

CAREER News

2026

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



Here we are again at the end of another busy week at Parklands. As always, there are lots of great opportunities in Career News for students of all ages, including:

- Some great virtual work experience options from Mentorverse, in medical, dental and allied health professions.
- Check out the offers from Young Professionals if you are interested in a career in law or engineering.
- Budding footballers may want to attend the Football Masterclass with the Steven Gerrard Academy in early December. Register early if you want to be involved.
- BBC apprenticeships are now advertised - find out more about what's involved.
- Achieve the Bronze Industrial Cadet award over February half term with EDT - see inside for more details.
- Plus much much more!



Have a great weekend



23rd - 27th November 2026

LANCASHIRE MUSIC ASSOCIATION ON TOUR

A FREE INTERACTIVE SESSION FOR LANCASHIRE'S MUSIC PEOPLE

DEVELOPING MUSIC CAREERS & LANCASHIRE'S MUSIC SECTOR

SATURDAY 21 NOVEMBER 2026

LOSTOCK HALL LIBRARY

10AM - 12PM

FREE ENTRY

For booking & more information visit:

rebrand.ly/lostockhall

LANCASHIRE MUSIC ASSOCIATION

BECOME A MEMBER OF THE LANCASHIRE MUSIC ASSOCIATION FOR FREE:
www.lancashiremusic.org

SUPPORTED BY:

Supported using public funding by ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

University of Lancashire

Creative Lancashire

Lancashire County Council

Lancashire Music Hub

Arts Lancashire

DISCOVER Nov 2026



KPMG's apprenticeship vacancies are open for applications now!

Start building more than experience.

Hafsah joined KPMG as an apprentice ready to hit the ground running. Since then, she's dived into all sorts of projects, built up the confidence to pitch to clients, and taken on more as she's grown.

Her impact didn't stop with her day job, though. As charity lead for KPMG's Muslim Network, she helped raise nearly £80,000 for great causes in just one year, all while leveling up her own skills and career.

That's the kind of launchpad a KPMG apprenticeship offers. Real hands-on work, real responsibility, and the chance to keep growing while making a mark on what matters to you.

With Audit, Tax, Business and Technology apprenticeships open now, there could be something for your students at KPMG. Explore the vacancies and share them with young people who might be interested in taking their first steps into an exciting career.

Explore Apprenticeships



Why not join us on **Tuesday 2nd February 2027**, 4pm-5pm, to find out what it's really like to start an apprenticeship at KPMG.

You'll hear directly from current apprentices about their experiences, the move from school to the workplace, the support they receive and what they enjoy most about life at KPMG. You will also get practical advice from the recruitment team on the application process, what they look for and the different opportunities available across Audit, Tax, Business Services and Technology.

Register Here

And don't forget to... Meet the Employer

Help your students get application-ready with KPMG - Explore KPMG's Meet the Employer profile

Meet the Employer is a great place for students to start if they're thinking of applying for a KPMG apprenticeship.

Discover the key skills and attributes KPMG looks for in apprentices, gain insight into the application process, learn about the support available, see what life's like behind-the-scenes, and hear from real apprentices about their experiences.



There's additional information at https://www.myerscough.ac.uk/whats-on/

We've a choice of subjects, covering a wide range of land-based industries (from Agriculture and Equestrian Studies to Motorsports and Veterinary Nursing.) There's also a choice of Sports Coaching and Performance routes - across Football, Rugby, Cricket, Golf and Basketball.

There are options at a range of levels within each subject, from bespoke Foundation Learning courses through to Level 3 Diploma suites and dedicated T-Level routes; ideal for progression to university. Plus Apprenticeship opportunities in most subjects!

Information about transport routes, financial support and accommodation (at our Preston centre) is available here: https://www.myerscough.ac.uk/students/

There's a link here to our recent Ofsted report. We're really proud of the feedback in relation to key elements such as student support, quality teaching and careers progression: https://www.myerscough.ac.uk/news/an-ambitious-progressive-curriculum-myerscough-s-pride-in-glowing-ofsted-report/

Free virtual Insight to A&O Shearman, Thursday 3 December

This is a rare and unique opportunity for your students to hear from one of the most prestigious law firms in the world. During the event they will hear about the solicitor apprenticeship, in-person events at A&O Shearman's offices and work experience opportunities. It runs after school on Zoom, so students can join from home. All the details for students are below.

Insight to A&O Shearman

Discover how to start your legal career at one of the world's most prestigious law firms.

- **When: Thursday 3 December**
- **Time: 5:00 – 6:30pm**
- **Where: Online via Zoom · Free**

Secure my place

We're excited to invite you to an exclusive opportunity with one of the most prestigious law firms in the world: A&O Shearman. If you're in Year 11, 12 or 13 and interested in commercial law, this event is for you.

A&O Shearman has been at the forefront of the legal industry for decades. Known for innovation and expertise, the firm handles some of the most complex and high-profile matters in the world, working with top clients from every industry. This is your chance to hear directly from the people who have built their careers there.

