



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

Welcome to another bumper edition of Career News, packed full of useful information. Year 10 have now visited two local colleges to sample a series of subjects - by Christmas this year, they will have made their applications to college, so hopefully, the sampling days have given them a good insight into some of the choices available to them. There are many good colleges in this area, so make sure you visit as many as possible when the new term starts (they will all be advertised in Career News and in school).



Work Experience week is now almost here and the vast majority of students have returned their booklets - however, there are a few who have promised to bring them in but they have not yet materialised. These must be returned by Monday 7th July, otherwise we cannot authorise placements. There are now no places left on the NHS or the MPCT schemes, but there are a couple on the Rise Up programme (and this one includes lunch and snacks, as well as a fun, safe and nurturing environment - what's not to like?!) Contact me as soon as possible if this is something you may be interested in.

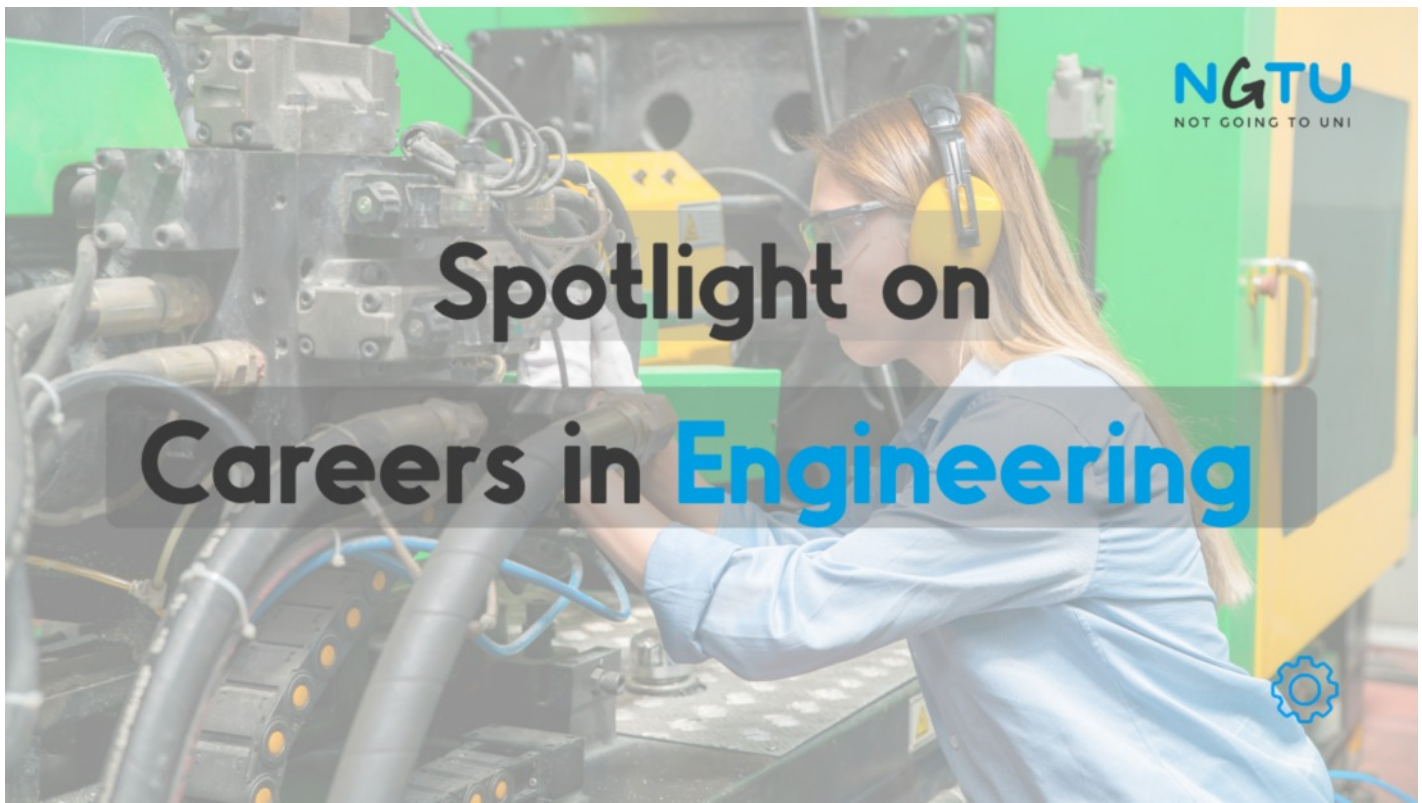
Inside Career News this week:

- Download July's 'Choices' magazine for up to date news on apprenticeships and qualifications
- BBC Bitesize Careers are also highlighting apprenticeships in their 'Question of the Month' session
- Summer work experience with the University of Law - not to be missed if you are an aspiring lawyer, or perhaps a stint at Channel 4 is more your style - sign up now
- Essay competition from Immerse Education with amazing prizes, including full scholarships to universities
- The Bank of England is asking the public to help in the redesign of Britain's bank notes - have your say on their website
- Open Events at the Army Foundation College (Harrogate) and the Royal Military Academy (Sandhurst)
- National Festival of Making over the weekend in Blackburn - workshops, activities, talks, performances, markets, exhibitions and much more

Have a great weekend



7th - 11th July 2025



Spotlight on Careers in Engineering

The future of engineering starts here, with top employers ready to inspire and invest in the next generation of leaders.



[CLICK HERE](#)



[CLICK HERE](#)



[CLICK HERE](#)

Click the links under the logos above to explore the latest opportunities from these industry leaders.

The engineering sector is bursting with exciting opportunities, and it's evolving faster than ever.

From mechanical and electrical to civil, software, and environmental roles, there's a wide range of career paths for young people who love to solve problems and think creatively.

An engineering apprenticeship could be the perfect fit for those who want to get hands-on from day one. They'll earn, learn, and build real-world skills, all without the cost of a university education.

Help them kickstart a brilliant career in engineering today; the future's wide open!

See Live Engineering Roles Available Right Now!

RISE UP

A fantastic work experience opportunity has just been offered to us. RISE UP is a new project set up to represent young people in Chorley and they need to hear from young people about the issues that affect them.

They are running a pilot scheme and this is where you come in!

They are looking for TEN young people to be involved in this scheme - get involved, and you can make a difference to future generations in the town.

ARE YOU

- ▶ A caring person who thinks about other people?
- ▶ Someone that wants to see change and a better future?
- ▶ A creative, arty individual who is keen on interior design?
- ▶ Someone who likes to help out with tidying, organising, sorting?
- ▶ Able to lend a hand with maintenance, painting, gardening?

If you can answer yes to any of the above, then this WEX week is for you! You will be working together as a team to transform a vision into reality (think DIY SOS!)

You will get to discuss issues that affect young people, whether that is exam stress, mental health, family life ... whatever it is that makes life tough for young people.

- You might be leading a discussion group or painting a wall.
- You might be planting flowers or writing letters to MPs.
- You might be deciding what issues 'RISE UP' should be concerned about and thinking of possible solutions.
- Whichever role you choose, you will be spending time in a safe, supportive environment, with friends.

**SOUNDS
GOOD?**

If you are interested in finding out more, let me know - come and see me in the Top Office.

THIS IS A BRILLIANT OPPORTUNITY - DO NOT MISS OUT!



TQUK Endorsed Course

Level 2 Certified Learning Course in TEFL (120 Hours)

We know many of your students are thinking ahead - whether it's a gap year, university, or a future in education. Why not offer them a head start with a TEFL (Teaching English as a Foreign Language) certification?

At UK-TEFL, we offer a TQUK Endorsed online TEFL course that is ideal for 16–18-year-olds looking to:

- Travel the world after school
- Teach English online or abroad
- Earn while gaining valuable life experience
- Boost their university applications or CVs

Flexible. Affordable. Fully Accredited.

Our online courses are designed with young learners in mind -self-paced, interactive, and fully supported by TEFL advisors.

Let's open a world of opportunity for your students!

FIND OUT MORE

Cost and Duration

The course price is £90 per student. We do offer packages which include additional materials and certificates.

- Course & UK-TEFL E-Certificate: **£90**
- Course & TQUK Accredited Certificate (RRP £39) or Absolute TEFL Manual: **£110**
- Full package - includes TQUK Certificate & Absolute TEFL Manual: **£125**

Students have **180 days** to complete the course. We recommend that they spend 120 hours on the course, including the time spent on the assessments. The course is self-paced, which means students can study when it suits them. They can access the learning platform on computers, laptops, tablets and the mobile app.

What's included?

The course is made up of 9 Core Content Modules, a TEFL Exam, and 2 Graded Assignments. Throughout the course, students study using lots of interactive learning elements including: presenter-led videos, narrator-led videos, matching and sorting activities, galleries, flipbooks, tasks, and concept checking quizzes.

On successful completion of the course, students will receive an electronic certificate (unless they have purchased a TQUK package).

All students receive dedicated support from our TEFL advisors with finding work.

