

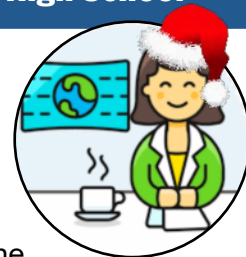


Your weekly guide to careers information, advice and news from Parklands High School

Well, we are almost at the end of the Autumn term - and what a busy term it has been. There's lots more to follow in the next two terms: mock interviews, college interviews, the careers fair, college taster days, work experience - and much more.

In this issue you will find:

- UK University and Apprenticeship search fairs start again in February, plus the Meet the Russell Group webinars return in April - definitely a few dates for the diary.
- The National Audit Office have launched their apprenticeship schemes, so if you are an aspiring accountant, this may be the one for you.
- Alternatively, could you be a financial crime fighter? The FCA (Financial Conduct Authority) are holding an online event to enable students to discover more about careers within the organisation.
- Pathway CTM's latest careers podcast features apprentices from Lloyds Banking Group, offering tips on applying and challenging myths on apprenticeships. Well worth tuning in.
- The STAR method is under the spotlight - it's a simple technique that helps you give clear, structured answers in interviews - ideal bedtime reading for Year 11s who will be taking part in college and employer interviews in the New Year.
- The No-Code Hackathon returns in January, with amazing cash prizes for the winning teams, plus the chance to tackle real-world challenges and work alongside other schools.
- Register before 31st December for 15% off InvestIn Education's summer career experiences (bursaries are also available - check if you meet the criteria). You will work with top professionals in real workplaces and gain a qualification to boost any future university or job applications.



Have a great weekend



15th - 19th December 2025



Get Sorted Before Christmas



APPLY NOW

UK university & apprenticeship search fairs

SPJ LONDON S P Jain London School of Management

schools.liaison@spjain.ac.uk

A BUSINESS DEGREE WITH A BOARDING PASS

Business is global. Your degree should be too.

Our **BBA (Hons) Bachelor of Business Administration** degree does just that by offering immersive learning and internships across 4 global cities - London, Dubai, Singapore and Sydney.

£8,000 Travel Bursary

2026 Events

It was fantastic to welcome so many of you to our autumn events. We also have fairs taking place across the UK in Spring and Summer 2026 at stadiums and universities. Our upcoming 2026 UK University & Apprenticeship Search events in your region are as follows:

- **Manchester - Old Trafford Stadium - 27th February** - [see details here](#) - email emma@ukuniversitysearch.co.uk for further details or to book places.
- **Lancaster University - 24th March** - [see details here](#) - email emma@ukuniversitysearch.co.uk for further details or to book places.
- **University of Derby - 17th April** - [see details here](#) - email dan@ukuniversitysearch.co.uk for further details or to book places.

For a full list of our spring & summer events please visit our [website](#).

28th April - 30th April 2026

Meet the **RUSSELL GROUP**

Afternoon Session: 12:00 - 13:30

Evening Session: 16:30 - 18:00

www.ukuniversitysearch.com/fair-signup/russell-group-webinars

Our **Meet the Russell Group Webinars** will be returning on **28th - 30th April**. These are incredibly informative for students considering applying for RG universities. The webinars will cover topics such as Student Life, Personal Statements & Applying to an RG University. You can **register for this spectacular event below**.

[Register Here](#)



Make a Difference While you Qualify as an Accountant

National Audit Office (NAO) ACA Apprenticeship 2026

The National Audit Office (NAO) is now accepting applications for its Apprentice Accountancy Training Scheme.

If you want interesting work with real impact, this apprenticeship offers a clear route into a respected profession and the chance to help improve public services. Our work is investigative and analytical, helping Parliament hold government to account and ensuring public money is well spent. It goes far beyond auditing, covering areas such as healthcare, education, climate, and defence – helping to make government decisions transparent and impactful.

Applications **open on Thursday 11th December** and close on **30 March 2026** (11:59 PM).

Who can apply?

School and college leavers who want to start their career and gain a professional qualification. The scheme provides a **structured pathway to the ACA qualification** through ICAEW, with full training and support.

[Learn More!](#)



Study while you earn
with our training
provider BPP



Support from
coaches and an
apprentice network



Roles in London
or Newcastle



A friendly culture,
good work-life
balance, and long-
term career prospects.

Salary, benefits and progression

We're open about pay and benefits. Full details are on our website including starting salary, Civil Service pension and clear promotion steps.

Inclusive and accessible

We welcome applicants from all backgrounds and offer reasonable adjustments throughout the process.

Visit the National Audit Office website to find out more and start your application.

Inside the FCA: Join the Financial Crime Fighters!

Think you could help fight financial crime?



Online Event

15 Dec | 6:00 - 7:00pm

Inside the FCA: Join the Financial Crime Fighters

Think you could help fight financial crime?

Join the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) for an exclusive virtual insight event and discover how this powerful organisation protects millions of people – and billions of pounds – across the UK.

Every day, the FCA acts as the watchdog of the financial world, ensuring fairness, honesty, and trust in the system. They set the rules that 42,000 businesses must follow, investigate misconduct, and help stop financial wrongdoing before it happens. It's regulation with real impact – and you could be part of it.

At this event, you'll:

- Hear directly from current FCA apprentices about their journeys and experiences.
- Discover how you can earn, learn, and make an impact through the FCA's apprenticeship programmes (applications open February!).
- Ask your questions and get insider advice on what it's really like working at one of the UK's most important financial institutions.

About the FCA:

The Financial Conduct Authority regulates financial services firms across the UK – setting the standards, holding firms to account, and keeping the financial system fair and secure. Established in 2013, the FCA helps underpin the UK's reputation as a global financial centre built on trust.

Fun Facts:

- The FCA regulates over 42,000 firms – from high street banks to fintech start-ups.
- Their mission? To make sure consumers are treated fairly and financial markets run with integrity.

Event Date & Time:

- **Monday 15th December**
- **6:00 - 7:00pm**

Whether you're interested in project management, law, data, or protecting the public, this is your chance to explore a career that's anything but ordinary.

REGISTER



COME ALONG TO OUR APPRENTICESHIP OPEN EVENING

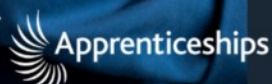
THURSDAY 12TH FEBRUARY 2026
4:00PM-7:30PM

**Business Administration | Leadership and Management
Engineering Operative | Engineering Fitter
Machining Technician | Metal Fabricator
Engineering Design Technician
Mechatronics Maintenance Technician
Maintenance Operations Engineering Technician**

- Find out everything you need to know about Apprenticeships
- Have a tour of our specialist facilities
- Check out our current Apprenticeship vacancies
- Discuss your career options with our team
- Meet some of our Apprenticeship employers

Simply scan the QR code to secure your spot —
it's quick, easy, and only takes a minute!

SCAN ME



01204 677888
info@alliancelearning.com
www.alliancelearning.com

The Hurst Building, Horwich Business Park
Chorley New Road, Horwich, Bolton, BL6 5UE
(behind Horwich fire station)

Preventing Parental Burnout:
*Discover how to recognise the signs
and reclaim your wellbeing*

Parent Webinars with GT Scholars



FREE Parent Webinar December 2025

Date: Tue 16th Dec 2025

Time: 7:30 - 8:30pm (UK time)

Sign up to join us LIVE or get
access to the replay:

gtscholars.org/parent-webinar





Dear Parent/Guardians,

Are you curious about the opportunities the British Army offers young people? Join our British Army Insights session designed to give you clarity and confidence about what's possible.

- **Event: British Army Insights – A Guide for Parents & Carers**
- **Date: Tuesday 20 January**
- **Time: 18:00 – 19:00**

Join Now!

Survey Highlights:

Recent research with over 600 parents and guardians found that:

- Only 27% of parents/carers felt fully confident supporting their child through the Army apprenticeship application process.
- 49% of parents/carers would like to attend an online session and receive resources/information about British Army apprenticeships.

What to Expect:

- Discover what life in today's Army really looks like, including the wide range of roles, training, and qualifications available.
- Hear real stories from those with lived experience, get practical advice, and have time to ask your questions.
- Find out how the Army helps young people build confidence, resilience, and valuable life skills - all while earning and learning.

Join Now!

Bonus: When you attend, you'll receive a **FREE downloadable resource** to help you support your child's career choices.