In 90 minutes

What you'll get

- **Career opportunities**

  What it's like to work at the firm, and how the solicitor apprenticeship can kickstart your legal career
- **Commercial awareness workshop**

  A live legal workshop, finished off with a quiz
- **What sets them apart**

  The differences between A&O Shearman and other global law firms
- **Access to legal experts**

  Find out how to stand out in the competitive world of law

Your first step to more opportunities

You'll also hear about A&O Shearman's in-person events at their offices and their work experience opportunities. Attending this virtual insight is the best way to find out about them and how to apply.

Who it's for

Students in Year 11, 12 and 13 with an interest in law, especially commercial law. The Zoom link will be sent to you when you register.

Take your first step towards a future in law.

Register for free

Online via Zoom · Thursday 3 December · 5:00 – 6:30pm



Football Masterclass

For Year 11s choosing their POST 16 Option





We're delighted to invite your Year 11 students to our upcoming Football Masterclass with Steven Gerrard Academy.

Our programme combines education with football development, giving students the opportunity to continue their studies while pursuing their passion for the game

The taster day is a chance to meet our team, learn more about our education programme and find out what pathways students can take. We will be prioritising the football element during this particular day!

Open to any Year 11 students who may be interested in exploring their next steps after school.

To view the full details and confirm your attendance, please click the button below

We look forward to welcoming your students!

The Steven Gerrard Academy Team

Confirm Your Attendance

Date:	**2nd December 2026**
Venue:	**Chorley FC, Victory Park Stadium, Duke Street, PR7 3DU**
Time:	**6:00pm - 8:00pm** **(Please arrive for 5:50pm)**

YOU ARE INVITED TO COME ALONG TO OUR

Wigan & Leigh College

THE NORTH-WEST CTEC CONSTRUCTION TECHNICAL EXCELLENCE COLLEGE

FESTIVAL OF ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION

- Tours of the facilities
- Industry masterclasses led by employers
- Technical skills showcases

CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE IN ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION

Pagefield Campus, Walkden Avenue, Wigan WN1 2JH

4.30PM - 7.00PM

MONDAY 8 FEBRUARY 2027



Home to the Centre of Excellence in Engineering and Construction students have access to top tech facilities and industry standard workshops and laboratories to prepare for work in these lucrative businesses. The campus hosts our Future Energy Zone – a state-of-the-art facility which is a pioneering model for energy efficiency and sustainability. Significant investment has also taken place in recent years in specialist facilities including Hydraulic and Pneumatic Lab, Fluids Engineering Lab, Electronic Testing Lab, Robotics Labs, Industrial Control Lab, Food Manufacturing Facilities, Additive Manufacturing Lab and Smart Manufacturing Labs.

Pagefield Campus

Walkden Avenue
Wigan WN1 2JH

Winstanley College

EXCELLENCE SUPPORT INSPIRATION



Application Deadline

Friday, 5 February 2027

APPLY NOW

@WinstanleyCollege @winstanleycoll winstanleycollege Winstanley College @winstanley.college





We've got some fab free online work experience programmes available for your students. E.on launched this week for anyone wanting to learn about the energy industry. The latest Channel 4 cohort has just started and we've got lots more with the likes of Metro Bank, Specsavers, Sysco, Renishaw, Mischon and more. They can sign up quickly and easily at **www.talentxp.co.uk** and complete it at home or in class.



This competition is now open: TheUKCATPeople Essay Competition 2027, with a medicine, a dentistry and a vet question, open until 31 January.

1,000+ students and parents a year

That is how many join our free webinars each year. Places are limited and they usually fill up, so it really helps to share this one early. Students register themselves, one registration per household, and the session is live only, with no recording.

Get the webinar link

Now open · Closes 31 January

TheUKCATPeople Essay Competition 2027

One question per subject, each about a real debate in healthcare today. It is a great way for a student to read around their subject and test an argument, and winners and highly commended entrants can name the award in their application.

Medicine

Whose job is it to keep people healthy: the patient's, the doctor's or the government's? Details

Dentistry

Should fluoride be added to drinking water across England? Details

Veterinary medicine

Should it be illegal to breed dogs whose body shape gives them lifelong health problems? Details

Over £800

for the medicine and dentistry winners: a UCAT course, an interview course, a personal statement review and an interview guide

Over £700

for the vet winner: a two-edit personal statement review, a mock interview and an interview guide

2 per subject

highly commended entrants, who each get our £349 interview questions and answers guide

Free to enter, for Year 11 and Year 12 students in any country

Up to 1,000 words, uploaded as a Word document

Closes at 11:59pm on Sunday 31 January 2027, with results by Friday 12 March

Every entrant gets a certificate of entry

See the essay competition

FREE TO ENTER: YEAR 11 AND YEAR 12, FROM ANY COUNTRY

TheUKCATPeople Essay Competition 2027

Medicine, dentistry and veterinary medicine. One question per subject, up to 1,000 words, judged anonymously by doctors, dentists and vets.

