

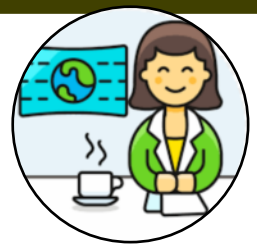


Your weekly guide to careers information, advice and news from Parklands High School

Welcome back to another packed edition of Career News.

There are lots of really great opportunities for pupils, whether you are interested in law, health, finance, business, engineering ... whatever!

Young Professionals are offering a series of events, including an amazing half term virtual work experience with Browne Jacobson. The line up includes Shaun Wallace from ITV's 'The Chase' and Chrissie Wolfe, law firm owner who featured in Channel 4's 'Olivia Attwood: Price of Perfection' - plus many other top names. The event is completely free and will enable you to put something real on your CV.



There are a number of open events at local colleges - make sure you go and see as many as you can, so that you can make an informed choice. Ask lots of questions: What are the assignments like? Is there a lot of homework? Is there a work experience placement? What enrichment activities are there (trips, visits, speakers)? What do current students think about the course?

Mentorverse have a series of free conferences coming up, as well as their virtual work experience programme. These events are vital for anyone considering a career in the healthcare field, as it's not enough to have good GCSE and A Level results - medical schools want to see what you have done outside of academia.

The NHS work experience window has closed for this term, but will reopen in January 2027. This is the only way you can apply for work experience during the school holidays, so make a note in your diaries if you intend to apply. There are a series of e-learning modules that need to be undertaken before you can start any programme of WEX, even if you have relatives working in the NHS.

There is a Year 11 assembly next week with Cardinal Newman College, plus lunchtime drop in sessions with Alliance Learning (training providers for apprenticeships) and John Lee from PNECET, talking about opportunities in the sports industry.

For anyone planning ahead, the Year 10 work experience week is 12th - 16th July 2027 - there will be a launch assembly in early December, with all the relevant paperwork available from then on.

Email any queries to
pberry@parklandsacademy.co.uk

Have a great weekend



12th - 16th October 2026

INVESTIN FIND YOUR FIELD

A free email series to get you started on your career journey.

Each week, you'll get practical advice and a short task to help you explore your options and start working towards your future career.



**SIGN UP
NOW**



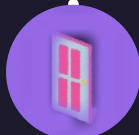
Why should an employer pick me?



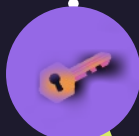
What brings me fulfilment?



Which career is the right one for me?



How do I get into the career that I want?



How do I get relevant work experience?

**5 WEEKS.
5 EMAILS.**

INVESTIN

ARE YOUR STUDENTS READY TO FACE A JOB MARKET THAT LOOKS LIKE THIS?



50%

*UK Graduate job vacancies
dropped by almost
50% in a year*



70%

*of UK hiring managers
say Gen Z employees
lack soft skills*



1 MILLION

*1.01 million people aged
16-24 are not in employment,
education or training*

Find Your Field

Free email series to help students prepare for the future.

The world of work is changing fast and there's huge pressure on students to start thinking about their future.

Find Your Field is designed to help students feel more confident about their next steps. Each week, we'll introduce a new topic, share practical advice and give them an interactive task to complete.

By the end of the series, they'll have a better understanding of their strengths and values, discover careers that could suit them and have tangible next steps that they can take!

SIGN UP HERE

What will the students receive?

There will be five emails in the series answering the following questions:

- Why should an employer pick me?
- What brings me fulfilment?
- Which career is the right one for me?
- How do I get into the career that I want?
- How do I get relevant work experience?

There will be a range of tasks for the students to complete throughout the series, such as quizzes and other interactive activities. We have selected tasks that will be both useful and enjoyable for the students; they will not feel like extra homework!



Some of your strongest students are probably being pointed toward university by default — not because it's the better route, but because their parents have never seen what a high-level apprenticeship actually looks like now: same qualifications as a degree, a full salary, zero debt.

We run a free live webinar that gives parents the real picture - see below for more details:

OCT 8
6:00 PM



A Parent's Guide to Apprenticeships

Online · Nationwide

FEB 4
6:00 PM



A Parent's Guide to Apprenticeships

Online · Nationwide

APR 28
6:00 PM



A Parent's Guide to Apprenticeships

Online · Nationwide

<https://pathwayctm.com/parents/>

The numbers so far



100k+

students completed the
programme



4.3k+

schools



60+

Employers hiring through
us



10x

More likely to score an
apprenticeship through us

Browne Jacobson

Business and Law October Half Term Virtual Work Experience

On Tuesday 27 October, 9am to 4:15pm, we're partnering with Browne Jacobson to host their annual Law and Business October Half Term Virtual Work Experience. It's free, online and open to all school and university students. It's now in its fifth year, and this year's theme is Legal and Business Legends.

Browne Jacobson's Law and Business October Half Term Virtual Work Experience is back for its fifth year. This year's theme is **Legal and Business Legends**.

Key Details: **Tuesday 27 October, 9am to 4:15pm**

Online and free, open to all school and university students

Keynote: Linda Plant, the "Queen of Mean" from BBC's The Apprentice

Linda is the businesswoman who grills the final candidates on their business plans at the interview stage. In her keynote she'll share what it takes to build a successful business and how to prepare for interviews, including exactly what she looks for in a candidate.