FIND OUT MORE





NATIONAL FESTIVAL OF MAKING

Blackburn 5th - 6th July

Age group - all!

The National Festival of Making returns to Blackburn, Lancashire on **Saturday 5th - Sunday 6th July**.

With a weekend packed full of hands-on workshops and activities for all ages, exhibitions, performances, talks, markets and more, so dive in and start planning your visit.

Find out more here:

[Events 2025 | Festival of Making](#)

OPEN EVENTS 2025

WEDNESDAY 8 OCTOBER

Open Evening - 5.00pm - 8.00pm

to include a 30-minute quiet session 5.00pm-5.30pm*

SATURDAY 22 NOVEMBER

Open Day - 10.00am - 1.30pm

to 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.



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www.bolton-sfc.ac.uk





Summer Work Experience with the University of Law! Thursday 31st July and Friday 1st August

Young Professionals are teaming up with the University of Law to bring a fantastic Careers in Law Work Experience event on Thursday 31st July and Friday 1st August!

We anticipate a very high sign-up for this event, so places will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. Any students that are interested must register via the link in the email below. Confirmation emails will be sent directly to the students once their space is confirmed.

Do you see yourself as a future legal professional? Perhaps you'd like to become a partner at a huge international law firm?

On Thursday 31st July and Friday 1st of August from 10:00am - 3:00pm, we'll be hosting a Careers in Law Work Experience with the University of Law, the UK's leading institution for legal degrees and solicitor apprenticeships.

You will take part in mock legal lectures, work on projects and exciting legal tasks, and have the opportunity to ask questions and network with professionals.

Day 1 will be a virtual event, allowing you to participate from anywhere. Day 2 will be in person at one of their campuses in Nottingham, London, Manchester, Birmingham, Leeds, or Bristol. You can choose which campus you'd like to attend. Please note that spaces at the venues are very limited, so book early to avoid disappointment.

The University of Law is the UK's largest provider of legal education. They deliver legal training to over 90 of the top 100 law firms and will be running several lecture-style sessions designed to give you a taste of what it's like to study law at university or through a solicitor apprenticeship.

Join us for what's set to be a thoroughly engaging insight into the legal world this summer and hear from a range of elite solicitors and barristers from some of the world's most prominent organisations. Kick off this summer with an excellent addition to your CV/Personal Statement.

Click the following link to sign up:

[**https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ULaw-Summer-WEX-2025**](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ULaw-Summer-WEX-2025)



GET



SWITCHED ON

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Train in real workshops
with real tools - just like
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projects and hands-on
work placements included

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- Electrical Engineer -
earn up to £58,000
per year!
- Building Services
Engineer - earn up to
£51,000 per year!

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ac.uk/yp-construction/
electrical](http://www.boltoncollege.ac.uk/yp-construction/electrical)
or scan the QR code.



CHOICES

The monthly parent & carer guide to apprenticeships and technical education

USING THE SUMMER TO GET READY TO APPLY FOR APPRENTICESHIPS

GET READY FOR RESULTS DAY AND WHERE TO FIND INFORMATION

UNDERSTAND THE QUALIFICATIONS REFORM AND CHANGES FOR 25/26

APPRENTICESHIP CAREER PATHWAYS IN THE AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY

THE VOLKSWAGEN GROUP APPRENTICESHIP OFFER

Amazing Apprenticeships

Citygate
Apprentice

Welcome to the July edition of Choices Magazine.

Choices magazine is the ultimate parent and carer guide to apprenticeships and technical education!

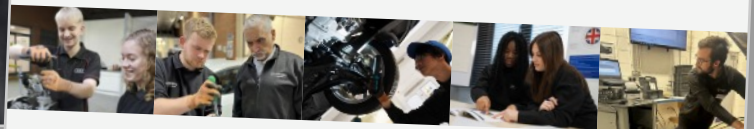
July's edition features Keely, a former dental apprentice, insights from Specsavers on their apprenticeship programme, opportunities with Volkswagen, changes to apprenticeships, and top tips for using summer to get ahead. We also highlight updates to post-GCSE qualifications, a quick guide to T Levels and advice for exam results days. Check out five ways to support your child's decisions and help shape future resources by sharing your views on the British Army.

DOWNLOAD HERE

EMPLOYER INSIGHT

APPRENTICESHIPS AT VOLKSWAGEN GROUP

VOLKSWAGEN GROUP
APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMME



The Volkswagen Group apprenticeship scheme offers apprenticeships with prestigious automotive brands such as Audi, Seat, Skoda, Cupra, Bentley, TPS and Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles.

Which apprenticeship roles are available?

The Volkswagen Group apprenticeship programme offers a range of specialised fields. These specialisms not only cater to diverse skill sets, but also lay the foundation for multifaceted career paths within the automotive industry.

Apprenticeships available:

- Service Technician
- Service Advisor
- Parts Advisor
- Paint Technician
- Panel Technician
- Mechanical, Electrical and Trim (MET) Technician
- Parts Sales Executive

Where you will be trained?

At Volkswagen Group, training is delivered using a combination of virtual classroom remote learning and face-to-face block release weeks at our state-of-the-art training centres in Milton Keynes (Volkswagen Group National Learning Centre) and Doncaster (Inspiro Training Academy). In the workplace, your personal, dedicated mentor will support your continued learning as you apply the skills and knowledge you have gained through the remote sessions and at the training centres.

Where can these apprenticeships take you?

After completing an apprenticeship with the Volkswagen Group, apprentices have gone on to

further their career in various roles such as Aftersales Managers, Operations Managers, Trainers, Diagnostic Technicians, Workshop Controllers, Brand Managers and Customer Service Managers.



Name: Marc
Employer: Citygate Automotive Ltd.
Apprenticeship: Level 3 Light Vehicle Maintenance Technician apprenticeship
Completion: May 2025 - with a distinction!

"Having access to training documentation from VW Group has allowed me to always remain ahead of the other technicians around me and be able to understand the work and repairs required for each job."



Find out more about apprenticeships at VW:
vwgroupapprenticeships.co.uk

STAY INFORMED

CATCH UP ON CHOICES



Find all previous editions of Choices here:
amapps.uk/parent-magazine



STAY UP TO DATE

A CAREER TO MAKE YOU SMILE!



Meet Keely, who changed careers via an apprenticeship, moving from working in a care home to becoming a dental nurse. Here we look at her career change journey.

How were you inspired to change your career?

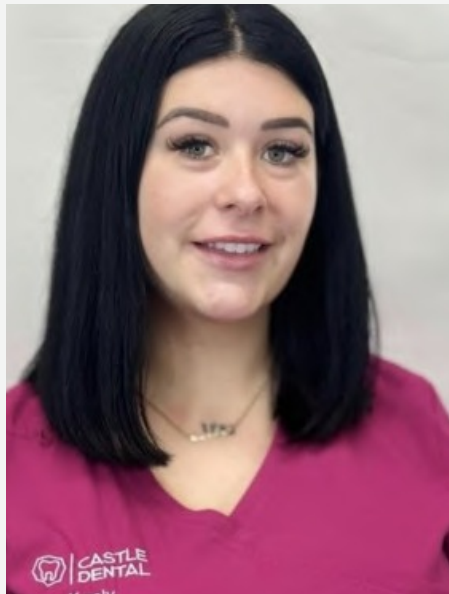
I was working in a care home and took a resident for an appointment at the dentist, where I saw an advertisement for a dental nursing apprenticeship. I had been thinking about leaving the care industry after 6 years as I wanted a new challenge. I spoke to family about the role and they really encouraged me to apply. I did a taster session after the interview which was a tooth extraction, it was so interesting! When I was offered the job I was excited and eager to start.

Why did you decide to do an apprenticeship?

I decided to become an apprentice to reskill and change my career and gain the knowledge to do so. I enjoyed the whole apprenticeship, working alongside learning.

How did your apprenticeship work?

The dental nursing apprenticeship I completed took place over 16 months. I learnt how to perform as a dental nurse whilst learning the science behind it. The Off-The-Job-Training part was delivered through online lessons. The lessons were interactive and the opportunity to ask or answer questions was always there, plus I had all the resources to refer back to.



What was a typical day like?

A typical day in the dental practice starts by coming into work and setting up the surgery, checking stock levels and then running through your day list to see what's in store. Using the day list to plan and organise the day helps it run more smoothly. Days vary depending on the type of clinic you're in. The treatments can differ just like the patients do.

The perfect day for me is a few exams and a few longer treatment appointments such as a filling or an extraction. I especially enjoy doing private fillings as I love to see the process and outcome of the tooth. Our dental practice also offers SureSmile, aesthetics and skin care so it's fun to be involved in those.

What support did you receive during your apprenticeship?

I had a coach who was there to advise, support and help anytime. My tutor Amanda was great, she made action plans which were super easy to follow and helpful to stay on track. Anytime you need a bit of help or even just some encouragement they are there to support you. My employers also supported my apprenticeship by setting aside time for me to do the lessons and coursework. Your work colleagues want you to succeed so they will give you support; I definitely used the dentists' knowledge.