WINNERS' PRIZES WORTH OVER £800

MEDICINE

The NHS wants to move from treating sickness to preventing it. Whose job is it to keep people healthy: the patient's, the doctor's or the government's?

Winner's prizes worth over £800

DENTISTRY

Should fluoride be added to drinking water across England? Weigh up the evidence, the ethics of treating a whole population without individual consent, and who stands to gain the most.

Winner's prizes worth over £800

VETERINARY MEDICINE

Should it be illegal to breed dogs whose body shape gives them lifelong health problems, such as flat-faced breeds that struggle to breathe?

Winner's prizes worth over £700

SCAN THE CODE OR VISIT

theukcatpeople.co.uk/essay-competition

- Entries close 31 January 2027
- Winners announced by Friday 12 March 2027
- A certificate of entry for every finished essay

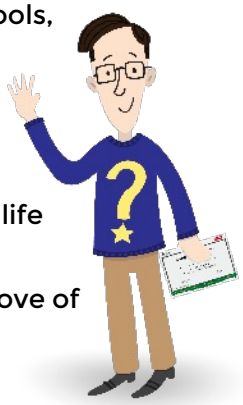
A brief history of the GCHQ Christmas Challenge

For many years Director GCHQ has traditionally sent a Christmas card to national security colleagues and partners across the world who work alongside us every day to counter organised crime gangs, terror groups and hostile states looking to do the UK harm.

The cards have always included a brainteaser, designed by our own expert puzzle team, as a nod to our work which sees us solving the most complex of problems. These teams volunteer their time, alongside their important work, to set, solve and devise fiendish puzzles and problems that we have loved sharing with you in the form of three best-selling Puzzle Book publications.

In 2021, the card evolved and became the GCHQ Christmas Challenge.

Designed for 11-to-18-year-olds, it aims to support greater take up of STEM subjects in schools, colleges and home-school environments.



While the puzzles are designed for students, we always encourage the wider public to take on the challenge and test themselves against friends and family, and each year hundreds of thousands of you take on our festive challenge.

That teamwork, coupled with that rich mix of minds brings the puzzles and problems to life each December.

There are no prizes, no races - even giving it a go is a success and we want you discover a love of problem-solving and testing a new part of your mind through puzzling.

Warm up for this year with our Christmas Challenge Archive

Why do we share puzzles?

GCHQ's mission is to help keep the country safe. In doing so, we face increasingly complex issues and threats every day.

In order to keep up with the ever-changing environment we work and live in, and to protect it effectively, we need to have the right mix of minds approaching every single problem that comes our way using the best methods possible.

This does not just happen. We need to adapt and innovate constantly. Through the design, creation and solving of puzzles, our teams are able to constantly develop their skills in thinking differently and discover new and inventive ways of approaching problems.

Whilst this does not mean that staff at GCHQ spend their time putting together jigsaws and filling out crosswords, it does ensure that we attract colleagues who enjoy spending their time creating and solving puzzles, and we believe that the skills that we use in setting and solving these brainteasers are the same ones we use across our mission areas, solving the toughest of problems every single day.



Puzzles are a brilliant way to hone your creative thinking skills whilst having fun, and it helps to keep us at the cutting-edge of what we do best. It is through puzzling that we are able to showcase the skills and traits that our brilliant people use in our missions in helping to keep the country safe, and hopefully inspire the next generation of analysts, engineers, codebreakers and mathematicians to spark a love of STEM alongside the classroom.

Teaching

Inspire students to turn their passion into their profession.

Get Into Teaching provides free, impartial guidance to support young people considering a career in teaching.



Get Into Teaching is a free service from the Department for Education, designed to help young people explore whether teaching in a primary or secondary school in England could be right for them.

It offers clear information on training routes, funding options and what life in the classroom is really like, helping students make informed decisions about their next steps.

Explore Get Into Teaching

T-LEVELS
THE NEXT LEVEL QUALIFICATION

MEET NATALIA

MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION T-LEVEL STUDENT

"My industry placement has provided me with valuable hands-on experience and a deeper understanding of the working environment. I worked with an exceptional team who have been incredibly supportive and have made me feel genuinely welcomed from the outset. I've developed new skills, but also increased my confidence and professional growth."



Luton

AMAZINGAPPRENTICESHIPS.COM/TLEVELS

The High Sheriff of Lancashire's



Young Citizen Award 2027

Do you know a young person

aged 19 or under, who has helped either their local neighbourhood, an individual, family member or a local organisation in the last 12 months?

The High Sheriff of Lancashire would like to hear from you!

The winner will receive £300

with two runner-up prizes of £100 each.