Also on the line-up

- Lady Hale, former President of the Supreme Court
- Dame Philippa Whipple, Lady Justice of Appeal, Royal Courts of Justice
- I. Stephanie Boyce CBE, former President of the Law Society
- Shaun Wallace, barrister and star of ITV's The Chase
- Chrissie Wolfe, law firm owner, featured in Channel 4's Olivia Attwood: Price of Perfection
- Katherine Barker, CEO of CILEX
- Sally Penni MBE, barrister and CEO of Women in Law UK
- Plus current trainees, apprentices and paralegal apprentices, the people doing the jobs right now, answering your questions

What makes this October Half Term Work Experience different?

No other free event gives you a live, real-world look at both law and business in one day, led by people at the very top of their fields.

You'll hear from judges, barristers, solicitors, in-house teams and business leaders. You'll also hear from trainees and apprentices who got in recently. You'll learn what employers really look for, and how to write an application that stands out in some of the UK's most competitive recruitment processes.

Why attend?

1. **Every route, one day.** Law firms, chambers, in-house legal teams and business careers, through apprenticeships, degrees and graduate schemes.
2. **Advice you can use straight away.** What to put in your applications, how to prepare for interviews, and what gets candidates hired.
3. **Something real for your CV.** A full day of work experience with a leading UK firm to talk about in applications, personal statements and interviews.
4. **Free, online and in half term.** Open to all school and university students. Join from wherever you are.

Can you really afford to miss this? Reserve your free place today:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Browne_Jacobson_FAIRE

Hutton Sixth Form

Open
Evening

Thursday 22nd October
2026 6pm-8pm



Scan or tap
to register

Explore our A levels. Meet our teachers and students.
Discover what makes Hutton different.

Charles Russell Speechlys

Insight into Charles Russell Speechlys

Monday 12th October 5pm - 6pm

We're excited to invite you to an exclusive, online Insight to Law event with Charles Russell Speechlys, giving you the opportunity to gain insider knowledge from one of the worlds leading law firms.

About Charles Russell Speechlys:

Charles Russell Speechlys is a globally recognised law firm, known for its work with clients across industries including real estate, private wealth, and technology. With a strong commitment to nurturing future talent, Charles Russell Speechlys offers some of the very best **solicitor apprenticeship opportunities** for students interested in starting their legal careers straight out of school.

What to Expect:

- **Exclusive insights** from lawyers, current solicitor apprentices and trainees at Charles Russell Speechlys, sharing their experiences, career paths, and what it's like working in a top law firm.
- **Practical advice** on navigating the legal profession, including information on their highly-regarded **Solicitor Apprenticeships and training contracts**, which offer a unique opportunity to qualify as a solicitor
- **A Q&A session**, where you'll have the chance to ask direct questions and receive tailored advice from professionals who understand the path to success in the legal world.
- This online event is perfect for those looking to gain a clearer understanding of the legal industry and seeking guidance on how to break into the profession with one of the UK's most respected law firms.

Event Details:

- **Date:** Monday, 12th October 2026
- **Time:** 5pm - 6pm
- **Who:** Students at University and Year 12 and 13
- **Location:** Zoom (link will be provided upon registration)

Register Here:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_rlqtj7RBRjiolL9opyHTfg#/

This is a fantastic opportunity to connect directly with legal experts and get a head start in your career journey.

Considering university?



UniTasterDays

www.unitasterdays.com

New On Demand Webinars

Explore university subjects with impartial video guides.
Featuring a huge range of subjects and universities

Find university events with UnitasterDays.com, including:

**Taster Days | Residential Events |
Workshops | Open Days**



info@unitasterdays.com



[@UnitasterDays](https://twitter.com/UnitasterDays)



[UnitasterDays](https://www.facebook.com/UnitasterDays)



[@UnitasterDays](https://www.instagram.com/UnitasterDays)



LANCASTER UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

See below for some of our upcoming Year 11 outreach we have on offer that may be of benefit to your top-performing mathematics students.

Maths Revise

From Wednesday 30th September, we will be running our 10-week Maths Revise programme. This is delivered weekly, after school by LUSoM staff and is free for students to take part in. Each week focuses on a key topic for maths at GCSE, aimed at grade 7 and above. The programme will run each week (excluding half term), 16:30 - 17:30, until Wednesday 9th December.

We kindly ask that you share this with your high attaining mathematics students, who this may be of interest to: <https://bit.ly/4rdYDiq>

Extend

Extend is a program for high achieving KS4 pupils who wish to learn beyond the curriculum. Meeting at LUSoM once a month from November till April for 1.25 hours, as a group you will cover material which is not on the GCSE syllabus and will learn some of the incredible uses that maths, chemistry, physics or computer science can have once you take it at a higher level.