Whether your child is curious about the Army or you simply want to understand more, this session is here to support you.



There are lots of different ways to find out about KPMG's incredible apprenticeship opportunities.

KPMG Apprenticeship Programmes in Audit, Tax and KPMG Business Services are **open now**.

Just like Dylan, as a KPMG apprentice, you'll get full support as you work towards your qualifications, gaining real-world experience and finding your people. With study groups, socials, and office events, there are always opportunities to make friends without going to university.

"All the managers are really helpful with coaching you, helping you understand what's going on." - Dylan, Audit Apprentice.

At KPMG, you'll learn, connect, and make the difference from day one. It's about earning while learning, and finding a career path that feels right for you.

EXPLORE KPMG APPRENTICESHIPS

Learn about life as an apprentice at KPMG

KPMG apprenticeships are a great alternative to university, offering:

- £24,000 - £26,250 salary (dependent on programme and location)
- Fully funded professional qualifications
- Six days of volunteering per year
- 25 days of holiday and your birthday off

Plus many more benefits!

Have you checked out KPMG's Meet the Employer profile?

Find out more about the apprenticeship programme application process and get tips on how to apply, as well as what skills they're are looking for, what makes them a great employer, what life looks like behind-the-scenes.

We'll also be running a webinar with the KPMG Careers team in the new year, in the run up to National Apprenticeship Week 2026, so you can learn about the apprenticeships available, what's involved, the programme benefits, and more.

VISIT THE KPMG PROFILE





We would like to share with you some upcoming outreach opportunities taking place in the new year that may be of interest to you and your high achieving mathematical students.

Please find information and booking links below.

Science Revise

16:30 - 17:30 from Wednesday 7th January - Wednesday 3rd March

An 8-week revision programme designed to support your Year 11 GCSE Physics and Chemistry revision. The lectures will run online each Wednesday (in term time) with our Physics and Chemistry teachers.

Click the link to book

<https://bit.ly/3LJhCR9>

Open Day

10:00 - 12:30 on Saturday 14th March

Students have the opportunity to tour our purpose-built building, attend a talk from the Head of School, Peter Tiltman and speak with staff and current students to learn more about life at LUSoM.

Click the link to book

<https://bit.ly/4hb66tl>



**LANCASTER UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS**



Empowering Careers

Great news! we've just released a brand-new podcast episode featuring the Pathway CTM team and incredible apprentices from [Lloyds Banking Group](#)!



This episode is perfect for any students exploring apprenticeship pathways, especially in the tech sector.

Our guests include members of the Pathway CTM team and current apprentices at Lloyds Banking Group, who openly discuss:

- What it's really like to apply for apprenticeships
- Tips for young people — including girls interested in tech careers
- How their parents and teachers reacted when they chose the apprenticeship route
- Common myths about apprenticeships - and how to challenge them with facts

Start Watching

It's an honest and relatable conversation, packed with practical insights that can support your students as they make key decisions about their next steps.

[Listen to the episode here](#)

The STAR Method

The STAR Method is a simple technique that helps you give clear, structured answers in interviews; especially when asked about skills, experiences, or challenges.

STAR stands for:

S – Situation

T – Task

A – Action

R – Result

Using STAR helps you explain what happened, what you had to do, what you actually did, and what changed because of it. This makes your examples more confident, detailed, and memorable.

S – Situation

What was the context?

Describe the background or setting so the interviewer understands what was going on.

Top Tips:

- Keep it short but clear
- Mention where you were and who was involved
- Focus on something real (school, work experience, volunteering, hobbies)

Practice prompt:

Describe a situation where you had to work with others to achieve something.

T – Task

What was your goal or responsibility?

Explain what you needed to do or what challenge you had to overcome.

Top Tips:

- Be specific about your role
- Explain why the task was important

Practice prompt:

State the specific task or challenge you were responsible for in that situation.

A – Action

What did you do?

This is the most detailed part. Describe the steps you personally took.

Top Tips:

- Focus on your actions, even if it was a group task
- Use strong verbs (organised, led, planned, supported, created)
- Show your thought process if possible

Practice prompt:

List the actions you took to complete the task. What did you actually do?

R – Result

What happened in the end?

Describe the positive outcome and, if possible, what you learned.

Top Tips:

- Show impact (Did you solve the problem? Improve something? Help others?)
- Include numbers if relevant (e.g. “10% increase”, “finished 2 days early”)
- Mention what you learned for next time

Practice prompt:

Explain the result of your actions. What changed because of what you did? What did you learn?

STAR Challenge

Pick one of the following experiences and write a short STAR response for it:

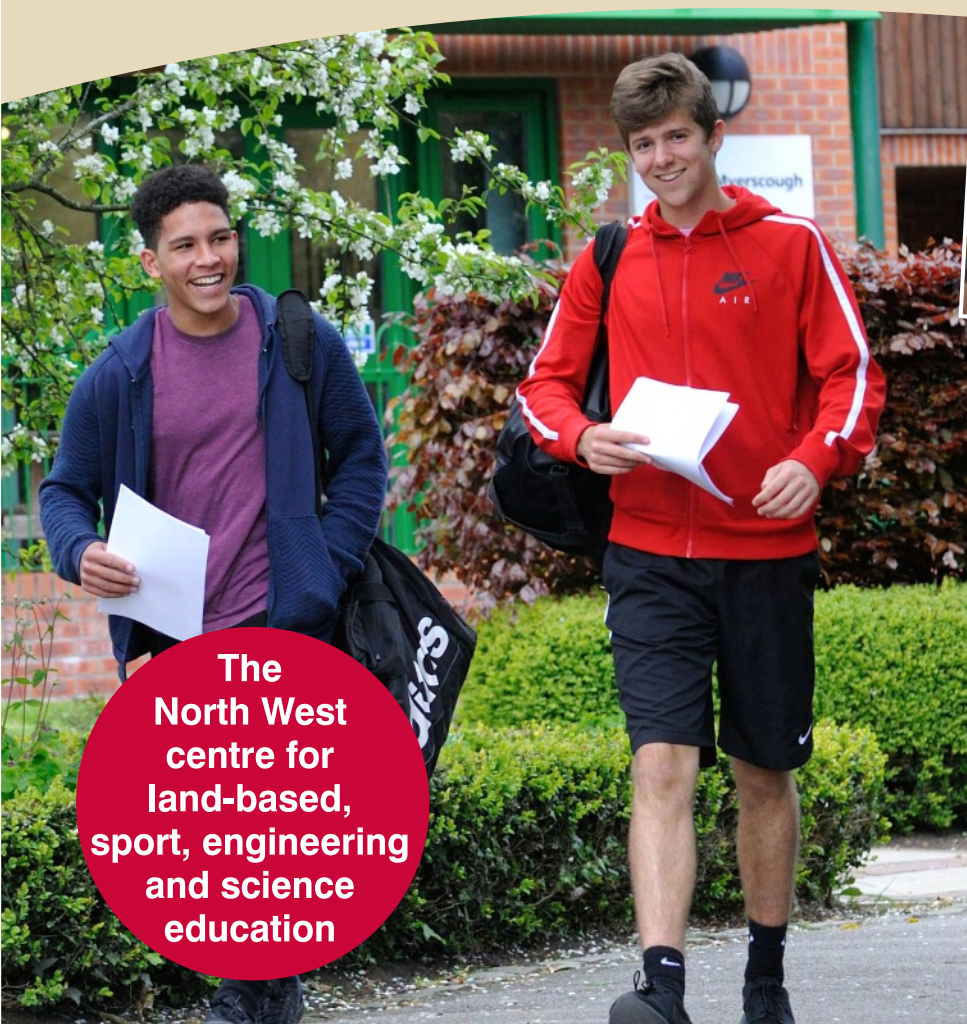
- Helping someone solve a problem
- Successfully working on a team project
- Overcoming a challenge or setback
- Taking responsibility in school (e.g., event, club, classroom role)
- Learning something new or improving a skill



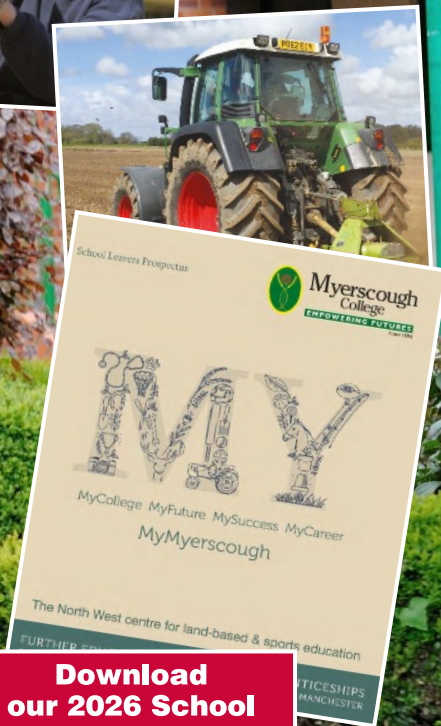
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College & University Centre
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Since 1894

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- ✓ University Degrees

Course Advice Morning



The
North West
centre for
land-based,
sport, engineering
and science
education



**Download
our 2026 School
Leaver Prospectus**

Saturday 6th December 2025*
Saturday 7th February 2026

* Preston and Liverpool only

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Why choose the Preston Centre of Sporting Excellence?

