



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

Welcome to another packed edition of Career News. As always, there are lots of great events and opportunities for pupils and parents/carers.



- InnovateHer have a fantastic free course on cyber security - definitely worth signing up for (open to anyone aged 13-17)
- There is a virtual work experience programme with Lloyds Banking Group, running over the Easter break, ideal for anyone who is considering a career in finance and business.
- GT Scholars are launching a Tutoring and Mentoring scheme - read Brittany's story and see if this is something that you would like to get involved with.
- Get hands-on experience in your dream career with InvestIn Education - summer work experience placements. Find out more at [investin.org](http://investin.org) or scan the QR code to see all the programmes. Bursaries are available.
- Training 2000 have a number of really good apprenticeship opportunities available locally - check their website for more details and to apply.
- There are still a few open events at various colleges coming up in April, ideal for Year 10s wanting to get a head start on choosing a college next year - or for Year 11s who are still not quite sure about their options.
- The Careers Fair last week was a resounding success - photos to follow in the next edition. We had some amazing exhibitors: colleges, training providers, universities and employers, all of whom spoke highly of our students. A massive thank you to anyone who was involved in the Careers Fair.
- Runshaw College interviews have taken place this week and the final set of Wigan & Leigh College interviews are on 31<sup>st</sup> March. If anyone has not applied to at least TWO colleges, please consider putting an application in as soon as possible, you really do need a Plan B!

*Have a great weekend!*



23<sup>rd</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> March 2026



NatWest  
Thrive

# Fighting fraud and outsmarting scammers

Money safety

Fraudsters and scammers will do anything to get their hands on what's yours. Catch scammers in the act by spotting the signs and learning how to keep yourself safe.

## Watch out for these types of social media scam:

These things can look real but can be fake.

### Fake tickets

Only buy tickets from a legitimate ticketing website, not random sellers online.



### Counterfeit goods

Scammers copy clothes and trainers, pretending to sell the real thing at an amazing price, but the item doesn't actually exist.



### Fake job ads

Watch out for fake job ads. If a job sounds sketchy, promises high pay, and asks you to send money to get started, don't do it.



### Money muling

A money mule is someone who lets a criminal use their bank account to move money on their behalf. This is often disguised as a legitimate job advert — so if a "job" asks you to move money through your account, don't do it.



### Let's talk about it

If you're unsure, ask for help from a trusted adult or visit [Childnet.com](https://www.childnet.com)



### Explore more

NatWest Thrive resources for your classroom

## Top tips for staying safe:

### Pause, Protect.



**Think** – Why are you being asked for your info?



**Feel** – Does everything feel ok, or does anything look or feel a little bit off?



**If you send money** – do you think you'll definitely get the item?



**Talk** to a friend or adult and get a second opinion

Tomorrow begins today



## A New Course!



We're incredibly excited to let you know that our **BRAND NEW** course, all about Cyber Security careers, is now **LIVE!**

Tailored for 13-17-year-olds, this **free course** equips students with essential knowledge on the cyber security industry and how students can build a career in the sector.

This 35-minute course explores different jobs in cyber security and how students can get started today.

Click the below button to sign up.

[\*\*Sign Up Here\*\*](#)

### **Benefits for Students:**

- An Exploration of Different Jobs in Cyber Security
- Meeting Role Models in Cyber
- Creating a Career Roadmap
- Understanding Their Future Steps



# LLOYDS BANKING GROUP

## Lloyds Banking Group

### Easter Break - Virtual Work Experience!

**Monday 30th March or Tuesday 7th April**

**10am - 2pm (Choose one session only)**

This Easter Break, we have two fantastic virtual work experience programs with Lloyds Banking Group for students interested in pursuing a career within the banking and finance industry. Students can select which day they would like to take part in the link below. This is a great way for your students to get meaningful work experience during the Easter Break, learn more about the industry, and gain more insight into one of the UK's biggest banks.

Are you ready to take your first step into the world of banking and finance this Easter Break? Whether you're considering apprenticeships, work experience, internships or graduate schemes - this session is your launchpad.

Lloyds Banking Group is a world-renowned commercial, personal, and investment banking management firm and the UK's biggest Bank. LBG has over 30 million customers and around 60,000 employees globally and is a FTSE 100 company. Under the Lloyds Banking Group business, they also own Halifax and Bank of Scotland, as well as other financial institutions such as Scottish Widows.

#### **What to expect:**

- We'll show you an introduction to LBG
- How to evolve your presentation skills
- Take part in business-related challenges
- Commercial awareness and building essential skills workshops
- Learn about banking, finance, and digital technology
- Learn about a SWOT analysis and putting it into practice

**Your future starts now. Let's unlock it - together**

#### **Event Details:**

**Date:** Monday, 30th March or Tuesday, 7th April - please choose one session only

**Time:** 10am - 2pm

**For:** Students at school and University

**Location:** (Zoom link provided upon registration)

**Application Link:**

**[https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LBG\\_VWEX\\_MAR](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LBG_VWEX_MAR)**



This is your last chance to look round Blackburn College this academic year. So if you are in Year 11 and still not quite sure which college is right for you, go and have a look - check out the vast array of courses and the awesome facilities. They offer A levels, T levels, BTECs and apprenticeships, so there's something for everyone. You can even complete a degree at the University Centre - perfect if you are worried about the rising costs of university accommodation.

Year 10 - this is an ideal opportunity to make a start on checking out colleges before you have to make a choice next year.

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## Spill the Tea on T Levels at Teatime

NHS, Social Care and Further Education colleagues from across the North West are delivering an information session on T Levels, with a focus on the Health T Level. We aim to bust some myths and provide expert advice on this pathway and the Industry Based Placements associated with the course. This event is for pupils, parents/carers/ guardians, careers staff and any other relevant attendees that would be interested finding out more information about T Levels in Health.

### Spill the Tea on T Levels at Teatime

Tuesday 24th March 2026, 7.00pm to 8.00pm

Live Webinar on Teams

Register here [Spill the Tea Webinar Sign up](#)

Or use this QR code





## GCSE Options Resource

We're excited to share with you a FREE resource to support your students as they work towards choosing their GCSE options.

This easy-to-access guide shows how GCSE subjects connect to:

- Real jobs people do today
- Skills employers look for
- Future careers that are growing fast

Covering subjects from languages to computer science, there are insights to support all students. Including supporting comments from real people who chose a certain subject and where they are now, in order to give students examples of potential career and subject routes.

All you need to do is click one of the buttons below to view it, or click the button to download the guide

[VIEW GUIDE](#)

[DOWNLOAD GUIDE](#)





**PRESTON**  
COLLEGE

APPRENTICESHIP **& T LEVEL**

**OPEN EVENT**

WEDNESDAY **29 APRIL** 4.00PM - 6.30PM

**REGISTER TODAY!**



# INVESTIN WORK EXPERIENCE SUMMER SCHOOLS



✓ Explore real workplaces and work with top professionals

✓ Gain a qualification in work experience & career planning

✓ Experience university life at UCL

*In London  
this summer*

*Experience your  
dream career*

*For students  
aged 12-18*

**Find out  
more**



**Visit  
investin.org**

# GAIN HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE IN YOUR DREAM CAREER

Choose from 15 careers

*Art & Design*

*Architecture*

*Computer Science*

*Dentistry*

*Engineering*

*Entrepreneurship*

*Forensic Science*

*International Politics*

*Investment Banking*

*Law*

*Media*

*Medicine*

*Psychology*

*TV & Film*

*Veterinary Science*



## ENGINEERING

Visit a working airfield and learn from aeronautical engineers about mechanics



## BANKING

Trade the stock market with the London Academy of Trading



## MEDIA

Visit a TV studio and deliver a simulated broadcast



## MEDICINE

Shadow doctors on a simulated ward round at a London training hospital



“Now I’ve been on an InvestIN programme, I know what I want to do forever”





One of the most effective ways for students to understand technology is by building something themselves. When students move from learning about technology to creating with it, they often develop a deeper understanding of how digital tools can be used to solve real-world problems.