To nominate your candidate, please complete the online form at **www.lanpac.co.uk** or scan the QR code.
The closing date for nominations is 1st February 2027.
For more information email: **lanpac@lancashire.police.uk**

Free online engineering event with National Grid, Monday 23 November

For the first time this year, **National Grid**, the FTSE 100 energy company employing over 30,000 people, are opening their virtual doors to students. We are running a free, one-hour online event for **Year 10 to Year 13 students** interested in engineering, on **Monday 23 November, 5pm–6pm**, after school, so students can join from home.

Students will go behind the scenes to see what engineers do day to day and meet senior professionals, with a big focus on electrical engineering and renewable energy. No previous experience is needed. All the details for students are below.

Go behind the scenes at National Grid

Discover what engineers really do in electrical engineering and renewable energy

- **When: Mon 23 November**
- **Time: 5:00 – 6:00pm**
- **Where: Online · Free**

Secure my place →

If you like solving problems and enjoy projects that need logical thinking, this opportunity is for you. The event is for any student thinking about a career in engineering, with a big focus on electrical engineering and renewable energy.

About National Grid

- FTSE 100
- One of the UK's biggest listed companies
- £18bn+
- Business with operations around the globe
- 30,000+
- People employed, with a fast-growing renewables arm

In one hour

What you'll get

- A behind-the-scenes look at National Grid
- See first-hand what engineers get up to
- Meet senior professionals and hear what they do
- Explore careers in electrical engineering and renewables

Who it's for

Students in Year 10 to Year 13 who are interested in engineering. Whether you're already set on it or just curious, you don't need any experience to join.

Want to see how the UK's energy really works?

Register for free

Online · Monday 23 November · 5:00 – 6:00pm

nationalgrid



Ready to start a career at the BBC?

Applications are open for 2027 apprenticeships across **journalism, production, business, engineering, data, AI and technology**.

With opportunities across the UK and routes from Level 2 to degree-level qualifications, you can build your skills, gain industry experience and earn a starting salary of £24,650. Remember to say you saw the role on Amazing Apprenticeships when applying!

Explore Apprenticeships



Catch up on our webinar to find out more

Discover the exciting apprenticeship opportunities available at the BBC by watching back our webinar with the BBC Early Careers team and three current apprentices.

Hear first-hand what it's like to work behind the scenes, explore opportunities across Business, Data and Digital Technology, Engineering, Journalism and Production, and find out what the different roles involve and who can apply.

You'll also get practical advice and top tips to help you navigate the recruitment process and make your application stand out.

Watch Here

Don't forget to... Meet the Employer

Getting ready to apply for a BBC apprenticeship? Make sure you visit the BBC's Meet the Employer profile for helpful hints and tips.

Find out what the BBC looks for in future apprentices, get a better understanding of the recruitment process and pick up practical advice to help you make your application stand out. You can also hear from current apprentices and learn from their experiences of securing a place.

Visit BBC's Profile

EDT Placements

Paid work placements for school leavers

EDT Placement opportunities enable young people to enhance their skills whilst gaining an Industrial Cadets Platinum Level award, an industry recognised accreditation.



- We build links between young people, educators and industry employers
- Placements available in a variety of STEM companies across the U.K.
- Apply your skills & knowledge in a real work environment
- We are experts in placing and supporting students
- We work with leading FTSE100 companies
- Mentor service provided
- Access to skills webinars
- Accredited by Industrial Cadets at Platinum level

99% **of placement students said their Year in Industry had a positive impact on their career**

EDT Placements is accredited at Industrial Cadets Platinum level

"Year in Industry Placement can change your life and create so many opportunities as well as providing opportunities during the year, also it develops you into a stronger person."

Natyra Jashari - completed a placement at NSG Pilkington

"Felix's legacy is that he has created and delivered a tool for mission planning that far exceeds the technical brief. He has become a truly integrated member of our small development team."

Ben Wilcox /Paul Rose - Managers at Leonardo

Our partner companies include :

LEONARDO · GKN · HITACHI Inspire the Next · SCOTTISHPOWER · RaspberryPi · AVANTI WEST COAST · Viridor

Apply in your final year of school:

https://www.etrust.org.uk/programmes-platinum-placements

Click on the icons to follow us on social media #EDTplacements

Industrial Cadets | Powered by EDT Pathways to Industry

www.etrust.org.uk

£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.

Industrial Cadets | Powered by EDT Pathways to Industry



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.



Coding (Scratch) Project

- Develop your digital programme skills by creating games with different levels and functions.
- By the end of the course you'll be confident in creating games and devising new ways of programming.