- Three different vocational levels for 16 to 19 year olds
- Lessons are delivered at Preston College; sports hall, 3G pitch, fitness suites and classrooms
- High level of competition in football with the opportunity to represent Preston College and Preston North End Community and Education Trust (PNECET)
- Work experience opportunities with PNECET
- Assessed through the completion of a portfolio, formal assignments, presentations, in class tests and practical assessments
- A progression pathway into higher education with the University of South Wales, scholarships or employment
- Dedicated recruitment team to support any application or interest



Scan the QR code to complete our
expression of interest form or for further information

 john.lee@pne.com

**Applications for entry September 2026
open on October 1st 2025**



Apply Now



APPLY NOW

Essay Competition

The Immerse Education Essay Competition invites students aged 13–18 to write a 500-word essay on a topic of their choice from our list of over twenty subject questions or choose our open question to explore your own idea.



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CAMBRIDGE



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OXFORD



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Participate in the Immerse Education Essay Competition to join a prestigious global contest that recognises ambitious students for their originality, depth of thought, and academic excellence.

Why Participate?

- Gain academic recognition
- Gain verified credentials
- Exclusive access to Scholars' Salon*
- Strengthen research, writing, and critical thinking skills and university applications
- A chance to win scholarships to attend an Immerse programme

*High-performing entrants are invited to the Scholars' Salon – an exclusive series of academic workshops led by distinguished experts from a range of disciplines.



Register your interest to receive the essay guide, email reminders and FAQs.

Scan the QR code

WWW.IMMERSE.EDUCATION



INFORMATION CREATIVE TECHNOLOGY TASTER WORKSHOP

TUESDAY 17th FEBRUARY
9:30 - 12:30

We are running a **FREE** taster workshop for any Yr10 or 11's interested in ICT

This will be a practical session based around Cyber Security

Numbers will be limited but to confirm a place please email mpatel@preston.ac.uk



PRESTON
COLLEGE

YEAR 10 & 11

REGISTER NOW!

OPEN EVENT
THURSDAY 5 MARCH 4-7PM

PRESTON
COLLEGE

TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH EDUCATION

ART & DESIGN TASTER WORKSHOP



TUESDAY 17th FEBRUARY
9:30 - 12:30

We are running a **FREE** taster workshop for any Yr10 or 11's interested in Art & Design.

The session is intended to develop your creative print making skills. It will be hands on and cover a number of different forms of print.

Numbers will be limited but to confirm a place please email **dheyes@preston.ac.uk**



**PRESTONCOLLEGE
CREATIVEARTS**

PRESTON

COLLEGE

YEAR 10 & 11

REGISTER NOW!

OPEN EVENT

THURSDAY 5 MARCH 4-7PM

PRESTON

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TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH EDUCATION


Virtual Work Experience with Dunelm: Careers, Skills, and Opportunities

In partnership with:



Step inside Dunelm, the UK's favourite homewares retailer, and discover what it's really like to work both in-store and behind the scenes. This Virtual Work Experience programme gives you a unique opportunity to explore a wide range of careers — from retail and supply chain to tech and head office roles — all while building valuable employability skills.

Through interactive activities and expert insights, you'll gain a deeper understanding of how a big business operates and what it takes to succeed in today's world of work. Whether you're interested in customer service, logistics, or digital innovation, this programme will help you find your happy place and take your first step towards a rewarding career.

 This programme is open to anyone aged 13+

 Certificate of completion

 Over 7 hours worth of content

 Complete at a pace that suits you

Scan Me
To sign up for this course



Meet the future you



Answer a few short questions and find out how YOUR skills and passions could lead to an exciting job in the future.

Whether you're just starting out, or are ready to think about your next steps, this is the quiz for YOU.

Take the quiz and get ready to be inspired...



START QUIZ

Attention students - Find your future with the Meet the future you quiz!

Ever wondered what an engineer does? Could you explore outer space, protect the environment, design apps or improve health and wellbeing?

Answer a few short questions and find out how your skills and passions could lead to an exciting job in the future.

Whether you're learning about different jobs, or ready to think about taking the next step, this is a fun quiz perfect for sparking off conversations about careers.



Suitable for students
aged 7 and over.

Textiles

A Level – NEW COURSE

NEW
A Level
Course

Specialist
teachers,
sharing their
expertise and
passions

A fully
sustainable
course using all
organic dyes
and recycled
materials

Live briefs
giving you real
opportunities
to display your
work

Excellent
regular trips,
visits &
creative talks

Are you creative, curious and passionate about design? Our A Level Textiles course gives you the chance to explore the world of fashion, interiors and surface design while developing your own unique creative voice. If you're in Year 11 and love design, craft or fashion – this is the perfect next step!



A Level Textiles

Why choose Textiles at A Level:

- A strong focus on **sustainability** – explore eco-friendly materials, ethical design and the future of fashion.
- Hands-on projects that encourage **experimentation** with fabric, paint, embroidery and mixed media.
- Opportunities to connect your work to **real-world themes**, from culture and identity to environmental responsibility.

Entry Requirements:

Students studying three A Levels and/or AAQs will be expected to have a minimum of two GCSEs at grade 5 and three at grade 4, including English Language, Mathematics and Art. Those who have not studied Art at GCSE will be asked to bring samples of their work so that the best advice can be offered. Student will be invited on campus for a skills assessment.

Assessment:

Component 1: Personal Investigation – 60% of final grade.

Component 2: Externally set assignment – 40% of final grade.

Both components are internally assessed and externally moderated. You will also present a portfolio and an exhibition of your work covering both components.

Exam Board: AQA

Future Career Opportunities:

This course provides a clear progression pathway to higher education, including the BA (Hons) Commercial Surface Design at The University of Greater Manchester, as well as a wide range of creative careers in fashion, textiles, interiors and product design.

Enrichment:

Students within the Art department will have the opportunity to take part in various enrichment activities:

- Day trips to galleries, artist studios and city visits
- Art & Design workshops
- 3D workshops
- Industry guest speakers

Other courses you may like:

This course mixes well with Graphic Design, Art, Photography, Media and Film Studies. You may study up to two creative subjects. You will have opportunities to work with all of the Arts across the college, with the guidance and expertise of the course leaders.



**More course
information here**

FILM & PHOTOGRAPHY TASTER WORKSHOP



MONDAY 16th FEBRUARY
9:30 - 12:30

We are running a **FREE** taster workshop for any Yr10 or 11's interested in Media, Film & Photography.

The session will hands on and practical using industry standard software and equipment and is ideal for anybody looking for a career in TV, Film, Photography and Journalism.

Numbers will be limited but to confirm a place please email
lfenton@preston.ac.uk



**PRESTONCOLLEGE
CREATIVEARTS**

PRESTON
COLLEGE

YEAR 10 & 11

REGISTER NOW!

OPEN EVENT
THURSDAY 5 MARCH 4-7PM

PRESTON
COLLEGE

TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH EDUCATION

GAMES & GRAPHICS TASTER WORKSHOP



MONDAY 16th FEBRUARY
9:30 - 12:30

We are running a **FREE** taster workshop for any Yr10 or 11's interested in Games & Graphics.

The session will be based around 3D modelling in Maya where you will be introduced to aspects such as building, texturing, lighting and rendering.