The Tech Mentor National No-Code Hackathon is a STEM enrichment experience where students work in teams to solve real-world challenges using modern digital tools.

**Event details:**

- Sunday 12th April
- 10:00am - 4:00pm (online)
- Students aged 14 - 18
- £15 per student

**Further information and registration:** <https://techmentor.org.uk/national-hackathon-competition>

**About the event**

During the hackathon, students work in teams to respond to a real-world challenge revealed on the day. Previous themes have explored areas such as sustainability, education access, and digital wellbeing.

Using beginner-friendly no-code platforms such as Lovable, students design and prototype a digital solution with guidance from experienced mentors.

No previous coding or technical experience is required.

The experience focuses on developing skills that are increasingly valuable across many fields, including:

- Collaborative working and communication
- Creative problem solving
- Analytical thinking and idea development
- Presenting ideas clearly and confidently
- Understanding how technology can be applied across different sectors

Students also gain insight into how technology and innovation are used in modern workplaces. The experience mirrors how many technology teams operate: analysing problems, generating ideas, building solutions, and presenting them clearly.

**Participants receive:**

- A certificate recognising participation in a national technology competition
- A completed project or prototype suitable for portfolios or applications
- Experience presenting ideas and solutions
- Exposure to potential technology career pathways

Winning teams will also progress to the National Finals on 11th July 2026, where teams compete for the following prizes:

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

Students can register individually using the link below. Spaces are limited and allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

**Registration:**

<https://techmentor.org.uk/national-hackathon-competition>



**ALTHOUGH A CLICHÉ, YOU REALLY ARE YOUR OWN LIMITATION. YOU CAN GO AS FAR AS YOU THINK YOU CAN GO.**

**SAAHIRAH AHMED, APPRENTICE**

#NCW2026



University of Lancashire  
**Training 2000**

**APPRENTICESHIP  
VACANCIES**

**MSM Fabrications Ltd**  
Accounts Office /  
Administrator Apprentice  
Nelson  
£286.90 per week  
Accountancy

**Blakewater Solicitors Limited**  
Paralegal Apprentice  
Blackburn  
£264.25 per week  
Business Admin

**Total Pipeline Systems**  
Business Admin Apprentice  
Accrington  
£283.12 per week  
Business Admin

**Preferred Locums Ltd**  
Administration Assistant  
Apprentice  
Fulwood  
£264.25 per week  
Business Admin

**Inox Fabrications Ltd**  
Apprentice Design Engineer  
Blackburn  
£294.45 per week  
Engineering

**Pets Choice Ltd**  
Apprentice Maintenance  
Engineer  
Blackburn  
£316.00 per week  
Engineering

**Marshall's Group Plc**  
Apprentice Maintenance  
Engineer  
Ramsbottom  
£363.40 per week  
Engineering

**Morecheck**  
Fabricator/Pipe Fitter  
Welder Apprentice  
Preston  
£312.00 per week  
Engineering

**Apply online:** [www.training2000.co.uk](http://www.training2000.co.uk)

Latest vacancies can be found on our website.  
Correct on 17th March 2026

DEVELOPING TALENT THROUGH TRAINING

**Some really good opportunities available through Training 2000.  
Check out their website for further details and the application forms.**



Furthergate Business Park,  
Harwood Street  
Blackburn  
BB1 3BD  
01254 54659  
[info@t2000.co.uk](mailto:info@t2000.co.uk)

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Modern Day Slavery Statement  
University of Lancashire

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# ABP Work Experience is now live!



Build skills, explore careers, and discover **Associated British Ports**.



There are 4 modules to choose from:



## Keeping Britain Trading

Find out how ABP moves goods like cars and bananas, creates jobs, and connects the UK to global trade.



## Enabling the Energy Transition

Learn what energy transition means and how ABP supports renewable projects like offshore wind, shaping greener careers.



## Home Safe Everyday

Explore ABP's safety-first culture, life-saving rules, and wellbeing initiatives that make it a great place to work.



## Careers at ABP

Discover diverse careers—from Engineering to Human Resources—and the skills and paths that lead to success in this dynamic industry.

## Virtual Work Experience



### Work Experience Programme



Up to 2 hours  
to complete



Badge & Certificate  
on completion



**SIGN UP TODAY**

ABP's Virtual Work Experience gives students real insight into one of the UK's most important industries - with interactive modules, employee stories and practical knowledge they can use in applications and interviews.

**Students can start ABP's work experience from their phone or laptop today!**



Experience your future, with



**SIGN UP TODAY**

**SIGN UP USING THIS LINK**

SUCCESS IS *PERSONAL*



A PARENTS & CARERS GUIDE TO

# APPLYING FOR APPRENTICESHIPS WITH EDF



## A Parents & Carers Guide to Applying for Apprenticeships with EDF

This new practical, easy-to-read guide explains who EDF is, what an EDF apprenticeship involves, the range of programmes available and the benefits of an apprenticeship with EDF. It also lays out the application process and shares tips on how parents and carers can best support young people at each stage of the process.

[DOWNLOAD THE GUIDE](#)

### EDF's apprenticeship vacancies are OPEN for applications

Vacancies are open for applications in roles ranging from Wind Turbine Technician to Health Physics Monitor, Engineering Technicians to Human Resources, Project Management to Business Administration, Health and Safety, and more.

[EXPLORE EDF APPRENTICESHIPS](#)



### Virtual work experience

If you're interested in applying this year or working for EDF in the future, their virtual work experience programme is still open until **29th March 2026**, helping you to explore EDF careers and learn what employability skills will make you stand out.

Visit EDF's Meet the Employer profile and head to the resources & information section to access the work experience.

[EXPLORE VIRTUAL WORK EXPERIENCE](#)



SUCCESS IS  
*PERSONAL*





# THE GT SCHOLARS PROGRAMME

Every so often, we meet a scholar whose journey perfectly captures why we do what we do.

Meet Brittany, a 15-year-old scholar with a love for science, sport, and learning. When Brittany joined our Tutoring and Mentoring Programme, she was confident in many areas - but Maths was holding her back.

She knew she was capable of more.



*"I joined the GT Scholars programme to develop my learning in Maths, because Maths is one of my weakest subjects. My grades went up. I started with a grade five, which I was definitely not happy with, and now I'm at a grade six/seven."*

What made the biggest difference wasn't just improving marks - it was how Brittany felt about learning.