Find out more about dental apprenticeships by visiting the [Skills England website](#).

Find out more about apprenticeships with [Aspiration Training](#).



4 BIG CHANGES TO APPRENTICESHIPS IN 2025



We now have more information about some of the changes the Government have introduced for apprenticeships. We caught up with Anna Morrison CBE, founder of Amazing Apprenticeships to find out what this means for those who are considering apprenticeships.

Foundation apprenticeships

Foundation apprenticeships will be for young people aged 16-21 (or 22-24 meeting certain eligibility criteria). They will typically be 8 months in duration, the apprentice will be paid a salary and they will initially be available in 7 job roles in priority sectors, including Engineering & Manufacturing, Construction, Digital and Health.



Find out more by visiting:
amapps.uk/foundation-apprenticeships

Shorter duration apprenticeships

New rules mean that the minimum duration of apprenticeships has been reduced from 12 months to 8 months. Within the planned duration, the minimum number of Off-The-Job Training (OTJT) hours specified for the apprenticeship must be achieved. This allows for more flexible models of delivery, including part-time.



Find out more by reading the
[Apprenticeship funding rules 25/26](#)

Level 7 apprenticeship funding

The Government has now confirmed that from 1st January 2026, level 7 apprenticeships will continue to be government-funded for young people aged 16-21, and up to 25 for care leavers and those with an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan at the start of their apprenticeship in England. Older apprentices will no longer receive government funding for level 7 apprenticeships, however the employer may pay individually.



Find out more by reading the
[Apprenticeship funding rules 25/26](#)

End point assessment changes

The Government has announced that End Point Assessment plans for all apprenticeship standards will be reviewed. The purpose of this review is to plan for how more assessment could be undertaken throughout the apprenticeship, including how the training provider and employer can contribute to assessing their apprentice's knowledge, skills and behaviours. The review is expected to take 18 months.



Find out more by visiting:
amapps.uk/end-point-assessment

To stay up to date with the latest apprenticeships news and developments, sign up to join our free informative monthly webinars:
amazingapprenticeships.com/workshops-webinars



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Essay Competition:

Win a 100% Scholarship with Immerse Education



I'm delighted to let you know that the Immerse Education Essay Competition has returned and is now open for students to register their interest and submit their entries by **18th September, 2025**.

This is a fantastic opportunity for students aged 13 to 18 to work on over the school holidays, challenge themselves academically and earn scholarships to our academic summer programmes hosted at world-renowned university locations.

With over twenty subjects to choose from, including Medicine, Law, Engineering and Creative Writing, students are encouraged to submit an essay that reflects their interests and ambitions.

- Ten winners will receive a 100% scholarship to study with us at a world-leading university of their choosing
- Runners-up will be awarded partial scholarships
- All entrants gain valuable experience, including feedback from expert judges such as published authors, academics and industry professionals

Round 1 deadline: 18 September 2025. Students can [register their interest here](#) to receive the full list of questions and a writing guide.

Next steps:

Register your interest by following [this link](#)

Any scholarships or vouchers awarded during the current round of the essay competition will only be valid for 2026 Immerse Education Programmes

The UniTasterDays Parents' Guide to University 2025

- ✓ The key university facts for parents
- ✓ Featuring editorial from over 75 university experts
- ✓ Available for direct download!



Just released: The Parents' Guide to University 2025

The new UniTasterDays Parents' Guide to University 2025 is now available – packed with expert advice to help parents and carers support students with their university decisions.

Produced in collaboration with HELOA and supported by the CDI, Careers England and Action on Access, the guide includes insights from over 75 university experts, plus a must-read student finance section from Money Saving Expert Martin Lewis. It's completely free and requires no registration.

The guide covers every stage of the journey. From research and events, to applications, finance, and preparation. With new content this year focused on navigating university choices during the cost-of-living crisis.

"Written by experts from 75 universities, this year's UniTasterDays' Parents' Guide covers everything you need to know for your child to make their decisions about university - how to work out where and what courses they should apply to; how and when to apply; how to access any support - practical or financial; visiting university events in your area or at one of the chosen universities; and what will be the likely cost and the reasonable repayment terms. You will also find some invaluable information on specific courses and careers; as well as real-life information on what life at university is like.

Despite the messages we continually see in the news that university is too expensive, does not lead to jobs, is just not worth it - degrees do open all sorts of doors. The university experience leads to greater lifetime income, to rewarding careers, and to your child making lifelong friends and maturing into a rounded and informed adult. Studies show that parents are the key influence on their children making a successful transition into higher education. In this Parents' Guide, experts provide the facts and guidance that parents need in order to give the best advice to their children."

Andrew Rawson

Director, Action on Access; and Founder, Action on Access Information Hub and Email Briefing Service.

Download the Parents' Guide 2025



5 reasons to consider a career in construction

If you're thinking about your future, then perhaps a career in construction is for you!

- You don't need to go to university**
 With an apprenticeship or entry-level job, you can start earning right away. With some roles, you can learn on the job, get paid and get a qualification!
- Strong job security**
 Homes, schools, roads and hospitals all need to be built and maintained, so roles in construction are always in demand.
- Earn good money, early!**
 Even starting out, many roles pay more than you think, and as you build skills, your pay grows, especially in trades like plumbing, carpentry or electrical work.
- Real job satisfaction**
 Imagine pointing to a building and saying, "I helped build that". It's hands-on work where no two days are the same, and it makes a real impact on your community.
- There's a role for everyone**
 Whether you're into tech, teamwork, design or working outdoors, there's a role for you. It could be site work, planning, project management, health & safety, or even managing your own team one day.

Begin your career with Persimmon!

No matter your starting point, you can enter the construction industry straight from school and progress all the way to degree level, whether you prefer hands-on trades or professional office-based roles.



 Craft	Level 2 Craft Apprenticeship <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equivalent to GCSEs • Progress to Level 3 Craft Apprenticeship 	For school leavers ready to start work and learn a trade
 Technical	T Levels <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equivalent to 3 A Levels Level 4 HNC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post-school qualification Level 6 Degree Apprenticeship <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Earn a degree while working 	Study and work while getting paid!
 Business, Design & Management	There are pathways into: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Accountancy ◦ Customer Service ◦ Sales & Marketing • Design & Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Architectural Technician ◦ Civil Engineering ◦ Project Manager 	Construction isn't just about being on site!



Find out more about careers at Persimmon [here](#)



Meet our apprentices!

"This apprenticeship has given me the chance to grow both professionally and personally, and I'm grateful to Persimmon and Fife College for the support they've provided."

[Watch Casey's video here >](#)



Casey Gardner was the first apprentice to be hired through our new partnership with Fife College in Glenrothes, Scotland, where she was undertaking a painting and decorating course.

This year, Fife College nominated Casey to attend the World Skills Competition in China. She was also chosen to represent Scotland in the 2025 final of the Painting and Decorating Association's Premier Trophy Awards – Apprentice of the Year Competition.

Carpentry apprentice Matt Allum is learning the skills he needs for a successful career in construction while working at the Charles Church at Chancery Park development in Suffolk.

Matt was taken on by Andy Lewis Carpentry, a contractor for Persimmon Homes. He explains: "I'm at work four days a week and at college one day a week. It's a good experience. At such a young age, you're getting straight into a job, getting real-life experience of going on to roofs, doing all them roof trusses, fitting doors and doing all the skirting as well."

[Watch Matt's video here >](#)





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Get a behind the scenes look at Channel 4. Explore the creative careers in front of and behind the camera!

SIGN UP TODAY



Explore our guide to the fastest-growing jobs, sectors and skills in 2025 and beyond

From the AI boom to the 2024 Budget, employees in 2025 will need to be more strategic than they've ever been to get, and stay ahead, in their respective industries. According to a report by Telegraph Money, job vacancies in 2024 have fallen to pre-pandemic levels, by 13.5% to be specific, the lowest since March-May 2021.

Keep reading to learn what skills, sectors and jobs you should focus on to put your career at an advantage.

Tech

With the growth of generative AI (thanks in part to the launch of ChatGPT) in the workplace in 2024, the increasing need for cybersecurity professionals and general digital literacy, tech continues to be one of 2025's top sectors according to the World Economic Forum's (WEF) Future of Jobs 2025 report. An estimated 60% of employers expect that increasing digital access will transform their businesses by 2030. From AI, robotics and automation to information storage and distribution, it's expected that these trends will have an impact on the sector, with the space for tech professionals continuing to grow in the coming years.

Healthcare

It comes as no surprise that healthcare is one of the top sectors of 2025. As the aging population grows, so does the need for qualified healthcare professionals. According to LinkedIn data, carers are one of the fastest-growing roles, and it's expected that care economy jobs, such as nursing or counselling professionals, and social workers will grow significantly over the next five years.