Numbers will be limited but to confirm a place please email **sroberts@preston.ac.uk**



PRESTON
COLLEGE

YEAR 10 & 11

REGISTER NOW!

OPEN EVENT
THURSDAY 5 MARCH 4 - 7PM

PRESTON
COLLEGE

TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH EDUCATION



STRONGER STARTS PROGRAMME OPEN FOR APPLICATIONS!

Tesco's Stronger Starts apprenticeship programme is now open, offering two fantastic apprenticeship pathways for young people, the well-established Retail Apprenticeship and the brand-new Maintenance Apprenticeship.

Stronger Starts is a fantastic opportunity for young people to kickstart a career in retail or maintenance, enjoy a brilliant starting salary, and receive lots of support and coaching along the way.

Read on for more information on the roles, links to apply, tips on applying and our upcoming webinar with the Tesco Early Careers team...

THE ROLES



Maintenance Apprenticeships

Stronger Starts are now offering a Maintenance Apprenticeship! Apprentices will work alongside earning a Level 2 Property Maintenance Operative qualification – equivalent to 5 GCSE passes.

The 18-month programme sets you up with the skills you need for everyday duties in maintenance jobs.

FIND OUT MORE



Retail Apprenticeships

Retail apprentices will work, earn and learn, gaining a Level 2 National Standard in Retail qualification over the course of the programme.

You'll gain hands-on experience of how a store operates, and have the opportunity to experience different roles and tasks across the store.

FIND OUT MORE

VACANCIES & HOW TO APPLY

Applications are now open for vacancies in stores in selected locations across England!

The Stronger Starts apprenticeship programme is a fantastic opportunity for young people to earn while they learn, gain skills and qualifications, receive ongoing support and enjoy long-term career opportunities.

APPLY NOW



MEET THE EMPLOYER



JOIN OUR WEBINAR

Join us and the Tesco Early Careers team on 8th December at 4pm to learn about the apprenticeships available, what is involved, the benefits available, and more.

Don't worry if you can't make it on the day, sign up anyway and we'll send you the recording so you don't miss out.

REGISTER NOW



Visit Tesco's Meet the Employer profile to find out more about the Stronger Starts apprenticeship programme application process and get tips on how to apply.

You can also find out what skills Tesco are looking for, what makes them a great employer, what life looks like behind-the-scenes and more.

VISIT THE PROFILE



Industrial Cadets: Individual Challenger Experiences

Our current available Individual Challenger activities are listed below. More exciting activities will be added soon.

To register for one of the activities - click on the link below, create an account on our Learning Platform, choose and pay for your activity, start and complete your 3 hour activity in your own time. Suggested age 11-16. On completion you will receive your Industrial Cadets Challenger certificate to download.

Cost: £25

Carbon Capture - Eco Garden project

This course is aimed at 11 - 16 year olds and can be completed by yourself. The recommended time to complete is 3 hours but it can take longer depending on the detail you put into your project. You can complete it in your own time and it can be completed in multiple sessions as your progress will be saved.

This course is designed to help you create a garden that supports the environment and contributes positively to the fight against climate change. Together, we'll explore the basics of climate change, its impacts, and the importance of natural carbon stores.

You'll learn about carbon sequestration—the process by which plants, soil, and other natural features capture and store carbon dioxide. With this understanding, you'll plan a garden that includes as many carbon-storing elements as possible. We'll also look at other features that can make your garden environmentally friendly, such as supporting biodiversity, conserving water, and providing habitat for pollinators.

To bring your ideas to life, you'll have the option of using recycled or craft materials for hands-on model building, or digital tools to create a detailed online design. This flexibility allows you to explore your creativity in a way that suits your preferences and resources.

By the end of this course, you'll have a clear plan for an eco garden tailored to your space and a deeper understanding of how small, thoughtful changes can make a big environmental difference.

TinkerCAD Moon Base Project

This course is aimed at 11 - 16 year olds and it can be completed by yourself. The recommended time to complete is 3 hours but it can take longer depending on the detail you put into your project. You can complete it in your own time and can be completed in multiple sessions as your progress will be saved.

This course is designed to help you create a 3D design using a CAD program. You will be able to investigate and learn how to create a 3D moonbase, fit for astronauts, whilst learning more about the best place to setup a base on the moon. Please keep in mind you will need an email address to log into TinkerCAD- this can be your own email or a parent/carer's email.

You'll learn about all the different elements you'd need to consider when building a base such as environmental factors, temperature, design shape, rooms and also think about what materials you could use in space.

To bring your ideas to life, you'll log in to TinkerCAD and go through the different lessons that are assigned to you.

By the end of this course, you'll have a clear understanding of how to use a CAD program whilst deepening your understanding of space.

[sign up](#)





£25 per
project

For ages
11 - 16

Individual Challenger Experience

The Individual Challenger Activities are an exciting way for students to complete a short STEM project from home and gain an Industrial Cadets Challenger award.



Carbon Capture - Eco Garden Project

- **Create a garden** that supports the environment and contributes positively to the **fight against climate change**.
- You'll learn about **carbon sequestration**—the process by which plants, soil, and other natural features capture and store carbon dioxide.
- By the end of this course, you'll have a clear plan for an eco garden tailored to your space.

TinkerCAD Moon Base Project

- Create a **3D design using a CAD program**.
- Learn how to create a **3D moonbase, fit for astronauts**, whilst learning more about the best place to setup a base on the moon.
- By the end of this course, you'll have a clear understanding of how to use a CAD program whilst deepening your understanding of space.

How to sign up/find out more

To sign up, please visit our website [here](#) or scan the QR code!



GAIN THE ULTIMATE WORK EXPERIENCE THIS SUMMER

1 and 2-week programmes for students aged 15-18

Register now with code **EARLY15** for 15% off Summer Experience Programmes!



Work with **top professionals** and explore **real workplaces**



Gain a **qualification** in work experience to boost your university application



Experience **university life** on-campus at UCL

Choose from 15 different careers

Art & Design
Architecture
Computer Science
Dentistry
Engineering
Entrepreneurship
TV & Filmmaking
Forensic Science
International Politics
Investment Banking
Law
Media
Medicine
Psychology
Veterinary Science



**REGISTER
NOW**



Gaining Experience Beyond The Classroom

INVESTIN
THE ULTIMATE WORK EXPERIENCE

Why?

Gaining work experience or doing extracurriculars is data-gathering for your future; you will learn what you like and dislike, what motivates you or doesn't. Plus, it's a great way to stand out in future university and job applications! University admissions tutors are looking for applicants who are dedicated to their subject and have taken the time to explore it beyond the classroom.

Work Experience

What counts as work experience?

Any professional environment where you are developing and applying skills is a form of meaningful work experience!



Remember, not all your work experience needs to be industry-specific - any experience provides you with transferable skills!

What?

- **Shadowing**
Observing someone in a working environment
- **Volunteering**
Such as at charity shops, care homes or tutoring
- **Insight days & workshops**
Online or in-person programmes for students
- **Part-time job**
Such as in a cafe/restaurant, shop assistant
- **Formal placements & internships**
Typically more widely available for 18+

Where?

- **Look local**
Research organisations in your local area and enquire about shadowing or volunteering opportunities
- **Use your network**
Ask friends, family, teachers for any relevant connections
- **Look out for formal schemes**
Research opportunities for school students on sites like [Prospects](#), LinkedIn or the [Student Ladder](#)

Extracurriculars

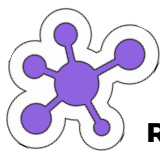


Consider what you already do outside of school - **what does it say about your interests or skills?**

Then, consider how you could develop further the skills required for your dream university course or career.

Socialising

Communication
Empathy



Sport

Leadership
Teamwork

Music or drama

Creativity
Commitment

Reading & writing

Analytical thinking
Attention to detail

What can I do in my free time to develop my skills?

Read or listen to podcasts related to your subject interests

Raise money for a charity or awareness about an issue important to you

Set up a club: STEM, debating, photography, newspaper, documentary...

Create your own portfolio of work, e.g. create a GitHub account to log your coding projects

Produce a journal or research project

Organise an event (marketing, sales & project management)

Manage a budget for a trip or holiday

Talk about your experiences in your applications...