*"Doing one-on-one tutoring showed me that I can move my grades up. It gave me confidence and a real boost. My mentor helped me realise there's more to life than academics. She taught me the importance of taking a break, looking after my mental health, and having fun - which actually helps with learning too."*

This is exactly why our programmes combine academic support with mentoring. We don't just help scholars improve grades - we help them build confidence, clarity, and belief in what they're capable of.

You can read Brittany's full story to find out exactly how tutoring and mentoring helped her improve her grades and build her confidence.

If you're interested in applying to our programmes, make sure to sign up for Priority Access in our 1-to-1 and small group tutoring programmes. Parents with priority access will receive an early booking link, giving them a 24-hour head start to complete their application before applications open.

**Get priority access!**



# THE DEGREE GAP

Parents and students, you have been invited to a Live Online Free Webinar by The Degree Gap

## **How To Maximise Every GCSE Mark**

**26th March @ 19:00 - 20:00**

Hi Parents and Students,

Thank you to the 2,500 parents that attended our January event. I hope you found it useful and the 3 free resources we shared. Well we are back with a new event before the GCSE exams.

There is just under a month until The Degree Gap hosts a Live Online Complimentary Webinar: 'How to Maximise Every GCSE Mark'.

If you have not signed up yet, there is still time.

### **So, what will we cover?**

- Where marks are being lost
- How to use exam mark schemes
- How to convert weak topics into scoring topics
- How to keep momentum without burnout

You will get the chance to listen to Maths, English, and Science specialists explain how they achieved top grades and share their best tips. We will focus on the most effective revision strategies before the exams, so you can maximise the time you have left.

To sign up for the event on the 26th of March 7-8pm, please use the link below:

## **Register Now**

Here are some of our reviews from the last event:

*"I recently attended The Degree Gap's free webinar for parents and it was incredibly eye opening. Instead of vague advice, we received clear and actionable strategies. It helped me support my child without increasing stress."*

*"This seminar was excellent - a good length and jam packed with realistic advice that is instantly implementable. The follow up email was hugely appreciated and we have a plan, resources and much better focus for the months ahead. I initially watched this as a parent and have now watched it with my son and husband. Thank you."*

*"I found the webinar really informative and so grateful for the links and access to free resources as everything is so expensive these days and there is so much out there that you need to sign up to and agree to 'trial' before you buy, am just super impressed that these guys have realised how important it is to be so inclusive so all students have an equal chance. Thank you"*

So what is stopping you from being there? Sign up here: **[Register Now](#)**

# Hatch Your Career



## Entrepreneurship

skills create practical solutions, launch projects, and deliver tangible impact that meets real needs in business or society



## Health & Performance

ensure that you can sustain focus, resilience and wellbeing to perform well in high-pressure professional environments



## Financial Literacy

enables you to manage money confidently, make informed financial decisions and build long-term financial security



## Wellbeing

equip you with the emotional awareness, balance and coping strategies needed to thrive personally and professionally in demanding environments



## Careers Literacy

equips you to understand pathways, opportunities and workplace expectations so you can make informed, strategic decisions about your future



## Leadership

develops your ability to take responsibility, inspire others and turn ideas into action that creates meaningful impact



**#NWC2026**

# Apprentice insight: Life as an apprentice at J. Murphy & Sons

Meet Alex, a former T Level student and current level 6 Civil engineer degree apprentice at J. Murphy & Sons



## Before we get on to your apprenticeship, which T Level did you do and what did it involve?

I did a T Level in Design, Surveying and Planning for Construction. The first year covered content like Sustainability, Bills of Quantities (BOQ - documents prepared by a quantity surveyor to

define the quality and quantity of works required), and design using Computer-Aided Design (CAD) and Revit (architecture and design software).

The second year included a mock project, in which we covered more of the surveying element, and this helped us to prepare and understand what the exam project would be like.

We also did an industry placement which consisted of 315 hours and was done either weekly or in blocks (during time off college).

## What made you choose to do a T Level?

I chose the T Level as at the time, I was interested in civil engineering and quantity surveying. There didn't seem to be a course that covered both, so when I went to look at the courses available at York College, I noticed the T Level. The thing that made me definitely choose the T Level was the industry placement. It was the only course at the time that had it. I knew I wanted to go down the apprenticeship route and thought the placement could help with getting an apprenticeship.

## What did you enjoy most about your T Level?

I enjoyed the industry placement the most as it provided me with an insight into the realities of the careers I was considering, and allowed me to view ones I had not thought of, like planning. In terms of the academic side, I liked the surveying part of it.

## What opportunities has your T Level given you?

The T Level has given me my apprenticeship. I did my T Level industry placement at J. Murphy & Sons and halfway through the placement, they offered me an apprenticeship. My T Level also allowed me to do a degree apprenticeship. I hadn't considered doing a degree as I did not plan to go to university until I got my apprenticeship.

## Tell us about your apprenticeship and why you have chosen this career?

I wanted to become an apprentice as full-time university did not appeal to me, and having family and friends in the industry, I knew that doing an apprenticeship was the best route for this sector.

After my T Level placement at J. Murphy and Sons, I realised Civil Engineering was more for me than Quantity Surveying, contrary to what I initially thought when starting my T Level. I am now doing a Level 6 degree apprenticeship in Civil engineering at Teesside University in Middlesbrough.

## What is a typical working day like?

When I am off site, I will complete the documentation side, which includes material inspections, records of inspections, redline drawings when the job is complete, construction records and any other documentation needed for that job. On site, I will complete any monitoring needed for the job. This can include track monitoring or water monitoring (this depends on what the job is and what the site requirements are for the job). I will also do any setting out or marking out that is required as the project is being completed.



**"I wanted to become an apprentice as full-time university did not appeal to me, and having family and friends in the industry, I knew that doing an apprenticeship was the best route for this sector."**

# Apprentice insight: Life as an apprentice at J. Murphy & Sons

Meet Alex, a former T Level student and current level 6 Civil engineer degree apprentice at J. Murphy & Sons



## How is your apprenticeship delivered?

I go to university one day a week for two semesters. It changed to three once I started the degree (my course allows us to get a Higher National Certificate (HNC) and a degree, so I come out with two qualifications). I then also work towards my Incorporated Engineer (IEng) qualification, which the university supports us with through monthly progress meetings. The IEng will allow me to be recognised by the Institute of Civil Engineers (ICE) as an incorporated engineer once I finish the degree learning and sit my End Point Assessment (EPA). Time management is key to balancing university and work!

## How did your T Level help prepare you for an apprenticeship?

The T Level allowed me to have an understanding of the academic side of construction that A-levels wouldn't have provided. The work placement provided the reality of the jobs I was thinking about going into. This allowed me to make an informed decision on what apprenticeship I wanted to do (which for me was civil engineering compared to quantity surveying which I had previously considered). My T Level also allowed me to understand the expectations of the job I was going into, and gain experience ahead of my apprenticeship, compared to other apprentices who joined without any work experience.

## Who is your inspiration?

I would say having my stepdad in the industry as a designer for signalling, and my older sister as an intermediate mechanical design engineer apprentice did help inspire me. It allowed me to understand more about the industry and what the apprenticeship route is like. My younger sister is also an apprentice electrical design engineer!

## What is your proudest moment and do you have any specific goals?

I think my proudest moment was getting the apprenticeship offer and my ultimate goal is to complete my degree and IEng and then become chartered in the future.

