer centre
2. search the internet
3. ask friends what they do
4. or check out one of the online opportunity finders below.



Inspiring Young Minds

Opportunities to explore health and healthcare careers through **Volunteering for Health**

Are you between the age of 14-21 and live in Birmingham?

Get involved by taking part in exciting micro-projects over the next 18 months during school holidays.

These opportunities are part of a national programme called **Volunteering for Health**.

Each 'micro-volunteering' opportunity will be sponsored by a unique clinical area of health. Some projects will be just a few hours long. Some will take place over several days or weeks. They are all different.

Previous projects and their sponsoring organisation include:



Video creation for showcasing Community Research by Young People, Immunisation and Vaccination campaign and Anger Management/Hand Injuries prevention

(Birmingham Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust and Birmingham Women's & Childrens NHS Trust)



Co-designed youth programmes in schools for young people around Allied Health Profession roles

(all Birmingham NHS Trusts)



Community Research for Lung Cancer Screening and Shisha Smoking

(Midland Metropolitan University Hospital and Birmingham City Council Public Health)



Co-designed 'Girls Society' projects in schools for enabling peer support for women's health and relationships.

(General Practice Doctors)



Community Research for Lung Cancer Screening and Shisha Smoking

(Midland Metropolitan University Hospital and Birmingham City Council Public Health)



Sign up to be invited to each **Volunteering for Health** project as they become available on our online form.

<https://forms.office.com/e/TSSjiFqpLP>

Scan here to
join the
mailing list
to find out
more



what some of our clinicians have said:

“

My colleagues and I were so impressed with what the students had uncovered about how online targeted marketing affects buying decisions of young men who want to gain muscle mass. This will change the way I practice with teenagers and their parents. I was thrilled they were able to highlight this latent risk to paediatricians, and we were able to invite them to present their research (again) at a national meeting.

Dr Mary Salama, General Paediatrician, BWC

“

We were blown away by the young people's insight into how the way in which we interact with people can impact data collection and influence health inequalities.

David Scott, Head of Strategic Programme Development, BWC

what our previous volunteers have said:

“

By doing this volunteer project, it is really helpful for all of us to be able to give back to our communities and make people more aware of what immunisations they are able to get and what's happening to their body when they get vaccinated.

Blessing Karunwi (aged 14)

Term holiday programmes:

[No Title]

- Christmas 2025
- February half term 2026
- 31 March (Easter)
- 9 April (Easter)
- 28 May (half-term)

Summer Holiday dates:

- 30 July
- 6 August
- 13 August
- 20-21 August
- 27-28 August
- 3 September
- 30 October
- 31 December

“

I cannot stress enough how fantastic these summer projects have been. Not only did I learn loads about being healthier, but I also got to know lots of people in the NHS. I'm even thinking about a job as an Allied Health professional now, which I never knew about before!

Abdur Rahmaan (aged 16)