Construction

With the government's pledge to build 1.5 million homes by 2029, it's expected that the construction industry will see significant job growth. Hybrid working, more funding for the Affordable Homes Programme for 2025/26 and growth in the retail sector will all contribute to more construction and civil engineering jobs in the next few years.

Education

The e-learning market is projected to grow significantly, increasing from \$426.33 billion in 2024 to \$1070.42 billion by 2032 and it's been reported that the global education market will reach \$10 trillion by 2030. An ever-growing workforce and working-age population is fuelling growth in the education sector, with roles for secondary and higher education teachers being predicted to be among the biggest job creators in the next five years, according to WEF.

AI and machine learning engineers

According to LinkedIn's Jobs on the Rise 2025, the role of artificial intelligence engineer takes the top spot in terms of fastest-growing roles in the UK. Thanks to the growing use of AI, more employers are looking for experts that can develop AI models and algorithms for predictive modelling and decision-making.

Control systems engineer

Technological change continues to drive demand for roles in tech, with control systems engineers as one the most in-demand in 2025, according to both LinkedIn and WEF. The role, which sees professionals engineer automated systems which are essential to manufacturing or process operations, is expected to grow over the next five years.

Software developers

It likely comes as no surprise that software developers are one of the top jobs of 2025, as the profession has been steadily growing over the last decade. Despite advances in artificial intelligence, experts who can design, create and maintain software are still very much needed.

Renewable energy engineers

With the government's goal to meet its net zero target by 2050 and its recent investment in renewable energy firms, there's never been a better time to look into renewable energy engineering. As experts who look at ways to reduce environmental impact by researching and developing new technologies, they will play a crucial part in making cleaner energy the norm.

Building and civil engineering technicians

Frontline jobs have also seen an increase in 2025 with roles such as building and civil engineering technicians on the rise. Offering technical support on construction projects and building works, these specialist roles will become even more essential in the coming years.

2025's top skills

Teaching

With the shifting skill needs, reskilling and upskilling has never been more crucial for today's workforce. More and more businesses and organisations are looking to fill their skills gaps and employees will put themselves at an advantage by developing those in-demand skills.

Technical skills

Without a doubt, technical skills, namely, AI, data and cybersecurity skills are some of the most sought-after and fastest-growing skills in 2025. AI expertise is a standout skill with roughly two-thirds of employers planning to hire someone with specific AI skills. As more businesses seek to leverage the use of AI tools, work management platforms and ramp up security, these skills will become increasingly essential in the workplace.

Green skills

Green skills are also at the forefront of today's top skills. Nearly half of employers surveyed for the Future of Jobs report anticipate that investing in reducing carbon emissions will be a key business goal. Already the number of job posts that require at least one green skill has risen by 22% between 2022-2023, and it's expected that this number will only continue to grow.

Analytical thinking

Analytical thinking is one of the in-demand skills of 2025, and it's clear to see why. In a data-driven world, being able to take a methodical approach to problem-solving in the workplace will not only help when processing complex information, but will also prove invaluable when tough decisions need to be made.

Creative thinking

Likewise, being able to think creatively is essential for businesses and employees that want to stand out. Whether dealing with limited resources, crowded markets or differing opinions from senior leadership, being able to think of new and innovative solutions has the potential to transform your career.

Resilience, flexibility and agility

Complex challenges, shifting approaches to work, new technologies and skill demands all require: resilience, flexibility and agility. Being able to quickly shift gears, tackle difficult situations and adapt to changes will set employees up for success in fast-paced work environments, because they understand better than anyone that the only constant really is change.

Critical thinking and problem-solving

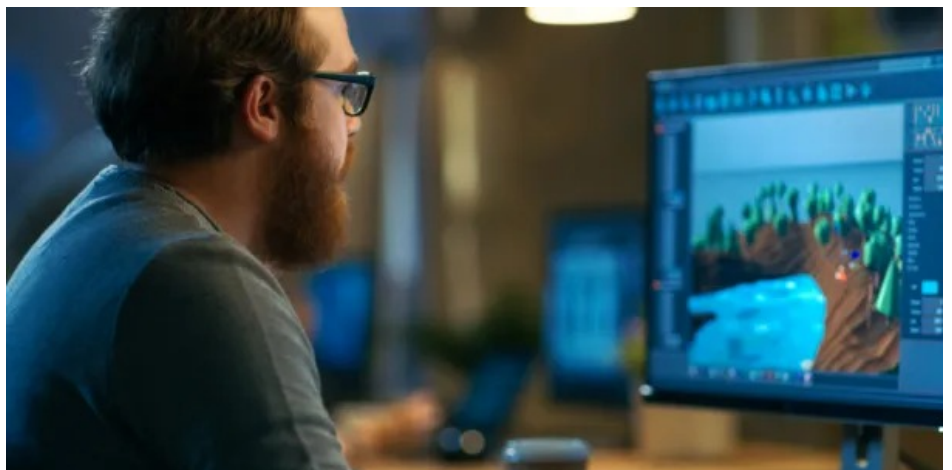
Problem solving and critical thinking skills are key skills for businesses in 2025. From analysing, evaluating and assessing information to coming up with sound solutions and making informed decisions, a critical approach to problem solving will help identify the best course of action. Plus, there's also the added benefit that these skills, like all other soft skills mentioned, are AI-proof, and therefore, future-proof.

Digital literacy

Understanding of digital media will go a long way in today's data-driven society. Digital literacy is a core skill which goes beyond being able to use LinkedIn and Instagram. From productivity tools like Notion and project management platforms such as Asana and Monday to even messaging platforms like Slack, the number of digital tools used day-to-day in the workplace has never been higher (and that's before we get to GenAI tools). Being able to continually develop the skills you need to implement these tools into your work week is essential in 2025.

Leadership

Communication, delegation, decision-making, team building, stakeholder management and conflict resolution are just some of the leadership skills needed to thrive at work. Leadership skills have never been more important, and not just with senior members of the team. Everyone could benefit from thinking like a leader. Being able to lead projects, think strategically and build a rapport with different teams are all critical not only at work but also for personal growth.



Do you like learning about **energy stores and pathways**?

You could be a/an...

Vehicle mechanic



Josh maintains and repairs hydrogen-powered buses.

Career route Apprenticeship or on the job training
Salary range £25,000 – £42,000

Data analyst



Imisi studies data from electric cars to help them become more energy efficient.

Career route Degree or degree apprenticeship
Salary range £23,000 – £60,000+

Mechanical engineer



Sama designs safe and thrilling rollercoasters.

Career route Degree
Salary range £26,000 – £52,000

Energy industry consultant



Edris helps companies understand how they could use renewable energy resources.

Career route Degree
Salary range £27,000 – £90,000



You don't need a degree to be a scientist!
You can take a different career route including an apprenticeship, degree apprenticeship or by training on the job.

Which job would you like to do?



www.energisingfutures.co.uk



Spring news from the Sixth Form Bolton. This digital only version has been designed for mobile, so best viewed using your mobile phone.

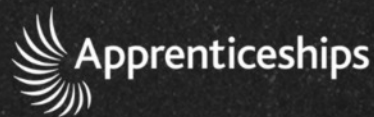
This newsletter celebrates staff and student success and highlights just a few of the many activities our students have engaged with this last term.

I hope you enjoy this brief insight into what makes The Sixth Form Bolton a wonderful place to learn.

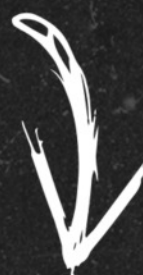
Stuart Merrills
Principal

**SPRING EDITION -
B6**





COME SPEAK TO US AT OUR



RESULTS DAY DROP-IN SESSIONS

A LEVEL RESULTS DAY - THURSDAY 14TH AUGUST 2025

GCSE RESULTS DAY - THURSDAY 21ST AUGUST 2025

11AM - 2PM

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION | ENGINEERING OPERATIVE | ENGINEERING FITTER
ENGINEERING DESIGN TECHNICIAN | MECHATRONICS MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN
MACHINING TECHNICIAN | METAL FABRICATOR
MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN

- ☒ FIND OUT EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT APPRENTICESHIPS
- ☒ HAVE A TOUR OF OUR SPECIALIST FACILITIES
- ☒ CHECK OUT OUR CURRENT APPRENTICESHIP VACANCIES
- ☒ DISCUSS YOUR CAREER OPTIONS WITH OUR TEAM



NO BOOKING REQUIRED
ALLIANCE LEARNING, HORWICH BUSINESS PARK, CHORLEY NEW ROAD, HORWICH, BOLTON. BL6 5UE
(BEHIND THE FIRE STATION)



WWW.ALLIANCELEARNING.COM



01204 677888



INFO@ALLIANCELEARNING.COM



What can you do with...

PHYSICS

Astronomer

Study planets, stars and other celestial bodies using earth and space based equipment.

Nuclear Engineer

Design nuclear equipment to create zero-emission energy and essential medical solutions.

Sound Engineer

Knowing how sound travels and can be controlled is essential for making all kinds of recordings.