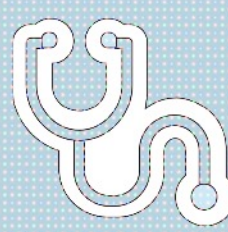
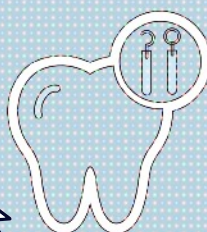
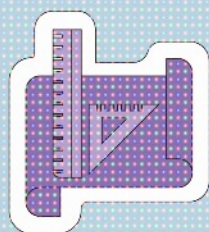
Gaining experiences beyond your studies is only meaningful in your personal statement if you know how to relate them to your chosen course!

THINK: why has your extracurricular/work experience/project contributed to your passion or compatibility for your chosen subject? How did it ignite your spark for that field?

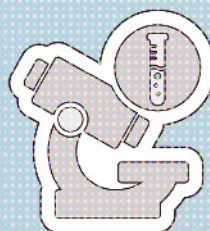
Looking to gain work experience? Check out InvestIN's programmes at www.investin.org



 www.investin.org/pages/career-quiz



**What career is
right for you?**



INVESTIN

THE ULTIMATE WORK EXPERIENCE



**Review of
your skills**



**Recommended subject
choices & resources**



**Top tips from
professionals**



Take our **5-minute
career quiz** to learn
more about the
industry you're
best suited to



**Discover
your future**

PRESTON COLLEGE



St Vincent's Road
Preston
PR2 8UR

W www.preston.ac.uk
T 01772 225522
E info@preston.ac.uk

www.preston.ac.uk/apply

APPLY NOW FOR SEPTEMBER 2026!



PREPARING LIFE

FOR WHAT YOU'LL THROW AT IT

Our Military Academy
holds open days **every Friday.**

GET IN TOUCH TODAY TO BOOK YOUR PLACE!

- 50% physical and 50% academic training.
- Our roll-on roll-off course means you can join today!
- 90% of our learners progress into military or civilian roles.
- Financial support available.

IN ASSOCIATION WITH



IN COOPERATION WITH



IN ASSOCIATION WITH



SCAN NOW TO
BOOK YOUR PLACE



visit **mpct.co.uk**

call **0330 111 3939**

Subject Guide Videos



These impartial videos have one key aim. To support students who are considering university to make informed future subject decisions. They feature guest speakers from a range of different universities, who are always experts in the subject being explored.

Including the UK's first video subject guide!

Different subjects, but the same four themes explored in every single one:

- Why students may wish to consider the subject
- What to expect if they study it
- An overview of the careers it may lead to
- Application tips if they go on to apply

From Accounting to Zoology - and 100's of subjects in between. You can browse any of the videos, search by keyword, or filter by subject.

[CLICK HERE](#)



Parents' Evening:

The Newsletter That Helps You Support Your Child's Future



Worried about exams?
Confused about career
options? Wondering what
comes next?

We've got your back.

Get free, quarterly updates
full of expert advice, tips, and
guidance to help your child
make confident decisions
about their future.



Exam stress & study tips



Uni vs apprenticeship advice



Application & interview help



Soft skills made simple



SEND support for parents



Real success stories



Live job opportunities

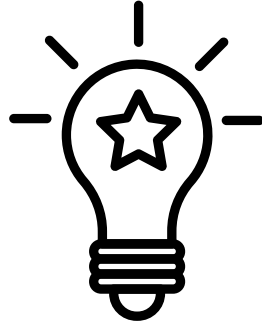


Sign Up Today!

Get practical, no-nonsense advice straight to
your inbox – **plus your free guide:**

"10 Tips to Help Your Child Find Their Career Path"





DID YOU KNOW?

**An apprenticeship can
lead you to qualify as a
solicitor, teacher,
police officer, game
programmer,
journalist, economist
or architect.**

Find out more at: www.amazingapprenticeships.com



YOUTH FUTURES DROP IN

ARE YOU 16 OR 17 AND NOT IN SCHOOL OR WORKING?

We can help you with;

- Your next steps
- Getting into education
- Finding work
- Building your confidence
- Boosting your skills

Let's work together to figure out your next steps!

DROP IN



Chorley Library, PR7 1EB



Monday 1-4pm

Usually I'm there, but
best to check!

CONTACT US



07917 534459



01772 531 044



@youthfutures_team



youthfutures@lancashire.gov.uk

OPEN EVENTS

5-7PM

15TH OCTOBER

18TH NOVEMBER

15TH DECEMBER

9TH FEBRUARY

12TH MARCH

12TH MAY

18TH JUNE





University of Central Lancashire

Training 2000



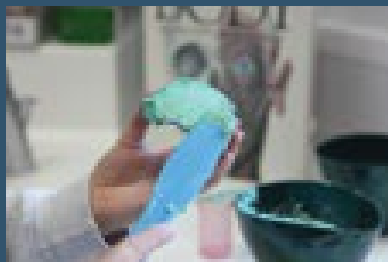
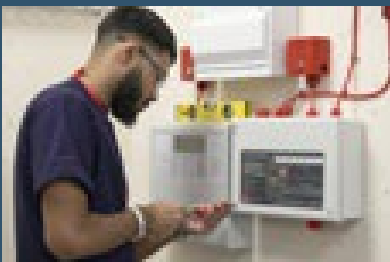
Apprenticeship open evenings

Explore our site, discover our facilities and talk to staff and students about the courses you want to study at our Apprenticeship Event.

**Wednesday 28th January &
Thursday 29th January 2026**
between 4.30 - 7.30pm

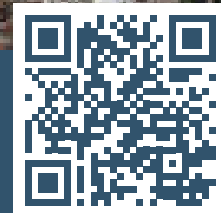
Where: Furthergate Business Park, Harwood Street, Blackburn, BB1 3BD

Accountancy | Business | Dental | Engineering | Fire & Security | Optical | Scaffolding



Book your place:

www.training2000.co.uk/events



Part of the
University of
Central Lancashire



University of
Central Lancashire
UCLan

Traineeships

Apprenticeships



July 25 M1164 Training 2000 Ltd is a company limited by guarantee. Registered in England: 2380675 Registered Charity: 701770

OPEN

EVENTS

**AT THE
COLLEGE FOR
TECHNICAL
EXCELLENCE**



PARSONS WALK CAMPUS
(WN1 1RR)

4.30pm - 7.00pm

Monday 6 October 2025
Monday 3 November 2025
Monday 26 January 2026
Monday 27 April 2026

LEIGH CAMPUS
(WN7 4JY)

4.30pm - 7.00pm

Monday 13 October 2025
Monday 10 November 2025
Monday 2 February 2026



Give your students a head start with

4 SKILLS
WORK EXPERIENCE

SIGN UP NOW

Who are 4Skills?

4Skills is Channel 4's training and development team, here to help you kick-start a career in TV and the creative industries. They create opportunities for young people who might not know where to start, making the media world more open and diverse. With 4Skills, it's all about giving you the confidence and skills to explore exciting creative paths.

SIGN UP NOW



What is virtual work experience?

It's an online programme where young people complete real-world tasks, challenges, and insights from industry professionals, all from home and at their own pace.

Sign up today to...
Channel 4 Work Experience.



-  IT'S VIRTUAL
-  IT'S FLEXIBLE
-  IT'S FREE

You have until 19th December to complete your work experience online. Unlock badges and certificates as you learn more about TV and Broadcasting...

SIGN UP TODAY



SIGN UP TODAY



SAVE PEOPLE FROM DISASTERS

THIS IS
ENGINEERING

MEET JOSH. CATASTROPHE CONSULTANT. HE VOLUNTEERED AFTER THE JAPANESE TSUNAMI IN 2011. NOW, HE RESCUES PEOPLE FROM TRAPPED BUILDINGS. BE THE DIFFERENCE.

SEARCH 'THIS IS ENGINEERING'

NEW

COLLEGE

PODCAST

COLLEGE COMPASS

**UNLOCK THE
SECRETS TO
A SUCCESSFUL
CAREER**

**GUEST SPEAKERS
ADVICE & GUIDANCE
INDUSTRY KNOWLEDGE**

LISTEN NOW ON SPOTIFY



Retail Apprenticeship What skills do you gain?

It's not just about stacking shelves!

RETAIL

Learn about all areas of retail and how a store works across all areas.

BUSINESS

Develop an understanding of how a business works - on a store and national level.

CUSTOMER SERVICE

Develop customer service and communication skills in a wide range of scenarios.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Gain knowledge of the impact social media has on brand reputation.