## What would your advice be to students and parents about apprenticeships?

I would say definitely look into apprenticeships. It means you have no university debt and for certain industries the apprenticeship route may be better. I would also say make sure it's 100% for you - working and learning can be a challenge, but with good time management and support from your colleagues it can be done.

**"The T Level allowed me to have an understanding of the academic side of construction."**

To find out more about apprenticeships with J Murphy & Sons, visit:  
[www.murphygroup.com/careers/early-careers/apprenticeships](http://www.murphygroup.com/careers/early-careers/apprenticeships)



Scan to visit the website



T Levels are an alternative to A-levels, apprenticeships and other 16 to 19 courses. Equivalent in size to 3 A-levels, a T Level focuses on vocational skills and can help students into skilled employment, higher study or apprenticeships. Each T Level includes an in-depth industry placement that lasts at least 45 days. Students get valuable experience in the workplace and employers get early sight of the new talent in their industry.

To find out more about T Levels, visit: <https://www.tlevels.gov.uk/>



Scan to visit the website



To search for apprenticeship opportunities, visit:  
<https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>



Scan to visit the website

**Masterclass**

# Solicitor or barrister – how to choose

Thursday 26 March, 4:00 – 5:00 PM

**REGISTER NOW**

LawCareers.Net

BPP UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL

We have a brand-new online event for your students: perfect for those considering a career in the legal profession.

Choosing between becoming a solicitor or barrister is one of the biggest decisions aspiring lawyers will make. So, we've joined up with BPP University Law School to offer students an insight into both sides of the profession from those who've actually made the choice.

#### Registration link:

[https://lbresearch.zoom.us/webinar/register/8317737490510/WN\\_Uho2jm6SCqwRdoRQlo-Qw](https://lbresearch.zoom.us/webinar/register/8317737490510/WN_Uho2jm6SCqwRdoRQlo-Qw)

#### So how can students figure out which path is right for them?

Encourage them to join LawCareers.Net and BPP University Law School on Thursday 26 March at 4:00pm for a free online masterclass: 'Solicitor or barrister – how to choose'. They'll hear directly from solicitors and barristers and will:

- find out what the day-to-day reality looks like for solicitors and barristers (beyond the stereotypes);
- discover the skills each role actually requires – not just the technical knowledge, but the working style and personality traits that matter;
- learn how to assess which path aligns with your strengths, interests and lifestyle goals;
- know the questions they should be asking themselves before committing to either route; and
- hear honest answers to the concerns every aspiring lawyer has about this important decision.

#### Why this session is different

Students will hear from BPP University alumni who've gone on to secure careers as solicitors and barristers (or both). They'll share honest insights into what each path is actually like and how they knew which was right for them.

Not convinced yet? Meet the experts leading the session:

- **Charlotte Wanendeya** – head of law, BPP London Central
- **John Dove** – criminal barrister (and former solicitor); founder of Speed Mooting and the Advocacy Club
- **Jonathan Chibafa** – barrister; founder and chief legal officer, Forge ESG
- **Lyana Chan** – former solicitor and barrister; Bar Training Course tutor at BPP Manchester

Please encourage your students to register for the masterclass using the link above. Even if they can't attend on the day, they'll receive an email with the event recording if they register. The recording will also shortly be available on our YouTube channel.

# Parents' Evening: The Newsletter That Helps You Support Your Child's Future



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

**We've got your back.**

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

- ✓ Exam stress & study tips
- ✓ Uni vs apprenticeship advice
- ✓ Application & interview help
- ✓ Soft skills made simple
- ✓ SEND support for parents
- ✓ Real success stories
- ✓ Live job opportunities

 **Sign Up Today!**

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

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



# THE GT SCHOLARS GUIDE TO APPRENTICESHIPS



This guide breaks down what apprenticeships involve, how they work, who they're suited for, and how they can support a young person's long-term career development.

If your child is exploring options beyond traditional academic routes - or simply wants to understand what's available - this is a helpful place to start.

National Apprenticeships Week is a great time to have open conversations about future pathways - and the right information makes those conversations much easier.

You can access the Guide to Apprenticeships here:

<https://gtscholars.org/guide-to-apprenticeships>



## The UniTasterDays Students' Guide to University 2026

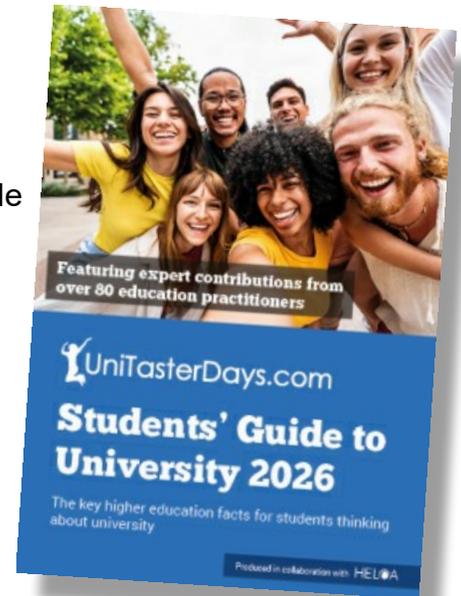
The key higher education facts for students thinking about university

The Students' Guide to University 2026 will allow you to make an informed choice about university. It includes articles to help you decide whether university is right for you, what you should study, and where you should study it.

Contributions have been provided by over 80 university representatives from across the UK, along with expert voices from outside the sector, such as educator and TV personality Baasit Siddiqui. The guide is supported by HELOA, a membership group for university advisers.

It is divided into sections to support you and your students through every stage of the university journey. Topics include researching options, attending events, financing studies, applying, and preparing for university life.

This year, mindful of the cost-of-living crisis, several articles are designed to help you overcome financial difficulty. You'll learn how to explore universities on a budget, secure "free money" to fund your student experience, manage your finances at university, secure a part-time job, and consider more affordable options like studying online.