Meteorologist

Collect and study data of the atmosphere and oceans to create weather reports and research.

What **SKILLS & TRAITS** could you need:

- research & analysis
- problem solving
- numeracy
- communication
- IT skills
- teamwork

SCAN ME

to build your skills and explore careers



youthemployment.org.uk/careers-hub/



QUESTION OF THE MONTH...

BBC
BITESIZE
CAREERS



Russell Kane tries his hand as an apprentice zookeeper!

HOW DO I HELP MY CHILD APPLY FOR AN APPRENTICESHIP?

We've teamed up with BBC Bitesize Careers to find answers to the top questions that parents and carers have.

1 Help them decide what apprenticeship they want to do

Encourage them to talk to friends, siblings or family members that have done an apprenticeship to find out the pros and cons. Help them to identify and research organisations or companies they like the look of, or if they really don't know where to start, ask them to list their top five skills to fine tune what they're good at.

Together, you can then look for roles that use those skills. There are opportunities in a range of industries including Marketing, Law and even Space Engineering. Learn about some of the options available and watch comedian Russell Kane get his hands dirty as an [apprentice zookeeper](#).

2 Support them with their application

Writing application forms, CVs and cover letters for the first time can be daunting, but with a little help it doesn't need to be. The [CV toolkit](#) provides a step-by-step guide on how your child can best showcase their skills.

Discussing your child's career options can feel overwhelming. If your child is interested in pursuing an apprenticeship, BBC Bitesize Careers shares three ways you can support them.

Organise practice interviews with family and friends, where they can rehearse speaking about their skills and experience with you or in front of the mirror. Check out our ["How to prepare for an interview"](#) article for more tips.

3 Keep trying!

If your child doesn't get the first apprenticeship they apply for, it can be disheartening. However, often disappointment can help us to grow, both personally and professionally. Hear from success stories, like Lewis Capaldi, and how they overcame failure, [here](#).

The [apprenticeship FAQs](#) is a helpful guide that you can use with your child to find a pathway that suits them.

FOR MORE IDEAS, VISIT THE
BBC BITESIZE CAREERS
[WEBSITE](#) BY SCANNING
THE CODE. →



Bank of England

The Bank of England is designing its next banknotes – and we want to hear from your students

As we begin to design the next series of banknotes, we are considering what theme should be represented to symbolise the UK, and we would like to hear your students' views. **We encourage you to share our consultation with them and encourage them to have their say on the future design of our banknotes.** Our banknotes have celebrated notable historical figures since 1970, when William Shakespeare became the first person other than the monarch to feature on a banknote.



However, there are many ways to represent the UK. We have identified six potential themes for our next series of banknotes:

- notable historical figures
- nature
- architecture and landmarks
- arts, culture and sport
- noteworthy milestones
- innovation

They can also suggest other ideas for us to consider.

What theme(s) would your students like us to use?

You can nominate a theme before 31 July 2025. Find out more on our website.

Bank of England website





Great mathematicians wanted!

As we approach the end of the school year, I would like to ask you if there are any great mathematicians in your Y11 who may not have heard of us, or may not have applied. It's not too late for them to get in touch with us. Any student with a grade 8 or above in Maths will be able to access our curriculum.

As we only opened in 2022, we know we are still getting the word out, and after our first year's fantastic results, we also have an Ofsted report to share. We were delighted with the outcome, and it was really important to us that there was recognition of the extra work and opportunities that LUSoM offers beyond the standard A-level curriculum. We pride ourselves on the innovative project work and strong links with the university which feeds the enthusiasm of our students and creates a culture of learning.

[Link to Ofsted result](#)

Results last year saw LUSoM amongst the top state sixth form providers in the whole of the north of England in both attainment and value added measures. A huge 85% of all grades were A*-B, with 65% A*/A and 30% A*, the average grade being A-. Students from the school went off to study at the top universities including Oxford and Cambridge, and others went on to prestigious degree apprenticeships with BAE and Dyson.

The opportunities for students who study mathematics are just incredible, and we urge anyone with the potential to come and visit us and see what we have to offer.

Peter Tiltman

Head of School, Lancaster University School of Mathematics



LANCASTER UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

ASK AN APPRENTICE COMMUNITY!

Student: Why Join?



Easy to use

Post your questions – apprentices respond!



Personalised

Ask the questions you want answered



Network

Our apprentice mentors are from top UK employers



Stand out

Gain insider knowledge and get ahead in applications



Ask anonymously

Ideal for questions you'd rather not ask your teacher!



Industry-specific

Get advice specific to the industry you're interested in applying to!

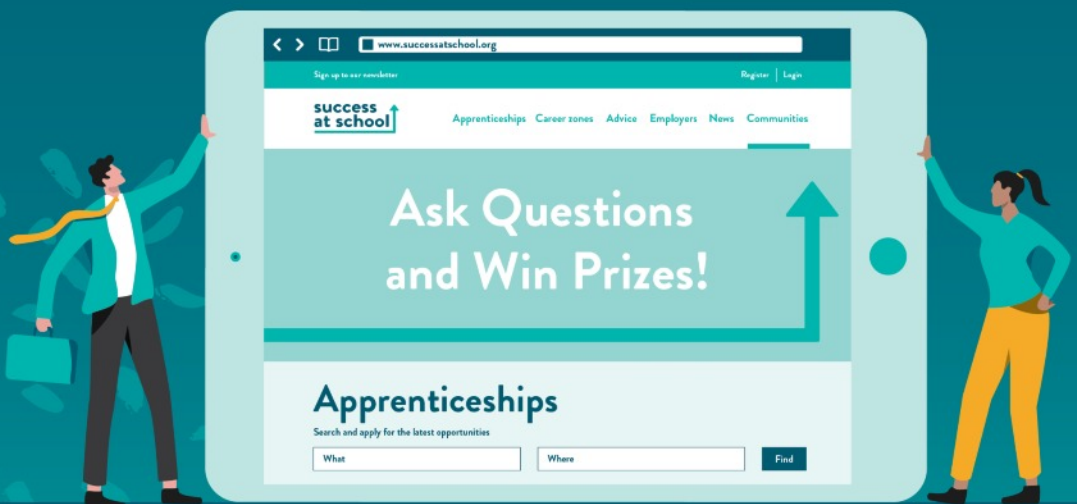
How it works:

- Sign up for free and join the community.
- Post your questions about apprenticeships, careers, and more!
- Get answers and advice from experienced apprentices.

Not sure what to ask? Things to ask about:

- Application tips
- Life as an apprentice
- Skills you'll need

Scan here
to sign up



Find out more: www.successatschool.org/community

**success
at school**

success
at school

How can we help your students?

We're here to help your students take the next step!
Let's make it happen!



We can send them tailored opportunities based on their interests!

- In their profile, they can favourite '**Employers**' and '**Career Zones**'. Then they will **receive exclusive invites to events** related to their interests.
- Then, on a **Tuesday and Thursday**, students will **receive an email with opportunities**, without having to spend hours searching for what they're interested in!



Access to 24/7 Mentoring, 365 days a year.

- '**Ask an Apprentice**' isn't just for apprenticeship seekers! Our mentors have **navigated school, exams, UCAS applications, and mental health challenges**. Students can access them anytime, risk-free. Read our safeguarding policy [here](#).



Certificates and Prizes!

- Students who attend our webinars and register **get a certificate** to showcase their career commitment - perfect for LinkedIn! Plus, asking a question in **Ask an Apprentice** enters them into a prize draw to **win Apple prizes** like a MacBook Air!

LOG IN NOW!



Interview tips...

Top tips for a successful interview

1

Plan your journey

Allow extra time and plan to arrive at least 15 minutes early. If you are unfamiliar with the location, do a test run.

2

Research, research and research!

Be prepared for the interview - research the company and your role.

3

Appearance

Dress professionally for an interview.

4

Behaviour

Make sure that you use positive body language, such as a firm hand shake, sit up straight and make eye contact. Don't take your mobile phone into an interview with you.

5

Sell yourself

Take a record of achievement file with you including your GCSE certificates. You can take notes into your interview.

Before your interview

Practise answering interview questions with someone else. If you are at school or college, you may be able to arrange a mock interview.

Keep in mind the interviewer wants to find out about what you can offer them: the particular skills and qualities you can bring that set you apart from other applicants.

But it's not just about what the employer is looking for – try to think of some insightful questions you could ask, for example:

- Future opportunities for progression?
- Do you have a mentor scheme?
- What responsibilities would I start with if I was successful?
- How soon could I start?

On the day - breathe!

First impressions count!

Make sure you dress appropriately and look the part. Avoid elaborate jewellery, body piercings, excessive make up and hairstyles, etc.

Offer a firm handshake and make appropriate eye contact with the interviewer.

It's OK to take a moment to think through your response, and better to have a considered reply rather than a rushed answer. If you need more time to think about your answer, ask the interviewer to repeat the question. Don't let your nerves take hold of you, channel them and use them to your advantage!

Remember it's not enough to just say you're good at something – always try to provide examples.