TECHNOLOGY

Become proficient at using a range of different technologies.

FINANCE

Handle money and using financial operations in real-life situations.

STOCK

Learn to manage stock availability using systems and procedures.

PRODUCT PLACEMENT

Develop an understanding of product placement promotional activities.

TEAMWORK

Build your people and teamwork skills by working with a wide variety of colleagues.

TIME MANAGEMENT

Progress your time management skills and learn how to prioritise tasks.

PROBLEM-SOLVING

There will be lots of opportunities to develop your problem-solving skills in retail.

COMMUNITY

Gain knowledge of supporting local communities.



Retail Apprenticeship Where could it take you?



JANE

STRONGER STARTS

RETAIL

APPRENTICESHIP



TOM

HUB OPERATOR

Interested in a career in security? A Hub Operator position may be perfect for you. Identifying risks and creating reports will be a big part of your day to day!

1

SHIFT LEADER

The Shift Leader oversees shifts and coordinates the team to maintain a safe and efficient store environment. They are always looking for ways to improve customer service.

PROJECT MANAGER

Project Managers are present across Tesco stores, playing a crucial role in maintaining store safety and ensuring staff satisfaction.

2

STORE MANAGER CONVENIENCE

Store Managers plan and manage work streams, with a focus on continuously improving Tesco's service to customers, communities and the environment each day.

AREA MANAGER

An Area Manager's goal is to create an excellent shopper experience. They understand the business inside and out and strive to create a supportive and compliant work environment.

3

CENTRE MANAGER

This position will place you at the core of Tesco's various centers, where you will be responsible for inspiring a large team and ensuring that all staff members provide exceptional service.

YOUR FUTURE

Find out more: www.amazingapprenticeships.com/tesco





TESCO

**Stronger
Starts**

MEET ZOE

Level 2
Retail Apprentice



Watch Zoe's
story here

Age 16+ and looking for your next step? Kick-start your career with our Stronger Starts Retail Apprenticeship.
To find out more visit:

www.tesco-programmes.com/apprenticeships/stronger-starts-retail



Ready to get detecting?

Keep your eyes peeled for these Christmassy treasures



Ivy



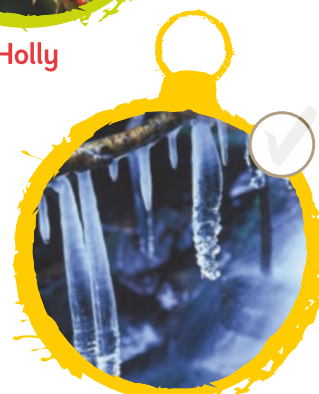
Pine cones



Holly



Christmas tree!



Icicles

Christmas hunt



Mistletoe



Snowflake



Frost



Robin

How many other festive finds can you spot?

Feel free to copy and share this for personal and educational use – and don't forget there are loads more brilliant activities to download on our website!

woodlandtrust.org.uk/naturedetectives | 0330 333 5301 | naturedetectives@woodlandtrust.org.uk

f Search for 'nature detectives' | #NatureDetectives

© Made in 2016 by the Woodland Trust (registered charity nos 294344 and SC038885)

MENTORVERSE

Technology is shaping the future, and it's important for the next generation to understand how to use it. As the world becomes more digital, knowing how technology works can open doors to exciting careers, spark new ideas, and help solve major challenges like climate change or improving healthcare. But it's not just about jobs - technology encourages creative thinking, helps people connect, and makes everyday life more efficient. Learning these skills is about being ready to adapt, solve problems, and make the most of the opportunities the future will bring.

That's why I'm excited to invite your students to the Tech Mentor No-Code Hackathon, happening on **Sunday 11th January**, from 10am to 4pm.

A no-coding hackathon is a great way to explore technology in a hands-on and approachable way. By removing the need for coding, it allows anyone to participate, no matter their background, and focus on coming up with ideas, solving problems, and working together.

The hackathon is open to students aged 14-18 (Years 10–13) and is fully online, making it accessible to everyone. No prior coding experience is needed - students will use no-code platforms to build their apps, with guidance from experienced mentors throughout the day.

<https://techmentor.org.uk/hackathon/>

The Tech Mentor No-Code Hackathon is a hands-on, team-based event where students have the chance to:

- Build their own app to solve a real-world challenge, with no code needed.
- Develop essential skills like problem-solving, teamwork, and creativity.
- Create a portfolio of work they can showcase for jobs, apprenticeships, or university applications.
- Work in a safe, supportive environment where mistakes are part of the learning process.

Here's what they can expect:

- The hackathon will be fully online via Zoom, running from 10am to 4pm (UK GMT).
- Students will work in teams to tackle a surprise real-world challenge using no-code platforms.
- They'll be guided by experienced mentors who will support them throughout the day.
- Each participant will receive a certificate of participation
- The cost is £15 per student, which covers platform and administration costs.

Winners from this hackathon will be invited to the National Finals on 11th July 2026, where they'll compete for:

- **1st Place: £1,000 for the winning team and £100 to each winning team member's school.**
- **2nd Place: £750 cash prize for the team.**
- **3rd Place: £500 cash prize for the team.**

Students will be allocated to random groups on the day to keep the competition fair and enhance your networking experience! This is a chance for you to meet likeminded students beyond your school environment and start building your Tech Network!

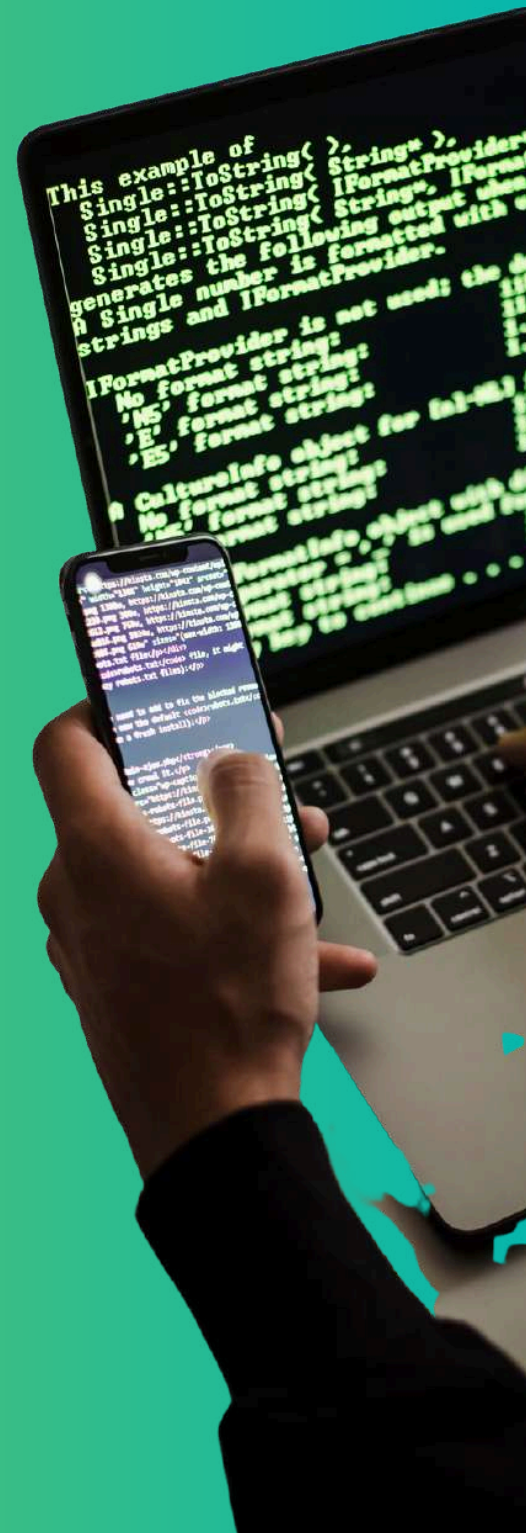
Spaces are limited, so I encourage students to register early to avoid disappointment.

Register now: <https://techmentor.org.uk/hackathon/>



APPRENTICESHIPS LINKED TO COMPUTING

- ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) DATA SPECIALIST
- CYBER SECURITY TECHNICIAN
- DIGITAL FORENSIC TECHNICIAN
- DIGITAL USER EXPERIENCE (UX) PROFESSIONAL
- DEVOPS ENGINEER
- GAME PROGRAMMER
- ROBOTICS ENGINEER
- SOFTWARE DEVELOPER AND MANY MORE!