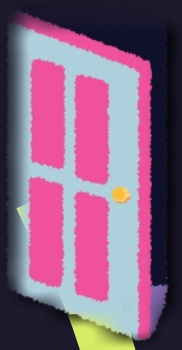
How to sign up/find out more

To sign up, please visit our website **here** or **scan the QR code!**

SCAN ME

INVESTIN

FIND YOUR FIELD



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

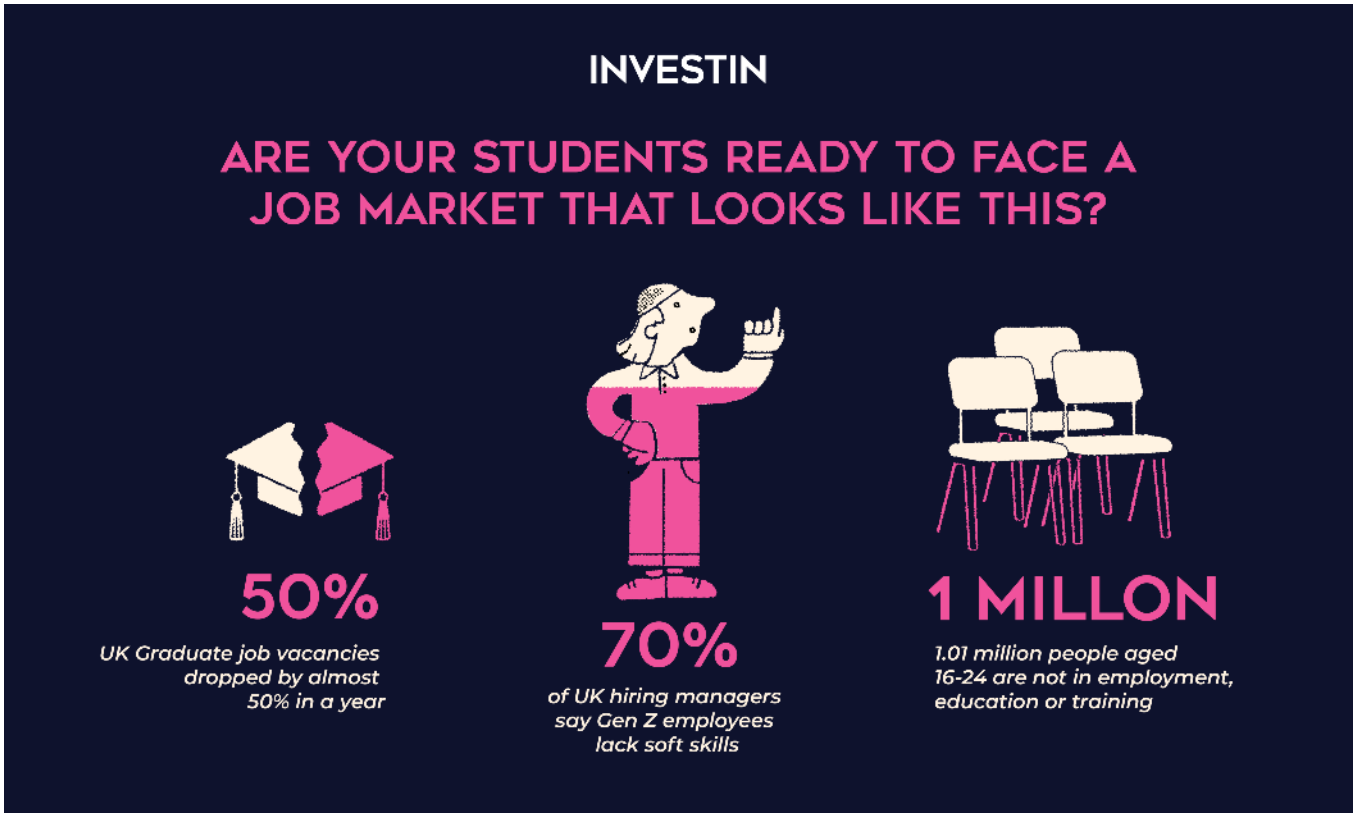
Each week, you'll get practical advice and a short task to help you explore your options and start working towards your future career.

- 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?

SIGN UP NOW

5 WEEKS. 5 EMAILS.

info@investin.org +44 (0) 203 488 5089 www.investin.org



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!

Work Experience with British Transport Police

- **Are You Aged 14 to 17?**
- **Curious about policing and the different careers within it?**
- **Looking for an exciting work experience opportunity?**
- **Want to make a difference in your community?**

If so, we'd love to hear from you.

Discover Policing with British Transport Police

The British Transport Police (BTP) Work Experience Programme gives young people the chance to learn about policing and the many different roles that help keep Britain's railways safe.

You will meet officers, police staff and volunteers from a range of teams and gain an insight into what life is like in a national police force.

Please note that this is an educational work experience programme. Students will not carry out operational policing duties and will not be placed in active operational environments.

All successful applicants will take part as part of a group and will complete the programme alongside other students.

What You'll Experience

Depending on the location and dates you attend, you may learn about:

- Police officers
- Firearms teams
- Police dogs
- Crime scene investigators (forensics)
- Detectives
- Intelligence teams
- Contact centres
- CCTV
- Custody
- Force Control Rooms
- The criminal justice system and courts

Activities may include presentations, demonstrations, discussions, case studies and interactive exercises.