It's fine to ask questions! Ask your prepared questions and anything that came up during the interview... **Avoid JUST** asking about your salary and benefits!

Commonly asked interview questions

Background on you...

- Tell me a bit about yourself?
- What do you like to do in your spare time? (hobbies etc)
- What is your current situation? (i.e. school, college, employed)
- Have you been given any responsibilities? (i.e. prefect etc)

Why should they hire you...

- What made you apply for this position?
- What do you know about the company?
- What can you bring to the company?
- What skills do you have that will help you in this role?

Can you give me an example of when...

- You worked as part of a team?
- You used your initiative?
- You worked under a pressure?
- You worked to a deadline?
- You multi-tasked successfully?

Self evaluation...

- What do you consider your strengths?
- What do you consider your weaknesses?
- What is your greatest achievement and why?

Future career plans...

- Where do you see yourself in five years time?
- Have you got a future career in mind?

! Did you know that you can book a mock interview with your Training 2000 recruitment advisor?

CV tips

Use a positive tone throughout

Maintain a consistent font and use appropriate sizing

Keep it up to date with relevant information

Use a chronological order with work experience and qualifications (most recent first)

Keep it simple and clear

Spell check and use correct punctuation and grammar

Key things to include:

- Contact details
- Personal statement - a short introduction to you
- Grades / education history
- Work experiences
- Work history (if it's not your first job)
- References
- Key skills

What happens next...

If you are successful in the interview:

- We will call you and offer you the Apprenticeship position
- A member of Training 2000 will contact you to officially register you on the Apprenticeship programme
- A start date in company will be agreed and you START your employment
- You will be invited into Training 2000 to complete your on-boarding

If you are unfortunately not successful in the interview:

- We will get feedback from the company and find out why
- We will contact you and explain what steps we can take to make the next interview successful (this may include a mock interview here at Training 2000)
- We will continue to pair you with companies and arrange interviews until you are successful in finding an Apprenticeship

www.training2000.co.uk | 01254 54659

Part of the
University of
Central Lancashire



DEVELOPING TALENT THROUGH TRAINING



Youth Futures Team

Next Steps



Leaving School? What Next?

College

- A Levels
- Vocational Courses
- T Levels
- Entry Level Courses

Apprenticeship

- Work Based Training
- 4 days work, 1 day college/training
- Apprenticeship Salary
- Qualification on completion

Employment

- Full Time / Part Time Work
- Hourly / Salary Paid
- CV Needed
- Interview Preparation

Training

- Support Your Employability Skills
- Build Your Confidence
- Vary From 4 - 12 weeks!

Want Support?

Please contact the Youth Futures team on
youthfutures@lancashire.gov.uk

Alison (East): 07729 081094

Anna (North): 07354 167290

Steph (Central): 07917 534459



Support for students with special educational needs and disabilities

By Verity Lewis, Disability Advice Officer at the University of South Wales

Starting university is an exciting new chapter filled with opportunities and challenges. If you have special educational needs or a disability (SEND), you might feel uncertain about what to expect. However, rest assured, UK universities are dedicated to supporting you every step of the way. This guide will introduce you to the resources, adjustments, and services designed to help you thrive and make the most of your university experience.

Declaring your disability

Your first step towards accessing support is to declare your disability on your UCAS application or directly to the university. Many students worry this might affect their application, but universities are legally required under the Equality Act 2010 to treat everyone fairly. Declaring your disability

helps universities understand your needs and arrange reasonable adjustments to support your learning and university life from the very beginning.

The Disabled Students' Allowance

If you have additional needs due to a disability, learning difficulty, or long-term health condition, you can apply for the Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA) (page 60). This non-repayable grant can cover the cost of:

- non-medical helpers, such as a mentor or note-taker
- travel costs related to your disability
- specialist equipment, like a laptop with assistive software
- other resources tailored to your needs.

It's important to apply for the Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA) early, as the process can take some time. While it might seem overwhelming at first, universities are here to guide you through it. At the University of South Wales, for instance, you can connect with a Disability Adviser during open days, taster sessions or through their dedicated email inbox, even before you enrol. These conversations ensure you have the support you need in place, ready for when you start your university journey.



DOWNLOAD NOW!

What to expect at a university open day

By Gavin Spoons, Regional Student Recruitment Officer at Norwich University of the Arts

Open days are the perfect way to experience first-hand what being a student at a particular university is really like. You can gather lots of useful information online and in prospectuses, but nothing beats being in the university environment and having the opportunity to speak to academics and current students. Open days are packed with scheduled activities to help you get a feel for a university and see if it's somewhere you might want to study.

Campus tours

Arguably the central event of the day, these guided tours are typically led by current students who show you around the campus. You'll explore the university environment, see communal areas such as cafes and libraries, and have a chance to visit facilities related to your course. This gives you insights into your day-to-day life as a student, and you might see work and projects you could do yourself.

Course talks

Throughout the day, there will be a range of informative talks offering information about the university, specific courses, and student support. Most universities host a welcome talk at the start of the day to highlight the unique aspects of that university.

Course-specific talks hosted by academic staff are also very valuable. These talks share detailed information about the courses you're

considering. They allow you to talk directly to the course leader, their fellow lecturers, and current students. These course talks give you a more detailed look into course content than you will find outside of an open day. They cover the work you will do, and the careers you could progress into.

Support talks

Finally, there are additional talks and sessions throughout the day to introduce you to other university departments and of... You could find yourself in talks about accommodation options, what is available, student experience receive advice for applications

Accommodation tours

If you're looking to move away to study at university, you'll want what accommodation options to you. Similar to campus tours, be an opportunity to look around accommodation sites with help from students there to answer any questions. You can see the types of rooms and facilities offered in different sites. Imagining yourself living student is just as important as course advice for applications

Plan your day

Open days can be quite intense, with talks and sessions, but there's a lot to gain from them. Universities offer an open day programme after a long day, so you can relax and enjoy the day. Try to experience as much as you can. It'll help you make informed decisions about your university journey.

The best way to discover the opportunity to about your choice

Top tip: You will find the library at a university is available.

Example: At dedicated to be ready to your source

Choosing the right degree University of independent new friend

University available to our app. This support university

Student your so events continue. Choose a new exciting experience

Top tip: If you have a specific career in mind, find out if your degree needs to have any specific accreditations from an industry board.

Example: If you want to become a professional psychologist, you need to study a degree that is accredited by the British Psychological Society.

Choosing the right campus

A university's campus is the heart of your learning journey. You're likely to spend time in a range of lectures, seminars, and other learning activities, so make sure the campus has everything you need to succeed. This includes passionate teaching staff who are experts in their field and excellent facilities available for you to use.

making that all-important decision

Going to university helps you build a strong foundation, academically and personally, providing new and exciting opportunities. Making an informed choice on your subject, location, and potential future career gives you the greatest opportunity to succeed. Just remember to make a decision that is best for you and your future, and will help you to thrive.

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Featuring expert contributions from over 65 education practitioners

UniTasterDays.com

Students' Guide to University 2025

The key higher education facts for students thinking about university

Produced in collaboration with HELLO

How to choose the right university for you

By Charlotte Higgins, Marketing Officer at the University of Derby

Choosing a degree to study is a big decision, as is selecting the right university. At the University of Derby, we believe making your choice should take into consideration three key factors.

Choosing the right degree

It is vital to select a degree that you are passionate about. You will study the subject for the next few years, so it must be an area that you will enjoy. Review courses on university websites and prospectuses that suit your interests.

There are also various types of degrees to be aware of, including a traditional three-year programme, foundation pathways to help you transition to university, integrated masters if you're looking for advanced learning, or even a degree apprenticeship. Whatever you choose, check it suits your preferred learning and assessment style, such as writing assignments or practical assessments.

Sometimes it's easier to research your dream career, then work backwards to discover what you need to study. But don't worry if you are unsure. Career teams at college and university can help you find out. At the University of Derby, we offer tailored support no matter your chosen course or your previous experience. We provide access to services and programmes to help you reach your career goal.

Top tip: If you have a specific career in mind, find out if your degree needs to have any specific accreditations from an industry board.

Example: If you want to become a professional psychologist, you need to study a degree that is accredited by the British Psychological Society.

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Scholarships: finding financial opportunities and standing out in applications

By Jon Hering, Head of Commercial at Blackburn

Introduction

We get it: studying is expensive.

Tuition fees are going up in September 2025, there is an ongoing cost-of-living crisis, and rising inflation affects how much your maintenance loan can help. Heading to university can seem like a pricey way to kickstart your adult life.

That's where we come in.

To date, Blackburn has released over £25 million in additional funding - grants, bursaries, hardship funds, and scholarships - through our Funding Hub. Our first corporate scholarship launched in April 2023. Since then, we've continued to work with brands like Amazon, Nationwide, and Accenture to help students cover the costs of university.

Even though there are more opportunities out there, the market for scholarships is still small and highly competitive. That's why this article is here to help you find the right opportunities. It will give you the tools to stand out and smash your applications, so you have the best chance to secure additional funding for your degree.