Interested in apprenticeships, but not sure what to do next? Take a look at the employers offering apprenticeships that link to the subject you love.
amazingapprenticeships.com

SCAN ME



FOUNDATION APPRENTICESHIPS



Explore this exciting new apprenticeship programme

What are foundation apprenticeships?

Foundation apprenticeships help young people gain technical knowledge and skills while earning a wage. They are designed for young people typically aged 16 to 21 (or 22-24 meeting the eligibility criteria) who want hands-on experience in key sectors like construction, digital and social care. These level 2 apprenticeships combine technical knowledge and skills with workplace learning, helping the apprentice to decide their next career steps.

Which standards are available?

The [first foundation apprenticeships](#) focus on industrial strategy and government mission areas, including:

Engineering & manufacturing

- Building service engineering
- Engineering and manufacturing

Construction

- Finishing trades
- Onsite trades

Digital

- Hardware, network and infrastructure
- Software and data

Health

- Health and social care

Where can you find vacancies?

As foundation apprenticeships are a new programme from 1st August 2025, it may take some time before we start to see lots of vacancies become available. Vacancies will start to appear on the Government's [Find an Apprenticeship website](#), as well as other jobs sites, employer websites and social media.

Who can be a foundation apprentice?

Foundation apprenticeships are only available for young people who are:

- aged between 16 and 21 (or 15 years of age if the apprentice's 16th birthday is between the last Friday of June and 31st August)
- aged between 22 and 24 years old, who either
 - hold an Education, Health and Care plan
 - have been, or are, in the care of their local authority
 - are in prison or a prison leaver

KEY FACTS



Foundation apprenticeships

- typically last for 8 months.
- support progression to more specialised apprenticeships (level 2 or 3) or direct entry to employment.
- help apprentices to develop employability skills and behaviours common to the workplace.
- are paid positions where the apprentice must be paid at least the National Minimum Wage for Apprentices .
- are currently available in 4 sectors, covering 7 different job roles.
- are for young people aged 16-21 (or 22-24 meeting eligibility criteria).
- have their own apprenticeship standard and assessment plan.

Learn more about apprenticeships and technical education
amazingapprenticeships.com

MENTORVERSE

For aspiring Doctors: FREE LIVE VIRTUAL Get Into Medicine conference dates:

- **Saturday 13th December 2025 from 9am - 1:30pm (final conference of 2025)**

[Click here to register](#)

For aspiring Dentists: FREE LIVE VIRTUAL Get Into Dentistry conference date:

- **Sunday 11th January 2026 from 9am - 1:30pm**

[Click here to register](#)

Once students have attended, they will be awarded with a certificate from the Presidents at Mentorverse to acknowledge that they are a student who has gone one step further than others.

The Get into conference is a significant turning point for aspiring medical and dental students. It will unlock exclusive opportunities, such as scholarships and prizes, and help them make a highly competitive application.

Students and parents can register using this link:

Medicine: <https://airtable.com/appgXnyzN5ZD9lwk6/shry7MZYtt3MGPjvO>

Dentistry: <https://airtable.com/appgXnyzN5ZD9lwk6/shrBuiR7SBAC19kE>

The **Get into Conference** is a comprehensive guide to the medical and dental application process. Dr Kennedy, Dr Safiyyah and I will cover:

- Application Timelines
- How to Tactically Choose Medical/Dental Schools
- Personal Statements
- Interview Schools
- National Leadership and Awards Programmes
- Accessing Work Experience
- UCAT Exam
- Accessing Scholarships

We strongly encourage all students to make the most out of this free opportunity.

Spaces are competitive and limited, so students should register as soon as they can using the link below.

Registration Links:

Medicine: <https://airtable.com/appgXnyzN5ZD9lwk6/shry7MZYtt3MGPjvO>

Dentistry: <https://airtable.com/appgXnyzN5ZD9lwk6/shrBuiR7SBAC19kE>

Getting into medicine/dentistry may seem impossible to many students, but we're here to break down the entire process into actionable steps.

Previously successful Medical students: <https://medicmentor.org/successful-student-journeys-reviews/>

Previously successful Dental students:

<https://dental-mentor.org/successful-student-journeys-reviews/>

From Secondary School Student to Medical Scholarship Student: a step-by-step guide on getting into medical school successfully: <https://medicmentor.org/become-a-medic-mentor-student-2/>

Scan to
register!

LIVE!

FREE

Get Into Medicine.

CONFERENCE

One of our doctors (Chief Mentors) will take you step-by-step through your application to medical school.

This includes:

- Application Timelines
- Interview Training
- Personal Statements
 - CV Building
 - UCAT Exams
 - Extracurriculars
- Accessing Medical Leadership Programmes, Awards Programmes and Scholarships to University

You'll also hear from a recently successful applicant on what it takes to make your candidacy to medical school stand out!

Understanding the pivotal role that work experience plays in shaping a student's perspective on their future career, we're delighted to extend an invitation to your students to participate in our FREE 6-month medical or 4-month dental virtual work experience programme.

Aiming to provide students with insights into the medical and dental fields, this free virtual work experience empowers students to make informed decisions about their future.

Students aged 14 and above are eligible to apply for a placement for FREE through these links:

Medicine: <https://medicmentor.org/university-hospitals-birmingham-trust-virtual-work-experience/>

Dentistry: <https://dental-mentor.org/university-hospitals-birmingham-trust-virtual-work-experience/>

Virtual work experience has been recognised by the Medical Schools and Dental Schools Council as a valuable substitute for in-person shadowing. This endorsement is underpinned by the Health Education England Discovery report, which highlights the positive impact of virtual work placements.

This virtual experience not only serves as a dependable alternative to traditional shadowing but also plays a pivotal role in equipping students with the necessary skills for their in-person work placements. In 2024, these 6-month medical and 4-month dental work experience programmes facilitated over 30,000 secondary school students in accessing complimentary work experience opportunities. Through structured instruction and direct engagement with healthcare professionals, students are well-prepared for their future endeavours.

Crafted in collaboration with Birmingham Universities Hospitals Trust and built with the flexibility of an E-learning format, participants can navigate their placements at their own pace, exploring vital topics like ethics, procedures, and broader team roles. This virtual experience not only enhances students' UCAS applications, but also strategically prepares them for the practical challenges and opportunities ahead.

Taking part in the Virtual Work Experience will provide:

- **Comprehensive Insights:** The programme covers a range of specialities, providing a deep understanding of medical and dental practices. Each month, a new focus area is introduced, allowing participants to delve into different aspects of the field.
- **Flexible Participation:** Tailored for students from years 10-11, the programme accommodates various schedules by being virtual. Participants have one month to complete each specialty, ensuring flexibility and ease of participation.
- **Recognised Certification:** Upon successful completion of all sessions, students will receive a certificate from Medic Mentor and UHB, validating their active participation which they can include in their UCAS and apprenticeships applications.

***The new speciality on General Practice or
Public Health & Oral Pathology is available now.***

Registering for these programmes is simple - students just need to complete the free online application form:

Aspiring Medics: <https://airtable.com/appgXnyzN5ZD9lw6/shrGJUAtigzZzDwTN>

Aspiring Dentists: <https://airtable.com/appgXnyzN5ZD9lw6/shr1YAbWctfkXarfQ>

Previously successful Medical students:

<https://medicmentor.org/successful-student-journeys-reviews/>

Previously successful Dental students:

<https://dental-mentor.org/successful-student-journeys-reviews/>

From Secondary School Student to Medical Scholarship Student: a step-by-step guide on getting into medical school successfully: <https://medicmentor.org/become-a-medic-mentor-student-2/>



Scan to
register!

LIVE!

FREE

Get Into Dentistry.

CONFERENCE

One of our dentists (Chief Mentors) will take you step-by-step through your application to dental school.

This includes:

- Application Timelines
- Interview Training
- Personal Statements
 - CV Building
- Entrance Exam: UCAT
 - Extracurriculars
- Accessing Medical Leadership Programmes,
- Awards Programmes and Scholarships to University

You'll also hear from a recently successful applicant on what it takes to make your candidacy to dental school stand out!