Please note that activities vary between locations and dates. Not every placement will include every team.

What You'll Gain

By taking part, you can:

- Learn about careers in policing
- Understand how BTP keeps the railway network safe
- Develop confidence and communication skills
- Meet people working across different areas of policing
- Find out about future career opportunities
- Build your CV and gain valuable experience

Who Can Apply?

To apply, you must:

- Be aged 14 to 17 at the time of the placement, in secondary school or college
- Have a personal email address
- Be able to travel to the location where your placement takes place

Students who are 18 or older when the placement begins are not eligible for this programme.

2027 Work Experience Programme Dates

26 – 29 July 2027 - Manchester

31 August – 3 September 2027 - Manchester

Please only apply for dates that you can fully attend. We are unable to offer alternative dates, locations or bespoke placements.

Please read the following carefully:

Parent or Guardian Awareness

Your parent, guardian or carer **must know that you are applying for the programme**.

However, we expect the application to be completed by you. While parents, guardians and teachers can support you, your application should reflect your own interests, experiences and ambitions.

Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI)

You may use tools such as spellcheck to help you, but we want to hear about you.

Applications that appear to have been written largely by AI or another person may not accurately reflect your personality, motivations and suitability for the programme.

Attendance Expectations

If you are offered a place, we expect you to attend **all dates** of your placement.

Please only apply if you can commit to the full programme. Partial attendance is not normally possible.

Travel Requirements

You may need to travel to the programme location and, in some cases, between sites during the placement.

Please make sure you can arrange any required travel before applying.

Dates and Locations

Unfortunately, **we cannot accommodate requests for alternative dates, locations or personalised placements** outside those advertised.

Please apply only for locations and dates that you can attend in full.

Group-Based Programme

All successful applicants will be placed within a group of students. The programme is designed to be completed alongside other young people and includes group learning activities throughout.

Important Information About Places

Applying for the programme does not guarantee a placement.

We receive a high number of applications each year and places are limited.

Please do not book travel, accommodation or make any other arrangements until you have received confirmation that you have been offered a place.

Successful applicants will be notified in early 2027.

Accessibility and Adjustments

We welcome applications from disabled young people and those with long-term health conditions.

If you need any adjustments to take part, please tell us when you apply. We will work with you and, where appropriate, your parent or guardian to understand what support may be needed.

As facilities and activities differ between locations, adjustments will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

We are committed to removing barriers wherever possible so that all young people have the opportunity to participate.

About British Transport Police

British Transport Police is the national police force responsible for policing Britain's railways and transport networks.

Every day we help protect millions of passengers, railway staff and infrastructure across England, Scotland and Wales.

From safeguarding vulnerable people and preventing crime to responding to major incidents and supporting communities, we are proud to provide a professional, innovative and community-focused policing service.

Ready to Apply?

If you're interested in learning more about policing and the people who help keep Britain's railways safe every day, we'd encourage you to apply.

For questions about the programme, please contact:

volunteers@btp.police.uk

We look forward to welcoming the next generation of talent to British Transport Police.

Apply



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
UniTasterDays
@UniTasterDays

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!



THE FUTURE SKILLS PROGRAMME: CAREERS IN STEM

For Yr 9 & Yr 10/S3 and S4

Explore STEM careers in four key pathways during May half term!

Industrial Cadets | Powered by EDT Pathways to Industry

What is involved?

- A comprehensive experience **delivered virtually in February.**
- **Live Q&A sessions with STEM professionals** in Net Zero futures, Digital AI futures, Health and Life Sciences, Engineering & Infrastructure and Manufacturing futures.
- **CV, applications and interview support.**
- Interactive panel **Q&A sessions with universities & apprentices.**
- Learn how to succeed in the workplace, including **how to ask questions, network and write professional emails**.
- Achieve the **Bronze Industrial Cadet Award.**

Dates

- 20 hours of study to complete flexibly over 5 days in the February Half Term.
- Monday 15th - Friday 19th February 2027.

Cost/Funding

- £55 (bursaries available, click here for bursary criteria and availability).