When to expect scholarships to launch
You should be aware of the main funding windows:

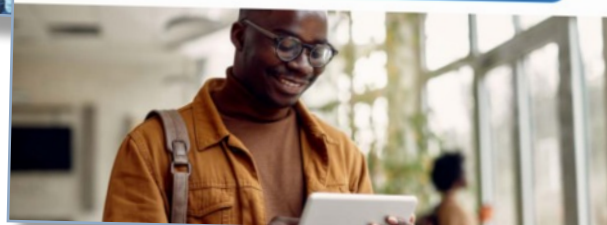
- National Scholarships Week 2025 - running 31 March to 4 April 2025, in partnership with Amazon. Last year, NSW 2024 launched over £800,000 worth of scholarship funding through corporate partners.
- April 2025 - a key period when many scholarships open. Make sure to prepare applications in the spring.
- September 2025 - another wave of scholarships launches in early autumn, giving you a second chance.

Scholarships as a gateway to careers

Many scholarships provide more than financial aid. They offer internships, mentorship, and work experience. These extras can be pivotal in building your career. Try to seek scholarships aligned with your goals, as these opportunities will make you more appealing to future employers.



Learn more about bursaries, scholarships, and free money on Episode 22 of The Uni Guide Podcast, featuring the author of this article, Jon Hering from Blackburn.



HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW ABOUT APPRENTICESHIPS WITH THE BRITISH ARMY?



Amazing Apprenticeships is proud to be working in partnership with the British Army to help to raise awareness of the wide range of apprenticeship opportunities available to young people within the British Army.



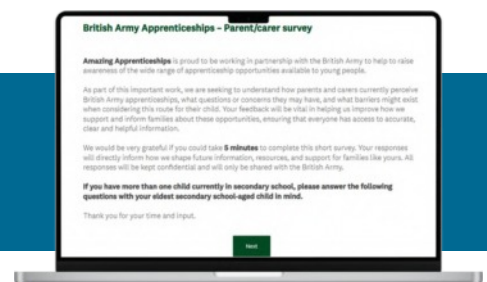
As part of this important work, we are seeking to understand how parents and carers currently perceive British Army apprenticeships, what questions or concerns they may have, and what barriers might exist when considering this route for their child. Your feedback will be vital in helping us improve how we support and inform families about these opportunities, ensuring that everyone has access to accurate, clear and helpful information.



We would be very grateful if you could take 10 minutes to complete this short survey. Your responses will directly inform how we shape future information, resources, and support for families like yours. All responses will be kept confidential and will only be shared with the British Army.



Visit amapps.uk/army-survey to take the survey



**"THE STEM BURSARY
ALLOWED ME TO SET
ASIDE FUNDS FOR
ADVENTUROUS TRAINING
AND TRAVEL."**

2LT BEATTIE



The Army is much more than just a job, it's a sense of belonging. We offer incredible opportunities for travel, sports, and personal growth.

Discover the World with Army Sports and Travel

Imagine skiing down pristine slopes, organising adventurous trips, and exploring diverse cultures around the globe. With the Army, these experiences are within your reach. The Defence STEM Undergraduate Sponsorship (DSUS) not only helps fund your university education but also provides financial support for Adventurous Training and travel opportunities.

REAL STORIES. REAL ADVENTURE.

Take it from one of our bursary recipients, who shared their journey:

"During my second year at the University of Nottingham, I applied for the DSUS bursary and was fortunate to be granted it. This bursary allowed me to set aside funds for Adventurous Training (AT) and travel. I achieved my Ski Foundation (SF1) qualification on my Unit's Ski trip and organised an AT trip to Scotland, gaining my Kayak Foundation (K2F qualification)." – 2Lt Beattie

[Read 2Lt Beattie's Story](#)

What is the DSUS Bursary?

The Army relies on STEM expertise to maintain a modern fighting force. Our Defence STEM Undergraduate Sponsorship (DSUS) Scheme offers an opportunity for STEM Undergraduates, worth up to £42,750. That comprises of an annual bursary of £5,000 and tuition fees up to £9,250 for each of your three years at university.

[Download Army Bursary Information](#)





Army Foundation College Harrogate Virtual Open Day

Our Virtual Open Day is the ideal opportunity for you to learn about becoming a Junior Soldier and what training and development opportunities are on offer at our world-class training facility.

Wednesday 9 July 2025 18:00 - 19:00

[I Want To Attend](#)



Army Officer Insight Day at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst

Join us at the Army Officer Insight Day, Sandhurst, which is filled with exciting activities and valuable information about life as an Army Officer. Get a glimpse into the world of the British Army and learn about the various roles and responsibilities.

Saturday 12 July 2025 09:00 - 16:00

Royal Military Academy Sandhurst
London Road, Camberley GU15 4PQ

[Get directions](#)

[I Want To Attend](#)



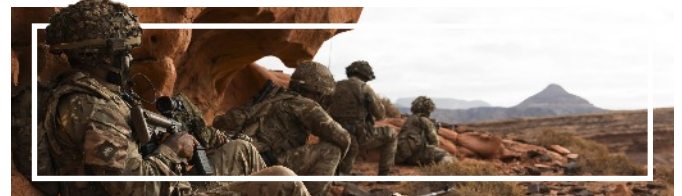
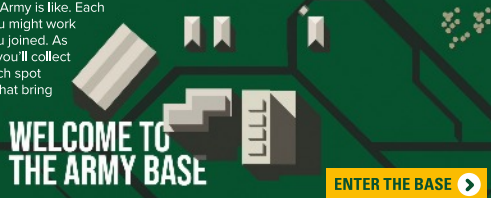
WHAT'S NEW

WELCOME TO YOUR OWN INTERACTIVE ARMY BASE EXPERIENCE!

This interactive map is designed just for you - whether you're a student curious about Army life or a teacher guiding your class through career options.

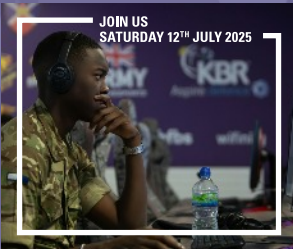
You'll explore a fictional base filled with real insights into what life in the Army is like. Each location highlights areas you might work in, visit, or find exciting if you joined. As you click through the map, you'll collect badges by checking out each spot and watching short videos that bring the experience to life.

YOUR GOAL! Collect all the badges to unlock a special piece of bonus content at the end. It's a fun, hands-on way to learn more about Army careers - and who knows, it might just inspire your next big step.



ARMY OFFICER INSIGHT DAY

JOIN US
SATURDAY 12TH JULY 2025



JOIN US FOR THE NEXT ARMY OFFICER INSIGHT DAY AT SANDHURST!

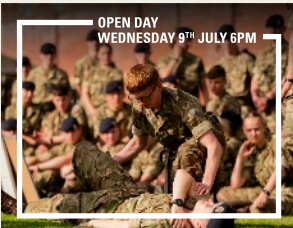
Be prepared to find out more about the application process, Army Officer Selection and the training at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, see what life is like and interact with, and ask questions of, current Army Officers across all the parts of the Army. Whether you're considering a career in the Army or simply curious about what it takes to be an Army Officer, this event is perfect for you.

REGISTER TODAY ➔

JULY
12TH

ARMY FOUNDATION COLLEGE HARROGATE (AFC)

OPEN DAY
WEDNESDAY 9TH JULY 6PM



VIRTUAL HARROGATE OPEN DAY

WEDNESDAY 9TH JULY 6PM

Hear from the Army Foundation College Harrogate Commanding Officer who will explain what Junior Soldiers can expect from the college, take a virtual tour of our campus, hear from a current Junior Soldier and have an opportunity to ask any questions you may have about recruitment or Army life live to our presenters.

REGISTER NOW ➔

JULY
9TH

Ofsted

FEATURED CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

COMBAT INFANTRY SOLDIER ARMoured CAVALRY CREW LIGHT GUNNER UNCREWED
AERIAL SYSTEMS PARATROOPER GUARDSMAN AVIATION GROUND CREW SPECIALIST
HOUSEHOLD CAVALRY SOLDIER INTELLIGENCE & COMMUNICATIONS INTELLIGENCE ANALYST
COMMS ENGINEER ELECTRONIC WARFARE SPECIALIST LINGUIST POWER ENGINEER
GEOGRAPHIC TECHNICIAN ENGINEERING VEHICLE MECHANIC BRICKLAYER AVIONICS TECHNICIAN
ARMOURER CARPENTER AND JOINER SURVEYOR ELECTRICIAN
ENGINEER DRIVER MEDICAL DOG HANDLER NURSE HEALTHCARE ASSISTANT
DOCTOR DENTIST MEDICAL TECHNICIAN PHARMACIST BIOMEDICAL SCIENTIST
LOGISTICS & SUPPORT DRIVER AMMUNITION TECHNICIAN PORT OPERATOR CHEF
FUEL SPECIALIST MOVEMENTS CONTROLLER HR & FINANCE HR SPECIALIST LEGAL OFFICER
MILITARY POLICE MUSIC MUSICIAN

GET IN TOUCH

Armed Forces Careers Office Preston
54 Fishergate, Preston, Lancaster, PR1 8BH
01772 203030
rg-accpreston@groupmail@mod.gov.uk

START YOUR JOURNEY ➔



FIND A RECRUITMENT CENTRE ➔



ARMY APPRENTICESHIPS ➔ GET SKILLS QUALIFIED CONFIDENCE STARTED

MASTER YOUR CRAFT - HR SPECIALIST (LEVEL 3 BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR)

Joining the Adjutant General's Corps (AGC) as a Human Resources Specialist is a transformative step in your career. In this dynamic role, you will deliver critical HR support that keeps the British Army running smoothly. But it doesn't stop there—you will also get the opportunity to grow further by enrolling in a Level 3 Apprenticeship in Business Administration.