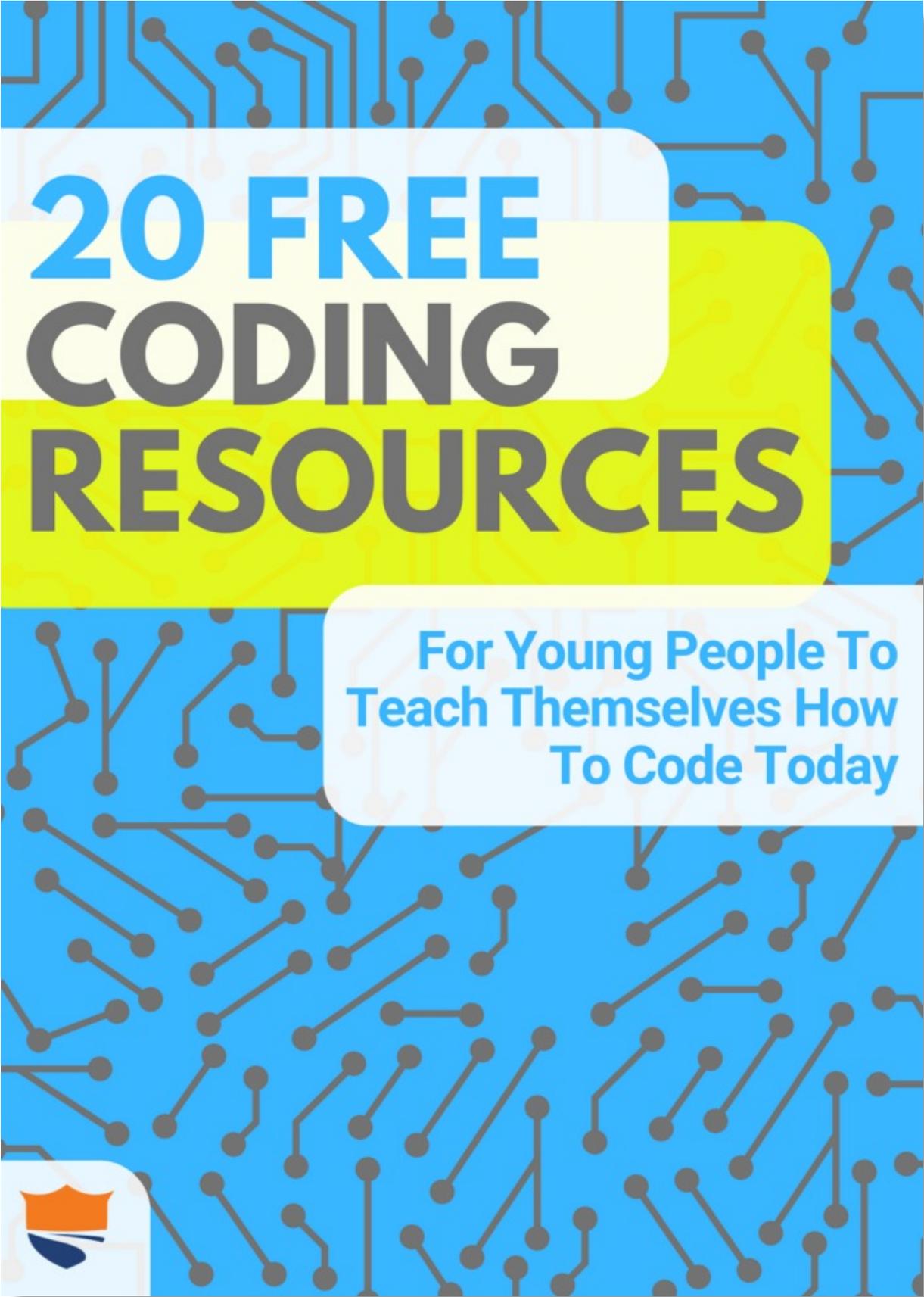


[Download now](#)

## The UniTasterDays Students' Guide to University 2026

- ✓ The key university facts for students
- ✓ Featuring editorial from over 80 university experts
- ✓ Available for direct download!





# 20 FREE CODING RESOURCES

For Young People To  
Teach Themselves How  
To Code Today

Supporting your child doesn't always mean doing more - sometimes it's about having the right resources at the right time.

That's why we're sharing our free resource of the month - a practical guide designed to help families support learning in a calm, accessible way.

Download here: [20 Free Coding Resources for Young People](#)

It brings together trusted, handpicked resources young people can explore independently - whether they're curious, confident, or just starting out.



# DID YOU KNOW?

Around one third of

# T-LEVEL

completers who progress into  
employment are working for  
their industry placement  
organisation.



**Are you interested in working in healthcare or medicine?**

**Do you want to know more about careers in the NHS?  
*(spoiler alert - there are more than 350!!)***

**If so - why not sign up to the NHS 'School to Work' work experience programme, held at the LIFE Centre at Chorley Hospital.**

It's an informal look at various careers, with talks and demos by health professionals from all different areas: eye specialists, radiographers, pathologists, pharmacists and much more. You will get a tour of the hospital and get to work in the simulated wards, plus take part in lots of interactive tasks and activities. You even get a certificate at the end!

You can't do clinical work experience in Year 10, so this is the next best thing if you are an aspiring medic.

**See Miss Berry for more info ....**

**Collect an application form  
today from the Top Office**



**Limited to TEN places, so  
don't delay - apply today!**

# RISE TO SUCCESS: CAREER JOURNEYS



## IF YOU LIKE:

- Food technology
- Science
- Baking at home

## YOUR CAREER JOURNEY COULD TAKE YOU TO ...



### BAKERY TEAM MEMBER

Bake food on an industrial scale



### PRODUCT DEVELOPER

Create new food products and improve old ones



### QUALITY TECHNICIAN

Responsible for food quality



## IF YOU LIKE:

- Maths
- Business
- Games

## YOUR CAREER JOURNEY COULD TAKE YOU TO ...



### DATA ANALYST

Discover data trends to improve company performance



### FINANCE TEAM MEMBER

Keep accurate records to help the company make money



### BUYER

Find the best deals for the supplies needed to make products



## IF YOU LIKE:

- Art
- Design & technology
- Social media

## YOUR CAREER JOURNEY COULD TAKE YOU TO ...



### PACKAGING DESIGNER

Design food packaging that's practical and attractive



### MARKETING MANAGER

Tell people about new products via social media, TV and print



### CONSUMER RESEARCHER

Discover what customers like and don't like



## IF YOU LIKE:

- Geography
- Science
- Being active

## YOUR CAREER JOURNEY COULD TAKE YOU TO ...



### ENGINEER

Keep the factory machinery running



### DRIVER

Help deliver the products to stores across the country



### WAREHOUSE TEAM MEMBER

Co-ordinate everything in the warehouse



## DID YOU KNOW THAT THE FOOD INDUSTRY...

- Employs almost 4 million people in the UK?
- Will always be needed?
- Has a job for you whether you are good at cooking, science, maths, writing or being active?

Visit our website at:  
[bakethemostoflife.co.uk](http://bakethemostoflife.co.uk)  
to find out more about careers in food.



# YOUR STORY YOUR WAY



ST JOHN RIGBY COLLEGE

## PATHWAYS OPEN EVENT

Explore your future and discover how our wide range of courses can lead to your dream career.



**SAT 28TH MAR**  
9:30AM - 1:15PM



**GATHURST RD**  
**ORRELL**



**INVESTIN**

# CAREERS UNLOCKED

## FREE WORKSHOP SERIES



**Ever wondered what it takes to break into some of the world's most competitive careers?**

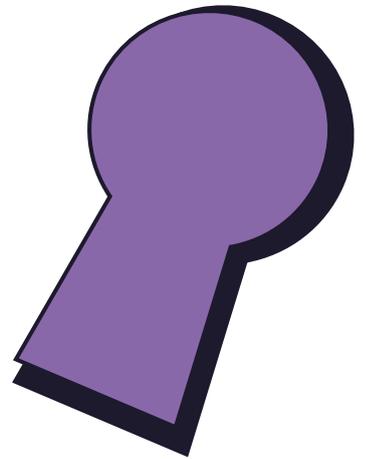
Join us for our new Careers Unlocked series, featuring seven online workshop-style sessions led by experienced industry professionals.