How to register or find out more

To register, please visit our website **here** or **scan the QR code!**

SCAN ME

DISCOVER CAREERS IN THE NHS

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT UK



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

www.youthemployment.org.uk

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

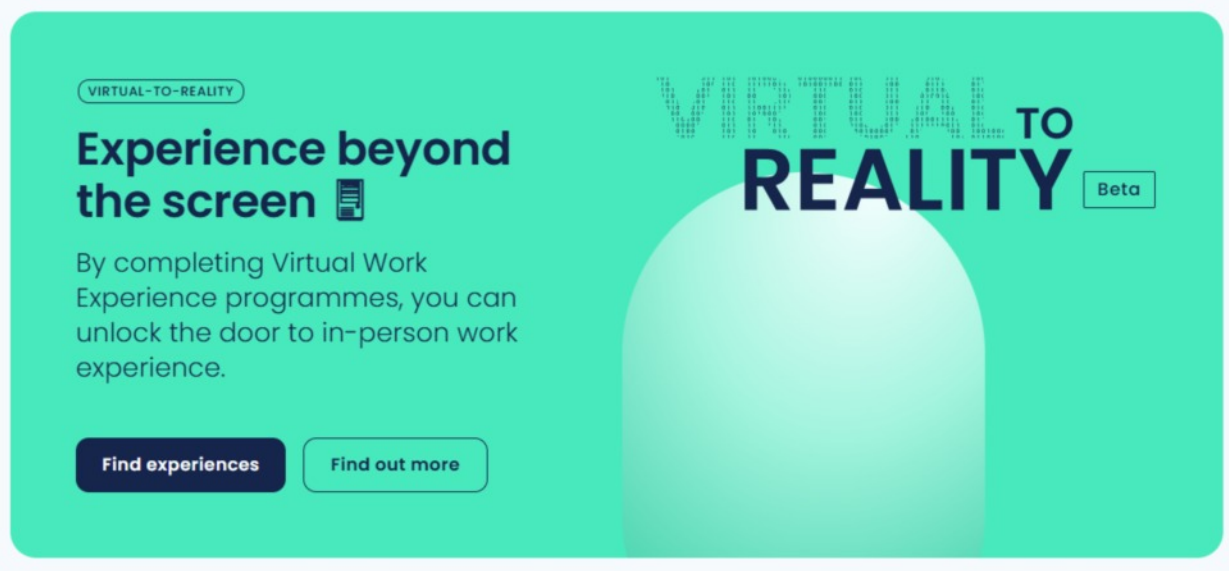
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INSIGHT PASS
Get 15% off when you register for more than one Insight Day

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REGISTER NOW

info@investin.org
+44 (0) 203 488 5089
investin.org



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:

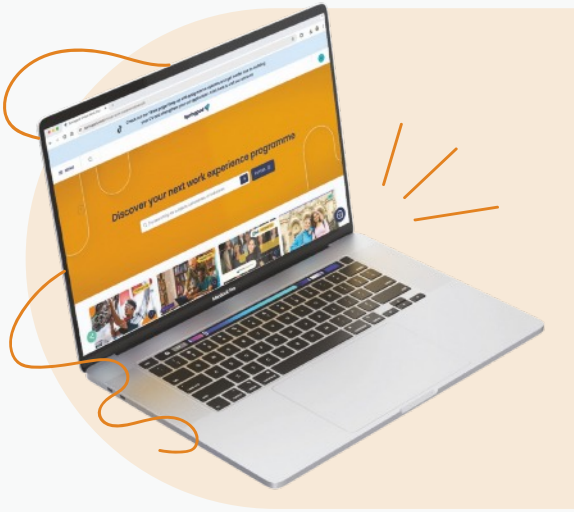
- Builds your CV and personal statement
- Completing programmes gives you certificates and practical experience you can mention in CVs, UCAS applications, apprenticeship applications, and interviews
- Let's you explore careers before committing
- You can try areas like tech, engineering, fashion, healthcare, 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

Springpod®

FIND OUT MORE HERE

Springpod

Quick get started guide



1. Go to **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

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.

These LIVE virtual conferences offer a comprehensive guide through the entire medical and dental application journey, allowing students to gain key insights into the UCAS application process, connect with doctors, dentists and medical/dental students, and gain a clearer view of a future in medicine or dentistry. You can register 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 21st November from 9.00am - 1.30pm **Saturday 28th November from 9.00am - 1.30pm**

Upcoming Get Into Dentistry Conference dates:

Sunday 15th November from 9.00am - 1:30pm

During this conference, students and parents/guardians will have the opportunity to meet and speak with our excellent team of mentors and scholars, who will cover essential application and academic topics such as:

- 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/

9:30am	Why medicine/dentistry? Overview of GMC/GDC Standards, skills and training pathways. Academic requirements and Widening Access
10:10am	Break (Q&A optional) 10 minutes
10:20am	Competition Ratios, Entry Requirements, Work Experience, Volunteering, Guided Pathways
10:55am	Break (Q&A optional) 10 minutes
11:05am	Personal Statements, Extra and Supra-curricular activities
11:30am	Top Tips from a Successful Applicant (Current Med/Dent Student)
11:45am	Break (Q&A optional) 10 minutes
11:55am	UCAT entrance exam
12:25pm	Break (Q&A optional) 10 minutes
12:35pm	Medical/Dental school interviews & Comprehensive Application Support
1:00pm	Successful Medical/Dental Applicant (Current Student)
1:15pm	Final Q&A and attendance link for certificates

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/



As students begin thinking about their future university applications, gaining early exposure to healthcare professions can help them make informed decisions, develop their understanding and build valuable experiences.

We're delighted to announce that our Virtual Medical Society (VMS) and Virtual Dental Society (VDS) sessions will begin again on Tuesday 17th November!