We kindly ask that you share this with your high attaining mathematics and STEM students, who this may be of interest to: <https://bit.ly/4itcL57>



67-69 London Road
Preston
Lancashire
PR1 4BA

YEAR 10 & 11

PRESTON
COLLEGE

OPEN EVENTS



Wednesday 30 September 2026 4pm - 7pm

Saturday 7 November 2026 10am - 1pm

Thursday 4 March 2027 4pm - 7pm

www.preston.ac.uk/fe-open-events

SEE FACILITIES MEET STUDENTS & STAFF EXPLORE YOUR OPTIONS

PRESTON COLLEGE

Over the last few years, the college has seen large growth in numbers but especially within Plumbing, Electrical Installation and Automotive provision. Moving forward we have put the following process in place and will be communicating this to all applicants that apply to Preston College for September 2027.

This year has seen the highest number of enrolments for over 10 years and a number of courses at Preston College are now oversubscribed. The college will now be embedding an application deadline of 1st April 2027. There have been a number of students who uploaded GCSE results past the enrolment deadline, meaning they are now currently on waiting lists. We are working with these students to support them and look at alternative provision available. All construction-based courses, Automotive, Hairdressing and Beauty Therapy and Engineering based courses are oversubscribed and I would encourage any student who is interested in these areas to apply early. The college this year will be investing £4 million into the Construction and Built Environment buildings which will enable the opportunity for growth. We will also be investing £1 million into our Automotive provision.

Applications open on 1st October and will close on 1st April 2027 for all levels of Plumbing and Electrical and also Level 1 Automotive.

Students must apply within these dates and attend their interview.

Once offered a place students must accept this offer on their enrolment portal.

GCSE grades must be uploaded to the enrolment portal by 5pm on GCSE results day. For Electrical and Plumbing we are advising students they need both Maths and English Language at a minimum Grade 4. Failure to obtain these grades will result in the college giving IAG to students about other courses.

Students must then attend a process day on Monday 23rd August, and this will be communicated via letter to parents and students.

Unfortunately, students that fail to follow the process will be redirected to other provision. All students that have an interview for these 3 courses will be handed a leaflet that shows the above process. We will also email them an offer that relays this information.

Hopefully this is a clear expectation for students who want to study the above college courses.

PRESTON
COLLEGE

YEAR 10 & 11

OPEN EVENT
WEDNESDAY 30 SEPTEMBER 4-7PM

REGISTER NOW!



Celebrating 60 years
Training 2000



It's not too late to apply for an Apprenticeship

Our Apprenticeship subjects:

Accountancy (AAT)

Dental Nursing

Business and
Customer Services

Optical

Engineering & Advanced
Manufacturing

Fire & Security

Scaffolding

Apply today: www.training2000.co.uk

First established in 1966, Training 2000 is a training provider offering business solutions, commercial courses and Apprenticeship programmes. Training 2000 recently merged with Blackburn College, offering learners access to even more opportunities, specialist expertise, and a wider range of progression pathways to support their future careers.

What is an Apprenticeship?

An Apprenticeship is a real job where you learn, gain experience and get paid. You're an employee with a contract of employment and holiday leave. By the end of an Apprenticeship, you'll have the skills and knowledge needed for your chosen career.

It can take between one and four years to complete an Apprenticeship with Training 2000 depending on which sector you choose, what level it is and your previous experience. It's funded from contributions made by the Government and your employer.

How do you apply?

It's easy to apply, just fill out our [short application form](#) and our recruitment team will get in touch with you to discuss your options. It will be an informal chat and they will help you find the perfect Apprenticeship (or Traineeship) for you.



QUEST TRUST
Supporting Young People from
Early Years to Employment

SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENTS



UNIVERSITY
Collegiate Sixth Form



REGISTER FOR TICKETS BELOW

Open Morning Open Evening



Date

Saturday November
14th



Time

10:00am - 1:00pm



Location

The UCS Sixth Form



Date

Thursday October
15th



Time

4:30pm - 7:30pm



Location

The UCS Sixth Form



University Collegiate School
The Stoller Building
85 Deane Road
Bolton
BL3 5AG



01204 928 700



sixthformenquiries@quest-trust.org.uk



www.ucs-bolton.org.uk



OPEN EVENTS 2026

SATURDAY 10 OCTOBER

Open Day - 10.00am - 1.30pm

SATURDAY 21 NOVEMBER

Open Day - 10.00am - 1.30pm

Both events will include a 30-minute
quiet session 10:00am-10.30am*

*Reduced number session - places will be reserved for visitors
with special educational needs and disabilities, including those
with social or sensory challenges.