**Tuesday**      How to Become a Doctor  
**10th March**    How to Become a Lawyer

**Wednesday**    How to Become an Engineer  
**11th March**    How to Become an Entrepreneur

**Thursday**      How to Become a Psychologist  
**12th March**    How to Become an Investment Banker

**Tuesday**      **Parent Webinar:**  
**17th March**    A Parent's Guide to Life After School



**REGISTER  
NOW**



*You can also earn a certificate of attendance to use for future applications!*



**BOLTON CAREERS  
OPEN DAY**

**SATURDAY 21ST MARCH**

10am-1:00pm

**ENGINEERING, PROJECTS  
AND MORE**

**REGISTER HERE**

McWilliams  
**Best Places  
to Work 2024**

**INVESTORS IN PEOPLE**  
We invest in people Gold

**MBDA**

## Shape the future of defence

Our teams work together to develop cutting-edge solutions that respond to the threats of today and tomorrow. We push the limits of science, engineering and technology to deliver essential military capabilities used to defend our people and nations.

### Step inside our manufacturing site

Bolton is our primary manufacturing facility in the UK, comprising of expert teams working across a range of fields, including engineering, fitting, component testing, circuit board technologies and many more.

Our Bolton site is equipped with state-of-the-art machinery for you to deliver your best work on, while the site itself offers subsidised canteens and ample on-site parking.

Whether you have years of experience or you're just starting out, we'd love you to come along to our open day and experience life at MBDA Bolton. You'll be able to chat to our colleagues about our diverse career paths, best-in-class development programmes and our approach to flexible working.

Don't have a background in defence? Don't worry. We're always looking for people from different backgrounds to bring diverse ideas and perspectives to our teams.

**[REGISTER TODAY](#)**

# COACH YOUR TEEN TO **SUCCEED**



**THE 7 PRINCIPLES TO CREATE A  
LIFETIME OF WINS FOR YOUR CHILD**

**Download Your FREE Resource: Coach Your Teen To Succeed**

Looking for practical ways to guide them without adding pressure?

Want to help your teen build the habits that lead to long-term success?

**[DOWNLOAD HERE](#)**

## UNSURE ABOUT YOUR FUTURE CAREER?

**Too many careers to choose from? Feeling overwhelmed? Struggling to match your skills and interests with a desirable career?**

These are all natural thoughts and signal an excellent starting point to discovering your dream career.

### WHAT TO DO NEXT

- ✓ **Don't panic:** Lots of students are in your position, so there's no need to stress!
- ✓ **Reflect:** Ask yourself simple questions like what are my strengths? What inspires me? What subjects do I enjoy?
- ✓ **Understand:** Research, network and explore what different careers involve, including the skills, experience and qualifications required.
- ✓ **Explore:** Seek hands-on experience and learn first-hand whether you are suited to a career or industry.

### THE CAREER QUIZ

If you're unsure about your future, the best place to start is our Career Quiz, which helps you discover an industry that aligns with your skills, interests and aspirations.

Over 30,000 students have already completed the career quiz and received personalised career advice. Take the quiz today!

### WEEKEND PROGRAMMES

Are you aged 15-18 and curious about life after school?

Join us in March for an immersive one-day career taster in London, offering hands-on workshops and real-world career simulations alongside industry professionals.

Test-drive your dream career in 2026!

TAKE  
THE  
QUIZ



# 21 SCHOLARSHIPS BURSARIES & AWARDS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE



We're excited to let you know that this month's free resource is ready for you!

We've put together a practical guide called 21 Scholarships, Bursaries & Awards for Young People - designed to help families discover opportunities that can support their child's education, achievements, and future ambitions.

Whether your child is thinking about university, looking for ways to be recognised for their hard work, or exploring opportunities that could open new doors, this guide brings together a range of scholarships, bursaries and awards they can start exploring.

You can access the free resource here: <https://gtscholars.org/free-download>

We hope you find it helpful!



# QEGS

## SIXTH FORM

# Old Co Scholarships

**The supporting body of Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Old Co, are delighted to offer up to 10 scholarships per academic year to Sixth Form students. Each scholarship is worth £2,000, payable in two installments, the first in December of Year 12 and the second in December of Year 13.**

**To be eligible to apply you must:**

- achieve at least 5 grade 7s and above in your GCSEs in June 2026, with grade 8 or above in the subjects you wish to study at A level
- have excellent attendance at your current school
- wish to contribute fully to Sixth Form life by joining our clubs and societies.

**Application forms can be requested by emailing [spalmer@qegsblackburn.com](mailto:spalmer@qegsblackburn.com)**

Application forms must be returned to QEGS admissions by 30<sup>th</sup> April 2026. All applications will be acknowledged.

You will then need to enrol at QEGS Sixth Form on 20<sup>th</sup> or 21<sup>st</sup> August 2026. Successful applicants will be informed by 31<sup>st</sup> October 2026. If there are more applicants than scholarships then the decision made by Old Co will be final.

**Apply now:** [QEGSblackburn.com/sixth](https://qegsblackburn.com/sixth)

01254 686300 | [sixth@QEGSblackburn.com](mailto:sixth@QEGSblackburn.com) | QEGS Sixth Form, West Park Road, Blackburn, BB2 6DF

 @QEGS\_Blackburn  /QEGSBlackburn

**Ofsted**  
Rated Good  
with Outstanding features

**QEGS**  
MULTI ACADEMY  
TRUST

**INVESTIN** presents:

# Getting Your Foot in the Door

*A Quick Guide to Preparing for Your Future Career*

Your career might feel a long way off, but the steps you take at school will bring you closer to your dream job than you realise.

Early career preparation is key to getting your foot in the door and kickstarting your future.

*Here are the steps you can take towards your future career*

## Build in-demand skills

Look for opportunities inside and outside school where you can practise key skills like communication, critical thinking and digital fluency.

## Understand what drives you

Take time to reflect on what you enjoy, what motivates you and the type of environment you work best in.

## Explore careers in the real world

Turn curiosity into clarity by speaking to industry professionals, attending career events and participating in hands-on career programmes.

## Gain early industry exposure

Seek work experience, shadow professionals and learn how workplaces really operate by talking to friends and family about their jobs.

## Free resources to prepare you for your future

Future of Work  
Webinar Series

### Getting Your Foot in the Door

*How to Prepare for Career Success  
InvestIN Education*

The InvestIN  
Career Quiz

## Ready to take the next step?

Discover InvestIN Weekend Programmes

Gain hands-on industry experience in your dream career in London this March.

*Choose from 15 competitive careers and register today!*



Register Now

info@investin.org

+44 (0) 203 488 5089

www.investin.org





# BMW Group Apprenticeships are live!

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

**Exciting opportunities are  
available for your students**

## BMW GROUP

BMW Group are offering paid, hands-on opportunities with the world's leading premium automotive manufacturer.

Renowned for innovative engineering, cutting-edge technology and a commitment to quality, BMW Group is where ambition meets opportunity.

### Here's what they could gain:

-  Build future-ready skills
-  Learn from industry experts
-  Work on real projects



## No experience?

NO PROBLEM!

BMW Group apprenticeships give learners the right start and the tools to grow.

Apprentices will benefit from:



**Paid  
training**



**Recognised  
qualifications**



**Career  
progression**

All while being supported in a collaborative, forward-thinking environment where innovation, sustainability and personal development matter.



## A step towards their future career.

This is your students' chance to begin a rewarding career with a global brand shaping the future. Share the opportunity with them today!