MEDIC MENTOR



YOUR MEDIC FAMILY

The Medical Schools Council acknowledges virtual work experience as an equal alternative to in-person shadowing based on a discovery report conducted by Health Education England. I encourage students aged 14 and over, interested in medicine to participate in our FREE National NHS Virtual Work Experience programme. We are pleased to offer a variety of medical specialties, with a focus this month on palliative care. This enables your students to gain a well-rounded perspective of working within the NHS.

This opportunity is for students in Years 10-11.

<https://medicmentor.org/university-hospitals-birmingham-trust-virtual-work-experience/>

Developed in collaboration with Birmingham Universities Hospitals Trust, this Virtual Work Experience has proven to be transformative for thousands of secondary school students over the past year. It also provides a strong foundation of knowledge for students who are preparing to undertake future in-person placements.

We've designed a 6-month medical e-learning work experience programme, focusing on one specialty each month, allowing students to set their own pace of learning. From structured teaching to direct interaction with doctors and healthcare professionals, our programme ensures students not only observe procedures but also gain a broader understanding of roles within the medical field.

Covering everything from confidentiality and ethics workshops delivered by the GMC to clinical procedures, our virtual work experience provides a crucial overview, thereby enhancing your students' UCAS applications.

Signing up is easy – students simply need to fill out the free online application form:

Why the Medic Mentor Virtual Work Experience is the largest In the UK...

- There are 6 Sessions in total providing the longest and most in-depth work experience available
- It covers 6 different areas of medicine whereas other work experiences only cover 1 or 2
- It is e-learning based so students can complete it in their own time around school work
- Students have 30 days to complete one session and then the next session drops
- Students are provided a certificate of completion once all 6 sessions are done
- Involves real doctors, clinical settings and high fidelity simulations
- Takes students on a complete patient journey
- Students get an insight into the multidisciplinary team
- Includes a free reflective journal (great for personal statements)
- It's completely free!
- *Why not sign up today?*



**University Hospitals
Birmingham**
NHS Foundation Trust



Follow multiple patients over a 6-month period, as they go from their initial injury to recovery. It is amazing how many different healthcare professionals are involved in a patient's care. This incredible opportunity showcases a variety of professionals in one day. It gives students a chance to see them in action in various settings from the ward to the community. It is also a fantastic opportunity to see them work together in a multidisciplinary team.

During the work experience day, students will follow 2 patients from their initial presentation to recovery. Students will observe the healthcare professionals as they interact with the patients and also each other. Students will have an opportunity to ask questions and gain knowledge through teaching. This will help students to make an informed career decision as well as learn about how healthcare professionals work together as part of a multidisciplinary team. Each work experience day is completely different and students will be able to build on their knowledge of NHS careers as they see different patient cases and their healthcare professionals work in a variety of settings, such as hospital and community. For this reason we recommend that students attend one work experience a month for 6 months to not only gain a deeper knowledge of multidisciplinary teams in general but also their chosen careers.

Register here: <https://alliedhealthmentor.org/nhs-healthcare-careers-virtual-work-experience/>

Once they've registered, students will be emailed links to their virtual work experience portals.

Please ask students to check their spam folders and mark their attendance on the day in order to receive their Work Experience Certificates.

This programme is suitable for students in year groups 10/11 who are interested in the following careers:

- Nursing
- Midwifery
- Paramedicine
- Physiotherapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Dietetics
- Radiography
- Prosthetics and Orthotics
- Speech and Language Therapy
- Pharmacy

The sooner students begin work experience, the better. During the work experience day, students will follow 2 patients from their initial presentation to recovery. They will gain a unique insight into how patients interact with a variety of healthcare professionals and what it's like to work in an NHS multidisciplinary team.

Attendees will have the opportunity to interact with healthcare professionals throughout each day. This will empower students to make an informed career decision and demonstrate their commitment to healthcare in their UCAS applications.

Students will receive certificates as evidence of having participated in the work experience programme. Those that complete the full 5-month programme will also be awarded Highly Commended References.

Students can register individually at any time throughout the 5-month programme using the link below. We recommend booking early to gain as much out of this programme as possible. Places are £10 a session to cover administrative and technological costs:

<https://alliedhealthmentor.org/nhs-healthcare-careers-virtual-work-experience/>

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VIRTUAL

Allied Healthcare Work Experience

Take your first steps into the world of healthcare careers
in our Virtual Allied Healthcare Work Experience.

Meet this month's AHP professional **guest speaker**, from **9 - 10am**, and
then dive into live work experience sessions.

After a compelling talk from our guest speaker about their career and
what they do day to day, you will **dive into live work experience sessions**
from the safety of your home.

Witness the journey of two patients from injury to recovery over 6
months, and experience how many different healthcare professionals
are involved in a patient's care, from hospital all the way through to a
community team.



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CAREER *of the* WEEK

9 Weird and Wonderful Christmas Jobs!

Are you jolly, generous and genuinely nice (not naughty)? You may be in the wrong industry! Discover 9 Christmas jobs that could be right up your chimney. Enjoy.

The festive season is officially upon us (are you excited?) And while many industries will start slowing down in the lead up to Christmas, some folks will be facing their busiest time of the year! (We salute you).

I'm guessing you've got to be pretty patient (and jolly) to pull some of these Christmas jobs off...

1. Father Christmas

OK, being Father Christmas isn't a very odd job, but we can't just leave him off the list! Obviously the real Santa can't be everywhere and he is one busy man so he's had to get his band of merry men to help out, donning the bright red suit and uncomfortable beard.

Shopping centres and garden centres all over require not-so-secret Santas every year, so if you're good with kids and can stay in character, this could be your opportunity to shine.

2. Elf (Or Santa's Little Helper)

Not quite jolly (or round) enough to pull off the big man himself? You could always opt to be an elf instead!

And there are a variety of elvish jobs out there! You could be a...

Christmas Grotto Elf. Shop Assistant Elf. Roundtable Elf (you know the Father Christmas who drives around the streets?)

There are loads of opportunities out there.

Criteria: productivity, toy-making, smiles, great with kids, must love Christmas.

3. Mrs. Claus

If you're jolly, generous and would like to work with children then "Mrs. Claus" is a great shout. Of course, you must be willing to put up with Mr. Claus too...

4. Reindeer Walker

Plenty of shops and garden centres hire reindeer to bring in the younger crowd (and all those parents). So who do you think takes care of them? (Mr and Mrs. Christmas can't be everywhere at once!)

'Reindeer Walkers' are needed to exercise, feed and look after the festive creatures. That's a pretty special job if you ask me.

5. Ice Rink Hand-Holder

On the run up to Christmas, temporary ice rinks are a popular addition in many city centres and literally anybody can strap on a pair of skates and hit the ice. Unfortunately not everybody can actually skate.

So 'Ice Marshalls' have to go above and beyond simply handing out skates... If you need a helping hand the ice rink hand-holders have specifically been hired to give you theirs! I think I'll just stick to dry, safe land thanks.

6. Mince Pie Maker

Imagine all those mince pies that need to be made over the winter period... most restaurants, pubs and cafés etc. are going to need a few extra hands on deck.

You might also find yourself making Christmas pudding ...Yule Logs.... Christmas Cake.

If you love baking (or eating cakes), this is a lovely little job for the festive period.

7. Harrods Window Dresser

Harrods start building their amazing Christmas window display in August and people come from far and wide to see it! The good old London institution takes it's festive responsibility very seriously, working tirelessly to create an epic spectacle.

If you've got a stunning idea for a winter wonderland, then you could get in touch now - you never know, you might find yourself working in one of the world's retail hot-spots next year.

8. Christmas Tree Decorator

We all love dressing the Christmas Tree, it's one of those experiences that takes us back to childhood and gives us all that warm, fuzzy feeling...

But imagine if you had to do it again and again and again and again! That might take a little of the magic out of the proceedings. But this is a genuine job that some decide to take up every year - fair enough I suppose - rather than me!

9. Christmas Present Wrapper

If you're not a natural "wrapper" then Christmas present wrapping really can be a chore... And apparently a few savvy entrepreneurs have decided to cash in on that.

Yes, you could be spending your days wrapping gifts for other people! (Imagine the paper cuts...)

Feeling festive?

You may have missed the boat on some of these weird and wonderful festive jobs - but if you absolutely LOVE Christmas then they're certainly worth bearing in mind for 2026.



For more information click here