Our VMS sessions will run weekly, while our VDS sessions will take place every two weeks, providing students with regular opportunities to explore Medicine and Dentistry, develop their understanding of clinical practice and gain meaningful experiences to reflect upon in their future university applications.

Through our Virtual Societies, students can:

- Explore different medical and dental specialties
- Develop their understanding of patient care and clinical decision-making
- Gain insight into the responsibilities of healthcare professionals
- Build their reflective skills and understanding of the profession
- Develop experiences to support their future UCAS applications and interviews

MEDIC MENTOR
MAKE A DIFFERENCE



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!

MEDIC MENTOR
YOUR MEDIC FAMILY

NHS
University Hospitals Birmingham
NHS Foundation Trust

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.

This month, we're diving into the fascinating world of Surgery, providing your students with the opportunity to witness key-hole surgery, oral surgery, and the unique privilege of shadowing Mr. Challocome, a urology surgeon at Guy's and Thomas' NHS Trust.

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

Aspiring Medics: **https://airtable.com/appgXnyzN5ZD9Iwk6/shrGJUAtigzZzDwTN**

Aspiring Dentists: **https://airtable.com/appgXnyzN5ZD9Iwk6/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/**

DENTAL MENTOR
MAKE A DIFFERENCE

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!

Virtual Work Experience opportunity for Years 10 - 13

I am delighted to extend an invitation to your students in years 10-13 for our upcoming Allied Healthcare Virtual Work Experience session on **Sunday 6th December**, 9am - 5pm, focusing on **Paediatric Pathways**.

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

As the UCAS deadline for NHS Health Careers is in January, 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.

This programme is suitable for students in year groups 10 - 13 who are interested in the following careers:

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

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.

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 6-month programme will also be awarded Highly Commended References.

Students can register individually at any time throughout the 6-month programme using the link below. We recommend booking early to gain as much out of this programme as possible. Places are £15 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 throught to a community team.

ALLIED HEALTHCARE MENTOR

CAREER *of the* WEEK

Architectural technologist

Architectural technologists turn building ideas into safe, practical and sustainable designs using technical and construction expertise.

As an architectural technologist, you'll use the technology of architecture to help design buildings that are safe, practical, inclusive and sustainable. With experience and Chartered Architectural Technologist (MCIAT) status, you may lead projects from the initial brief through to completion.

Your work can include:

- building performance
- construction detailing
- contract administration
- inclusive design
- sustainability
- technical design

You may work on new buildings, refurbishments, alterations, reuse projects and other construction schemes.



What does an architectural technologist do?

As an architectural technologist, you'll need to:

- administer building contracts, inspect work on site and prepare relevant certificates and project documentation
- assess design risks and advise on regulatory, environmental and contractual requirements
- assess how design decisions affect a building's function, performance, safety, accessibility and sustainability
- contribute to planning applications, applications for building regulations approval and other statutory approval processes
- evaluate completed buildings and advise on maintenance, refurbishment, retrofit, reuse and deconstruction
- identify and interpret surveys, site information and technical reports needed to support the design
- lead or contribute to the detailed design process and coordinate information from architects, engineers and other specialists
- meet clients and other professionals to agree project requirements and develop the brief
- prepare and present technical design proposals using CAD, BIM and 3D modelling software
- produce technical drawings, specifications and construction details for materials, components and building systems



Architectural technologist salary

Typical starting salaries for a graduate/junior technologist range from £23,000 to £30,000.

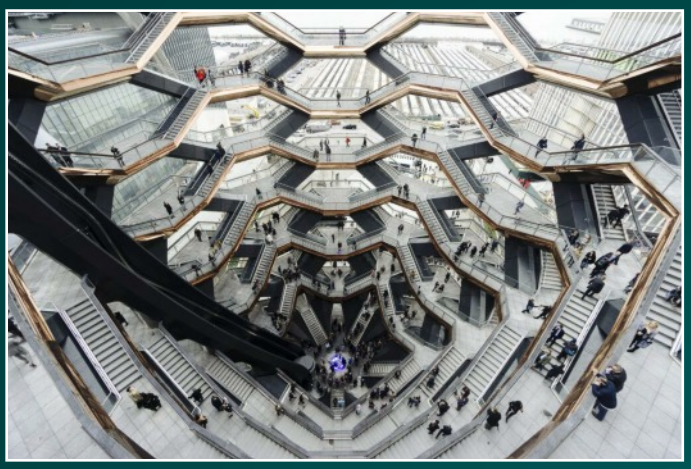
With experience, technologists typically earn between £30,000 and £45,000.

Senior architectural technologists earn in the region of £42,000 to £60,000.

Salaries vary according to your experience, location, professional status, specialist knowledge and level of responsibility. Higher salaries are generally available in London and in roles involving complex projects, team leadership or practice management.

Employers may also offer benefits such as pension contributions, bonuses, professional membership fees and flexible or hybrid working.

Income figures are intended as a guide only.



For more information click here