**EXPLORE OPPORTUNITIES**



GET MY

**FirstJob**

Where it all starts.

**DISCOVER YOUR CAREER**



## **GT Scholars**

### **1-TO-1 TUTORING & MENTORING PROGRAMMES**

**Are you an ambitious young person aged 10-18?**

Would you like to boost your leadership skills? Are you keen to improve your grades? Our 1-to-1 programmes might be just for you!

Each term you'll get access to:



#### **Online Tutoring**

12 hours of academic support, including 10 hours of 1-to-1 online tutoring in Maths or English up to GCSE



#### **Online Mentoring**

6 hours of 1-to-1 online mentoring sessions with professionals and graduates from top companies & universities



#### **Personal Development Courses**

3 new personal development courses each year, group coaching sessions & unlimited access to our online learning hub

<https://gtscholars.org/register-your-interest>



# DON'T MISS OUT!

## Unlocking Your Future:

### The Power of Apprenticeships

inno  
vate  
<her>

#### Student Feedback

"It was great! I loved hearing about different opportunities other than university. I would definitely consider applying for an apprenticeship now. I loved hearing advice from those who are apprentices already!"

"Interesting and told me lots of different things about the tech business, it also taught me more about apprenticeships and the work around it."

inno  
vate  
<her>

In this 20-minute activity, students will gain a deeper understanding of apprenticeships and the opportunities that they can provide.

The resource provides:

- An apprenticeship mock application
- Role Model, Amber, who discusses her journey and experience as an apprentice

A spotlight on the exciting possibilities apprenticeships offer.

Complete the activity via the button below

[Access Here](#)

# The science behind your favourite book

Paper was first made in China **2,000 years ago**.



**59%** of paper is recycled making it the most recycled material.



It can even be turned into wall insulation!



Fast-growing trees like **eucalyptus** and **pine** are used to make paper.



**Cellulose** (a strong fibre) is extracted from plants to make paper.



**Pulp** (a mix of plant fibre and water) is spread, pressed and dried to produce sheets.



We can process **6-8% more information** if we read paper vs digital books.

**5 litres** of water are needed to make **1 sheet** of A4 paper.



# Be curious – Ask more questions!

Where did the paper in my book come from?

Is all paper recyclable?

Are e-books better for the environment than paper books?

Who made this book and where was it made?

How could we make books more sustainably?



**careers connection**

**Foresters** plant, manage and harvest trees for timber production and conservation.

**Top essential skills:**



**careers connection**

**Chemical engineers** add chemicals, to bleach or alter the properties of paper. They're creating more environmentally friendly dyes.

**Top essential skills:**



**What question will you ask?**



## Make 2026 your year with this month's top new and free courses

Whatever plans you have this year, get the tools to make them happen. Discover the expert content to help you transform your career and keep your new year momentum going, all year long.

Ready to start learning? Explore this month's course picks.

### Top free courses

Stay on track with your resolutions with our range of **free courses**.

#### Business



**Accenture**

Digital Skills: Digital Marketing

#### Creative Arts



**Arden University**

Design Your Future

#### Nature



**University of Reading**

Integrating Food and Energy Production on Farmland

### [Browse free courses](#)



Take your learning a **degree** further.

[Explore degrees](#)

# OPEN EVENTS

5-7PM

15<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER

18<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER

15<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

9<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY

12<sup>TH</sup> MARCH

12<sup>TH</sup> MAY

18<sup>TH</sup> JUNE





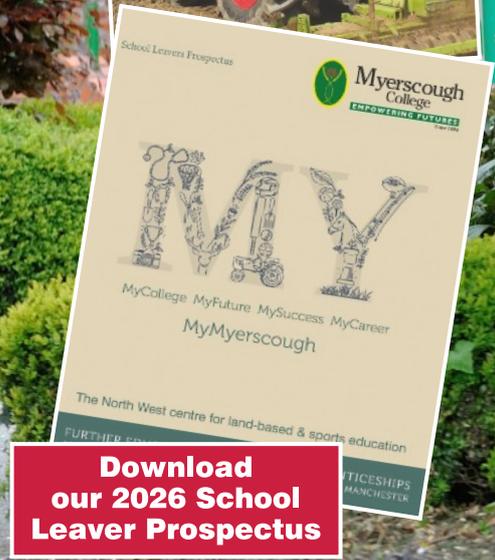
**Myerscough**  
College & University Centre  
**EMPOWERING FUTURES**  
Since 1894

- ✓ School Leavers
- ✓ Apprenticeships
- ✓ University Degrees

# Course Advice Morning



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



**Saturday 7th February 2026**  
**Saturday 18th April 2026**

CENTRES ACROSS THE NORTH WEST      PRESTON • WARRINGTON  
LIVERPOOL • MANCHESTER

[www.myerscough.ac.uk](http://www.myerscough.ac.uk)

### Why choose the Preston Centre of Sporting Excellence?

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



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

 [john.lee@pne.com](mailto:john.lee@pne.com)

Applications for entry September 2026  
open on October 1st 2025

# Gaining Experience Beyond The Classroom

**INVESTIN**  
THE ULTIMATE WORK EXPERIENCE

## Why?

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

## Work Experience

### What counts as work experience?

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



## What?

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

## Where?

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

## Extracurriculars

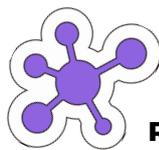


Consider what you already do outside of school - **what does it say about your interests or skills?**

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

### Socialising

Communication  
Empathy



### Sport

Leadership  
Teamwork

### Music or drama

Creativity  
Commitment

### Reading & writing

Analytical thinking  
Attention to detail

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

Read or listen to podcasts related to your subject interests

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

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

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

Produce a journal or research project

Organise an event (marketing, sales & project management)

Manage a budget for a trip or holiday

## Talk about your experiences in your applications...



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

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

Looking to gain work experience? Check out InvestIN's programmes at [www.investin.org](http://www.investin.org)



## Find out about Dunelm apprenticeships!

### Starting your career with Dunelm opens a world of possibilities

Dunelm will be opening their apprenticeship vacancies on the 2nd February 2026 across a range of roles, including Supply Chain & Logistics, Commercial, Retail, and an exciting new Fitter Apprenticeship opportunity.

But be quick, the roles are very popular!

There are lots of ways you can find out more about these incredible opportunities, depending on what programmes you're interested in...



### Learn about the apprenticeship roles on offer with Dunelm

Meet the Early Careers team at Dunelm to learn about their exciting apprenticeship opportunities, including Retail, Supply Chain & Logistics, Commercial, Fitter and more. In this recording you'll find out about Dunelm's early careers programmes and pick up some hints and tips for your apprenticeship application.

[\*\*WATCH NOW\*\*](#)

### Learn about the new Fitter Apprenticeship ahead of its launch

Join us on 15th January to find out about Dunelm's new Fitter Apprenticeship - a unique role blending hands-on technical skills, customer interaction and the freedom of being out on the road. Apprentices work towards a Customer Service apprenticeship qualification, while gaining specialist training in fitting blinds in customers' homes.

[\*\*REGISTER FOR LIVE WEBINAR\*\*](#)



## And if you can't wait ...



### Check out Dunelm's virtual work experience programme

Dunelm has created their first-ever virtual work experience programme, created in partnership with Springpod.