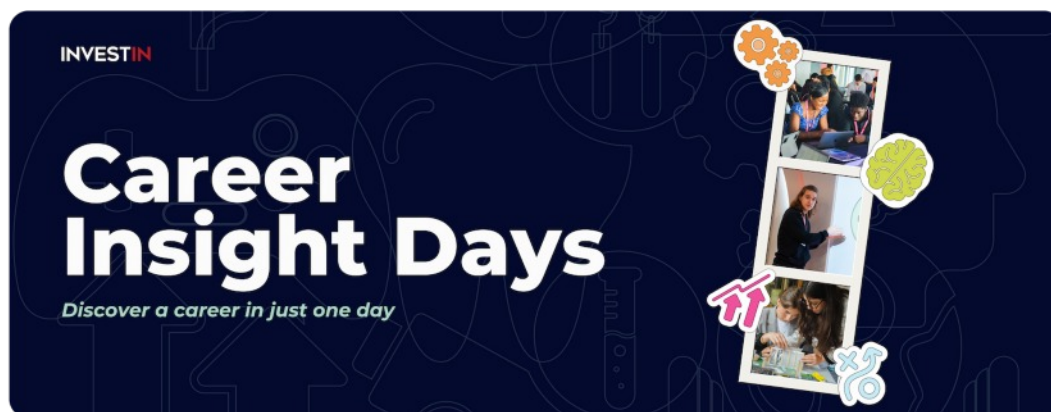
A LEADING CENTRE
FOR ACADEMIC AND
VOCATIONAL EXCELLENCE



BOOK HERE

Scan the QR code or visit:
www.bolton-sfc.ac.uk





Introducing Career Insight Days

We're excited to introduce our next wave of one-day career experiences!

Our Insight Days give you the chance to explore what a career is really like, get hands-on industry experience and meet professionals working in the field.

You'll have something useful to add to future applications and, most importantly, get a better idea of whether it's the right career for you.

Insight Days are taking place on Sundays throughout November, either at University College London (UCL) or online.

EXPLORE INSIGHT DAYS



Meet Industry Professionals

Hear about their experiences and ask them your questions.



Gain Hands-On Experience

Take part in practical activities and get a taste of the career.



Receive a Certificate

Get a certificate to recognise your participation and add to your CV or university applications.

Key Information

Age: 15-18

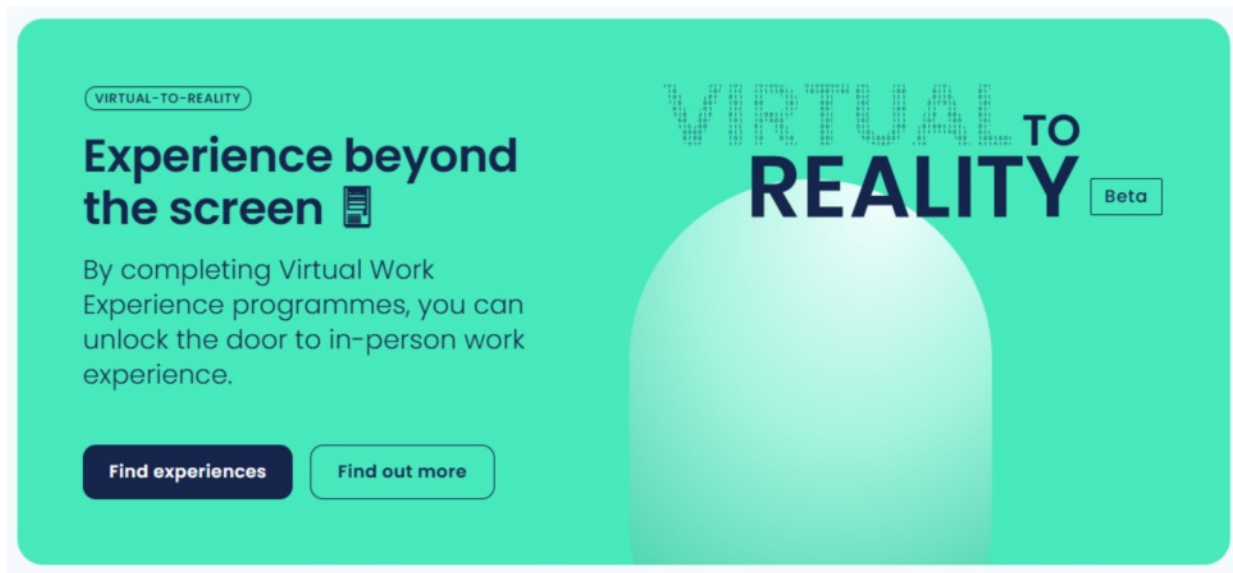
Price: £195 in-person | £165 online

When: Sundays throughout November

Where: UCL, London or online

Available Careers:

Medicine | Law | Investment Banking | Engineering | Entrepreneurship | Psychology | Architecture
| Art & Design | AI & Software | Dentistry | Forensic Science | International Politics | TV & Film
| Digital Media | Veterinary Science



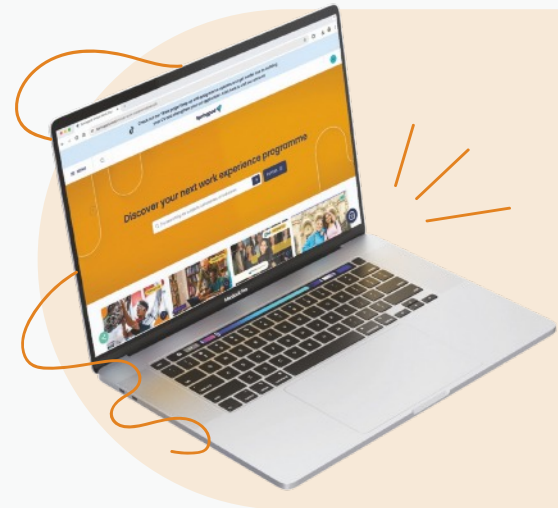
Springpod is a platform that offers virtual work experience, career exploration programmes, and university insight courses for students and young people. The main benefits are:

- Builds your CV and personal statement
- Completing programmes gives you certificates and practical experience you can mention in CVs, UCAS applications, apprenticeship applications, and interviews
- Let's you explore careers before committing
- You can try areas like tech, engineering, fashion, healthcare, business, media, and finance to see what actually interests you.
- Flexible and online
- Most programmes are self-paced, so you can complete them around school, college, or other commitments. Talks are usually recorded if you miss them live
- Gives access to major employers
- Springpod partners with organisations such as BBC, Barclays, Oracle, NHS, and Rolls-Royce, so students can learn directly from industry professionals
- Helps develop employability skills
- The programmes include workplace tasks, projects, quizzes, and simulations that improve skills like communication, problem-solving, teamwork, and resilience
- Good for students without local opportunities
- Because it's virtual, you can access experiences that may not exist near where you live or that would normally require connections or travel
- Can lead to in-person opportunities
- Some "Virtual-to-Reality" programmes can progress into real-life work experience placements if you complete the online programme successfully



FIND OUT MORE HERE

Quick get started guide



1. Go to [Springpod.com](https://springpod.com)
 - ★ Click 'Create Account' in the top right corner
 - ★ Add an email and create a password
2. Complete personal details
 - ★ You don't need to provide a phone number - IGNORE
 - ★ Confirm your communication preferences
3. Enter your verification code (check your junk/spam folders)
4. Confirm your year group
5. Select your school or college
6. Complete information about your background.
 - ★ *You can prefer not to say.*
7. Enter your postcode
 - ★ *You can use your school or college postcode if you prefer*
8. Answer the questions about your interests
9. Search experiences and click start -
<https://www.springpod.com/search>
10. Click on My Virtual Experiences to continue your experience
 - ★ Click on My Achievements to find your certificates

Quick links!



<https://space.springpod.com/sign-up>



<https://space.springpod.com/sign-in>

DISCOVER CAREERS IN THE

NHS



Discover the wide range of health and science jobs – including lots of exciting roles in the NHS!

Use these digital resources to explore careers, learn what it's really like, and take your first steps towards making a difference in healthcare.



NHS, Health & Science Careers Guides



Explore Careers in the NHS Online Course





Work Experience Application

The Work Experience window
is now open and will close on

📅 Sep 30th ⌚ 16:00

[Learn More](#)



14-16 year old non- clinical Work Experience at Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

The Work Experience window
is now open and will close on

📅 Sep 30th ⌚ 16:00

[Learn More](#)



Mental Health Work Experience Application 18+

The Work Experience window
is now open and will close on

📅 Sep 30th ⌚ 16:00

[Learn More](#)



Please log in or create an account to apply.

<https://nhscareersnw.co.uk/placement/14-16-year-old-non-clinical-work-experience-at-lancashire-teaching-hospitals-nhs-foundation-trust/>

This particular Work Experience window has now closed but will reopen in January 2027. This will allow you to apply for up to 5 days work experience in the half term holidays.

This is the only way you can apply for a work experience position with the NHS - even if you have relatives working in the NHS already.

You need to create an account and undertake a series of e-learning modules before you can undertake any work experience.

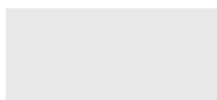
MEET DARCY

EDUCATION AND EARLY YEARS T-LEVEL STUDENT

“

My industry placement has built my confidence working with children and my understanding of early years education. I have developed my communication, teamwork, and safeguarding skills, which will help me in my future career. My employer really went above and beyond to support my journey.

”



INVESTIN CAREER INSIGHT DAYS

Experience a career in just one day and discover if it's right for you.

INTRODUCTORY CAREER TASTERS



- ★ Gain hands-on experience
- ★ Meet industry professionals
- ★ Earn a certificate for future applications

Sundays in
November 2026

Join in-person at
UCL in London or
online

CHOOSE FROM 15 DIFFERENT CAREERS

Law
Medicine
Psychology
TV & Film
AI & Software
Art & Design
Architecture
Dentistry
Digital Media
Entrepreneurship
Engineering
Forensic Science
International Politics
Investment Banking
Veterinary Science

INVESTIN
**INSIGHT
PASS**

Get 15% off when you
register for more than
one Insight Day

USE CODE
INSIGHTPASS
AT CHECKOUT



**REGISTER
NOW**



St John Rigby
College

OPEN EVENTS



"It's FUN! I think it's the best!
It's easy to make friends here."

Abbie - Y12 Student



"The teachers are all
very lovely!"

Caitlin - Y12 Student



"I'm feeling more confident
and it feels like a really
caring environment."