This apprenticeship is more than just a qualification—it's a launchpad. It will equip you with advanced administrative, communication, and organisational skills that directly enhance your performance and leadership potential.

JOIN AS A HR SPECIALIST ➔




ARMY
BE THE BEST

Stronger Starts



Retail Apprenticeship



Interested in apprenticeships?

Tesco's Stronger Starts Retail Apprenticeship may be the perfect next step for you.

- Minimum starting salary of £22,501.44
- No qualifications or experience required
- Support from dedicated coach, colleagues and The King's Trust
- Exciting progression opportunities
- Vacancies available nationally
- Part time options available on pro rata salary



Apply now for
22 September 2025 start



**Stronger
Starts.**

Meet Zoe

**Level 2
Retail Apprentice**

Finishing your GCSEs and
looking for your next step?

Kick-start your career
with our Stronger Starts
Retail Apprenticeship

**Watch
Zoe's story**

amapps.uk/tesco



Apply now for
22 September 2025 start

TESCO

Stronger Starts.

Where could it take you?

Retail Apprenticeship



Hub Operator

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

1



Project Manager

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

2



Area Manager

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

3



Your future

Shift Leader

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

Store Manager Convenience

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

Centre Manager

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



Apply now for
22 September 2025 start

TESCO

Stronger Starts.



Retail Apprenticeship



What skills do you gain? It's not just stacking shelves.

Retail

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

Customer Service

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

Technology

Become proficient at using a range of different technologies.

Stock

Learn to manage stock availability using systems and procedures.

Teamwork

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

Problem-solving

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

Business

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

Social Media

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

Finance

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

Product Placement

Develop an understanding of product placement promotional activities.

Time Management

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

Community

Gain knowledge of supporting local communities.



Apply now for
22 September 2025 start



NEW

COLLEGE

PODCAST

COLLEGE COMPASS

**UNLOCK THE
SECRETS TO
A SUCCESSFUL
CAREER**

**GUEST SPEAKERS
ADVICE & GUIDANCE
INDUSTRY KNOWLEDGE**

LISTEN NOW ON SPOTIFY





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/>

MEDIC MENTOR



YOUR MEDIC FAMILY

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

This opportunity is for students in Years 10-11.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



**University Hospitals
Birmingham**
NHS Foundation Trust

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!



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!



After the success of our recent NHS National AHP Work Experience session, I am thrilled to extend an invitation to your students in years 10-11 for our upcoming sessions.

July's session will be focused on Pain Management & Mental Health. Securing in-depth work experience is a game-changer for students looking to enhance their CVs and make a strong impression on university applications. Beyond just gaining insights from real-world work, students will also experience a boost in confidence, laying the foundation for their journey towards becoming healthcare professionals.

Our guest speaker for this session is Kerry Robertshaw, an experienced Paramedic, with a wealth of knowledge and insights to share. Kerry Robertshaw's firsthand experience promises to provide students with a unique perspective on the life of an Allied Health Professional (AHP).

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

The NHS Virtual Allied Healthcare Work Experience offers a unique opportunity for aspiring healthcare professionals. It's a rare occasion for students to hear from our exceptional guest speakers.

Students will gain an intimate look at the healthcare industry in the LIVE virtual work experience, delving into diverse roles within allied healthcare and taking a closer look at patient care by following the journeys of two patients from incident through to treatment.

The NHS Allied Healthcare Work Experience is the largest programme for aspiring healthcare professionals, having successfully invited over 12,000 students to participate in its programme last academic year - many of which have gone on to study:

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

Registration Link: <https://alliedhealthmentor.org/product/live-virtual-work-experience-programme/>

Once registered, students will receive access to their virtual work experience portals. Better yet, every complete session comes with a Work Experience Certificate, and for those who complete the full 6-month programme, there's a Highly Commended Reference - a golden ticket for their apprenticeship and UCAS applications.

Registration will start at 8:30am then the live work experience session starts at 10am, with an end at 5pm. Plenty of breaks are scheduled throughout.

Students can register 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 £10 a session to cover administrative and technological costs, or £50 for the full 6 months:

<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

APPRENTICESHIPS LINKED TO SCIENCE

- **BIOMEDICAL SCIENTIST**
 - **DOCTOR**
 - **HEALTHCARE SCIENCE ASSISTANT**
 - **LABORATORY SCIENTIST**
 - **METROLOGY TECHNICIAN**
 - **NUCLEAR TECHNICIAN**
 - **PHARMACY TECHNICIAN**
 - **PHYSIOTHERAPIST**
 - **REGISTERED NURSE**
 - **SONOGRAPHER**
 - **THERAPEUTIC RADIOGRAPHER**
- AND MANY MORE!**



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

SCAN ME



APPRENTICESHIP



Level 2 Nursery Apprentice

Doodles Nursery Ltd., Chorley

VAC1000320660

Level 2 Early Years Apprentice

Little Explorers Nursery & Pre-School, Chorley

VAC1000325812

Level 2 Furniture Manufacturing Apprentice

Hello Nook, Chorley

VAC1000322914

Level 2 Apprentice Groundworker

C.R. Civil Engineering Ltd

VAC1000328007

Level 2 Assistant Accountant Apprentice

BRJF Accountants, Euxton

VAC1000326558

Level 3 Machining Technician Apprenticeship

Gerotor Design Studio Ltd, Cogent Ssc Ltd., Leyland

VAC1000329715

Level 3 Nursery Apprentice

Nature Trail Nursery Ltd., Chorley

VAC1000325809

Level 3 Apprentice Teaching Assistant

Shaftesbury High School, Chorley

VAC1000328612

Level 3 Business Administrator

Fresh Perspective Ltd., Chorley

VAC1000329646

Level 3 Apprentice Teaching Assistant

Brinscall St John's CE Primary School

VAC1000324364

Level 3 Accountancy Apprenticeship

Smith & Goulding Ltd, Chorley

VAC1000328822

To search for an apprenticeship anywhere in England, have a look at the national apprenticeship website, create an account and apply for any of the vacancies.

[Click here](#)

FINISHED YEAR 11 OR YEAR 13 AND WANT TO FIND AN APPRENTICESHIP?

Join us to find out about what to do right now to start finding an apprenticeship. You haven't left it too late!

Date: **Monday 7th July 2025**

Time: **15:30 – 16:00**

Please register to join and receive the recording by [clicking here](#).



CAREER *of the* WEEK

Diplomatic service officer

Diplomatic service officers work for the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) to protect and promote UK interests globally and support British citizens and businesses abroad.

You'll specialise in the practical aspects of diplomatic work, including formulating and implementing foreign policy, providing consular support and managing international relationships. You'll also have opportunities to contribute to global development, security and policy initiatives.

The FCDO addresses a range of international issues, including:

- conflict resolution and peace making
- consular assistance
- counter terrorism
- climate change and environmental policy
- crisis response
- human rights
- trade, investment and economic diplomacy

Responsibilities

Tasks vary depending on where you're working. For example, you could be based in a small or remote embassy, in a large embassy in Paris or Washington, or in the FCDO's UK offices in London or East Kilbride (which will be moving to Glasgow).

However, you'll typically need to:

- draft, edit and proofread written reports
- liaise with high commissions, embassies and government departments
- organise and coordinate ministerial and diplomatic visits, including everything from transport to hospitality arrangements
- respond to written correspondence from the public, businesses and officials by letter or email
- analyse and interpret policy documents and reports
- handle telephone queries from government departments, overseas contacts and the public
- assist members of the public in person with consular and policy-related enquiries
- update and maintain travel advice and official information
- manage staff, oversee performance and conduct annual appraisals
- monitor and manage departmental or project budgets
- maintain personnel records, process accounts and complete administrative tasks
- support colleagues with policy development and implementation
- carry out specific tasks related to your department's focus

Overseas, your role will be similar, but you'll also need to:

- support British businesses and individuals with trade and consular matters
- assess visa applications and conduct interviews as an entry clearance officer
- lead or contribute to specialist projects, depending on your posting

For more information [click here](#)