This exciting opportunity is designed for students aged 13 and up, offering seven hours of immersive content across a range of modules that reflect the many areas of the business - from retail and customer service to product development, marketing, and more.

[\*\*FIND OUT MORE\*\*](#)

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

In partnership with:



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

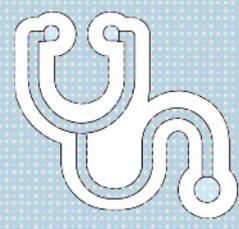
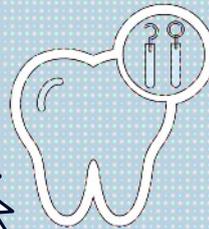
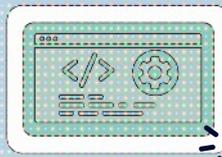
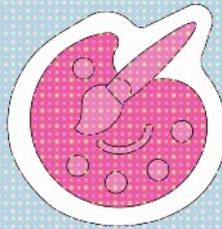
Through interactive activities and expert insights, you'll gain a deeper understanding of how a big business operates and what it takes to succeed in today's world of work. Whether you're interested in customer service, logistics, or digital innovation, this programme will help you find your happy place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

-  This programme is open to anyone aged 13+
-  Certificate of completion
-  Over 7 hours worth of content
-  Complete at a pace that suits you

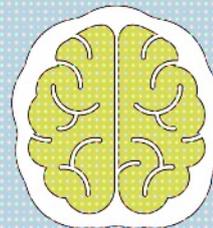
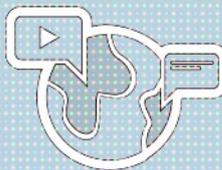
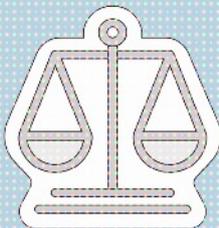
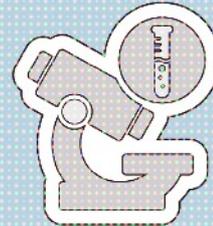
**Scan Me**  
To sign up for this course



[www.investin.org/pages/career-quiz](http://www.investin.org/pages/career-quiz)



# What career is right for you?



## INVESTIN

THE ULTIMATE WORK EXPERIENCE



Review of your skills



Recommended subject choices & resources



Top tips from professionals



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



Discover your future



# PREPARING LIFE

# FOR WHAT YOU'LL THROW AT IT

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

GET IN TOUCH TODAY TO BOOK YOUR PLACE!

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

IN ASSOCIATION WITH



IN COOPERATION WITH



IN ASSOCIATION WITH



SCAN NOW TO  
BOOK YOUR PLACE



visit [mpct.co.uk](http://mpct.co.uk)

call 0330 111 3939

# Subject Guide Videos



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

## Including the UK's first video subject guide!

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

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

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

[CLICK HERE](#)



# MENTORVERSE

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

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

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

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

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



**Enrolling as a bronze pathway student, you can .....**

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



## **STRONGER STARTS PROGRAMME OPEN FOR APPLICATIONS!**

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

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

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

## **THE ROLES**



### **Maintenance Apprenticeships**

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

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

**FIND OUT MORE**



### **Retail Apprenticeships**

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

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

**FIND OUT MORE**

## Retail Apprenticeship What skills do you gain?

It's not just about stacking shelves!

### RETAIL

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

### BUSINESS

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

### CUSTOMER SERVICE

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

### SOCIAL MEDIA

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

### TECHNOLOGY

Become proficient at using a range of different technologies.

### FINANCE

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

### STOCK

Learn to manage stock availability using systems and procedures.

### PRODUCT PLACEMENT

Develop an understanding of product placement promotional activities.

### TEAMWORK

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

### TIME MANAGEMENT

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

### PROBLEM-SOLVING

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

### COMMUNITY

Gain knowledge of supporting local communities.



Scan to  
register!

LIVE!

FREE

# Get Into Medicine.

CONFERENCE

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

## This includes:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Taking part in the Virtual Work Experience will provide:

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

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

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

Aspiring Medics: <https://airtable.com/appgXnyzN5ZD9lwk6/shrGJUAtigzZzDwTN>

Aspiring Dentists: <https://airtable.com/appgXnyzN5ZD9lwk6/shr1YAbWctfkXarfQ>

Previously successful Medical students:

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

Previously successful Dental students:

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

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



Scan to  
register!

LIVE!

FREE

# Get Into Dentistry.

CONFERENCE

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

This includes:

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

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

# MEDIC MENTOR



YOUR MEDIC FAMILY

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

This opportunity is for students in Years 10-11.

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

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

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

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

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

## Why the Medic Mentor Virtual Work Experience is the largest in the UK...

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



**University Hospitals  
Birmingham**  
NHS Foundation Trust



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Join Every First Sunday Of The Month!



Scan to  
register!

LIVE!  
VIRTUAL

# Allied Healthcare Work Experience

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

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

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

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



ALLIED  
HEALTHCARE  
MENTOR



# CAREER *of the* WEEK

## Forest/woodland manager

**Forest or woodland managers are responsible for the sustainable management of timber production and the preservation and protection of trees and the forest environment.**

Working as a forest or woodland manager, you'll manage a designated forest or woodland area, overseeing activities such as timber production, conservation and recreation.

You'll also manage other associated matters, such as commercial interests, biodiversity and public access. Establishing a balance between competing economic and social demands (for forest and land use) can present a challenge. This may mean you become involved in the creation of multipurpose forests, promoting sustainable forest management and supporting the natural regeneration of native woodlands.

Alternative job titles include forestry officer and forester. In strategic leadership positions you could be known by a more specific title, such as head of woodland creation or head of estate management.

### Responsibilities

As a forest/woodland manager, you'll need to:

- advise clients on good forestry practice and provide a contract service to woodland owners, including those interested in acquiring land for the establishment of new forests
- guide woodland owners on the most appropriate tree species (for planting or natural regeneration), and on budgeting, public access, ecological surveys and forest certification
- organise the growing, harvesting, marketing and sale of timber
- plan and implement annual work programmes and ensure the effective use of resources to meet objectives for the forest area
- supervise forest workers and contractors in the field, which may involve negotiating with subcontracting companies
- ensure forest operations are carried out to professional health and safety standards, to protect workers and members of the public
- liaise with customers, landowners, timber merchants, the public and local authorities
- liaise with other professionals, such as landscape architects, archaeologists, biologists, geologists, chartered surveyors and engineers
- liaise with charitable bodies
- attend meetings
- keep up to date with changes in legislation and industry developments and emerging issues such as climate change mitigation, tree-disease outbreaks and nature recovery programmes
- work to, and maintain, globally recognised forest certification
- plan and control budgets and prepare costing and financial forecasts
- promote the expansion of new woodland coverage and, where possible, the restoration of ancient woodland in the UK

You may also carry out the following tasks, in relation to forest protection:

- conduct research in areas such as silviculture, pathology, tree improvement and entomology
- monitor existing forestry practices
- protect forests from illegal felling, pests and diseases
- ensure that forests are not detrimentally affecting the environment and wildlife around them, by damaging wildlife habitats, water supplies or soil



**For more information click here**