Max - Y12 Student



SAT 26 SEPT

THU 15 OCT

WED 4 NOV

SCAN THE QR CODE TO BOOK

Or visit: www.ticketsource.com/sjr



SCAN HERE



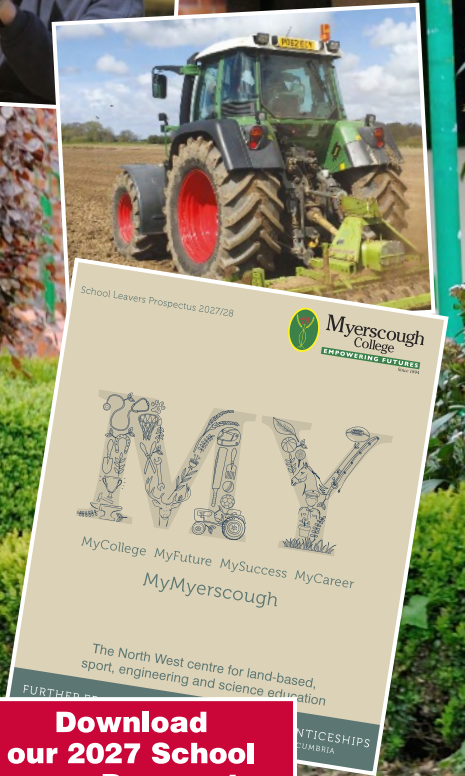
Myerscough
College & University Centre
EMPOWERING FUTURES
Since 1894

- ✓ School Leavers
- ✓ Apprenticeships
- ✓ University Degrees

Course Advice Mornings



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



Saturday 3rd October 2026
Saturday 21st November 2026
Saturday 6th February 2027

**CENTRES ACROSS
THE NORTH WEST**

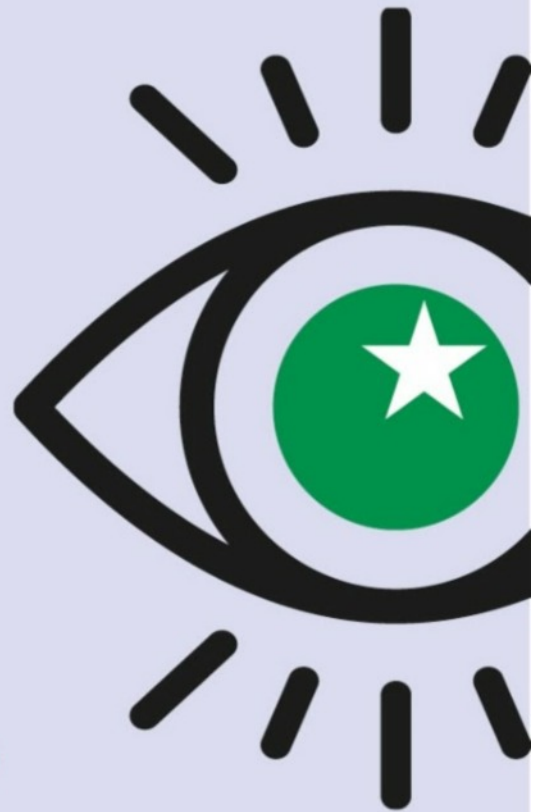
**PRESTON • WARRINGTON
LIVERPOOL • MANCHESTER**



Specsavers

A career where you
can change lives?

Get your
EYES
on
this.



**Bright Stars
Scholarship**

Support their future in optometry

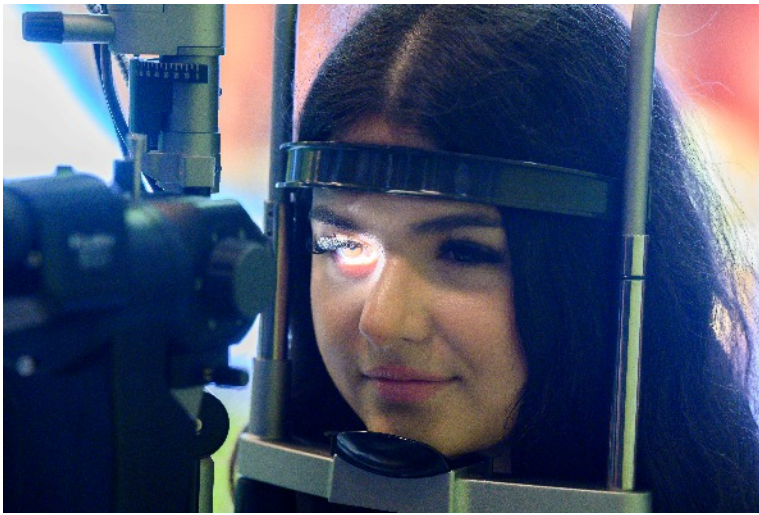
As your child starts thinking about university and their future career, finding opportunities that provide both financial support and real-world experience can make all the difference.

The Specsavers Bright Stars Scholarship helps exceptional STEM students pursue a career in optometry; a financially rewarding profession that combines science, technology and patient care. Alongside financial support throughout university, scholars gain valuable practical experience and ongoing guidance from experienced professionals.

Students selected for the scholarship will receive:

- £10,000 towards university costs spread across four years (five years in Scotland)
- Paid work experience in a Specsavers practice
- Ongoing mentorship from experienced colleagues
- Protected learning opportunities
- Access to a community of like-minded students

Learn more about the Bright Stars Scholarship



A brighter future starts here

With only 40 places available, the Bright Stars Scholarship offers talented students a unique opportunity to develop the skills, confidence and experience needed for a successful career in eye care.

If your child has a passion for science, enjoys helping others and is considering their next steps after school or college, this could be the opportunity they're looking for.

Applications are now open, so encourage them to explore what a future in optometry could look like.

**Help them turn their potential
into a profession.**

**Learn more about the
Bright Stars Scholarship**



REGISTER NOW



CAREERS CALENDAR

College Open Events 2026-27



Blackburn
College

Tuesday 22 September	4.30pm - 7.30pm
Wednesday 14 October	4.30pm - 7.30pm
Saturday 14 November	10.00am - 1.00pm

Extra dates to be confirmed after Christmas,
including Year 10 events

www.blackburn.ac.uk



Wednesday 14 October	5.00pm - 7.00pm
Tuesday 17 November	5.00pm - 7.00pm

Monday 11 January 2027	5.00pm - 7.00pm
Monday 8 February	5.00pm - 7.00pm
Thursday 11 March	5.00pm - 7.00pm
Tuesday 11 May	

www.boltoncollege.ac.uk/register-open-events



Saturday 10 October	10.00am - 1.30pm
Saturday 21 November	10.00am - 1.30pm

Quiet Time: The first 30 mins are reserved for students with
special educational needs, sensory or social challenges.

www.bolton-sfc.ac.uk



Saturday 10 October	10.00am - 1.00pm
Saturday 14 November	10.00am - 1.00pm

Saturday 6 February 2027	10.00am - 1.00pm
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www.cardinalnewman.ac.uk/about-us/college-open-events



Myerscough
College
Opportunities for all to succeed

Saturday 3 October	10.00am - 1.00pm
Saturday 21 November	10.00am - 1.00pm

Saturday 6 February 2027	10.00am - 1.00pm
Saturday 17 April	10.00am - 1.00pm

www.myerscough.ac.uk/

Dates are subject to change - please check college websites before travelling



Wednesday 30 September 4.00pm - 7.00pm
Saturday 7 November 10.00am - 1.00pm
Thursday 4 March 2027 4.00pm - 7.00pm

Register for events and updates at: www.preston.ac.uk



Sixth Form Open evening
Thursday 19 November 4.30pm - 7.00pm
Closing date for applications is 21 February 2027
www.qegsblackburn.com



Saturday 26 September 10.00am - 2.00pm
Saturday 14 November 10.00am - 2.00pm
Wednesday 3 March 2027 4.00pm - 8.00pm

Register at: www.runshaw.ac.uk/openevent



Monday 5 October 4.30pm - 7.00pm
Monday 9 November 4.30pm - 7.00pm
Monday 26 April 2027 4.30pm - 7.00pm

www.wigan-leigh.ac.uk

- School for the Arts
- Centre of Excellence in Construction & Engineering
- Centre for Advanced Technical Studies

Thursday 12 November 5.00pm - 8.00pm
Wednesday 13 January 2027 5.00pm - 8.00pm
Thursday 24 June 5.00pm - 8.00pm (Year 10)

Application deadline: Friday 5 February 2027

www.winstanley.ac.uk



Hutton Sixth Form Open Evening Thursday 22nd October 2026, 6.00pm - 8.00pm
UCS Bolton Open Evening Thursday 15th October 2026, 4.30pm - 7.30pm
UCS Bolton Open Morning Saturday 14th November 2026, 10.00am - 1.00pm
Westholme School Sixth Form Open Evening Thursday 17th September 2026, 5.00pm - 8.00pm

You are advised to attend as many open events as possible in order to make an informed choice once you leave Parklands. Don't assume you will like a college just because your friend/cousin/neighbour did!

For those who are intending to take up an apprenticeship position, or a place in the uniformed services - you must have a full-time college course in place as a back up option. You do not want to be stuck at home when everyone else is at college because you didn't apply.

You can apply to as many colleges as you want - have your interviews and **accept all your places**. You only decide which one you are enrolling at on the day you receive your GCSE results in August 2027.

YOUR APPRENTICESHIP ACTION PLAN

Step-by-step guide to help you secure an apprenticeship – whether through a college, a training provider, or direct with an employer.

STEP 1: START YOUR SEARCH

Look on these sites:

- Find an Apprenticeship (gov.uk)
- Get My First Job
- Not Going to Uni
- HigherIn
- Amazing Apprenticeships



TOP TIPS

Set up alerts for your area and your chosen industry so you never miss a new opportunity.

Colleges and training providers often **help match students** with local employers – **don't be afraid to ask!**



STEP 2: HELPFUL EXTRAS TO BOOST YOUR PLAN

1

Apply Direct to Employers

- Make a list of companies in your chosen industry.
- Visit their websites/social media channels and check their careers pages.
- Email with your CV, course details, and enthusiasm.
- Follow up if you don't hear back in a week or two.

2

Apply via a College or Training Provider

- Apply for an apprenticeship subject you're interested in.
- Ask if they help match students with employers.
- Apply for the full-time course too (as backup).
- Attend open days or taster sessions.

3

Start a Full-Time Course First

- Choose a course linked to your future apprenticeship goals.
- Build confidence and skills in a classroom or workshop.
- Improve English, maths, and employability skills.
- Look and apply for apprenticeships during the course.



What If You Don't Find an Employer Right Away?

- Join the course anyway — colleges & training providers often help you find an employer.
- Keep applying for apprenticeship vacancies.
- You can switch over once you find an employer.

YOUR SAFETY NET CHECKLIST

Have you:

- **Applied for more than one route?**
- **Got a backup full-time course offer?**
- **Asked about employer help?**
- **Used Find an Apprenticeship?**
- **Spoken to a careers adviser?**

MENTORVERSE

We are pleased to inform you that registration for the national free Live Virtual Get Into Medicine and Get Into Dentistry Conferences has opened, designed for students interested in a career in medicine and dentistry. Attendees will also receive a certificate of participation, which can enhance their Medical/Dental School applications by showcasing active preparation towards the career and university.

This invaluable opportunity is open to students from all schools and backgrounds in years 10-12 offering a crucial stepping stone for future doctors and dentists.

Students and parents/guardians can register their place at the next LIVE Get Into Conferences here:

Medicine: https://medicmentor.org/get-into_medicine_conference_signup/

Dentistry: <https://dental-mentor.org/get-into-dentistry-conference-sign-up/>

Upcoming Get Into Medicine Conference dates:

Saturday 24th October from 9am - 1:30pm

Sunday 25th October from 9am - 1:30pm

Upcoming Get Into Dentistry Conference dates:

Saturday 17th October from 9am - 1:30pm

The Get into Medicine/Dentistry Conference is a comprehensive guide to the medical and dental application process. Our team of doctors, dentists and current university students will talk through their own experiences and insights into the application process, as well as covering:

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

We strongly encourage all students to make the most of this free opportunity that has helped thousands of students secure places at university since it launched:

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

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

9am	Registration
9:30am	Introduction to Mentorverse, Competition ratios, Volunteering and Work Experience
10:10am	10 min break (optional q&a)
10:20am	Academic entry requirements and extracurricular activities
10:45am	Successful Student
11:00am	10 min break (optional q&a)
11:10am	Strategically deciding on 4 medical/dental schools, Costs of studying and applying to uni, Widening Access and extracurricular pathway support
11:40am	Personal statements and latest updates
12:00pm	Break 10 mins (optional q&a)
12:10pm	UCAT Entrance Exam
12:40pm	Interviews
12:50pm	Break 10 mins (optional q&a)
1:00pm	Application timeline review and support
1:15pm	Successful Student speaker
1:30pm	Finish conference

One booking = one booking for a student + their parent/guardian.

Getting into medicine or dentistry may seem like a far away dream to your students, but we're here to break down the entire process into actionable steps and support their journey.

MENTORVERSE

For students in the 10-11 year groups, we present the following avenues:

- Free NHS Virtual Work Experience
- Free Volunteering Placements with the 'You Okay Doc?'
- Free National Study Skills E-learning
- Free Virtual Medical/Dental Society Webinars
- Free Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion E-learning Course for Healthcare Professionals

Your students can access these extracurricular opportunities by signing up for a free student portal:

Medical: <https://medicmentor.org/the-medic-mentor-portal-2/>

Dental: <https://dental-mentor.org/the-medic-mentor-portal-2/>



Enrolling as a bronze pathway student, you can

- Access free work experience each month
- Get access to zoom links for all of our free conferences and meetings
- Access the Wider Reading and Virtual Medical Societies
- Participate in Fundraising
- Download all of your Medic Mentor certificates
- Access Study Skills E-learning
- Access how to advance to other Pathways

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!



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/>

Join Every First Sunday Of The Month!



Scan to
register!

LIVE!
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.



ALLIED
HEALTHCARE
MENTOR



CAREER *of the* WEEK

Chartered Accountant

Chartered accountants provide a range of financial advice and accountancy services, including auditing and financial analysis.

As a chartered accountant, you'll give advice, audit accounts and provide trustworthy information about financial records. This might involve financial reporting, taxation, auditing, forensic accounting, corporate finance, business recovery and insolvency, or accounting systems and processes.

Chartered accountants work in a range of organisations, including public practice firms and within industry and commerce, as well as in the not-for-profit and public sectors. Working strategically, your aim is to maximise profitability on behalf of your client or employer.

Responsibilities

As a chartered accountant, you'll need to:

- manage financial systems and budgets
- undertake financial audits (independent checks of an organisation's financial position)
- provide financial advice
- liaise with clients (individuals or businesses) and provide financial information and advice
- review the company's systems and analyse risk
- perform tests to check financial information and systems
- advise clients on tax planning (within current legislation to minimise their tax liability) and tax issues associated with activities such as business acquisitions and mergers
- maintain accounting records and prepare accounts and management information for small businesses (accountancy)
- advise clients on business transactions, such as mergers and acquisitions (corporate finance)
- counsel clients on areas of business improvement, or dealing with insolvency
- detect and prevent fraud (forensic accounting)
- manage junior colleagues
- liaise with internal and external auditors (where applicable) and deal with any financial irregularities as they arise
- produce reports and recommendations following internal audits or public sector audits
- prepare financial statements, including monthly and annual accounts
- arrange financial management reports, including financial planning and forecasting
- advise on tax and treasury issues
- negotiate terms with suppliers



For more information click [here](#)